



EMPIRE PATRIOT

Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Preserving the Past, Forming the Future

Vol. 23 Issue 2-3 November-February 2023

Fall-Winter Issue



Joseph B. Fitzpatrick, President

Message from the President

Farewell Address

Brother Compatriots,

This will be my last message as your President. By the time the Spring-Summer issued is printed I will no longer be the President of the Empire State Society. There will be a newly elected President, Executive Board and Board of Managers.

I have been very fortunate to have had an excellent and very supportive Board of Officers, Board Members and Committee Chairmen during my term. They deserve my deepest gratitude.

During my term I have enjoyed attending Chapter meetings through-out the State. I only wish I could have attended them all. I know that the newly elected President and his Board and Officers will do an excellent job. They are all dedicated, not only to the Empire State Society, but also the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. I know that under their guidance the Society will continue to grow.

Thank you, the membership, for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Society President for the past two years. It has been a great honor

Joseph B. Fitzpatrick, President
Empire State Society, NSSAR

JOIN/RENEW SAR at www.sar.org/find-your-chapter/NY



Upcoming Event

March 25, 2023

ESS-SAR Bord of Managers Meeting
Pegasus Restaurant
Coxsackie, NY

In this Issue:

NY State Winners of
Knight Essay Contest

Get Your ESS-SAR Patriot
Certificate

History Corner – Early NY
Battle Flags

* * *

Results of November 2022 ESS-SAR Board of Managers Meeting

The last Board of Managers Meeting of 2022 was held on November 12, hosted by the Columbia – Mid Hudson Valley Chapter SAR at the Pegasus Restaurant in Catskill, NY. ESS-SAR President Joseph Fitzpatrick presented our new State Society banner pictured herein.



The Board of Managers voted to purchase the New York State Flag and three Battle Flags that were used by New York Units in the Revolutionary War. Some of the Revolutionary War flags used early in the hostilities by New York units were displayed.

For details see President Fitzpatrick's presentation and photos in our History Corner later in this issue.

First 2023 Board of Managers Meeting is Scheduled for March 25

The Walloomsac Battle Chapter will be hosting our BOM meeting on Saturday, March 25, 2023 at the Pegasus Restaurant in Coxsackie, NY. Coffee and danish will be available at 10 AM during sign-in. The business meeting will begin at 11 AM followed by a buffet lunch.

All members are invited to attend.

The registration form follows below.

Pegasus Restaurant
10885 Route 9W - Coxsackie, NY 12051
Phone 518-731-6720

(From the South: NYS Thruway to Catskill Exit 21, take Rt. 23 east to Rt. 9W, go north 8 miles, on left)

(From the North: NYS Thruway to Exit 21B, take Rt. 9W south for 5 miles, on right))

Motels available in Coxsackie, NY order online for better rates

Holiday Express - one tenth of a mile north off Exit 21B on 9W- Phone 518-719-1999

Best Western – two tenths of a mile south off Exit 21B on 9W- Phone 518-731-8100

ESSAR BOM MEETING SATURDAY- March 25, 2023

Hosted by
Walloomasac Battle Chapter, SAR

COST OF BUFFET IS **\$32.00**

10:00 AM SIGN IN
COFFEE & DANISH until 11:00 AM
GENERAL MEETING 11:00 AM

Buffet Menu

Chicken Marsala

Roast Beef with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

Mixed Veggies, Tossed Green Salad, rolls & butter.

Dessert- Apple Pie al a mode

Includes Coffee, Tea, Milk, Tax and Gratuity

Any wine, beer or alcohol drinks or extras, pay cash to the Server.

\$5.00 EXTRA CHARGE AT DOOR FOR UNSCHEDULED ARRIVALS

FOR NON-EATING ATTENDEES - \$5.00 CHARGE FOR USE OF FACILITY

Name _____ Chapter _____

Name _____ Chapter _____

Buffet \$32.00 _____ Using Facility only \$5.00 _____

Detach, fill in names / chapter, make check payable to “Walloomasac Battle Chapter, SAR”.

Mail to: Duane Booth – PO Box 836, New Lebanon, NY 12125-0836 - Please, no later than Mar. 22, 2023.

2023 New York State Winners of the Knight Essay Contest Announced

The Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution is pleased to announce the State winners of the SAR Knight Essay Contest. Our winners are:

1st Brianna Devlin, Middleburg, NY.
2nd Issa Yasmin, Sharon Springs, NY
3rd Melody Sapione, Port Chester, NY.

