



Drumbeat

with *Flintlock & Powderhorn*



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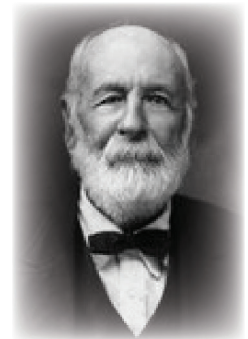
The Evidence of Things Not Seen: *Barbara Susong's Three Years in the Continental Army*

By David W. Swafford, Editor

In early 2014, a new member joined our esteemed Society based on the service record of a female patriot-ancestor. When Dennis L. Eggert of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, applied for GSSR membership, he listed the name of Barbara Susong on his application. In 1777, Barbara was a married woman with children, a recent immigrant from France, and newly enlisted in the Virginia Fourth Regiment.

"I could have chosen other, male ancestors," Mr. Eggert said, "but I wanted to make my application special. I wanted to choose a woman as my ancestor."

Dennis is not the first GSSR member to use Barbara Susong's name on an application. That distinction belongs to Timothy E. Massey, also of East Tennessee and a past President of the Tennessee Society. Mr. Massey joined the SR in July 1994 and used Barbara Susong's name on his forty-seventh supplemental in April 2009. Dennis and Tim are fourth cousins and are 5th great-grandsons of Barbara's.



Susong descendants have said Catherine Adeline (1837-1921), left, most resembled Barbara. To the right, images of Barbara's son Andrew Jr. (1777-1832). —Source: Ancestry.com

But neither was Tim's supplemental application the first instance of a member of a major Revolutionary War lineage society invoking her name as a qualifying patriot-ancestor. The original occurrence appears to have been on a supplemental DAR application of the late Katharine Susong Harmon, prolific author, educator, and Susong family historian who passed away on 5 June 1999. She, too, hailed from East Tennessee.

This development begs the question, just who was Barbara Susong? How could a woman have accomplished three years of enlisted service, an anomaly, in the American Revolution? There were many women who "chased" the army, but women were strictly barred from enlistment. Moreover, if Barbara's was such a unique case, why has she not received her fair share of the historical limelight? Schoolchildren learn of Molly Pitcher and Betsy Ross, maybe even of Deborah Sampson, but not of Barbara Susong.

—Continued on page 2



The Susongs were from Alsace-Lorraine, France. Barbara was reportedly born in 1742, while her husband, Andrew, came into this world in 1738. Although Alsace-Lorraine is a part of France, its culture is heavily German. Barbara's married name in German was Barburah Suesanger, although her maiden name is unknown.

Traditionally it has been said that Barbara was German and Andrew was French, but after considerable thought, Tim Massey believes Barbara was French and Andrew was German. Her being French would certainly add credence to the probable connection she had with the Marquis de Lafayette.

A French Connection

According to long oral tradition, the Susong family (a pregnant Barbara, Andrew, and sons Nicholas and Jacob) were among the few passengers aboard Lafayette's ship, *La Victoire*, when the nineteen-year-old nobleman secretly sailed to America and landed at Georgetown, S.C., although their names are not on the passenger list and no other documentation survives to substantiate it. Be that as it may, the research and writings of Katharine Harmon indicate the Susongs were recruited to join the Patriot cause by Silas Deane, the first American diplomat in Europe.

The oral tradition says the Susongs followed Lafayette to Philadelphia. Andrew and oldest son Nicholas were the first to enlist and joined the Eleventh Pennsylvania Regt, which later was absorbed into the Tenth Regiment. *The History of Tennessee Illustrated* says, "Andrew [Susong] Sr. was a Major on George Washington's staff throughout the war."

Sometime after Andrew and Nicholas had enlisted, Barbara enlisted herself in the Fourth Virginia and took her younger son Jacob with her.

Family records at the genealogy library in Abingdon, Virginia state Nicholas evidently had sent his family to Virginia for their safety, as the couple's fourth child, Andrew Jr., was born in Rockingham County on 14 June 1777.

Why did she enlist in the Fourth Virginia when Andrew and Nicholas were in the Tenth Pennsylvania? Her decision is better understood if one keeps in mind the ties to Lafayette. The Fourth Virginia was organized under Scott's Brigade, in Lafayette's Division. Oral tradition has it that while Jacob was too young to enlist as a private, he served as an aide on Lafayette's staff. Could it be that Lafayette himself advised her to go to Virginia?

Whatever the family's motivations were, the Eleventh Pennsylvania and Fourth Virginia were both in action across New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Both regiments engaged at the battles of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth. Both regiments also spent the miserable winter of 1777-78 camped at Valley Forge.

As a past Commander-in-Chief of the Society of the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge (DVF), Tim Massey confirms not only that Andrew, Barbara, Nicholas, and Jacob were at Valley Forge, but that the Susongs were together as a family there. Tim says the Eleventh Pennsylvania and the Fourth Virginia were camped adjacent to each other.

"When I went to Valley Forge and saw where the two regiments were camped, it hit me like a ton of bricks. They were together!" Massey exclaimed.

Again, how is it that these two regiments were camped together? Were they together merely to accommodate Barbara and Andrew Susong? Probably not, but maybe so. Stranger things have happened.

Evidence of the Unconfirmed

This is one of the clues that Barbara's presence



Dennis Eggert pauses at the gravesite of Andrew Sr. and Barbara Susong, Susong Memorial Church Cemetery.—Photo courtesy Dennis Eggert

in the Army may have been arranged by someone near the top, or, for that matter, by the very top. Not only was her place in the Army not challenged, but it seems an unidentified benefactor high up the chain of command was looking out for her. That helps explain the undeniable respect which Barbara Susong commanded once she was in America and among the troops as an enlisted private.

—Susong article continued on page 10



President's Message

It is customary at a yearly anniversary, or the end of a fiscal or calendar year, both to reflect upon the accomplishments of the past year and to evaluate and plan for anticipated challenges in the coming year. At the 2014 Board of Managers meeting in Colonial Williamsburg, such reflections and evaluations gave our Society the opportunity for an early consideration of the year before its actual close, and an advance opportunity for the many managers who attended to have anticipatory conversations on wide-ranging topics related to both general and specific goals for 2015 that are consistent with both our short-term and long-term missions.

It was the second Board of Managers meeting of this administration's three-year term of office, but, in reality, it was the last such opportunity for an agenda of planning, since the next and final meeting of the Managers (and appointed representatives for the several State Societies) will be the Triennial event in October 2015, at which the specific goals of the Thirty-Fifth Administration of Governance of the GSSR will hopefully all have been realized, and its accomplishments in place and working, as well as ready for the evaluation, consideration, shepherding and support of the next Board of Managers. Thus, the twilight of the second year of our term marked a crucial turning point for us to give consideration to and evaluate our accomplishments. It was also an opportunity for final planning that will ensure that we meet all our goals, consistent with fulfilling the Society's mission commitment.

It is also fitting that we make this self-evaluation as we exit the Christmas Season and cross into the New Year, and that at this time we garner together, individually and collectively in our respective State Societies, our special thoughts of gratitude on what it means to have achieved and maintained a democratic society in which citizens may live and think and believe freely, and do so not only in the privacy of their own homes, but boldly in the public sphere as well, where such expression can be made in deed and in speech, without fear of spiritual or secular oppression or bigotry. These freedoms allow us to be fully committed members of the Sons of the Revolution; indeed, without these freedoms

our Society could be banned, and active membership punished. We do not live under a cloud of such suppression and oppression.

We live in a free country where peaceful disagreements over our deepest concerns are the intended custom. We live in a nation guided by and protected by laws that reflect and respect the existence of rights, rather than the "creation" of rights. We live in a nation whose often tumultuous history illustrates that the freedoms of the First Amendment are not only precious, but also necessary to peaceful resolution of disagreements, through the use of the individual's powers of persuasion, which is grounded in deference to free speech, which said right both encourages and permits the wholesome exercise of both individuals' freedom of conscience and collective expressions of doubt against authoritarian entities and individuals who claim to hold power, who act contrary to such freedoms and rights.

Under the umbrella of the many rights and freedoms both outlined in, and protected by, our Bill of Rights and our Constitution as a whole, the GSSR can feel confident in our commitment to outreach efforts as we actively promote (without government interference or oversight that seeks to promote only its own chameleon-like versions of political correctness) the messages and principles of our venerable Founding Fathers.

One of the great thinkers/authors I admire most is the Oxford don C.S. Lewis. In his essay "A Reply to Professor Haldane," first published in 1966 as part of *Essay Collection and other shorter pieces*, he stated, "A political programme can never in reality be more than probably right. We never know all the facts about the present and we can only guess the future. To attach to a party programme – whose highest real claim is to reasonable prudence – the sort of assent we should reserve to de-



C.S. Lewis, 1947

monstrable theorems, is a kind of intoxication.”

While these are words of caution, they are not the words of a skeptic; these words also express hope, the reality of hope. In them is the reflection upon the good nature of man to wish to both govern and be governed with care, with respect, and as Professor Lewis implied: with prudence. Prudence is defined as the ability to govern and discipline oneself by the use of reason, and to recognize that no individual or government institution is transcendent.

Those American foundational principles based on reason, and whose value and worthiness are self-evident, include love of family, love of God, love of country, limited government, self-reliance and the Rule of Law (and we do not want to overlook the value of our traditional fellowship and gatherings). These principles are essential to our American and Societal culture; and our devotion to these principles is not a subjugation. Rather, these principles are the lynchpin to freedom that is part of our culture and which defines our citizenry. As a lynchpin, these principles by definition bind together our traditions. Our traditions, in turn, both reflect and protect the wisdom of a culture; and therefore these principles are a worthy and suitable basis for training the next generation in timely, timeless, meaningful and culturally serious truths.

If a people or a nation reveres and respects its



Alexis de Tocqueville by
Théodore Chassériau, c. 1850.

traditions, it must still exercise both effort and education to preserve and promote them. A silent majority is not helpful. The Sons are, like the churches and religious institutions of faith, the watchmen on the wall for our security and our culture. It is our collective work along with that of the membership of faith-based organizations (according to Alexis de Tocqueville), not government projects, that instills the principles for a healthy Republic where citizens voluntarily and instinctively adhere to good notions of honesty, charity and patriotism. We rely on these truths as the foundational means by which we can preserve and promote a principled government and an informed, educated citizenry that can make measured choices in the civil processes

that support their wellbeing and the preservation of an American way of life for themselves and their families, as well as for their fellow citizens and their families as well.

As the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals recently noted in *DeBoer v. Snyder*, “When the courts do not let the people resolve new social issues like this one, they perpetuate the idea that the heroes in these chain of events are judges and lawyers. Better in this instance, we think, to allow change through the customary political processes, in which the people, gay and straight alike, become the heroes of their own stories by meeting each other not as adversaries in a court system but as fellow citizens seeking to resolve a new social issue in a fair-minded way.” *DeBoer v. Snyder (Gov. of Michigan)*, 772 F.3d 388 (6th Cir. 2014), appeal pending U.S. Supreme Court. Civility among all of us is the “secret ingredient” for a successful culture.

The GSSR, for the long time of more than one hundred forty years, has sought to be faithful to our historical mission, and in that effort to marshal our resources as we seek to give honor to, and publicly memorialize, our Founding Fathers. We do so by promoting and preserving the facts surrounding the sacrificial services of our ancestors, especially George Washington. We do so by praising, promoting and preserving, through educational and other activities and services, the foundational principles declared in the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, upon which all of those who served the Revolution spirit, from its young founding forward, were fully committed.

