



# EMPIRE PATRIOT

## Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution

*Preserving the Past, Forming the Future*

Vol. 24 Issue 2 September – November, 2023

Fall Issue



**David W. Powell, President**

### Message from the President

Brother Compatriots,

The brisk days of Fall are upon us, but the Empire State Society and its chapters are still very active. I have been enjoying attending numerous chapter events and meetings. So far, since May I have been at events and meetings with the following chapters: Syracuse, Finger Lakes, Thousand Islands, Rochester, Buffalo, Binghamton, Battle of Brooklyn, and Westchester Putnam.

The ESS-SAR 250<sup>th</sup> committee is holding regular meetings. The funds available to the committee made possible by acquiring the unencumbered remainder of the 2023 budget and the generous

contribution by the Rochester Chapter have made it viable to engage with various historical sites to provide marking or dedication events. The committee is looking at possible events at Fort Plain, Fort Ontario, and Fort Niagara. Vice President General Joe Vermaelen is assisting with efforts to have a large-scale National Level event commemorating the Battle of Saratoga in 2027.

The New Jersey Society and the Empire State Society are co-hosting a special event on February 17, 2024. The two state Societies will be honoring Général de brigade Vincent de Kytspotter PhD, Head of Military and Defense Mission French Permanent Mission to the United Nations. The General is an avid researcher of the French contribution to the Yorktown Campaign. He is expected to give a presentation on that topic at the event. Our President General John Dodd, Esquire will be attending the event. This event will be at the Princeton Marriott in Princeton, NJ. It would be really nice to see a large turnout of Empire State Society members at this event. Please come and represent our great Society at this important event. While you are there, make sure to visit the nearby Revolutionary War sites such as the Princeton Battlefield, Trenton, and even travel to the Morristown Encampment at Jockey Hollow. See announcement below.

Cont'd below



### Upcoming Events

**November 18, 2023**  
**ESS-SAR Board of Managers Meeting**  
Binghamton, NY

**December 15- 17, 2023**  
SAR National Event  
250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
Boston Tea Party  
Boston, MA

### In this Issue:

Get Your ESS-SAR Patriot Certificate

Chapter News

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# SAVE THE DATE

**FEBRUARY 17, 2024**

## THE NORTH ATLANTIC DISTRICT

will be honoring

**Général de brigade Vincent de Kytspotter / PhD**

Chef de la représentation Militaire et de la Défense / Head of Military and Defense Mission

French Permanent Mission to the United Nations

and

**President General John L. Dodd, Esq.**

at a noon luncheon

hosted by the New Jersey & the Empire State Societies

at the

**Princeton Marriott at Forrestal**

100 College Road East

Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Please contact NJSSAR President Robert Meyer to RSVP for the event and to get information about booking a room at the Princeton Marriott.

[robert.meyer29@gmail.com](mailto:robert.meyer29@gmail.com)

I remind you that it is dues payment time. You should be or have received your personalized invoices (thank you David Flint, Erick Kruger and David Foster). On time payment of the dues is very helpful to our society. Reinstatements take a lot of effort on behalf of the officers, so please try to be prompt in paying your dues. And please consider making a donation to our society so we can fulfill our missions and objectives of honoring patriots of the War of Independence, preserving their legacies, educating young Americans and promoting patriotism.

I hope to see many of you at the November 18, 2023 Board of Managers Meeting in Binghamton, NY. Please have a great holiday season and you and your family please be safe!

**David W. Powell, President**

Empire State Society, NSSAR

JOIN/RENEW SAR at [www.sar.org/find-your-chapter/NY](http://www.sar.org/find-your-chapter/NY)

## ESS-SAR News

### September Board of Managers Meeting

The first Board of Managers meeting of the 2023-2024 season of the State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (ESS-SAR) was held on September 9, in Cossack, NY. The event was hosted by the Columbia Mid-Hudson Chapter.



## ESS – SAR President David Powell opens the meeting

A number of awards were presented. Duane Booth and Richard Rossin both received Gold Liberty Medals for sponsoring over 200 applicants. Former President George Gydesen received the Patriot Medal, the highest award for exceptional service to the State Society.



Past Pres. George Gydesen  
Patriot Medal



Past Pres. Joe Fitzpatrick  
Liberty Medal



Ken Stevens  
Liberty Medal



Thomas Dunne  
Liberty Medal



## VP Middlebrook Appointed Chairman of State Patriot Burials Program

During the meeting Pres. Powell appointed VP Capital Region, and President of the Columbia Mid Hudson Chapter, Tim Middlebrook as the State chairman of the Patriot Burials program. He will be forming the state committee for the program.

