



# EMPIRE PATRIOT

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

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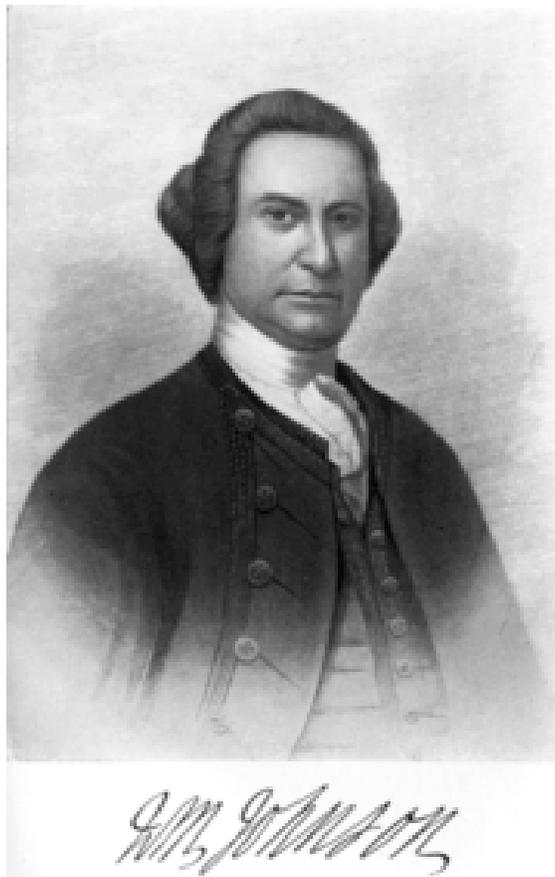
## SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

*Would He Have Sided With The British or Patriots in the  
Revolutionary War Had he Lived Past 1774?*

The first question that always seems to come up when discussing Sir William Johnson is "Had he not died the year before the Revolutionary War began, would he have chosen to side with the British or with the Patriots during the War?". Usually when I ask this question during a presentation, 20 out of 20 people state without reservation that he would have been on the British side.

This answer is logical at first glance when you consider that he came from Ireland, worked his whole adult life for the British, and was in fact very well treated by the British Crown, Parliament, and the British Colonial Governors. After all, it was the British leaders in England who rewarded his victory over the French at Lake George in 1755 with a Hereditary Baronetcy, a purse of several thousand Pounds Sterling per year for life, and a military promotion to Major General in the Regular British Army.

But there is much more to consider about the man. Johnson was an opportunist of the first order, and fashioned every opportunity that presented itself to improve his own position. Often, when an opportunity did not come knocking at his door, he would fabricate one to give him the desired advantage. The Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1768 was an excellent example wherein he and the Governor called for the Treaty to draw a line beyond which no further White encroachments would be tolerated, but after his own land manager and surveyor, Grogan, had drawn the line, the Oneida Nation found itself stripped of over 100,000 acres which ultimately became part of Johnson's vast personal empire. They remembered this and were still smarting from the injustice when the War broke out in 1775 and they were called upon to choose which side to support, British or Patriot. We all



know the answer, and the result was the breakup of the Iroquois Confederacy.

Johnson was a visionary in a new land with opportunities available for exploitation for future personal gains. When he was growing up in Ireland, his parents instilled in him the philosophy that ownership of vast amounts of land was the key to power, personal wealth, and importance.

It didn't take him long after his arrival in the Mohawk Valley in 1737 to realize that he was surrounded by vast untouched and unlimited Indian-owned forests and land available to the person who could win the friendship and trust of the Mohawk Nation which at that time controlled the Iroquois Confederacy. When he found that the British Colonial Government at least made a pretense of recognizing and protecting the Iroquois ownership of these lands, he knew the direction which he must pursue. He also knew that at that time the British greatly needed the power and allegiance of the Iroquois Confederacy to achieve and retain dominance over the increasingly hostile French in Canada. If he could make the right connections with and

win the confidence of the Iroquois, he might one day in the future be able to obtain vast acreage within that land for rental income use and at the same time win recognition of the British Government as their representative in Indian affairs.

Never one to start at the bottom and work up, he made his first goal to win the close friendship of the three most powerful chiefs and families of the Mohawk Nation who consisted of Chief Hendrick, the War Chief and overall leader of the Mohawks; his brother, Abraham Hendrick, who was the Sachem of the Lower

► *Continued Page 4 Column 2*

## SARATOGA BATTLE CHAPTER

## Honoring a Revolutionary War Badge of Merit Veteran

On Veterans Day, November 11, 2006, about ninety people gathered in Barkersville Cemetery, Town of Providence located in rural northwestern Saratoga County. The occasion was to rededicate the grave of Moses Hall, Jr. the patriot ancestor of Michael S. Companion. Not so unusual as many Revolutionary War veteran graves are dedicated each year, except this soldier was one of a very few to be awarded the Purple Heart or what was then referred to as the “badge of military merit.”

On August 7, 1782, General Washington had ordered that those soldiers who have demonstrated “instances of unusual gallantry, but also of extraordinary fidelity and essential service in any way shall meet with due reward...” The “badge of merit” consists of a purple heart about three inches in height, edged in gold and the word “merit” embroidered in the middle. Those who received it were to wear it on the left breast of their coats. Today the award is more indicative of service rendered by those who have earned the Congressional Medal of Honor, but its design was used for the Purple Heart which came into existence in 1933 and is given to those wounded in battle.

While the details of how Moses earned the award may never be learned some facts about Moses and his family are known. Moses Hall, Jr. was born in Wallingford, Connecticut on December 26, 1754 to Moses Hall and Elisabeth Johnson. When war came with Great Britain, Moses, like his father, chose to serve the cause of liberty. Moses enlisted as a private in Capt. Leavenworth’s company of the 4th Connecticut Regiment under the command of Colonel Return Meigs. His pension record states that Moses took part in the Battle of White Plains in October of 1776. His regiment at the time was attached General Washington’s Main Army. The 4th Regiment was afterward designated part of the Highland Department of the Continental Army.

A history of the Town of Wallingford, Connecticut states that Moses Hall was at the Battle of Saratoga and witnessed the surrender of General Burgoyne to American forces in October of 1777.

His pension record further states that Moses Hall enlisted on March 1, 1778 in Capt. David Starr’s company in Colonel Return Meigs’ 4th Connecticut Regiment. This Regiment was reassigned to service in Washington’s Main Army for much of the remainder of the war. On January 1, 1781 the 4th Regiment was disbanded and he was transferred to Colonel Zebulon Butler’s 1st Regiment. As part of these units, Moses could have seen service around Philadelphia, Monmouth, NJ in 1778 and at Yorktown in 1781. At the end of the hostilities, Moses was discharged from Col. Butler’s 1st Connecticut Regiment on June 7, 1783. His pension record testifies to the fact that Moses Hall was awarded the “badge of merit” for six years of faithful service from 1778-1783.



