



EMPIRE PATRIOT

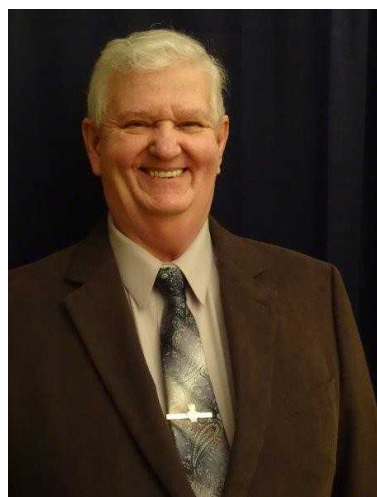
Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Preserving the Past, Forming the Future

Vol. 16 Issue 1: July 2017 – March 2018

Summer, Fall, Winter Issue

President's Message



James Eagan

Compatriots,

As I begin my first official greeting, I want to start by thanking everyone for providing me this opportunity to serve. Secondly, let's take a moment to recognize and thank President Booth for the outstanding efforts he so often put forth and the impressive accomplishments he accrued during his period of leadership. Be it his efforts in advancing the database, which among other things helps our chapter treasurers to enjoy a seamless billing cycle, or the rewriting of the ESSAR Constitution and By-laws, Compatriot Booth has never hesitated to take on that which was most difficult. Duane is a hard act to follow, but I will do my best. So please enjoy this edition of our newsletter which Karl Danneil and his wife have worked so hard to provide, and together may we continue to accomplish all we can to further the goals of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Fraternally,
Jim Eagan, President

Empire State Society: www.ess-sar.org

National SAR: www.sar.org



Upcoming Events

May 12, 2018

ESS-SAR Annual Meeting

Hosted by the Finger Lakes Chapter
Ramada Ithaca Executive
Conference Center
Ithaca, NY

May 26, 2018

**Annual Waterloo Memorial Day
Parade**

Rochester Chapter will participate
in the parade
Waterloo, NY

July 4, 2018

15th Annual Citizenship Ceremony

A joint event -- Saratoga Battlefield
Chapter, Waloomsac Battlefield
Chapter and others
Saratoga National Historical Parks
Visitor's Center Lawn,
Town of Stillwater, NY

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Empire Patriot Newsletter Is Back!

The Empire State Society SAR is pleased to announce the return of the Empire Patriot newsletter. This edition contains material from 2017 to bring us up to date. Compatriot Karl Danneil, of the Saratoga Battlefied Chapter, has agreed to resume the duties of editor. Danneil was the editor from 2014 to 2017. Welcome back, Karl.

ESS-SAR Annual Meeting Upcoming in May

The May Board of Managers and Annual Meeting, hosted by the Finger Lakes Chapter, will be held Saturday, May 12, 2018 at the Ramada Ithaca Executive Conference Center, 2310 Triphammer Road, Rte 13 & Triphammer Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850. Social Gathering at 10am/ Meeting at 11 am. The meeting is open to the general membership. Please RSVP by May 1. Go to www.ess-sar.org/ for details, directions and reservation form.

The following photo is from the 2017 Annual Meeting.



Installation of Officers during the May 2017 Annual Meeting.

Some other good photos from 2017



Honoring Veterans graves with flags.



Kenneth Conklin and grandson Lennon.



Revolutionary War Soldier remembered.

Empire State Society Donates to Saratoga Surrender Site

With the help of the Long Island Chapter the Empire State Society was able to donate \$5000 to the Saratoga Surrender Site for a plaque. A transcription of the letter follows.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

EMPIRE STATE SOCIETY
Duane Booth, Past President
PO Box 836
New Lebanon, New York 12125-0836
(518) 733-0830
Boots42@Fairpoint.net

Larry J. Arnold, Project Manager
Saratoga Surrender Site
7 Jason Lane
Halfmoon, NY 12065-5653

Re: Enclosed Checks

Dear Larry,

It is with great pleasure that I enclose these two checks. When Doug Gallant and I presented the idea of our state society donating to the surrender site it received very positive interest as did the possibility of getting the society's name on the memorial wall. We were in favor of donating the \$5,000 needed to make that happen but as the funds were not in the budget we had to face fiscal reality. As discussion continued our Long Island Chapter offered a donation of \$2,500 if the Society would donate the other \$2,500. Their chapter officers present clarified and confirmed that they wanted their amount added to the society's amount, without separate recognition for their chapter. The resolution passed unanimously.

So, as agreed last evening, this \$5,000 total donation is from the Empire State Society. I will work with others on the plaque wording and report that to you soon. I expect it will be straight forward and that it will easily meet your space requirements.

I was very happy to hear that the dollar for dollar grant will continue a while longer and that this \$5,000 amount will turn into \$10,000 for the project.

As a past president of the Empire State Society welcome to the SAR. Your membership is appreciated as is your long and faithful dedication to the Saratoga Battlefield.

