



VOL. 19, NO. 2

®

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members.

William F. Davidson III – Glens Falls, NY
William F. Davidson IV – Queensbury, NY
Albert E. Dohring – Schenectady, NY
Gregory C. Hickok – Canaan, NY
John D. Lacy – Albany, NY
Edward W. Munger, Jr. – Schenectady, NY
Nicholas F. Oxaal – Cohoes, NY
Mark J. Quebedeaux – Augusta, GA
James T. Van Auken – Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Albert and Nicholas are Junior Members. Nicholas, son of compatriot Ford Oxaal, was recently elected NYS President of the N.Y.C.A.R.

We also welcome back reinstated member Robert G. Miller of Delmar, NY, who originally joined in 1982.

GERTRUDE “JUDY” ROWE PASSES AWAY

The chapter lost a good friend with the passing of Judy Rowe at the age of 85 on August 30. Judy was Town Historian for Sand Lake in Rensselaer County and a long-time member of the Fort Crailo Chapter DAR. Judy had recruited a number of members for us and was a great help to your Editor during his 11 years as chapter Registrar. The chapter awarded Judy the SAR Medal of Appreciation in June of 1997 and the Daughters of Liberty Medal in February 1999.

C.A.R. NEWS

Congratulations to Benjamin Gallant on his election as President of Schuyler Society, C.A.R.; he is the son of compatriot and chapter Treasurer Doug Gallant. Congratulations also to Nicholas Oxaal on his election as President of the New York Society C.A.R. We know that both of these young men will do their parents and friends proud. Benjamin Gallant was also elected NY State Registrar. Other chapter members attaining State office include: Christopher Oxaal, Chaplain; Elizabeth Oxaal, Treasurer; Alexandra Oxaal, Librarian-Curator; Steven Fullam, Adirondack Mountain District Vice President.

BATTLE LINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR
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SUMMER 2015

At the N.S.C.A.R. annual convention in Arlington, VA, the Schuyler Society won Gold National Merit Award as 3rd Most Outstanding Society in the country. Saratoga Battle is proud to co-sponsor both the Schuyler and Bemis Heights societies; other co-sponsors are the Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter-DAR and the Rhodes Memorial Fund.

JULY 4th CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

For the twelfth year the chapter participated in the annual Fourth of July Citizenship Ceremony at the Saratoga National Historical Park. Among the participants were the Saratoga Chapter-DAR and the Schuyler Society C.A.R. Twenty new citizens took the oath of allegiance. Chapter President George Malinoski gave a very moving salutation.



Pres. Malinoski Gives Salutation



At the Chapter Monument
(L-R) Nick Oxaal; Doug Gallant; Patrick Reilly; G. Malinoski; Danielle McMullin (Singer); Duane Booth; Benjamin Gallant

ANNUAL TURNING POINT PARADE

Duane Booth

The 2015 Turning Point Parade, commemorating the American Victory at the Battle of Saratoga on October 17, 1777 during the American Revolutionary War, was the twenty-first annual presentation for the Village of Schuylerville, NY.

The original purpose of the parade was to serve as a public reminder of the importance of this area in the history of our country; in particular, the defeat of the British armies in 1777 and their subsequent surrender by General Burgoyne. These events have of course been deemed the "turning point" of the American Revolution, vital to winning independence from Great Britain.

Saratoga Battle again joined the Walloomsac Battle Chapter for this event; participation included a float and a large contingent of members. We were delighted to have NY State DAR Regent Martha Crapser with us.



(L-R) Tom Dunne, Corinne Scirocco, Pat Reilly, Duane Booth, Martha Crapser, John Sheaff, Mike Skelly, Paul Loding, Pete Hormell, Bret Trufant and Joe Fitzpatrick



Re-enactors Bret Trufant, Alfred Bartlett, Peter Hormell, Mary Skelly, Mike Companion and Bradley Allen

ANCESTOR CORNER

Compatriot Peter W. Johnson
Ontario, Canada

As a Canadian with both Loyalist and "Patriot" (we tend to call them "Rebels" up here) ancestors, one of the enduring questions for me is the motives for each in joining their respective sides. While there was undoubtedly peer pressure frequently to join the "Patriot" cause (to put it nicely), there were also those who joined because they truly believed in the Cause. For one of my "Patriots," Jacob DeLong, I'm quite sure he was a believer.

