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®

BATTLE LINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR

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SUMMER 2009

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

A hearty welcome to the following new members admitted since the Spring newsletter.

John T. Bailey – New Hartford, CT

Michael P. Goebel – Nassau, NY

Donald A. Reynolds – Malone, NY

Douglas S. Reynolds – Rensselaer, NY

Raymond E. Roe, Sr. – Weedsport, NY

Donald G. Zeilman – Pittsburgh, PA

IN OUR MEMORY

We are saddened to report the death of compatriot Joseph I. Whittlesey of Glenville, NY. Joe passed away on 15 July at the age of 87. He served in France and Germany in WWII, and had been an engineer for GE for 38 years.

CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN TURNING POINT PARADE

by
Charles Walter

On Sunday August 2, 2009 members of the Saratoga Battle Chapter joined forces with compatriots from the Walloomsac Battle Chapter to march in the 15th annual Turning Point Parade in Schuylerville, NY. The parade participants were: Richard Fullam, Charles Walter, Rick Saunders, Douglas Reynolds, George Malinoski, John Sheaff, Harold Owen, Paul Virtue and Duane Booth. Other SAR members marching with other organizations were Lewis Slocum, Jr., Brett Trufant, Mike Companion and Paul Loding. A special "thank you" goes to Carol Slocum for driving her "Red Pony" (Mustang) to accommodate those needing to ride in the parade.

The Turning Point Parade commemorates the Battles of Saratoga and the Surrender of Burgoyne. These events have been deemed to be the "turning point" of the American Revolution. The parade's focus has evolved over the years to include recognition of veterans and military service personnel from every era, age and conflict, since these individuals helped to preserve the freedoms won by our Patriot Ancestors in the Revolution.

JULY 4TH CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY DEDICATED TO PAST PRESIDENT GEORGE BALLARD

by
Rick Saunders

The Sixth Annual Citizenship Ceremony at Saratoga National Historical Park, sponsored jointly by; The Department of Homeland Security - USCIS, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield, Saratoga Battle Chapter, National Society Sons of the American Revolution, Saratoga Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, and the National Park Service, Saratoga National Historical Park, was dedicated to two individuals, George H. Ballard and Richard E. "Dick" Beresford, who were both instrumental in beginning this tradition, and were members of sponsoring organizations.

George Ballard the immediate past president of the Saratoga Battle Chapter, SAR, passed away on March 17th, 2009. Dick Beresford, President of the Friends of Saratoga Battlefield, and a retired Park Ranger passed away on April 29th, 2009.

Participants in the program, included NY State Senator Roy J. McDonald who spoke first in order to return to Albany for the Senate Session, and commented to the new citizens fact that they now have a vote in this land they call home.

Other participants included the Bemis Heights Society, NSCAR, the Schuyler Society, NSCAR, Boy Scout Troop 6, Glens Falls, Danielle McMullen as Vocalist, Doris Olszewski and Timothy Holmes of the Friends of Saratoga Battlefield, McDonalds of Malta, Sons and Daughters Fife and Drum, Saratoga Battlefield volunteers, and SNHP Ranger Joe Craig.

Officially administering the Oath of Allegiance, in which the new citizens stood and raised their right hands, was James Wyrrough, the Field Office Director, USCIS, based in Albany, NY. One of his comments was that "It's a very patriotic event to become a citizen and the Fourth is the day we remember to patriotic events of the past and remind everyone how important it is to be a citizen." More than 6000 people became United States citizens on this date, all around the world.