The GSSR administration strives to express our gratitude not only for our proud heritage, but also for the influential faiths and words and deeds of our ancestors. We honor—and do not apologize for—the military services of our founding fathers. To that end, in 2014 we gave intellectual support to public education about our important civic experiment of the eighteenth century, beginning with the Sons of Liberty and those later founding parents we seek to remember through to the patriots of 1776, 1787 and forward; and we also focused on the present, giving financial support to our modern patriot soldiers following in the steps of our ancestors by contributing to the Wounded Warrior Project, and by supporting educational institutions such as William and Mary College and John Jay Institute for encouraging academic essays worthy of recognition, with focus on the Revolution era political theory.

Most prominently, we have steadily moved in the past two years to educate, and do so especially now, as we honor a hero by completing the Gen-

eral Nathanael Greene memorial statue project. The life-size clay monument resides in the foundry for its final bronzing. When completed it will be set on its plinth at Valley Forge on the premises of the Washington Memorial Chapel. When in place, this monument will not merely stand in place as a static work of art, rather, like all great memorials, it will by definition stir the memory of a patriot and serve to educate all who pass by. Its presence will instill a sense of gratitude, as we, the GSSR and the members of the Sons of the Revolution, express gratitude for the services of this General.

We have completed eight issues of the *Drumbeat with Flintlock & Powderhorn*, mailed to the nearly five thousand members of the GSSR and State Societies. In 2013 and 2014, we welcomed a wonderful group of nearly four hundred new members to join our State Societies and the GSSR these past two years, encouraging them to be individually committed as new members to our shared mission work. The members of the Sons have reciprocated with their generosity in lending the GSSR their talents and financial support, without which we



Original painting by James Gillray, 1798

could accomplish none of this work. Everyone in the GSSR's administration, officers and staff, thank you, the membership, for your support and your prayers.

It is with satisfaction that we assessed our work of 2014, and it is with high expectation that we enter 2015. We are planning a wonderful Triennial, with great venues, fabulous receptions and a national speaker as our honored guest. We look forward to supporting the State Societies as we honor the Hermione Project as the French ship visits the eastern seaports of the Thirteen Colonies. We are well postured to finish the Nathanael Greene monument with a fitting celebration

and publicity; and we look forward to completing the benefits for the State Societies regarding the Ancestry.com project.

While the GSSR anticipates a full 2015, we wish each of you a Happy New Year. There will be many opportunities in 2015 to register your personal support for our mission and work; please seize well each opportunity, and be a hero for sustaining our mission. ■

Letter to the Editor

Responding to our General President's latest invitation to correspond (Vol. 32, No. 3, 2014 Fall *Drumbeat*), I am encouraged to report that at the New York Society, obviously a major part of our mission is recalling the history of the American Revolution, and preserving it in tangible form at Fraunces Tavern® and its Museum.

But an equally important part of the mission is to recall on every suitable occasion the principles of the Revolution which, for simplicity, we have distilled to four: (1) individual liberty; (2) self-government (which requires an educated citizenry); (3) religious tolerance; and (4) legal equality. These are easy to state, hard to ensure, and not to be taken for granted.

Today, half the world has bought in, and is attempting to follow the American example. Yet in the course of human events (to borrow a phrase), constitutional self-government is a relative novelty, and its long-term success is uncertain. The Revolution is still in many ways a work in progress. But I think we are just the persons to convey that message.

Sincerely

Ambrose M. Richardson, III
President
Sons of the Revolution in the
State of New York



—All photos courtesy of GVP Caswell Cooke

2015 Sons of the Revolution Triennial
Williamsburg, Virginia
October 1 – 4, 2015

It is with great enthusiasm that the Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Virginia invite you to Williamsburg for the 2015 Triennial meeting of the Sons of the Revolution. We are excited to welcome y'all to Virginia and offer the following agenda to entice:

Thursday Evening, October 1st: Cocktail Reception at the Two Rivers Country Club with Indoor/Outdoor Receptions complements of the Pennsylvania Color Guard

Friday Evening, October 2nd: Cocktail Reception and Dinner at the Riverwalk Restaurant in Yorktown overlooking the York River - we'll be visited by George Washington and, perhaps, Cornwallis. See the slide show at: <http://www.riverwalkrestaurant.net/>

Saturday Evening, October 3rd: Reception and Formal Dinner in the Atrium and the Ballroom of William & Mary's Miller Hall. The VMI Pipe & Drum Corp will process the PA Color Guard into the Atrium. <http://www.wm.edu/offices/auxiliary/conferenceservices/services/event-space/miller-hall.php>. Our guest speaker will be Brian Kilmeade, Fox News personality and author of *George Washington's Secret Six: The Spy Ring That Saved the American Revolution*. There will be book signings after the dinner.

Sunday Morning, October 4th: Processional to Bruton Parish's 9:15 service (Rite II) with the Farewell Sherry following in the Church Parish Hall.

In between, we will have opportunities for a private tour of the Governor's Place with access to areas not available to the public, tours of Yorktown and the Yorktown Battlefields, Colonial Williamsburg, a ride on a rigged tall-ship schooner, and golf at the Golden Horseshoe CC.

We will have a block of rooms at the Williamsburg Lodge, just steps away from America's founding history. Registration includes an "open" pass to Colonial Williamsburg. Here you can share the camaraderie of fellow Sons, tour on your own, or just relax and enjoy the Southern hospitality openly offered free of charge.

Please visit either the Virginia SR website (www.VSSR.org) or the General Society's website (www.SR1776.org) for developing information. Once pricing is finalized, there will be a link on both sites for accessing the GSSR block of rooms to make your reservations.

Should you have any questions, email Christopher Evans at Christopher@ChristopherJosEvans.com or Matson Roberts at mroberts@RVAconstruction.com. Or pick up the phone and give us a call – (804) 516-0616.



Governor's Land at Two Rivers Country Club —Source: governorsland.com

The Search for a Revolutionary War Battlefield

By Dan Hopping, President
North Carolina Society

I was very lucky this year to have been able to participate with archeologist Ken Robinson in a strictly controlled survey to find the exact location of a Revolutionary War battlefield in the North Carolina western foothills. Ken has done some amazing research on the battle and the surrounding area and has identified a two-mile stretch of a valley as the likely vicinity where the battle occurred.

In the more than two hundred and thirty years since the battle, there has been much activity that has obscured the original contours of the area. Several successive roads and much gold prospecting have altered the landscape, necessitating the project. There are several candidate locations in the two miles of valley that have to be investigated.



Ken Robinson

Under the direction of the archeologist, volunteers used metal detectors to scour several very steep hillsides where the battle might have taken place. We have found many artifacts so far, but only a few from the Revolutionary War period.

If you are a member of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA), you are eligible to participate under the direction



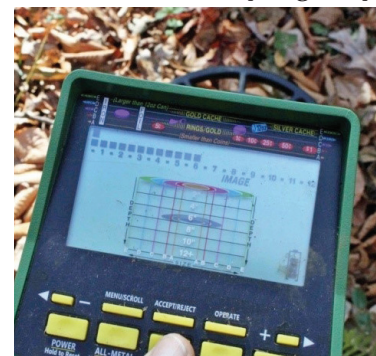
OVTA Volunteer Dan King searches an old road bed.

of the archeologist. You can sign up on the OVTA website for specific days. The search sites are strictly controlled since they are on private land.

It has been a real treat to be able to assist Mr. Robinson and operate the metal detectors looking for a Revolutionary War battle site. I have learned a great deal about archaeology, history and scrambling up mountain sides. It seems that the most important part of archeology is the long hours of research before taking to the field. Questions to answer beforehand include who owned the land at the time, where the roads and fords were, what units were engaged, and what were the combatants wearing. The uniforms they wore and the firelocks they carried are important details to know since that knowledge separates the battle artifact from something a hunter dropped in a different historical timeframe.

The search area centers on a narrow valley with steep slopes on both sides. When I say steep, I mean thirty to fifty degree grades covered with brush and slick leaves steep; hanging on to a tree with one hand while swinging a metal detector with the other hand steep. I did not get pictures of the hillsides since that would have meant letting go of my tree! And when I say narrow valley, I mean only forty to a hundred yards wide inclusive of a busy highway along the bottom. It all means several surrounding trees have quite deep hand imprints now.

Whenever a detector signaled a find, we put down a flag to mark it and the archeologist recorded what was found and where it was found. In one relatively level area, the sounds of the detectors brought over some curious cows that looked over our shoulders and made sure we were doing it right. I



Detector locates object.



Very old horseshoe nail.

was hoping the sound of the detector was not suggestive of a bovine mating call, as the attending bull was very large!

This was a fascinating little battle, and I am amazed at how much the archeologist has discovered about such a short engagement that occurred so long ago and despite the many impediments. The first-hand records are conflicting with each side exaggerating the force of the enemy and giving different locations for the skirmish. Some pension accounts of the battle were written by elderly veterans more than fifty years after the battle, so it is little wonder that they might have a few details wrong. The maps of the time are also wrong when compared to the actual terrain.

Many accounts of the battle say it was an ambush – hence calling for the searching of steep hill-sides in a narrow valley where an ambush might have taken place. And the valley floor is much changed and mostly under a busy highway, so there is little chance of finding anything there.

North Carolina has scores of sites of Revolutionary War battles and skirmishes. The big battles like Guilford Court House and Moores Creek get all the publicity, and the smaller battles like Ramsour's Mill and Lindley's Mill are usually known by the Rev War history buffs. The many skirmishes that took place there, however, are mostly overlooked. As a result, several sites are erroneously labeled on our modern maps, and many historic details have

unfortunately faded into history.

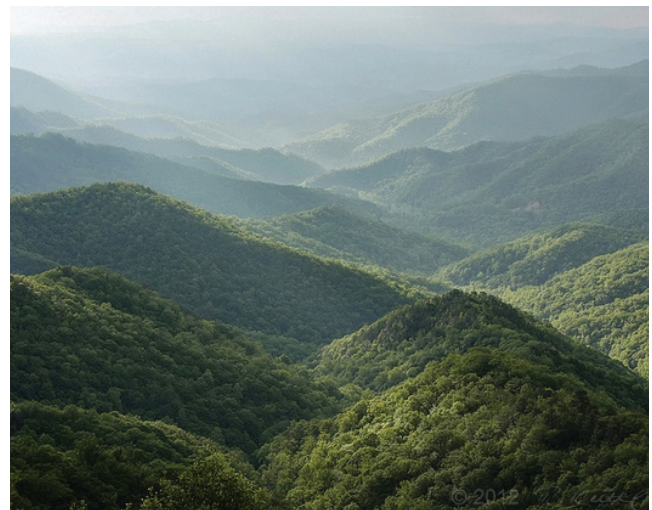
It's important to our understanding of that tumultuous period that we grasp the totality of the events that affected our ancestors and keep their legacy preserved for future generations. The North Carolina militia was active for all of the eight years of the war. If you lived in western North Carolina at that time, even the smallest firefight could be life changing. One fourth of the militia was out ranging, guarding, or fighting at all times. They knew what was going on in the state, and I can only try to imagine the anxiety levels of trying to survive and raise a family back then.

Ken Robinson presented preliminary findings at an OVTA history seminar held in Gaffney, S.C., on 21 November 2014. This project is sponsored by the Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina (FCNC), a regional land trust based in Morganton, N.C., that preserves significant landscapes for future generations. Funding for the project comes through a grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) of the National Park Service and the OVTA. The ABPP promotes the preservation of significant historic battlefields on American soil in order to raise awareness about the importance of the armed conflicts that influenced the course of our history. The OVTA is a partner of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of North Carolina and of the FCNC. ■

Western Foothills of North Carolina



—Source: www.landtracks.net



—Source: flickr.com/R.KeithClontz

—Susong article continued from page 2

Records exist to prove she served three years. The most telling evidence is the fact that her husband received a bounty warrant in Virginia for three years of service which he did not complete. In a 2009 interview with the *Greeneville Sun*, Tim Massey stated that Barbara's land title was issued in Andrew's name since married women could not own land in Virginia.

