



# EMPIRE PATRIOT

## Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution

*Preserving the Past, Forming the Future*

Vol. 17 Issue 2: April 2018 – June 2018

Spring Issue



*James Eagan*

### President's Message

We regret there is no president's message in this issue

Due to a torn rotor cuff, President Eagan is unable to key his president's report.

We wish him a speedy and full recovery.



### Upcoming Events

#### **August 10 -12, 2018**

2018 Atlantic Middle States  
Association Conference  
Newport News Marriott Center City  
Newport News, VA

#### **September 15, 2018**

ESSAR Board of Managers  
Meeting  
hosted by Valcour Battle Chapter  
Valcour Brewing Company  
Plattsburgh, NY.

#### **November 3, 2018**

ESSAR Board of Managers  
Meeting  
hosted by Columbia-Mid Hudson  
Valley Chapter  
Coxsackie, NY

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# Empire State Society Holds 2018 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Empire State Society/Board of Managers Meeting was held on May 12, 2018 at the Ramada Ithaca Executive Conference Center, in Ithaca, NY. The meeting was hosted by the Finger Lakes Chapter.

Since this is a mid- term year, there were no elections. The Investment Committee reported that ESSSAR portfolio is in good shape, despite the downturn in the market.

## Awards

The Society presented several awards. The Empire State Level Lydia Darraugh Award was presented to Mrs. Janice Duncombe, wife of compatriot Raynor Duncombe, Esq.. The Meritorious Service Award went to Eugene Erickson, and the State Knight Essay Award to Michael Laukowsky, both in abstentia. Membership certificates were presented to John E. Eisenhower and his son, Master John H, new members of the Thousand Island Chapter.

The Addams Trophy, the ESSSAR annual award to the chapter enrolling the most new members each year, was won for the second year in a row by the Long Island Chapter, who inducted 42 compatriots.



***Darraugh Award*** -- (l -r) Raynor Duncombe stands with wife Janice Duncombe as she receives the Empire State Level Lydia Darraugh Award from President Eagan.



***Membership Certificates*** -- ESSSAR President Eagan presents member certificates to Mr. John Eisenhower and his son.

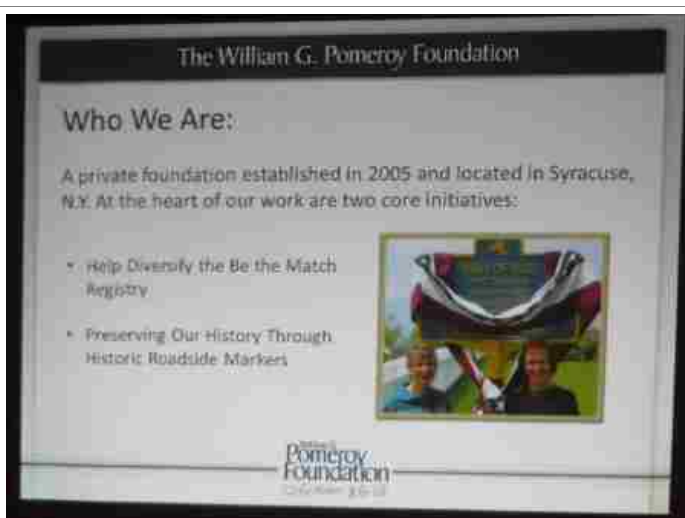
## Guest Speakers

Our Guest Presenter was Ms. Paula Miller, Executive Director of the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. This organization is of particular interest to ESSSAR because the founder, Mr. Pomeroy, is a member of the Syracuse Chapter as well as a philanthropist who supports patriotic historical projects.

The Foundation's current project, Historic Roadside Marker Grant Program, seeks to provide 100 historical markers recognizing points of significance in the Sullivan - Clinton Campaign of 1779 during the Revolution War.

NY State discontinued its Historical Marker program long ago. However, the Pomeroy Foundation has revived it as a private venture. Chapters can apply to Pomeroy for a marker grant for this or for other historic places/ events .

Additional information and the grant application appear later in this issue



***The William G. Pomeroy Foundation.***



*(l.) State President, N. Y. S. S. C. A. Lasky speaking.*

The second guest speaker was Ms. Bridget Lasky, State President, New York State Society Children of the American Revolution. Accompanying her was Incoming Senior State President N.Y.A.S.C.A.R. Sarah L. French.