*George Ballard, Duane Booth, Mike Companion, Bret Trufant, Rich Fullam, Charlie King & Charles Walter with Mike’s children Cassie & Andrew*



*Re-enactors from 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Artillery, McCracken’s 1<sup>st</sup> NY Continental Infantry & the 13<sup>th</sup> Albany Militia fire musket volley*

Following his discharge from the Continental Army, Moses Hall Jr. returned to Wallingford, Connecticut where he married Lucy Hart, daughter of Nathaniel Hart and Alice Hall on Christmas Day, 1783. Several years later, Moses, Lucy and their two children, in the company of Moses’ younger brother, Reuben, left Wallingford for the “west”. They made their way down the Mohawk Trail to Saratoga County and established themselves in the Town of Providence (which was then part of Ballston) as Town of Providence records have Moses Hall working on road construction in 1797. Moses hacked a farm out of the tree covered land in the foothills of the Adirondacks, where he and Lucy raised their six children. For his service during the War, Moses was granted a pension, dated April 6, 1818. He died in Providence on May 11, 1827. Lucy died in Providence on March 17, 1848.

➤ *Continued Page 4 Column 1*

**THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER**



Peter K. Goebel, President

Compatriots,

As winter brings its full force to bear on New York State, I hope that you all are well and that all of the goals which have been set for the Sons of the American Revolution are being fully achieved through your hard work. My thanks to each of you who contribute to the completion of these goals and to all the goals and objectives of the Sons of the American Revolution. We must always think about the SAR and what it means to each of us as an individual, and what it means to our communities and to our country.

Since my last report, I have been quite fortunate to have been able to travel to many different places across the State of New York and across the Nation to represent the Empire State Society and each of you. I was the guest of New York State Daughters of the American Revolution Regent Libby McKee at their Annual State Conference on 22 and 23 September. Libby and the Daughters were very gracious hosts and I was quite privileged to be able to attend their State Conference.

I next attended the Annual SAR Fall National Leadership meeting in Louisville, Kentucky from 28 September to 01 October. Many items of business were accomplished during this time. Also in October I was able to represent the Empire State Society at the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Victory at Yorktown where many from New York made an invaluable contribution. It was indeed very inspirational to be able to be at this stirring patriotic celebration with so many others honoring our patriot ancestors and the vital contribution they made to the founding of our nation, and

to the wonderful life which we all enjoy today. Please continue to honor them and remember what our existence would be like if they had not made the sacrifices which they made. We must also make as many sacrifices as we possibly can to insure that our nation remains the best place on the earth.

I was able to join the Stony Point Chapter in October as they honored Haverstraw Town Supervisor Howard Phillips for his vital part in the emergency restoration of the Phillips-Knapp Cemetery in Thiells, New York documented in the February, 2006 Empire Patriot. I was honored to present Supervisor Phillips, not yet connected to this Phillips line, with the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal and later view the cemetery where many hours of work were put in by many Compatriots and a wide variety of other hard workers representing a number of contributing organizations. My great thanks to Compatriot Barry Brooks and the members of the Stony Point Chapter for their hospitality and very hard work.

In November I was able to honor our veterans at two ceremonies with the C.A.R. Nancy Staring Society, and with the Oriskany Battle Chapter and Oneida Indian Nation. These moving and poignant ceremonies will never be forgotten. Of course, I also thank those of you who saluted our veterans this year, and also thank those of you who were in attendance at the ESSSAR Board of Managers meetings on 23 September and on 18 November. On 01 December I represented the SAR at the Saint Nicholas Day Dinner of the Dutch Settlers Society of Albany. Other genealogical societies, especially ones in the original 13 States, are prime recruiting areas for the SAR.

It is now time to collect any dues for those have not paid as well as get those Knight Essays and JROTC Contest submissions in to the State chairmen. Send your Chapter records of C.A.R. support to ESSSAR C.A.R. Chairman Jonathan Goebel or to me - samples are in the SAR Handbook on line under C.A.R. Please support C.A.R. State President Loretta

**EMPIRE PATRIOT**

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**ADDRESS CHANGES**

Please send all changes of address to:

**Jonathan E. Goebel, Secy. ESSSAR**

**510 Hoags Corners Road**

**Nassau, NY 12123-2618**

**Telephone 518-766-2143**

Cassidy in her State project to purchase phone calling cards for deploying service members.

All SAR Chapter Color Guard service should be registered with ESSSAR Color Guard Commander Jonathan Goebel. Please do so at your earliest opportunity.

Thanks to Compatriot Duane Booth for his hard work with the ESSSAR Data Base and his work with the newly forming Valcour Battle Chapter and Schoharie Leatherstocking Chapter. As of 15 October 2006, Duane also was the first-line signer of 57 SAR applications, tops in the NSSAR. Let's all keep up the hard work of recruiting new members and starting new chapters. It is vital to our existence.

Congratulations to Compatriot Daryl VerStreate on his winning of \$ 150 and the 2006 Assemblywoman Mildred Taylor Award for his documentation of the history and burial locations, and the grave markings of war veterans in Wayne County, New York. His hard work is very noteworthy.

Thanks to Compatriot Bill Woodworth for his work with the newly forming Schoharie Leatherstocking Chapter, and for his work organizing the new Baron von Steuben C.A.R. Society in Painted Post, New York. This is also very noteworthy and important.

My special thanks also go to all those Compatriots who donated funds to the ESSSAR and to the Center for Advancing America's Heritage in Louisville, and to

*Cont'd. from page 2 (Saratoga Battle Chapter)*

Saratoga Battle Registrar, Duane Booth discovered the award in the patriot's pension record when working Mike's SAR application. He contacted Mike who is a history teacher at Shenendehowa High School. Mike was aware of the importance of the find and they discussed it at length. Mike mentioned that Moses Hall's grave stone was beyond repair and in need of replacement. Duane suggested that Charles Greenfield and Ray LeMay, both SAR chapter members and members of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War knew how to get a stone from the Department of Veteran's Affairs. Mike contacted Ray, the paperwork got filed and the stone was delivered. Mike and his brother, Steve set the stone on November 4th.

Mike knew Moses was worthy of honor and took it upon himself to organize a fitting ceremony for the unveiling of the stone and more importantly to recognize the service of Moses Hall, Jr. to his country. He planned and executed a fitting ceremony.

Among the participants and observers in the ceremony were about forty descendants of Moses Hall, a number of local residents, as well as Town Board members of Providence and the Town Supervisor of Providence. Also in attendance were nineteen Revolutionary War Re-enactors representing units from the Revolutionary War, including riflemen and artilleryists of the Second Continental Artillery Regiment, Capt. McCracken's 1st New York Regiment of Continental Infantry, and the 13th Albany County Militia. Also present were a number of officers and members of the Saratoga Battle Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution and Saratoga Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Others who came said that they came to honor the service of Moses, because they heard about the ceremony on National Public Radio (NPR) or saw an article which appeared in various local newspapers.

Mike offers a heartfelt "thank you" to those who helped him get the new gravestone, to those who gave so freely of their time and talent to plan and execute the ceremony and to those who came to honor Moses Hall, Jr. one of America's first soldiers.

*Submitted by Duane Booth, Saratoga Battle Chapter* ■

*Cont'd. from page 3 (President's Corner)*

those Compatriots who returned the postage paid cards showing support for the SAR and for all of the SAR programs. All Chapters and Compatriots should donate as they are able.

Congratulations to the Saratoga Battle Chapter for being the first Chapter in the ESSAR to join our State Society and the North Atlantic District (first District in NSSAR to donate), in the donation of at least \$ 1,000 to the building of the Center for Advancing America's Heritage. This is quite appreciated and noteworthy.

