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®

BATTLE LINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR

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SPRING 2010

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

A warm welcome to our newest members:

Kenneth H. Brownell – Wayne, NJ
Gary E. Grandy – Gansevoort, NY
David K. Klein – Park City, UT
Richard D. Leland – Ballston Spa, NY
Morris E. Richardson – Rochester, NY

IN OUR MEMORY

Walter D. Jennings, age 90, passed away at his residence in Fort Edward on 4 March following a long illness. Walt was a graduate of Cornell and Miami Law School and was a First Lieutenant in the US Army in World War II. Our condolences to his wife Marjory, son compatriot Walter D. Jennings, Jr. and the rest of his family.

Stephen F. Markell of East Greenbush died at the age of 95 on 9 March. Stephen served in the Rensselaer County legislature for 16 years and was a long time member of the National Grange. Our condolences to his family, especially his son, Compatriot Eric Markell.

We were very saddened to learn of the passing of Douglas P. Slocum, son of chapter Past President Lewis O. Slocum and wife Carol. Douglas died of lung cancer at the age of 50. Our condolences go out to Lew and Carol, Douglas' wife Bonnie and their family.

ROTC MEDALS PRESENTED

SAR JROTC medals were presented at two local high schools. The award was presented at Christian Brothers Academy Military Honors Night on 29 April. On 20 May, the medal was presented at LaSalle Institute's Officer Promotion and Commissioning Ceremony. Both schools are very appreciative of our chapter's support of these Army JROTC programs.

Three SAR ROTC medals were awarded at the joint service program of RPI and Siena College, covering Army, Navy and Air Force.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For those compatriots who do not have email, we remind you of the following upcoming events.

Turning Point Parade – Schuylerville, NY. August 1st, stepping off at 1 p.m.

Annual Wreath-Laying – Saratoga Battlefield:

One of the highlights of our year, this ceremony will be held at Stop 2 (DAR Monument) of the Tour Road at Saratoga National Historical Park on September 19 at 2 p.m. A chapter meeting will follow in the park Visitors' Center. A joint dinner meeting with the DAR will follow.

Those with Internet service should always check our website for most current information:

www.saratogabattle-sar.org

PRESIDENT FULLAM ATTENDS N.S.C.A.R. NATIONAL CONVENTION

Chapter Pres. Richard H. Fullam represented us at the recent National Convention of the Children of the American Revolution. Rich sat in on the election speeches and later watched the junior and senior officers installed at Mt. Vernon following a wreath-laying ceremony at the tomb of George and Martha Washington.

We are very proud that Alexandra "Lexi" Zerillo of the Schuyler Society has been elected NYS President of the C.A.R. Rich surprised her with a \$500 donation from the chapter for her State President's projects; among these is the purchase and installation of a memorial C.A.R. stone in the Monument Pathway at the Saratoga National Cemetery.

Rich made a family vacation out of this trip. His son Stephen was a voter at the National elections. Rich and family visited all of the major monuments and he even took in a Washington Nationals game with Lexi's dad, Bob Zerillo. C.A.R. is near and dear to our hearts here at Saratoga Battle and we thank Rich for representing us.

ANCESTOR CORNER

By
Compatriot Charles Walter

Dr. Josiah Fuller was born July 17, 1739 in Ipswich, Essex Co., MA, the son of Jacob Fuller and Anna Harris. He married Mary Smith and they were living in Norwich, CT in 1757 when their daughter Mary was born. In 1761 the family moved to Bennington, VT. Josiah was a private in the 1st Company of Militia organized at Bennington on 24 October 1764.

Dr. Fuller happened to be a New Hampshire grantee and resided in the Walloomsack Patent. In January of 1771 it was his farm as well as that of James Breckenridge that Sheriff Ten Eyck marched to with the Albany Militia in an attempt to serve the Crown's Writ of Ejectment. The sheriff met armed resistance from a number of men who had shut themselves up in these two farm houses and threatened the Sheriff's life if he proceeded. This was reportedly the first armed resistance by the Green Mountain Boys against the Crown.

Josiah's signature appears on the Bennington Declaration for Freedom which, though undated, is believed to have been written in early 1775.

Josiah Fuller, Surgeon's Mate, was paid from 3 May to 20 July 1775 by the state of Connecticut for his services on the Ticonderoga Expedition. He was also paid for services at Manchester and Castleton. Dr. Fuller was a Surgeon's Mate at the Battle of Bennington, serving under Capt. Herrick. He was also called to service in October of 1780 and on 21 May 1781 for the defense of the state of Vermont.

Dr. Fuller died intestate sometime before 2 December 1805 in Bennington, VT. His grave has not been found.

VICTORY WOODS TRAIL OPENS

Victory Woods is a new National Park site, located just south of the Saratoga Monument in the Village of Victory. The park features an accessible boardwalk trail. The 22-acre parcel was donated in the 1970's by Victory Mills Packaging, but further development was delayed until 2005 by lack of funds. SNHP Superintendent Joe Finan says: "We are very pleased to open this site as it allows us to more fully tell the important events after the Battles of Saratoga, including the American siege of British

forces that retreated here and their eventual surrender – one of the most pivotal events in the American Revolution."

The trail is now open from dawn to dusk, and occasional ranger-guided walks will be scheduled throughout the summer. Soon, the trail will link with the Champlain Canal Trail and other developing trails in the area.

C.A.R. SOCIETIES SHINE

The good news just keeps coming from the two C.A.R. Societies that our chapter sponsors.

Bemis Heights was named 3rd Most Outstanding Society in New York State at the state C.A.R. conference. Society Treasurer Kate Szewczyk was elected State Corresponding Secretary. And, the Society won 17 First Place Awards, tied for another 8 and won 8 Second Place Awards, a total of 33!

Not to be outdone, the Schuyler Society was named Most Outstanding Society in New York State. In addition, Schuyler took 25 First Place and 5 Second Place awards.

Folks, I hope you can appreciate the tremendous work and dedication it takes by the children and seniors of these two societies to consistently hit such high marks.

As previously mentioned, Schuyler's Lexi Zerillo was elected NYS C.A.R. President. Lexi's mother, Sandy Zerillo, was elected Senior NY President for 2010-2012.

At the N.S.C.A.R. National Convention in Crystal City, VA. Schuyler Society received 7 National Awards for 2009-2010, including a National Gold Merit Award.

Lexi Zerillo has chosen as her State Projects the theme "Cherish Our Freedom – Honor Our Veterans." This fund-raising project will support the New York State Battle Flags Preservation Project at the NYS Military Heritage Institute in Saratoga Springs as well as the purchase of the aforementioned monument in the Saratoga National Cemetery. Colorful Project Pins are available for a minimum donation of \$5.

For information on these projects, you can call Lexi Zerillo at 518-489-5160; you can also email her at:

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