Pres. Lasky. introduced her State Project, which is to raise \$3,500 to donate to the Stratton Veterans Administration Medical Center, in Albany, NY. The money is to be used for items such as winter clothing, food stuffs, and cell phone cards, etc. needed by indigent veterans. In support of her project she sold chances on a basket of NYS products Ouras well as her administration pin.

The Empire State Society voted to donate \$500. in support of this project.

State President Lasky is from the Rochester area.

A piece of good news: the newly founded John Jay Society C.A.R. of the Westchester Chapter SAR won Best Society in the nation. It has been in operation less than one year!

## ESSSAR Fall Board of Managers Meeting Announced

The Empire State Society Fall Board of Managers Meeting, hosted by the Valcour Battle Chapter, will be Saturday, September 15, 2018, in Plattsburgh, NY. The meeting and buffet will be held at the Valcour Brewing Company in the "The Old Stone Fort", 49 Ohio Avenue, Plattsburgh, NY 12903. Sign in, coffee and danish at 10 AM. The 11:00 A.M. business meeting will be followed by a buffet style lunch.

Go to [www.ess-sar.org/](http://www.ess-sar.org/) for details, directions and reservation form.

The Old Stone Fort is a restored and repurposed historical building on the old military facility last used as the Plattsburgh Air Force Base. Today the former barracks is a lovely Bed&Breakfast as well as housing the Valcour Brewery/restaurant. The facility is well worth a visit for those interested in historical sites.

## ESSSAR Continues Support for Patriot Flights

The Syracuse Chapter is the recipient of this year's ESSSAR donation in support of Patriot Flights. The Flights transport WWII veterans, and if space available, veterans of later wars to Washington D.C. to visit their War Memorial and other military monuments.

Last year our State Society approved a rotating annual donation of \$500 dollars per year to a Chapter sponsoring a Patriot Flight. Chapters wishing to be considered for next year's donation should contact the ESSSAR Veterans Committee Co-Chairs: Barry G. Brooks or Karl L. Danneil.

## ESSSAR Announces the Sullivan-Clinton Campaign of the 1779 Historical Marker Program

The ESSSAR invites your organization to help us commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War Sullivan - Clinton Campaign of 1779 by applying for a historical marker. The William G. Pomeroy Foundation will provide full funding for a marker, pole, and shipping. Applicants are responsible for installation.

Successful nominations to the ESSSAR for historical markers will be accepted as part of The Pomeroy Foundation's Historical Roadside Marker Grant Program. More information and a grant application follows or visit [www.wgpfoundation.org](http://www.wgpfoundation.org).



# Commemorating the Revolutionary War Sullivan-Clinton Campaign of 1779 with Historic Roadside Markers



Proposals for markers will be accepted as part of  
The William G. Pomeroy Foundation's Historic  
Roadside Marker Grant Program Schedule  
(see back of flyer for grant process and timetable)

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*Text on Marker must pertain to the Revolutionary War  
Sullivan-Clinton Campaign of 1779*

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Theme will commemorate the following criteria related to the  
Sullivan-Clinton Campaign of 1779

- Sites of battles, skirmishes, and other events significant to the Campaign
- Individuals who had a significant influence on the Campaign
- Continental Army campground locations, Native American communities, and other sites associated with the Campaign

The Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (ESSAR) is partnering with The William G. Pomeroy Foundation. For information about the Foundation's historic signage programs, visit: [www.wgpfoundation.org](http://www.wgpfoundation.org)



QUESTIONS? Call Christy @ 315.913.4060 or email: [info@wgpfoundation.org](mailto:info@wgpfoundation.org)

William G.  
**Pomeroy  
Foundation™**  
For History. For Life.™



# Grant Application Process

The ESSAR invites you and your organization to suggest ideas to us for the Sullivan-Clinton Campaign of 1779 Historic Marker Grant Program. Please complete the accompanying nomination form and send it to Robert Gang, 7009 Lakeshore Road, Cicero, New York 13039; or by email: [rjgang3@gmail.com](mailto:rjgang3@gmail.com).

