



EMPIRE PATRIOT

Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Preserving the Past, Forming the Future

Vol. 22 Issue 2 December 2021

Holiday Issue



Joseph B. Fitzpatrick, President

Message from the President

Brother Compatriots,
As stated in the last Empire Patriot, I will be sending condolences to the families of members who have passed away. I have listed the names of our brother Compatriots that have passed this year.

Thanksgiving, Vice President Kenneth Steven's wife and best friend for forty three years passed away.

Vice President Atlantic District and member of the Battle of Brooklyn, Robert Meyer's mother.

Compatriot Joseph B Stackpole, Member of the New York Chapter and a Viet Nam War Veteran. His brother is Robert J. Stackpole, President of the New York Chapter.

Compatriot Byron D Roff, Life member of the National Society, Primary member of the Westchester-Putnam and a Dual member of both the Saratoga Battle and Oriskany Battle Chapters.

Compatriot Charles A Spence, Navy Veteran and member Binghamton Chapter.

Compatriot Randy Agard, member Saratoga Battle Chapter

On behalf of the Empire State Society we express at deepest sympathy to their families. Please keep them in your prayers.

I want to thank former State President, Compatriot Booth for keeping me informed about our brother Compatriots we have lost. I have sent condolences to those families. Please keep their families in your prayers.

Joseph B. Fitzpatrick, President

Empire State Society, NSSAR

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



Upcoming Event

March 26, 2022
ESS-SAR Board of Managers Meeting
Hamilton Inn and Suits
Victor, NY

In this Issue:

November ESS-SAR Board of Managers Meeting

Get Your ESS-SAR Patriot Certificate

History Corner

* * *

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

ESS-SAR Board of Managers Fall Meeting

The Fall Board of Managers Meeting, hosted by the Columbia-Mid Hudson Chapter was held on November 6, 2021 at Red's Restaurant in Coxsackie, NY. This was a well attended in-person meeting in a new venue.



Joseph P. Fitzpatrick, ESS-SAR president, opening the Fall BOM Meeting.

During the meeting several things of particular interest were discussed. The Rochester Chapter had especially good news to report. It now has 146 members, the highest its ever been. And that a deceased member, professor of piano at Ithaca collage, left the Chapter about 80 percent of his estate, amounting to well over a million dollars. The chapter is plush. It has invested the money in a community foundation in Rochester. It won't touch the principal, just live off the proceeds of the investment.

The 2023 Atlantic Middle States Conference will be in Tarrytown, NY at the Sleepy Hollow Inn and Conference Center.

The Columbia-Mid Hudson Valley Chapter awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to Natasha Coons for her outstanding support in promoting the 50th anniversary event at the Beekman Arms. In addition to the effort of preparing materials, she donated the cost of the work.



Natasha Coons (ctr) receives a Certificate of Appreciation from C-MHVC pres. Tim Middlebrook, C-MHVC (l), while her husband watches

The ESS-SAR in Action

by Joseph Fitzpatrick

I have discussed with Compatriot Richard Sage, President of the Battle of Brooklyn and past State President about setting up a meeting next year. We will be asking the Battle of Brooklyn Compatriots to step up and serve as officers of the chapter. We need compatriots that are interested in holding meetings and events. This is not a demanding job. Chapters only have to hold two or three meeting a year. Meeting can be a luncheon or an evening dinner. Family and friends can be invited.

As Registrar of the chapter, I have done several of the Battle of Brooklyn applications. I am asking these members to step up and get active. As soon as President Sage informs me of the date for the meeting. I will be sending the chapter membership, new and old, the information. I will also be reaching out to prior compatriots asking them to renew their membership and get active.

Last year we became a premiere partner of the organization for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail. Member of the W3R Alliance Circle. The Society has again donated to the project for the year 2022.

I have been informed by our Empire Patriot Editors that several chapters send articles to the National, but not to them. Our Editors are constantly asking chapters to send articles they can print in the Empire Patriot. If these article can be sent to National, they can certainly also be sent to our Editors to be printed in the Empire Patriot.

