



# Empire Patriot

Empire State Society  
Sons of The American Revolution  
Descendants of America's First Soldiers

Volume 7 Issue 1

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## BENEDICT ARNOLD THE MAKING OF A TRAITOR

*Benedict Arnold: The Making of a Traitor* Benedict Arnold's performance at the Battles of Saratoga contributed to the American victory there. But a bitter rivalry with his commander helped start Arnold down the road to treason.

The season was changing. Hot afternoons gave way to cool evenings and cooler mornings as summer turned to autumn in New York's upper Hudson Valley. Beneath the green, red, and orange canopy of leaves shrouding the hills that straddled the Hudson River, a different sort of transformation was taking place. Four months into British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's invasion of the northern colonies, his army had collided with Major General Horatio Gates's entrenched Americans. Now, on September 19, 1777, the first of two fateful battles—bound to alter the course of the American Revolution—had begun.

At Gates's headquarters behind the American lines on Bemis Heights (named for Jotham Bemis, a local tavern keeper), 36-year-old Major General Benedict Arnold seethed with impatience. The fiery Connecticut native held command of the American left wing, which Burgoyne had attacked that morning. After directing the American defense for much of the day, Arnold now found himself wasting his energy by repeatedly requesting that Gates give him reinforcements. He ached to sweep the field before dark.

Gates eventually sent portions of Brigadier General Ebenezer Learned's brigade to support the Americans who were battling across a wide, stump-filled field called Freeman's Farm. Shortly afterward, Deputy Quartermaster

Colonel Morgan Lewis reported in at headquarters and told Gates of the indecisive fighting. That was enough for Arnold. "By God, I will soon put an end to it" he declared, and mounted a horse to go and lead the troops himself.



Major General Benedict Arnold

"You had better order him back," Lewis told Gates. "The action is going well. He may, by some rash act, do mischief." Gates immediately sent an aide to bring him back, and Arnold angrily complied. By this time Learned's unguided infantry had wandered too far to the west, where they were all but wiped out by Brigadier General Simon Fraser's British troops. Meanwhile, 500 German soldiers under Major General Baron Friedrich von Riedesel had marched to Freeman's Farm and stopped the final American advance. Darkness then descended, ending the contest.

Left in command of the field, Burgoyne could technically claim victory in the First Battle of Saratoga (also known as the Battle of Freeman's Farm), but he had suffered 560 casualties, almost twice the American total. The British Army had shrunk to less than 7,000 effectives, while Gates could boast of nearly 12,000 Continentals and militia. The Americans could still win a victory. All the soldiers needed, Arnold believed, was inspiration, but he doubted it would come from his commander.

**PRESIDENT GENERAL VISITS  
SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER**



*National Society President General Henry McCarl (L) accompanies re-enactor Dave Bernier portraying American General Horatio Gates to the DAR Monument*

The National Society's President General Henry N. McCarl visited the Chapter on Sunday, September 19th and participated in the annual wreath laying ceremony, our chapter meeting and a celebratory dinner.

The days events started with our annual wreath laying at the DAR Monument located at Stop 2 on the Saratoga National Historical Park Tour Road.

The wreath laying which honors those who fought at the Battles of Saratoga, as well as our own patriot ancestors, has been jointly held with the Saratoga Chapter NSDAR for the past several years. This year's event was very well attended and included eight wreaths.

Mrs. Shirley Schadow, Regent of the Saratoga Chapter welcomed everyone and introduced PG McCarl and his wife Mary as well as guests from the Bemis Heights & Schuyler Societies of the Children of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution and Sons of the American Revolution.

The 25th Continental Regiment of Re-enactors from

Easthampton, MA presented the colors and Regent Schadow led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Los Gruner, Director, District IV of the New York State NSDAR gave a history of the DAR Monument and told of the 30 cent per member fee imposed on each DAR member for the years 1930 & 1931 to cover its cost. Saratoga Battle Chapter President Duane Booth announced the organizations presenting wreaths and introduced the person laying the wreath.

An SAR Chapter meeting followed in the Visitor's Center. During the meeting Chapter President Booth introduced President General Henry McCarl who has joined the State Society and the Chapter as a dual member. State Society President William J. Woodworth and newly elected Historian General Richard W. Sage were also introduced. New member Arthur Young and transfer in member Col. J. Allen Lighthall, Ret. U.S. Army, were also welcomed.

A joint dinner with the Saratoga Chapter NSDAR followed at JeRon's Restaurant and Banquet House in Ballston Spa. On behalf of the Chapter, President Booth presented Regent Schadow with an engraved plaque mounted to an SAR Liberty Bell as a token of the Saratoga DAR Chapter marking its 110th anniversary.

**SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER LAYS WREATH  
COMMEMORATING  
AMERICAN VICTORY AT SARATOGA**

Three chapter members traveled to Schuylerville, NY to participate in the 227th Anniversary Commemoration of the



*Re-enactors from 25th Continental Re-enactors, Hampton, MA*

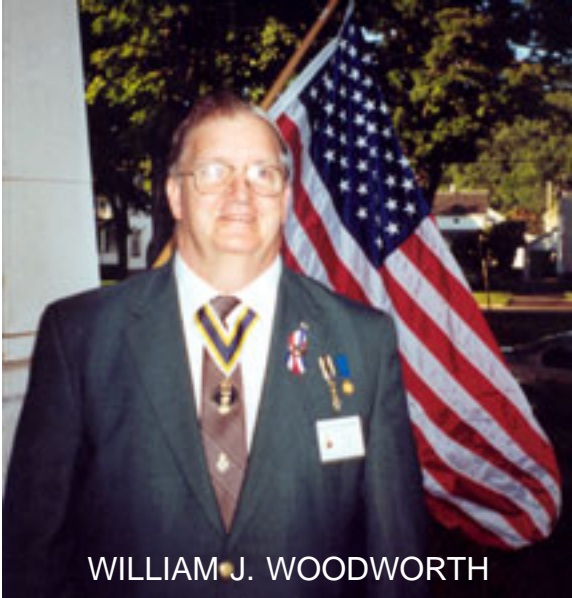
American Victory at Saratoga. The Ceremony was held on Sunday, October 17, 2004 near Fort Hardy Park which was the site of the grounding of arms by British troops who were led by General John Burgoyne. Chapter President Duane Booth laid the wreath on behalf of the chapter. Also present were chapter members Charles Walter and George Ballard and their wives.

**SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER PRESENTS  
AWARDS AT VETERANS DINNER**

The Saratoga Battle Chapter presented two awards at the Gen. Peter Gansevoort NSDAR "A Salute to our Troops" dinner and program that was held at the Century House Res-

*Continued Page 12*



**A MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE PRESIDENT****WILLIAM J. WOODWORTH**

With the Christmas and New Year's celebrations behind us we can only hope that the ground hog doesn't see his shadow so we can look forward to Spring instead of six more weeks of Winter. Of course, I don't believe this happens very often so we will have to take what we get. Susan and I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and wish you a Prosperous New Year.

During the 20 November 2004 Board of Managers meeting, ESSAR Registrar Roy Goold reported that it looked as though our State Society was going to have another good year for membership. We were closing in on another 100 new applications submitted for the 2004 total. My thanks to all who helped make this total possible and to Roy for all his hard work in making sure these applications were ready to send on to National.

Our next ESSAR Board of Managers meeting will be hosted by Saratoga Battle Chapter on 19 March 2005. The meeting is usually scheduled in the Albany area, but all the details can be found for this meeting as well as other BOM meetings on the Saratoga Battle Chapter web site. Directions from your home to the meeting place can also be obtained at this site just by following the instructions. The Annual ESSAR Meeting is scheduled to be

held once again at the Beeches Restaurant in Rome, New York on 14 May 2005 and will be hosted by the Newtown Battle Chapter. I have been in contact with Mr. James N. Randall - NSSAR Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer - who has tentatively consented to being our guest speaker. Mr. Randall had expressed an interest in attending one of our ESSAR meetings earlier and felt that he could possibly attend the Annual Meeting.

As your State President and representative, I have attended several DAR functions

and other organization meetings "spreading the word" about the SAR. It still surprises me when I meet people that have never heard of our Society or what it even represents. One police officer thought we were "some kind of militia group" to which I told him that our ancestors were, but we aren't. I was invited and attended the Oneida Indian Nation ceremony in which they paid tribute to all veterans. One of the guest speakers was a member of the Oneida Nation who had just returned from serving in Iraq and gave a very interesting program regarding our troops stationed there. There were representatives from many Service connected organizations and Past Chapter President Burke Muller, his wife Dotty, several other members, and their families of the Oriskany Battle Chapter also attended this ceremony. I was also present during the first two meeting held by Finger Lakes Chapter and they are "off and running" as a new Chapter. A formal presentation of their Charter is in the planning stages for some time in April 2005. More information and details will be made available soon should any of you wish to attend the presentation and welcome the new Chapter to the ESSAR. As I have attended various functions, events, etc. it's always been my privilege and honor to represent each

**EMPIRE PATRIOT**

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of you during these events.

Some important dates in addition to our previously announced scheduled ESSAR Board of Managers meetings for you to remember and mark your calendars should you wish to attend;

**NSSAR Trustees Meeting**

**Louisville, KY - 11&12 March 2005**

**115th NSSAR Annual Congress**

**Louisville, KY - July 2-6, 2005**

"Proclaim Liberty through all the  
Land

and to all the inhabitants there of."

*Inscription on the Liberty Bell*

*William J. Woodworth*

**Hear Ye - Hear Ye**

The next regular BOM Meeting  
will be held March 19, 2005

Hosted by

Saratoga Battle Chapter.

For information regarding time,  
place & Luncheon arrange-  
ments, contact your Chapter  
President or visit

Saratoga Battle Chapter  
web site.

Horatio Gates, American commander of the Northern Department, held a military position in America that far exceeded anything he could have achieved in his native England, where he had been born a commoner. Writer Hoffman Nickerson characterized Gates as “a snob of the first water” who possessed “an unctuously pious way with him.” Although Gates was an ambitious man, dynamic leadership was not part of his makeup. The former British officer did not believe American troops could stand up to British infantry in the open field. Though his men clearly outnumbered those of his opponent, Gates remained cautious and believed his army was better off fighting from behind fortifications.

