



The
SONS
DRUMBEAT

Volume 35

Number 3

John Edward James, Jr.,
98, Given Commission

Pages 4-5

Charleston's
Horn Work

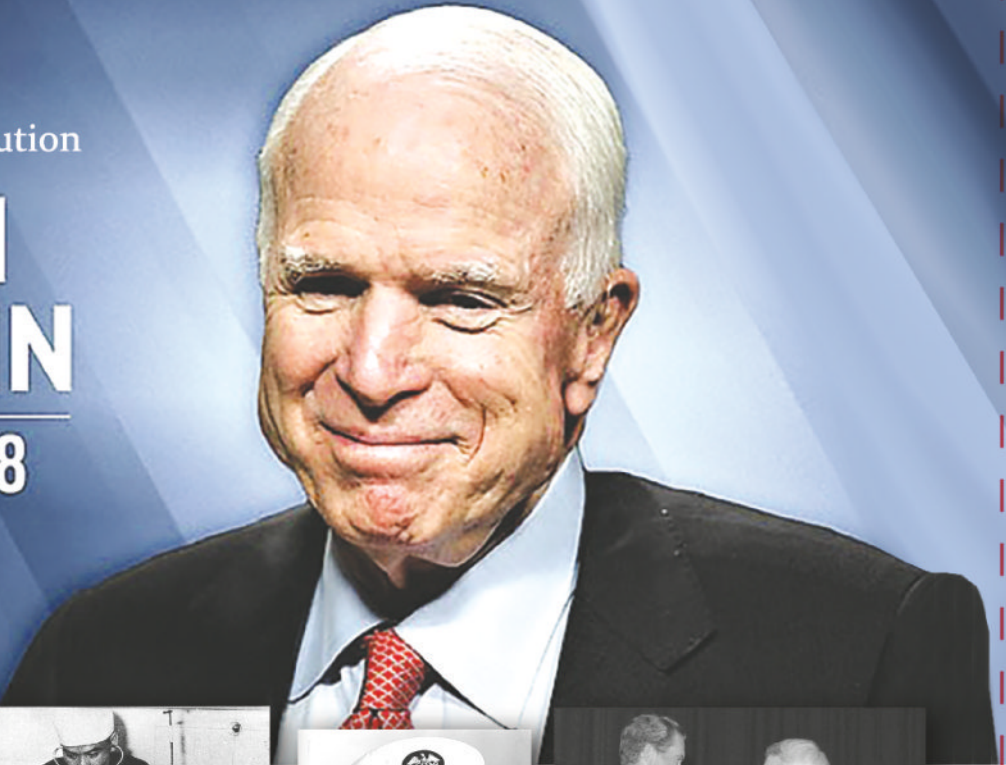
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Publication of the General Society, Sons of the Revolution

A Son of the Revolution

JOHN McCain

1936-2018



Hon. John Sidney McCain, III

The late Senator John McCain, who died August 25, 2018, was a member of our esteemed Society, the Sons of the Revolution. He joined the Virginia Society on June 20, 1990, on the service of his qualifying ancestor, John Young (1737-1824). Young was a Captain in the Augusta County, Virginia, Militia (1776-1778).



Photo Credits: McCain graphic, WBAL Radio (Maryland)*; McCain-Bush, Bush WH Archives; McCain-Obama, History.com; McCain-Kennedy, Boston Globe; McCain-Nixon, Richard Nixon Foundation; McCain Naval Portrait, US Navy; McCain pilot, Statenews.com; McCain injured, AFP/Getty Images; McCain casket, Huffingtonpost.com

*"A Son of the Revolution" was added to the original graphic.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Friends,

This is my last message as your General President. I was greatly humbled when I assumed the office three years ago in Williamsburg, and I leave the office feeling humbled once again. The continuity of our changing leadership in the Sons of the Revolution is the most important thing to keep going, just like the continuity of our changing leadership in the White House.

And so, following the 43rd Triennial Meeting just held in Franklin, Tennessee, we welcome a new administration of General Officers. This is a magical moment. The hour of transition is here. There is grand significance in the continuity of our Society from one slate of volunteer-leaders to the next.

I don't doubt this position, along with the goals accomplished and the lessons learned, has made me a better man. This Society can make us all better men, if we answer the call and give of ourselves to the best of our abilities. In the face of every win and every loss, all that anyone can ask for is that we do our best. Never, never give up!

The administration now leaving office should be proud of its achievements. We have advanced the professionalism of this publication, and, via the introduction of the Society of '83, we have established the means of securing more resources for the GSSR while providing the means for increasing SR pride among our membership. We also now have a Ladies' Auxiliary, called the Daughters of the Revolution (DR). This will give our female loved ones a channel for their energies and creativity in support of the SR.

This General Society may have smaller numbers than other patriotic organizations, but our members as a whole are very loyal and steadfast. We are a solid fraternity. We come from the soldiers and office holders of the American Revolution, a small group to begin with. By the sacrifices of our patriot-ancestors, we have inherited a special mantle and should wear it proudly. If our ancestors spilled blood, it is the same as our blood. If they occupied a civic or government position, then that position is ours, too. With enough effort from all of us, this unique fraternity can grow and regain some needed youth.

The ultimate calling of this organization, the Sons of the Revolution, is that we recognize our Country and the how's and why's of its birth, and that we do our utmost to educate the public. You may sit or kneel during the singing of our National Anthem. In this Country, you have that freedom. But as for me, I will stand tall and sing loud, in the hopes that generations that have passed and those yet to come may hear my voice and see my pride. This is my Country, and my home. I wish you all good luck, good health, and good fortune.



John Edward James, Jr., 98, Given Commission

His Ancestor Fought for American Freedom

CREDIT: FOX39.COM



James' daughters (Brenda Watts, left, and Dr. Marion Lane, right) pin on their father's Lieutenant bars.

who was a Sergeant in the 7th, 11th, and 15th VA Regts under Capt. Charles Porterfield and Capt. William Smith. Brown was at Valley Forge during the 1777 encampment and participated in the battles of Guilford Courthouse, the Siege of Fort Ninety-Six, and Eutaw Springs.

Despite that history, Mr. James suffered racial discrimination in the Army. "My father never spoke of his military service because it was too painful," said Marion Lane, one of his daughters, in speaking to the media. "In 2001, I found a photo of his graduation from officer candidate school and he told me to 'throw it away because it mean[s] nothing.' Now he is on Cloud Nine - he never, ever thought he would see this day."

James was given the oath of office by Retired Air Force General and MAR Chairman John Jumper.



CREDIT: FOX39.COM



James in his Officer Candidate School graduation photo, first row, right (1941)

James was drafted into the military in 1941. He attended officer candidate school at Fort Benning, Georgia, but the day before his commissioning, he was told he wouldn't be made an officer and was to be transferred. According to Sen. Casey's office, during the World War II-era, black soldiers were denied officer commissions if they were to be assigned to a predominantly white unit. It was against Army regulations for white soldiers to be subordinate to blacks. If black officer candidates were assigned to a black unit, their commissions were processed without delay.

James spent his time serving in the war as a corporal, working as a typist with a quartermaster battalion supplying front-line combat units in North Africa and Italy for three years. After the war, he got married and worked for the U.S. Postal service until his retirement in 1976. According to the Museum, he received a number of awards for his service, including a Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and a European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

During the commissioning ceremony, Sen. Casey said, "I applaud the Department of the Army for their thoughtful consideration and hope that they continue to work to ensure that this has not happened to any other patriot."—*Editor, compiled from reports*

Lane began a long struggle to restore her father's due commission. After multiple denials by the Army Review Board, she secured the help of Democratic Sen. Bob Casey of Pennsylvania. The Senator's office pursued the issue over a three-year period, all the way to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army.

"Tenacity is my middle name," Lane said. "For me, this is proof that we are privileged to live in a country where injustice can be rectified."

Part of the delay in awarding him an officer's rank was due to the absence of official records. James' military personnel records had been destroyed along with an estimated 16-18 million other Army and Air Force files in a 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center. Sen. Casey worked with the National Archives to locate records that would prove James' completion of officer candidate training.



L-R: Gen. & MAR Chairman John Jumper, Sen. Bob Casey, Lt. James, and Dr. Marion Lane.



Curt Cheyney, Esq. and GP Emeritus, helped secure James' long overdue commission.



PSSR Color Guard members stand with Lt. James and Gen. Jumper.

State Reports



GEORGIA



President Hardeman's backyard with Revolutionary flags for July 4th.

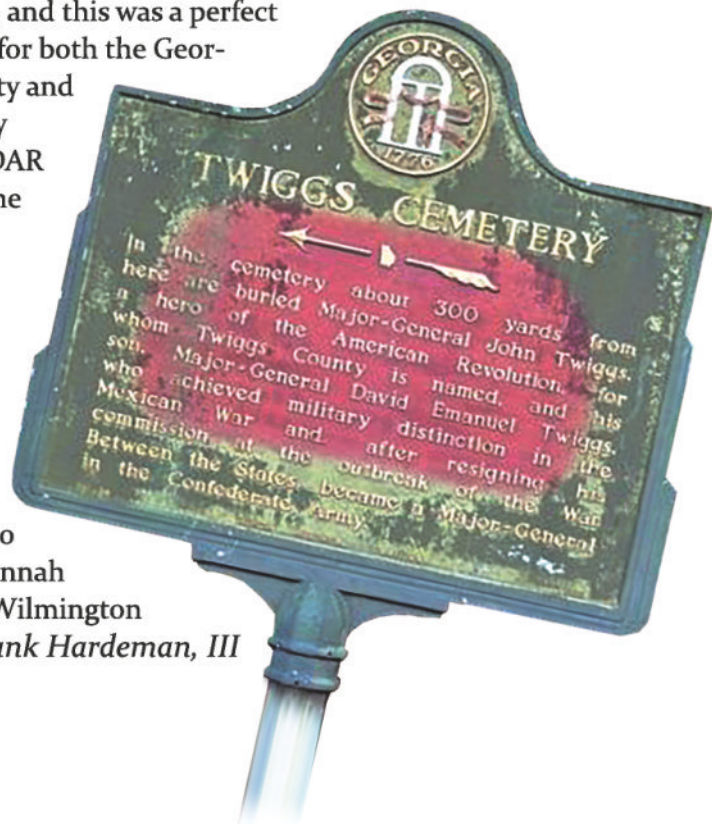
Society President Frank Hardeman welcomed the Board of Managers to his home on July 3rd for their quarterly meeting. The Board approved sending four delegates to this year's Triennial in Nashville. Past President Roland Summers, MD, Current President Frank Hardeman III, GSSR Historian David Dickey Esq., and David Thomas MD were selected. State Secretary Jim Smith and Regional VP Roger Coursey of the Georgia Society are also expected to attend.