I hope that you all had a very Merry Christmas and that you will all continue to have a very happy and blessed New Year. I look forward to seeing each of you at our next meeting and having you as an active member. We must all continue to work for our country and we must all continue our patriotic service to honor our Patriot Ancestors.

*Peter K. Goebel, State President*

*Empire State Society Sons of the American Revolution* ■

*Cont'd. from page 1 (Sir William Johnson)*

Mohawk Castle; and Nickus Brant of the powerful Brant Family, who had married a daughter of Chief Abraham and had a daughter named Molly and son named Joseph, both of whom were destined to play a large part in the future of the Valley. Johnson soon learned to speak the Mohawk tongue fluently and became the Mohawk Nation's intermediary with the British Colonial Governor as his first step in obtaining the trust, friendship and loyalty of the Mohawks. Frequent visits and presents also helped bring about the desired closeness with the Mohawk leaders, and honest dealings with them helped cement their trust in him.

Also, of no small importance, Johnson early after his arrival in the Valley and shortly after the death of the German mother of his first 3 children, Catherine Weissenberg, chose Caroline Hendrick, daughter of Chief Abraham, to be his next "housekeeper" and together they produced his second family of three. Caroline soon became recognized as the gracious "Mistress of both Mount Johnsons" which he built on the north side of the Mohawk River shortly after he had dumped his Uncle, Admiral Warren, who had paid all of his expenses to come over from Ireland with the intent of his managing several thousand acres of land granted to Warren south of the Mohawk River for his services in defeating the French in naval battles. Caroline died about 1753 and was soon replaced by Molly Brant, the young daughter of Caroline's sister who had married Nickus Brant. Molly bore him 9 children, 8 of whom lived to maturity.

It was not by coincidence that his female alliances with the Mohawk Nation were members of the powerful Hendrick and Brant Families who early author Jephtha Simms says "were the most powerful influences in the Iroquois Confederacy. Johnson's close family relations and connections with these families just at the time when the British greatly needed the alliance of the Confederacy to achieve dominance over the French, caused him (Johnson) to suddenly be recognized as the most important man in the Colonies by the British Crown". The fact that the women members of the Indian aristocracy within the Iroquois Confederacy controlled the ownership and distribution of Iroquois land was also not lost upon him. He correctly foresaw that this would also be a determining factor in his future acquisition of Indian land for his personal use. He was always the visionary.

He was now in a position to enlist the military might of the Iroquois to ensure their loyalty to the British government and thereby enhance the likelihood of British victory over the French such as the the 1755 Battle of Lac du Sacrement. Always the diplomat, he soon renamed this body of water Lake George after his King. King Hendrick, the War Chief of the Mohawks and Iroquois, and supposedly his close friend, provided the Indian power needed to ensure victory for the British, but his loyalty to Johnson and the British cost him his life on the battlefield.

With the help of the Mohawk warriors at Lake George, Johnson became an overnight celebrity in both England and the Colonies. The timing was perfect because of the military disasters experienced at and near the same time by four of England's top generals who proved to be a great embarrassment to the Crown. General James Abercrombie marched the seasoned and disciplined Black Watch troops directly into the fortified guns of the French at Fort Carillon (Ticonderoga), causing near-annihilation of the cream of

*Cont'd. from page 4 (Sir William Johnson)*

the British Army; Gen. Braddock attacked a powerful French force at Fort DuChesne in Pennsylvania, ignoring warnings and advice from Johnson and many others of the impending disaster, and advice to capture the more important Fort Niagara instead, resulting in another British Army being nearly annihilated and the death of Gen. Braddock, himself. Gov. Shirley of Massachusetts, who had been placed in overall command of British forces in North America, was tasked with taking Oswego, but he never even got his force started in their planned attack; and just two years later, Fort Wiliam Henry, which Johnson had built at Lake George in 1755, was lost unnecessarily to the French under Montcalm because British Gen. Webb refused to support it's defense with his large army and instead covered just a few miles south at Fort Edward, listening to the battle and screams of the massacre of surrenderees by Montcalm's Northern Indians which followed the battle.

These four debacles caused by the incompetence of the senior British military leaders in charge caused the now Sir William Johnson "to greatly question the survival of British North America through Military action"- Simms.

Now, Sir William had the full confidence of British Colonial Gov. of NY Clinton who wrote him: "You may consider whatever you recommend as done". This, of course, was like turning a cat loose in a mouse factory, and Johnson soon, through some very questionable moves, controlled 3 of the 5 seats on the Board of Indian Affairs and thereby controlled all actions of the Board. Soon, Gov. Clinton abolished the Board and appointed Johnson as "sole Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the Colony of NY". This included having the near-final say in Indian land transfers.

Now, many questionable acquisitions of land occurred which ultimately resulted in Sir William personally owning about 750,000 choice acres of Indian land, much of which he used for tenant rental lands. His frequent acquisitions, some obtained by his close, non-Indian friends, and some as gifts from his Mohawk relatives, were quickly signed over to him after receiving the blessing of the Crown.

As sickness overtook Johnson in the 1770's, he saw the need to decide on his course in the impending break with England. He was genuinely disturbed and saddened by the outright injustices and aggression of the British Government towards the Colonies, and his decision concerning loyalties would rest with which side - British or Patriot - would be the ultimate victor.

In records found in the Wheelock manuscripts of a conversation with his friend Dr. Eliazor Wheelock, President of Moor's Indian School (forerunner of today's Dartmouth College), just a week before Johnson's death in 1774, Sir William had stated: "All this trouble must lead to blows before long. The Colonists cannot retreat and the King, apparently, will not. I am filled with forebodings. I dread the coming of a struggle which must shake the British Empire to it's foundations. For my part, I can only say now that I shall not be found on the side of the aggressor". Early NY governors and other historians interpreted this as "a guarded declaration (of Johnson's) to espouse the American cause", because he was already on record as naming the British as the Aggressors.

In another letter to his friend, Cadwallader Colden, Johnson congratulated Colden on his successful efforts to have the Stamp Act repealed and added: "Unless they alter the Stamp Act, we shall all be republicans", meaning free Americans.

In the last few years of his life, Johnson increasingly made disparaging remarks about the ineffective British military leaders and the confused and often irrational actions taken by the British Government against the Colonists.

He was an outspoken and adamant Whig politically, and as such was naturally opposed to the Lord Grenville-North ministries which advised the King and ruled Parliament.

In 1773, he visited Gen. Philip Schuyler in Albany, and in the Schuyler Papers, Schuyler reported that Johnson "used language concerning the attitude of the ministry, and also it's personnel make-up, which I would be hesitant to use myself". There are numerous recorded instances where he shocked his British cronies wiith his inflamatory and critical remarks about the British leaders and government.

Also, in a friendly conversation with Philip Livingston in New York City in April 1774, Johnson said: "If the Colonies unite in revolt and the people are unanimous, or nearly so, in it, I do not believe the Crown can subdue them. I believe, notwithstanding the extreme lengths to which the troubles have prodeeded, there is yet one chance for reconciliation. But I fear it can never be accomplished by his Majesty's present advisors". Here, Johnson expressed his total lack of faith in the King's advisors in the government and in the abilities of the British Army which he had grown to consider as being under the leadership of incompetent aristocrats.

