



The
S O N S
D R U M B E A T



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Spring 2017

GSSR BOM to Convene in Charleston

By General President Mitchell Bush

The GSSR BOM is eager to convene in its annual meeting in the grand city of Charleston, S.C., 28 Sept – 1 Oct, 2017. The meeting registration fee is \$575 per couple, \$300 per individual. The SR group room rate at the Francis Marion Hotel is \$259 per night, double occupancy (see pp. 4-5)

General President Emeritus Terry Davenport, Chairman of the Meetings and Guidelines Committee, put it best when he said, “As Charleston was the epicenter of the Revolution in the Southern Theatre, it commands the absolute very highest level of appreciation, and I know it will be the perfect setting for us as we conduct business and chart the future of our great Sons of the Revolution!” —Continued on Page 3



The city is located on the tip of the Charleston Peninsula, at the confluence of the Ashley and Cooper Rivers. —Source: city-data.com



Downtown Charleston is a gem of culture, heritage, history and architecture. —Source: blogspot.com



Estimated between 400-500 years old, the Angel Oak is located on Johns Island, twenty minutes from Charleston. —Source: Flickr/David Pitts



This 1898 Cuban cigar box label exemplifies US-Cuban relations during the Spanish-American War. Another period of close friendship between Cuba and the U.S. was during the Revolutionary War. See pp. 25-27. —Source: glabarre.com



National Report



A Son's Star Never Fades Remembering Our Past Members

As a past President of the Pennsylvania Society, Col. William Innes Forbes was born in 1868 and elected to the Sons in December 1892—not long after the Society had been founded on 3 April 1888. William was the first of the Forbes family to join the PSSR and has been followed in membership by several of his progeny (see President's Message, pp. 3).

He not only served his country, but afterwards became a member of several military and hereditary societies. He served as commander or president of many of them. Aside from the Sons of the Revolution, his other memberships included: Society of Colonial Wars, Military Order of Loyal Legion; Military Order of Foreign Wars; War of 1812; and others.

Born in Philadelphia to Celanire Bernoudi Sims and (George) William Smith Forbes, William graduated in 1889 from the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a founding member of Penn's "Mask and Wig" acting troupe. The same year that he joined the Sons, Forbes was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Pennsylvania State Naval Militia until 1894. He was then elected to the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry, serving with that unit as a First Lieutenant in the Spanish American War.

His military career continued into World War I, when he commanded the 57th Field Artillery in Texas. His career in the service ended with the rank of Colonel commanding the 305th Reserve Cavalry in 1932.

Forbes was elected to PSSR membership under the ancestry of Dr. David Sterling Forbes, surgeon, Continental Army, 1778 – 1780, and John Ross, Captain, 3rd New Jersey Regiment, 1776 – 1779. His membership in both the Sons and First Troop helped set a precedence in what has become a rich tradition of cross-membership between the two organizations.



William Innes Forbes, c. 1918

Leading the PSSR

Forbes was elected President of the PSSR in the mid-1930s, during the Great Depression, the same time he was Commander-in-Chief of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. He became active in MOLLUS following World War I.

He also served as Commander-in-Chief of both the Military Order of World War I and the Military Order of Foreign Wars.

One of his most significant achievements during his MOLLUS leadership was organizing a fund drive to oversee the purchase of additional lands to increase the size of the Spotsylvania Battlefield.

Col. Forbes died on 4 July 1967 in Philadelphia, succumbing on the same date as did Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. This past April, the Forbes family presented to the Society his Presidential Star. It was donated to the Society by his son, Maj. Francis Coxe Forbes, while he himself was being presented a certificate for his seventy-five years of membership.—Thanks to PSSR Board Member Will Forbes for assistance with this article. ■

President's Message

Charleston BOM Meeting

In 1663, when King Charles II was restored to the throne, he granted a large charter of land in America (comprising the Carolinas) to eight of his former generals. Those men became known as the Lords Proprietors of Carolina. The earliest constitution of Carolina was written in 1669 by John Locke and provided for much toleration.

The first settlers came in 1670 and established "Charles Town" on the west bank of the Ashley River, at Albemarle Point. By 1680, the city had been moved to its present location at the tip of Charleston Peninsula, where the Ashley and Cooper rivers converge.

From then on, the city blossomed as an important trade and commerce center, and became known as "the Holy City" for its tradition of religious toleration. French Huguenots, Sephardic Jews, free people of African descent and others converged in this new metropolis. By 1770, the city was the largest port south of Philadelphia. By then, its population was about eleven thousand people.

During the Revolutionary War, the city was a prime target of the British. The Redcoats' first attempt to take it came in June 1776, which resulted in failure. Col. William Moultrie and his men of the Second South Carolina Regiment staved off a British navy assault behind a fortress of native palmetto logs on Sullivan's Island. This was the motive for placing a palmetto tree on the State flag.

Nearly four years later (March-May 1780), an overwhelming number of British troops closed in on Charleston from an over-land approach. When Gen. Benjamin Lincoln was forced to surrender without honors on 12 May, the British occupied the city and captured a very large cache of supplies. It was among the worst single setbacks for the Patriots during the entire war.

Charleston was the political, social, and economic center of South Carolina throughout the colonial, Revolutionary, and antebellum periods, and it served as the state capital until 1790. I look forward to the Board of Managers converging in South Carolina's jewel by the sea.

* * * * *

Multi-Generational SR Families

Turning to a different subject I remain concerned about our slipping membership numbers. Nevertheless, I am encouraged by the great potential there is for families in every State Society to develop a tradition of multi-generational memberships. In several states, we have families with three generations represented, and, in rarer instances, four or even five. I know of one family that has had six successive generations welcomed into the Sons.

The older generations in these families have taken the time and made the commitment to instill in their children a love of country, an awareness of the sacrifice of their patriot-ancestors, and an appreciation for their own place in the Sons. *I would love to see every SR member's household become a cradle for this kind of tradition to grow and thrive!*

The following is not an all-inclusive survey, but for illustrative purposes I'd like to call out the Forbes, Landreth and Milne families of PSSR. It was in 1891 that William Innes Forbes (*see Page 2*) and Burnet Landreth, Jr., were elected to PSSR membership. Since that time, the Landreth and Forbes families have had several generations of active members. Current Board Member William Frederick Forbes represents the fourth generation of his family, and Charles Alexander Burnet Landreth represents the fourth generation of his.

In 1895, Caleb Jones Milne, Sr., was accepted into the same Society. An impressive five generations of the Milne family have followed Caleb. Today, Howard Caleb Milne Hessler represents the sixth generation of his family to belong to the Sons!

Across the Country

Of course, this tradition extends to other State Societies as well. In Virginia, current member Taylor Turner, IV is the fourth generation of his family to be welcomed into the Sons. His great-grandfather, Taylor Turner, Jr., was the first to join. Their patriot-ancestor, Col. John Taylor of Caroline County, fought at Kings Mountain.

"I knew Taylor Turner, Jr., very well," reported Casper Sigmon, VSSR Registrar. "Through Taylor's daughter, Robinette Turner Wrobel, we [also] have

—President's Message continued on page 6





GENERAL SOCIETY SONS OF THE REVOLUTION
2016 Annual BOM Meeting Registration



September 28 - October 1, 2017

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name of Spouse/Guest, if attending: _____

Date and time of check-in: _____

Please indicate the number of persons attending each event:

- PM Business Meeting Friday September 29 FM (Gold) _____
- Presentation of S.C. and Charleston History for Non-Delegates FM (Calhoun) _____
- Reception - Hors d'oeuvres/Entertainment Friday September 29 FM (Colonial) _____
- AM Business Meeting Saturday September 30 FM (Gold) _____
- Tour of Colonel John Stuart and Heyward-Washington Houses for Non-Delegates _____
- Reception Saturday September 30 FM (Gold) _____
- Formal Dinner (Black Tie) Saturday September 30 FM (Gold) _____
- Hospitality Suite Saturday September 30 FM (Room 1205/Riverview) _____
- AM Church Service and Sherry Toast Sunday October 1 FM (Gold) _____

BOM Meeting Registration Fees: \$575 per couple, \$300 per individual

Hotel Registration/Accommodations: Francis Marion Hotel, 387 King Street, Charleston, SC 29403. * SR Group Room Reservation Rate is \$259 Traditional Room.

Phone: 1-877-756-2121

Online Code and Link: Booking Engine 4.0

URL: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/76320?groupID=1756162> Online Code: SRSC

SRSC has arranged for special rates at this historic 1924 hotel within walking distance of restaurants, shopping district, historic sites and parking garage. Attendees should register directly with the hotel. Group Room Reservation Rate is \$259 Traditional Room. A block of 40 rooms is reserved for attendees. Check in time is 4:00 pm and Check out time is 12:00 pm. These rates are available through August 31, 2017. Hotel parking is available at the City of Charleston owned garage adjacent to the Hotel. The prevailing rates for 2017 is \$22 per day plus tax for valet service, which can be added to the guest room folio, and \$17 for self-parking per day which must be paid directly to the parking garage in cash.