The Board also approved the transfer of the upkeep of Twiggs Cemetery in Augusta from the SR-GA to a newly established DAR Chapter in that city. In 1948, Warren Coleman, a direct descendant of John Twiggs, left the Society \$4,500 for the perpetual upkeep of the cemetery. With Augusta being a three-hour drive from Savannah and roughly two hours from Atlanta, the Georgia Society found it necessary to contract the upkeep annually. The \$4,500 grant was exhausted many years ago and the Society found itself subsidizing the work from its General Fund. Katherine Croft of Augusta, meanwhile, was looking for a project for her new DAR Chapter there, and this was a perfect solution for both the Georgia Society and the newly formed DAR group. The

deed is now being transferred to the DAR in Augusta.

In other news, inclement weather forced the cancellation of the July 4th celebration at the Colonial Cemetery in downtown Savannah. The Society's Nathanael Greene Chapter hosted its annual summer function on August 11th at the Capitol City Club in Atlanta. This year's speaker, Dr. Jeffrey Wells, spoke on Georgia's role in the Stamp Act.

The fall oyster roast has been set for Saturday, October 20th at a location to be determined. The BOMs voted this year to change the venue of the Annual Black Tie Dinner from the Savannah Yacht Club to the newly renovated Savannah Country Club on Wilmington Island. —Text and photo submitted by Society President Frank Hardeman, III





The Sons of the Revolution in the State of Indiana held its fall business meeting at the Community Foundation of DeKalb County in Auburn, Indiana, on September 1, 2018. At the meeting, life membership certificates were presented to

Ray Jewel and Mason Waldroup. Additionally, Lynn Frederic Smith was congratulated as a new member. His membership certificate will be presented at a later date.

Following the meeting and a wonderful lunch and social hour, Society members and guests took in the "Parade of Classics" during the annual Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival. ACD Club members from around the world drove their magnificent classic cars through the streets of Auburn with a review at the Courthouse Square following the parade.

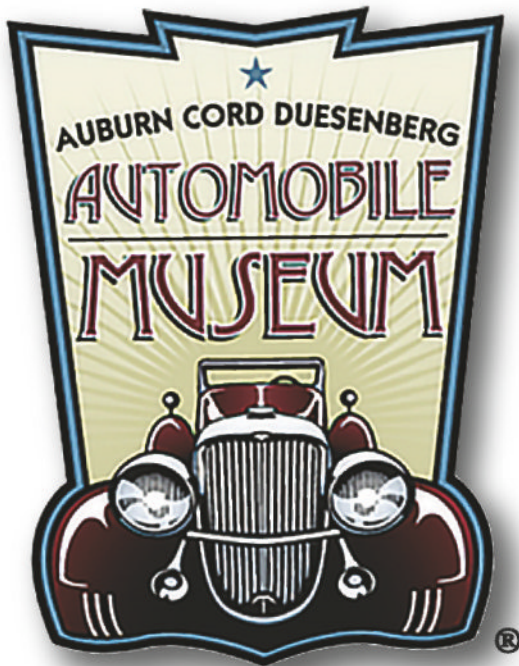
These beautifully-painted, chrome-laden Auburns, Cords, and Duesenbergs were a sight to see and highlighted a piece of Indiana history. The Auburn Automobile Company manufactured classic cars from 1903 to 1936. The Auburns and Duesenbergs were manufactured entirely by hand.



Members and guests at the 2018 Fall Meeting.

In 1929 the company introduced the Cord, the first successfully mass-produced, front-wheel drive automobile. In 1931, despite the Great Depression, the Auburn Automobile Company had its best sales year, moving 34,000 cars. At its peak, the company had over a hundred dealers and distributors in ninety-three different countries.

Today, the former production facility is a museum. The campus has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a National Historic Landmark District.—text and photos submitted by Society President Kevin L. Waldroup



A classic Duesenberg featured in the parade.





John Adams Annual Dinner table setting

greetings from the General Society.

The Massachusetts Society on this special occasion was privileged to host Harriet Cross, Consul General of the United Kingdom in Boston, and Amandine Lebas, Deputy Consul of France in Boston (currently the highest-ranking member of the French Diplomatic corps in the city). The Consuls were each given an inscribed copy of the John Adams biography by David McCullough.

“Because President Adams served as Commissioner to France during the Revolution and later as First US Ambassador to Great Britain, it was fitting to have the United Kingdom and France represented at the dinner,” said President Hawley. Members and guests



L-R: Amandine Lebas, Deputy Consul General of France in Boston; Brent Andersen, Society First Vice President; and Harriet Cross, Consul General of the United Kingdom in Boston.

Second Inaugural Dinner

On September 12, the Society held its second of three annual dinners inaugurated this year to commemorate three outstanding Revolutionary patriots from Massachusetts. The first celebrated Joseph Warren; the second, honoring John Adams, was likewise held at the exclusive Somerset Club to coincide with the 235th anniversary of the Treaty of Paris (1783). Adams was a Founding Father and served the country in a variety of ways before being elected Second President of the United States.

The John Adams Dinner has been billed as the most formal of the three dinners. Over forty-five members, their wives, and guests enjoyed a white-tie banquet. General Secretary Dr. Laurence Simpson, DDS, was present and offered



Sharing camaraderie at the Somerset Club.

raised glasses to three individuals who contributed to the end of the war and beginnings of peace: John Adams, the Comte de Rochambeau, and William Petty, the (2nd) Earl of Shelburne.

Despite His Lordship’s initial reluctance to accept the United States as an independent nation, Petty nonetheless had a vision of forging deep commercial ties with the new nation on behalf of His Majesty. The French and British both believed that a generous peace treaty with the United States would offer lucrative opportunities for trade and encourage strong economic links. Hence, the 1783 Treaty of Paris transferred the Northwest Territory from Britain to the United States. Five new states (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan) and a portion of a sixth (Minnesota) came out of that land transfer.

The festive evening was held under the watchful eye of John Adams himself, as Society member D. Brenton Simons brought a portrait, oil on canvas, of the dinner’s namesake. It

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was a Jonathan Mason, Jr., portrait of John Adams after Gilbert Stuart. Mason was the son of Senator Jonathan Mason of Massachusetts (in office 1800-1803) and was a student of Gilbert Stuart.

—All text and photos submitted by Society President Shervin Hawley



Member D. Brenton Simons with the Jonathan Mason, Jr., portrait of John Adams after Gilbert Stuart.

Prior to meeting for the John Adams Dinner, members had casually convened in August for a cookout at President Shervin Hawley's home, the historic Bigelow Parsonage (1773) in Sudbury, Massachusetts. The event wasn't hampered by the light rain, and we were honored to have Past President Andre Sigourney present. Over twenty-five members and guests joined in the fun.



Members and guests gathered in Society President Hawley's backyard in August.



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Annual Meeting at WWI Museum

The Missouri Society Sons of the Revolution held its annual meeting in honor of George Washington on February 16, 2018 at the National World War I Museum & Memorial in Kansas

City. Special guests included Region 5 General Vice President Robert Rati and his wife, Margaret, as well as individuals from lineage societies across Missouri (including Susan Bowman, State Regent, Missouri Society, DAR, and Susan Nitzsche, Governor, Heart of America Colony, Mayflower Society).

The Society's distinguished guest and luncheon speaker for the day was Dr. Matthew C. Naylor, President & CEO of the National World War I Museum & Memorial.

The event convened on the Museum's interior glass bridge suspended over a symbolic field of 9,000 poppies. Each represents a thousand deaths, as a reminder of the 9 million soldiers who perished in the war. From the bridge, Society President Richard W. Strelinger, Sr. called the meeting to order and a guest Color Guard of the SAR posted colors, followed by State Chaplain Sumner Hunnewell reading from the Psalms and General VP Rati leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Strelinger then introduced all guests and eloquently spoke of Washington's life, career, and superb leadership. A delicious, buffet-style luncheon was afterward served in an adjoining hall, where Dr. Naylor addressed the group and accepted the Missouri Society's Modern Patriot Award. In his presentation, Dr. Naylor drew parallels between the world's Great War and America's Revolutionary War. He also indicated how quickly a lone assassin's bullet in Sarajevo ignited all of Europe in war, which soon thereafter engulfed nearly the entire world in military conflict.

The MOSR gives the Modern Patriot Award to a dedicated leader in the promotion of American history and a steadfast defender of the principles of freedom, liberty, and justice for all.

This year's award was framed and matted and included a pewter relief of George Washington, crafted by ASL Pewter Foundry of Ste. Genevieve, Missouri. That relief is nearly a century and a half old, having been created for the 1876 Centennial celebration. It is still being used to produce remarkable castings.

After Dr. Naylor's presentation, the Society publicly welcomed three new members: Stanley Dee Buckles; John Adam Krugh, IV; and Albert E. Winemiller, Jr. To date, the Society now has 25 members.—*Editor*



PHOTO BY KIP BABINGTON

Dr. Matthew C. Naylor, left, accepts the MOSR Modern Patriot Award from President Rick Strelinger.



CORRECTION: The five WWI Allied Commanding Generals made two appearances together after the war, not just one as we reported in the last issue. The first was in Kansas City, Mo., on Nov. 1, 1921, where this photo was taken. Their second meeting was at Arlington National Cemetery, Nov. 11, 1921, at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.



Margaret Carr accepts the 2018 MOSR Historic Preservation Award.

MOSR Historic Preservation Award

The Society gathered on Sept 29, 2018, to present its Annual Historic Preservation Award. A luncheon was held at the St. Louis Country Club, where Society President Rick Strelinger introduced the honoree, Mrs. Margaret Alice Long Ries Carr. Mrs. Carr has worked for the past twenty years with the Commemoration Committee for the Battle of Fort San Carlos, an organization which she founded, to honor those who lost their lives in the aforementioned struggle on May 26, 1780. A retired school teacher and longtime member of the DAR, she has spearheaded much greater community awareness of this strategic Revolutionary War battle and the people involved in it.