Congratulations to Tim.



VP Tim Middlebrook

Dr. Janet M. Fleck, MD spoke about an activity under consideration. She said other state societies have a women's auxiliary group to assist in such things as fund raising. She will be sending out an email letter of inquiry to see if there is interest in forming a group for the ESS-SAR. More information follows.



Dr. Janet M. Fleck, M.D.

## Interest in Forming an ESS-SAR Ladies' Auxiliary?

The ESSSAR is considering the formation of a ladies' auxiliary. A poll to assess the level of interest among the wives of ESSSAR members has been recently circulated among the chapters. Ladies who did not receive this poll are encouraged to express their interest in forming a ladies' auxiliary by sending a short email with a "yes" (indicating interest in an auxiliary) or "no" (indicating no interest in an auxiliary at this time) to Janet Fleck at: [janandy87@aol.com](mailto:janandy87@aol.com). Your candor is appreciated.

Note: There is no requirement that you have a Revolutionary War ancestor, or belong to DAR, etc.

The next Board of Managers meeting will be held November 18<sup>th</sup>, in Binghamton, NY.

Note: This is an important meeting as the 2024 budget will be approved there. To attend please print and complete the form below. The deadline for signing up is November 9, 2023.



# Empire State Society Sons of the American Revolution



## Board of Managers Meeting

Saturday, November 18, 2023

Hosted by the Binghamton Chapter SAR; held in the Carlton Room at the...

DoubleTree by Hilton Binghamton, 225 Water Street, Binghamton, NY 13901, (607)-722-7575

### Pre-Lunch Refreshments (9:45 AM)

Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Hot Tea, Assorted Chilled Sodas, Bottled Water  
Assorted Home-Style Cookies, Chocolate Fudge Brownies, Blondies

### General Meeting (11:00 AM)

### Lunch (to follow General Meeting)

Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Hot Tea  
Caesar Salad, Grilled Vegetables, Cucumber & Tomato Salad, Grape Tomatoes with Mozzarella, Fresh Bread  
Truffle Macaroni & Cheese, Baked Penne with Eggplant, Homemade Meatballs and Fresh Mozzarella  
Chef's Choice of Sweet Treats

### Directions (from North)

1) I-81 south to I-86/RT-17 west toward Corning. Continue following directions from East or West.

### Directions (from East or West)

1) I-86/RT-17 to Exit 705, Rt 201 S toward Johnson City. 2) RT 201 south. Go for 0.2 miles. 3) Take ramp toward Riverside Dr/Floral Ave/Hospital. Go for 0.2 mi. 4) Take the 2nd exit from roundabout onto Riverside Dr toward Riverside Dr/Binghamton/ Hospital. Go for 2.8 mi. 5) Turn left onto Front St. Go for 0.4 mi. 6) Turn right onto Main St (US-11). Go for 302 ft. 7) Continue on Court St (US-11). Go for 302 ft. 8) Turn left onto Water St. Go for 0.2 mi. 9) Destination of 225 Water Street on the left.

### Lodging

DoubleTree by Hilton - <https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/bgmxwtb-doubletree-binghamton/>  
Holiday Inn Binghamton Downtown - <https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/binghamton/bgmer/hoteldetail>  
Holiday Inn Express - <https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/versta/bgmnv/hoteldetail>  
Courtyard Binghamton - <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/bgmg-courtyard-binghamton/overview/>  
Fairfield Inn Binghamton - <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/bgmf-fairfield-inn-binghamton/overview/>

### Cost

\$36.00 Dining -or- \$5.00 non-Dining

### R.S.V.P. no later than Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>

Name: _____	Dining (\$36): _____	non-Dining (\$5): _____
Name: _____	Dining (\$36): _____	non-Dining (\$5): _____
Name: _____	Dining (\$36): _____	non-Dining (\$5): _____

Fill in names, fees, and detach. Send this Reservation Form and check, made out to "Binghamton Chapter, ESSAR," to Michael J. Kelly, 41 Laurel Ave, Binghamton, NY 13905-4262 no later than Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

## 250<sup>th</sup> Boston Tea Party – SAR National Event

The 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Boston Tea Party will be held in Boston, starting December 15, 2023. All SAR members are invited. This will be a SAR national event with the PG present. See flyer below:

The  
**Boston Tea Party**  
250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Friday Dec 15th**

- Revolutionary Historic Tavern Tour (Afternoon)
- St. John's Lodge 290<sup>th</sup> Installation (Public) (TBC – 7:00?)