Ironically, despite Andrew's veritable service in the Pennsylvania Line for the period January 1777 – January 1781, he was not awarded any bounty lands there. The law in that colony stipulated that soldiers had to serve until the end of the war to qualify for government land. The old records on file in Abingdon indicate Andrew did receive a bounty warrant in Pennsylvania, but that is not true. Contemporary archivists of Pennsylvania's Revolutionary-era records confirm he was not given any land for his service.

In contrast, Virginia required only three full years of service from its veterans before it awarded them lands, which allowed Barbara to qualify. While women were barred from serving in the Army and could not receive military pensions nor hold title to land, there are clues that officials in the Commonwealth of Virginia skirted around laws in order to recognize Barbara's service and sacrifice. As will be detailed, fictitious documents were drawn up to support the Virginia service of Andrew Susong, which actually never occurred.

In addition to the bounty warrant issued in Andrew's name, Barbara benefited from a sworn certification of Andrew's service in the Virginia Line, a complete fabrication in order to support the bounty warrant. The sworn certification is dated 1784, while the bounty warrant is dated 1785. Both these documents are sourced on the Library of Virginia website.

When the writer of this article contacted the Library of Virginia reference desk to inquire of the specific military unit for Andrew Susong during the Revolutionary War, he was told no record of Andrew Susong's name could be found on any unit's roll. Not only did Barbara's husband not serve in Virginia, but the company commander's name (James Carney) and the regiment colonel's name

(Col. Hartley) listed on the certificate do not appear elsewhere in the state's records of the Continental Line.

Interestingly enough, there was a Col. Thomas Hartley to serve during the war, but he was from Pennsylvania and commanded the Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment—the same regiment which Andrew Susong did serve.

These documents testify not only to Barbara's historical service, but underscore the high regard she must have garnered from top Army authorities. Someone of lower rank is not going to risk ordering the creation of these false documents; in the same vein, someone in the lower ranks would not necessarily object to processing the falsification, if he knew it was ordered from a very high authority.

Assuming even Washington approved of this or knew of this, it is highly improbable that he would have tolerated, let alone accommodated, just *any* female in the Army. After all, he is on record as referring to women as “clogs in the wheel.” In his day, women were seen as a liability to the most crucial aspects of the Army's mission, more prone to hampering the combat effort rather than helping it. In

that light, it means *this* woman, Barbara Susong, was indeed special.

The next question is, what qualities in a woman would make her so special? The most plausible answer, for a woman in her circumstances and background, is her relation to Lafayette. Barbara's connection to the Marquis is the linchpin. The Commander-in-Chief likely showed both his deference and gratitude to Lafayette (and the greater alliance with France) by accepting Barbara Susong into his ranks, no questions asked. “You do me a favor, and I'll do you a favor.”

On a more personable level, Washington even reached a paternal level with Lafayette. The two of them immediately bonded. What man, experiencing those deep feelings and placed in Washington's exact circumstances, would not have done likewise? For indirect reasons, his arms opened wide for Barbara Susong. The question remains, what was her relationship to Lafayette?



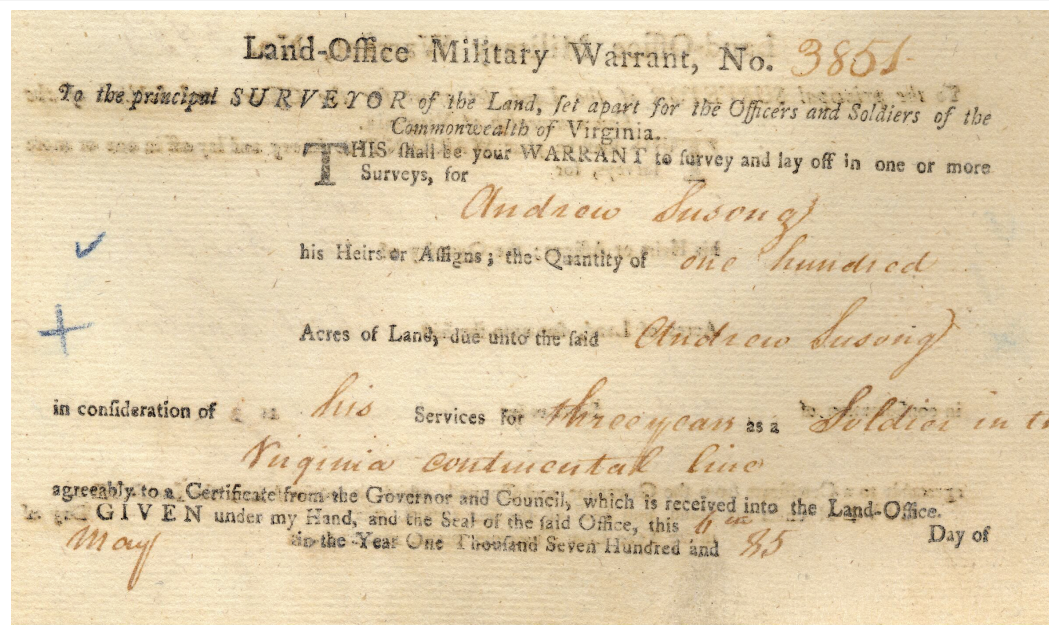
Tim Massey.—Photos courtesy Tim Massey

Keeping a Low Profile

Her extraordinary circumstances aside, it is strongly suspected that Barbara chose to dress as a man to hide her gender identity and that she was successful at it. Otherwise, one has to assume the rank and file would have objected highly. Had her gender identity been known throughout the Army, her name would have become legendary, the stuff of folktales. Her story would have been similar to that of Deborah Sampson, who served for seven-

to her family and to the fruits of living quietly in her new country. Like so many men who served in the war but were not singled out for their service, Barbara, too, transitioned from soldier to citizen in relative anonymity.

Yet not everyone buys into the idea that she had to keep a low profile. Tim Massey believes Barbara's place and circumstances were so exceptional that she probably did not need to conceal her gender identity, even though she chose to do so. "I used



Virginia Bounty Warrant Order for Andrew Susong

—Source: lva.virginia.gov

to think she *had* to dress like a man," Massey said, "but over time I've come to the opinion that she could have dressed however she pleased. There's too much evidence of her powerful connections."

Eggert added: "Col. Isaac Read certainly had the authority to discharge my fifth-great grandmother if he had

wanted to, but he never did. I have always felt that it was due to his respect for Lafayette."

At some point, the truth about Barbara's gender identity emerged in the historical record. In 1883, the Virginia Historical Commission republished the bounty warrant issued in Andrew's name with accompanying text which reads, "Land warrant issued by the Commonwealth of the State of Virginia to Andrew Susong for the service provided by his wife to the Virginia Continental Line, Fourth Regiment of the Third Division, under the command of Col. Isaac Read... The Lady of repute, Barbara Susong, is listed as a soldier of that Regiment."

Another indication that Barbara may have hid her identity is her use of a pseudonym. She seems to have switched out the final letter in her given name—from Barbara to Barbary. The name "Barbary Susong" is in the historical literature. It appears on muster rolls and in several texts, including *J. H. Gwathmey's Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution, 1775-1783*. The June 1917 issue of the *DAR Magazine* says: "Three men by the name of Susong—Andrew, Barbary, and John—are mentioned in the Eight [Annual] Report of the Virginia State Library."

In a 1905 issue of the *Quarterly Historical Magazine of William & Mary College*, a listing of Revolutionary soldiers of Berkeley Co., W. Va., on page 34, includes the following about Barbara:

Her discreet qualities are furthermore underscored by her not leaving behind a diary or journal of her Army experience—and by the Army not having left a historical document about her. Neither did she seek to comment about her experiences in public lectures or to the press, as Sampson did. After the fighting was over, Barbara turned inward

"At a court held for Berkeley County, the 20th day of April, 1779. Ordered that Barbarah Susong, wife of Andrew Susong, a soldier in the Continental Service, be allowed Twenty-five pounds for her support for the present year."

After Her Discharge

As many war veterans did, Andrew sold the bounty land in the military zone as well as the family's twenty-seven acres in Rockbridge County to relocate his family to Goodson, Virginia (modern Bristol), adjacent the Tennessee border. Family records furthermore indicate that Andrew had obtained other lands from Native Americans, in exchange for a cow and a bushel of beads. Apparently, he sold that land as well prior to the move.

Townspeople in Goodson considered the Susongs' arrival in 1794 a "sight to be seen." In 1962, the *Bristol Herald Courier* ran the following headline: "Susong Family Came Here in a Caravan." The feature article looked back to the momentous day when the renowned Susong family entered their new hometown. "No other family had such a spectacular entry, nor was to play a more important role in the history of Bristol, than did the Susongs," the article said.

Dennis said the caravan arrived on the outskirts of Goodson on the same day that another big event was taking place: the funeral of the highly esteemed Gen. Evan Shelby. The latter had erected Shelby's Fort and stockade in the Goodson vicinity, had successfully fought the Indians during the French & Indian War, and later led a contingency of militia at the Battle of Kings Mountain during the Revolution.

"The townspeople wanted to see the caravan," he said, "so they asked Andrew if he would delay bringing his team through town until the next day. Not only did he comply with their wishes, but he attended Shelby's funeral, too." This detail gives the impression that their material status and historical standing must have been elevated and, therefore, was of general interest.

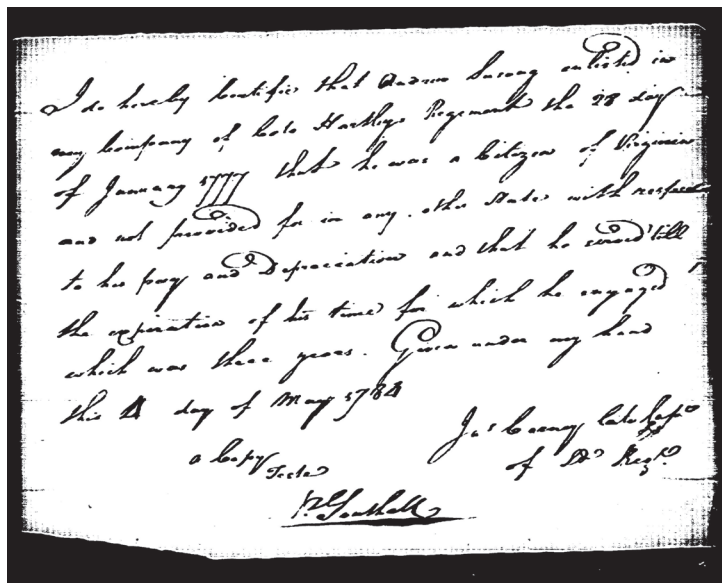
The 1962 *Herald Courier* article further stated, "The unusually large and wealthy Susong wagon

train, which had originated in Rockbridge County, Virginia, consisted of more than 100 persons, including a large company of slaves; numerous wagons and carriages; outriders and herds of livestock."

After the Susongs settled in Goodson, they bought over a thousand acres of land. Given all the material goods and property they brought with them to southern Virginia, and the land they subsequently bought in what is now West Bristol, it is obvious the Susongs were financially well off. Did Barbara or Andrew have

money already—before they came across the Atlantic? If the money was on her side, did it come directly from Lafayette or from someone in Lafayette's extended family?

In 1817, the family moved again from Virginia into Greene County, Tennessee. Eight years later, in 1825, the Marquis de Lafayette during his tour of the United States made a stop-over in Greeneville, Tennessee. "There's absolutely no reason for him to have visited Greeneville except for his tie to the Susongs," Massey



Virginia Sworn Certificate of Military Service—Source: lva.virginia.gov

TRANSCRIPT: I do hereby certify that **Andrew Susong** enlisted in my Company of Col. Hartley's Regiment the 28th day of January 1777, that he was a citizen of Virginia, and not provided for in any other states with respect to his pay and depreciation and that he served 'til the expiration of the time for which he engaged, which was three years. Given under my hand this 4th day of May, 1784. Signed Jas. Carney, late Capt. of [illegible] Regt. A copy [illegible] [illegible].

stated.