Mrs. Carr's untiring work is an example of how one individual can move an entire metropolis to recall its forgotten history. Largely due to her influence, the Museum of Westward Expansion at the Gateway Arch now has an entire wall dedicated to the battle, whereas just a decade ago there was scarcely any mention of it.

Had the British seized control of the Mississippi Valley in 1780, the ramifications on the whole of American history would have been tremendous.

To carry out their strategy, the Brits intended to sweep down the Mississippi Valley from Michigan to New Orleans. They had to rely heavily on the assistance of their Indian allies. But, their plans were thwarted at St. Louis when local militias and townspeople numbering over three hundred successfully defended the village from the pro-British force commanded by Emmanuel Hesse and numbering nearly four times as many combatants, mostly Indians.

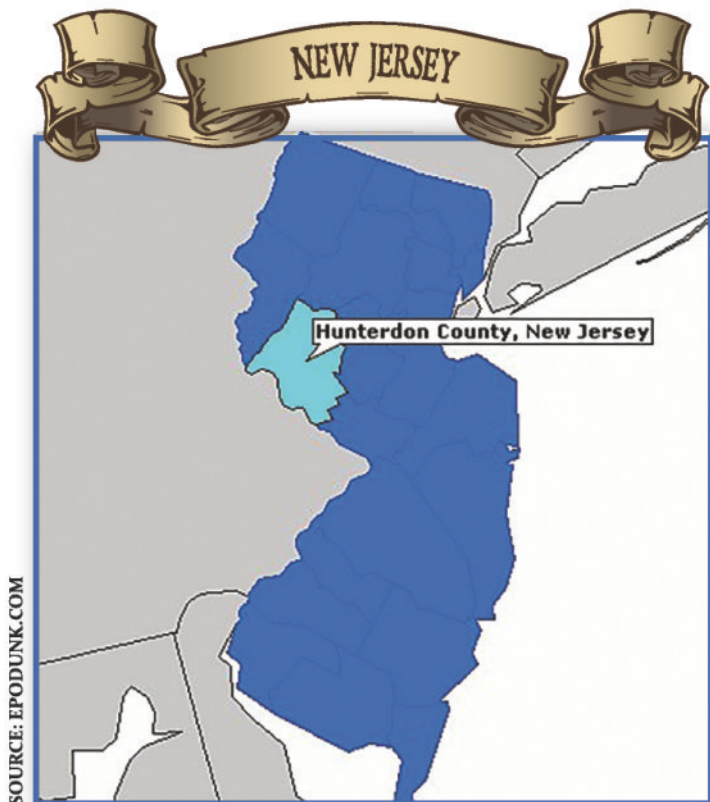
St. Louis was a trading hub and the administrative capital of Upper Spanish Louisiana at the time. It was governed and defended by Lieutenant Governor Fernando de Leyba, a captain in the Spanish Army. He had enlisted the assistance of the villagers to construct a forty-foot tower, named Fort San Carlos, and to defend their community. From that tall vantage point, they stopped Hesse's army. His Indians lost faith and most of them abandoned the effort, to the point that the campaign southward was aborted.

Thanks to Mrs. Carr's devotion, she has done magnificent research and has promoted the recognition of the civilians who came to the rescue in the Battle of Fort San Carlos that day. She is also actively pursuing the installation of a prominent historical marker along the riverfront to recall that military action.—*Editor*



St. Louis Country Club

SOURCE: WIKIPEDIA.ORG



New Jersey Sons organize Chapter

On a warm Friday evening in early May, eight SRNJ members gathered at the home of Richard P. Cushing in Lambertville, NJ, to discuss the reestablishment of a chapter for those residing in Hunterdon County and vicinity. Although the lively discussion yielded no final decision, the group agreed to meet again in early August to firm up a name for the new chapter.

After that had happened, twelve members in good standing signed a petition and presented it to the SRNJ Board of Managers on Sept. 15, seeking the authority to form a new chapter. Upon its receipt, the Board then authorized the petitioners to form the General Daniel Morgan Chapter of the Society of Sons of the Revolution in the State of New Jersey. The chapter will cover generally the area of Hunterdon County in western New Jersey.

Gen. Morgan was born in New Jersey to Welsh immigrants, leaving home at 17 and moving to Pennsylvania and later to Virginia. He became a

valuable asset for the Patriot cause in the American Revolution. Morgan served in the expedition to Quebec, the Saratoga campaign, and in the Philadelphia campaign. His greatest achievement, however, came when he was called back from an extended furlough to lead the Continental Army at the Battle of Cowpens.

The victory he engineered at Cowpens has been called one of the greatest plans in all of military history, recalling to mind Hannibal's extraordinary triumph over the Romans at Cannae in 216 B.C. Author James Stempel calls him 'the American Hannibal.'



L-R: David Reading, Charlie Scammell, Jay Langley, Dick Cushing, Scott Scammell, Jesse Landon, and Mike Alfano. Photo courtesy SRNJ.

Society President Michael Bates said, "It is very fitting that the new chapter be named in honor of Hunterdon County's most famous native son of the Revolution. It's been an exciting development. The formation of the chapter capped a period of several organizational meetings held in the summer," he said.

Two members of the SRNJ Board of Managers were instrumental in kick-starting the process: Past President Charles J. Scammell and Registrar Michael M. Alfano III. The new chapter elected Mr. Alfano as its first President. The full roster of chapter officers will follow at a later date.—*Editor*



2018 Flag Day Parade & Celebration

On June 14, 2018, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York hosted the annual Flag Day Celebration & Parade, a 102-year-old tradition. SRNY has hosted this event in New York City every Flag Day since 1916, and it is one of the longest running parades there. The route is a mile long, stretching between City Hall Park and the Fraunces Tavern. The marchers come to a stop at the ceremony grandstand outside the Fraunces Tavern, where a four-story American flag hangs vertically from the building's façade.

There, various local dignitaries, military veterans, lineage society members, community leaders, and hundreds of school children gather to honor the Stars & Stripes, sing patriotic songs, and listen to essays read by the winners of the "What the American Flag Means to Me" writing contest. Following the ceremony, a reception is held for all parade participants inside the Museum, where the school children are treated to a picnic lunch.

The recognition of June 14 as a day to fly the flag has deep roots. First of all, Congress proclaimed the nation's Flag Resolution on June 14, 1777. The first official observance of Flag Day came on the centennial anniversary of the Resolution: June 14, 1877. On that day, Congress mandated the Stars & Stripes be flown from all public buildings across the country. Further, in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson established June 14 as the yearly anniversary of the Resolution. That very year, the New York Sons of the Revolution initiated its annual Flag Day parade. It wasn't until 1949, however, that June 14 became an official day of national observance for the public at-large. President Harry S Truman signed an Act of Congress that year which designated June 14 National Flag Day, meant for all Americans to participate in.

Life & Death of Alexander Hamilton

The SRNY and Fraunces Tavern Museum commemorated the life and death of Alexander Hamilton with special programming on the evening of July 12th, the anniversary of the day he died in 1804. In the Fraunces Tavern's Flag Gallery, The Hudson River Ramblers performed "Alexander Hamilton: His Life in Story and Song" for a sizeable crowd.

The entertainment was held following a somber processional earlier in the day at Hamilton's gravesite in Trinity Churchyard. This year's processional included special guest Mary Anne Hamilton, the wife of Laurens Morgan Hamilton, great-great grandson of Alexander. The events were part of a week-long series of activities co-sponsored by the Alexander Hamilton Awareness Society.

Hamilton frequented the Fraunces Tavern regularly, and by some reports, was there on July 10, 1804—the day before he faced his nemesis and political adversary, Vice President Aaron Burr, in an infamous duel. In the early morning of July 11, in Weehawken, New Jersey, Hamilton and Burr drew pistols at each other. Hamilton fired first but missed. He may have intended to miss.

Burr fired back and hit Hamilton in the abdomen, fatally wounding him. The founding father died some thirty hours later, in the afternoon of July 12, surrounded by family. Burr, who had challenged Hamilton to the duel, was indicted for murder in

The Hudson River Ramblers





both New Jersey and New York but was never sentenced. Nevertheless, the public outcry was such that Burr could never again run for public office.

On August 22, 2018, the Fraunces Tavern Museum debuted its newest exhibit: “Fear & Force: New York City’s Sons of Liberty.” Located in the Museum’s Mesick Gallery, the exhibit takes visitors through a timeline that chronicles key players and stories in the local history of Sons of Liberty, including New York’s “tea party” and the tarring and feathering of area Loyalists.

The exhibit also features objects related to the organization’s activities in New York, including weapons like those used in New York City’s 1769 Battle of Golden Hill, as well as a fragment of iron fence that came from the dismantling of the King George III statue in Bowling Green Park.

The Sons of Liberty was an organization of fervent patriots. Through fear and intimidation, and through violence, the Sons taunted British authorities and their sympathizers from Boston to Savannah. They vehemently protested the Crown’s imposed taxes on colonists and did much to undermine British rule in the Colonies.

The organization’s founding is debated even today. Some believe the movement began in New York as early as 1735, in response to the famous trial of printer John Peter Zenger brought on by Royal Governor William Cosby (1690-1736). Others claim the organization was founded at a later date, in Boston, stemming out of the Committee of Correspondence.

Our organization, the Sons of the Revolution, which was founded in New York, took its name partially from the Sons of Liberty. The other half of the name came from the Society of the Revolution, a post-Revolutionary War organization of veterans in South Carolina.

Battle of Brooklyn & Nathan Hale Day

On August 27, 2018, the New York Society Color Guard convened at Green-Wood Cemetery for the annual commemoration of the Battle of Brooklyn, a.k.a., Battle of Long Island. The battle took place on land now owned by the cemetery. To mark the battle’s anniversary, Green-Wood traditionally hosts a day of commemoration to honor all those who served to defend the young republic.