**Saturday Dec 16th**

- Revolutionary artifacts on display to public @ Grand Lodge (All Day)
- Revolutionary Lecture Series @ Grand Lodge (12:00-3:00PM)
  - Lodge of Perfection – Treason of the Crown (Scottish Rite)
  - Speakers (1 or 2)
- Faneuil Hall Historic Program (BTP) (3:00ish)
- Old South Meeting House (Revolutionary Spaces) (6:00PM)
- Patriots & Loyalists in Downtown Crossing (BTP) (6:00PM)
- "Huzzah for Griffins Wharf" led by SAR Color Guard (7:30PM)
- Events at the Wharf... Deconstruction of the Tea (8:00PM)

**Sunday Dec 17th**

- Ecumenical Service at Grand Lodge of MA (public) (10:00AM)
- Revolutionary Brunch at Grand Lodge (public) (11:00AM)

**Event Series**  
**Co-Sponsored by:**

- Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts
- Massachusetts Society Sons of the American Revolution
- Boston Tea Party Museum
- Revolution 250

**Hotel Blocks Reserved**

- Marriott Renaissance Waterfront  
500 Congress St., Boston  
[LINK](#)
- Marriott Residence Inn (Seaport)  
Congress St., Boston  
[LINK](#)
- Marriott Hotel – Newton  
Newton, MA  
[LINK](#)

## Reminder: New Procedure for Pomeroy Sign Applications

Chapters are reminded that the Pomeroy foundation has instituted a new procedure for applying for a Patriot Burial sign. The state centric model will go into effect for the grant round in the spring, 2024. Please alert your Patriot Burials committee of this important update.

VP Tim Middlebrook is the State chairman of the Patriot Burials program. He will be looking for help and assistance. Contact him directly to volunteer or for assistance with the WGPF.

## Chapter News

### Capital Region

- **Columbia Mid-Hudson Chapter** – Chapter President Tim Middlebrook was elected VP of the ESS-SAR Capital Region.

- **Saratoga Battle Chapter** – On September 17<sup>th</sup> the Chapter participated the SAR/DAR Wreath Laying ceremony at the DAR monument in Saratoga National Park. Following the ceremony the chapter held a dinner and installed 10 new members. Members taking their Oath of Membership were Wilford LeForestier Sr., Chad Loshbaugh, and Edward Munger Sr. Photo courtesy of Patricia Flint.



- **Valcour Chapter** – We have an excellent eagle scout program, strong DAR/SAR activity, an ambitious cemetery initiative for the 250<sup>th</sup>. We are on a committee focused on the battle of Valcour then on the settlement of the county highlighting those war veterans who got land grants.
- **Walloomsac Battle Chapter** – Participated in the Annual Battle of Bennington commemoration.



## Central Region

- **Binghamton Chapter** – On July 15<sup>th</sup> we held our Third Annual Joint Picnic Meeting with the Tuscarora Chapter NSDAR.

The chapter held its Annual Fall Meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Copper Top Tavern in Vestal. New member Peter Allen was inducted by ESS-SAR President Dave Powell and the newly elected officers were also sworn in by President Powell.

- **Oriskany Battle Chapter** – Sponsored the ESS-SAR Annual Meeting in September.

- **Syracuse Chapter** – On September 30, 2023, the Syracuse Chapter sponsored a trip to Historic Fort Ontario in Oswego, NY. This event was attended by members of the Syracuse Chapter, the Oriskany Battle Chapter, and the Rochester Chapter along with members of the DAR and the C.A.R.





## Metropolitan Region

- **Battle of Brooklyn Chapter** – Some activities of the chapter were June 5<sup>th</sup> Flag Day Parade, Manhattan NY; Flag Retirement Ceremony, June 9<sup>th</sup> with BSA at Camp Pouch, Staten Island; Independence Day Parade, Manhattan on July 4<sup>th</sup>. August 26<sup>th</sup> SAR, DAR Society of Cincinnati and other Historic Organizations at the Battle of Brooklyn Commemoration at The Old House, Brooklyn, NY. September 8<sup>th</sup>, Battle of Brooklyn Color Guard presented the Colors at the Staten Island Ferry Hawks game. October 19<sup>th</sup>, members of chapter and NJSSAR Color Guard as part of the Honor Guard at the T2T Tunnels to Towers Celebrity Golf Outing, Liberty National Golf Course, Jersey City, NJ. Some photos follow.