In celebrating the 233rd anniversary of America's freedom and independence, upon the battle grounds that surely changed the course of history, Richard Fullam, President of the Saratoga Battle Chapter, led those assembled, including the new Citizens consisting of nineteen (19) individuals from eleven (11) different countries around the world, in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

RHODES MEMORIAL FUND SUPPORT RECEIVED

The following grants were received from the Rhodes Memorial Fund for its year ended 7/31/2009:

\$1,000 – Saratoga Battle Chapter, NSSAR
\$7,000 – Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter, NSDAR
\$ 250 – Walloomsac Battle Chapter, NSSAR
\$ 750 – Schuyler Society, NSCAR
\$ 750 – Bemis Heights Society, NSCAR

CHAPTER MEMBERS APPOINTED TO NATIONAL COMMITTEES

The following members have been appointed to leadership positions on National Committees of the NSSAR:

American Revolution History Website

CDR Charles R. Lampman – Chairman

CAR Committee

Col. Peter K. Goebel – Vice Chairman

Color Guard Committee

Jonathan E. Goebel – Vice Chairman

Col. Peter K. Goebel – Senior Advisor

Ethics Committee

Henry N. McCarl, PhD – Chairman
(Past President General)

Hospitality & Music Committee

Henry N. McCarl, PhD – Senior Advisor

Patriotic Education Committee

CDR Charles R. Lampman – Vice Chairman

Spanish Patriots Committee

CDR Charles R. Lampman – Senior Advisor

Wreaths Across America Committee

Ronald E. Newton – Vice Chairman

Young Members Committee

Jonathan E. Goebel – Chairman

Col. Peter K. Goebel – Senior Advisor

Youth Oration Contest

Jonathan E. Goebel – Chairman

In addition, the following members serve on one or more National Committees:

CDR Charles R. Lampman
Col. Peter K. Goebel
Jonathan E. Goebel
Ronald E. Newton
Dennis F. Marr
Henry N. McCarl, PhD

NEWS FROM BEMIS HEIGHTS SOCIETY CAR

A thanks to Sue Szewczyk, Senior President, for the following news on what activities the children have been participating in lately.

In April, we held our installation of Society officers and Senior Officers. In May, members watched a DVD entitled “The Radeau.” On Saturday, June 20, 2009, members held a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Flanagan’s home. On July 4, several members and two Seniors participated in the annual Naturalization Ceremony held by the Saratoga Chapter, NSDAR and the Saratoga Battle Chapter, NSSAR, at the Saratoga Battlefield. Members passed out lemonade to the newly naturalized citizens and honored guests.

Our Society would like to thank the members of the Saratoga Battle Chapter, NSSAR, for their continuous support!

On May 31, 2009, 2 Seniors, Sussan Szewczyk and Cathy LaPibus, and 6 members, Sarah & Jake LaPibus, Emily, Hannah & Cassie Flanagan and Kate Szewczyk participated in the Great Strides Walk for Cystic Fibrosis which was held by the Glens Falls/Adirondack Walk Chapter at West Mountain. Our chapter donated a total of \$150.00 to the cause.

DVD REVIEW: “THE LOST RADEAU NORTH AMERICA’S OLDEST INTACT WARSHIP”

This short documentary film narrates the story of the sinking, discovery and underwater archaeological study of the 1758 *Land Tortoise* “radeau” warship, the flagship of “The Sunken Fleet of 1758.” Locally produced by Pepe Productions of Glens Falls and Bateaux Below, Inc. of Wilton, this thrilling narrative documents the 1990 discovery of the one-of-a-kind British floating gun battery of the French & Indian War. 107 feet beneath Lake George, the 52-foot long *Land Tortoise* has been designated a National Historic Landmark.

Bateaux Below, Inc., the underwater archaeologists who carried out this study, received a letter from First Lady Michelle Obama dated July 29, 2009, naming them as a recipient of a “Preserve America Steward” designation. This was one of only two recipients nationwide. The research team has spent the last 22 years studying Lake George’s shipwrecks and implementing programs that promote historic preservation of these finite cultural resources.

The DVD is available from Bateaux Below for \$24.95:

<http://www.thelostradeau.com/store.html>

For more on the Preserve America Steward program, go to:

<http://www.preserveamerica.gov/>