GENERAL SOCIETY SONS OF THE REVOLUTION

2017 Annual BOM Meeting Registration

September 28 - October 1, 2017



Planning is ongoing and is subject to change. Changes will be indicated on day of registration.

- **Thursday, September 28, 2017**

Early Registration begins at 5:00- 7:00 pm Mezzanine Level (Laurens)

- **Friday, September 29, 2017**

9:00-5:00 pm – Registration - Mezzanine Level (Laurens)

9:00-1:00 pm – Spouse/Guest/Family Activities – On Your Own (Information at Registration Table)

1:30-5:00 pm – Business Session I - Second Floor (Gold) *Dark jacket or blazer, white collared shirt, appropriate slacks and Society ties*

3:00-4:00 pm – Presentation of S.C. and Charleston History – Mezz Level (Calhoun)

6:00-8:00 pm – Reception - Hors d'oeuvres/Entertainment/Wine Beer Bar - Mezz Level (Colonial)

8:00 pm – Dinner/Sightsee on Your Own (Restaurant/Sightsee Guide in Registration Gift Bag)

- **Saturday, September 30, 2017**

8:30-12:00 pm - Business Session II- Second Floor (Gold) *Dark jacket or blazer, white collared shirt, appropriate slacks and Society ties*

12:00-2:00 pm – Lunch on Your Own (Restaurant Guide/ Walking Distance King and Meeting St.)

2:00-5:00 pm – Shopping, Walking Tours, Carriage Rides, Tour Shuttles in Historic Charleston

3:00-5:00 pm – Tour of John Stuart and Heyward Washington Houses

6:00-7:00 pm – Reception – Wine Beer Bar Cocktail - Second Floor (Gold) *Black Tie*

7:00-9:00 pm – Formal Dinner and “Swamp Fox” Toast – Procession and Speaker - Second Floor (Gold)

9:00 pm – Hospitality Suite Francis Marion – 12th Floor (Riverview and Bridgeview)

- **Sunday, October 1, 2017**

10:00 am – Church Service then Sherry Toast- Second Floor (Gold)

Noon – Departure

Registration Payment:

Please fill out and send it along with payment (make checks payable to GSSR) or electronic payment Master or Visa Card before August 31, 2017 to: 1-800-593-1776

General Society Sons of the Revolution

412 West Francis Street

Williamsburg, VA 23185

Comments and Questions: Ivan Bennett, President SRSC (843-681-3144, or ibennett@aol.com)

—President’s Message continued from page 3

three generations of the Wrobel family—William Turner Wrobel, Jeffrey Scott Wrobel, Jr., and Benjamin Stocking Wrobel.

From Coast to Coast

In New York, among those families deserving special mention are the Dotys, Elsans, and Coombes. Other families of similar circumstance across the country include the Scammells of New Jersey, the Grays and Boyds of California, the Hickoks of Michigan, the Hales of Rhode Island, and the Lufburrows of Georgia.

This pattern of multi-generational family memberships is not limited to just one line, but often includes multiple lines. The Grays of California and the Hickoks of Michigan have nearly as much width in their family memberships as they do depth.

Sometimes the generational influence can start with a son or nephew and work backwards, reaching a father or uncle. Such is the case of the family of General President Emeritus Thomas Clifton Etter, Jr., of the D.C. Society. Thomas was the first in his family to be elected (1959). His father joined in 1961, and an uncle in 1963.

Life Membership and Junior Membership programs enable younger generations to jump in much sooner. In California, during the summer of 2011, fifteen-month-old Patrick Douglas Conrad became the youngest member of the GSSR at the time. He is the grandson of Region 6 General Vice President Douglas Boyd, Sr.

As all of these examples show, generations are connected to one another in the great fabric of life. Do not forget that your Sons is part of the fabric. The edges may fray from time to time, and some of the fibers may discolor. We must assure ourselves that it is rejuvenated, enhanced, and strengthened as often as is required.—Special thanks to Jefferson Moak, Will Forbes, Casper Sigmon, Taylor Turner, Paul Gray, Colyn C. Hunt, and Tony Riva. ■



Three generations of the SRCA Grays, pausing with GP Mitchell Bush.—Courtesy Paul Gray



L-R: Brothers Scott and Charlie Scammell with their cousin Robert Scammell, all of the SRNJ.—Courtesy Charlie Scammell



L-R: Taylor Turner III, Taylor Turner Sr., Taylor Turner Jr., of the VSSR.—Courtesy Taylor Turner, IV



L-R: Edward H. Vick, Francis Coxe Forbes, William Frederick Forbes.—Courtesy Will Forbes



L-R: William Frederick Forbes, Alison May Forbes, Dr. William Innes Forbess III, Melissa Landsman, David Sterling Forbes.—Courtesy Will Forbes

An Institution's Renaissance: The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

By Tracy Perkins,
Media Relations Manager, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation



The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown held its grand opening this spring with a creative thirteen-day prelude (23 March – 4 April) of special presentations honoring each of the original states in the order they rati-

fied the Constitution.

The museum's opening culminated a ten-year complete renovation and transformation from its predecessor institution, the Yorktown Victory Center.

Through comprehensive indoor gallery exhibits, immersive films, and outdoor living history, the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown offers a truly national perspective, conveying a sense of the transformational nature and epic scale of the Revolution, and the richness and complexity of the country's heritage.

The Virginia Society of the Sons of the Revolution (VSSR) generously supported the transformation project. Also, General Society Executive Director Jeff Lambert and Executive Assistant Tony Riva have been among the forefront of those promoting the museum and the greater Historic Triangle's many historic sites.

A National Scope

A dedication ceremony was held on 1 April 2017 and featured tours of the expansive gallery exhibits, period military music, and eighteenth-century interpretive experiences in the newly expanded Continental Army encampment and Revolution-era farm on adjacent property.



The Hubbard copy of Jean Antoine Houdon's famous likeness



The front façade includes the "Freedom's Sentinel" sculpture on the pediment. — All photos courtesy Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

Through the total experience of the gallery exhibits, featuring nearly five hundred period artifacts, as well as educational films and interpretive living-history demonstrations, the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown presents an enlarged and broader perspective on the meaning and impact of the Revolution.

A symbol of the museum's recharged mission is "Freedom's Sentinel," the sculpture by David H. Turner located on the building's pediment above the main entrance. The stars-and-stripes shield on the eagle's chest represents the Thirteen Colonies at the time of the Revolution, and the two eaglets reflect the museum's mission to educate future generations.



A sculpture of Patrick Henry, specially made for this museum.

In presenting a global perspective of the war, the exhibits not only highlight the Patriot side, but also the Loyalist side. The British Empire and British leaders are also featured, as well as the plight of Africans in America and their contribution to the war.

—Yorktown Museum continued on page 9

The Museum of the American Revolution Opens in Philadelphia

By ZeeAnn Mason, Chief Operating Officer, Museum of the American Revolution



When it opened on 19 April 2017 (marking the 242nd anniversary of the Shot Heard 'Round the World), the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia brought to life the events, people, and ideals of the founding of the United States to inspire a deep appreciation of the importance of the struggle that cre-

ated American democracy.

With original artifacts, immersive galleries, dynamic theaters, and recreated historic environments, the experience takes visitors on a chronological journey from the roots of conflict in the 1760s, to the bold Declaration of Independence of 1776, and through the long years of warfare that achieved victory.

The Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution supported the museum project from early on. The Society funded the renovation of George Washington's original field standard, a flag of thirteen six-point white stars on a blue silk background, which was flown to indicate the Commander-in-Chief's official presence.

After Washington's death, the standard descended down through the family of his sister, Betty Washington Lewis. In the early twentieth century, it was donated to the museum's predecessor institution, the Valley Forge Historical Society, where it remained until recently. That little flag's stars were the inspiration for the museum's logo.

The Experience

At the heart of the Museum of the American Revolution is the rich collection of original historic artifacts. One of the premier collections of its kind, it includes several thousand objects from the period of the American Revolution, including a number of George Washington's personal belongings, as well as an impressive assortment of period weaponry, soldiers' and civilians' personal accoutrements, fine art, and printed works and manuscripts.



The completed building and front plaza.

—Source: visitphilly.com/C_Smyth

Among the immersive experiences are galleries featuring: 1) a full-scale replica of Boston's Liberty Tree; 2) the recreation of an Oneida Indian Nation Meeting House; 3) Battlefield Theater, where visitors are placed on the Continental Army's front lines; 4) Independence Hall in disarray during British occupation; and 5) a large-scale replica of an eighteenth-century privateer ship which visitors can board.

Through it all, visitors can explore the personal stories of the diverse range of individuals who were part of establishing our nation, including women, native people, and free and enslaved people of African descent.

The concluding experience is the Legacy Theater, where visitors are invited to reflect on their richer understanding of the struggle to create what



CEO Michael Quinn with Gerry Lenfest and wife, Marguerite, at the dedication ceremony. —Source: amrevmuseum.org



A look at the weapons used during the Revolutionary War.
--Source: kdown.biz

was the first modern democracy, and on the ongoing responsibility to perpetuate the ideals the nation was founded on.