One other major factor must be weighed in his decision concerning allegiance. Johnson had spent a lifetime accumulating his personal empire of many hundreds of thousands of acres of rent-producing lands. He was not about to throw all of this away by siding with a loser.

He must decide which allegiance now would best ensure the retention of this huge estate which he had already divided up among his many children, legitimate and illegitimate, in his will, and surely would not have joined the British who he repeatedly referred to as "losers". He refers to this thinking in a recorded conversation with Gen. Gage, who in 1777 would erroneously be given credit for our victory at Saratoga, when he stated: "Having a large property to lose, I cannot be supposed to think differently from the real interests of America". In other words, he considered siding with the American cause to be his best bet for retaining his vast land holdings. He felt strongly that the British could not win the inevitable war, so he would side with a winner.

His own family, and especially his son, Sir John, did not really understand their father and where his true loyalties lay, and as a result, forfeited all of their vast inheritances of land and wealth. From the above analysis, I have no doubt but what Sir William would have avoided an allegiance with the British, and would have either openly espoused the Patriot cause, or as a minimum, chosen neutrality. As Jephtha Simms says in "The Frontiersmen", "one thing is certain, he would never have manifested the arrogance and hostility towards his former neighbors and personal friends that his own son, Sir John, did, nor do we believe he would have been found in hostile array against the Colonies".

*William G. Loveday, Jr.*

*Saratoga Battle and Stone Arabia Battle Chapters, ESSSAR ■*

**"We must all hang together or assuredly we will hang separately."**

**-Benjamin Franklin, American Revolution**

## THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE 18th CENTURY BRITISH SOLDIER

The quality of life during the 18th Century can only be termed harsh. The British Army reflected this, and perhaps went beyond. Criminals were usually given the option between prison and the Army, although it would be incorrect to characterise the British Army of the time as one composed solely of such misfits. Indeed, the Army found felons to be of small value, so they were usually sent to the deadly climate of the West Indies where they were used as garrison troops and didn't survive long. Rather, the 18th century British Army was composed of individuals who were unemployed as a result of the Industrial Revolution choosing the Army over starvation.

The normal length of service was for life, but in wartime the enlistment period was for three years - or until the end of hostilities. A recruit would normally join a particular regiment, but was given no assurance that he would remain there. In peacetime, thirty was the upper age limit for recruits, while seventeen was the lower age limit. These limits were significantly expanded when hostilities commenced.

Soldiers were not popular with the civilian population on either side of the Atlantic. At home, the Army had been used as a police force to quell civil disturbances. Accordingly, the individual soldier suffered under the autocratic and arbitrary authority of the regimental commander, and was ridiculed by the civil population. When not training, idle hours were consumed with roadbuilding.

Discipline was severe. Flogging with the cat-of-ninetails was the usual punishment for infractions of the rules. The number of lashes usually administered over the weeks, to allow for some interim healing. Perhaps the nickname "bloodybacks" came from a direct reference to the frequent floggings endured by the individual soldier.

Monetary compensation was certainly not the reason one became a soldier. Although a shilling was given to each new recruit upon enlistment (no small sum in those days), the private's normal wage was eightpence per day. Sixpence was deducted for subsistence (food and drink). Yet from this sum, sixpence a week was subtracted to pay for shoes, stockings, gaiters, medicines, shaving, and the repair of his arms. One penny a week was retained as a fee to pay the regimental paymaster and surgeon. From the remaining twopence a day, deductions were made for the Paymaster General, the regimental agent, and the Chelsea Hospital. The balance was applied to the cost of clothing. There were few regimental barracks, so soldiers were billeted in the worst (and cheapest) boarding houses/taverns in England.

A soldier's training consisted of learning the manual of arms with his musket. Once mastered, the next step involved learning the parade formations which ultimately led to company firing. Once or twice each year, the soldier was allowed to fire his musket with ball loaded.

Tents were seldom used on campaign, but were erected during periods of infrequent movement. The tent slept five soldiers,

who lay sideways from back to front. However, not all of them would necessarily be physically in the tent at the same time - regimental duties, such as guards and pickets, would mean that people would be up and about at all hours. In the field, soldiers would group together to form a "mess" to share responsibilities for cooking meals and carrying cooking equipment. Each regiment allowed a small number of wives to accompany the unit (six per company has been documented in 1778). These "Regimental Women" were mainly responsible for the laundry, for which they received a half-ration. Husband, wife, and any children were all billeted together with the other five soldiers producing an extremely cozy situation.

A private's uniform consisted of a brick-red surcoat, the lapels turned back to form facings. Facings were trimmed in a different colour which was typically yellow, green, buff, white, black, or in the case of a "royal" regiment of foot guards, blue. Underneath, white "smallclothes" consisting of breeches, shirt and waistcoat were worn. Black gaiters reaching to the knee were worn over white stockings in the winter, with shorter spatterdashes providing a somewhat cooler option in summer months. A cartridge box was suspended over the left shoulder with a wide white leather belt. A brown haversack under a metal canteen were slung over the right shoulder. Around the waist, another white leather belt carried the bayonet and scabbard off the left hip. In addition, the soldier carried a fifth of the tent equipment, plus his portion of the mess gear. In all, the load amounted to around 60 lbs.

As can be seen from all of this, the soldier did not have an easy life either on campaign, or in garrison. About the only thing that can be said for the life-style was that it was honest work for an unskilled/uneducated individual who didn't mind hearty employment in the open air. ■

### ORISKANY BATTLE CHAPTER BRINGS THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION TO THOMAS JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Recently a request was made to our Chapter for someone to visit the Thomas Jefferson Elementary School in Utica to speak to their fifth grade classes on the American Revolution. It was thought that this visit might help prepare the children for the upcoming American History Exam. I went as my patriot ancestor Lt. William Rockefeller. Wearing a borrowed militia uniform, I went forth into battle. I wasn't aware that there were four fifth grade classes all gathered together in one classroom. The presentation covered a period from the end of the French and Indian War to the Paris peace Treaty and lasted about forty minutes. One fifth grader asked me how old I was and I told her I was 256 years old. She wasn't sure quite sure whether to believe me or not. Some students asked questions and so, not to be outdone, I asked one of my own. I asked Who won the French and Indian War and was told that the French did. The response was so good that I decided to make up a brochure offering to do this again for other classes in the surrounding school systems.