Honorable Mention, Anthony Rozler.

The ESS-SAR in Action

by Joseph Fitzpatrick

Year 2023 is going to be a busy year for the Society:

We will be hosting the Atlantic Middle State Conference. Chairman VP Tim Middlebrook has been hard at work since last year making arrangements and coordinating the events to be held. The Conference will be held in Tarrytown, New York August 11th through August 13th. He will need help that weekend. Anyone interested in assisting please contact him. His email is tmiddlesar@gmail.com. Information will also be in the Empire State Patriot. The Conference is open to any member who would like to attend. It would give them an opportunity to meet our National Officers .

VP Middlebrook is also the Chairman of the 250th Committee for the state. The Committee has been holding Zoom meeting since last year. The State is planing several events in New York. Information will be forth coming.

Chairman, Judge Richard C. Smith and his Committee have selected the winners of the of the 2023 Knight Essay contest. I want to thank the Committee for their dedication and hard work. I do not want to forget the Chapter Chairmen. They are the ones who reach out to the local schools informing them of the contest.

Winners:

1st Brianna Devlin, Middleburg, NY. 2nd Issa Yasmin, Sharon Springs, NY 3rd Melody Sapione, Port Chester, NY. Honorable Mention, Anthony Rozler

Empire Nominations for the 2023-2025 Board of Officers

The Nominating Committee will make their report to the Board of Managers at March meeting. If you have any questions about the process, refer to the Empire State Society By-Laws.

I want to thank VPG Robert Meyer and Compatriot David Nelson for putting life back into the Battle of Brooklyn and 1st New York Continental. They have been holding joint Chapter dinner meetings once a month in Brooklyn. They have set an example for other Chapters, that have been having low turnouts.

This may be the answer we need.

We have members who are willing to work and others that just want to reap the benefits. We need every Chapter member to step up, hold office and serve on Committees, or we will lose Chapters.

You lose Chapters, you lose State Societies. You lose State Societies, you lose the NSSAR.

Since the last addition of the Empire Patriot, I attended the October Schoharie Leather Stocking meeting. November 3rd Luncheon meeting of the DAR Christian Brown Chapter. January 11th Mid Atlantic Committee Zoom meeting, December 4th The Pomeroy Sign Dedication, St. James Episcopal Churchyard presented by the Columbia-Mid Hudson Valley Chapter honoring 6 Patriots

Some photos:



DAR members at Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Reform Church of Staten Island.



Scouts at Wreaths Across America



1st New York Continental members



Battle of Brooklyn flag

The Battle of Brooklyn Chapter Flag was presented as a gift by chapter president Meyer. SAR Members present were from the Battle of Brooklyn, 1st New York Continental, and members from the Monmouth New Jersey Chapter of the SAR.

Get Your ESS-SAR Patriot Certificate

This certificate is personalized with your name, your ancestors name, with your state and national member numbers. The certificate is custom printed using the highest quality professional equipment available. This is an heirloom-quality document suitable for framing.

The price for this valuable family record document is very modest at \$20. When you purchase a certificate, five dollars of the purchase price is donated to your chapter. This beautiful heirloom certificate was designed by compatriot Joseph B. Fitzpatrick, President of the Leather Stocking Chapter, Vice President of the Capital Region, ESSAR., and current Empire State Society President.



Above is a sample of the Patriot Certificate, which will be printed on premium quality heavy paper. To order your Certificate/s, please print and complete the form below.

Empire State Society SAR
Patriot Certificate

ORDER FORM

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

National Number _____

State Number _____

Patriot Name _____

Chapter Name _____

Cost \$20.00 make check out to ESSAR

Send to : Schoharie L-S Chapter SAR
C/O Joseph B. Fitzpatrick
PO Box 193
Esperance, NY 12066

Who's News

Compatriot Bill Woodward, 80 year old member of the Finger Lakes Chapter earned his black belt in martial arts, according to chapter president Wayne Elkey.

Chapter News

Capital Region Chapters

- **Columbia – Mid Hudson Valley Chapter** – Sponsored the November 12, 2022 ESS-SAR Board of Managers meeting in Catskill, NY.

December 4 – Pomeroy sign at Hyde Park

- **Saratoga Battle Chapter** – On February 19, 2023 we held our Annual Meeting, during which we welcomed 12 new members into the Chapter.

Member Raymond Miller represented our chapter at an annual event in Maine commemorating the birth of General Henry Knox.

We have been invited to participate in a June 25th Memorial Service in Whitehall for a Revolutionary War Soldier.