—Yorktown Museum continued from page 7

The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown also has on display two imposing statues that pay homage to two giant patriots: George Washington and Patrick Henry. Not only were these men of great international renown, they were both Virginians.

Little needs to be said about Washington and his greatness. The statue on exhibit is no less than the Hubard copy of French sculptor Jean Antoine Houdon's famous work. While Houdon executed his likeness in marble, the Hubard copy is a rare plaster version.

The Patrick Henry statue is a resin figure specifically made for the museum's exhibit exploring the rising tensions between the American colonies. Patrick Henry is one of the few Founding Fathers who was not a President.

He was elected Virginia's first governor and served repeated times but will always be most remembered for his March 1775 impassioned speech to the Second Virginia Convention: "...I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

Other features of the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown include "The Siege of Yorktown," which unfolds in an experiential theater with a 180-degree surround screen. Among the computer interactives are Personal Stories of the Revolution, which incorporates human stories of the war told in conversational narrative.

There's also a tavern in a re-created wharf set-

The Building's Dedication

On 15 Sept 2016, the building was dedicated in honor of Museum Chairman Gerry Lenfest and his wife, Marguerite. Having served as Chairman since 2005, Mr. Lenfest has contributed \$50 million in matching grants toward the museum's \$150 million campaign.

"This building is a physical testament to the inspiring vision, unwavering support, and tremendous generosity of Gerry and Marguerite Lenfest," said Michael Quinn, President and CEO of the Museum of the American Revolution, during the dedication ceremonies.

Mr. Lenfest said at the dedication: "The American Revolution brought this country into existence and it deserves a great national museum to honor that legacy. I am honored to have helped make this vision a reality, and am so thankful to those who have joined me in supporting it." ■



The "Siege of Yorktown Theater" features a 180-degree surround screen.

ting, which features a short film chronicling the evolution in the relationship between American colonists and the British government leading to armed conflict. Inside a tent that serves as a theater, "The First Great Victory" presents the story of the 1777 Battle of Saratoga, a turning point in the Revolution.

Outside the building, the re-created Continental Army encampment is now triple in size to what it was earlier. The revamped Revolution-era farm includes a larger farmhouse as well as a structure representing slave quarters.

In summation, the transformation project had its genesis back in 2007. Overall cost of the ten-year project was approximately \$50 million. ■

Commuting the Sentence of Oscar Lopez Rivera

Observations of RADM J. Robert Lunney, NYNM (Ret.)
General President Emeritus and Chairman, American Heritage Committee

On Friday, January 24, 1975 – at the height of the lunch hour – a murderous explosion ripped through Fraunces Tavern in New York City, killing four and wounding at least sixty others. Victims in the Tavern restaurant and the dining room of the adjacent Anglers Club were hurled from their tables in a confusion of screams and flying debris. The four men who died were eating lunch. Three of them were killed outright, one of whom was decapitated, and a fourth died later in Beekman Downtown Hospital.

More than a dozen others were admitted to Beekman and Bellevue hospitals with fractured limbs and ribs, severe cuts and other injuries, several in critical condition. Property damage amounted to over \$100,000.

An hour after the blast, callers identifying themselves as members of *Fuerzas Armadas de Liberacion Nacional Puertorriquena* (“FALN”), a Puerto Rican nationalist organization, claimed responsibility for the devastation. The FALN had been linked to previous acts of terrorism in New York City, part of a violent campaign for a free and socialist Puerto Rico.

In a phone call to the Associated Press, the perpetrators said that a statement explaining the bombing would be found in a telephone booth near the Tavern. Later, police found a typewritten message which stated that the FALN took “full responsibility” for the attack. It noted that the bombing was in retaliation for a “CIA-ordered” bombing of an independence meeting in Puerto Rico, in which two persons were killed.

Between 1974 and 1983, the FALN staged more than 100 terror attacks on political, military and civilian targets across the United States resulting in a total of nine dead, wounding hundreds and causing millions of dollars in property damage. Three NYPD officers were maimed for life while attempting to defuse a FALN bomb at NYC Police Headquarters in 1982. Sixteen FALN members were later convicted of conspiring to overthrow the government by force, among other serious crimes.

Oscar Lopez Rivera, one of the most notable of FALN leaders, was found guilty of weapons, explosives and seditious conspiracy charges. At his sentencing in 1981, the judge called him an “unre-

habilitated revolutionary” and sentenced him to fifty-five years. Although he was not convicted for the attack on Fraunces Tavern, per se, many held him responsible because of his FALN ties.

In 1988, he received an additional fifteen years added to his sentence after he was convicted of plotting to escape from prison. Rivera was the last remaining FALN member still in prison, having in 1999 rejected President Clinton’s conditional offer for a reduced sentence. Rivera had refused to renounce violence.

Activists spent years advocating for Rivera’s release, launching a national campaign. Multiple groups lobbied the Obama administration for his release. Although opposed by many in law enforcement and families of the victims, President Obama on 17 Jan 2017 granted commutation of Rivera’s sentence allowing him to be released this year. His sentence would have expired in 2051.

Of note, before granting commutation, the White House apparently did not consult the families of the Fraunces Tavern dead nor the survivors of the blast, some of whom were permanently maimed. ■



The aftermath along Broad Street. Note the corner FT sign in the background.

—Source: dailynews.com



Inspecting the interior damage from the lethal bombing.
—Photo by NYPD Crime Scene Unit



The Renaissance of American Heraldry

By Duane L.C.M. Galles, JD, JCD, PhD, FSA Scot
Secretary-Treasurer, Society of Minnesota



In this final installment of the three-part series on heraldry in America, Mr. Galles delves into the personal use of familial arms. Like the previous two installments, the present article is abstracted from a presentation given by the author to the International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences, in Oslo, Norway in August, 2014. Mr. Galles is a distinguished attorney, counselor-at-law, and canonist, residing in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He belongs to many lineage societies, including the Society of the Cincinnati and the Order of Americans of Armorial Ancestry of which he was President General, and has been widely published. In the Sons of the Revolution, Mr. Galles has been General Solicitor and a General Vice President and has been President of the Minnesota Society and for many years its Secretary-Treasurer.

The personal use of arms among individual Americans and their families swelled during the first three decades of the 'American Century.' It corresponded to the surge in arms display by the military and other institutions, and to the proliferation of armory literature, during the same period. This development followed the near abandonment of arms display in the U.S. during the Jacksonian Age.

By the twentieth century, individuals of sterling importance began to embrace heraldry, valuing its uniqueness of expression. One of the most notable enthusiasts of heraldry was the New York lawyer and Brigadier General John Ross Delafield (1874-1964). Delafield belonged to the Sons of the Revolution, the Society of the Cincinnati, and the Veteran Corps of Artillery of the State of New York.¹

He received the Army's Distinguished Service Medal for his great responsibility during WW I as Chairman of the War Department Board of Contract Adjustment, and following the war for many years was chairman of the Committee on Heraldry of the New York Biographical and Genealogical Society.¹¹

One writer describes the general as a scion of New York's pre-Gilded Age oligarchy, whose immigrant great-grandfather was the highly successful merchant and marine insurer John Delafield (1748-1824) and whose immigrant maternal grandfather was Robert Livingston, son of the Rev. John and

first Lord of Livingston Manor (1654-1725). For all intents and purposes, it was John Ross Delafield who pioneered the practice of matriculating honorary grants of arms by the College of Arms (London) for the use of Americans of English (or British) descent.¹¹¹



John Ross Delafield, c. 1918.—Source: Bard College, Montgomery Place Collection

A Pioneer of Family Heraldry

He began his armorial pursuits in October 1916 by receiving from the Court of the Lord Lyon, the official heraldic authority for Scotland, a matriculation of arms for his mother's Livingston family (minor Scottish gentry who became great landed proprietors of Colonial New York). Delafield's mother, Mary Coleman Livingston, was the daughter of the aforesaid Robert Livingston and his wife, Alida Schuyler. He matriculated

for her in grand quarters the Livingston and Callendar arms, the whole differenced by a mullet gules.

His paternal grandmother was Julia Livingston (1801-1882), descended from "the Nephew" Robert Livingston (1663-1725), son of James Livingston (1646-1700), the elder brother of Mary's father. For her, on 21 April 1917, he also matriculated the Livingston and Callendar arms, differenced by a bordure engrailed azure and at the fess point of the escutcheon a crescent gules.

That same year he obtained grants for his nominal coat, Delafield, with special remainder to the descendants of his great-grandfather, John Delafield (NER170). Following that success, in 1927

he got grants as well for other ancestors, including the Halletts (NER171; John Delafield married Ann, daughter of Joseph Hallett, a Revolutionary War officer) and the Beekmans (Margaret Beekman was Julia Livingston's great-grandmother) (NER95). In 1932 came the Vanbrughs (Katherine Vanbrugh was the great-grandmother of Mary Coleman Livingston) (NER184).