The deadline to submit nominations for all counties is September 14, 2018. If your nomination is not selected in the first grant round, you will have future opportunities as this is a multiyear program.

Those with successful nominations will receive information from the Pomeroy Foundation about completing an application for the timeline in their respective county. The schedule for New York counties in 2018 and the beginning of 2019 is as follows (counties in Pennsylvania TBD):

- September 14, 2018: Nomination forms must be submitted to the ESSAR in care of Robert Gang
- October 15, 2018: ESSAR selects applicants to apply for the 2018 Grant Program
- November 11, 2018: The Pomeroy Foundation reaches out to those with successful nominations with information on the timeline, how to apply, and marker guidelines.

## Program Schedule by Region

### Regions 7-9

**Counties:** *Cayuga, Cortland, Herkimer, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, Onondaga, Otsego*

- 11/05/18 – grant round opens; material available online
- 12/17/18 – deadline to submit Letter of Intent (LOI) to verify primary sources
- 1/21/19 – application deadline
- End of Q1 2019 – awards granted

### Regions 10-12

**Counties:** *Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates*

- 2/4/19 – grant round opens; material available online
- 3/4/19 – deadline to submit Letter of Intent (LOI) to verify primary sources
- 4/1/19 – application deadline
- End of Q2 2019 – awards granted

### Regions 1-3

**Pennsylvania TBD**

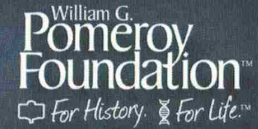
- 4/30/19 – grant round opens; material available online
- 6/11/19 – deadline to submit Letter of Intent (LOI) to verify primary sources
- 7/7/19 – application deadline
- End of Q3 2019 – awards granted

### Regions 4-6

**Counties:** *Albany, Delaware, Schenectady*

- 8/3/19 – grant round opens; material available online
- 9/14/19 – deadline to submit Letter of Intent (LOI) to verify primary sources
- 10/1/19 – application deadline
- End of Q4 2019 – awards granted





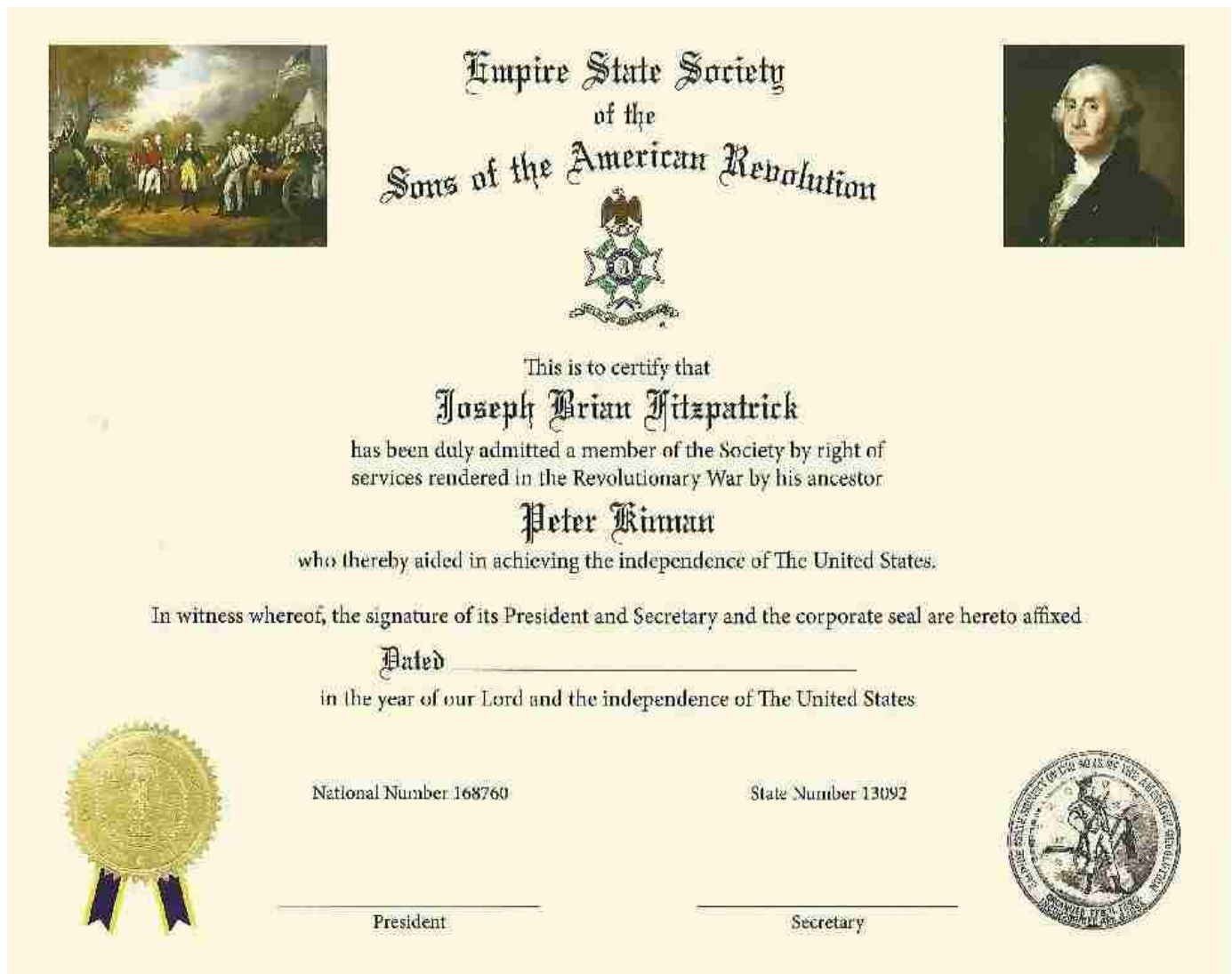
Robert Gang  
7009 Lakeshore Road  
Cicero, NY 13039