The commemoration includes a walk to the highest point of the cemetery, where a statue of Minerva looks out across the bay toward Manhattan and the Statue of Liberty. Fought in 1776, the Battle of Brooklyn was the first battle of the Revolution to be waged after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. It was nearly *the only battle* of the Revolution, had it not been for the heroics of the Maryland 400, part of the the Maryland 1st Regiment, whose brave stand against such overwhelming enemy fire allowed George Washington and others to escape.

In September, the Color Guard was present again for New York City’s annual Nathan Hale Day commemoration at City Hall Park. The ceremony features the Color Guard, a mayoral proclamation, wreath laying and more. Nathan Hale, of course, was disguised as a Dutch schoolteacher and commissioned by George Washington to infiltrate the British ranks in New York to gather intelligence. He was discovered on the night of September 21, 1776, and hanged the next morning for treason—without trial.

The commemoration takes place on or near September 22 at the foot of the Nathan Hale statue on the lawn of City Hall. That statue itself, produced by Frederick Macmonnies, was commissioned and unveiled by the SRNY on the centennial anniversary of the British army’s departure from New York City in 1783.—*Editor. All photos courtesy SRNY.*



The SRNY Color Guard pauses at the base of Battle Hill in Green-Wood Cemetery.



The Color Guard stands adjacent the Nathan Hale statue on Nathan Hale Day



Scholarship Recipient Pauline A. Vane and keynote speaker The Hon. Frank D. Whitney flank the Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson Chapter charter.

Davidson Chapter Chartering Dinner

On September 26, the Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson Chapter, SRNC, held its annual Chartering Dinner at Dressler's Restaurant, Charlotte, NC. The chapter, founded in 2012, hosts the dinner by recognizing its annual Patriotic Scholarship Essay winner and by inviting a noted speaker from the Charlotte community.

The 2018 scholarship recipient is Ms. Pauline A. Vane for her essay, "Small Battles, Large Outcomes: The Impact of Small Engagements in North Carolina in the American Revolutionary War." Pauline is a student at Central Piedmont Community College.

The keynote speaker was The Honorable Frank D. Whitney. Judge Whitney is the Chief Federal Judge for the Western District of North Carolina. A *Phi Beta Kappa* graduate of Wake Forest University and its law school, Judge Whitney served in the Army Reserve as a military intelligence officer. His topic was the recovery effort of North Carolina's original copy of the Bill of Rights, which had been stolen from the State Capitol in 1865 by a rogue Union soldier.

The Davidson Chapter's officers for 2018-2019 are: Augustus E. Succop III, President; David C. Boggs, VP; Randolph M. Lee, Secretary; and, Jay A. Joyce, Treasurer. Information about the Davidson Chapter is available at www.generaldavidson.org.

Yorktown Luncheon Banquet

The State Society will host its annual Yorktown Luncheon Banquet on Saturday, October, 27 at The State Club, Raleigh, NC. A Board Meeting will precede a time of Patriotic Hospitality and the Banquet. After lunch, the program will feature Professor Hugh Dussek, Ph.D. A professor of history at the Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, Dr. Dussek's topic will be, "Revolution in the Backcountry: The Road to Yorktown."

Dr. Dussek was born and educated in London, England. He serves on the Board of Trustees for The Charlotte Museum of History and on the Board of Directors for the Historic Mapping Congress. Furthermore, he regularly appears on C-Span 3 giving presentations on American and British history. After the banquet program concludes, a short business meeting will be convened to welcome new members into the SRNC. Reservations for the banquet may be made by contacting State Treasurer Glenn Davis at drgmdavis@aol.com.

Peering into 2019

Plans for 2019 are well underway. The Society will host the Washington Birthday Celebration on February 23 at a location in Winston-Salem, NC. VP Randall Sprinkle, along with members Tanner Robinson and Greg Hunter, are leading the planning of the celebration.

Nota Bene: Following the above celebration, the SRNC Annual Meeting will take place on June 15 at The Holly Inn, Pinehurst, NC.

The SRNC is led by incoming President Augustus E. Succop III, Immediate Past President Daniel L. Hopping, VP Randall E. Sprinkle, Secretary William G. Jarrett, Jr., Treasurer Glenn M. Davis, Registrar John R. Harman, Jr., Historian James B. Ebert, Chaplain J. Robert Boykin III, Chancellor Carlton M. Mansfield, Esq., and Scott W. Kennedy, Captain of the Color Guard. Information about SRNC membership may be obtained by contacting President Gus Succop and/or Registrar John Harman via www.nc-sor.org. – text and photos submitted by Secretary William G. Jarrett, Jr



L-R: Chapter Secretary Randolph Lee, Federal Judge Frank Whitney, and Chapter President Gus Succop with the Davidson Chapter charter.



SOURCE: PHILADELPHIA.CBSLOCAL.COM

Descendants of Signers of the Declaration of Independence in the Liberty Bell Pavilion.

Society Hill Hotel for a delightful reception and luncheon, patriotic toasts, and words of welcome from Society President Wolf, Sr. In attendance at the luncheon and ceremony that followed were Cynthia MacLeod, Superintendent of Independence National Historical Park, and Lieutenant Commander Joseph Slaughter, PhD, US Naval Academy Historian. Lt. Cmd. Slaughter was our invited keynote speaker for the address at Independence Hall.

Following lunch, the PSSR Color Guard, under the steady command of Captain Eric E. L. Guenther, Jr., assembled together with the Watson Highlanders and the First Troop, Philadelphia City Calvary, and paraded the Society's

New Citizens Reception

The PSSR held a reception for new citizens on June 14, 2018 (Flag Day) at the Federal Court House in Philadelphia following a New Citizens oath ceremony which took place there. During the ceremony with Hon. John R. Padova presiding, approximately one hundred persons representing forty-two countries took the oath of citizenship. After being sworn in and receiving their citizenship certificates, Society President Ben Ramsay Wolf, Sr., addressed the assembly on behalf of the Society during the reception.

It has been a long tradition for the PSSR to gift each new citizen with a packet containing a small American flag, a copy of the U.S. Constitution, a ball point pen, and a lapel pin as gifts from the PSSR. The Society serves cake and ice cream in the foyer and provides for live patriotic music.

Let Freedom Ring

On July 4th, PSSR members and their families, guests, and honored VIPs convened at the Sheraton



PSSR Younger Members at Washington Crossing Historic Park.



A historical cannon owned by Charlie Smithgall and fired for PSSR guests.

Historic Park for a joint event with SRNJ. Tom Maddock, long-time curator of the Washington Crossing museum, provided historical perspective of General Washington's famed river crossing in Durham boats, the vessels that were commandeered in the early hours of Christmas morning 1776.

After his interesting talk, members and guests of the Pennsylvania Society crossed the Delaware for a luncheon at Trenton Barracks and attended a lecture by Larry Kidder on the role of New Jersey militia in the Battle of Trenton.

Later in the month, on Sunday, September 23, more than fifty PSSR members and guests traveled to Lancaster County to witness a live firing of cannons by former Lancaster mayor and famed cannoneer/collector Charlie Smithgall, on a farm outside Drumore, PA. In a steady rain, the cannon crew sighted, aimed, and fired a Civil War parrot gun, a howitzer, and a six-pound gun.

A bountiful luncheon spread (complete with sandwiches, potato salad, and local favorite Hammond's pretzels) was served under a covered pavilion overlooking the target range. After the lunch, our gracious host Mr. Smithgall offered a tour of his impressive field artillery collection, which includes authentic cannon from the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the American Civil War. He provided cannons used for the 2012 Steven Spielberg movie "Lincoln" and the 1993 Ronald F. Maxwell movie "Gettysburg."—*text and photos submitted by Secretary Andrew R. McReynolds*

colors and standards up Walnut Street to Independence Square, to the waiting throng of assembled guests and the eager public.

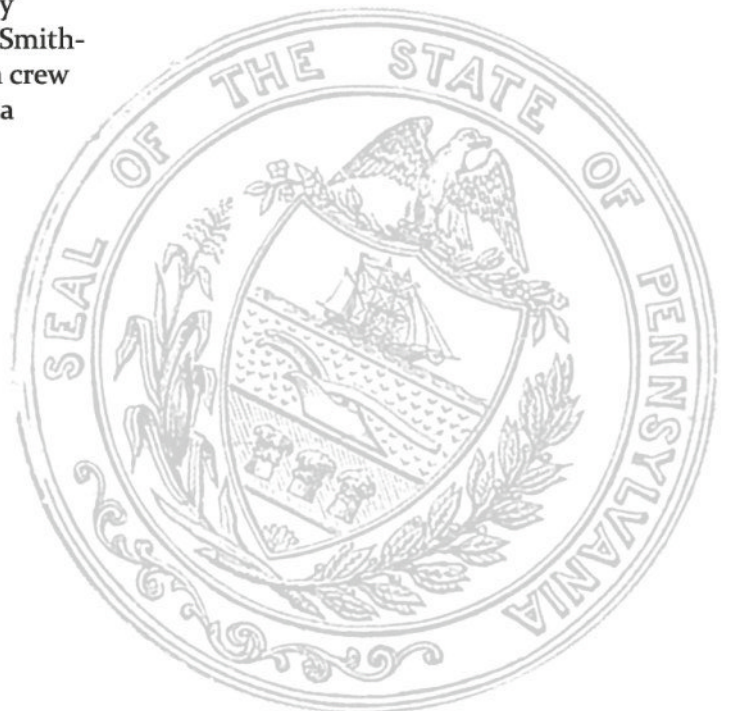
A ceremony began promptly at 1 p.m. under the watchful eye of Commodore Barry and was emceed by the popular local news personality Vittoria "Tori" Woodill, of CBS3 Eyewitness News. The ceremony included remarks by Philadelphia's Mayor Jim Kenney, Cindy MacLeod, PSSR President Wolf, PSSR Chaplain Clayton Ames, LCDR Joseph Slaughter, and lastly Martha Washington.

Just before 2 pm, President Wolf and Superintendent MacLeod, escorted by a detail of Troopers and PSSR Color Guard Lieutenants, left Independence Square to join a group of young Descendants of Signers of the Declaration of Independence in the Liberty Bell Pavilion for the Congressionally mandated 2 pm "Let Freedom Ring" Bell Tapping Ceremony.