- **First New York Continental Chapter** – The chapter participated at the Tunnels to Tower celebrity golf tournament.
- **Long Island Chapter** – Members from the chapter supported our patriotic, historical, and educational mission by joining in the Maryland 400 Remembrance Ceremony and Battle of Brooklyn Living History Events at The Old Stone House and the Green Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn, on August 26<sup>th</sup>. The chapter was also well represented at the Atlantic Middle States Association in August.
- **Westchester-Putnam Chapter** – At the chapter's spring meeting the chapter Eagle Scout and Knight essay winners, who were our guests along with their parents, received their awards. Both winners finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in their state competitions. Recognized special guest Duane Jackson with the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal for his contributions educating the public about the 1<sup>st</sup> Rhode Island regiment as well as his other activities. The chapter was honored to have ESS-SAR President Powell and first lady Sue attend as our guests. Six new member certificates were presented.

## Western Region

- **Buffalo Chapter** – Manager Peirce was invited by the Polly Gillet Hull Chapter of the DAR to participate at the Presentation of Our Patriots in Stone, Unveiling of the Revolutionary War Monument. He attended and participated in the Color/Honor Guard. Afterwards at the Chapel there was a reading of the names of Patriots interred in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo NY.

July 22 & 23, 2023 Manager Peirce, ESS-SAR President David Powell, Shaun Smith of the Syracuse Chapter and David Foster, Steven Richardson of the Rochester Chapter participated both days at the “Reverberations of a Revolution”. Our group tried to solicit eligible





individuals for new recruits. The Rochester Chapter and President Powell brought some Revolutionary War artifacts for display and explained what they were and their use. The Fort supplied us with tables and chairs.

At the Atlantic Middle States Conference, VP Andrew Peirce helped set up and tear down some of the displays and participated in the Honor Guard at the Saturday night dinner. His wife Dr. Janet helped with the 50/50 and basket raffle.



Visitor's center at Fort Niagara



Unveiling of Revolutionary Monument in Forest Lawn Cemetery



Andrew Peirce & Holly Kelly Vice Regeant DAR



Forest Lawn Cemetery Buffalo NY

- **Rochester Chapter** – We have been successful in applying for and receiving at least three Pomeroy markers for cemeteries in the area.

We have had activity and awards given for the Eagle Scout Essay.

We attended the Memorial Day Parades in Henrietta, Waterloo and Conesus.

- **Thousand Island Chapter** – We held an awards ceremony: Distinguished Service to Bruce Coyne our Past President; War Service to Daniel Ames, R. Mark Crandall, John A. Eisenhower, and James Koch; Military Service to Milt Taylor, and Richard Beirman; Law Enforcement to Wesley Eisenhower; and ROTC to Kyle Earle.

We erected Pomeroy markers at: Houseville Cemetary, Town of Turin; Market Street Cemetary, Cape Vincent; Lakeside Cemetary, Sackets Harbor; Union Cemetary, Waddington.

We attended the History Genealogy fair at the Jefferson County Historical Society.



Awards Dinner Display



Waddington, NY: Rev. Leon VanWe Chaplin, Dan Ames, Joel Bixby, John Eisenhower, Jim Koch, Kevin Leason



Officers: Rich Berman, Rev. Leon VanWe, John Eisenhower, Mark Crandell, Bill Albright

# History Corner

The following is excerpted from Wikipedia

The **Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument** is a war memorial at Fort Green Park in the New York City borough of Brooklyn. It commemorates more than 11,500 American prisoners of war who died in captivity aboard sixteen British prison ships during the American Revolutionary War. The remains of a small fraction of those who died on the ships are interred in a crypt beneath its base.

King George III of Great Britain had declared American forces traitors in 1775, which denied them prisoner-of-war status. However, British strategy in the early conflict included pursuit of a negotiated settlement, and so officials declined to try or hang them, the usual procedure for treason, to avoid unnecessarily risking any public sympathy the British might still enjoy. Great Britain's neglect resulted in starvation and disease. Despite the lack of formal executions, neglect achieved the same results as hanging.

During the Revolutionary War, the British maintained a series of prison ships in New York Harbor and jails on shore for prisoners of war. Due to a combination of neglect, poor conditions on the ships and disease, thousands of American prisoners of war died onboard the prison ships and jails, more than in all the engagements of the War combined. Prisoners of war who died were disposed of either by a quick interment on the shore or being thrown overboard. Following the end of the war in 1783, the remains of those who died on the prison ships were neglected, left to lie along the Brooklyn shore on Wallabout Bay, a rural area little visited by New Yorkers.

An estimated 20,000 Americans were held as prisoner during the war, with almost half dying in captivity.

Reference: From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Note from the Editor: If your chapter would like to have your stories, events and photos published in the *Empire Patriot* send your material to Editor Karl Danneil at [kdanneil@att.net](mailto:kdanneil@att.net)

Photos by Battle of Brooklyn



Historian Norman Goblen delivers an account of the tragic and brutal treatment of prisoners by the British