*Submitted by the Rev. Terry L. Sheldon,  
President, Oriskany Battle Chapter. ■*

*The Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution extends a "Hearty Welcome" to the new members who have joined our ranks for the year 2006.*



BING =	BINGHAMTON
BUFF =	BUFFALO
CHAU =	CHAUTAUQUA
COLU =	COLUMBIA
FING =	FINGER LAKES
FIRS =	FIRST NY CONTINENTAL
HUNT =	HUNTINGTON
MEMB =	MEMBER AT LARGE
NEWT =	NEWTOWN BATTLE
NEWY =	NEW YORK
ORIS =	ORISKANY BATTLE
ROCH =	ROCHESTER
SARA =	SARATOGA BATTLE
STOA =	STONE ARABIA BATTLE
STON =	STONY POINT
SYRA =	SYRACUSE
WALL =	WALLOOMSAC BATTLE
WEST =	WESTCHESTER-PUTNAM

**Empire State Society, SAR  
Report Of New Members  
Calendar Year:2006**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>	<u>Chapter Abbreviation</u>
Boniello, Anthony Jake	Spy George Washington Richards	NEWY
Boone, Jr., Ralph Martin	Sgt Abram White PA	SARA
Brown, Lawrence Rey	Capt Bernardus Swartwout, Sr. NY	BUFF
Chevalier, III, Antonio Louis	Maj Donato Bello	LONG
Chevalier, Richard Joseph	Maj Donato Bello	LONG
Conklin, Kevin Milton	Pvt David Eckerson NY	STON
Hartje, Paul Kenneth	CS Edmund Lilly Sr. NC	LONG
Moore, William Edward	Sgt Daniel McDowell PA	NEWT
Rivera, David Ray	Maj Donato Bello	LONG
Vollhardt, Jr., Philip Henry	Capt Ezekiel Mulford NY	NEWT

2005 Additional New Member Count = 10

**Empire State Society, SAR  
Report Of New Members  
Calendar Year:2006**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>	<u>Chapter Abbreviation</u>
Adams, Douglas Michael	Capt Anthony Warner PA	SARA
Allen, Craig Steven	Capt John Sibley MA	SARA
Anderson, Christopher John	Capt George Christy NH	COLU
Anderson, John Joseph	Capt George Christy NH	COLU
Auser, Wallace Van Cortlandt	Pvt Elbert Orcer NY	SARA
Bailey, Harry Beadle	Pvt Joseph Beadle NY	WALL
Bailey, James Harvey	Pvt Joseph Beadle NY	WALL
Bailey, Kenneth Frank	Pvt Joshua Bailey Sr.	NEWT
Bartell, Sr., Leo Otis	Lt Alexander Ferriole NS	SARA
Baxter, Jeffrey Ford	LtCol Cornelius Ludlow NJ	NEWT
Booth, Bryan Mark	Soldier Ebenezer Hartwell NY	SARA
Booth, Kevin Todd	Soldier Ebenezer Hartwell NY	SARA
Booth, II, Robert Harry	Soldier Ebenezer Hartwell NY	SARA
Briggs, Bryan Richard	Lt Peter Young NY	SARA
Briggs, James Harvey	Lt Peter Young NY	SARA
Briggs, Joel Eugene	Lt Peter Young NY	SARA
Briggs, Jon Alden	Lt Peter Young NY	SARA

<u>Name</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>	<u>Chapter Abbreviation</u>
Briggs, Jr., Raymond Doty	Lt Peter Young NY	SARA
Briggs, Raymond Doty	Lt Peter Young NY	SARA
Briggs, III, Raymond Ray	Lt Peter Young NY	SARA
Bristol, Donald Curtis	Pvt Samuel Bristol VT	WALL
Brown, Edward Nicholas	Ensign Nicholas Brown PA	FIRS
Burns, Jr., Edward Anthony	Pvt Samuel Brett MA	LONG
Clark, Robert Lorenzo	Lt Daniel Newcomb MA	ROCH
Clemons, Robert Edward	Pvt Consider Cushman MA	BING
Companion, Michael Scott	Pvt David Wetherbee Sr. MA	SARA
Crouse, Thomas Laverne	Ens Frederick Crouse II NY	NEWT
Day, Jeremy Malach	PS Josiah Carter VA	BUFF
Dunphy, Patrick Joseph	CS John Tayloe VA	SARA
Durocher-Jones, Dean Miles	Pvt. James Dunn PA	CHAU
Durocher-Jones, Joshua Miles	Pvt. James Dunn PA	CHAU
Edick, Roy Wagner	Sgt. Christian Edick NY	ORIS
Edick, Rudyard Grayson	Sgt. Christian Edick NY	ORIS
Fitscher, Kirk Joseph	QM Thomas McCarty VA	BUFF
Fitts, Christopher Michael	Pvt John Fitts MA	ORIS
Fitts, Ryan William	Pvt John Fitts MA	ORIS
Fitts, William Calvert	Pvt John Fitts MA	ORIS
Fitzpatrick, Brendan Bernard	Corp Peter William Ostrander NY	LONG
Geyer, David Wilbur	Pvt John Martin Mickley PA	SARA
Geyer, Hammond Maurice	Pvt John Martin Mickley PA	SARA
Geyer, Michael Hammond	Pvt John Martin Mickley PA	SARA
Geyer, Steven Christopher	Pvt John Martin Mickley PA	SARA
Grasso, Christopher Edward	Pvt William Brewster Loud MA	FIRS
Gydesen, George Alfred	Pvt Ephraim Webster NH	ORIS
Ham, Kenneth Wayne	Pvt William Lain NY	NEWT
Hanson, Scott Winfield	Pvt Thomas Kingsley Jr. MA	NEWT
Harrington, IV, John Michael	Pvt John Warren MA	SARA
Harrison, Joseph Michael	Lt Isaac Newkirk PA	SARA
Harrison, Michael Charles	Lt Isaac Newkirk PA	SARA
Harrison, Shawn Michael	Lt Isaac Newkirk PA	SARA
Hays, Daniel Telling	Capt Anthony Warner PA	SARA
Hemmings, Richard Barry	John Churchill	FING
Ingersoll, Earl George	Pvt John Ingersoll CT	ROCH
Ingersoll, Jeffrey Earl	Pvt John Ingersoll CT	ROCH
Ingersoll, Joshua Earl	Pvt John Ingersoll CT	ROCH
Ingersoll, Patrick Gary	Pvt John Ingersoll CT	ROCH
Ingersoll, Timothy Edward	Pvt John Ingersoll CT	ROCH
Jones, Andres Eucenio Garcia	Pvt. James Dunn PA	CHAU
Jones, Keith Howard	Capt Anthony Warner PA	SARA
Jones, Miguel Jose Garcia	Pvt. James Dunn PA	CHAU
Jones, Pablo Epifano Garcia	Pvt. James Dunn PA	CHAU
Jones, Scott Paul	Pvt. James Dunn PA	CHAU
Jost, Bertrand Jean Hubert	Sgt Andreas Fritsch France	SARA
Lane, Gary Scott	Pvt Josiah Gould NJ	NEWT
Lane, Gregory Sebastian	Pvt Josiah Gould NJ	NEWT
Lane, Kenneth Robert	Pvt Josiah Gould NJ	NEWT
Lane, Richard Harold	Pvt Josiah Gould NJ	NEWT
Leed, William Diller	Pvt Michael Shirk PA	BUFF
Longnecker, Andrew Kelley	Pvt Peter Longnecker PA	CHAU
Loveland, David James	Pvt. Pelatiah Loveland CT	NEWT
Mackintosh, Frederick Sewall	Capt Elijah Beach CT	SARA
Malmont, Paul Howard Skuse	Pvt Eli Haskins MA	FIRS
Marks, Adam Douglass	Capt Samuel Douglass NH	BUFF
Marshall, Christopher George	Pvt Abner Rawson MA	LONG
Micheli, John Michael	Pvt Benjamin Hall NY	SARA
Micheli, Patrick Angelo	Pvt Benjamin Hall NY	SARA
Middlebrook, Timothy Scott	Pvt Peter DeWolf CT	SARA
Monthie, Phillip Joseph	Col Gideon Warren VT	SARA
O'Brien, James Charles	Pvt Oliver Goltry NJ	SARA
Parsons, Breck Maitland	CS Robert Breck MA	FIRS
Patchen, Adrian Glenn	Pvt Samuel Patchin/Patchen NY	ROCH
Patchen, Richard Craig	Pvt Samuel Patchin/Patchen NY	ROCH
Patchen, Russell Pearson	Pvt Samuel Patchin/Patchen NY	ROCH

