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®

BATTLE LINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR

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NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We welcome two new compatriots to our august society:

Philip F. DeFreest – East Greenbush, NY

William M. Schaefer – Albany, NY

IN OUR MEMORY

As this issue was going to press, we learned of the passing of compatriot Henry Goebel on December 7. Henry had been ill for some time; we extend our condolences to his SAR sons Peter, Jonathan and Paul, and to his family.

REMEMBER OUR ACTIVE MILITARY

Col. Peter K. Goebel, past ESSAR and chapter President, has been deployed to Afghanistan. Peter is a veteran of the actions in Bosnia and Iraq.

Capt. Brian Van de Wal will leave for Afghanistan in March, 2010. Brian previously served in Iraq from 2003 to 2005.

Please keep these valiant patriots in your thoughts and prayers; we wish for a safe return for both.

CHAPTER MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN HISTORIC MARKER DEDICATION

The Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter, NSDAR, placed an historic marker in the City of Cohoes to recognize Van Schaick Island's key role as a troop garrison preceding the Battles of Saratoga. The marker was dedicated on 19 September 2009. The ribbon cutting was done by Cohoes Mayor John T. McDonald and Sandra Zerillo, NYSDAR Vice Chairman and Honorary Regent of the Gen. Peter Gansevoort chapter.

Invited to participate were Saratoga Battle President Richard H. Fullam and Genealogist Dennis F.M. Marr. Dennis was invited in his capacity as Executive Director of the Rhodes Memorial Fund, a major supporter of the Gen. Peter Gansevoort chapter.

CHAPTER MEMBERS HONORED BY C.A.R.

At a joint meeting of the Gen. Peter Gansevoort chapter, NSDAR, and the Schuyler Society, N.S.C.A.R., two members of our chapter were honored as Outstanding C.A.R. Sponsors. Accepting the award on behalf of Saratoga Battle was Pres. Richard H. Fullam; Dennis Marr accepted on behalf of the Rhodes Memorial Fund.

CHAPTER HELPS WALLOOMSAC BATTLE WITH GRAVE-MARKING SERVICE

by

Duane Booth

On Sunday November 1st several members helped neighboring Walloomsac Battle Chapter with a member grave marking at the East Hebron Cemetery for memorial member Archibald Robert Craig who had wanted to join the SAR but never did so before he died.

Arch passed away on May 1, 2008 without joining but his daughters Deborah and Dorothea remembered his wish. Arch's family decided to pursue the Memorial Membership, which required Arch's brother, Harold to join. As Dorothea was already in the DAR the process was simplified and they both were admitted to the SAR on September 23rd.

In a conversation with Debi, Duane Booth learned just how proud Arch was of his patriot ancestor, Jacob Bailey (or Bayley), who served as a brigadier general in the Vermont Militia. Duane suggested a member grave marking service and the family agreed it would be fitting, for Arch had spent many hours researching his patriot and fondly referred to him as old Jake Bayley.

Genealogist & *Battle Lines* editor Dennis Marr* who is also Executive Director of the Rhodes Memorial Fund secured a small grant to cover the cost of the marker and other expenses. Treasurer Mike Companion* agreed to bring "Cricket" (his cannon) and members of the 2nd Continental Artillery to serve on the cannon crew. John Sheaff* served as master of ceremonies, Duane* lead the Pledge of Allegiance and R. Harry Booth, who served with Arch on the Board of Supervisors, lead the Pledge to the SAR. Charlie Walter* and Peter Swano (Walloomsac Battle) were also there. (* = Dual Chapter member).

Bagpipe music was played by David Jones; Rev. David Simmons gave the invocation; flag bearers were Michael Casey, grandson & Gage Boddery; daughter Debi spoke of her Dad & Dort of patriot Jacob Bailey; Rev. Lois Ann Wolf gave the benediction and the ceremony was closed with Delaney Dupuis and Kristen Pierce playing "Taps". Family invited guests and participants to Debi's for food & a celebratory cake, made by Dort, that was beautifully decorated with the SAR Insignia and tasting as good as it looked.

This may be the first Memorial Membership for our Society.

