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®

BATTLE LINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR

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SPRING 2015

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members.

Benjamin M. Gallant* - Clifton Park, NY
Kearney L. Mason – Hadley, NY

*Benjamin joins as a Junior Member; he is the son of 1st VP and Treasurer Douglas M. Gallant and wife Teresa. He is also President of the Schuyler Society, C.A.R. which is co-sponsored by our chapter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

George F. Malinoski

After being elected President of the Chapter on February 21, 2015 I anticipated there would be a learning curve involved in carrying out the duties of the office. The first thing I learned is that I have a lot to learn. Fortunately, our Chapter is blessed to have several long time members who have served admirably in various Chapter offices. As a result, I started my tenure almost from day one asking questions. I am grateful for ESSSAR President Duane Booth and Chapter Genealogist Dennis Marr for being so patient with me and my queries, and for the guidance they have offered. I remain excited and committed to the goal of continuing to move our Chapter forward and increasing our visibility within our communities.

It has already been a busy few months for me. On the 16th of June I attended a meeting at the Saratoga National Historic Park regarding the citizenship ceremony to be held at the Park on Independence Day. As a result of this meeting, I met and became acquainted with representatives from the Saratoga Chapter NSDAR, the Friends of the Saratoga Battlefield, the League of Women Voters, the United States Customs and Immigration Service, and National Park personnel overseeing the planning and execution of this event. Chapter Officers were cordially invited to the Tawasentha Chapter NSDAR annual dinner meeting on June 18, 2015. I was able to attend the dinner event which consisted of an excellent meal, a presentation by a representative of

the USS Slater, and fine conversation with many of the members of the Chapter.

One of my goals as Chapter President is to foster more quality communication and interaction between our Chapter and the various NSDAR Chapters in this area. To that end, I have had the pleasure of making the acquaintance and having productive conversations with Fort Crailo Chapter Regent Doris Roberts, Saratoga Chapter Regent Corinne Scirocco, and Tawasentha Chapter Regent Vicki Folger. I am happy to report that all three of the Regents responded favorably to the idea of exchanging our Chapters' schedule of events and activities, while looking for opportunities to pool our resources where appropriate in community projects and activities. Additionally, there was across the board agreement concerning the importance and need to expand our outreach to school children on the topics of citizenship and American history.

With this in mind, I'd like to remind you that the 62nd Annual Eastern Region C.A.R. Meeting will be held on July 10th and July 11th at the Holiday Inn on Wolf Road in Colonie, NY. I had sent out a broadcast email to all the Compatriots of the Saratoga Battle Chapter encouraging them to support this important meeting both with their presence and financially. As Beth Mosher, the Senior State President of the N.Y.S.S.C.A.R., recently pointed out in an email, "Remember that C.A.R. members are future DAR and SAR members for your chapters." While this fact is important to keep in mind, perhaps even more important is to recognize and support the work of the C.A.R. in educating its members about their role as responsible citizens, and in understanding our American history. I hope each Compatriot of our Chapter would keep this in mind and continue to support the C.A.R.

I am very excited about our participation in the upcoming Citizenship Ceremony on July 4th at the Saratoga Battlefield. I will be representing our Chapter as I have been asked to offer a salutation to our new citizens as part of the formal program on that morning. If you have never attended this ceremony, I would highly recommend you consider setting aside 10:00 AM on July 4th to participate in

this festive and important event. You will not be disappointed. With the July 4th event, the Chapter has a significant activity currently on our schedule through November of this year. I would encourage each of you to take the time to visit our Chapter's website (<http://www.saratogabattle-sar.org/>) to take advantage of the information, resources and schedule of events that are posted there. My hope is that each of you will resolve to participate in one or more these events this year. Additionally, I know the editor (Dennis Marr) of our quarterly newsletter Battle Lines is more than willing to give aspiring writers an opportunity to submit and have an article published in the newsletter. Perhaps you could write about one of your Patriot ancestors, do a book review, or write about a trip you made to one of America's great historic sites.

I'd conclude once again by asking that if you have suggestions for the Chapter, comments, or a question you'd like answered, please feel free to email me or any of the other Chapter Officers. Our email addresses can be found on the Chapter website.

Again, let me thank you for the honor and opportunity to serve you as President. I hope that perhaps sometime in the coming year I can meet and chat with you. May you and your loved ones continue to be blessed throughout the coming year. I'll close with a favorite quote of mine from John Adams: "Posterity! You will never know how much it cost the present generation to preserve your freedom! I hope you will make a good use of it."

CHAPTER PRESENTS ROTC/JROTC AWARDS

On April 23, Pres. Malinoski and Genealogist Marr presented the NSSAR JROTC medal at the annual Awards Ceremony at Christian Brothers Academy in Albany. Genealogist Marr presented this same medal on June 2 at LaSalle Institute in Troy as part of its annual Officer Commissioning Ceremony.

In early May, Pres. Malinoski attended the 65th Annual Presidential Awards Ceremony for the Reserve Officer Training Corps at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. At this ceremony he presented three members of ROTC with the NSSAR ROTC medal and certificate.

ANCESTOR ARTICLES SOLICITED

We encourage members to put together a brief write-up (~500 words) on a patriot ancestor for publication in the newsletter's *Ancestor Corner* feature.

BOOK REVIEW

By

Compatriot Douglas M. Gallant

At our annual Chapter meeting this past February, there was a sheet of paper on the tables about the book *The Colonial Wars 1689 - 1762*, by Howard Peckham. Whoever did that - thank you! I found it to be very informative. It covers the 4 wars that occurred during the pre-Revolution period and their impact in North America. Given that the book is only 220 pages, it doesn't delve into details but instead gives a broad though thorough account. As the author notes, this is a period of history that is generally ignored in contemporary history books with the exception of the French and Indian War. But all of these wars were really a sequence of connected events that culminated with the Revolution. Aside from covering the actual European powers and their related colonies and settlements, the author also includes details on how the various Indian nations/tribes were courted by all sides in the various conflicts and how their choice of sides generally led to their demise or displacement. Overall, I would give this book two big thumbs-up, five stars, etc. and recommend it to everyone.

RHODES FUND ANNOUNCES GRANTS

Dennis Marr, Executive Director of the Lawrence I. & Blanche H. Rhodes Memorial Fund, Inc. announces the following grants to organizations of interest to SAR.

Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter, NSDAR Schuyler Mansion Project: \$8,000, for a cumulative total of \$111,500 since 2001.

Saratoga Battle Chapter, SAR: \$1,000, \$17,000 cumulative since 2000.

Schuyler Society N.S.C.A.R., \$750, \$8,500 cumulative since 2004.

Bemis Heights Society, N.S.C.A.R., \$750, \$8,500 cumulative since 2004.

The Rhodes Fund is proud to be a co-sponsor of the above C.A.R. societies, along with Saratoga Battle Chapter NSSAR, Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter NSDAR, and Saratoga Chapter NSDAR.