These latter matriculations were only to be quartered via Livingston—making them, curiously, as writer-genealogist Nathaniel Lane Taylor notes, English arms for Dutchmen to be quartered, English-style, via a Scottish intermediary.

He also secured arms for the Whites (NER172) and Wetmores (NER422), ancestors of his wife, Violetta Susan Elizabeth White. She was the daughter of John Jay White (1829-1902) and his wife, Louisa Laura Wetmore, who in turn was the daughter and co-heiress of Prosper Montgomery Wetmore, a New York merchant, author, and third president of the American Art-Union (1847-50).^{IV}

All of this flowed like a river into his magnificent bookplate, engraved in 1927 by William Phillips Barrett (1861-1938). It shows Delafield's six quartered arms impaled with the two quarterings of his wife. Beneath the shield are the badges of the Legion of Honor, the Distinguished Service Medal, and the Society of the Cincinnati.^V



John Ross Delafield's Bookplate.

—Source: *The Family History*, Vol. 2 (New York, 1945)



From British Heraldic Authorities

Other Americans as well resorted to the Lord Lyon. Besides the Livingston arms noted earlier, in 1921 Lt. Col. Edgar Erskine Hume (1889-1952) matriculated in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland the arms of his ancestor George Hume (1697-1760) of Wedderburn, Berwickshire (NER14). The latter immigrated to Culpeper County, Virginia, in 1721. Curiously, Lt. Col. Hume was an officer in the United States Army Medical Corps and has been called the most decorated soldier in U.S. history.

Descendants of James Steele (1761-1836) (NER656), who had immigrated to South Carolina about 1787, likewise had arms matriculated to him.

In 1920, Ulster King of Arms in Ireland confirmed arms to Patrick Joseph Toomey (1850-1922) (NER667) of Saint Louis, Missouri, and in 1931 the descendants of Joseph Cooke (NER209), whose son Robert Cooke had in 1841 come to Montgomery County, New York, likewise secured a confirmation of arms from Ulster King of Arms.

In 1946 a confirmation was secured by the descendants of Robert Barber, who was born in the parish of Cappagh, county Tyrone, Ireland, about 1700 and later settled in Worcester, Massachusetts. In 1950 the descendants of Hugh Bowden (NER437) of Dromore, county Down, Ireland, who had emigrated to Carlisle, Pennsylvania, about 1765, also secured from Ulster a confirmation of his arms.^{VI}

The Chief Herald of Ireland, whose office was established in 1943, has also made grants of arms to Americans. In 1961 John Fitzgerald Kennedy received a grant of arms from the Chief Herald, and three decades later the Chief Herald made another grant of arms to President William Jefferson Clinton.^{VII}



Front entrance to the College of Arms.
—Source: Familypedia.wikia.com

He has also made grants to less distinguished Americans of Irish descent. Such grants include a grant of arms and crest in 1965 to John J. F. Kennedy, then of New York, and a grant of arms (on a shield and not a lozenge), helmet, crest, badge, and standard made in 2001 to a woman, Nettie E. Mealman, of Minneapolis.^{viii}

Access to heralds across the water was, meanwhile, considerably facilitated on 8 Dec 1919 when a precedent-setting honorary grant of arms was made by the English Kings of Arms to an American citizen, George Gordon King, of New York City.

Members of the New England Committee on Heraldry have, not surprisingly, also been armorial enthusiasts. Dr. Arthur Adams (1881-1960) (NER23) had an honorary grant from the College of Arms in 1923. Dr. Harold Bowditch (1883-1964), for thirty-nine years Secretary of the Committee, (NER22) was the scion of an armigerous family. George Andrews Moriarty, Jr., (1883-1968) (NER118), received in 1929 an honorary grant from the English Kings of Arms. In 1963, so did Henry L. P. Beckwith, Jr., who succeeded Dr. Bowditch as Committee Secretary.

In 1933 Myron C. Taylor (1874-1959) (NER225), lawyer, financier, and later personal representative of President Roosevelt to Pope Pius XII, received an honorary grant, and in 1955 Winthrop Williams Aldrich (1885-1974), GBE, financier and sometime American ambassador to Britain, as well received an honorary grant of arms. He was the son of the very powerful Senator Nelson Wilmarth Aldrich (1841-1915) of Rhode Island and the brother-in-law of Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller (1908-1979), forty-first Vice President of the United States.

In 1957 the descendants of the noted Minneapolis merchant miller and millionaire, George Alfred Pillsbury (1816-1898) (NER547), also secured an honorary grant of arms from the College of Arms including a crest, badge, and standard.^{ix}

Arms of the Fairer Sex

Women have long borne arms. Arms were the insignia of a family and as members of a family women had inevitably an interest in them, and a significant one, and heraldry found ways of recording it.

The right to quarter the arms of a mother, if she had no brothers and hence were an heiress in her own right, with the paternal arms preserved the memory of her blood and dignity in the line descended from her. The right of a man and wife to display in their lifetimes their respective family arms impaled, marked the union of two armigerous bloods, the woman's as well as the man's.

One way for women to acquire arms was to follow the example of the Habsburgs and marry. Especially near the turn of the twentieth century, there was a great upswing in the number of American heiresses who married European aristocrats of coat armor. While by then the process had been going on for decades, one writer, in fact, dubbed 1895 the *annus mirabilis*, year of wonders, for American heiresses.

In that year, nine great American heiresses married British aristocrats. One of them was Cara Leland Duff Rogers Broughton (1867-1939), daughter of Henry Huttleston Rogers, of New York and Fairhaven, Massachusetts, and a director and executive of Standard Oil and a partner of William Rockefeller's.

On 12 November 1895 she married Urban Hanlon Broughton (1857-1929), who was later a Member of Parliament. For many years, the couple and their two sons lived in the U.S. before moving to England. Cara and her husband in 1929 presented to Britain's National Trust Runnymede, the water-meadow alongside the River Thames where the Magna Charta was sealed. They also gave the estate of Ashridge to the Conservative Party.

Urban Hanlon died just before his intended elevation to the peerage. Instead their son was creat-



Left: Urban Hanlon Broughton (1857-1929). Right: Cara Leland Rogers Duff Broughton (1867-1939).—Source: pinterest.com

ed Baron Fairhaven of Lode, county Cambridge. By royal warrant, Cara received the style and title as if her husband had received the peerage, "Lady Fairhaven."

Both she and Mr. Broughton were also granted arms. He was granted *Argent in base two bars an in dexter chief point a saltire coupé gules*. She was granted *Argent on a chevron between in chief two stags trippant and respectant and in base a stag trippant sable attired Or an escallop fess-wise of the last*. Her arms, interestingly, were but two variants of the arms borne in the eighteenth century by Hopestill Rogers of Dorchester, Mas-

sachusetts, *Argent a chevron between three bucks trippant sable*.^x

In summation, after the Jacksonian age all but killed off heraldry in the young United States, a resurgence of heraldic interest was born among publishers, institutions, and families in the early twentieth century. Today, the American Heraldry Society and the American College of Heraldry are institutions dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and proper understanding of heraldry in the United States and elsewhere. ■

ⁱ "Delafield, John Ross, 1874-1964." *Princeton University Library Finding Aids*. <http://findingaids.princeton.edu/names/1398a3b5cda6d819d6aid3c358c11224> (accessed by ed. on 2/1/2017)

ⁱⁱ *Ibid.*

ⁱⁱⁱ N. L. Taylor, "The Delafield Quarterings (English Arms for Americans)," in *A Genealogist's Sketchbook: Reflections on Genealogy and Memory* at <http://nltaylor.net/sektchbook/archives/220> (accessed 2/4/09).

^{iv} Thomas Woodcock and John Martin Robinson, *The Oxford Guide to Heraldry*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1988, p. 163; "Delafield, John," *Dictionary of American Biography*, 3, p. 208; Lyon Office, *An Ordinary of Arms*, Edinburgh, 1977, pp. 23, 24, 96, 97, 98; Cuyler Reynolds (ed.), *Genealogical and Family History of Southern New York and the Hudson River Valley*, 3 vols., New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1914, III, pp. 1301-1319, 1337; A. C. Fox-Davies, *Armorial Families; A Directory of Gentlemen of Coat-Armour*, (Rutland, VT, Tuttle Publishing Co., 1970, I, p. 525, the White arms at II, p. 2077.

^v Taylor; Godfrey, Walter, and Wagner, Sir Anthony, *The College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, Being the 16th and Final Monograph of the London Survey Committee*. London Survey Committee (1963), pp. 90-91.