## Get Your Patriot Certificate

To commemorate your ancestral patriot. The Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution has designed this beautiful certificate. 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.

Printed on premium quality heavy paper. A perfect reminder to you and your family who your revolutionary ancestor was. The price for this valuable family record document is very modest at \$20. Order yours today.

See sample below.



This beautiful heirloom certificate was designed by compatriot Joseph B. Fitzpatrick, President of the Leather Stocking Chapter, and Vice President of the Capital Region, ESSAR.

When you purchase a certificate, five dollars of the purchase price is donated to your chapter.

Please use the following form to order your Patriot Certificate.

Empire State Society SAR  
Patriot Certificate

ORDER FORM

Please Print

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_

National Number\_\_\_\_\_

State Number\_\_\_\_\_

Patriot Name\_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Name\_\_\_\_\_

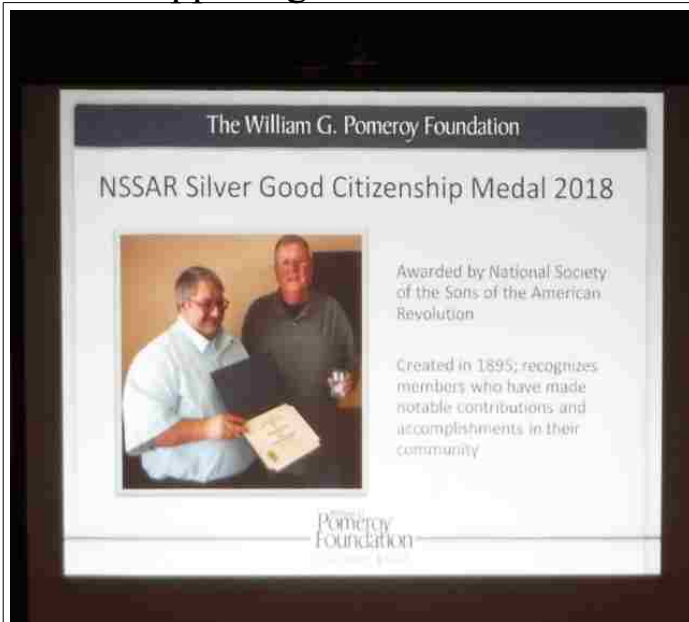
Cost \$20.00 make check out to ESSSAR

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



# Who's News

## What's happening with our members



*(l.) William Pomeroy receives his NSSAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal 2018.*

William G. "Bill" Pomeroy is a member of the Syracuse Chapter. He is a recipient of a NSSAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal 2018.