Arnold, in contrast, was daring and imaginative. He had proven his abilities during the doomed attempt to capture Quebec in 1775 and at the Battle of Valcour Island the next year. At Saratoga his views differed from those held by Gates. From the first reports of British movement on the morning of September 19, Arnold pestered his commander for permission to send riflemen to the woods west of Freeman’s Farm. There, Arnold believed, the quick-moving Americans could set an ambush for the approaching columns. Gates permitted him to send out a “reconnaissance in force” shortly before 1:00 p.m., and Arnold eagerly dispatched Colonel Daniel Morgan’s famed Rangers and Major Henry Dearborn’s light infantry.

Arnold fed additional regiments into the fray, about 3,000 Continental troops and militia in total. Captain Ebenezer Wakefield remembered Arnold “in front of the line, his eyes flashing, pointing with his sword to the advancing foe, with a voice that rang clear as a trumpet and electrified the line.” Arnold’s division tangled with Fraser’s column on the left and Burgoyne’s personally led column in the center. Hemmed in by the river and Gates’s right wing on the heights, Riedesel’s German units sat motionless until 5:00 p.m., when Burgoyne sent for him to reinforce his besieged center. If Gates had countered this move, Arnold felt, the Americans would have carried the day. But Gates, citing a shortage of ammunition, was content with a draw.

Within days of the battle, tension between Gates and Arnold boiled over. Gates made no mention of Arnold or his division in his battle report to Congress, though they had done all of the fighting. Even more galling to the ultra-sensitive Arnold was his commander’s September 22 decree that Daniel Morgan would thereafter report only to him. Arnold stormed into Gates’s headquarters. A loud argument ensued, and the two men exchanged “high words and gross language.” Gates questioned Arnold’s very qualification for command.

He also told Arnold that he planned to assume direct command of the left wing as soon as Major General Benjamin Lincoln arrived to take over the right.

The eruption between Gates and Arnold had been coming for some time. The two had once been friends, but army politics and petty jealousy had turned them into rivals. Arnold had angrily resigned his commission in July after Congress promoted five junior officers to major general ahead of him. The promotions were part of a new political system that balanced the number of generals from each state, and Connecticut already had their fair share with two major generals, Israel Putnam and Joseph Spencer. At General George Washington’s request, Arnold had agreed to set the issue aside.

Arnold had infuriated Gates by becoming friendly with Major General Philip Schuyler while serving under Schuyler in the Northern Department. Gates hated Schuyler because Schuyler held a command that Gates desired for himself. Arnold’s friendship with his enemy irked him. Congress replaced Schuyler with Gates in August, but friction between Gates and Arnold remained. Arnold immediately annoyed

Gates by adding two Schuyler partisans, Lieutenant Colonel Henry Brockholst Livingston and Lieutenant Colonel Richard Varick, to his staff. Gates, in turn, leaned increasingly on his aide, James Wilkinson, a 20-year-old lieutenant colonel and schemer of questionable principles. Arnold soon became an unwelcome guest at army headquarters.

Following his argument with Gates, Arnold drafted a long letter to his superior. The grievances he detailed included the poor treatment he had received since Gates arrived and the lack of credit extended to his division following the First Battle of Saratoga. “I am thought of in no consequence in this department,” he complained.

Arnold asked for a pass to leave camp, and Gates sent it over the next day, but Arnold hesitated, desperately wanting to participate in the coming fight. Gates requested that Arnold dismiss Livingston. He refused, but Arnold’s loyal aide left on his own accord. Gates then issued general orders thanking Arnold’s division for its gallant service in the battle but again did not mention its commander. Meanwhile, Brigadier General Enoch Poor circulated a petition asking Arnold to remain, and every line officer, except the newly arrived Lincoln, signed it.

Arnold agreed to stay, but he had become essentially a man without a job. For the moment he quenched his restlessness by irritating Gates with a series of notes filled with military advice. Gates ignored him, and on October 1 Gates assumed command of the left wing and handed Lincoln the right.



General Horatio Gates

While intrigue enveloped the American camp, Burgoyne's deteriorating army had not moved. Nearly a year earlier, "Gentleman Johnny"—a nickname Burgoyne's men had given to him as a tribute to the humane way he treated them—had bet a friend that he would "be home victorious from America by Christmas Day, 1777." In June of that year, Burgoyne had led his army south from Canada down the Champlain-Hudson corridor with a grand plan for dividing New England from the other colonies. He expected to link up with General William Howe's army at Albany, and their combined force would move south to crush Washington's main Continental Army. Howe instead sailed south to capture Philadelphia, leaving Burgoyne to fend for himself.

Burgoyne captured Fort Ticonderoga on July 6, 1777, but after that his plan began to unravel. On August 16, General John Stark's New Hampshire militia smashed a 1,200-man column of German and British soldiers sent into nearby Bennington, Vermont, in search of horses. A week later Arnold led an American force that scattered Lieutenant Colonel Barry St. Leger's 2,000-man column as it approached from the west.