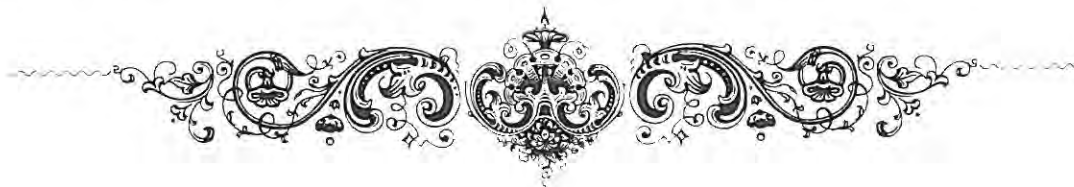
^{vi} Conrad Swan, "Heraldry: Ulster and North American Connections," Ulster-Scot Historical Foundation, Sir Walter Scott Memorial Lecture, 1968, pp. 9, 12, citing Grant E.4 (12 July 1826); Michael Glazier and Thomas J. Shelley (eds.), *Encyclopedia of American Catholic History*, Collegeville, Liturgical Press, 1997, pp. 222-226; *Pedigrees of Some of the Emperor Charlemagne's Descendants*, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Company, 1988, p.209; Micheál Ó Comáin, "Confirmations of Irish Arms and the Myth of Armigerous Ancestors," in James D. Floyd and Charles J. Burnett, *Genealogica et Heraldica, St Andrews MMVI: Proceedings of the XXVII International Congress of the Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences, St Andrews, 21-26 August 2006*, Turiff, Aberdeenshire, 2008, pp. 609-615.

^{vii} Hugh Brogan and Charles Mosley, *American Presidential Families*, New York (1991), p. 674; John J. Fitzpatrick Kennedy, "The Arms of the Presidents of Ireland and the United States," *Heraldry in Canada* (September, 2000), pp. 10-12.

^{viii} Susan Hood, *Royal Roots Republican Inheritance: The Survival of the Office of Arms*, Dublin, Woodfield Press, 2002, p. xiii; Royal Heraldry Society of Canada, "Members' Roll of Arms," at http://www.heraldry.ca/top_en/top_rollx.htm (accessed 3/20/09); Duane L.C.M. Galle, "The Arms of a Lady: Human Rights and Recent Armorial Developments as See in a Grant by the Chief Herald of Ireland," *Armorial Herald*, VI (Winter, 2013), pp. 3-6.

^{ix} Conrad Swan, "American Heraldry and the College of Arms," Dallas, Texas Division of the National Society of Magna Carta Dames, 1965, pp. 7-8.

^x Gail MacColl and Carol McD. Wallace, *To Marry an English Lord*, New York, Workman Publishing, 2012, pp. 78, 165, 347; Patrick Montague-Smith (ed.), *Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage with Her Majesty's Royal Warrant Holders*, 1976, London, Debrett's Peerage Ltd, 1976, p. 438; Fox-Davies, p. 231; Bolton, p. 141. MacColl, pp. 165, 323-356.





State News

CALIFORNIA



L-R: Vice Pres. John Moriarity, Esq.; Past Society President Dr. Gary Clark; General President Mitchell Bush; and incoming Society President Dr. Paul Gray.—Photo courtesy Paul Gray

General President Mitchell Bush was the guest of honor and keynote speaker at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California. The meeting was held at the prestigious Valley Hunt Club in Pasadena, California. In his remarks, GP Bush emphasized the importance of the General Society as well as the mission and purpose of the Sons of the Revolution. He also brought attendees up to date with events in other State Societies and listed several opportunities for engagement.

He then spoke directly to the members of the California Society and provided possible actions and solutions for sustainable funding to keep the American Heritage Library and Museum open to the public. In addition to his remarks, Mitchell also inducted the State Society's new board members.

The officers for the new term include: President Paul W. Gray, Ed.D.; Vice President John L. Mori-

arty; Vice President Glenn H. Thornhill; Secretary Douglas R. Boyd, Sr.; Treasurer & Registrar Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr.; and Genealogist Wayne J. Rogers.

The meeting was moderated by outgoing Society President Dr. Gary Clark. Dr. Clark brought with him a rare facsimile of the Declaration of Independence which showed the signature of his direct descendant.—text and photo submitted by Society President Paul Gray

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Annual Meeting and Dinner

The Sons of the Revolution in the District of Columbia gathered for its 128th annual meeting and dinner, held at the Chevy Chase Club in Maryland on 13 Dec 2016. Outgoing Society President Donald Lamson presided. Commendatory toasts were offered for the President of the United States, George Washington, our Armed Forces, and the Society.

The dinner's featured speaker was Mr. Christian McBurney, who presented his newest book, *Abductions in the American Revolution: Attempts to Kidnap George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and other Military and Civilian Leaders*.

The following Society officers were elected and installed: Gary Nordlinger, III, President; Sean Patrick Redmond, 1st V.P. and Acting Secretary; Nathaniel Peabody (Chip) Dean, Registrar; Carlton Hoskins, Treasurer; David Harding Wetmore, Chancellor; Eldon Miles Kaplan, Color Captain; Peter Arrott Dixon, Historian; and, Priestley (Pete) Toulmin, III, Marshall.

Other Activities

The Sons organized a wreath-laying at the Tomb of General Washington at Mount Vernon on 22 Feb 2017, the 285th anniversary of his birth. Society Historian Peter Arrott Dixon arranged for a lovely wreath for the occasion. After the ceremony, those assembled proceeded to the Mount Vernon Inn for a lunch in the Tavern Room and celebrated the life of our nation's first president. The annual wreath-laying at Washington's tomb has been a proud DC

Society tradition for many years.

The Sons held their annual Mess Dinner on 15 March 2017 at a private club in Washington, D.C. Members always gather for this formal dinner in the military tradition.

Before the dinner commenced, everyone enjoyed potables. The dinner itself included a finely prepared New York strip steak with ample amounts of cabernet sauvignon, which pared well. Following dinner, members relaxed with Madeira and listened to a program featuring Dr. Edward Rhodes.

A professor at the George Mason University and prospective member of the Sons, Dr. Rhodes delivered remarks about the development of foreign policy in the early years of the United States. Afterward, members were treated to an extensive question-and-answer period, to boot. First Vice President Sean P. Redmond presided over the evening in the absence of the Society President Gary Nordlinger.

Corcoran Prize Winners

In April, the DC Society recognized Hayley Prihoda and Cambra Sklarz, the two winners of the Society's essay award for students at the Corcoran College of Art and Design at the George Washington University. The annual "Art in American History Prize" is a generous monetary award from the Society that recognizes academic achievement for an analytical essay on a subject related to art in American history.

Winners are selected by the Corcoran faculty in a competition among undergrads and graduates, and the prizes are presented at the College's annual awards ceremony. Every year, the Corcoran award winners receive additional recognition by the Society when in December they are invited as honored guests to attend the annual meeting and formal holiday dinner gala.—*submitted by First Vice President/Acting Secretary Sean P. Redmond*

GEORGIA

The State Society of Georgia had its Annual Meeting and Banquet 17 Feb 2017 at the Savannah Yacht Club, with attendees in black tie, kilts, or military uniforms enjoying an expanded menu. Guest speaker for the well-attended event was Aaron Bradford of the Coastal Georgia Heritage Society. Mr. Bradford gave a rousing speech, covering the Revolutionary War from the Siege of Savannah to Yorktown. Himself in full uniform and at times using a saber or his ram rod as a pointer for the PowerPoint, Mr. Bradford was very entertaining.

New Society officers introduced at the banquet were President Frank Hardeman III, 1st VP Roger Coursey, 2nd VP Steven Westgate, Secretary Darvin Nease, and Treasurer Robert Missroom. The others, re-elected, include Registrar Charles Williams, Historian David Dickey, Surgeon David Thomas, Solicitor Lamar Davis, Color Captain Steven Westgate, and Chaplain Gilbert Wells.

On 26 March, President Hardeman and 1st CP Coursey visited Yorktown to represent the Georgia Society at the grand opening of the American Museum at Yorktown, (*see page 7*). Georgia Day at Yorktown was very well represented with members of the SAR, DAR and Order of the Cincinnati.

The General Nathanael Green Chapter of the Georgia Society (Atlanta) held its annual banquet on 1 April at Atlanta's Piedmont Driving Club. Society President Hardeman, 1st VP Coursey, and Treasurer Missroom attended the formal event representing the State Society.—*text submitted by President Frank Hardeman III; photos submitted by Roland Summers and Frank Hardeman III*



Scenes from the GA-SR's 126th Washington's Birthday Banquet.



The newly installed 2017-18 State Society officers.

MINNESOTA

Annual Meeting at Jax Café

The Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Society, Sons of the Revolution was held on 18 February 2017 at Jax Café in Minneapolis, in conjunction with a meeting of the Minnesota Sons of the American Revolution. With wives and guests on hand, there were some three score persons in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by the Society President Robert Arthur Minish, Esq. The SAR Color Guard then presented the Colors, and SR Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher delivered the invocation.

At the meeting, the Secretary reported his jubilation that the Society had elected to membership in 2016 five new members, raising the current membership to twenty-eight persons. The Secretary also moved the adoption of a proposed amendment to the Society's bylaws to create the office of Assistant Registrar. The motion was accepted and agreed to, both by the Board of Managers and by the Members present and voting.

Mr. Tracy Crocker, a well-known genealogist, agreed that if the amendment were adopted, he would be willing to be a candidate for the office. Among his credentials, Mr. Crocker has served as Registrar General for the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States of America. He was also Keeper of the Rolls, Baronial Order of the Magna Charta/Military Order of the Crusades, among several other posts as genealogist.