"We want to further research the family's ties to Lafayette. There is obviously more to the story than we've been able to uncover," he said.

The year following the nobleman's visit, Andrew, Sr. died. Barbara's year of death has been lost and forgotten. Still today, folks in Greene County will reference directions by citing the old Susong Farm south of Greeneville. On that property, the original farmhouse was a log cabin which five successive generations of the Susongs called home. Today the farm opens to the public once a year as part of a local celebration to honor family farms more than a century old. ■

NOTE: Jefferson Moak and Jeff Lambert brought Barbara Susong's name to the Editor's attention.



CALIFORNIA

Annual Independence Day Luncheon

The California Society hosted its annual Independence Day Luncheon on Sunday, 13 July 2014, at the most exclusive private club in southern California, the Valley Hunt Club in Pasadena. The original members of the Valley Hunt Club were wealthy transplanted Easterners who started the Rose Parade in 1890 as a way to showcase the wonderful climate of their new home. Their beautifully understated clubhouse is located near the Wrigley Mansion (Rose Parade HQ), which is where the Parade begins every January first.

More than fifty SR members as well as friends from the Society of the Cincinnati, Daughters of the Cincinnati, Order of Founders and Patriots,



Dr. Abraham Hoffman

Daughters of the American Revolution and the Aztec Society were on hand to enjoy a delicious gourmet luncheon and hear historian Dr. Abraham Hoffman expound on the relationship between the Colonial rebels and European



Members and guests gathered at Valley Hunt Club, Pasadena.

powers during the Revolution. Dr. Hoffman gave a very scholarly and quite fascinating dissertation weaving our Revolution in with other events worldwide to reveal a complex interrelationship.

Dr. Hoffman is an authority on the shifting balance of powers in Europe during the eighteenth century. The forming of alliances with European powers was always an important part of the fledgling American nation's plan to break free from England. In addition to the potential alliance with France, which eventually was sealed, the Thirteen Colonies also had potential allies in Spain and the Netherlands, as they were all three rivals of England.

Dr. Hoffman was born in Los Angeles and received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from California State University, Los Angeles. He earned his doctorate in History at UCLA with distinction. Dr. Hoffman taught in Los Angeles schools for more than thirty years and has also been an Adjunct Professor at Los Angeles Valley College since 1974. He serves on the board of editors for *Southern California Quarterly*, reviews books, has written books, and contributes articles to history publications.—*text and photos submitted by Society President Doug Boyd*

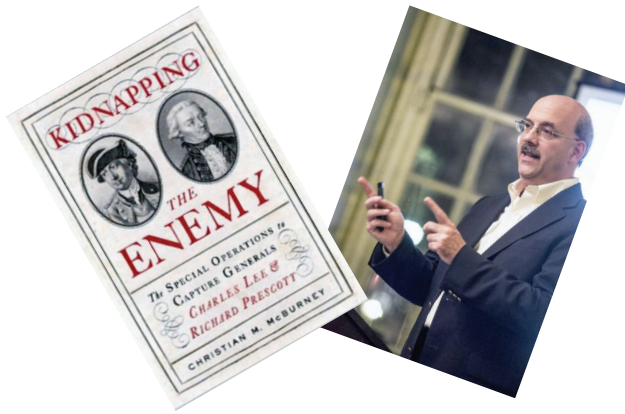
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Yorktown / Saratoga Dinner

On 15 Oct 2014, the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the District of Columbia held its annual Yorktown Day – Saratoga Day Dinner at the Washington Golf & Country Club in Arlington, Virginia. Members and their guests gathered to reconnect for the Society's first event of the fall season and to listen to DC-based attorney and author Christian McBurney. He spoke on one of his latest books, *Kidnapping the Enemy: The Special Operations to Capture Generals Charles Lee and Richard Prescott* (Westholme Publishing, 2013).

A native Rhode Islander, Mr. McBurney juxtaposed the behind-the-scenes details of how both Maj. Gen. Charles Lee of the Continental Army and Gen. Richard Prescott of the British army were kidnapped. Lee was the first to be seized. On the night of 12 Dec 1776, while on a reconnaissance mission in New Jersey, Lt. Col. William Harcourt and then-Cornet Banastre Tarleton of the British dragoons learned from Loyalist informers where Lee was staying at a tavern at nearby Basking Ridge. With Lee's capture, the British were confident the rebellion would soon be over.

Stung by Lee's kidnapping, the Americans de-



—Source: Amazon.com

—Source: newportri.com

cided to respond with their own special operation, perhaps the most outstanding one of the war. On the dark night of 10 July 1777, Lt. Col. William Barton led a handpicked party in whaleboats across Narragansett Bay—carefully avoiding British navy ships—to Newport, Rhode Island. They seized Prescott as well as his aide-de-camp and a sentry, then quickly returned across the bay.

Not only had Barton kidnapped a British major general who could be exchanged for Lee, he had removed from action a man who had maltreated the Patriots.

Annual Meeting and Dinner

On Tuesday, 9 Dec 2014, the Society met for its 126th annual meeting and dinner at the Chevy Chase Club in Chevy Chase, Maryland. While members of the Society gathered to work on business issues as well as elect a new slate of officers, their spouses and guests enjoyed cocktails and socializing.

During the evening's white-tie dinner program,



L-R - Past President Joel Hinzman, Incoming President Donald Lamson, Past President Nick Ward (swearing in the officers), 1st VP Tim Finton, Secretary Sean Redmonds, 1st Asst. Treasurer Ed McAllister, Registrar Jarred Hubbard, Marshal Pete Toulmin, Color Guard Captain Eldon Kaplan, and Historian Peter Dixon.

the two winners of the Society's yearly Corcoran Awards were introduced. In a tradition encompassing many years, the DC Sons in conjunction with the Department of Arts & Humanities at the Corcoran College of Art have held an essay competition on the role of art in American history, especially during the formative years of the country. The prizes encourage students to show in their writing a strong connection between American history and the development of American art. Two \$750 prizes are awarded, one to the best undergraduate essay and one to the best graduate essay. The winners for the 2014 competition were undergraduate Julia McCann and graduate Caroline Space.

While George Washington University recently absorbed the Corcoran College of Art and Design, it is expected the college will continue operating as an independent school. The traditional collaboration between Corcoran and the Sons is also expected to continue unabated.



Annual Meeting at the Chevy Chase (Maryland) Club.

—Society photos courtesy Peter Guen.

Another highlight of the evening's program was the recognition of special guest Mrs. Genevieve Carroll-Mann, great granddaughter of John Lee Carroll, the DC Society's founder and the General Society's first General President. Mr. Carroll was active in the Democratic Party and elected thirty-seventh Governor of Maryland in 1876.

The evening's guest speaker was Professor James Henretta, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Maryland. Dr. Henretta rose to speak after Society members had made the traditional toasts to the President of the United States, General George Washington, the DC Society, and the General Society, Sons of the Revolution.

Professor Henretta treated members and guests to a lecture entitled, "The Problem of the Loyalists," in which he discussed four case studies that detailed the types of difficulty faced by the Loyalists in Revolutionary America. He also spoke

of the problems they faced after the United States received its independence.

In the final business of the evening, the Society recognized its newly elected officers and board members for the following year:

President	Donald Neal Lamson
1st V.P.	Timothy Christopher Finton
2nd V.P.	Gary Nordlinger, III
Secretary	Sean Patrick Redmond
Treasurer	Gary Nordlinger, III
Asst. Treasurer	Thomas Edwin McAllister
Registrar	Jared Lee Hubbard
Chancellor	David Harding Wetmore
Color Captain	Eldon Miles Kaplan
Historian	Peter Arrott Dixon
Marshall	Priestley Toulmin, III

Board of Managers

Term Ends 2015

Robert Darrell Pollock
William Edward Senn
Gary Edward Young

Term Ends 2016

Earl McSherry Hyde, Jr.
Col. Andrew Martin Johnson
Walter Stimpson Sechriest

Term Ends 2017

Col. William Harrison Huff, IV
Hon. Scott Wallace Stucky
Nathaniel Pabody Dean

The Society thanks the outgoing officers for their service and looks forward to another successful year with our new President and officers.

—text submitted by Past President Joel Hinzman

EUROPE

***l'* Hermione Support Grows Internationally**

On 14 Oct 2014, the Friends of Hermione held a most successful Gala for more than six hundred diplomats, dignitaries, guests, and Francophile supporters from across the globe aboard the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City. By special invitation, members of the European Society, a number of whom served on the Gala's Benefit Committee led by Society President Charles D. Carroll, were also part of the success of this lively celebration.

Funds raised from the event will help support

the historic voyage of the reconstructed French frigate Hermione during its triumphal tour of East Coast ports from Yorktown to Halifax during the summer of 2015. The evening was hosted by Miles Young, president of Friends of Hermione and CEO of Ogilvy & Mather. Honored guests included Dr. Henry Kissinger, award winning journalist Charlie Rose, and Christine Lagarde, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund. Also present were Bertrand Lortholary, Consul General of France in New York, and Hon. Craig R. Stapleton, former U.S. Ambassador to France.



Friends of Hermione President Miles Young, center, flanked by European Society members Charlie Carroll and Alex Lunney, left, and by J. Robert Lunney and Charles D. Carroll, right.



The Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, New York City.
—Photo by Jason Hermann Photography

In explaining the historic mission of the Hermione voyage, President Young stated, “The arrival of Hermione in the summer of 2015 brings to life a tipping point in the American Revolution when Lafayette brought to General Washington the great news of wholehearted French support. The voyage will make a lasting legacy of the spirit of liberty and justice—an educational legacy and instructive learning experience for school children, designed for the digital age. The voyage will also symbolize the intimate ties between France and America and the spirit which sustains them.”

President Young has embraced the Hermione Project not just out of his love of history but also out of a belief that it is important for the young of today to see history as a living force which can

shape the ideas of tomorrow.

To begin the evening's ceremonies the Friends of Hermione Leadership Award was presented to Dr. Kissinger by Miles Young. Later, after several tributes to the Hermione Project, including an outstanding video direct from France by Captain Yann Cariou, guests listened intently to a wide ranging interview of Christine Lagarde by Charlie Rose. The Gala featured a menu inspired by fine French recipes and delicious libations. For more information on the Hermione and its coming voyage, please visit www.hermione2015.com.

—text and gala photo submitted by Society Secretary J. Robert Lunney

GEORGIA

Annual Oyster Roast

In early December, as the days turned crisp in Savannah, the Georgia Society gathered for its annual oyster roast and barbecue. This time we were treated with succulent Bluffton oysters from neighboring South Carolina. In the early twentieth century, the city of Bluffton was home to several oyster companies. The Bluffton Oyster Company actually sits on reclaimed land, built up by more than a hundred years of discarded shells from previous shucking operations.

After enjoying the oysters, the SR group later heard the entertaining speaker Dr. Byron Boyd. He is the head of the history department at the Savannah Country Day School and faculty member at Savannah's Armstrong State University. An accomplished historian, Dr. Boyd regaled an appreciative audience with the leadership qualities of George Washington.

Commemorating the Siege of Savannah

On 9 Oct 2014 the Georgia Society of the Sons of the Revolution participated in the commemora-



A portion of the Georgia Society Colors on early Oct 9.
—Photo by Lynn Wright, Savannah Chapter, D.A.R.



