



VOL. 17, NO. 1

®

BATTLE LINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR

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SPRING 2013

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

A warm welcome to the following new members:

Robert A. Bramlett – Latham, NY
Paul W. Chromik – Ballston Lake, NY
Donald C. Cosgrove, Jr. – Delmar, NY
William T. Nottingham – Clifton Park, NY

The following compatriot has transferred from the Florida Society:

Bruce Paul Coyne – Clayton, NY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thomas L. Dunne, Jr.

I am looking for a volunteer for a Graves Committee for the Saratoga Battle Chapter. This would be to order and install grave markers for Revolutionary War Soldiers and to save these gravesites from further deterioration.

We have some upcoming events which I hope you can attend. It is always nice to see our membership at these events. You can go to our Saratoga Battle Chapter web site at: <http://www.saratogabattle-sar.org/> and see photos from past events.

June 1, 2013 (Saturday), we have been invited by the Saratoga National Historical Park (The Saratoga Battlefield) to attend a first-time event. It is at the Sword Surrender site, on Route 4, about a mile before Schuylerville, and will take place at 11 a.m. Shuttle service is available from the Schuyler House, so arrive a little earlier.

July 4, 2013 (Thursday), we are part of the Citizenship ceremony at the Saratoga Battlefield, which takes place at 10 AM. There are always Re-enactor's, musket firing, cannon firing, etc.

August 4, 2013 (Sunday), we are part of the Turning Point Parade, which takes place in the village of Schuylerville; the parade starts at 1 p.m. Parking is at the Schuyler House, and bus service to the parade starting site will be available.

September 22, 2013 (Sunday), we have a joint wreath-laying with the DAR, and the C.A.R at the DAR Monument at Stop 2 on the tour road of the Saratoga Battlefield. The wreath-laying starts at 2 PM. This one is my personal favorites, as there is an encampment of re-enactor's, musket firing, cannon firing, etc.-a great weekend for all ages. Then, after the wreath-laying, we have our meeting at 4:30 PM and a joint Dinner with the DAR (served at 5:30) at the Holiday Inn 232 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. You can contact me at ThmsDunne9@aol.com.

IN OUR MEMORY

On April 12, we lost a towering figure in the SAR. Ronald Erwin Newton, a past president of our chapter as well as of the Empire State Society, passed away from pancreatic cancer just short of his 76th birthday. Ron had moved to Maine, but remained a dual member of our chapter. On a personal note, your editor's SAR papers were prepared by Ron, and he was a wonderful mentor to me, especially during my term as Empire State Society President. A more detailed article is included with this newsletter.

Chapter members are encouraged to participate in Ron's interment ceremony on June 22 at the Easton Cemetery, Meeting House Road off of Rt. 40, Easton, Washington Co., NY at 2 p.m.

KUDOS TO RICH FULLAM

Our past president, Richard H. Fullam, joined the U.S. Army a couple of years ago. Rich had an article published in the Spring issue of *The Castle*, an authorized, but unofficial, publication of the 412th Theater Engineer Command; Rich serves in the 302nd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade. His article is entitled "Meisner's Legacy Comes Alive in WWII Reenactment" and discusses the military exploits of Chester Meisner, who served with the 99th Infantry Division in Europe and who was awarded the Bronze Star for his actions in the Battle of the Bulge. Congratulations on a fine article, Rich!

**ANNUAL MEETING AND
WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY DINNER**

The chapter held its annual meeting on February 23 at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs. The Registrar's Report shows that our chapter remains the largest in the state at 168 members. In addition, our Treasurer reported that our financial position remains very healthy; this is important, because we do lend support to other entities, including co-sponsoring two C.A.R. societies.

Nominating Committee Chairman Dennis Marr read the proposed slate of officers for two-year terms; with no nominations from the floor, the following were unanimously elected to chapter office:

Thomas L. Dunne – President
George F. Malinoski – 1st Vice President
Michael S. Companion – 2nd Vice President
David A. Marsh – Secretary
Douglas M. Gallant – Treasurer
Thomas L. Dunne - Registrar
Dennis F.M. Marr – Genealogist
Karl F. Danneil – Historian
Charles W. Wheeler, Jr. – Chaplain

The Installation of Officers was performed by Past President Peter K. Goebel.

Continuing in the appointed positions are Dennis Marr-Newsletter Editor, Dennis Booth-Webmaster and Duane Booth-Supplemental Applications Registrar.

Two deceased compatriots and one friend of the chapter were memorialized at the meeting:

Ernest L. Kendall, a past chapter president and long-time registrar, passed away on November 12, 2012 at the age of 91. Ernie served in the U.S. Navy in WWII.

Frank E. Moy died on September 12, 2012 at the age of 96. Frank was a former Supervisor in the Town of Easton, NY and served his country in WWII as a naval aviator, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Virginia "Ginny" Taylor, a DAR and wife of compatriot Harry Taylor, died on October 27, 2012 at the age of 88. Ginny was a good friend of the chapter and her smiling face will be missed at our dinners and meetings.

CHAPTER AWARDS PRESENTED

At the Annual Meeting, outgoing President Primitivo Africa presented the following awards to chapter members.