Now, Burgoyne was considering a follow-up attack for the morning of August 21 when he received a note from Lieutenant General Sir Henry Clinton in New York City. Clinton was about to march north with 2,000 men to menace the Americans at Forts Montgomery and Clinton. The possibility that Gates would be forced to dispatch troops to the forts or—even better—that Clinton would come to his support convinced Burgoyne to dig in and wait. In fact, he really had nowhere else to go. Retreat north was not only distasteful, it was no longer a practical option. His army's rations would last, at best, another two to three weeks. And, although British forces controlled Fort Ticonderoga 60 miles to the north, American soldiers freely roamed the area north of Saratoga. Burgoyne decided his only real choice was to persevere—to drive through Gates's army and on to Albany.

On October 7, as the last wisps of morning fog disappeared under the rising sun, 1,500 British and German troops, backed by another 500 Loyalists, Indians, and Canadians, moved out from the main British camp. Burgoyne personally led the three columns, which he had placed under Fraser on the right, Riedesel in the center, and Major John Dyke Acland on the left. By about 2:00 p.m. the force had reached a wheat field just west of Freeman's Farm. The long lines of red and blue-coated soldiers sat quietly as Burgoyne, Riedesel, and Major General William Phillips (Burgoyne's long-time artillery chief) climbed to the roof of a cabin for a better look at the American position. They were disheart-

ened—Burgoyne's spyglass revealed only a depthless sea of trees.

The British columns were exposed and their opponents knew it. American pickets had been watching the advance every step of the way and reporting back to Gates. After some urging, Gates sent Wilkinson off to the left with the message, "Order on Morgan to begin the game."

With battle about to begin anew, Benedict Arnold itched to join in. Swallowing his pride, he asked Gates for permission to ride to the front to see what was happening. "I am afraid to trust you, Arnold," Gates warily replied. On September 19, against Gates's wishes, Arnold had brought on a general engagement and added to his reputation in the process. Gates did not want an encore. But when Arnold promised not to do anything hasty, Gates sent him out—with Lincoln alongside as a precaution.

The two generals returned a short time later with the news that the enemy was moving strongly on the left. Gates said he would send Morgan's riflemen and Dearborn's infantry west, to flank the enemy. Arnold knew the situation demanded more vigor, and his reply betrayed his disgust. "That is nothing," he declared, "you must send a strong force." Determined not to go down that road again, Gates fumed, "General Arnold, I have nothing for you to do. You have no business here."

With Arnold apparently out of the picture, Lincoln finally convinced Gates that more men were indeed needed. Poor's brigade would storm the British left while Morgan flanked Burgoyne. When these two pincers squeezed the trapped enemy, Learned's brigade would be sent in to overrun the center.

Morgan's 300 riflemen quickly closed in on Fraser's position while Poor's 800 veteran New Hampshire Continentals crept through the woods toward the British left. Just after 3:00 p.m., Acland's men opened fire from the crest of a hill on Poor's approaching troops. The British were about to mount a bayonet charge when the Americans raced up the hill in a frenzy, swarming over the stunned grenadiers and wounding Acland in both legs. With exquisite timing, Morgan's men smashed through the outnumbered infantry of Major Alexander Lindsay, Earl of Balcarres, on Fraser's far right. Then Dearborn's light infantry suddenly appeared behind the wavering British, scattering them in all directions.

In less than an hour Burgoyne's ambitious foray had devolved into a desperate fight for survival. Most of his shocked troops were retreating. Only the center, composed mainly of Germans under Colonel Johann Friedrich Specht,



General John Burgoyne



refused to budge.

About this time the fate of Burgoyne's army was sealed. Two miles away at the American headquarters, Arnold had been fuming impatiently while the battle raged. Gates had humiliated him. But Arnold had seen his superior squander a clear-cut victory three weeks earlier and—command or no command—he was not going to let that happen again. He mounted a horse and headed for the front. Gates sent Major John Armstrong galloping after him, but Arnold outran him.

A few minutes later Arnold caught up with some of Learned's Connecticut militia. "My old Norwich and New London friends," he shouted as he rode by, and the cheers of the men rang in his ears. Within moments Arnold was at the head of Learned's brigade, exhorting the troops to follow him, "Come on brave boys, come on!" Three of Learned's regiments charged uphill into withering fire from Specht's men. American and German cannon exchanged canister fire. Finally, as Balcarres' British troops fled past their position, the Germans broke. Fraser was still trying to form a new line on the right, but one of Morgan's sharpshooters put an end to that. Conspicuous in his scarlet and white uniform and mounted on a large gray horse, Fraser suddenly crumpled backward with a bullet in his abdomen (see "Americans," June 2000). He would die the next morning.

By this time most of Burgoyne's men had fallen back to the protection of the two massive redoubts the British had built at Freeman's Farm during the weeks after the first battle. Arnold wasted no time leading a charge against the nearest to him, the Balcarres Redoubt. He waved his sword and dashed among the troops as musket balls and grapeshot whizzed around them. But the huge log walls—bristling with abatis and defended by desperate infantry—kept the Americans out.