➤ *Continued Page 8 Column 1*

Name	Ancestor	Chapter Abbreviation	Name	Ancestor	Chapter Abbreviation
Peters, Robert Hugh	John Marchant	ROCH	Verstreate, Ryan Michael	Pvt James Petteys RI	ROCH
Proctor, III, Robert Allen	Pvt James Fisher Gordon NC	SARA	Winklebleck, Jeffrey Lee	Pvt John Winkleblech PA	SARA
Rabbitt, Jr., James Francis	Maj Johan Peter Decher PA	SARA	Woyshner, Greg Matthew	Ensign James Mathney Jr. PA	SARA
Rama, Gerald Ferrer	Pvt Conrad Hahn NY	SYRA	<b>2006 New Member Count =118</b>		
Ransom, III, Stanley Austin	Sgt Peletiah Ransom CT	SARA	<b>Empire State Society, SAR</b>		
Redick, David Scott	Soldier Peter Doty NY	SARA	<b>Report Of New Dual State Members</b>		
Redick, (Ret), Earl Philip	Soldier Peter Doty NY	SARA	<b>Calendar Year:2006</b>		
Redick, Geoffrey Philip	Soldier Peter Doty NY	SARA	<u>Name</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>	<u>Chapt</u> <u>Home Society</u>
Redick, (Ret), Gregory Marc	Soldier Peter Doty NY	SARA	Farnum, Jerome Heltzen	Col Thomas Carpenter MA	FIRS Swiss
Regli, Francis Erwig	Pvt Benjamin Weber NY	SARA	Gorton, Donald Raymond	Capt Samuel Gorton RI	NEWT VA
Remling, Richard James	Pvt John Yerks NY	SYRA	Volonte, William Joseph	Capt Abraham Godwin NJ	FIRS NJ
Rockwell, Jr., Arthur Murray	Pvt Robert Ayers NY	SARA	<b>2006 New Member Count = 3</b>		
Rockwell, Charles Thomas	Pvt Robert Ayers NY	SARA	<b>Empire State Society, SAR</b>		
Rockwell, David Gene	Pvt Robert Ayers NY	SARA	<b>Report Of Transfer In Members</b>		
Rockwell, James Richard	Pvt Robert Ayers NY	SARA	<b>Calendar Year:2006</b>		
Rockwell, Raymond James	Pvt Robert Ayers NY	SARA	<u>Name</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>	<u>Chapter Abbreviation</u>
Rockwell, William Douglas	Pvt Robert Ayers NY	SARA	Behanna, Thomas A.	Capt. Daniel Lunt MA	SARA
Sammis, Andrew Jackson	Soldier David Sammis NY	SARA	Borum, Wylie Griffin	Pvt David Halliburton VA	COLU
Sammis, III, Harold Kent	Soldier David Sammis NY	SARA	Jackson, Norman Carey	Pvt John Thayer MA	ORIS
Sammis, IV, Harold Kent	Soldier David Sammis NY	SARA	Johnson, Kevin Koehler	Maj Robert Powell VA	FIRS
Sheaff, John Charles	Pvt Robert Blair NJ	WALL	Martin, Charles Dickinson	Fifer Benajah Hall CT	FING
Shields, Charles Howard	Pvt Solomon Wood VT	SARA	Warner, Scott Dennis	Soldier Jacob Dellinger PA	MEMB
Shimp, Harry Becker	Pvt Michael Shirk PA	BUFF	Wilson, Steven Richard	Capt Nehemiah Houghton NH	BING
Simpson, Laurence Stephen	Sgt Thomas Simpson VA	FIRS	Wingler, Joshua Douglas	PS Henry Funk Jr. MD	SARA
Sivy, Jr., Michael	Pvt Cary Cox NC	SARA	Wingler, Richard Brinton	PS Henry Funk Jr. MDS	ARA
Smith, Arthur Nelson	Pvt Johannes Christian Schmidt PA	NEWT	<b>2006 New Member Count = 9</b>		
Smith, Bobby Jay	Surgeon Dr. Calvin Timothy Delano	SARA			
Taylor, Allan Randall	Soldier Jonathan Taylor NY	SARA			
Thorp, Dennis Philip	Pvt John Witherstine NY	ORIS			
Tomlinson, James Francis	Soldier John Tomlinson III NC	FIRS			
Trufant, Bret Donald	Soldier Ebenezer Hartwell NY	SARA			
Verstreate, Jesse Vincent	Pvt James Petteys RI	ROCH			

## Lest We Forget

Almighty Father, we ask thy Blessing on the Souls of our departed Compatriots, we thank thee for making them part of our lives these many years. And now that they have passed on to that greater light, that light which we cannot receive while here in the body, we ask thee to receive them more and more into thy faithful service and keep them under thy protected care to the Honor and Glory of thy Holy Name. *Amen*



<u>Nat'l No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Chapter Affiliation</u>	<u>Date Of Death</u>
149264	Ahlstrom, Steven Gary	Carlsbad, NM	Chautauqua	12/20/2006
149202	Anderson, PhD, Robert V.	New Hartford, NY	Newtown Battle	10/27/2006
110352	Bellinger, Sidney B.	Las Vegas, NV	Oriskany Battle	10/16/1987
146697	Brown, Jr., Ralph William	Silver Creek, NY	Chautauqua	01/11/2006
111125	Coon, Royce Earl	Rochester, NY	Rochester	01/23/2006
115977	Crocetta, Sr., Robert P.	Palm Coast, FL	Saratoga Battle	12/09/2006
			Past Chapter President	
163822	Donovan, John Emmett	Hammondsport, NY	Newtown Battle	02/05/2005
155589	Downing, John Milton	Bridgeport, NY	Syracuse	06/19/2006
166843	Edick, Roy Wagner	Ilion, NY	Oriskany Battle	11/01/2006
122987	Hague, Arthur	Tannersville, NY	Col-Mid Hudson Valley	03/24/2006
117758	Harris, Charles T.	Schodack Landing, NY	Col-Mid Hudson Valley	06/26/2006
152506	Manwaring, Darwin Doyle	Wellsburg, NY	Newtown Battle	01/01/2006
124884	Markham, William Harvey	Albany, NY	Saratoga Battle	05/12/2006
102025	Mills, George Roland	Stony Point, NY	Stony Point	11/09/2006
113939	Robertson, Esq., John Frederick	Canastota, NY	Syracuse	10/09/2005
155232	Scribner, Edward Myron	Schoharie, NY	Saratoga Battle	10/29/2006
101048	Smith, Matthias E.	Fayetteville, NY	Syracuse	09/13/2006
55728	Trevor, Bronson	Oster Bay, NY	New York	11/02/2002
53970	Trevor, Jr., John B.	Westerly, RI	New York	08/27/2006

## BINGHAMTON CHAPTER

The Binghamton Chapter is looking forward to an active 2006-2007 year. We held our annual meeting on Oct 28<sup>th</sup> when a strong slate of officers and managers was elected. The following Compatriots were elected for the coming year:

*President, Robert Morton Haff; Vice President, Robert Edward Clemons; Secretary, John Roland Bramley; Treasurer, Roger Darrell Cargill; Registrar, Wayne Gordon Thurston; Chaplain, The Rev. Bruce Coburn Atkinson; Managers, Charles Arnold Spence & Lauren Eldred Houghton*

After the election and an ample luncheon, the chapter enjoyed a talk given by Compatriot Bob Clemons. His subject was "Early American Firearms and Accessories". Along with his talk, Bob had examples of weapons and accessories that he brought from his extensive collection. I would like to point out that Compatriot Bob is a sterling example of a committed member. He is the newest member of the chapter having been presented with his membership certificate at this meeting. Then, when asked to make the presentation and to be the chapter vice-president, he did not hesitate with his affirmative answers.

