



BATTLE LINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR
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NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome the following new members:

Arthur F. Young, Jr. – Troy, NY
Henry Goebel, Jr. – Nassau, NY
Daniel P. Wilson – Amsterdam, NY
Joseph W. Wilson – Greenwich, NY
Robert D. Wilson, II – San Diego, CA
Robert D. Wilson, III – San Diego, CA
Todd N. Wilson – San Diego, CA

A hearty welcome to these new Compatriots!

CHAPTER MEMBERS ELECTED TO NATIONAL OFFICE

The following chapter members were elected to National Office at the recent NSSAR Congress in Chicago:

William B. Neal – Genealogist General
Ronald E. Newton – V.P. General - New England

Bill Neal, a dual member from the DE Society, was reelected to his position. Ron Newton returns to a post he has held previously.

Jonathan Goebel is in the second year of his term as V.P. General - North Atlantic.

National Office involves a substantial commitment of time and resources, and these Compatriots are to be congratulated for their service to the National Society.

PRESIDENT BOOTH HONORED

A belated congratulations to chapter President Duane Booth on being awarded the Patriot Medal by the Empire State Society at its Annual Meeting. The Patriot Medal is the highest award that a state society may award, and is presented for long and faithful service at the chapter and/or state level. Congratulations, Duane, on this highly-deserved recognition.

CHAPTER MEMBERS APPOINTED TO NATIONAL COMMITTEES

The following Compatriots have been appointed to national committees by President General Raymond G. Musgrave. This list is accurate as of August 25th.

William B. Neal

Census of Qualified Prospects
Chaplains
Genealogy
Lineage Research Workshop
Membership
Patriotic and Heritage society Liaison

Ronald E. Newton

CAR
Council of Vice Presidents General
Knight Essay

Jonathan E. Goebel

Council of Vice Presidents General
Jos. S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration
Membership
ROTC/JROTC
SAR – W3R (Washington-Rocheambeau Rev. Road)
Young Members

Lt. Col. Peter K. Goebel

Color Guard
Hospitality
Medals & Awards
Membership
Young Members

Dennis F.M. Marr

Geo. Washington Endowment Fund – Fund Raising
Geo. Washington Endowment Fund - Distribution
Membership
National Park Service
Revolutionary War (225th Anniv. Events)
Historic Celebrations

Col. Goebel remains on duty in Iraq. We keep him in our prayers for a safe return, and thank him for his service to our country.

ANCESTOR CORNER

Your submissions are needed for this popular feature. All that you need do is compile a brief write-up on a patriot ancestor and his service; any personal information on him or her is also welcome. If you are uncomfortable with putting together a formal written article, just send an outline with the pertinent facts to Editor Marr and he will prepare it for you.

JROTC AWARD PRESENTED

On June 3, Registrar Marr presented the Bronze JROTC SAR award at LaSalle Institute in Troy, his alma mater. This year's recipient, selected as always by the school military department, was Cadet Lt. Col. Matthew Morgan.

GANSEVOORT DAR EVENT

Our friends at the Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter, NSDAR, invited us to man a booth at their "Training for Victory and Colonial Fair," held at the Van Schaick Mansion on July 26. Registrar Marr was on hand with this Rev. War Pension books, and several solid prospects for membership were identified. Thank you, Ladies, for letting us share in this festive day!

DAUGHTERS OF THE WAR OF 1812

Susan Szewczyk, Regent of the Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR, has been elected NY State Vice President for the National Society of the Daughters of the War of 1812. Susan hopes to establish a chapter in the Capital District area. If you know of any eligible ladies who are interested in membership, please have them contact Susan at 518-587-9562; email: Susansz@nycap.rr.com.

Troy's own Samuel Wilson, "Uncle Sam" to all, a purveyor of meat to the Army during this war, is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Troy.

In a situation similar to SAR, where our state society cannot use "New York State Society" in its name because of litigation in the 1890's, the NY branch of the General Society of the War of 1812, for similar reasons, must call itself "The Society of the Second War with Great Britain in the State of New York." (*Hereditary Society Blue Book*, Sixth Ed., 1998, p. 53).

Registrar Marr has a reference book covering numerous lineage societies if anyone needs information on joining one.

THINGS GENEALOGICAL

The long-awaited update of the DAR Patriot Index has finally been published. Released in connection with the recent NSDAR National Conference in Washington, DC, this represents the first update since the 1990 centennial edition. It is in 3 volumes and costs \$90 plus \$12 shipping. Registrar Marr has ordered a set and will have it available for lookups for SARs and DARs. This edition contains over 126,000 patriot ancestors used over the years by ladies to join DAR; also included in this edition is an Alternate Name Cross Reference, which should be a huge help in finding individuals.

NYS HEALTH DEPT. FEES INCREASE

Not to be outdone by the Social Security Administration and the National Archives, both of which have raised fees for genealogical records in recent years, the NYS Health Dept. has increased fees for vital records as of August 1, 2003.

Genealogy copies of birth, marriage and death certificates are now \$22 for a 1-3 year search, which includes finding a certificate for which the applicant has the exact date. Mail requests to the NYSDOH, which had been backlogged as much as 16 months in recent years, still take many months to fulfill. If you know the locality where the event occurred, you can obtain the record much faster by going to the local vital statistics office; however, you will usually receive only a *transcript* of the event, not a copy of the actual certificate. The cities of Albany, Buffalo, Yonkers and New York maintain their own vital records repositories, and certificates for events from there cannot be obtained through NYS. When you don't know the exact year of an event, searches now cost \$42 for a 4-10 year search, \$62 for 11-20 years, and so on. For full information, go to: www.health.state.ny.us.

There is a little-known "back door" to the NYS Health Dept., through which copies can be obtained in 1-2 weeks. The Department maintains a walk-in office off of the Concourse of the Empire State Plaza. Hand-deliver your request form and payment at this office, and you'll get your certificate quickly.

CHAPTER ANNUAL WREATH-LAYING

Enclosed with this newsletter is a flyer with the details of our Annual Memorial Service at the Saratoga Battlefield, held with the Saratoga Chapter NSDAR. Please try to attend this colorful and meaningful event.