Lining up the Colors for the Commemoration Day procession.
—Photo courtesy of Ron Freeman

tion of the Siege of Savannah during the War for Independence. Our reconstituted Color Guard displayed twelve of our flags. To celebrate the commemoration, the SR was joined by the DAR and SAR as well. All of these societies presented memorial wreaths.

Commemoration Day in Savannah is an annual event. The day's timeline is much attuned to the time of the actual battle on the morning of the 9th. The parade to the battlefield starts at sunrise with the Color Guards of combined military heritage societies leading the march. Many of the participants are attired in period uniforms and accompanied with muskets, flags, and drums. The guards step off smartly, keeping in step with the drummer. Following the leaders is a gathering of heritage societies that present wreaths in memory of the brave soldiers who fought here and gave their all.

October marked the 235th anniversary of the Siege. The British had taken the town nine months earlier, in February of 1779, and by October the Patriots were determined to retake the city. With the assistance of the French and Haitian allies, the Patriots rendered a three-week, ineffective siege to the town. However, with hurricane season at hand and supplies running low, they no longer could delay an attack. As French Admiral de'Staing (commander of the allies) said, "When all else fails, you must take sword in hand."

The ensuing Battle of Savannah became the bloodiest hour of the Revolution, with eleven hundred allied soldiers killed and wounded. The British lost only eighteen men. The Patriot defeat in Savannah was a pivotal point in the war in the South, and the British swept onward to Charleston. That city's surrender launched Gen. Cornwallis' sweep north against Nathanael Greene.

—submitted by President Ron Freeman

KENTUCKY

The Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Kentucky held its annual meeting on Saturday, 6 Dec 2014, at the Pendennis Club in Louisville. The meeting was held jointly with the Kentuckiana Society, Order of the Founders and Patriots of America. A new slate of officers was elected and installed, and a report was given on the very successful and popular George Washington Birthday dinner held at the Lexington Club on 21 Feb 2014.

The GW Birthday dinner was a collaboration between the SR, the local SAR, and the tri-state Society of Cincinnati. Col. Ron Williams gave an excellent talk on some little known facts about our nation's first President. The Kentucky Society of the SR is planning another event at the Lexington Club this February with the SAR and the Central Kentucky group of the Colonial Wars.

The slate of new officers is as follows:

President	Buzz Carmichael
1st Vice President	Paul Holbook
2nd Vice President	C. William Swinford, Jr.
Treasurer	Rev. Paul W. (Sonny) Smith
Registrar	Roger H. Futrell
Secretary	William Allen Buckaway III
Chaplain	Rev. Paul W. (Sonny) Smith
Color Guard Capt	C. William Swinford, Jr.
Historian	Ron Bryant



Annual Meeting in December at the Pendennis Club



Members and guests at the Washington Birthday Dinner

—text and photos submitted by Society President Buzz Carmichael

NEW JERSEY

Society Loses Harrie Copeland

In early November 2014, the New Jersey State Society sadly lost VP Harrie Edmond Copeland, III, of Delaware Township, Hunterdon County. He died of an apparent heart attack while vacationing with his wife, Cheryl, in Florida. General Vice President Caswell Cooke said, "Harrie was in line to be the next President of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New Jersey. His passing will certainly leave a void in what has been a very close-knit group."



Color Guard Capt and VP Harrie Copeland
—Photo source SRNJ

Society President Charlie Scammell characterized the late Mr. Copeland as a "dear friend" who was an extremely popular figure in Hunterdon County. "It is a sad time for all those who knew Harrie," he

said. "Harrie was very excited about his new role on the Board of the SRNJ. He had expressed many times his plans for the next administration. He was the leader of the Color Guard and participated in all events. His leadership and participation will be sorely missed."

Mr. Copeland was a retired career bank executive, an auctioneer, and a politician. He had worked most recently for Hopewell Valley Community Bank, retiring as manager of its Flemington office. He was also a retired Navy commander, having served in active and reserve duty for twenty-three

years. A gentleman farmer, for several years he ran the family's office equipment and supply company from the family farm in Delaware Township.

According to his obituary, he completed two three-year terms on the Freeholders board, from 1985-1990, and was board director for two years. He also served two three-year terms as a Delaware Township Committeeman in the 1980s and was mayor of the community in 1985.

To the people of Hunterdon County, he was perhaps known best for his countless hours of charity work and community service. He and Cheryl had won several prestigious community awards. Harrie had an impressive resume as a professional auctioneer, raising thousands of dollars for non-profit organizations in the tri-state area. He was named New Jersey Auctioneer of the Year in 2002 and 2003 and received the New Jersey Bid Calling Champion Award.

He was a 1968 graduate of Hunterdon Central High School and received a bachelor's degree in business administration management from the University of South Carolina. He attended Armed Forces Staff College in Monterey, California, obtained an auction degree from Reisch College in Mason City, Iowa, and completed New Jersey real estate and assessors courses at Rutgers University.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harrie and Charlotte Copeland. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Cheryl Wienk Copeland; son Harrie E. Copeland IV and wife Kimberly Copeland of Gainesville, Virginia; daughter Rachel Copeland Bell and husband Christopher Bell of Denver, Colorado; sisters Janet Copeland Black and husband William Black Jr. of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Nancy Copeland Padfield and husband Gregory Padfield of Springfield, Tennessee, as well as three grandchildren.

—*from published and unpublished reports.*

NEW YORK

Nathan Hale Day Commemoration

On 22 Sept 2014, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York marked the 238th anniversary of the hanging of patriot Nathan Hale. An annual wreath-laying ceremony is conducted by the Sons and the New York City Parks Department in front of a statue of Hale located in City Hall. The thirteen-foot bronze statue, sculpted by Frederick Macmonnies, was presented to the city by the Sons in 1893.

SRNY member Michael P. Coneys is chairman

of the Nathan Hale Day Commemoration Committee, a position he has held for more than a dozen years. Color Guard members of the SRNY and of the Veterans Corps of Artillery have traditionally participated in the ceremony, as well as schoolchildren. During the 2014 ceremony, Mr. Coneys was joined by Namshink Yoon of the NYC Parks & Rec Department. As is traditional, Mr. Coneys read the Mayor's proclamation to those gathered round.

Nathan Hale's patriotism remains both admirable and inspirational. On 10 Sept 1776, Hale volunteered to cross behind British lines on Long Island to spy on the British in preparation for the Battle of Harlem Heights. In that era, spying was considered lowly work. If spies were caught, they were hanged. Eleven days after Hale crossed enemy lines, he was captured while trying to cross back into Patriot-controlled territory. The next morning, the twenty-one-year-old Yale graduate and former school teacher was hanged by British soldiers.

Society Participates in Genealogy Day

The SRNY was an exhibitor in mid-October at The Genealogy Event & DNA Day held at the Alexander Hamilton US Custom House in Lower Manhattan. The 2014 event, the third year in New York, was produced by the BBNY Group LLC, in partnership with the National Archives and Record Administration at New York City. Other major sponsors were Family Tree Magazine & Find My Past.

The format of the program was new, designed to appeal to all levels of genealogists—from beginner to expert. More than thirty sessions across three concurrent tracks on both days of the event covered many pertinent areas of genealogical interest, from the latest in DNA research and heritage-focused sessions to maps, cartography, and government resources at the National Archives.

The SRNY had an exhibitor table set up, where volunteers shared with attendees the Society's mission and tradition.



L-R: Michael Coneys and Namshink Yoon of NYC Parks & Rec., Manhattan Borough

Evacuation Day Dinner

On 24 Nov 2014, the Society held its annual Evacuation Day dinner at 6 pm in the Fraunces Tavern Restaurant, the very site where the first Evacuation Day celebratory meal (a lunch) was held in 1783. The 2014 dinner included a presentation on the French contribution to the American Revolution and on the upcoming journey of the replica *l'Hermione*, Lafayette's ship which brought him to the United States in 1780. The replica will dock in New York harbor this July 4.

The dinner also included the presentation of a special Evacuation Day flag to John Herzog, founder of the American Museum of Finance. It was to be flown for the first time the following day during a ceremony at Bowling Green. The highlight of the annual dinner is the thirteen toasts, which is a symbolic replication of the thirteen toasts given during that first meal in 1783.



Jane Campbell, NYC Chapter DAR, presents one of the thirteen toasts.



L-R: Past SRNY Presidents James Grayshaw, Larry Simpson, Kent Straat, and F. Daniel LeVert Coleman, along with current SRNJ President Charlie Scammell.

Color Guard Visits Fishkill

On 13 Dec 2014, a Saturday, members of the SRNY Color Guard visited the Fishkill Supply Depot to take part in the National Wreaths across America Day. While they did not present the colors, they did place wreaths on the gravesites of Revolu-

tionary War veterans buried in the cemetery adjacent the Van Wyck homestead, on route 9 in Fishkill, N.Y. According to Captain David N. T. Woods, the Color Guard made a contribution of funds to the Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot.



The Restoration of Fraunces Tavern

Thanks to your generosity, the Fraunces Tavern complex is undergoing sorely needed renovation. The kitchen exhaust project for the Fraunces Tavern Restaurant was wrapped up in early December, just in time for the holiday season. The new equipment is safer and quieter, and it will allow the restaurant to serve customers more efficiently. Improvements to the complex's boiler system have also been recently completed.

One of the most pressing concerns, however, and by far the largest piece of ongoing renovation, is the façade restoration of three of the five buildings. The facelifts are occurring at 58 Pearl, 26 Water, and 24 Water streets.



Restored Water Street facade.

Even though the scaffolding has come down along both Pearl and Water and the progress so far is quite handsome, a good deal of work remains to be done. The project is entering its second phase. At 24 Water Street, the lower portion of the façade is receiving final touches. At 26 Water Street, brick repairs will be made on the first floor of the building. Brickwork on 58 Pearl Street will also be repaired to restore the building's beauty for future generations.

These remaining tasks will culminate the restoration. It started in mid-June 2014 and will cost a total of \$325,000 to complete. By the end of November 2014, the Society had raised \$62,500 toward that end.

From Washington to Roosevelts

The history at 54 and 58 Pearl Street is rich and layered. Not only did George Washington and Henry Knox once walk the floors of the Long Room, but Theodore Roosevelt's great-grandfather James I. Roosevelt once owned the 58 Pearl location.

Earliest records indicate the property was sold to Frederick Philipse in 1686 and a structure had been erected on the site by 1695. It was then passed on to Frederick Philipse's daughter Annetje in 1702, wife of Philip French, the twenty-seventh mayor of New York City. By 1757, Henry Holland was owner of the property. Upon his death in 1782, it was transferred to his granddaughter, Alida Fargie, who was married to Cornelius C. Roosevelt.

In 1795, 58 Pearl was sold to James I. Roosevelt, Cornelius's cousin and the great-grandfather of future U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt and great, great-grandfather of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

In 1831, the present building at 58 Pearl was constructed for David Jaques and John Hitchcock to serve as a store and warehouse for their hardware business. The Sons of the Revolution bought 58 Pearl Street in 1945. Today the building houses a portion of the Fraunces Tavern Restaurant and the Museum's Flag Gallery. As is 54 Pearl, the building at 58 Pearl is constructed of brick, laid in Flemish bond.

Preserving a Heritage

Owning a historical landmark is expensive. Owning one that is centuries years old and has, in its elderly age, suffered through the ravages of a twenty-first century hurricane's storm surge makes it even more expensive to maintain.

The SRNY, with the generous support of members from throughout the General Society, has been

maintaining Fraunces Tavern since 1904. Preserving five historic buildings built between 1829 and 1907 has been both a challenge and privilege.

Please consider donating to the Façade Restoration Project! The SRNY is offering a 100% matching gift for every donation made. For more information, please call 212-425-1776 or visit frauncestavernmuseum.org/.