Future meetings include our annual joint meeting with the Tuscarora Chapter, NSDAR on 17 Feb. 2007 and a chapter meeting in April. In addition to our chapter meetings, other activities which will be continued this coming year are book gifts to our local libraries in memory of our departed members, actively seeking participants for the Knight and Eagle Scout Essay contests, patriot graves registration, flag certification program, cemetery cleanup, gravesite marker program and, of course, actively seeking new members for the chapter.

*Robert Morton Haff, President. ■*



*Newly elected officers and managers L To R Compatriots John Roland Bramley, Secretary; Roger Darrell Cargill, Treasurer; Robert Edward Clemons, Vice-president; Robert Morton Haff, President; Lauren Eldred Houghton, Manager; Wayne Gordon Thurston, Registrar and Charles Arnold Spence, Manager. Chaplain Bruce Coburn Atkinson was absent.*



*Compatriot Robert E. Clemons is presented with membership certificate by President Robert Haff*

## STONY POINT CHAPTER

Stony Point Chapter was at "Twin Forts Day (Fort Clinton & Fort Montgomery) on Saturday October 7, 2006 for the dedication of both the Battle Site Visitor Center and the dedication of Re-doubt Trail. Four of Stony Point's chapter were present as were our flags for the dedication of this beautiful Visitor Center. Work was commenced about 6 years agoon these sites that have been abandoned since the Revolutionary War.

Everything has been recreated as it existed at that time and about 200 reenactors from about 7 Revolutionary Units were present at this dedication. On Saturday, October 21, 2006 we met at the Miller estate in Thiells N.Y. with about 25 Rockland County dignitaries from various towns to honor Haverstraw Supervisor Howard Phillips for his unrelented support in the restoration of the Phillips-Knapp Cemetery. Without the towns resources, financial and manpower, this couldn't have happened. ESSAR President Peter Goebel was present to present the Silver Medal and the Stony Point Chapter presented a certificate honoring him for his outstanding efforts on two important issues. (Open attachment to see our chapter award to Howard). Peter also had a chance to come to RHO Cottage to see our new chapter headquarters.

Two reinstatements have been sent to National and three new prospective members have been sent to national for the certificates since the September meeting. We are finally making more progress in increasing membership. I hope to try and get more former members back and several new ones, with Duane Booth's help in 2007.

*Respectfully Submitted, Barry Brooks-President ■*

## WESTCHESTER - PUTNAM CHAPTER

Westchester-Putnam Chapter's fall luncheon was held October 7, 2006 at the Brasserie Swiss Restaurant in Ossining. Our guest speaker was Theora Pierce Hahn, a member of the Larchmont Chapter of the DAR and sister of Compatriot Raymond Hahn. Ms. Hahn, who has been a member of the Larchmont Historical Society for many years, as well as a contributor on historical and patriotic topics for a local radio station, spoke on one her favorite topics: John Jay,, Our Most Underrated Founder for the Glorious Cause.

The Harvey Birch Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution invited the chapter to their annual Holiday luncheon, December 9, 2006 at the Scarsdale Golf Club. Barrie Mabie and Ken Stevens represented the chapter at the luncheon which marked the 80th birthday for the Harvey Birch Chapter. President Stevens led the pledge of allegiance and spoke briefly on local, regional, state and national SAR activities in 2006. Included in the highlights was the fact that qualified application inquiries (candidates with DAR or SAR links) have more than doubled from 2005 to 2006 for the Westchester-Putnam chapter. The Rev. Dr. Rayner W. Hesse, Jr., whose application is pending at National, was the guest speaker.

*Kenneth Stevens, Chapter President ■*

"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*

## ROCHESTER CHAPTER

Early in 2006, Compatriot Steve Clarke received a phone call from Margaret Ruth, widow of a Rochester Chapter past-president, Roger Ruth, relaying the information that she'd discovered a box of miscellaneous SAR items found following the sale of her home. She asked Steve to pick them up. Among the items was a portrait of Sergeant Robert Franklin Livingston, USAAF, a member of the Rochester Chapter from 1943 until his death the following year in Stalag-Luft 17-B, a German POW camp near Krems, Austria. In 1947, Sergeant Livingston's father, Lionel Meylert Livingston, a SAR member for over 40 years, painted the portrait of his son. The portrait was framed with a photograph of SGT Livingston and a plaque with information about him, and presented as a gift to the Department of Local History and Genealogy of the Central Library of Rochester and Monroe County, NY, where it will be on permanent display in the Local History rooms.

Historian and librarian Larry Naukam was especially pleased to receive the portrait as the Central Library has just won a grant to begin a project to catalog the names and other data relative to veterans who served from Monroe County beginning with the Civil War.

The Livingston portrait will be cataloged as a part of that special collection. SGT Livingston was an only child and on the death of his parents, their estate was left to the Rochester Chapter with the understanding that interest earned from it would be used to increase the gift and to encourage education in patriotism in the Rochester City School District to honor their son. The Chapter has done that now for 15 years and is happy to have added ROTC awards in SGT Livingston's memory to the four senior ROTC and three junior ROTC units in the Rochester area as well.

did much of the research to assure we had the new gravestones placed exactly where they belonged. To show our gratitude for all their help, the Rochester Chapter presented Bronze Good Citizenship Medals and Certificates to Mr. LeRoy and Ms Hopkins at the regular Town Board meeting on 12 December 2006. In their responses, both honorees thanked the Town Board and the various departments that provided services and also thanked the Rochester Chapter for its work to help preserve the Town's history. A dedication ceremony is planned for the spring. Rochester Chapter members attending the presentation were President Larry L. Blackman and Compatriots Stephan P. Clarke, David E. Grosvenor and Daryl V. Verstrete, Jr. Compatriots Grosvenor and Verstrete were instrumental in doing much of the hard work of installing the 17 new Gravestones.



*Supervisor Steven LeRoy and Town Historian Sandy Hopkins*

## WALLOOMSAC BATTLE CHAPTER Chapter tours Barnet House and holds Christmas dinner



Earlier this year when the Rochester Chapter completed its work of repairing and replacing over 20 gravestones in the Mill Street Cemetery in Sodus, Wayne County, NY, it was clear that our success was due in large part to the support and cooperation of the Town of Sodus government, especially Supervisor Steven LeRoy and Town Historian Sandy Hopkins. Mr. LeRoy made the full range of the Town's services available to assist and Ms Hopkins



Walloomsac Battle Chapter held its annual Christmas dinner at Theresa's Restaurant in Hoosick Falls on Wednesday evening December 6<sup>th</sup>. Before the meal several of us gathered for a tour of the Barnet House, on the grounds of the NYS Bennington Battlefield which is located in the Town of Hoosick on NY Route 67.