Looking north toward the less-heavily defended Breyman Redoubt, Arnold spied an opening, and in a heartbeat he raced for it through a hail of lead. As Morgan and Dearborn attacked it head-on, Arnold led a furious charge toward a pair of cabins that separated the fortifications, then turned his force headlong into the Breyman Redoubt's unprotected left flank. Dozens of shocked Germans dropped in the rush; countless others ran for their lives.

Arnold had just entered the works when a German soldier fired at him, striking him in the same leg he had nearly lost in the Quebec Expedition. Another bullet killed his horse, which fell and crushed Arnold's leg beneath it. As Massachusetts soldiers chased off enemy soldiers and burned British tents, Connecticut militiamen carried Arnold off the field. His left leg was ruined, but Arnold would not allow it to be amputated. Several agonizing months of recovery would leave it two inches shorter than the right.

By now darkness had fallen and the Second Battle of Saratoga had ended. At 1:00 a.m., with his army shattered, Burgoyne issued an order for the troops still on the field to

withdraw. British and German losses for the day totaled 278 killed, 331 wounded, and 285 captured—roughly half the force that had ventured forth that morning. American casualties came to about 130. Burgoyne's dream of conquering the northern colonies for the Crown had clearly ended.

Burgoyne's army began a quiet retreat north late the next night. Hampered by heavy rain and harassed by American militia, the infantry, artillery, and the bateaux floating up the Hudson River made slow progress. By the evening of October 9 the army had reached Saratoga, only eight miles from the battlefield, with American forces completely surrounding it. Burgoyne opened negotiations on October 14, and after some haggling over terms, Gentleman Johnny surrendered his army three days later.

The most significant result of the American victory was that it convinced Louis XVI of France to support the American cause. On February 6, 1778, American commissioners and the French government signed the Franco-American Alliance. By the middle of March, France and Great Britain were in a state of war. American fortunes would ebb and flow for some time, but French cash, soldiers, and naval support would permanently buttress their efforts.

Gates, whom Arnold called "the greatest poltroon in the world and many other genteel qualifications," had contributed little to either battle. His plan to hold his position and fight from behind breastworks made tactical sense. But it smacked of extreme caution at a time when his army had a decisive edge in manpower and when aggression was the order of the day. "This gentleman [Gates] is a mere child of fortune," Major General Nathanael Greene wrote to Brigadier General Alexander McDougall the following January; "the foundation of all the Northern successes was laid long before his arrival there; and Arnold and Lincoln were the principal instruments in completing the work." Washington agreed and presented both men with elaborate sets of French epaulets as symbols of his thanks.

Nevertheless, Gates made his name with the victory. Congress authorized the minting of a gold medal in his honor. New Jersey governor William Livingston declared that Gates's "glory is as yet unrivalled in the annals of America." In 1780 a crushing defeat in the Battle of Camden, South Carolina, would take much of the luster off Gates's reputation. The capable Greene would replace him.

Arnold was conspicuously absent from the formal British surrender ceremony at Saratoga. By mid-October he lay convalescing in an Albany hospital. (Lincoln, wounded on October 8, also missed the ceremony.) Gates downplayed Arnold's role in the battles, but Arnold had essentially directed the first battle and clinched victory in the second. Burgoyne later told Parliament that he had expected, with good reason, that Gates would keep his men within their fixed lines. But when "Arnold chose to give rather than receive

the attack,” Burgoyne lost the chance to follow up with a move on Gates’s right (particularly during the second battle). The aggressive tactics convinced British Lieutenant Thomas Anburey, for one, that the Americans were “not that contemptible enemy we had hitherto imagined them, incapable of standing a regular engagement, and that they would only fight behind strong earthworks.”

Arnold never again led American troops in battle. His wound kept him on inactive duty until the summer of 1780. On September 25 Arnold fled to the enemy. Papers captured from British officer and spy Major John André revealed that Arnold had plotted to turn West Point over to the British.

Arnold ultimately defected due to perceived grievances he had suffered at the hands of Congress and the military, his mounting debts, corruption charges filed against him by Pennsylvania civil authorities that resulted in Arnold demanding an investigation to clear his name, and his indignation at the French alliance.

Only in recent years have historians fully acknowledged Arnold’s contributions to the American cause. The virtual burial of his outstanding military reputation began as soon as news of his treason came to light. Brigadier General “Mad Anthony” Wayne, for one, suddenly attributed Arnold’s bravery to heavy drinking, “even to intoxication.” In the years since, the name Benedict Arnold has become virtually synonymous with “traitor.”

Ironically, it was Arnold—the American general and the hero of Saratoga—who sealed the French alliance that helped guarantee independence for the country he had betrayed. ■

This article, “The Making of a Traitor” by Eric Ethier, is reproduced from the August 2001 issue of *American History Magazine* with the permission of PRIMEDIA Enthusiast Publications (History Group), copyright American History. View more articles online: <http://thehistorynet.com>

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## WALLOMSAC BATTLE CHAPTER

*John H. Sheaff, President*

The Walloomsac Battle Chapter was issued its charter on November 12, 1994. To celebrate this event chapter members met for dinner on this past December 8th. President John Sheaff reviewed the many activities in which the Chapter participated over the past ten years. This included the conducting of special anniversary programs at the New York State Bennington Battle Field Historic Site, a program at the Cambridge Museum, Cambridge, N.Y. high lighting the part played by local loyalists at the Battle of Bennington and participation in local parades. Of particular note was the role played by the Chapter in the revision and printing of a new brochure in 2002 which covered both the New York Bennington Battlefield Historic Site and the Bennington Battle Monument located in Bennington, Vermont. A total of \$ 1,500 was contributed for the initial printing of this bro-

chure by the National Society, the Empire State Society and the Chapter.