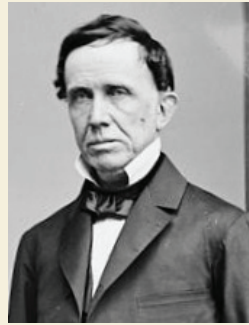
—Editor, compiled from SRNY notes

NORTH CAROLINA

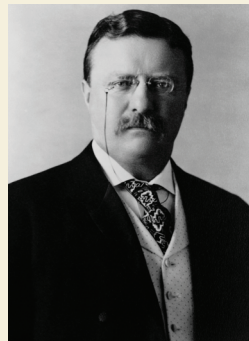
A Busy Fall 2014

This past year the Sons of the Revolution in the State of North Carolina has been quite busy with three meetings, three newsletters, six color guard events, the archaeology project (see related article, page 24), and National History Day, among other events and activities.

The 2014 Yorktown Luncheon was held in Greensboro on 18 Oct 2014 at the Sheraton Greensboro. Our program was on the battle of Guilford Courthouse as a prelude to Yorktown. The speaker was John Lloyd Durham, historian and curator at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. He gave an outstanding presentation on the battle and its repercussions.



James I. Roosevelt



Teddy Roosevelt



Guilford Courthouse historian and curator John Lloyd Durham.—Courtesy SRNC

After the presentation, attendees went to Guilford Courthouse National Military Park for a guided tour of the battlefield. I have been to Guilford Courthouse about twelve times and have read several books on the battle there, but on this occasion I found that I had really understood little of the battle and of the park. I learned a great deal, and it was a grand outing.

The annual march of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA) was held 22 Sept -



SRNC Color Guard on Veterans Day.—Courtesy SRNC

7 October, 2014, on the two hundred thirty-fourth anniversary of the original march to chase down and wipe out the Loyalist army under Major Patrick Ferguson. Participating this year were SRNC members John Ledbetter, Hollis Posey, Albert Hopping, and Dan Hopping.

The annual reenactment of the 1780 campaign leading up to the battle of Kings Mountain is a four state, 330 mile educational living history exercise where OVTA volunteers and paid reenactors teach and inspire school children and adults with this great early American story of a very important victory by a determined group of backcountry militia.

Color Guard Activity

The SRNC Color Guard has been busy since the last Drumbeat, having participated in three events during the fall and winter. As a Society, we are getting the SRNC name out front and our Color Guard commander has done a great job. We are proud to participate in patriotic events that remember our heritage and bring credit to the SRNC.

At Kings Mountain National Military Park, the SRNC laid a wreath on 7 Oct 2014 and otherwise participated in the ceremony. On Veterans' Day, we participated in the "March of Patriots" in Roanoke Rapids, N.C. This event included a march down Roanoke Avenue and a ceremony at the park with the NCSSAR President and the Halifax Chapter of the NCSSAR. While there we took a tour of the nearby historic Halifax district, where the Halifax Resolves were adopted by North Carolina on 12 Apr 1776.

Following on 13 Dec 2014, we participated in the Wreaths across America ceremonies at the Raleigh National Cemetery. SRNC President Dan Hopping laid a wreath for the Society in honor of the first army in America. The SRNC Color Guard fired a volley at the end of the ceremony and then held mourn arms while Taps was played.—*text and photos submitted by Dan Hopping*

Scholarship Program Reaches 10th Year

The year 2014 marked the tenth year in which the Sons of the Revolution in the State of North Carolina provided a thousand-dollar continuing scholarship award through the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Student recipients are undergraduate American history majors whose area of interest is limited to the period of the Revolution or the early development of the American government. The winners are selected by faculty members of the UNCP Department of History.

As director of this program, I have had the great pleasure to meet and assist these young scholars with the preparation and presentation of their research, which is a requirement of each recipient. In administering the program, I have personally



The Old Main building at UNCP.—Source: wikipedia.org

visited with each winner at least three times during the subsequent year of their study. It has been my ongoing privilege and honor to introduce each of the winners as a featured speaker at the Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Society.

The General Society, Sons of the Revolution encourages all State Societies to establish such a scholarship program in the name of remembering our patriot-ancestors and honoring their ultimate sacrifice for the good of the country.—*submitted by Scholarship Chairman James B. Ebert, ScD (Hon.), Vice President General Emeritus and Professor Emeritus, UNCP*

Charlotte Chapter Holds Annual Dinner

The Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson Chapter, SRNC, held its annual Chartering Dinner on September 26 at The Charlotte Country Club. Chapter member Chris Stonestreet was the featured speaker. Stonestreet is a published author and American history teacher. He told the chapter about the life, service, and sacrifice of its namesake personage, Gen. Wm.



Charlotte Chapter Annual Meeting.—Courtesy Gus Succop Lee Davidson.

Davidson was a local Revolutionary War hero who died at the battle of Cowan's Ford in 1781, opposing the re-entry of Lord Cornwallis' troops into North Carolina. Earlier, he had been shot in the stomach at the Battle of Colson's Mill on 21 July 1780 and did not participate in the Battle of Camden. Recovering quickly, Davidson was promoted to brigadier general and given command of the Salisbury District militia. He participated in resisting the entry of Lord Cornwallis into Charlotte in late September 1780 before being killed the next year.—text and photo submitted by Chapter President Gus E. Succop

PENNSYLVANIA

PSSR Attracts Younger Members

The Younger Members Committee continues to boost the Pennsylvania Society's visibility and awareness with potential new members in the Philadelphia area. The Younger Members held two great functions toward the end of 2014. In September, Kipp Gearhart and James Price hosted a fantastic Roof Deck & Parlor Party at a private townhouse in Center City.

The setting was replete with a terrific spread of food, cocktails, and music for nearly seventy friends and guests. It was, without doubt, *the* place to be on that Friday evening. A doorman was hired to "welcome" all coming through the front door. The festivities continued far beyond the end of the townhouse party, with a large group of members and potential members heading out on the town afterward.

The next event took place in early December, when the Younger Members hosted a Holiday Soiree party at 1 Tippling Place, a renowned speak-

easy, again in Center City. Even in the midst of the holiday season, we had an encouraging turnout of members and guests at the soiree. These social happenings rounded out a busy year in 2014 for the Younger Members. The Committee has seen a great boost in the Society's membership development from within the younger community in Philadelphia and surrounding suburbs.

Two Traditional Events

Last year's Musket Ball was held on Saturday, 11 October 2014, at Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, Pennsylvania. PSSR member and Merion Golf Club member Howard Morgan acted as our Merion member host. Merion Golf proved to be a wonderful venue as the Society welcomed nearly one hundred seventy guests in attendance. That number far surpassed last year's attendance, despite the unfortunate scheduling conflict with the General Society's annual board meeting that took place in Virginia.

The Ball was held in the newly constructed Pavilion at the Club, and all in attendance had a festive and fun time. Following cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, members and their guests were treated to a wonderful dinner, followed by the musical entertainment of The Jason Kendall Band.



2014 Musket Ball, Merion Golf Club.—Photo courtesy PSSR

A few weeks later, on 15 Dec 2014, designated as Bill of Rights Day, the New Citizens Committee of the Pennsylvania Society participated in the naturalization ceremony for new citizens at the Federal Courthouse in Philadelphia. Eighty-eight new persons from forty-two countries took the oath of allegiance to the United States and became citizens at the ceremony. Participating in the ceremony from the Society were President James B. Burke; Robert Flood, Jr; Robert Flood, III; James Kip Gearhart, III; Matthew D. Dupee, Esq.; John Strawbridge; New Citizens Committee Chair John Blickensderfer, and

Society Secretary Barbara Dickenson.



L-R: Society President Burke, Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick, William Fedullo, Esq., Judge Goldberg, and Judge Shapiro at Bill of Rights Day naturalization ceremony.— Photo courtesy PSSR

Following the administration of the Citizenship Oath, a series of speakers addressed the court and the new citizens. Chancellor William P. Fedullo, Esq., recounted his family's immigration history and stated that the new citizens present on that day would

be remembered by generations of their descendants as being the first U.S. citizens in their families' ongoing histories.

Closing remarks were made by Society President James B. Burke. Following the ceremony, the Society sponsored a reception for the group, which included cake, iced tea, and traditional American music provided by "Banjo Joe."

MoAR Groundbreaking Ceremony

The date 9 Oct 2014, in City Center, marked a very special occasion: the groundbreaking ceremony of the new Museum of the American Revolution, to be located at 101 South Third Street in downtown Philadelphia. Over three hundred supporters, benefactors, and honored guests gathered to celebrate.

Journalist, author, and supporter Cokie Roberts was the keynote speaker for the ceremony and ap-



Rev War lineage society representatives in front of "America's Liberty Tree."—Source: amrevmuseum.org

plauded the Museum on its mission and plans to showcase the diverse and surprising stories of this nation's original greatest generation. The occasion was marked also by the ceremonial dedication of a young elm tree as "America's Liberty Tree," enriched with representative soils from various Revolutionary War sites along the eastern seaboard. The PSSR has been a steadfast supporter of the new museum.—Submitted by Society Secretary Schuyler Colfax Wickes



Rendering of the Museum of the American Revolution, Philadelphia.—Source amrevmuseum.org

SOUTH CAROLINA



President Chuck Swoope visited Kings Mountain on the anniversary of the battle and proudly represented his state for the SR.—Photo courtesy Chuck Swoope

VIRGINIA

Yorktown Day Celebration

On 19 Oct 2014, the Virginia Society participated in and hosted the annual Yorktown Day Celebration in Yorktown, Virginia. The annual event commemorates and celebrates Lord Cornwallis' surrender to General George Washington, which took place on the same date in 1781. The surrender marked the end of major hostilities and, effectively, the dawning of the United States of America.

Yorktown Day Celebration is put on each year by the Yorktown Day Association (YTA), which was organized in 1947. Prior to that year, the annual celebration had been organized for twenty-five years previously by the Comte de Grasse Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.



Patriotic exercises at Yorktown Victory Monument.
—Source: historyisfun.org

The 2014 event began with a dinner held on the eve of 18 Oct, during which a bronze bust of Rochambeau by sculptor Pierre LeFebvre was presented by the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution to the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown (ARMY). Following that, Virginia SAR Vice President Mike Elston gave a presentation on the "Bermuda Gunpowder Plot."

Sunday's traditional events included wreath laying ceremonies in the morning at the French Cemetery, at Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr.'s grave, and at the French Memorial. The U.S. Army Commander-in-Chief's Guard conducted a memorial service on the grounds of Yorktown Battlefield in the afternoon, which was followed by the NPS Yorktown Day Parade.

The culminating memorial wreath laying ceremony at the Monument to Victory and Alliance featured greetings from Mr. Olivier Serot-Alme'ras, Consul General of France in Washington, D.C., as



Wreath-laying at French Memorial, Yorktown Battlefield.
—Source: doncio.navy.mil

well as a keynote address by Mr. Lindsey Brock, President General SAR, and the placing of the memorial wreath by Mrs. Bana Caskey, Historian General DAR.

A Commonwealth of Virginia Resolution was also read publicly during the ceremony to honor the retiring P. Daniel Smith, Superintendent of Colonial Historical Park, who was stepping down after having served a successful ten years in the position. The YDA comprises representatives of thirteen prestigious ancestral or historical societies whose primary purpose is to honor the patriots of the Revolutionary War.—submitted by Matson L. Roberts, Yorktown Day Association President

SAR Officers Given Tour of SR HQ

During the Yorktown Days weekend held at the Colonial National Historic Park in mid-October the Sons of the American Revolution paid a courtesy visit to the GSSR HQ.

SAR President General Lindsey C. Brock and Treasurer General Mike Tomme were warmly received by GSSR Execu-

tive Director Jeffrey Lambert and given a tour of the facilities in Williamsburg.