He is recognized for his contributions to his community. He is the founder and president of The William G. Pomeroy Foundation, a philanthropic organization in Syracuse, NY.

Several years ago Bill was diagnosed with leukemia. A bone marrow transplant saved his life. Subsequently the The William G. Pomeroy Foundation's two main initiatives are to help diversify the Be the Match Registry by supporting bone marrow drives in diverse communities and preserves our history through Historic Signage Grant Programs.

Bill is the founder and former owner of CXtec® and TERACAI®, two multi-million dollar technology companies based in Syracuse, NY.

## Chapter News

### Capital Region Chapters

- **Saratoga Battle Chapter -**
  - The chapter presented ROTC medals.
  - The chapter was Runner Up in the Addams Trophy challenge by installing 30 new members this year.
- **Schoharie-Leatherstocking Chapter --** The chapter installed two new members.
- **Valcour Battle Chapter**

- The Chapter's history efforts with schools is making progress. The educational project at the Keesville school made "The Sun" newspaper.
- On Memorial Day the Chapter conducted a memorial and grave dedication to patriot Elkanah Watson at the Watson Family Cemetery on Lumber St. in Port Kent, NY.

Chapter members in attendance, standing next to Elkanah Watson's Grave (l. to r.) Joshua D. Wingler --Chapter Secretary; Craig D. Russell - Chapter President; Keith C. Parker-Wingler - Junior Member in foreground; and Richard B. Wingler - Chapter Treasurer. Photo by Bonnie Wingler.



*Elkanah Watson's Grave.*

### Central Region Chapters

- **Oriskany Battle Chapter** - Presented a JROTC medal to the grandson of the chapter VP.
- **Syracuse Chapter** - The chapter will support a Patriot Flight. Syracuse Chapter is this year's recipient of the ESSSAR \$500 donation for the flight.
- **Thousand Islands Chapter** - The chapter installed 23 new members this year and finished 5th in the Addams Trophy challenge.

### Metropolitan Region Chapters

- **Battle of Brooklyn Chapter** -- In August the chapter will have an event at the Old Stone House.
- **First New York Continental Chapter** -- The chapter finished 3rd in the Addams Trophy challenge, by installing 30 new members this year.
- **Long Island Chapter** -- On April 29, 2018 the chapter held its Annual Luncheon.
- **Stony Point Chapter**

- The North Rockland Girls Hoops Basketball team was recognized by the Sons of the American Revolution, Stony Point chapter at the NRHS sports Dinner, for their citizenship.

Pictured are Stony Point Chapter President Konopko, our seniors, Coach Metcalf and AD Joe Casarella.



*NRGH Basketball team receives award.*

- **Westchester-Putnam Chapter** -- With regret the chapter announced the deaths of four members: Ed Payne, former Chapter President; Stuart Manville, 69 years in SAR; William H. Brow III, former Chapter Secretary; and Richard Gilpin Hopkins, at 98 years he was our oldest member.

### Western Region Chapters

- **Chautauqua Chapter**

- On 5 Jun 2018, SAR President Stephen Boothe presented to Cadet Angel Reyes, the Chautauqua Chapter SAR Award at Dunkirk, N.Y. The award honors JROTC cadets who have a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence. The recipient of this award is selected by the Commanding Officer of the JROTC unit Lt.-Col. Russel Clark. The award consists of a certificate along with a bronze medallion. On the face of the medallion is the minuteman of Revolutionary War days, exemplifying the citizen soldier, the ideals of whom the SAR membership holds in highest esteem.



*(l to r) Chautauqua Chapter President Stephen Boothe and Cadet Angel Reyes with his award.*



- Charles Criss (L) and President Steve Boothe (R) are shown here as Mr. Criss is inducted into the Chautauqua Chapter at the 2 June 2018 meeting in the Cassadaga Country Club. Also inducted during the meeting were Mark Manley Rust, George W. Anthony and William Dennis Connolly.