Thomas L. Dunne – Bronze Good Citizenship Medal; Meritorious Service Medal

Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to: Thomas L. Dunne, George F. Malinoski, Raymond LeMay, Michael S. Companion and Dennis Marr.

Recognition of Outstanding Support was awarded to Karl L. Danneil, Douglas "Tim" Mabee and Dennis Booth.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BILL GLIDDEN

Past President Bill Glidden, a noted military historian was recently awarded the title of Registered Historian at the state conference of the Association of Public Historians. Qualification for this award is on a point system in four areas related to historical activities.

Bill was instrumental in the establishment of the New York State Military Museum and Veterans Research Center in Saratoga Springs (our chapter is a charter member of the museum). He has served as the Town of Plattsburgh Deputy Historian and is on the War of 1812 Bicentennial Council. Other offices held include Town of Beekmantown Historian and Past President of the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration Committee. Bill has also done much to foster positive relationships with historical organizations in Canada.

Bill's knowledge of history, especially military history, is broad and deep and we congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition.

ANCESTOR STORIES NEEDED

For a number of years a very popular feature of this newsletter was a column entitled "Ancestor Corner." This consisted of one column of approximately 500 words giving a thumbnail sketch of a compatriot's Revolutionary War ancestor. The column died out due to lack of contributions from members. We have many new members since that column last appeared, so once again I am soliciting contributions for this feature. You can describe your ancestor's personal life or military service, and you needn't be the next Hemingway in order to do this!

Dennis F.M. Marr, Editor

RONALD ERWIN NEWTON

29 April 1937 – 12 April 2013

Newton, Ronald Erwin KENNEBUNK, Maine Ronald Erwin Newton of Thompson Road in Kennebunk, died of pancreatic cancer on Friday, April 12, 2013 at Gosnell Memorial Hospice House in Scarborough, Maine. He was born April 29, 1937 in Brattleboro, Vt., to Robert Sheldon and Bertha Whitney Newton at his grandparents' home. He grew up in St. Albans, Vt., and attended Bellows Free Academy. The family moved to Odgensburg, where he graduated valedictorian of the class of 1955 at Odgensburg Free Academy. He graduated from Cornell University in 1960 where he played clarinet in the Big Red Marching Band. Ron became an Eagle Scout in Vermont in 1953 and during that summer was one of Vermont's representatives traveling by Boy Scout Troop Train to the National Boy Scout Jamboree in Newport Harbor, Calif. This trip was an important influence throughout his life. He married Helen Pratt of Greenwich on August 29, 1959. They eventually settled in New Baltimore. Ron was an utility rates analyst for the New York State Public Service Commission for 34 years. Ron was a volunteer fireman for 30 years in the Cornell Hook and Ladder Company and a fire commissioner for the fire district for 20 years. He was active in the churches he attended, a past master of the Social Friendship Lodge, and was a member of Bethlehem Lodge in Delmar, and York Lodge No. 22 in Kennebunk. Ron was active in Boy Scouts for 60 years, serving as cub master, scout master and district commissioner as his sons moved through the ranks, attaining their Eagles. He was honored with the Silver Beaver Award in 1983 and worked at three National Jamborees. Ron became interested in genealogy, following in his parents' footsteps. He joined the National Society of Sons of the American Revolution in 1980. In New York State, he was president of the Saratoga Battle Chapter and the Empire State Society, as well as a past national trustee for both New York and Maine and vice president general for the Maine State SAR. He also was a past governor of the Vermont Mayflower Society and past senior state president of the Maine Children of the American Revolution. In 1995, Ron and Helen retired and moved to Kennebunk. For several years he volunteered at the Seashore Trolley Museum. He was treasurer of Haskell-Marston Camp of Sons of Union Veterans and Church Community Outreach Services, Inc. of Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and Arundel. Ron was predeceased by his parents and a son, Robert Forrest. He is survived by his wife of 53 years; a son, David O. Newton, and his wife, Suzanne, of Old Orchard Beach; and daughter, Ronda R. Newton, and her husband, Steven Anderson, of Lemoyne, Pa.; as well as several step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He is also survived by two sisters, Sylvia Curley of Duanesburg, and Barbara Newton of Albuquerque, N.M. Memorial visiting hours will be Friday, April 19, 2013 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Bibber Memorial Chapel, 67 Summer St., Kennebunk with Masonic and Eastern Star services. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 20 at 11 a.m. also at Bibber Memorial Chapel. Interment will be on Saturday, June 22 at 2 p.m., at Easton Rural Cemetery on Meeting House Road off Route 40 in Easton. The family wishes to thank everyone, especially Christ Church which has supported us with prayers and care throughout Ron's illness. In lieu of flowers, people are invited to donate to Home Health Visiting Nurses, 15 Industrial Park Road, Saco, ME 04072. Arrangements are in care of Bibber Memorial Chapel, 67 Summer St., Kennebunk. bibberfuneral.com



Ron & Helen Newton

For a wonderful summation of Ron's life, see the following article:

http://www.keepmecurrent.com/the_village/featured_stories/a-life-defined-by-volunteerism/article_5dfd7b98-970b-11e2-8678-0019bb2963f4.html