I had an Empire State Society Card printed, it can be used for multiple occasions. It has the ESS-SAR logo on the front and the inside is blank. If any chapter is interested in purchasing a box please let me know.

I wish all our fellow Compatriots a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May 2022 be better year, then 2021.

Chapters Active Despite COVID

The Columbia-Mid Hudson Chapter celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a dinner at the Beekman Arms restaurant.

The Long Island Chapter held a dedication on November 27th of the NYS roadside marker for Captain Austin Roe, a courier in the Culper Spy Ring, a successful spy network organized in 1778 by Washington during the Revolution.



Saratoga Battle Chapter Color Guard at Saratoga National Historical Park Wreath-Laying. (photo by Mike Skelly)

The First New York Continental Chapter participated in the Independence Day Parade organized by the Lower Manhattan Historical Association.

The Rochester Chapter held several events including the Isaac Parmenter Grave Dedication, August 7th, and its Annual Picnic, September 11th.

The Saratoga Battle Chapter's Color Guard participated in several patriotic events, including July 16 – Annual Surrender ceremony at Bennington Battlefield; July 24 --grave ceremony for DAR patriot ancestor Cato Freedom; August 1 – Annual Turning Point Parade, Schuylerville; September. 11 -- Patriots Day, Saratoga; September 19 -- DAR ceremony at the monument in the Saratoga Battlefield.

SBC also held its Sept 21th Membership meeting, first in-person meeting in a year and a half. During

the meeting the Chapter welcomed new members

The Syracuse Chapter held its regular chapter meeting at Denney's Restaurant on June 26th.

If your chapter has held events and is not included, it's because the editors have not received your information.



(l-rt) Francis E. Rogler, Matt Episcopo, Patrick Dunleavy, Michael Golden, Michael Hernandez and Timothy Keenan (photo by Thomas Dunne)

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

History Corner

Route To Victory

The National Historic Trail commemorating the Washington–Rochambeau Revolutionary Route is a 680-mile series of roads used in 1781 by George Washington's Continental Army and Jean- Baptiste de Rochambeau's French *Expedition Particuliere* during their 14-week march from Newport, Rhode Island, to Yorktown, Virginia to fight the British Army in the Mid Atlantic.

This route to victory, runs from Massachusetts, through Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. With the French Navy in support, the allied armies moved hundreds of miles to become the largest troop movement of the American Revolution. The effort and cooperation between the two sides led to a victory at Yorktown and secured American independence



Route to Victory

The French General de Rochambeau, with an army of 450 officers and 5,300 men arrived in Narragansett Bay off Newport, Rhode Island, on July 11, 1780. A French alliance was not a new idea. The strategy of combined land forces with the French had been discussed and rejected as early as 1778. Washington was against a Franco-American alliance at that time – besides technical reasons, he felt Americans were not ready to accept French troops on American soil. By January 1780, however, Washington changed his mind, as the war in the South was not going well. He accepted the French offer.

In mid-July a fleet of 32 transports, seven ships of the line, two frigates, and two smaller warships, with crews totaling about 7,000 sailors arrived in Newport. Due to illness it was necessary for the French to postpone action. Neither were American forces ready to fight, so the French wintered in Rhode Island, while the Americans stayed in New Jersey and the New York Hudson Highlands.

A year later in August 1781 the combined forces were ready to go. Washington pretended that New York City was the target rather than Virginia. The strategy was the precursor to the Allies D-Day deception of faking Pas de Calais when we were really invading the beaches of Normandy. It worked both times.

Meanwhile the French fleet won the Battle of the Chesapeake, preventing the British from reinforcing or evacuating British General's army. The combined forces marched through New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, evading the British, and met up with the Marquis de Lafayette's troops on September 22, 1781. After a three week siege at Yorktown, Cornwallis's British force surrendered on October 19, 1781. Thus began the end of the American Revolution and our independence from Britain.

References:

<https://w3r-us.org/trail-map/>

<https://www.nps.gov/waro/index.htm>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington%E2%80%93Rochambeau_Revolutionary_Route

* * *

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