Younger Members

Later in the year, the Pennsylvania Society Younger Members Committee held several great functions that continued to boost our visibility with potential members in the Philadelphia area, the suburbs, and Lancaster County.

In mid-September, Pennsylvania Society Younger Members visited Washington Crossing





Members of the local CAR Chapter helping the RISR on July 4th.

July Fourth Festivities

The morning of July 4 is always very busy for the Rhode Island Sons of the Revolution. Our Society hosts the public ceremonies in Newport that day, which is something we have done for over 100 years! The timetable before noon can be

broken down as follows:

Starting the day at 9:30 a.m., we have a graveside ceremony at William Ellery's grave with the Aquidneck Island DAR Chapter. This joint-ceremony has been a tradition for many years. Ellery was a Signer of the Declaration of Independence, having filled a vacant seat from Rhode Island in the Second Continental Congress. He also later signed the Articles of Confederation as well. By the time the Revolutionary War broke out, Ellery was a member of the Sons of Liberty and passionately supported independence from Britain. Having passed the bar in his forties, Ellery for a short time served as a judge on the Rhode Island Supreme Court. He served as a member of Congress until 1786. In 1790, President George Washington appointed Ellery as Collector of Customs for the Newport District, a

job he remained in for the rest of his life.

After the joint-graveside ceremony, the Sons arrive to Washington Square at 10 a.m. for a Society-sponsored band concert. The Newport Community Band plays favorite patriotic songs that everyone enjoys. As the music is played, RISR members give away five hundred 4"-x-6" US flags and five hundred pocket-sized copies of the Declaration of Independence. This year, the local CAR Chapter helped us distribute these items.

At 11 a.m., RISR 1st Vice President Roy Lauth stands out front of the Old Colony House and reads a copy of the Declaration of Independence. The reading is followed by a thirteen-gun cannon salute from the Paul Revere-cast brass cannons of the Artillery Company of Newport. To cap the morning's activities, we then have a luncheon on Newport harbor.

August Annual Meeting

On Saturday, August 18, 2018, the RISR held its Annual Meeting and Luncheon in recognition of the 240th anniversary of the historic 1778 Battle of Rhode Island. The luncheon was held in the main dining room of the Wanu-metonomy Country Club.

The guest speaker was Richard Ring, the new Deputy Executive Director of the R.I. Historical Society. Mr. Ring spoke about Capt. Joseph B. Varnum's militia company orderly book from August 7 - August 30, 1778, during the Battle of Rhode Island. Capt. Varnum was General Varnum's younger brother, who later became a US Congressman and Senator.

President MacGunnigle was pleased to present longtime New York Society

member and Past President James R. Grayshaw with a dual membership certificate from the Rhode Island Society. Jim and his wife, Susan, spend their summers in Rhode Island. Mr. Grayshaw was President of the SRNY when Superstorm Sandy hit New York and destroyed much of the lower levels of the Fraunces Tavern. He then oversaw a long and expensive road to recovery.

During the course of 2018, President MacGunnigle also recognized longtime member Bruce Westgate with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to the Society as Secretary 2008-2013 and Treasurer 2013-2018. Mr. Westgate continues as the Society's long-time superintendent of the Revolutionary War-era Green End Fort on the Newport/Middletown line, which he keeps in pristine condition.—text and photos submitted by Society President Bruce MacGunnigle



Alex S. Luswig, left, and the Richards family with President MacGunnigle.



President MacGunnigle presents Certificate of Appreciation to F. Bruce Westgate



President MacGunnigle with Dual Member James R. Grayshaw.



SRSC President Ivan Bennett brings greetings at Brattonsville.

VP General of SAR, this SR event also became a NSSAR District recognized event. To boot, SRSC member Tom Hanson produced a hundred flash cards promoting the day. The turn-out: a crowd of nearly eighty persons came to remember or learn for the first time the story of the liberation of Fort Thicketty.

Huck's Defeat Event

The South Carolina Society for the first time planned a joint ceremony with the Colonel William Bratton Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution in Historic Brattonsville, S.C. The event on July 14, 2018, was the 238th Anniversary of The Battle of Huck's Defeat. The historical battle occurred on July 12, 1780 in present York County, South Carolina, and was one of the first battles of the Southern Campaign to be won by Patriot militia.

This year's anniversary event was coordinated between South Carolina Society President Ivan Bennett and SAR Bratton Chapter President Bret Reed. The latter gentleman, along with Chapter Secretary Adam King, kicked off the day with typical SAR protocol. Afterward, several lineage societies participated in presenting wreaths. Thanks to so much planning, the event was very well attended. "The ceremony was a huge success, and our SC Society has been invited to repeat participation for the 239th Anniversary," affirmed President Bennett.

The crowd on hand saw the unveiling of portraits of Col. William Bratton and Capt. Huck by local artist Thomas Kelley Pauley. The portraits were commissioned by the York County

The Results of One Idea...

Last November, during the South Carolina Society's annual membership meeting, Society VP Tom Weidner came up with the idea of the SRSC hosting a 2018 inaugural event centered on the Overmountain Men capturing Fort Thicketty on July 29, 1780. Established at the beginning of the Revolution as a defense against hostile Cherokee attacks, the fort, located at the headwaters of the Pacolet River, became a stronghold for Loyalist forces.

Just Before the Battle of Kings Mountain, Fort Thicketty was approached by 600 men under the command of Colonel Isaac Shelby. The Loyalist garrison under Captain Patrick Moore surrendered the next day to that show of force without firing a shot.

VP Weidner suggested this could be a project unlike the SAR-led major battle anniversaries. It was one of the obscure actions in Revolutionary South Carolina. Society President Ivan Bennett quickly involved other groups. The effort began by contracting LeighAnn Snuggs, Director of Marketing and Tourism for the City of Gaffney. They grew it to include representatives from National Park Service, Overmountain Valley Trail Association, Cherokee History and Preservation Society, and the SC Rangers Spartanburg.

Other lineage societies were invited, too. Since SRSC member Dan Woodruff is also the South Atlantic District



Col. William Bratton by Thomas Kelley Pauley.

Culture & Heritage Museums and were presented by CHM Historian Michael Scoggins.

The Battle of Huck's Defeat occurred after the British had captured Charleston, when their leaders considered South Carolina a "conquered province." After having captured the capital city, the British then occupied Camden and established a strong post at Rocky Mount. A detachment of British soldiers and over one hundred Loyalists under the command of Capt. Christian Huck had roamed the upstate region for a month, destroying homes and terrorizing the area's patriot-minded families, including women and children.

A Whig army of 250 militia from surrounding counties, including Col. William Bratton, came together and successfully ambushed Huck's men at the James Williamson plantation (present Brattonville). They killed, injured, or captured over a hundred men, including shooting Capt. Huck through the head. The ambush effectively stopped the marauding and gave a psychological boost to Patriots throughout the South. It also demonstrated to the British and Loyalists that South Carolina was not "conquered." The Patriots went on to win battles at Kings Mountain and Cowpens, eventually driving Cornwallis up to Yorktown, Virginia, where the British surrendered and the war ended.—text submitted by President Ivan Bennett; photos by Susan Bennett.



Capt. Christian Huck by Thomas Kelley Pauley.



L-R: Dan Woodruff, Tom Weidner, Chuck Swoope, Ivan Bennett, and Albert Futtrell.





PHOTO COURTESY BOB JONES

Knox County SOR President Bob Jones and daughter Christina celebrating Independence Day at the David Hall Cabin.

A Replete Calendar of Events

The Tennessee Society Sons of the Revolution continued to be active throughout the summer months. On June 1-3, 2018, the Anderson County Chapter hosted an open house at the David Hall Cabin in Claxton, Tennessee. Members were dressed in period attire and gave demonstrations of life in the early frontier. The following month, the Society met again at the David Hall Cabin to celebrate July 4th.

On that occasion, members of both the Anderson County and Knox County chapters were present. The fellowship included listening to a dulcimer player and a fiddler while enjoying an outdoor meal. Afterwards, the TNSOR led a reading of the Declaration of Independence followed by a bell-ringing ceremony and a flag-retirement ceremony.

David Hall, a Revolutionary War veteran and Indian spy, was awarded 428 acres in Tennessee for his service. He built the cabin and surrounding structures in 1799 and was among the organizers of Anderson County.

Following the July 4th event, Society members traveled to Rugby, Tennessee, located on the Cumberland Plateau, where we set up a long hunter's camp and demonstrated to area students. Rugby is an unincorporated community, a Utopian colony founded in 1880 by English author Thomas Hughes. While Hughes's experiment largely failed, a small community lingered throughout the twentieth century that became a blend of Victorian and backcountry lifestyles.

A week after the Rugby demonstration, the Anderson County

Chapter next presented an exhibition of early frontier items at the Granger County Tomato Festival held July 27-29. During the festival, members of the TNSOR were interviewed by the East Tennessee Public Broadcasting Service for a program to be broadcast at a later date.

In August, members convened at Krutch Park in downtown Knoxville for the East Tennessee History Fair, where we provided an exhibition of early frontier items along with an iced-tea social. Then during Labor Day Weekend, members gathered for living-history demonstrations at the Ramsey House Plantation in Knoxville during a music festival of ancient Scottish, Irish, and Appalachian sounds.

The pink-marble and blue-limestone home was the residence of one of the first settlers of Knoxville, Col. Francis Ramsey. Ramsey played a vital role in establishing the area's civic, educational, and cultural institutions.

Buried at Manhattan Project Site

On September 22nd, the Anderson County Chapter conducted a cemetery tour of historic cemeteries located in and around Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The historic cemeteries visited contain or may contain the final resting place of approximately ten Revolutionary War soldiers. At the beginning of WWII, about 58,000 acres of land in East Tennessee was purposefully condemned and purchased by the U.S. Army for use in the "Manhattan Project," code for the development of the Atomic Bomb.

Detailed surveys were then meticulously conducted by the Army to identify and record all cemeteries and structures for impending lawsuits. The massive Oak Ridge Reservation was then established and placed "off-limits" to the public, including the cemeteries (except for special circumstances). The passage of time



The Visitor Center at Historic Rugby, Tennessee.