The 1830s mansion is now open to the public. Chapter President John Sheaff is working with several organizations to prepare a large and exciting celebration of the 230<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Bennington. While plans are not yet finalized a reenactment and memorial service are likely.

*Submitted by Duane Booth* ■

**COLUMBIA-MID HUDSON VALLEY CHAPTER**

John Helmeyer, past Chapter president, represented our Chapter at The Historic Brick Reformed Church Cemetery on November 11<sup>th</sup>. The Minisink Chapter of the DAR ceremony dedicated a plaque and replaced memorial stones of Revolutionary War soldiers. The honored guest was NSDAR State Regent, Elizabeth McKee. Also present were the Montgomery American Legion Post #521 and the Coldenham Fife And Drum Corp. Mr. Helmeyer recruited 2 prospective SAR members, David Broadwell, of Pine Bush, NY, and Robert Santo, of Montgomery, NY.

President Rodney Andrews attended a breakfast at Ulster County Community College on November 28<sup>th</sup>. The guest speaker was Colonel James M. Johnson, Ph.D., retired, Executive Director of the Hudson River Valley Institute. Colonel Johnson is an authority on the Revolution War, especially in the Hudson Valley. During the breakfast, President Andrews recruited 2 more prospective SAR members, Stephen J. Wood, President of the "Friends of the Senate House" in Kingston, NY, and Eric Roth, Director of the Huguenot Historical Society in New Paltz, NY.

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, Dottie and Ralph Avery (Chapter member), of Claverack, NY, recruited another prospective SAR member, Vincent Wallace, Jr. of Claverack, giving us a total of five that are working on their applications for acceptance in the SAR. With our present membership at 37, this could take our Chapter over forty members.

The Columbia-Mid Hudson Valley Chapter meeting was held December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Chipotle Grille, Saugerties, NY. Nine members, 4 spouses and 2 guests attended as Rodney Gage, one of the original 15 members and Past Chapter President, 1972, was presented with a past president pin and certificate by President Rod Andrews. At the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting Charles R. Nichols (1971) and Robert L. French (1978) were also presented with past president pins and certificates but their photos were not available for the last Empire Patriot publication.

Chairman Bill Shepherd of the George & Stella Knight Contest reported that there was no participation in the 40 local high schools. Secretary/Treasurer Alan Coon reported that since going to e-mail communications our mailing expense has dropped from \$14.04 to @2.75, a savings of \$11.31 per mailing, an annual saving of \$70 -\$90 which impressed the members.

Recently an article published by the Ulster Publishing Company appeared in 4-5 of their newspapers chains in the area explaining in depth the purpose and activities of the NSDAR, ESSAR, and our Chapter. All attending members agreed it was an impressive and felt that this exposure could further increase our recruitment of new members.

Our guest speaker, Stephen Wood, President of the "Friends of the Senate House", NY, not only discussed the activities of the Senate House with tours, museum, etc. but explained how that the Senate House and the Columbia-Mid Hudson Valley Chapter SAR can work together in promoting interest throughout the community. Further communications between the two groups will take place next year.

The Eagle Scout Committee reported that John Anderson's son, Gregory, has received approval for advancement to the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. A formal ceremony will be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Poughkeepsie, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 PM. Andy Middlebrook, son of Chapter

member Tim Middlebrook, finished his Eagle Scout project involving an old cemetery at the Mill's Mansion, now in Staatsburg, NY. After much research the cemetery was determined to be that of the Eames Family. Captain James (Jesse) Eames is a Revolutionary war veteran and was buried there as was Capt. John Selkreg. Our Chapter discussed getting involved with grave markers and having a ceremony next year. Vice President, Bud Weaver, and Secretary/Treasurer, Alan Coon, have volunteered to take on that project.

The Chapter voted on having an official permanent ballot created and in use by the coming elections in February 2007. Rod Andrews will take on that responsibility, getting approval by our Chapter's Board of Managers, and then passing it on to Don Schiro, our nominating committee.

Under new business we discussed getting involved with the community even more. Suggestions of more guest speakers and perhaps some historical tours in 2007 were met with enthusiasm, along with possibly restoring some of the tour signs in the Kingston area involving the Senate House.

At the suggestion of Lloyd Loop, Chapter Registrar, the Chapter members brought in non-perishable goods for the "Saugerties Counsel of Churches Food Closet for the Needy of Saugerties" which were then donated.

Visit our website "<http://www.geocities.com/cmhvsar>" with up-to-date information about our Chapter and for details about our next meeting to be held March 31, 2007, somewhere on the east side of the Hudson River.

*Rodney S. Andrews, President  
Columbia-Mid Hudson Valley Chapter* ■



*Photos: Rodney Gage(above), Charles Nichols (bot left) & Robert French (bot right) receiving Past President's Pins and Certificates.*



**ROCHESTER CHAPTER TURNS BACK THE PAGES OF HISTORY**

It was a pleasant, late spring day in northern Florida when Mr. Amedio (Mel) P. Petrangelo spotted DAR Chaplain-General Mary Lou James in a Wal-Mart parking lot and asked her if she knew how to contact the SAR. It seems Mel was given a good citizenship award back in 1941 when he was in the sixth grade in Rochester, NY, but it was in pretty sad shape after being knocked about for 65 years. He just wanted to know if it could be replaced. Mary Lou contacted Lindsey Brock, president of the Florida Society, SAR and explained the problem. Lindsey went to work to find out what he could.

It was a warm early summer's day in western NY when the phone rang at the home of the Rochester Chapter's president, Steve Clarke. It was Lindsey Brock wanting to know if Steve could help him obtain or otherwise reproduce a good citizenship certificate that the Rochester Chapter presented to a sixth grade student in 1941. While the Rochester Chapter still presents many good citizenship awards in schools throughout western NY, it was impossible to find a blank form from 1941 and a bit difficult to reproduce one. However, Lindsey scanned the original and Steve went to work to create a replacement using all the bells and whistles his computer had to offer.

After several back and forth e-mail exchanges of rough drafts—the work was made difficult by two relatively large holes in the original that eliminated some of the wording—agreement was achieved regarding the correct wording and overall layout for the replacement document and Steve printed out a new certificate on heavy paper, created a facsimile of the original handwritten date and signature and mailed it off to Lindsey.

In the meantime, Lindsey, planning for a fall FLSSAR Board of Managers meeting, arranged to invite the Petrangelo family—Mel, his wife Anna Marie and daughters Karen Petrangelo and Sheila Kipp—and Chaplain-General James to attend. A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the new, framed certificate to Mr. Petrangelo during a special and emotional ceremony.

The Rochester Chapter and Florida Society, with the very significant help of the DAR, are proud to be able to restore a treasured award to a man who is living the life of a good citizen. It is an honor for the SAR and the DAR to recognize a man who continues to live up to the standards that others recognized in him so many years ago.

*Stephen Clarke, President* ■



Left to right: Mr. Petrangelo, DAR Chaplain-General James, FLSSAR President Lindsey Brock.



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