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®

BATTLE LINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR

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FALL 2017

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We extend a hearty welcome to the following new members of our chapter.

Randy A. Agard – Gainesville, GA

Kyle E. Dikeman – Schenectady, NY

Samson M. Dikeman, Jr. – Albany, NY

Samson M. Dikeman, Sr. – Schenectady, NY

Thomas E. Gross – Saratoga Springs, NY

James R. House, Jr. – Averill Park, NY

Raymond Miller – Bonita Springs, FL

William N. Moore – Lake Luzerne, NY

Steven G. Perkins* - Springfield, MO

*Steven is a new dual state member and a past state president of the Massachusetts Society.

IN OUR MEMORY

We were saddened to learn of the passing on March 21, 2017 of member John T. Bailey of New Hartford, CT. John was born in Albany, NY on June 14, 1941 and served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was a self-employed heating and cooling contractor. John was descended from John Bailey, a Founder of Haddam, CT. Our condolences to his family.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Douglas Gallant

On December 16th I was able to participate in Wreaths Across America at the Gerald B. H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery. It is a cause that our Chapter supports via an annual donation for 10 wreaths. For the first time, enough wreaths were sponsored so that every grave and columbarium was able to have a holiday wreath. That's over 11,000 wreaths! As noted during the formal ceremony, while this is a significant milestone, the reality is that the number of interments grows each year. A local TV station did a nice video piece: <http://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/capital-region/news/2017/12/16/saratoga-national-cemetery-hosts-wreaths-across-america-ceremony>.

Personally, I was able to place wreaths on the graves of 3 World War 2 veterans. While paying my respects

to them, it also brought memories of my grandfather who was also a veteran of that period. I hope to see many of you at the Chapter's annual meeting on February 24; see the chapter website for details: www.saratogabattle-sar.org.

ANNUAL WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

The chapter held its annual wreath-laying ceremony in conjunction with the Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR, at the Saratoga National Historical Park on September 17.

Lending luster to the proceedings were members of the 2nd Continental Artillery and the Ohio Society, NSSAR, who served as our Color Guard this year.

Wreaths were presented in the name of the following organizations:

National Society, NSSAR; Empire State Society, NSSAR; Vermont Society, NSSAR; Ohio Society, NSSAR; Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR; Saratoga Battle Chapter, NSSAR; Schenectada Chapter, NSDAR; Cincinnati Chapter (OH), NSSAR; Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter, NSDAR; Hocking Valley Chapter (OH), NSSAR; Germany Society, NSSAR; Schuyler Society, N.S.C.A.R.; Bemis Heights Society, N.S.C.A.R.; Ohio Society, NSSAR, Women's Auxiliary.

Welcoming remarks were given by Corrinne Scirocco, Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR; Douglas Gallant, Saratoga Battle Chapter, NSSAR; Jack Bredenfoerder, Cincinnati Chapter (OH), NSSAR.

The dinner/business meeting followed at the Holiday Inn, Saratoga Springs. We were delighted that a number of compatriots from the Ohio Society were able to join us.

The Registrar's Report revealed that our membership stands at 211; we had 21 new members since the February meeting and 10 new Supplemental Applications approved. The Treasurer's Report indicated that the chapter remains on very solid financial footing.