SOURCE: HISTORICRUGBY.ORG



Anderson County SOR President Jim Green, (left) and SOR Historian Jerry Mustin, (right) at the Granger County Tomato Festival.

and the seclusion of these cemeteries have resulted in our Revolutionary War soldiers buried here being forgotten.

The TNSSOR is leading the effort to identify and recognize forgotten Revolutionary War veterans who either lived on that land for a time or were buried within what came to be the Oak Ridge Reservation's boundaries. The Anderson County Sons chapter is actively exploring the possibility of obtaining head stones and/or historical markers to honor those forgotten few.

Involving Our Youth

Also in September, our Knox County Chapter volunteered with local schools to help introduce young students to Revolutionary War soldier and Tennessee statesman John Sevier at his historic home, Marble Springs. The Sevier home has been reconstructed along with other site buildings to recreate an authentic frontier homestead. Within

this context, 120 students got to rediscover John Sevier.

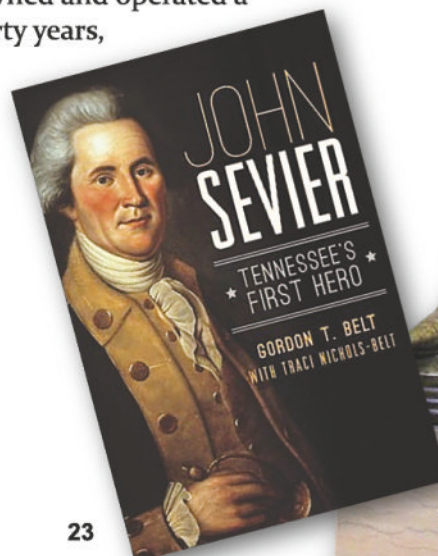
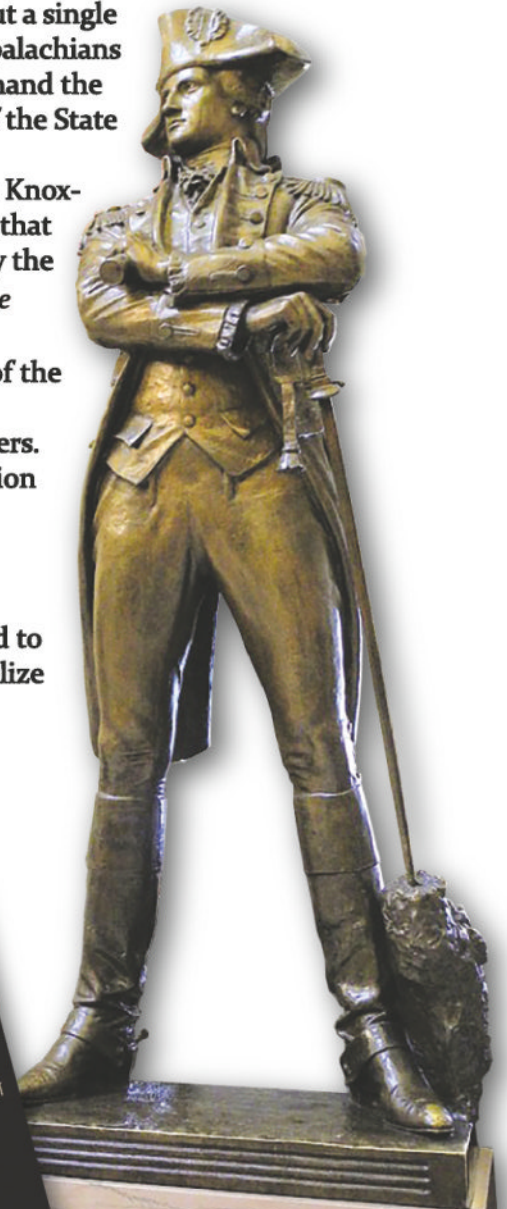
In addition to being one of the leaders of the Overmountain Men who fought at the Battle of Kings Mountain, and in addition to his participating in thirty-five different military engagements **without a single loss**, Sevier was involved in an unsuccessful attempt to form a state west of the Appalachians called Franklin. Later he was appointed by President George Washington to **Command the South West Territorial Militia**. Ultimately, John Sevier became the first governor of the State of Tennessee.

The TNSSOR was again active with young students at the Veteran's Cemetery in Knoxville. The Knox County Society Sons Color Guard presented the flag at a ceremony that welcomed junior TNSSOR members into our Society. This ceremony was hosted by the Lee family and included an invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, singing of *America the Beautiful* and a tribute to the Lee ancestors who served in our military.

It should be noted that both the Knox County and Anderson County Chapters of the Sons of the Revolution have been extremely active with young people. Within our Society we currently have twenty-two junior members along with 448 adult members. Additionally, we encourage young students to be actively involved in our organization by letting them submit articles and publish our Society's quarterly newsletter, *The Rifleman*.

Thanking the Chalfants

On September 12, a delegation of Society members from East Tennessee traveled to Franklin, Tennessee to meet with member Bert Chalfant and his wife, Betty, to finalize the plans for the upcoming 43rd Triennial Meeting of the GSSR, Oct. 4-7, in Franklin (outside Nashville). The Chalfants have owned and operated a travel services company out of Nashville for over forty years, organizing both national and international tours. We are extremely grateful to Bert and Betty who diligently worked and coordinated with the TNSSOR and many local groups to help assure a successful and enjoyable Triennial for all attending delegates and guests. *—submitted by Society Secretary Dennis Eggert*



Patriot Chronicles

The Comitia Americana Medals:

Anthony Wayne: “The Tip of Washington’s Spear at Stony Point”

By James Rhodes, SRNY Member



A bronze copy of the Wayne medal, property of the Royal Collection Trust. Presented to the Queen by US Ambassador Elliott Richardson in 1976, via William Heseltine.

The following continues our series of articles on the Comitia Americana medals and others closely related. The late-eighteenth century Congressional medals were approved, designed, and struck to honor primarily ten Revolutionary War heroes, including Maj. Gen. Anthony Wayne, subject of the present article. However, the project languished over a period of several years and fizzled before it was properly completed.

As a result, today’s extant copies are valuable tokens for their historical significance and rarity. The text of these articles is largely excerpted from the 2007 book, Comitia Americana and Related Medals: Underappreciated Monuments to Our Heritage, by John W. Adams and Anne E. Bentley, with permission from their publisher, George Frederick Kolbe of Crestline, California.

“Anthony Wayne’s military career was an illustrious one,” the authors cited above declare. “From January 4, 1776, when he was appointed Colonel of the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment, until the conclusion of the 1793-1795 campaign against the Indians of the Northwest, he served his country with distinction. Ever at the front with his troops, he was wounded in Canada, at Paoli, at Stony Point, and at Yorktown. He played pivotal roles at Brandywine, Monmouth, and through the long winter months at Valley Forge.”

Despite the general’s moniker of “Mad Anthony,” it remains true his brash character and innate courage helped the Patriots win the Revolutionary War. Wayne saw action in at least eight battles and, after the Revolution, was named Commander-in-Chief of American forces by President Washington. (But) it was his cunning leadership at the Battle of Stony Point for which he is most remembered and for which Congress awarded him a gold medal.

By July 1779, Washington was in dire need of some brilliant action. He turned to Wayne because the latter had proven his courage. Also, Washington was impressed with the battle plans he had previously proposed. As Adams and Bentley write, “In all the Continental Army, Wayne was the obvious choice to lead the attack [at Stony Point]. He and Washington devised the ultimately successful tactics, which featured the brilliant combination of an assault at night with armament of fixed bayonets only...”



“The very thought of attacking a force of professional soldiers armed with cannon, protected by fortifications, and doing so without bullets or artillery support, is so extraordinary as to command admiration in any age.

“From the standpoint of military history, Stony Point has to rank as one of this country’s most notable accomplishments. Not only was a strongly emplaced force with superior armament overcome, the victory was achieved with a civility rare in such assaults: every defender who asked for quarter was granted it. To achieve such an improbable victory in such a gallant fashion must have been as demoralizing to other British troops as it was inspiring to all who supported the American cause.”

The fortress at Stony Point was, indeed, an improbable position for the Americans to surmount. Surrounded by the Hudson River on one side, by marshes on the other, and perched 150 feet above both, the strength of the Stony Point fort was likened to that of Gibraltar and was generally regarded as “impenetrable.”

Wayne received a severe scalp wound but pushed on. In the end, the Patriots captured the fortress in a half-hour and took 543 British prisoners. It was an astonishing victory. Sixty-three British were killed. The Patriots suffered fifteen dead and eighty-three wounded, including Wayne.

While still bleeding from his injury, he sent Washington a cryptic message reporting the victory: *“The fort and garrison with Col. Johnston are ours. Our officers and men behaved like men who are determined to be free.”* The news traveled far and provided the Continental Army and independence movement a much needed boost of morale.

The victory also sent a tremendous tactical message to the enemy: the Redcoats would not easily sweep down the Hudson Valley and divide the Colonies. Their failed siege of Fort Stanwix (Schuyler) and sound defeat at Saratoga sent that message initially, but Stony Point reinforced it—such that the Brits changed their tactics, abandoned the northern colonies, and headed south.