Born in the 1740s and a resident of the Pittstown, Rensselaer County area of NY at the time of the War, he served in the 14th Albany County Militia. Whether he was at any notable engagements, I have not determined.

In 1801 Jacob and his extended family and neighbours packed up and moved to Canada, settling in the York (now Toronto) area. A surprising number of "Patriots" settled in Canada after the American Revolution, no doubt attracted by the availability of cheap land. By the time of the War of 1812 he was too elderly to serve in the Militia, but he annoyed the officials by encouraging the locals to support the Americans when they invaded Toronto in April of 1813. It seems he and his immediate family were enough of a nuisance that they were encouraged to move to Ohio fairly quickly, where he died in 1816. Most of his family returned to Canada within a few years.

Thus Jacob DeLong stands as an example of a "Patriot" veteran who believed in the Cause.

(Editor's note: the 14th Regiment of the Albany County Militia, under Col. John Knickerbacker, was at the Battles of Saratoga as part of Gen. Abraham Ten Broeck's Albany Militia Brigade. Records cannot confirm the participation of many men who served there as many payroll records no longer exist.)

ANNUAL WREATH-LAYING

This year's wreath-laying ceremony at Saratoga National Historical Park is at 2 p.m. on September 20. This is a very moving and colorful event, and we encourage compatriots to attend. A business meeting/dinner will follow at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs. Reservation form at: <http://www.saratogabattle-sar.org/pages/events.html#sep15>.

GEORGE MALINOSKI JULY 4 SALUTATION

Good Morning! And Welcome! To our 12th annual citizenship ceremony! My name is George Malinoski, and I am the President of the Saratoga Battle Chapter, National Society Sons of the American Revolution. I bring to you the warmest greetings and best wishes from the Saratoga Battle Chapter, the Empire State Society SAR, and the National Society. Something you might be interested in knowing, today the NSSAR consists of over 32,000 members in over 500 chapters in the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Switzerland, Mexico, Spain and the United Kingdom. Over 189,000 descendants of the men and women Patriots of the American Revolution have been admitted to the NSSAR since our founding.

Today is America's Birthday, for on July Fourth, 239 years ago, the Declaration of Independence was signed. You who have chosen today to take the oath of allegiance to become American citizens could not have picked a more auspicious date and site to make this commitment. This National Park is full of scenic beauty and rich in America's history in its struggle for independence. Without the American victory won on this battlefield, the American Revolution very well might have been lost. Truly, the American triumph here is correctly referred to as the 'Turning Point of the American Revolution'.

Although I've yet to locate a patriot ancestor who was present on this hallowed battlefield in 1777, my ancestors nonetheless rigorously supported the War of American Independence. In fact, one of my patriot ancestors was actually a British soldier stationed in Boston who felt so strongly about individual freedom and liberty that he deserted the British Army in 1774 and joined the American Patriots in their fight for independence. Another ancestor, whose family originally came to this country in the 1600s from France served as a drummer and was present at the very start of the war at Lexington and Concord Massachusetts. His family fled France due to religious persecution. And yet another branch of my family came to America from Russian controlled Poland in the late 1800s with the dream of starting a new life in this country. The common thread for my ancestors was the hope and potential that America offered them in the form of freedom and liberty to build a better, more successful life in this very blessed country. No doubt, many of you share these same hopes and dreams, and the action you are taking today to become American citizens is another bold step on your part to realize these hopes and dreams for you and your families.

As one of the many people who helped to make this event possible I am proud that on these scenic and hallowed grounds, on America's Birthday, we gather to celebrate you, our newest citizens. I applaud you, offer you congratulations on becoming American citizens, and wish you every success in all that you seek to achieve in this great Nation!