Regretfully, there was the passing of charter member Burton W. Mosher at age 83 on December 3, 2004. Known to all as Bill he served the Chapter as Vice President and could be relied upon to help out and participate in Chapter activities. He will be missed by us all.

Good news ! A significant addition to the New York State Bennington Battlefield Historic Site in Walloomsac, N.Y. came about recently with the purchase of approximately 138 adjacent acres by the state. The addition of this land to the historic site will not only bring into the boundaries of the site important locations of actions which were part of the Battle of Bennington, but greatly protect the site from development.

The site is closed for the winter, but for those interested in visiting the area this coming year feel free to contact John H. Sheaff, 2132 State Rt 22, Cambridge, NY 12816, 518-677-5562. ■

## ORISKANY BATTLE CHAPTER DUAL CELEBRATIONS



*Pictured from left to right: Allan Foote, President, Northern Frontier Project; Susan Selaway, Chairman, Northern Frontier Project; Emlyn Griffith, Thomas Foley, Oriskany Battle Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Norbert Bankert, President, Oriskany Battle Chapter*

A ceremony took place September 17, 2004 in commemoration of both Baron Steuben’s Birthday and Constitution Day. This was sponsored by the Oneida County Historical Society, the Northern Frontier Project and the Oriskany Battle Chapter ESSAR.

A public procession marched down Genesee Street, Utica NY from the Oneida Historical Society to the Baron

## SOME INTERESTING FACTS OF THE WARS OF OUR COUNTRY

Steuben Monument on the Memorial Parkway in Utica. Wreaths were presented by the Northern Froniter Project and by the Oriskany Battle Chapter. The keynote speaker was Emlyn Griffith, attorney and member emeritus of the State Board of Regents. A reception at the Oneida County Historical Society followed the ceremony.

*Burke Muller, President* ■



Major General Friederich Wilhelm Baron Von Stuben

Editor's Note: Unfortunately I received the preceding photos and article from Oriskany Battle Chapter too late to be included in the November Issue. Hank Croteau, Editor

### FAMOUS QUOTE OF YESTERYEAR

“I am well aware of the toll and blood and treasure it will cost us to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these states. Yet through all the gloom I see the rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is worth all the means. This is our day of deliverance.”

*-John Adams, The American Revolution* ■

#### American Revolution (1775—1783)

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Total service members | 217,000 |
| Battle deaths         | 4,435   |
| Nonmortal woundings   | 6,188   |

#### War of 1812 (1812—1815)

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Total service members | 286,730 |
| Battle deaths         | 2,260   |
| Nonmortal woundings   | 4,505   |

#### Indian Wars (approx. 1817—1898)

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Total service members | 106,0001 |
| Battle deaths         | 1,0001   |

#### Mexican War (1846—1848)

|                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Total service members                | 78,718 |
| Battle deaths                        | 1,733  |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) | 11,550 |
| Nonmortal woundings                  | 4,152  |

#### Civil War (1861—1865)

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Total service members (Union)                | 2,213,363 |
| Battle deaths (Union)                        | 140,414   |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) (Union) | 224,097   |
| Nonmortal woundings (Union)                  | 281,881   |
| Total service members (Conf.)                | 1,050,000 |
| Battle deaths (Conf.)                        | 74,524    |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) (Conf.) | 59,2972   |
| Nonmortal woundings (Conf.)                  | unknown   |

#### Spanish-American War (1898—1902)

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Total service members                | 306,760 |
| Battle deaths                        | 385     |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) | 2,061   |
| Nonmortal woundings                  | 1,662   |

#### World War I (1917—1918)3

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Total service members                | 4,734,991      |
| Battle deaths                        | 53,402         |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) | 63,114         |
| Nonmortal woundings                  | 204,002        |
| Living veterans                      | fewer than 500 |

#### World War II (1940—1945)3

|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Total service members                | 16,112,566 |
| Battle deaths                        | 291,557    |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) | 113,842    |
| Nonmortal woundings                  | 671,846    |
| Living veterans                      | 4,762,0001 |

#### Korean War (1950—1953)

|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Total service members                | 5,720,000  |
| Serving in-theater                   | 1,789,000  |
| Battle deaths                        | 33,741     |
| Other deaths in service (theater)    | 2,827      |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) | 17,730     |
| Nonmortal woundings                  | 103,284    |
| Living veterans                      | 3,734,0001 |

*Continued Page 9 Column 1*



## COLUMBIA CHAPTER PRESENTS CERTIFICATE AND RECAPS THEIR YEAR

The Columbia Chapter Held a Luncheon Meeting at Kozel's Restaurant in West Ghent December 4, 2004. Chapter President John Helmeyer presented an overview of activities of the past year with a photo display and outlining various dates as follows:

- May 8, 2004 A regular Chapter meeting with the presentation of a Certificate and savings Bond to the winner of our local Knight Essay Contest. Guest speaker George Lucas presented an informative talk and display of Stoneware.
- June 5, 2004 The Chapter participated at the Korean War memorial Dedication in Hudson, NY.
- Aug. 7, 2004 The Chapter participated in Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony for 12 Patriots in Delaware County, Town of Meredith.
- Sept 11, 2004 The Chapter hosted the State Board of Managers Meeting at Pegasus Restaurant in Coxsackie, NY.
- Dec. 4, 2004 Chapter Meeting at Kozel's. Art Church, President of the Hudson Valley Bottle Club, provided a display of old bottles and a very informative talk, especially on medicine bottles and their cures. Presentation of Distinguished Service Certificate to Chapter Member Compatriot Rodney S. Andrews for his work at the Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony on August 7, 2004 He purchased Flags and Ceremonial Wreaths for all twelve grave sites. He Suggested That a Fund Be Established for a N.Y.S. Historical Marker for the West Meredith Cemetery. He Was Successful in this endeavor, by raising \$800.00. The roadside marker has been ordered and a ceremony will be forthcoming in the Spring of 2005.

*John Helmeyer, President* ■



*Compatriot Rodney Andrews as he receives  
Distinguished Service Certificate from President John Helmeyer*

### Vietnam War (1964—1975)

|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Total service members                | 8,744,000  |
| Serving in-theater                   | 3,403,000  |
| Battle deaths                        | 47,410     |
| Other deaths in service (theater)    | 10,789     |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) | 32,000     |
| Nonmortal woundings                  | 153,303    |
| Living veterans                      | 8,295,0001 |

### Gulf War (1990—1991)

|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Total service members                | 2,183,000  |
| Serving in-theater                   | 665,476    |
| Battle deaths                        | 147        |
| Other deaths in service (theater)    | 382        |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) | 1,565      |
| Nonmortal woundings                  | 467        |
| Living veterans                      | 1,852,0001 |

### America's Wars Total

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Military service during war          | 42,348,460  |
| Battle deaths                        | 651,008     |
| Other deaths in service (theater)    | 13,998      |
| Other deaths in service (nontheater) | 525,256     |
| Nonmortal woundings                  | 1,431,290   |
| Living war veterans                  | 17,578,5004 |
| Living veterans                      | 25,038,459  |

1. Veterans Administration estimate as of Sept. 30, 2002.
2. Estimated figure. Does not include 26,000—31,000 who died in Union prisons.
3. Years of U.S. involvement in war.
4. Approximately 1,065,000 veterans had service in multiple conflicts. They are counted under each conflict, but only once in the total.

*Source:* Department of Defense and Veterans Administration

## A HUMAN INTEREST STORY

While motoring around in my truck recently and listening to the radio, I heard a very interesting story being repeated by the host of a local station, WGY Schenectady. And it goes something like this. I may have a word or two out of place and I cannot vouch for the authenticity but I'm sure you will get the jest of the story.

"A group of American Soldiers were on convoy patrol in Iraq, consisting of several vehicles, when all of a sudden the lead vehicle stops. As this leaves the convoy in a very precarious situation, radios were buzzing to the lead vehicle trying to find out "what's the problem." The answer was that there was a little girl sitting in the middle of the road. When it was finally decided to go around her, one of the drivers in the convoy recognized the little girl clutching a Teddy Bear he had given her a couple of days ago. The driver stopped and went over to the child asked what was the matter - - it was then she pointed to the ground along side of her and told the soldier, "MINE."  
*Hank Croteau, Editor*



# Lest We Forget

| NAT'L NO. | NAME                          | HOMETOWN          | MEMBERSHIP           | DATE OF DEATH |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 107460    | Bentley, John H               | West Park, NY     | Member at large      | 10/12/2003    |
| 111278    | Burhans, Edmond D             | Woodstock, NY     | Columbia             | unknown       |
| 112410    | Campbell, III, George Collins | New Milford, PA   | Binghamton           | 08/28/2004    |
| 108837    | Covell, Carlton E.            | Mechanicville, NY | Saratoga Battle      | 06/18/2004    |
| 145629    | Galloway, II Esq., Alexander  | Denville, NJ      | First NY Continental | 03/26/2004    |
| 110371    | Goodwin, Charles W.           | Mount Kisco, NY   | Westchester-Putnam   | 07/25/2004    |
| 159882    | Haff, Douglas Oliver          | Endicott, NY      | Binghamton           | 05/17/2004    |
| 132044    | Hoeltzel, Robert Lewis        | Newark, NY        | Rochester            | 01/04/2004    |
| 127507    | Kemmerer, Theodore            | Elizabethtown, PA | Binghamton           | 09/26/2003    |
| 161650    | Langkamp, Richard Beam        | Webster, NY       | Rochester            | 04/14/2004    |
| 124754    | Mapp, James Francis           | New York, NY      | New York             | 01/05/2003    |
| 61112     | Metcalfe, Sr., Reginald H.    | Huntington, NY    | Huntington           | 2004          |
| 156424    | Morgan, Carl Whiford          | Cicero, NY        | Syracuse             | 06/02/2004    |
| 152936    | Morgan, W (Bill) William      | Binghamton, NY    | Newtown Battle       | 12/16/2004    |
| 142261    | Mosher, Burton Weir           | Waterford, NY     | Walloomsac Battle    | 12/03/2004    |
| 136757    | Murray, Gordon E.             | Ballston Spa, NY  | Saratoga Battle      | 02/21/2004    |
| 87678     | Quinn, David C.               | North Salem, NY   | New York             | 05/2004       |
| 136115    | Stone, Robert Charles         | Hornell, NY       | Newtown Battle       | 09/17/2004    |
| 139069    | Towers, John William          | Mesa, AZ          | Huntington           | 01/01/2004    |
| 82143     | Wiseman, Howard Willard       | Maplewood, NJ     | First NY Continental | 11/27/20/03   |
| 159526    | Zuppinger, Paul Holmes        | Hamburg, NY       | Buffalo              | 03/14/2004    |