The Medal

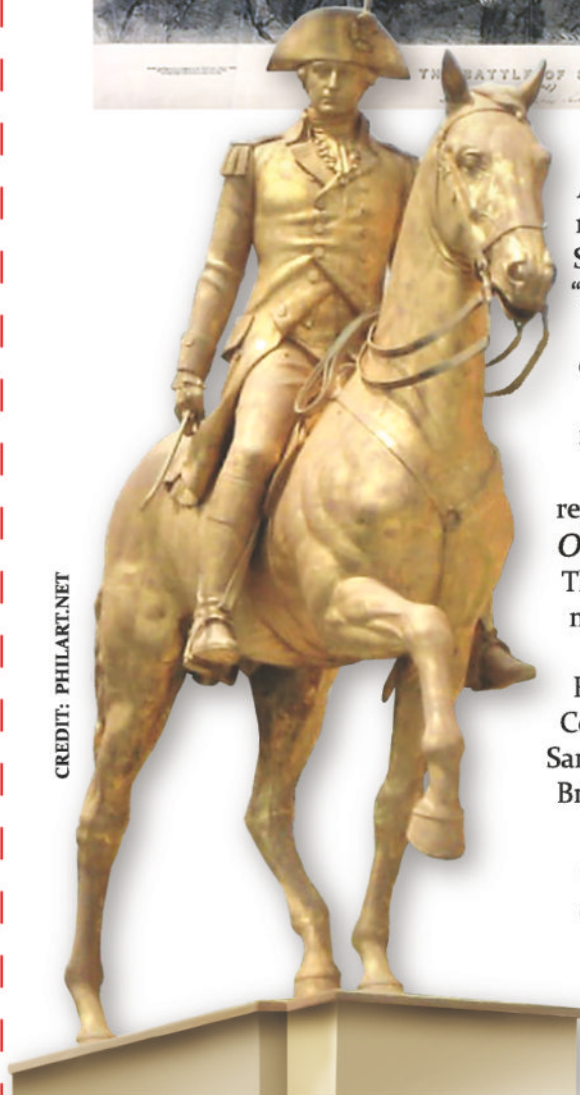
Time and again, production of the Comitia Americana medals was plagued by misunderstanding, miscommunication, and, sadly, Benjamin Franklin’s apparent reticence to embrace the project. The Wayne medal was actually produced twice—the first attempt in 1780, the second in 1789. “[The] earlier version of the medal was created by Benjamin Duvivier at the request of Benjamin Franklin, but it proved to be in poor taste and quality, as it was merely a duplicate of the de Fleury medal with the original text scratched out [and different text re-engraved].”

In 1780, Franklin communicated to Robert Troup, Secretary of the

Board of Treasury, that he had in his possession the finished medals for Col. de Fleury, Maj. Gen. Wayne, and Maj. Stewart.

“Inexplicably, the award medals [for Wayne and Stewart] remained in Franklin’s possession for the next four years. That this Founding Father should have delayed recognition of two of our young nation’s heroes is not to his credit. In due course, Franklin passed the medals along to Henry Laurens, who returned to the United States in 1784.

“Wayne’s reaction [to this first attempt] is nowhere recorded, but given that Thomas Jefferson commissioned a new medal for him in 1789, ‘Mad Anthony’ must have expressed displeasure at some point to persons in high places.”



CREDIT: PHILART.NET

Gold-leafed equestrian statue of Maj. Gen. Anthony Wayne, sponsored by the PSSR and located just outside the Philadelphia Art Museum.

The second medal fell to Thomas Jefferson to procure. “Even as he was planning his imminent return to America, [Jefferson] signed the contracts for the last three Comitia Americana medals. Anthony Wayne’s medal for Stony Point was in this last tranche, as were the medals for John Stewart and Daniel Morgan.”

His second medal was engraved by Nicolas-Marie Gatteaux. The Gatteaux medal on the obverse depicts an Indian princess, symbolizing America, presenting to Wayne a laurel wreath with her right hand and a crown with her left. At her feet are the American shield and an alligator, a gallant warrior. Wayne, standing, bows modestly and holds a tri-cornered hat in his left hand and receives the wreath in his right.

The reverse side shows the taking of the fortress. Yet, John W. Adams takes understandable exception to the design on the reverse. “[It] is the Academie des Belles-Lettres that must be taxed with the most grievous of mistakes: cannon are depicted in the foreground of the Wayne medal, whereas the entire assault was conducted with bayonets only. The savants may have grown bored with American medals, or they may have been more focused on burgeoning political developments within France. Whatever the case, the design is a poor tribute to great heroism.”

Furthermore, the assault is depicted with a large army standing by in the foreground, which did not actually occur.

Nevertheless, Jefferson’s medal was a vast improvement over the execution by Franklin in 1780. The future Secretary of State and third U.S. President brought the medal home and gave it to George Washington on March 21, 1790. Washington wrote to Wayne shortly thereafter: ‘Sir, you will receive with this a medal struck by order of the late Congress in commemoration of your much approved conduct in the Assault of Stony Point—and presented to you as a mark of the high sense which your Country



entertains of your services on that occasion.”

Provenance

After Wayne’s demise in 1796, the general left the Gatteaux medal to his son, Isaac Wayne. By 1978, it was consigned by Anthony Wayne Ridgeway to Sotheby Parke Bernet. At auction, the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution (PSSR) purchased the medal for \$52,500. It was placed on permanent display at the United States Mint in Philadelphia on July 15, 1979—exactly two hundred years after the dead-of-night exploit by drawn bayonet.

That the PSSR owns the medal is a fitting tribute to the Wayne family legacy and their involvement in the Society’s early history. William Wayne, great grandson of the Revolutionary general, was the Society’s first President and oversaw the establishment in 1893 of a special Society Committee of thirteen — one for each original state — to procure designs and devise means to raise funding for the imposing bronze-gilded, gold-leafed equestrian statue of Wayne that stands on the grounds of the Philadelphia Art Museum.



COINBOOKS.ORG



The original gold medal for Anthony Wayne, owned by the PSSR, exhibited at the Philadelphia Mint.

CREDIT: COINNEWS.NET

BATTLES

at a Glance

ORISKANY

"A Place of Great Sadness"

Date of Battle: August 6, 1777

Location: About 8 miles east of Fort Schuyler (Stanwix) in the Mohawk Valley, near modern Oriskany, New York.

Patriot Commander(s): Brig. Gen. Nicholas Herkimer, Tryon County Militia; Oneida leader Han Yerry (Hanyery)

Opposing Commander(s): Sir John Johnson, King's Royal Yorkers; Mohawk leader Joseph Brant

Objective: Herkimer was leading a force west to relieve the besieged Fort Schuyler. Johnson's unit was sent to intercept Herkimer.

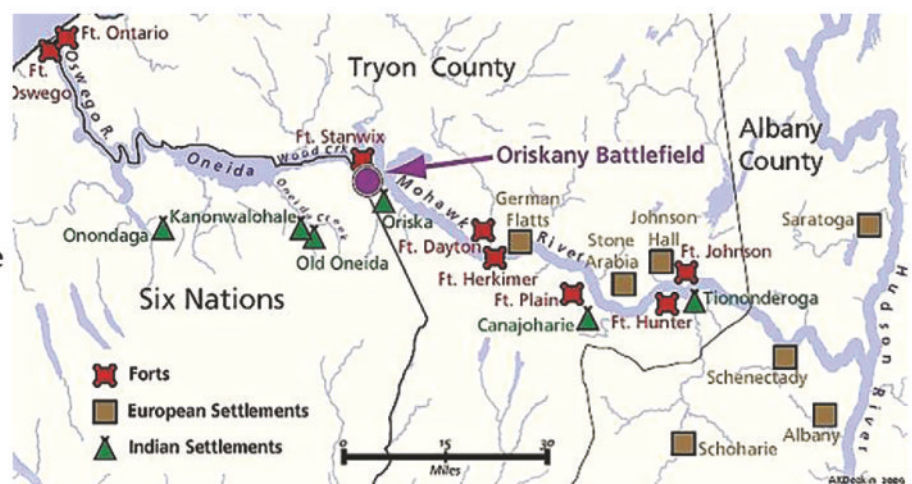
Outcome: British tactical victory, but strategic loss

Casualties: Patriot and Oneida casualties estimated 465 killed or wounded; Loyalist and Iroquois casualties about 100 killed or wounded.

The Battle of Oriskany is often overlooked in terms of its strategic importance, its battlefield ferocity, and its multi-faceted interpretations. Those on the British side view it as a rout for the King. Those on the Patriot side frame it as the definitive culmination of Lt. Col. Barry St. Leger's unsuccessful Mohawk Valley campaign. Both interpretations are correct.

The Indian perspective is much less known, and yet it was the Indian participation that determined the outcome of this battle. Oriskany was the first military action where Oneida Indians, one of the Six Nations of the Iroquois, took up arms against the British in support of the Patriot cause. They joined with the Americans in order to preserve the sovereignty over their native lands.

Yet not all Haudenosaunee ("people of the long-house") saw eye to eye. As the Revolutionary War moved into the Mohawk Valley, the forces of war tore at the heart of the long-lived Indian confederation. At Oriskany, the Mohawks and Senecas opposed the Oneidas. Previous to this battle, the separate nations of the Iroquois had maintained intra-tribal peace for centuries, represented by a symbolic flame kept by the Onandaga. Even today,



Mohawk Valley map 1775



The Oneida headdress of three feathers.

descendants of the Iroquois look upon that battlefield as ‘a Place of Great Sadness.’

The battle occurred in response to the British siege of Fort Schuyler, a few miles to the west, which began August 3, 1777. The land where Fort Schuyler (Stanwix) stood traditionally belonged to the Oneidas. It was part of the six-mile portage that connected the Mohawk River (hence, Hudson River and Atlantic Ocean) to Wood Creek (hence, Oneida Lake, Oswego River, and the Great Lakes). Historically the portage was called “the Oneida Carrying Place,” or more simply, “the Oneida Carry.”

British Strategy Fails

Wresting control of the fort away from the Patriots was key to the British campaign in the Mohawk Valley. Lt. Col. Barry St. Leger was charged with the task, arriving at the fort with about 1,500 men—the 8th and 34th Regiments of Foot, Loyalists and Hessians, as well as several hundred Mohawks, Senecas, and Mississaugas. Inside the fort, Col. Peter Gansevoort led a defensive contingency of 800 men representing the 3rd New York Regiment, two detachments of Massachusetts troops, and Oneida allies.

Meanwhile, away from the Carrying Place, Brig. Gen. Nicholas Herkimer had called up the Tryon County Militia to muster at Fort Dayton—about thirty-five miles east-southeast of Fort Schuyler. From there, starting on August 4, Herkimer marched his men west to provide relief to Gansevoort’s forces. By the evening of August 5, the militia and its supply wagons encamped near the Oneida village of Oriska.

To counter Herkimer’s threat, St. Leger sent out Sir John Johnson and his King’s Royal Yorkers. Johnson was joined by Brant and several hundred Indians. On the morning of August 6, a band of Oneidas that included leader Han Yerry (Hanyery) Tewahangarahken and his wife joined Herkimer’s militia. As the militia came into a ravine, its vanguard waited on the rearguard to catch up. While resting and taking drinks in the stream, Herkimer’s men were ambushed—surrounded on the north, south, and west.

