



# **BATTLE LINES**

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR

Dennis F.M. Marr, Editor 3 Ravens Court, Troy, NY 12180

[Dfmarr@aol.com](mailto:Dfmarr@aol.com)

518-283-2908

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## **NEW MEMBER WELCOME**

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members transferred-in to our chapter:

William Evans Davidson – Potsdam, NY

Mark Andrew Friden – Star Lake, NY

## **IN OUR MEMORY**

We were saddened to learn of the passing of long-time chapter member Ernest L. Kendall on November 2 at the age of 91. Ernie, who had been in declining health for years, was a past chapter President and Registrar. He served his country in the U.S. Navy in WWII. Our condolences go out to his extended family.

It was with a heavy heart that we learned of the passing of Virginia “Ginny” Taylor, wife of 65 years of compatriot Harry Taylor. Ginny was well-known in local genealogical and lineage society circles. She served with the WAVES in WWII. Our thoughts and prayers are with Harry at this difficult time.

## **CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN OCTOBER 17 EVENTS AT SCHUYLERVILLE**

Duane Booth

October 17<sup>th</sup> marked the 235<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the day General John Burgoyne surrendered his sword to General Horatio Gates on the fields next to the Hudson River in Schuylerville, NY following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Saratoga on October 7, 1777. Again this year, as is has been for the past several years, the historic event was re-enacted and the day commemorated. The Chapter was represented by 1st V-P & Registrar Tom Dunne; John Sheaff, dual chapter member and President of the Walloomsac Battle Chapter; dual chapter member Joseph Brian Fitzpatrick, President of the Schoharie-Leatherstocking Chapter and dual chapter member Duane Booth, State Society V-P, Capital Region.

October 18<sup>th</sup> marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of the Saratoga Monument, located in the Village of Victory, NY which is adjacent to Schuylerville. At our September meeting we voted to remember that dedication. Tom, Duane and chapter member Doug Reynolds worked up a program with the cooperation of the staff of the Saratoga National Historical Park, who opened the monument for several hours on October 17<sup>th</sup> so

that we could remember the 1912 dedication and rededicate the monument.

Duane Booth welcomed the guests and gave the invocation. The Battlefield Rangers then gave a musket salute. Joseph Fitzpatrick led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor James M. Sullivan welcomed us to the Village of Victory. Chapter member Douglas Reynolds spoke about Surrender Day in 1777; the importance of the two Battles of Saratoga and the events that led up to the battles. Town of Saratoga Supervisor Thomas N. Wood who is a former Town Historian (a post that he held for 18 years) and an author of two books about the local area spoke about the monument's history and its importance in remembering the fight and the victory that occurred at Saratoga. Thomas Dunne and Joseph Fitzpatrick placed wreaths reminding us that freedom is not free and remembering our military from our first American soldiers to those who serve today. Joseph Fitzpatrick then led us in reciting the American's Creed and the program concluded with a final musket salute.



L.-R. Joseph Fitzpatrick, Thomas Dunne  
John Sheaff, Duane Booth

## **CHAPTER DONATIONS**

At the September 16 meeting following the annual wreath-laying ceremony, the chapter voted to make the following donations: \$100 each to Schuyler and Bemis Heights societies of N.S. C. A. R. and \$1,000 to the NSSAR for the Center for Advancing America's Heritage. We are proud to support these worthy organizations.

## ANNUAL WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

Duane Booth

On Sunday September 16<sup>th</sup> the Chapter held its popular Annual Wreath-Laying at the DAR Monument, Stop 2 of the Saratoga Battlefield tour road. The event for the past several years has been sponsored with the Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR and now includes other patriotic organizations.

Again this year we were blessed with another sunny, pleasant September day (I can remember only one wreath laying were it rained hard and that was when Lewis Slocum, Jr. was chapter president). As usual our members and guests had a great time greeting one another and picture taking. We were again grateful to have re-enactors camping at the battlefield be our color guard. Dave Bernier was back in good health and was in command of the troops this year as General Horatio Gates. Dave is with the 25<sup>th</sup> Continental Regiment from Massachusetts.

We are always happy to see past state society president and current chapter genealogist and his lovely wife Sandra - they again did not disappoint us. We were pleasantly surprised to see current ESS president Richard W. Sage and past president Peter K. Goebel; Philip Mosher, 2nd vice president, N.Y.S.S.C.A.R., N.Y.S.S.C.A.R. past senior N.Y.S.S.C.A.R. president Sandra Zerrillo and current N.Y.S.S.C.A.R. senior president Elizabeth Mosher and N.S.C.A.R senior president Hans Jackson who travelled here from New Hampshire for two Schuyler Society, C.A.R. / Peter Gansevoort Chapter, NSDAR events that were also being held on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

Wreath- layers were:

- National Society, SAR: Past President, Empire State Society — D.F. Marr
- Empire State Society, SAR: Vice President, Capital Region — Duane Booth
- Virginia Society, SAR: President — Henry P. Williams III
- Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR: Vice Regent — Heather Mabee
- Saratoga Battle Chapter, SAR: 1st VP & Registrar — Thomas L. Dunne & Chapter Member — Patrick J. Festa
- Schuyler Society, C.A.R.: President — Ryan Hare

## CHAPTER INSTITUTES NEW AWARD

Dennis F. Marr

At the meeting following the wreath-laying ceremony, the chapter announced the creation of The Duane Booth Minuteman Award. This award is to be given to a member of the Saratoga Battle Chapter in the spirit of the Minutemen of the American Revolution. Recipients of the award will exemplify the values of selfless service and patriotism in their work on behalf of the Chapter and its membership.

This award shall be given to a member who demonstrates unwavering dedication to the Sons of the American Revolution, who acts without hesitation, performs services above and beyond what is required of an individual member in his willingness to work for the betterment of the organization and its membership, and promotes events which maintain the patriotic mission of the of the Sons of the American Revolution.

A member may be nominated for the award by an officer or member of the Chapter. The officers of the Saratoga Battle Chapter of the SAR must vote on and approve the award for the nominated member.

The inaugural presentation of this award was to the man himself, Duane Booth! We do not have a more richly deserving compatriot in our chapter. There is no set timetable for awarding this honor – it will be on an as-deserved basis.



The Duane Booth Minuteman Award

## CHAPTER MEMBERS APPOINTED TO NATIONAL COMMITTEES

The following members have been appointed to serve on one or more National Committees of the NSSAR.

PG Henry N. McCarl: Ethics- Chairman; Council of Presidents General; Hospitality & Music; Minuteman Award.

Peter K. Goebel

Jonathan E. Goebel: V. Chairman, Oration Contest

Dennis F. Marr

Ronald E. Newton

Charles R. Lampman: Chairman, Spanish Patriots; Chairman-Magazine

Additionally, at the recent National Congress, 3 chapter members were awarded the NSSAR Liberty Medal for recruiting 10 new members: Duane Booth, Tom Dunne and Ron Newton (awarded 2). Oak leaf clusters are presented when an individual has previously won this award.