May Their Souls Rest In Everlasting Peace

## NEWTOWN BATTLE CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Newtown Battle Chapter had another great and successful Christmas Party with 32 people in attendance. Susan and I delivered 13 shopping bags of gifts to the Bath, NY VA Medical Center to be distributed to the veterans and a sizable monetary donation was also given to purchase other needed gifts or help with the gas expense of transporting these veterans to area medical facilities. My special thanks goes out to the members and their families for making this program a success each year.

Chapter elections were expected to be held during our January meeting and the Chapter is looking forward to various activities for the coming year. One new project in particular is the publishing of a Chapter Membership Directory. Letters will be sent to all members requesting their input before the final stages of the directory are finished. In the coming months along with our regularly scheduled Chapter meetings, there will be another ROTC Awards presentation at Cornell University which will then be taken over by the new Finger Lakes Chapter for future presentations; a special joint meeting to welcome Finger Lakes Chapter and formal presentation of the Charter; the Annual Chapter Picnic; and more discussion on the formation of a CAR Society in our area.

Membership continues to grow in the Chapter and we welcome those newly approved members since the last issue of the Empire Patriot.

Newtown Battle has made available several items for fund raisers and have them at our information booth as well as by mail. This past Summer we introduced a Chemung County Patriot's Graves Registry booklet. It contains approximately 22 pages (8 1/2" XII") of known Revolutionary War Patriots buried within Chemung County, their grave sites, some family information, and some with Service information. Also included are color pictures of three of those cemeteries one of which is "The Knoll Cemetery" which contains some of the first Patriots to die during the Battle of Newtown. Compatriots Samuel Pulford, Sheldon Robinson, Historian Sylvia Smith, and others have researched this cemetery, the Battle, Patriots buried there, and other information that has been placed in another fabulous book with many color pictures. This is also available for any who would like a copy about this historical cemetery and the events surrounding it. The Chapter is planning on having a Cemetery Marker Dedication Ceremony at a later date and will keep you informed as these details become available.

Susan wanted to remind any of you that don't have a copy of the SAR Cookbook (or wish to purchase another copy as a gift, etc.) which was a fund raiser for the new SAR Library, she still has about 20-25 copies available. After these are gone, she doesn't believe there will be any more available.

*William J. Woodworth, President* ■





*President General Henry McCarl pauses for a moment after presenting a wreath at the DAR Monument located at Stop 2 on the Saratoga National Historical Park Tour Road.*



restaurant in Latham, NY on Friday, November 5, 2004. The chapter presented LTC Peter K. Goebel with a second War Service Certificate for service rendered in Operation Iraqi Freedom from April 2003 to March 2004. Peter, who has been a member of the Saratoga Battle Chapter since March 1994, previously earned his War Service Medal for service in Bosnia & Croatia was presented with his Iraqi Freedom Bar that accompanies this certificate at a recent National Society trustees meeting by PG Henry N. McCarl. Peter has been active at all levels of the SAR even while serving in the military and tending to a family that includes his wife Teri Lynn and three young children. Thank you LTC Goebel for your service to our country and to the SAR.

The Chapter also presented a Bronze Good Citizenship award to William C. Butz of Easton, NY. The award was earned for outstanding leadership qualities. Mr. Butz enlisted the U.S. Army in March 1943 with no prior military experience. He rose through the ranks quickly and received a Bronze Star for leadership qualities under fire. He earned his Second Lieutenant's commission in the field. After leaving the service he went to work as a third hand on a paper machine in a local mill. He quickly rose through the ranks and retired as the mill superintendent. Mr. Butz has been active in his church and has served the prison ministry for 15 years. He has been to Honduras twice as a missionary, the second time on funds he raised himself. Congratulations Mr. Butz.

*Saratoga Battle Chapter Officers gather for a photo with President General Henry McCarl & Empire State Society President William Woodworth.*

*L to R Treasurer, Richard Fullam, Registrar, Dennis Marr, President Duane Booth, VP/Secy., Jonathan Goebel, State President William Woodworth, National Society President General, Henry McCarl and Acting Chaplain, Henry Goebel, Jr.*



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