During the upcoming year in the SAR, President General Brock plans to implement Phase III of the SAR's new center in Louisville, Kentucky, among other goals. ■—Editor



L-R: SAR Treasurer General Mike Tomme, Jeff Lambert, and SAR President General Lindsey Brock.
—Photo courtesy Jeff Lambert

Flintlock & Powderhorn

ARTICLES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

PATRIOT VIGNETTES

The William Britton (1723-1804) family of Mount Bethel, Pennsylvania takes a unique place in history. Though the family physically survived eight years of the Revolutionary War, opposing political influences drove the household apart. William, the father, favored the Loyalists, but his wife, Mary Collins Britton, aligned herself with the Patriot cause.

While all of William and Mary's children (six sons and four daughters) were born in New Jersey, the family relocated to Pennsylvania before the advent of the war.

On 27 Nov 1777, the three older sons (Nathaniel, Zeboeth, and Samuel) took the oath of allegiance to the Patriot cause just as the youngest sons (James, William, and Joseph) sided with His Majesty King George III. It is said the six brothers could not overcome their division; neither side ever spoke to the other side again.

Britton Family Patriots

Nathaniel – b. 12 March 1744, Hunterdon County, New Jersey; d. 2 Oct 1817, Mount Bethel, Northampton County, Pennsylvania.

Zeboeth – b. 9 Jan 1746, Hunterdon County, New Jersey; d. 11 July 1790, Northampton County, Pennsylvania.

Samuel – b. 9 Mar 1750, Hunterdon County, New Jersey; d. 1795, Baltimore City, Maryland.

In 1777, the three brothers Nathaniel, Zeboeth, and Samuel joined Capt. John Nelson's Company of the Northampton militia and subsequently served in Capt. Hugh Gaston's Company. They served together in two periods: 1777-78 and 1781-82. Nathaniel and Samuel also served in Capt. William McCalla's Company of the Bucks County militia. Zeb's name also appears as a private in the Chester County militia.

Britton Family Loyalists

James – b. 3 Aug 1753, Hunterdon County, New Jersey; d. 10 October 1838, Kings County, New Brunswick, Canada.

William – b. Oct. 15. 1754, Hunterdon County, New Jersey; d. 1807, Kings County, New Brunswick, Canada.

Joseph – b. 1757 - 1759, Hunterdon County, New Jersey; d. May 26, 1830, Kings County, New Brunswick, Canada.

Early on in the Revolution, James wished to remain neutral, but owing to the persecution of the Continentals was forced to take up arms for the Crown. The Patriots had targeted him and robbed and plundered his house. Escaping to the nearby woods, he was fed secretly by his wife, Eleanor Butler Britton (1752-1846), for a month. Afterward, he and his younger brother, Joseph, then joined the 1st New Jersey Volunteers, in Cortlandt Skinner's Brigade. In late winter 1782, James was promoted to lieutenant of the battalion.

At one point during the war, both James and Joseph were taken prisoners and sentenced to death, but they escaped and swam across the Delaware River to rejoin their corps. Meanwhile, William had joined DeLacey's Brigade but was captured and spent a long time imprisoned in horrid conditions.

By 1783, the three Loyalist brothers were reunited, and from New York, with their families in tow, they boarded the *Duke of Richmond* bound for St. John's, New Brunswick. ■—Editor

Hugh Mercer (1726-1777): The Patriot Whose Legacy Spans Two Continents

By David H. Dickey, General Historian

History cannot be studied in a vacuum. Without a thorough understanding of certain events preceding the life of Maj. Gen. Hugh Mercer, it would be impossible to grasp the significance of this great hero's sacrifices and enduring legacy to America. It would also be impossible to understand the European roots of the American Revolution. Thus, in this first part of a multi-part article, General Historian David H. Dickey focuses on the events leading up to the remarkable life of the famous American patriot to whose memory we pay homage.

Birth & Early Life in Scotland

Hugh Mercer was born on 17 Jan 1726 (during the reign of Hanoverian King George I) in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, to the Rev. William Mercer, a Presbyterian minister, and his wife, Ann Monro Mercer. He was born in the manse of the Pitsligo Kirk (where his father served as minister), in the fishing village of Rosehearty. The Mercers were of ancient Celtic (Britonic) and French (Norman) stock. Among historical documents, their surname is first mentioned in the tax records of Northumberland, where they held a family seat from “early times.”

The name Mercer derives from the Old French “Mercier,” which literally translates as “merchandise,” but by the seventeenth century its meaning had evolved to describe a merchant who dealt in “textiles.” At the tender age of only fifteen, Hugh Mercer attended Marischal College at the University of Aberdeen. He earned a Master’s degree and was in training to become a surgeon by 1744. One year after his birth, King George II ascended the throne of Great Britain (which, since 1707, had included Scotland).

While many Presbyterians (such as the powerful Campbell clan, led by the earls and dukes of “Argyll”) supported Protestant King George II, many others placed their pride of country above that of religion and thus supported the ancient Scottish family of Stuart in its attempt to reclaim the throne of Great Britain.

It did not matter to these Scottish nationalists that the Stuarts were Catholic or High Anglicans (non-reformed); instead, they looked to the bloodlines of the Scottish nation and pledged their loyalty to the Kings of Scotland (who, commencing with James VI of Scotland, had also been the Kings of Great Britain). This development of dual roles occurred when the Tudor Queen Elizabeth I died in 1603 without an heir, and James VI of Scotland, son of Mary Queen of Scots, acceded to the throne of England as James I.

Hugh Mercer was one of those Scottish nationalists who supported the Scottish/Celtic/Norman claimants to the throne. Thus, it is not surprising that, by 1745, he had joined the army of Charles Edward Stuart, a.k.a “the Young Pretender” and “Bonnie Prince Charlie.” As a descendant of King James I of England

(and VI of Scotland), Stuart was given the Pretender epithet after he made pretensions to retake the throne from the Saxon “Hanoverian usurpers.” The Stuarts and Mercer were Normans; the Hanoverians were Saxons. Animosity had existed between the Normans and the Saxons since before the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

Mercer became a physician’s assistant in the Stuart army and was present at what history has called “The Last Charge of the Highland Clans,” the Battle of Culloden. Occurring on 16 April 1746, this clash was where the Jacobite cause was crushed and the wounded highlanders of the last Pretender’s



Maj. Gen. Hugh Mercer, by John Trumbull (1791)



Original Pitsligo Kirk, where Mercer's father was minister.
—Source: roseheartychurch.org.uk

army were bayoneted to death on the field by the ruthless, red-clad “lobster-backs.” Upon orders of the Duke of Cumberland, the survivors (and their families) were hunted down like animals and impaled upon the razor-sharp points of the Hanoverian bayonets.

In the wake of that battle, Mercer fled for his life and became a fugitive “rebel” in his own country, hiding near Aberdeen until 1747. As Mercer lay in hiding awaiting the chance to escape to America, the following historical events, which had molded his personality, must have tumbled through his mind as he contemplated the perennial struggle of his people: The Glorious Revolution and the three Jacobite Rebellions (uprisings to restore the Stuarts to the throne), the first two of which will be examined in this current installment.

The Glorious Revolution—The ascension to the throne in February 1685 of King James II was the beginning of the end of the ancient Stuart dynasty of Scotland and England. This James (who was known as King James VII of Scotland and II of England) immediately began to remove English Protestants from their positions of power and privilege and replace them with persons whose religious persuasions pointed them to Rome.

The Protestants tolerated Stuart until his young



King William III of Orange, by Sir Godfrey Kneller (1646-1723)



Great Britain—Source: maps.com

wife, Mary of Modena, gave birth to a son who was baptized as a Catholic. This son, James Francis Edward Stuart (James III: 1688-1766), became the heir to the throne, thereby displacing the King’s elder daughter, Mary (born of an earlier marriage to Anne Hyde.) Mary had married her cousin, William III of Or-

ange (a Protestant Dutchman), in 1677, and had theretofore been the heir-apparent to the throne.

Suddenly, it appeared as though a Catholic dynasty might become entrenched on the English throne for generations. Consequently, a group of aristocratic, Protestant Lords (known as the “Immortal Seven”) approached William III and his wife, Mary, about invading England and seizing the throne. It was their idea to re-establish perpetual Protestantism and its concomitant privileges to the throne.

On 5 Nov 1688, William (a.k.a. “King Billy”) launched from Holland an historic invasion of England with an army of more than twenty-one thousand men (assisted by tens of thousands of English Protestants), and a fleet estimated at twice the size of the Spanish Armada. Unable to react in time, James II fled to the court of his cousin, King Louis XIV of France.

Thereafter, William III & Mary II were coronated on 11 Apr 1689 as the joint monarchs of England. Because there was no “pitched” battle to resist this particular invasion, some historians often improperly refer to this regal deposition as the “Bloodless Revolution;” however, nothing could be further from the truth. Standard English texts refer to it as the “Glorious Revolution.”

The First Jacobite Rebellion—James II immediately began his plans to reclaim the throne, which he believed rightfully belonged to a Briton of Celtic descent and Catholic religion. (Since “Jacobus” is the Latin name for James, those who supported his cause in this futile endeavor were referred to as “Jacobites”).



King James II, by Sir Godfrey Kneller (1646-1723)

James knew that, even with the aid of a French army, he would not have sufficient strength to make a full-scale invasion of England; therefore, his strategy involved two steps.

First, he would invade Ireland, establish a foothold on that island, drive the Protestant settlers out of the north, and thus swell his ranks with the grateful native Irish who had been fighting in vain to halt the Scots-Irish migrations to Ulster since their commencement in the early 1600s (during the reign of his grandfather, James I).

Second, he would then launch an invasion of England, fortified by an army of French regulars and Irish volunteers, simultaneously calling for an uprising by his loyal Jacobite followers within the Kingdom.

The two-pronged strategy went awry from the outset: On 12 Mar 1689, King James landed with six thousand French troops at Kinsale, near Cork, in the south of Ireland and marched to Dublin, where he was well received. With a Jacobite army of native Catholics, Protestant Royalists, and seasoned French troops, he marched north to Londonderry and on 18 Apr 1689 began a siege of the town.

Little did he predict that he would encounter such stubborn resistance from the “indomitable” Scots-Irish people who occupied the besieged fortress. For one hundred and five critical days, the town held out against the siege and, just when it was almost starved into submission, three British relief ships (the *Mountjoy*, the *Jerusalem*, and the *Phoenix*) broke through the wooden boom blocking the passage to the town via the River Foyle. The Williamites (supporters of King Billy)



John Erskine, 6th Earl of Mar, by Godfrey Kneller (1646-1723)

were thus reinforced with food and supplies galore.

In anger and desperation, James II lifted the siege and marched his French army south to recruit more native Irish. This heroic defense of Londonderry purchased King Billy valuable time to finance and raise an army to intercept James II in Ireland.

In the meantime, things were not going well for the Jacobite cause in England: John Graham of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee, had raised King James II's standard on 16 Apr 1689 and started a rebellion timed to coincide with James' invasion of Ireland. The principal purpose of Graham's movement was to force King Billy's troops to face the insurrection at home and thus prevent the English army from coming to the aid of the Ulster settlement.

Despite the rout of a much larger Williamite force at Killiecrankie on 27 July 1689, Jacobite resistance in England began to crumble. “Bonnie Dundee” (as Sir Walter Scott called him) was slain at Killiecrankie, and, within a month, the Stuart supporters had suffered a decisive defeat at the Battle of Dunkeld, freeing King Billy to focus on sailing to the relief of the “Orange” Protestants in the Ulster settlement.

On 14 June 1690, King Billy landed at Carrickfergus Castle near Belfast, with an army of thirty-six thousand soldiers (including English, German, Dutch, Danish, and French Huguenot troops), convened a war council, and then marched south to Dublin and the immortal banks of the River Boyne.