Fraternally,
(signed) Duane Booth

Enclosures: Check #136 & Check #1328

Cc: James M. Eagan, President (via email)
Joseph P. Vermaelen, President, Long Island Chapter (via email)

ESS-SAR Gives to Leatherstocking Honor Flight

The following is a transcription of our letter.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

EMPIRE STATE SOCIETY
Duane Booth, Past President
PO Box 836
New Lebanon, New York 12125-0836
(518) 733-0830
Boots42@Fairpoint.net

January 8, 2018

Leather stocking Honor Flight
Attention: Rhonda Cooper
P.O.Box 621
Cobleskill, NY 1204 (sic.)

(cont'd)

Re: Enclosed Donation

Dear Ms. Cooper

As recently discussed, I am pleased to enclose a donation in the amount of \$500 on behalf of the Empire State Society, SAR in support of your organization's efforts to bring veterans to Washington D.C. to see the memorials built in honor of their service to America in times of war or conflict

Earlier this year we passed a resolution to donate \$500 per year to support an honor flight program in New York State. In recognition of State Society C.A.R. President Shayla Cole's project to raise money to support your honor flight program we chose your organization as our first recipient of this donation.

Supporting patriotic endeavors in our communities is an important part of the SAR program and we are proud of the work you are doing for our veterans. However, I note that our resolution calls for us to donate to various programs throughout New York we likely won't be able to donate to your program again for some time.

Sincerely yours,
(signed) Duane Booth

Enclosures: Check #1300 for \$500

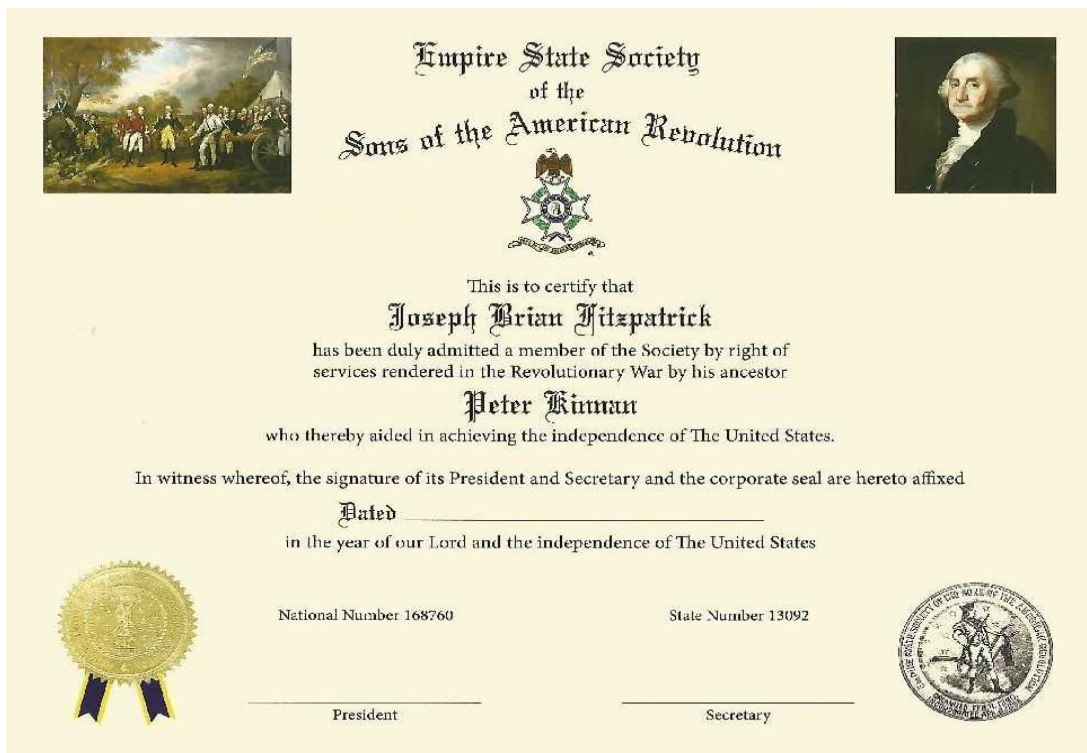
Cc: James M. Eagan, President (via email)
Veteran's Committee Co-Chairs Brooks and Danneil (via email)

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.



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

Chapter News

Capital Region Chapters

- **Columbia-Mid Hudson Valley Chapter --**



Chapter's first Wreath Across America wreath laying at the Stoutenburg Family Cemetery, in Hyde Park, NY.

- **Saratoga Battle Chapter --**

The Chapter held its Annual Meeting and Washington's Birthday Luncheon on February 24, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Express in Latham, NY. It was a well attended meeting with over 40 individuals present. This included five new members and several honored guests. The guests were Shayla Cole, C.A.R. NY State President; Jean Cole, C.A.R. NY Senior State President; Priyanka Kumar, Chapter Knight Essay Contest winner; Amy Bracewell, Saratoga National Historical Park Superintendent; and Larry Arnold, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield.