ANNUAL WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

The chapter held it's annual wreath-laying ceremony in conjunction with the Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR, at the Saratoga National Historical Park on September 20th.

This colorful event was held on a spectacular afternoon, with a nice sized crowd of visitors in attendance. The re-enactors from the Massachusetts 25th Continental Regiment were on hand along with mounted dragoons from Connecticut.

Memorial wreaths were placed by the following:

NYS Organization DAR – Nancy Rodenmacher, Custodian
NSSAR – Dennis F.M. Marr, Past Pres., ESSAR
ESSAR – Primitivo Africa, 1st V. Pres., Saratoga Battle
Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR – Andrea Hyde, Rec. Secy.
Saratoga Battle Chapter – Charles Walter IV, 2nd V. Pres.
Bemis Heights Society, N.S.C.A.R. – Sarah LaPidus, Pres.
Schuyler Society, N.S.C.A.R. – Lexi Zerillo, Pres.

The Welcome was given by Marion Walter, Regent, Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR and Saratoga Battle President Richard H. Fullam. The Invocation was given by Carole Strong, Chaplain, Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR.

Dennis Marr led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

After the introduction of Honored Guests, remarks were given by Nancy Rodenmacher, Custodian, NYS Organization, NSDAR.

Rick Saunders led us in the American's Creed, and Ray LeMay in the Pledge to the SAR.

The Recessional was led by Carole Strong, Chaplain, Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR.

A brief chapter meeting followed in the Visitors' Center at the Park. The Registrar's Report showed our chapter with 180 members as of September 20th; this figure includes a number of dual members.

We then adjourned to the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs for fellowship and a fine dinner.

BELATED CONGRATULATIONS

At the time of preparing the Summer issue of the newsletter, your Editor had not been informed of a singular honor bestowed upon one of our members at the National Convention of the NSSAR.

We are pleased and proud to learn that compatriot Col. Peter K. Goebel was one of six men honored with the coveted Minuteman Award by the National Society. This award is presented annually to a small number of compatriots for their outstanding service to the Society at the National level. Congratulations, Peter!

CHAPTER DEDICATES HISTORIC MARKER

by
Duane Booth

Friday, October 16th was Surrender Day, marking the victory at Saratoga. Chapter members Rich Fullam, Mike Companion and Duane Booth were in Schuylerville to commemorate the laying down of arms by the British after the Second Battle of Saratoga. While the actual anniversary is the 17th, the event was moved up by one day in order that local school children might participate.

Following the Surrender Day service, the historic sign donated by Saratoga Battle Chapter was dedicated. This marker is located on NY State Route 29 at the entrance to the village of Schuylerville's Fort Hardy Park where the surrender took place.

A photo of the sign is on the chapter's website:

www.saratogabattle-sar.org

Special thanks go to President Fullam for his many hours of labor to see this come to fruition.

NEWS FROM BEMIS HEIGHTS SOCIETY, N.S.C.A.R.

Our thanks to Sue Szewczyk, Society Senior President, for passing along the October issue of "Bemis Heights Notes."

On June 20th, 5 members and 2 seniors joined in the Saratoga Chapter NSDAR's Flag Retirement Ceremony, held at the home of Chapter Regent Mrs. Marion Walter. Following the ceremony we enjoyed a barbecue and bonfire.

Congratulations to Sarah LaPidus on her taking the office of Society President. And, a hearty congratulations to Kate Szewczyk for a job well done during her term as President.

On September 19th, we attended the 115th Anniversary of the Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR. Members put up a display table with membership information and posters depicting our Society's activities.

On October 10th members voted to donate \$100 to the Saratoga Chapter of the American Red Cross in Glens Falls. These funds will be used to purchase comfort items for our soldiers currently serving overseas. Last year our Society collected items from members and donated 6 bags of comfort items.

On December 12th members will be placing 10 wreaths that our Society purchased as our participation in the Wreaths Across the Nation program honoring veterans. These will be placed on graves at the Gerald B.H. Solomon National Cemetery.

Saratoga Battle Chapter could not be more proud to be a sponsor of Bemis Heights and Schuyler Societies for their outstanding patriotic programs.