He was duly voted into the office as part of the following slate: Robert Arthur Minish, President; Larry Wray Sisk, Vice President; Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., Secretary/Treasurer; Arthur Louis Finnell, Registrar; Tracy Ashley Crocker, Assistant Registrar; Michael S. Swisher, Chaplain/Asst. Treasurer; William R. Johnson, Esq., Solicitor; Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq., Representative to the General Board.

President Minish noted that inasmuch as all those elected had been installed in office last year, except for Mr. Crocker, who was absent, there was no need for an installation of officers, per se, at this present.

SAR Vice-President Dennis Croonquist then introduced the joint meeting's speaker, Col. Ronald McRoberts. A member of both societies, Col. McRoberts gave a very fine and excellent illustrated address on the Battle of Saratoga. He carefully and lucidly explained all of its strategic and tactical elements. His presentation was received with great

applause. Col. McRoberts has a PhD in Biostatistics from the University of Minnesota and numerous prestigious memberships and awards.—*submitted by Secretary Duane L.C.M. Galles, Esq.*

NEW JERSEY

Three Speakers at Annual Meeting

Gen. Washington could certainly attest to the inhospitable winter weather in Trenton, but when the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New Jersey held our Annual Meeting and luncheon in Trenton on President's Day, the weather could hardly have been better.

The day started early with the setting up of the over forty Revolutionary flags on display for the meeting in the Old Barracks. This historic venue was constructed by the colony of New Jersey in 1758, in response to residents protesting the compulsory quartering of British soldiers in their homes. Throughout the Revolutionary War, it was used by both the British and the Americans, including as an army hospital.

Over thirty members attended the meeting before we all paraded the Old Barracks Fife and Drum Corps to historic Saint Michael's Church. At the Church, we had a special service honoring George



SRNJ President Glen Beebe addresses the Annual Meeting.



GP Mitchell Bush with SRNJ Board member H.L. Boyer Royal.

Washington.

After the service, we retired to the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple, where over seventy members, their families, and friends enjoyed lunch. During our luncheon General President Bush brought greetings from the General Society, and we learned of the many activities being planned on the national level.

Katherine Ludwig of the David Library of the American Revolution gave a presentation and made us aware of that library's extensive holdings and research facilities. Located in Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania, it is a specialized research library dedicated to American history circa 1750 - 1800. It contains many unique period documents micro-filmed at the British Archives and found nowhere else in the country, she said.

We also heard from NJCAR President Carly Kramer, who told us about her 2016-2017 project at New Bridge Landing site, where General Washington and his Patriot garrison retreated across the Hackensack on a wooden bridge after the British took Fort Lee on 20 Nov 1776.

The vicinity contains various Revolutionary-era historical sites of interest. Carly's project specifically is to help raise money for a new museum on ground owned by the Bergen County Historical Society.—*text submitted by SRNJ President Glenn Beebe; photos submitted by Region 2 GVP Caswell Cooke.*

NEW YORK

2017 George Washington Birthday Ball

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York held its 240th George Washington Birthday Ball on 24 Feb 2017 at the Metropolitan Club, overlooking Central Park. It was a great success. The Ball, benefitting the Fraunces Tavern Museum, began with a grand entrance of the Knickerbocker Greys and the New York Society Color Guard led by Ball Steward David Tisdale Woods. They were accompanied by bagpipers from the Rampant Lion Colour Party.

Soprano Jacqueline Ballarin treated all those present with colonial tunes. Aside from the posting of Colors, other highlights of the evening were the ceremonial toasts, the cocked hat ceremony, and presentation of awards.

The evening culminated with the honoring of the Distinguished Patriot of the Year, a person chosen for the dedication to the preservation of American Revolutionary War history and the principles

of America's founding. This year's honoree was Paul "Buddy" Bucha, a highly decorated Vietnam veteran.

Other notable past Patriots have included Col. Edwin E. Aldrin Jr., Astronaut, and Victoria Hughes, President of the Bill of Rights Institute. Last year's award went to Beth L. Hill, President and CEO of Fort Ticonderoga Association.



The Victory Ball of 1781, by Jean-Léon Gérôme Ferris, 1929

Family Night Stated Meeting & Dinner

On Monday evening, 24 April 2017, the New York Society held its 112th Annual Family Night Stated Meeting & Book Award Dinner. The evening is held in honor of Frederick Samuel Tallmadge, the second president of the SRNY, whose generosity enabled the SRNY to acquire Fraunces Tavern in 1904. The evening took place in the Bissell Room of the Fraunces Tavern Restaurant.

Following tradition, the winner of the FTM 2017 Book Award and runners-up were announced. Committee Chair Kenneth H. Chase pronounced Alan Taylor had won the award for his notable work, *American Revolutions: A Continental History, 1750-1804*. Honorable Mentions were given to Larrie D. Ferreiro for *Brothers at Arms: American Independence and the Men of France and Spain Who Saved It* and Mark Edward Lender and Gary Wheeler Stone for *Fatal Sunday: George Washington, the Monmouth Campaign and the Politics of Battle*.

Mr. Ferreiro was the evening's honored guest and speaker. His book was also nominated for the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for History, which is administered by Columbia University.

Since 1972, the annual Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award has been presented to the author of the best, newly published work on the American Revolutionary, combining original scholarship, insight and good writing. Awarding authors of Revo-



BROTHERS at ARMS

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE AS
THE MEN OF FRANCE AND SPAIN WHO SAVED

LARRIE D. FERREIR

Larrie Ferreiro portrait & book cover.

lutionary War history is one way the SRNY/FTM educate the public on our nation's founding.

FTM Book Club Launched

Paralleling its Book Award program, the Fraunces Tavern Museum has now organized a Book Club to meet quarterly. Museum members and interested non-members may meet with SRNY Executive Director Jessica Phillips on the second Tuesday evening of each calendar quarter to discuss recent books on the American Revolution. The discussions will take place in the Flag Gallery, commencing at 6 p.m.

On 11 July, the discussion will be on *The Spoils of War: Greed, Power, and the Conflicts That Made Our Greatest President* by Bruce de Mesquita and Alastair Smith. By 10 October, the Club will be discussing, *It's My Country Too: Women's Military Stories from the American Revolution to Afghanistan*, by Tracy Crow.

For more information please visit <http://frauncestavernmuseum.org/>— compiled from reports.

NORTH CAROLINA

Cowan's Ford 236th Anniversary

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of North Carolina participated in the 236th Anniversary of the Battle of Cowan's Ford (1 Feb. 1781), which was commemorated on Saturday, 28 Jan 2017, at the Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Huntersville, NC. Organized by the Mecklenburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, the commemoration is nationally recognized on the NSSAR calendar and is well attended by numerous hereditary organizations, near and far.

Novelist and playwright Bob Inman spoke of the significance of the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War as seen through the events of Kings Mountain and the subsequent battle at Cowan's Ford. Mr. Inman, a former newscaster for WBT-

TV, is the author of a drama production depicting the battle of Kings Mountain.

After the indoor ceremony, the gathering reconvened in the Hopewell cemetery for the offering of greetings from the participating organizations and societies and to witness the dedication of the new Patriots' Monument. SRNC Vice President, and Wm. Lee Davidson Chapter President, Gus Succop gave the dedicatory prayer at the outside service.



Standing beside the new monument, l-r, Gus Succop, Carlton Mansfield, Scott Kennedy and SRNC President Dan Hopping..

The installation of the new monument was made possible by contributions from many benefactors and especially members of the DAR, SAR, and SR. Spearheaded by former NCSSAR Mecklenburg Chapter President Jay Joyce, the monument lists the names of eleven patriots buried in the cemetery, including William Lee Davidson. Gen. Davidson commanded the 4th Regiment of the N.C. Line. He was killed at Cowan's Ford .

Following the dedication, and symbolizing the sacrifice made by these Patriots, a release of doves followed the playing of Taps. It was a moving commemoration.

Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson Chapter

The Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson Chapter's Spirit & Cup Presidents' Day Social was held on Saturday, 18 Feb 2017 at McCormick & Schmick Restaurant in the South Park community of Charlotte. Chapter officers Gus Succop, David Boggs, and Randolph Lee welcomed members as well as prospective new members at the afternoon social.—text and photo submitted by SRNC Vice President Gus Succop

PENNSYLVANIA

Color Guard Elections & Appointments

The Color Guard held its Annual Meeting on Thursday, 19 Jan 2017, at The Philadelphia Country

with SAR members of various chapters to fraternize at the Fatz Café in Gaffney, S.C.

In the afternoon, the Board held a Special Meeting at the Cherokee County History and Arts Museum in Gaffney to meet with State Society CAR President Christine Burnette and to conclude business originated at the November 2016 General Membership Meeting in Camden, S.C. We approved the Society's By-laws and Corporate Governance Manual and presented Regional VP Kelley with his state certification.



SRSC representatives discuss with Christine Burnette the CAR's participation in the upcoming GSSR BOM Meeting in Charleston.