Induction of new members.



Ms. Priyanka Kumar, Chapter Knight Essay Contest winner.

- The Chapter hosted the March 24, 2018 Board of Managers meeting at the Pegasus Restaurant in Coxsackie, NY.

- **Valcour Battle Chapter --**

- The Chapter held it's February monthly meeting at The Valcour Brewing Company, Plattsburgh NY. Bob Arnold and Brian Cook were unavailable as they were presenting a layout for Phase 2 of "America's Past Through the Eyes of Local History" (APTELH) with the faculty for the school in Keeseville. Craig passed around a sample of the binder set up that is being presented to the teachers for use. APTELH is a project of the Chapter. For more on this project see:
www.americaspastthroughtheeyesoflocalhistory.com

- As part of the annual Wreaths Across America the Chapter sponsored a wreath in honor of the unknown Revolutionary War soldier buried in Plattsburgh's Old Post cemetery



Honoring the unknown Revolutionary War Soldier.

- **Stone Arabia Battle Chapter** -- Lee Pellitier receives NSSAR Certificate from State President Eagen and Capital Region VP Fitzpatrick



Central Region Chapters

- **Schoharie Leather Stocking Chapter**
 - In November the chapter installed Joseph Sicluna whose Patriot ancestor is Benamine Springer. William Schwab Jr. was installed at the Empire NY Society NY meeting held in Cossackie NY by President James Eagan. Compatriot James Buzon was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for chairing the fund raising committee by the chapter.
 - In September the chapter installed Compatriot Glenn Mosier whose Patriot ancestor is George Baker.
 - A chicken BBQ fund raiser was held at the Cossackie Bank in Middleburgh NY, chaired by Compatriot James Buzon. The chapter awarded the ROTC Medal and Certificate to Jaun Feuntus, a member of the Amsterdam High School ROTC program.

Some photos from recent events



Col. Frank Dukes Combat Military Medal presentation by State Pres. Eagan.



ROTC Medal and Certificate to Jaun Feuntus.



Capital Region VP Fitzpatrick swears in new members.



Certificate of Appreciation to Compatriot James Buzon.



Members present for Glenn Mosier's Certificate Presentation.



Glenn Mosier receives his NSSAR Membership Certificate.

Metropolitan Region Chapters

- **Long Island Chapter** -- The Chapter gave \$2,500 to the Empire State Society to donate to the Saratoga Surrender Site. See the letter from ESS-SAR in this issue giving more details.

Western Region Chapters

- **Rochester Chapter** -- The Chapter has two events planned for Spring: its Prattsburgh Grave re-dedication, May 5th, and participation in the annual Memorial Day event, the Waterloo Parade, May 26th.

History Corner

Book Review

The West Point History of the American Revolution. The United States Military Academy. Simon & Schuster. 320 pages. \$55. Or Target for \$37.40.

What sets this book apart from the other histories you've read on the Revolution? It's by The United States Military Academy. It's meant to educate our future Soldiers, as well as other readers. Yes, the US Military is still interested in the American Revolution. Read this book and learn what the Army is teaching West Point Cadets about our military history!

This is the fourth and last volume in the West Point History of Warfare series. In it Military historians Samuel J. Watson, Edward Lengel, and Stephen Conway explain the military and political background to the war and its immediate causes, conduct, and consequences.

It's not "revisionist history", but its focus is different. It puts the Revolutionary War in a particular perspective, one of considering the outside factors that contributed to our victory and Britain's defeat. Or was it Britain's surrender?

The following is excerpted from a book review by John F. Ross, that appeared in the April issue of the Association of the U.S. Army magazine, ARMY. Ross is an author of several biographical histories of his own.

According to Ross "The American Revolution remains the most discussed, contested and myth-filled period in our nation's history, so tackling this complex story in a single volume might appear to be a fool's errand. The West Point History of the American Revolution is nonetheless satisfying because it must explain the arc of the conflict so concisely. It helps that the book is richly appointed with pull-out maps, sidebar biographies, primary source illustrations, modern diagrams and paintings, and maps made during the war"

The book looks at not just tactics and strategy, but on the causes of the Revolution. Ross says "Here the conflict does not boil down to a bloody tournament between opposing armies, but is critically shaped by the politics of empire, riven by uncertainty on the battlefield and ripe for psychological evaluation."

To some readers the book might seem controversial, as essayist Stephen Conway argues that George Washington was a better symbol -- an inspiration, than a general. The book also attacks what it addresses as myths about the American and British tactics, such as the patriots unconventional warfare vs. the "inflexible" British fighting techniques. One shortcoming is the authors lack of attention to the patriots internal political problems such as the infighting between American commanders, and the disunity among the 13 colony forces.

In conclusion, in the words of essayist Samuel J. Watson, the book focuses on "causation rather than outcomes." That is what makes this book relevant to America's future as well as to our past.