*Criss Charles and Steve Boothe.*

- **Rochester Chapter --**
  - April 30 made appearance at Speerport school 5th grade.
  - Finished 4th in the Addams Trophy competition, installed 24 new members.
  - Chapter members had a full Memorial Day week participating in three parades: The Town of Henrietta Memorial Day Parade on May 20, The Village of Waterloo Memorial Day Parade on May 26, and The Town of Conesus Memorial Day Parade on May 28, 2018.

Photos courtesy of Rich Engelbrecht, from Photographer's Dream Day Event on June 9, at the Mount Morris Dam.



*Robert Coomber*



*Rochester Chapter SAR members -- (l. to rt.) James Brancato, Robert Coomber, Gary Fague, William Brewer, Michael Tunison, and Robert Fuller.*



*Michael Tunison*

## History Corner

### New York in the Revolution

Submitted by Valcour Chapter

#### Revolutionary War Patriot and Founder of Port Kent, New York

Elkanah Watson

January 22, 1758 – December 5, 1842

Elkanah Watson was born and educated in Plymouth, Mass. and entered the mercantile and trade business at a young age and became something of an adventurer.

During the Revolutionary War Watson became instrumental as an emissary between the patriot government and Europe, carrying dispatches and money to and from Benjamin Franklin in France.

He was present on December 5, 1782 in England at the House of Lords when King George III formally recognized American Independence for the first time, and stated they would negotiate peace with the warring colonies.

In a letter to George Washington, written in 1789, Watson stated that through his own efforts he was able to negotiate the release of numerous American prisoners being held in England, and paid out of his own pocket to get them returned home.

While Watson was in England in 1782 he commissioned a portrait by John Singleton Copley. The painting was just about completed when King George III recognized American Independence. In recognition of this event, Copley added a window to the painting showing a ship sailing into the sunrise, hoisting the new American flag, to represent a ship bearing the news of the acknowledgment of independence to America. This was the first depiction of the new stars and stripes United States Flag in England.

After the war Watson would take a keen interest in canal building and modern agriculture.

He helped found the modern agricultural county fair as a way for farmers to be able to learn new techniques from each other and be more productive.

In 1828 Watson came to Port Kent, New York, just south of Plattsburgh and Valcour Island, site of the Battle of Valcour, and settled on a large land holding and built a large stately manor that remains today.



photo: [exhibitions.nysm.nysed.gov](http://exhibitions.nysm.nysed.gov)

He helped settle this community on Lake Champlain with its important waterway and eyes on modern transportation.

Elkanah Watson was a fascinating man that was well travelled and personally witnessed some of the momentous events of our Revolution. After the war he had a hand in the early development of our country.

He was a patriot that never fired a shot in anger, but served an important role in the birth of America.

Excerpted from the ESSSAR Sullivan -Clinton Campaign of 1779 Historical Marker Program



"The Sullivan-Clinton Campaign of 1779 was a military campaign of the Revolutionary War. The scorched earth campaign targeted Cayuga, Mohawk, Onondaga and Seneca tribes of the Six Nations, as well as other Native American communities, which had sided with the British and were attacking and razing frontier settlements of New York and Pennsylvania.

"Led by Major General John Sullivan and Brigadier General James Clinton, the expedition was conducted during the summer and fall of 1779 in response to the Six Nations and British Loyalist attacks against American settlements, such as Cobleskill Wyoming Valley and Cherry Valley, that had occurred the previous year.

"Sullivan's army methodically destroyed approximately 40 Six Nations villages throughout the Finger Lakes region of western New York burning crops and leaving inhabitants dependent upon the British for survival during the harsh winter of 1779. With the Six Nations' homeland destroyed and its population decimated by disease and battle, their morale never fully recovered. The expedition broke the Iroquois Confederacy's power as an adversary to the United States. Following the war, many from the Six Nations migrated north of the border and settled in Canada."

Learn More About The History Of The Campaign  
Wikipedia

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sullivan\\_Expedition](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sullivan_Expedition)

HistoryNet.com

<http://www.historynet.com/massacre-retribution-the-1779-80-sullivan-expedition.htm>

Chemung County Historical Society

<https://www.chemungvalleymuseum.org/usr/Sullivan%20Clinton%20Driving%20Guide.pdf>