Lastly, we discussed with Christine details concerning the CAR's role in the Opening Ceremony of the 2017 GSSR BOM Meeting in September in Charleston. As she was at the Cowpens ceremony, it was convenient for her to meet with us later that day in Gaffney. What a day!

The following month, on 17 February, President Bennett traveled to Savannah, Georgia as a guest at the Annual Meeting of the GA-SR. Georgia Society President Frank Hardeman and General President Mitchell Bush made certain he felt welcome.

Three days after that event, President Bennett and Regional VP Kelley met with sales staff of the Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston, S.C. The purpose of this second meeting was to tour the hotel for planning the logistics of three-day GSSR BOM Meeting and to review the food and beverage contract and menu selection. On 1 March, General President Bush and GSSR Meeting & Guidelines Committee Chair Terry Davenport also visited the hotel.—*text and photos submitted by SRSC President Ivan Bennett*

VIRGINIA

The Virginia Society on 18 Feb 2017 celebrated the 285th anniversary of George Washington's birth. As has been the tradition, the venue for the evening's ceremonies was black-tie celebration at Richmond's Commonwealth Club where members



2017 Virginia Society Inductees.—Photo courtesy VSSR



VSSR President Carter Reid with youngsters at the 235th anniversary of the Yorktown victory celebration, October 15-16, 2016.

—*Photo courtesy VSSR*

and their guests were entertained by the riveting Virginia Military Institute Band.

The Commonwealth Club, founded in 1890, presents an elegant venue with touches of Southern grace, where our Society celebrates its new inductees each year.

Congratulations to the forty-nine new members inducted into the Society on that Saturday evening. "Our society is stronger than ever!" pronounced First Vice President

Doug Payne, Jr.

The Society's Annual Meeting is slated for 1 May 2017. The meeting will highlight Society accomplishments for the prior year, provide an opportunity to thank outgoing board members while introducing the 2017 class of board members; recognize scholarship winners and most importantly allow for the introduction of the new President of the Society. Upon conclusion of the business meeting, cocktails and refreshments will be served.—

Editor ■



Patriot Chronicles

The Revolution's Last Men

The following continues our look at the six Revolutionary War veterans featured in *The Revolution's Last Men*, a book by Don N. Hagist published in early 2015 by Westholme Publishing of Yardley, Pennsylvania. This issue contains the fifth profile of the six men named. These men lived to be centenarians and were photographed during the time of the Civil War. The images were published in the 1864 book, *Last Men of the Revolution*. Through detailed research, Mr. Hagist has distilled their service records, added to their post-war biographies, and sifted through historical inaccuracies previously published. The following excerpt(s) are copyrighted and republished with permission.

William Hutchings

Excerpts: "... [William Hutchings] spent his life in Maine, a region that was at the time part of the colony of Massachusetts. Born in York on October 6, 1764, he moved north in 1768 with his family to Penobscot, where his father established a farm. In 1779... the Hutchings family moved to Newcastle, some distance south along the coast, for the remainder of the war. It was in Newcastle that Hutchings came of military age.

In late May or early June 1781, he enlisted in a regiment of Massachusetts militia commanded by Colonel Samuel McCobb ... [His pension file] says that he served June 26 to December 1, 1781, '5 mos. 10 days as private.'

The regiment, or at least Hutchings's portion of it, marched to the coast and took post at a place called Cox's Head, an eminence that overlooks a channel among islands where the Kennebec River empties in the Atlantic Ocean...

Reading Hutchings's pension deposition, and Rev. Hilliard's biography of him, gives the impression that he had no exposure to actual fighting during the American Revolution. He was, however, in the thick of Maine's fiercest battle in any war, and witness to one of the worst naval defeats in American history. It all occurred while the family lived in Penobscot two years before he joined the army.

In 1779 the British... sent an expedition under Brigadier General Francis McLean to Penobscot Bay with about seven hundred troops and a contingent of artificers. They landed without opposition and proceeded to build a fort... where the present-day town of Castine is situated... Young but able-bodied, William Hutchings was among the local inhabitants called to assist in the construction of the new post named Fort George...

A month after the British arrived, an American expedition out of Boston came to unseat them. The Americans had assembled over forty ships and one thousand militia troops... General McClean, in spite of the poor odds, opted to defend his post. There ensued a three-week siege during which all sorts of spirited actions occurred...

When the war ended, the Hutchings family returned to their land, re-

built the farm and thrived in Penobscot... William Hutchings farmed, cut lumber, and for a time was master of a coastal vessel. Because of the latter occupation, according to one account, he 'ever after bore the title of Captain Hutchings'...

[Following a large parade in Bangor on July 4, 1865, in which he was honored,] William Hutchings lived for another ten months; he died at his home on May 3, 1866, having lived for one hundred and one years, six months and twenty-six days." ■



William Hutchings
—Photo by Nelson A. Moore

BATTLES AT A GLANCE

Battle of the Chesapeake

Date of battle: 5 Sept 1781

Location: Offshore, Hampton Roads/Virginia Capes

French commanders: Admirals François Joseph Paul, comte de Grasse, and Louis Jacques, comte de Barras de Saint-Laurant

British commander: Admiral Thomas Graves

Objective: The Royal Navy intended to send reinforcements to a confident Gen. Charles Cornwallis awaiting at Yorktown, Virginia. From New York, British Admiral Thomas Graves sailed with a fleet of nineteen ships for the Chesapeake after he learned enemy fleets from Newport, R.I. (de Barras), and from the Caribbean (de Grasse), intended to converge there.

Outcome: Technically, the outcome of the battle itself was inconclusive, although several of the Royal Navy's vessels were badly damaged. The decision by British admirals to abandon pursuit gave control of the bay to the French.

Casualties: For the British, 90 killed and 246 wounded; the French reported about 200 killed.

Background: Graves arrived at the mouth of the Chesapeake (the Hampton Roads) early on 5 September and saw de Grasse's fleet at anchor in the bay. After de Grasse realized the fleet was not that of his compatriot de Barras, he hastily sailed

out twenty-four ships to meet Graves offshore. Naval historian Michael J. Crawford states that de Grasse sent the fleet out without waiting to re-embark 1,800 sailors who were ashore to replenish the fleet's supply of water and fresh produce. Nor did he recall several of his ships blockading the York and James Rivers.



Due to prevailing winds, the British were unable to stop the French from exiting the Roads. Once in the open ocean, de Grasse sailed into position with the wind at his back. The British fleet had to come about by one hundred eighty degrees, which they achieved, but which put their vanguard ships in the rearguard. The winds also prevented the opposing forces from matching up their lines completely. Only a portion of the lines by mid-afternoon engaged in an intense two-hour battle. At dusk, both navies ceased hostilities without there being a clear victor. For the next few days, the fleets drifted along parallel courses but did not engage again.

De Grasse preferred to lure the Royal Navy far from Yorktown. He knew de Barras would arrive there from Newport. Late on 8 Sept, he broke away to return to the Roads. Instead of pursuing his enemy, Graves on 13 Sept chose to sail back to New York and prepare for reinforcements, unaware that Cornwallis was trapped. ■



In this 1962 oil painting, Naval artist V. Zveg captures the intensity of the Second Battle of the Virginia Capes, a.k.a. the Battle of the Chesapeake..—Source: nps.org



Cuban Creoles Help Fund the American Revolution

By David W. Swafford, Editor

When the Marquis de Grasse in August 1781 embarked with a fleet of thirty-two war ships from Saint-Domingue (Haiti) and sailed for the Chesapeake Bay, he sent a lone vessel on an extremely important side trip to Cuba. The frigate *Aigrette*, commanded by the Marquis de Saint-Simon, sailed to Matanzas, Cuba in early August to secure the equivalent of 1.2 million *livres tournois* to help cover costs of the French and American armies.ⁱ The success of that mission may well have saved the Continental Army from large-scale mutiny or even potential collapse prior to the Battle of Yorktown.

The plan was put into place after de Grasse arrived in Saint-Domingue from France and read urgent letters waiting for him from Gen. Rochambeau. One of the letters detailed the Continental Army's bleak financial condition and ordered him to do three things: 1) convey his fleet north to the Chesapeake Bay; 2) bring thousands more ground troops; and 3) secure at least 1.2 million *livres*' worth of cold, hard cash.ⁱⁱ

A Call for Help

By the summer of 1781, the patience of most men in Washington's army had eroded due to years of deficient food, no uniforms, and inadequate and infrequent pay. They were hungry, nearly naked, sickly, and highly discouraged. The morale had deteriorated to such a degree that in January of that year a pair of mutinies rose up in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.ⁱⁱⁱ Washington empathized with his men's condition, but would not tolerate any degree of insurrection. The leaders of the mutinies were quickly court-martialed and executed.

