BATTLE LINES



NEWSLETTER OF THE SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER, SAR Dennis F.M. Marr, Editor 3 Ravens Court, Troy, NY 12180 518-283-2908 <u>Dfmarr@aol.com</u>

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NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We are pleased to welcome the following new Compatriots to our ranks:

R. Martin Boone, Jr. – Brooklyn, NY Raymond D. Briggs – Cobleskill, NY Raymond D. Briggs, Jr. – Cobleskill, NY James H. Briggs – Cobleskill, NY Jon A. Briggs – Cobleskill, NY Joel E. Briggs – Cobleskill, NY Raymond D. Briggs III – Cobleskill, NY Bryan R. Briggs – Cobleskill, NY

Raymond Sr. lives on the farm owned by the family's Patriot Ancestor, Peter Young. A 1939 NYS Historical Marker at the site reads: "Site of home of Lieut. Peter Young/The Patriots of New Rhinebeck made the house of Peter Young and his wife their rendezvous during the Revolutionary War."

The family also filed papers for the following Youth Registrants:

Tyler J. Briggs James D. Braun Joseph R. Braun Zachary S. Briggs Joel F. Briggs

A tip of the hat to Registrar Duane Booth is in order for his hard work in building our chapter. We are on our way to becoming the largest chapter in the Empire State Society.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATIONS <u>ENCOURAGED</u>

NSSAR strongly encourages the submission of papers on additional patriot ancestors that you may identify in your research. Filing this paperwork potentially opens up membership for other men who may share that particular line with you.

Members submitting supplementals recently include: Floyd DeWitt, Eric Bone, George Ballard, Duane Booth, Dennis Booth, Richard Fullam and Charles Walter IV.

Congratulations to these Compatriots for their interest and dedication.

ANNUAL WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY MEETING

One of the highlights of our meeting year is the Washington's Birthday Annual Meeting and Dinner. This year's event was held on 18 February at the Century House Restaurant in Latham, NY.

Reports were submitted by Secretary Stephen Coye, Treasurer Richard Fullam and Registrar Duane Booth, along with committee chairmen.

Our guest speaker was ESSSAR President and Saratoga Battle Chaplain Lt. Col. Peter K. Goebel, who spoke of his experiences serving in Iraq. Peter's talk was both informative and inspirational.

The following Compatriots were awarded SAR Membership Service pins as follows:

35 Years

William G. Loveday, Jr.

30 Years

Henry N. McCarl, Former Pres. General

25 Years

Kurt H. Kilmer Francis E. Moy Robert P. Crocetta, Sr.* Charles F. Walter IV Clyde W. Childs, Jr.* Ronald E. Newton* William B. Neal Ernest L. Kendall*

20 Years

Lewis O. Slocum, Jr.* G. William Glidden* William H. Markham Ronald E. Avery David O. Newton Charles W. King

*Past Chapter Presidents

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to these loyal Compatriots who have supported and served our Society and Chapter for these many years.

CENTER FOR ADVANCING AMERICA'S HERITAGE

Your Editor, an early donor to the SAR Foundation, has received a personal appeal from PG Rowland G. Downing, PhD to encourage you to support this ambitious project of the National Society.

The Center for Advancing America's Heritage will be a state-of-the-art library and resource center in Louisville, KY. It will be the focal point in the NSSAR's outreach programs to combat the forces promoting multiculturalism and world government. When fully developed, the Center will produce additional outreach programs. Building the new library, and thereby expanding the headquarters complex, is required in order to provide the necessary physical facilities for this endeavor.

As many of you recognize, we are in the midst of what has been called a "culture war" against those who promote historical revisionism, the running down of our Founding Fathers and Documents, and who denigrate America's role as a defender and promoter of democracy in the world.

The land for the new Center has been acquired. The capital campaign has as its goal \$6 million. Construction can begin when the National Society has \$3 million in the bank and the other \$3 million in short-term pledges. President General Downing, who also serves as the Chairman of the SAR Foundation, reports that as of 16 March 2006 we are half-way towards this goal.

While the NSSAR numbers some 27,000 Compatriots, only about 850 had thus far made a financial commitment to this worthy enterprise. While a number of Compatriots have been able to make or pledge substantial sums, every dollar donated is important, and will bring us closer to realizing our goal.

All donations are tax-deductible. I am taking this opportunity to enclose a form that you can use for making a donation and/or a pledge to this campaign. If even ½ of the NSSAR membership were to make even a modest donation it would represent a giant step towards achieving this goal.

The new Center will feature an expanded, modern genealogical and historical library on property adjacent to Headquarters that has already been zoned for this purpose, and will greatly enhance the NSSAR's educational outreach projects.

NSSAR EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

PG Downing's letter was accompanied by a progress report on NSSAR's educational outreach programs; excerpts follow:

Since the 1960s, what is taught as history to children has drastically changed. The situation can be summarized by saying that United States history is being taught as social science, that history of the Founding is crowded out by stories of the struggles of cultural groups, and that students are not taught to value unity in one American identity. As a result, citizens are losing that special sense of purpose that made America what it is today.

The NSSAR is responding by adding an educational outreach function at National which will be staffed by professionals who execute programs aimed at the general public using mass media and other proven marketing techniques. The SAR is already well along this road, as proven by the following milestones:

- > Reaffirmed its mission and commitment to educational outreach
- > Expansion of physical facilities via the new library
- > Established the SAR Foundation to raise capital and more efficiently manage financial affairs
- ➤ Hired an experienced Association Executive as Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer
- > Initiated a new history education website, "The Real story of the American Revolution" at

www.rsar.org

- > Adding a Director of Education to the staff for the purpose of creating educational programs that reach out to the general public
- Museum is in exploratory talks with other museums with the aim of developing/borrowing exhibits that would serve regional school districts
- > SAR Foundation has agreed to hire a professional Director of Development

These are bold and forward-looking moves, but they require your financial commitment in order to be achieved.

If each of us will do whatever our finances allow, substantial progress will be made toward attaining this goal. Please do your part to keep your National Society in the forefront of the fight to teach and preserve our American Heritage.