The men began to disperse as attacks came at them from all sides. Still, a small part of the Tryon militia stood its ground. Heavy losses plagued each side. General Herkimer’s horse was shot from beneath him and his leg was shattered by a musket ball. He demanded to be propped on his saddle beneath a beech tree, where he could direct the battle. Han Yerry was also injured, shot through the hand.

Halfway into the battle, heavy rains delayed more action. From his position under the beech tree, Herkimer reorganized his troops into a tight circle. When the rains let up, the fighting continued. In some instances, it was neighbor versus neighbor. The Patriots’ stubborn resistance dismayed the Loyalist/Iroquois troops, and the battle came to a standstill when the Indians under Johnson’s command (including Brant) began quitting the field. Historians have theorized this happened either because of certain signals being fired from Fort Schuyler or because the offensive had evolved from an ambush into a full-scale, bloody battle.

Whatever it was, Johnson had to call for a retreat back to the fort. They left a field badly littered by bloodied corpses and dying men. Herkimer’s militia could neither press onward. They were ordered back to Fort Dayton while their general was taken to his home not far away. There, his injured leg was poorly amputated, and several days later Herkimer died from associated complications.

Meanwhile, Gansevoort’s men continued to defend Fort Schuyler as best they could. The siege went on for a period of weeks. On August 8, Gansevoort sent his second in command, Lt. Col. Marinus Willet, on a raid of Loyalists and Indian camps. The raid thoroughly demoralized the Mohawks and Senecas. Furthermore, a new threat of Patriot reinforcements coming from the east led by Gen. Benjamin Arnold was enough to scare off any remaining Indians. Just as happened on the field of battle at Oriskany, when the pro-British Iroquois retreated from Fort Schuyler, St. Leger’s campaign virtually disintegrated. On August 22, the siege was halted and his army headed back to Canada.—*Editor*



Battlefield Obelisk

The Horn Work: Charleston's Tabby Fortress, 1757-1784

By Nic Butler, Ph.D.
Archivist & Historian
Charleston County Public Library

Mr. Butler was the invited guest speaker at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the GSSR, held in Charleston, where he presented a fascinating review of the city's imposing, eighteenth-century Horn Work. His talk, and this article, are based on information presented in his ongoing blog, "Charleston Time Machine," www.ccpl.org/charleston-time-machine. Nic is an interdisciplinary historian with an infectious enthusiasm for Charleston's colorful past.



SOURCE: WAYMARKING.COM

The only above-ground remnant of Charleston's Horn Work.

Standing inside a wrought-iron fence in Charleston's Marion Square is a curious slab of "tabby" that measures approximately six feet high and nearly ten feet long. For residents and visitors alike, this mass of oyster-shell cement dating from the 1700s seems to defy explanation. A small, iron plaque posted on the fence provides the only clue to its history: "Remnant of Horn Work. May 1780. Siege of Charleston."

Those few words provide but a paltry testimonial of the importance and scale of what was once a major part of Charleston's defenses. That chunk of tabby is all that remains of a once-sizeable fortification that, before and during the American Revolution, served as the town's main entryway on the north end. Straddling King Street, it was the definitive centerpiece of Charleston's land-side protection.

Defense had always been a primary concern for Charlestonians. During the first century of the town's existence (1670-1770), its landscape was dominated by an evolving ring of fortifications designed to protect the city against potential invasion by Spanish, French, and later, British forces. The provincial legislature repeatedly devoted large sums of tax revenue for the construction and repair of temporary walls, moats, bastions, and related works, resulting in what was undoubtedly the largest public works program in colonial South Carolina.

Generations of Charlestonians were preoccupied about a possible invasion of Spanish troops from Florida from the colony's infancy until the conclusion of King George's War in 1748. The French menace began with the settlement of Biloxi, Mississippi in 1699 and did not evaporate until the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1763.

A Mammoth Safeguard

This Horn Work was the city's first permanent defensive structure of major scale and importance. In 1757, to counter the French and Indian threat, the colonial government resolved to build a rather permanent structure beyond the northern limits of Charleston to protect the city from inland invasions. In the latter half of that year, a British officer named Emanuel Hess arrived in Charleston and designed a new fortification based on the conventions of European military architecture.

He proposed a large fortification to be built on the northern limits of the city, with the main gateway flanked by a pair of demi-bastions that extended three



PHOTO BY SUSAN BENNETT

Nic Butler addresses the GSSR

hundred feet beyond the curtain wall. From bird's eye-view, the demi-bastions would have resembled the two horns of a Spanish bull. Another feature of most Horn Works were the glacises, or glaci, the gradual inclinations of earth or structural materials leading up to the fortress walls. The angle provided for better defense against incoming artillery and/or invading soldiers.

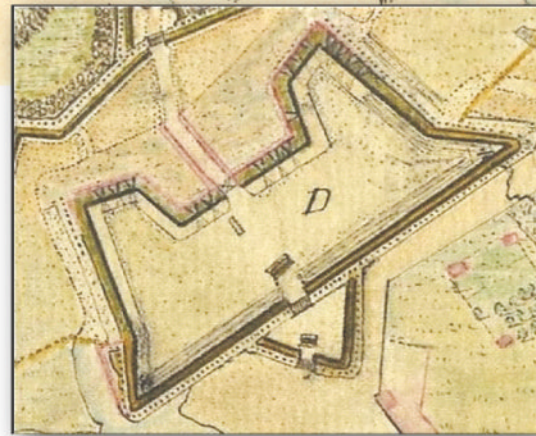
Finally, a deep moat or deep ditch was located in front of most Horn Works to prevent siege towers and battering rams from accessing the walls of the fortress. A water-filled moat made the option of digging tunnels under the fortress walls very difficult or impossible.

Hess recommended locating the fortress in the exact center of the Peninsula, upon the highest ground, and he called for a moat to be dug around its periphery. The legislature agreed with the idea, and construction commenced in the autumn of 1757. But after several months of construction, it became clear that the French were not going to invade Charleston. With that, the provisional government shifted military resources from Charleston to the western backcountry of South Carolina.

The Horn Work was left unfinished but functional, and for the next thirty-odd years everyone passing in and out of Charleston to the north traversed the Horn Work's moat, drawbridge, and gate. In today's urban environment, the foundation of the eastern half of the Horn Work lies just below the grassy surface of Marion Square, while its western half is covered by the buildings on the opposing side of King Street, including the old Citadel.



SOURCE: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS DIGITAL MAP COLLECTION.



A sketch of the environs of Charleston in South Carolina, George Sproule, 1780.

The Revolution Commences

At the beginning of the American Revolution in 1775, the rebel government of South Carolina immediately began building new fortifications around Charleston and repairing the existing works. This new phase had been preceded by a dozen years of neglect. Harbor defenses on the islands came first, then waterfront defenses in the town, and finally the fortifications on the north end or back side of the town.



British Commander, Sir Archibald Campbell, KB

When in May 1779 a British force under Sir Archibald Campbell KB landed above (north of) the town in a narrow area of the Peninsula known as the Neck, local militia scrambled to improve the unfinished defensive works around the Horn Work. The British did not attack that time, but the provisional government realized it was only a matter of time before a larger enemy force besieged South Carolina's capital city. It therefore threw more resources into the Horn Work and neighboring defenses in the latter part of 1779 and early 1780.

By the time British soldiers again appeared on the Charleston Neck in late March 1780, the Americans had constructed a robust, zig-zag line of fortification stretching across the Peninsula from the Ashley River on the west to the Cooper River on the east. The Horn Work, rising nearly thirty feet high from the bottom of its moat, stood as the geographic and tactical center point of the defenses.



"Siege of Charleston 1780" by Alonzo Chappel (1828-1887)

By April of 1780, the south wall of the Horn Work was finally complete. Nevertheless, the British army began its siege of Charleston defenses at the tail-end of March. After six weeks of punishing bombardment and a series of hot-tempered debates held within the Horn Work, the American commanders opted to seek terms of peace. On May 12, 1780, nearly six thousand Continental Army soldiers and South Carolina militia marched out of the Horn Work and surrendered to the British army, which filed into the town through the same gate of the tabby fortress.

Following the surrender of Charleston, the British occupying forces repaired and strengthened the town's fortifications in case of an American counterattack. But the Redcoats maintained control of the city during three years of occupation. Just prior to mid-December 1782, which marked the point of their evacuation, British forces demolished some of the fortifications before they left.

After the War

The city's growth was always constrained by the military works made necessary by lingering fears of Spanish or French invasion. Even after the British surrender at Yorktown, Charlestonians remained wary of the British. By 1784, however, the city took its first tentative steps towards an unfettered use of the peninsular landscape.

The post-Revolutionary extension of Charleston's streets, the development of its boroughs, gardens, and public green spaces, and the commercial expansion of its port facilities were all predicated on the removal of the restrictive colonial fortifications. The "charm" of modern Charleston certainly embraces many of its colonial features, but few traces now remain of what was once the largest and most imposing of the city's early characteristics.

From its beginnings in 1680 through the American Revolution, Charleston was an unincorporated town that served as the capital of South Carolina. The various fortifications erected around Charleston were financed and owned by the state government as public property. After the end of the Revolution, and following the legal incorporation of the City of Charleston in August 1783, the newly-formed City Council negotiated with the state government to take possession of some of the urban fortifications.

The Horn Work was technically outside the city limit (Boundary Street), but the state ceded old tabby fortification to the City Council. Since the fortification impeded the flow of traffic in and out of the city, the city paid laborers to demolish most of the Horn Work in 1784, although some remnants of its gate and curtain wall remained standing for many more years. Immediately after the demolition of the Horn Work, the city began to subdivide the site into a number of building lots on the east and west sides of King Street, just north of Boundary Street. Eventually, the whole fortress was gone.

With those developments, Charlestonians slowly began to forget about the formidable structure that had defined an era. Those who could recall the Horn Work eventually passed on, and then the calendar turned a new century. So, it isn't surprising that today, some two hundred and thirty-five years after the Horn Work's demolition, that both residents and visitors alike may glimpse at that piece of tabby standing on Marion Square and wonder of its significance.



Inspiring example of star fort and horn work, Aerial photo of Our Lady of Grace Fortress, Elvas, Portugal.

SOURCE: PINTEREST.COM

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