When both armies joined up in New York for the march to Yorktown, each side was surprised by the condition of the other. Washington was struck by the gallantry and pomp of Rochambeau's army—and by the eight wagons of silver specie from which his troops would be paid monthly.^{iv}

In contrast, the condition of the American troops shocked Rochambeau and his aide-de-camp, the Baron Ludwig von Closen. Closen later wrote in his journal, "It was really painful to see these brave men, almost naked, with only some trousers and little linen jackets, most of them without stockings..."^v

In the meantime, Washington had been pleading with Robert Morris to raise one month's salary for his beleaguered troops. For all of Morris' indefatigable work in that regard, he could only come up with a small portion of what was then required. To cover the shortfall, the merchant-financier-congressman approached Rochambeau to ask for a loan.^{vi}

The French Commander stated that Versailles would be sending him enough money to cover only his own army's expenses, but that, nevertheless, he would comply as soon as he knew of another shipment of specie coming to him.

On 15 August 1781, the frigate *Magicienne* under the chevalier de la Bouchetiere arrived in Boston with 1.8 million *livres tournois* onboard for the French army.^{vii} When Rochambeau learned of this news, he lent Washington some 1.2 million so that the Continentals could be paid and fed well. According to historian Robert A. Selig, this was the first time the rebel troops were paid in silver coinage.

ⁱ"Two-Patriots" graphic: U.S. Government poster fostering the Spanish-American war in Cuba, c. 1898.—Source: pinterest.com

French-Spanish Collaboration

Meanwhile, de Grasse, immediately after reading the letters which Rochambeau had sent earlier that summer, replied to the General that he would be sailing to the Chesapeake starting in August, that his ships would stay there until mid-October, and that the General could count on the 1.2 million *livres* being delivered.

The Admiral knew the money would have to come from private hands. First he turned to French landowners in Saint-Domingue. Since he himself held title to a sugar plantation there, he mortgaged the plantation and tried coaxing other landowners to do the same. They would not be convinced.^{viii} Afterwards, he mortgaged his estate in France as well and sought to use the combined values as collateral for a loan. He could not find any financier or group of financiers willing to loan millions to the King of France.^{ix}

Getting nowhere with his own people, de Grasse was instructed to contact Spanish officials in the Caribbean. The admiral turned to the Spanish Royal Commissioner Francisco de Saavedra y Sagronis, who was stationed in Cap-François (Cap Haïtien) for the time being.^x Saavedra suggested sending a frigate to Havana, the jewel of the Caribbean, to load up with specie. He knew Spanish coins were minted in Mexico City and shipped to Havana from Vera Cruz.

De Grasse's fleet weighed anchor on 5 August. The *Aigrette*, with Saavedra onboard, made its way along Cuba's northern shore. On 15 August, she set anchor thirty leagues off Matanzas, Cuba. Unfortunately, Havana had temporarily ran out of coinage from Mexico by the time of the *Aigrette's* visit. The Treasury was waiting for other shipments to arrive from Vera Cruz.^{xi}

For the French naval officers, time was of the essence in every sense. The Marquis de Saint-Simon could not just wait for another shipment to arrive, yet he wouldn't dare rejoin de Grasse's fleet without the money. What to do?

Cuban Creoles Respond

Cuban-born governor, Juan Manuel de Cagigal y Monserrat, and his Venezuelan aide-de-camp, Francisco de Miranda, both veterans of the Battle of Pensacola under Bernardo de Gálvez, the next day called for a spontaneous fund-raiser among Cuban

merchants and homeowners, which Miranda oversaw.^{xii}

Quite literally, in a matter of a few hours, the Cuban people amassed in miscellaneous silver, gold, and diamonds more than what was needed. It has been said that several wealthy women contributed their jewels.^{xiii} After Spain entered the war as an ally of France (1779), it was common in the Spanish islands for officials to solicit funds from the people for the war chest.^{xiv}

The *Aigrette* took leave of Cuban waters shortly after the resources were delivered. It seems likely that those resources were exchanged for silver coinage at some point. It probably happened upon the frigate's arrival at Yorktown, by language in the journal of Rochambeau's chief commissary, Claude Blanchard.^{xv}

Some of the money from Cuba was stored in an abandoned house near Williamsburg, which Blanchard used as his headquarters. After the specie was placed there, Blanchard awoke that night to a tremendous crashing sound.

Writing in his journal, he stated, "... Our generals came and deposited with me 800,000 *livres* in piasters... During the night..., the floor of the [adjoining] chamber... suddenly broke in pieces with a great noise.

"This accident proceeded from the money which I had deposited there; it was on the ground floor and underneath was a cellar, fortunately not very deep. The floor, being too weak, had been unable to bear the weight of these 800,000 *livres* in silver. My servant, who lay in this room, fell down the length of a beam, but was not hurt."^{xvi}



Marquis de Grasse, by Jean-Baptiste Mauzaisse (1830)



Francisco de Saavedra y Sagronis, artist unknown

No Love Lost

After the British surrender, in the twilight of the great allied action at Yorktown, de Grasse himself must have reflected on the opposing responses he received between the landowners in Saint-Domingue and the shop-owners in Cuba. Why did the Cubans readily feel the urge to contribute to the cause?

Eduardo E. Tejera, author of *The Contribution of Spain and Cuba to American Independence*, says the Cuban people strongly identified with the rebel cause. They vehemently disliked the Brits, probably much more so than the Frenchmen of Saint-Domingue, and they were attracted to the prospect

of free trade with their big neighbor, if only the British embargo could be lifted.

Unlike the Frenchmen of Saint-Domingue, Cubans had recent experience with living under British occupation. During the Anglo-Spanish War, in 1762, King George III sent over five warships and four thousand troops specifically to take Havana. When British ships entered the harbor in early June and columns of red-coated soldiers disembarked upon the city, local authorities surrendered. They controlled the western half of Cuba for nearly a year—until the Treaty of Paris was signed.

The British occupation did have one positive impact for Cuba, however. During that time, Havana as a trade center began to flourish. Trade was opened up to the Colonies. Even after the Revolution began and Britain forbade the world to trade with her enemies, clandestine importing and exporting between Cuba and the Thirteen Colonies continued—and thrived.

In the year 1781, the most common foreign vessels to break the British blockade in Philadelphia were from Cuba.^{xvii} American wheat was in very high demand there.

Gen. Washington's Emotions

All of the above details aside, during the long march toward Yorktown, Washington was worried sick about his army's financial condition. Still, he kept moving ahead. On 5 September, as their armies were in Philadelphia, he and Rochambeau received word that Admiral de Grasse's fleet had arrived off Virginia with more artillery, troops, and money. Washington was ecstatic.

The Baron Ludwig von Closen, aide-de-camp of Gen. Rochambeau, saw the future President that day waiting to receive his French comrades. As they crossed the Delaware River to Pennsylvania and docked at Chester, Closen described Washington from a distance as "shaking his hat and a white handkerchief."^{xviii}

Also present with Rochambeau was Christian Marquis de Deux-Ponts, commander of the Deux-Ponts Regiment, part of the Marshall's army. He described Washington at that moment as "playing the boy, swinging his chapeau in ecstasy."^{xix} For pro-American Cubans, the legacy of making George Washington jump for joy is priceless. ■

ⁱ Barbara A. Mitchell. "Bankrolling the Battle of Yorktown," *The Quarterly Journal of Military History*, Spring 2007, p. 16

ⁱⁱ Jean-Baptiste-Donatien de Vimeur. *What France Did for America: Memoirs of Marshal Count de Rochambeau*, translated by M.W.E. Wright, (New York, 1971).

ⁱⁱⁱ John A. Nagy, *Rebellion in the Ranks: Mutinies of the American Revolution*, Westholme Publishing (2008)

^{iv} Robert A. Selig and Betty Knose. "French Army Monetary Support during the American Revolution, 1780-1783," Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, 2005.

^v Ludwig, Baron von Closen. *The Revolutionary Journal of Baron Ludwig von Closen, 1780-1783*, translated and edited by Evelyn M. Acomb, College of William & Mary (1958), p 143.

^{vi} Selig and Knose

^{vii} Robert A. Selig. W3R Pennsylvania Project, Part 2. "The Expédition Particulière in Rhode Island, 11 July 1780 to 10 June 1781"

^{viii} Mitchell; Olivera. "Spain and Cuba in the Independence of the United States." *Guaracabuya Electronic Magazine*, XI. Sociedad Economica de Amigos del Pais. amigospais-guaracabuya.org/(retrieved 2/16/2017)

^{ix} Mitchell; Olivera.

^x Ibid.

^{xi} Larrie D. Ferreiro. *Brothers at Arms: American Independence and the Men of France and Spain Who Saved It* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2016).

^{xii} Ibid.

^{xiii} Stephen Bonsal, *When the French Were Here* (Doubleday, 1945), pp. 119-120

^{xiv} Ferreiro

^{xv} Claude Blanchard. *The journal of Claude Blanchard : commissary of the French auxiliary army sent to the United States during the American revolution, 1780-1783*. Translated by William Duane. (J. Munsell, Albany, 1876), p. 143

^{xvi} Ibid.

^{xvii} Olivera

^{xviii} Closen

^{xix} Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Vol. 4, Second Series. In "December Meeting, 1887," p. 41.

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