Raymond Miller (rt.) with reenactor portraying General Knox.

- **Valcour Chapter** - The chapter participated in the 246th Anniversary of the Battle of Valcour. The 127th Commemoration was held by the Saranac Chapter of NSDAR Plattsburgh, on October 11th, at the Peru Boat Launch within sight of the 1776 Battle of Valcour.

Had a booth at the Battle of Plattsburgh commemoration.



- **Walloomsac Battle Chapter** – Participated with the Saratoga Battle Chapter in the Bennington Battle commemoration

Central Region

- **Bingham Chapter** – Participated in a Purple Heart Ceremony.
- **Syracuse Chapter** – The chapter had a booth at the Vets Expo in Syracuse.
December 3, 2022 – The chapter held its Pearl Harbor Day Luncheon.

Metropolitan Region

- **Battle of Brooklyn Chapter** – The chapter together with the 1st New York Continental chapter are holding joint monthly dinners in Brooklyn.

- **Long Island Chapter** – December 3, 2022 --Rain didn't stop us from honoring Colonel Josiah Smith today! We unveiled his new historical roadside marker and laid wreath at his grave alongside our DAR sisters. Brookhaven Town Supervisor Ed Romaine joined us, bringing a Certificate of Congratulations from the town to the festivities.



Honoring Colonel Josiah Smith



Unveiling of Josian Smith sign

- **Westchester – Putnam Chapter** – The chapter is trying to get information to the Oneida Indian Tribe in an effort to get an SAR chapter started.

History Corner

Was there an “official” American flag under which New York units fought in the beginning of the Revolutionary War? No. There were various flags used by Patriots during the early days of the American Revolution. It wasn't until June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress passed the first Flag Resolution.

The Board of Managers voted to purchase the New York State Flag and three Battle Flags that were used by New York Units in the Revolutionary War. They are the Huntington Liberty Flag, White Plains Liberty Flag, and the Gansevoort Flag.

History of the New York Flags flown during the Revolution

by Joseph Fitzpatrick

Huntington Liberty Flag:

The Huntington Flag has the word LIBERTY printed in white on a red background.

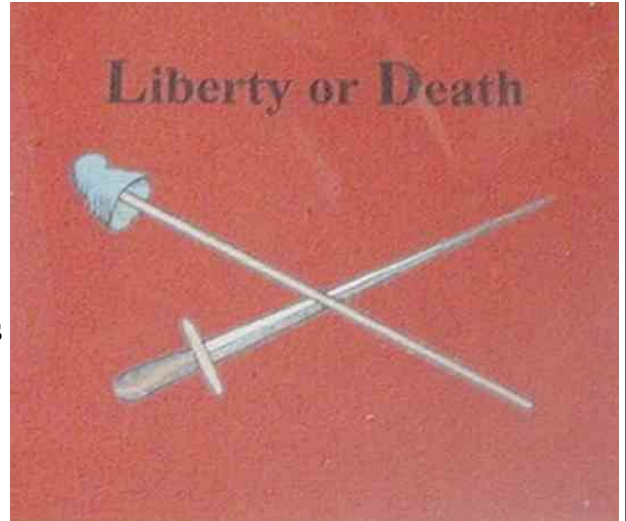
Article written by Robert C. Hughes, Huntington Town Historian, gives the history of the Huntington flag. The Huntington Liberty Flag was proudly carried into battle by the Huntington Militia which was part of the First Regiment of the Suffolk County Militia.



The flag was created just a month earlier when Huntingtonians received the news that the Continental Congress had adopted the Declaration of Independence. The flag was captured by Hessian troops during the Battle of Long Island, August 27, 1776. For further information refer to “Remembering the Battle of Long Island” by Historian Robert C Hughes.

White Plains Liberty Flag:

The White Plains Flag has the words printed Liberty or Death with a Blue hat on a Shaft crossing a Sword on a Red Background. The colors were captured by the Hessians August 27, 1776, at the Battle of Long Island or at the Battle of White Plains, October 28, 1776. (Photo is of a reproduction flag for sale on the ebay.com)



Gansevoort Flag:

The Gansevoort was the regimental flag of the 3rd New York. The Regiment consisted of eight companies. Patriots were from Dutchess and Ulster Counties and New York City. They defended Fort Schuyler against the British in 1777. The flag was presented as a gift from Colonel Gansevoort to the Regiment. The New York State flag was designed after the Gansevoort flag.



* * *