It was at that historically significant location on 12 July 1690 that King James II and his French troops, assisted by scores of native Irish, challenged the usurper to a pitched and sanguinary battle.



An original 1690 map by Merrian Matheus showing the defensive fortifications of Londonderry, from the private collection of the author. Photo by David H. Dickey



John Graham of Claverhouse, by Peter Lely, c. 1660

King James II was soundly defeated at the Boyne by the Williamite army of English and “Orangemen,” thus effectively ending the first Jacobite rebellion and ensuring Protestant ascendancy in Northern Ireland for the next three hundred and twenty-four years.

To this day, every July 12th in Northern Ireland the Protestants adorn orange jackets and parade through the streets of Belfast to the consternation of the “green” Irish.

The Second Jacobite Rebellion, the 1715 Rising—On 16 Sept 1701, James II, the last Roman Catholic monarch to rule England, died at the court of the French King Louis XIV. He was survived by his Catholic son, James III, who was to later become known as the “Old Pretender.”

In 1694, Queen Mary II died and her husband was allowed to reign alone until his death in 1702. William and Mary produced no heirs. Upon William’s subsequent demise, Mary’s Protestant sister, Anne, commenced her reign and held the throne until August of 1714, when she also died without issue.

However, pursuant to the 1701 Act of Settlement, the Anglo-Saxon-dominated Protestant Parliament had pre-determined that, upon the death of the survivor of William and his sister-in-law, Anne, the English throne would devolve upon Electress Sophia of Hanover (a granddaughter of James I), or one of her Protestant children in the event she died prior to the survivor of William III and his sister-in-law, Anne.

The Act specifically precluded any person of the Catholic faith from ascending the throne. Sophia died in June of 1714, and, when Anne passed away two months later, the crown automatically passed to Sophia’s son, George Louis, Elector of Hanover (King George I). When a Saxon, from across the English Channel, ascended the throne, native Britonic and Celtic patriotic pride raised its head again.

The Old Pretender (James III), whose birth had precipitated this incessant struggle, quickly reasserted the Stuart claim to the throne and hatched plans for an invasion of England with a French Jacobite army. On 14 Mar 1715, the Old Pretender appealed to Pope Clement XI for financial assistance with his Jacobite rising: *“It is not so much a devoted son, oppressed by the injustices of his enemies, as a persecuted Church threatened with destruction, which appeals for the protection and help of its worthy pontiff;”* he implored.

Before James III launched his invasion, the Jacobites arose in England under the command of

John Erskine, Sixth Earl of Mar, who, along with six hundred supporters, on 6 Sept 1715 raised the standard of “James the 8th and the 3rd” at Braemar. Despite initial victories and the capture of all of Scotland north of the Firth of Forth, excluding Stirling Castle, Mar was stopped at the Battle of Sheriffmuir on 13 Nov 1715 by a much smaller Hanoverian army led by John Campbell, the 2nd Duke of Argyll (who had been stationed at Stirling).

At the same time, another government army defeated Jacobite forces at the Battle of Preston. The Jacobites won the first day of the battle, killing large numbers of government troops with their famous “Highland Charge,” but were forced to surrender on the second day when Hanoverian reinforcements arrived to turn the tide. When the dilatory Old Pretender finally arrived in Perth, Scotland, in January of 1716, he learned that all was over but the eulogy: Argyll and the Hanoverian army had acquired heavy artillery and were headed in his direction, post haste. On 30 January, he wrote a farewell letter to Scotland and took his leave for France.

Mar’s army dissolved and many of his followers were captured, tried for treason, and put to death. However, Parliament passed the Indemnity Act in 1717 and pardoned all who had taken part in the 1715 “Rising,” except the members of Clan Gregor. Rob Roy McGregor was never pardoned. ■

The White-Rose Wine Glass

The Jacobites could not openly discuss the restoration of the Stuarts for fear of political arrest and indefinite detention, so they developed a secret strategy of communicating with each other; i.e., since the symbol of King James was a white



rose, and he was in exile across the sea, Jacobites would invite friends for dinner whom they thought shared their political beliefs, and they would pass a wine glass engraved with a white rose over a pitcher of water to the guests, signifying a desire to assist the Jacobite cause by having the Stuart King return from across the sea. If the guest was also of the Jacobite persuasion, he would then initiate a conversation about rallying to the deposed King’s standard. Today, the white-rose wine glass is an extremely valuable collectible and the Drambuie Company owns the largest collection of them in the world.

The Religious Faith of Our Founding Fathers

By Jack J. Early, Ed.D. D.D.

The Drumbeat through the remainder of the current administration is featuring a series of articles on the religious beliefs of the Founding Fathers, by Jack Jones Early. He wrote the articles originally for the SAR Magazine, published by the Sons of the American Revolution, Louisville, Kentucky. We have received kind permission from the SAR to republish the articles here, an initiative led by General President Curtis P. Cheyney, III.

John Adams

John Adams, second President of the United States, was born in a home where virtue and independence were among the highest of moral attainments. This first-born of Deacon John and Susanna Adams would one day write to Benjamin Rush, "I believe it is religion, without which they (the people) would have been... sots, gamblers, starved with hunger... melted away and disappeared..."

In his youth, John Adams thought to become a minister, but soon realized his independent opinions would create much difficulty. At the age of twenty-one, therefore, he resolved to become a lawyer. Adams wrote his son a letter in 1816 in which he observed, "For fifty years I have neglected all sciences but government and religion."

On occasion John Adams would disagree with the tenets of Calvinism; however, his religious faith gave him strength and resolve in the struggle for freedom. He made three major religious assertions: God's almighty power, religion's ties to morality, and the necessity of immorality.

First, Adams proclaimed the absolute sovereignty of God. Early entries in his diary, according to David McCullough in the book *John Adams*, and letters to his wife, Abigail Adams, composed variations on a single theme: God is so great, I am so small. He believed the essence of religion was resignation to God and goodness to humanity.

Second, John Adams affirmed the essential link between religion and morality. He stated that the two linked together would insure that the new nation would survive! The doctrine of Original Sin had no appeal for Adams, because it allowed a cheap and easy escape from moral responsibility. In 1815, he wrote, "I am answerable for my own sins." He was not trying to establish any sectarian-

ism in the country; however, when he was President, he proclaimed fasts in 1798 and 1799.

Third, John Adams affirmed immorality, finding in this doctrine an ingredient essential to the moral system of governance. He said, "If I did not believe in a future state, I should believe in no God." John Adams did not like creeds, per se. He placed freedom as essential and as a necessary condition for morality. Belief in God, morality, and immorality represent the three tenets of faith for John Adams.

Although Adams did not attend the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, he did have profound influence upon it through his book, *A Defense of the Constitutions of Government of the United States*, which was published before the Convention was convened.

John Adams was brilliant, loyal, and deeply committed to Jesus Christ and the use of Biblical principles in governing this nation. When John Quincy Adams was a young ambassador to Russia, his father wrote him a letter in which he encouraged him to develop self-government. He wrote, "My custom is to read four or five chapters (from the Bible) every morning immediately after rising from my bed. It employs about an hour of my time." He urged his son to form and adopt certain rules and principles.

When John Adams succeeded George Washington as President of the United States, his term of office began amid general good will of all parties and factions. He himself retained his loyalty to God and the Christian religion. Several months before becoming President, he wrote in his diary, "The Christian religion is, above all the religions that ever prevailed or existed in ancient or modern times, the Religion of Wis-



Jack J. Early



John Adams



dom, Virtue, Equity, and Humanity...”

John Adams’ religious and political philosophy, which he believed and lived, is best summarized with two passages of Scripture. The first is (Proverbs 14:34), “Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people.” The second is (2 Corinthians 3:17), “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

Roger Sherman

Roger Sherman has a distinct place among America’s founding fathers – he is the only [of them] who signed the three major documents which formed the American government: the Declaration of Independence (1776), the Articles of Confederation (1777), and the U.S. Constitution (1787).

Roger Sherman was born in Newton, Massachusetts on 19 Apr 1721 to William and Mehetable Sherman, the third of seven children. He died on 23 July 1793 in New Haven, Connecticut. Two of his brothers became ministers of the gospel. The family attended the Congregational Church, and Sabbath was faithfully observed in the Sherman home.

At an early age, he learned to read by using the Bible and by studying Cotton Mather’s works as well as the Westminster Catechism. He attended a community schoolhouse, which used the Christian-oriented textbook, the *New England Primer*.

Sherman was described by John Adams, second President of the United States, as “... an old Puritan, as honest as an angel and as firm in the cause of American independence as Mount Atlas.” During his long public life (forty-eight years), he served as surveyor, self-taught lawyer, state legislator, superior court judge, a Congressman, and a U.S. Senator.

It is said that Sherman was an active member in his church. He served as clerk, deacon, and member of the school committee for the New Milford Church. The Rev. Jonathan Edwards, Jr., son of the famous theologian Jonathan Edwards, referred to Sherman as a “great and good friend,” and said of Sherman’s theology, “He could will reputation to himself and improvement to others converse on the most important subjects of theology...”

Sherman was closely associated with Yale College. He contributed generously to the college and served as college treasurer. During his service at

Yale, Sherman fought to have the Christian character of the institution maintained. Sherman’s daughter, Martha, married Rev. Jeremiah Day, who served as President of Yale from 1817 to 1846.

One historian said, “Roger Sherman was... in many ways, the most remarkable man at the Constitutional Convention.” Through his public service, he, along with Oliver Ellsworth and William Samuel Johnson, acted as peacemakers in the bitter conflict between the large state party and the small state party. He provided leadership that led to the concepts for equal representation in one house and proportional representation in the other.

Throughout his writings and speeches, Sherman shows great familiarity with the Bible, of which he was a constant student. It was his custom to purchase a Bible at the beginning of every session of Congress, to peruse it daily, and to present it to one of his children on his return home.

Oftentimes, Roger Sherman shared his religious faith with his family. On 30 May 1777, he wrote to his wife, Rebecca: “This is your birthday. Mine was the 30th of last month. May we so number our days to apply our Hearts to wisdom: that is true Religion. Psalm 90:12 (So teach us to number our days, that we may get a heart of wisdom.)

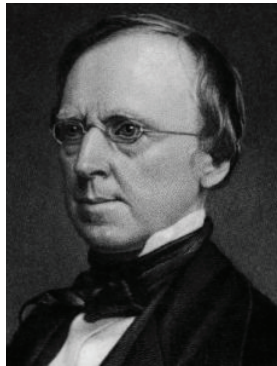
I remain affectionately yours,

Roger Sherman”

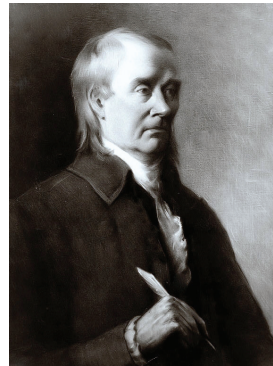
Sherman believed the Scripture should be applied to current situations. He is remembered for his opposition to what became our First Amendment, which was to have originally read: “No religion shall be established by law, nor shall the equal rights of conscience be infringed.”

Roger Sherman thought the amendment altogether unnecessary, inasmuch as *Congress had no authority whatever, delegated to them by the Constitution, to make religious establishment.*

For us today, we are the inheritors of the faith and practice of those who shaped this Republic—may we as a “Nation under God” lift high the torch of religious freedom in our day!■



Roger Sherman



Note: Rev. Early’s article in the previous issue, Vol. 32, No. 3, incorrectly stated that Silus Dumas, rather than Silus Deane, had been appointed Commissioner to France in October 1776. Our sincerest apologies for the oversight.

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To all members: Please be sure to visit the new and improved General Society web site, <http://sr1776.org>. New information is being posted and wonderful improvements have been made. Your interest is appreciated.

Editorial Policy

The General Society Sons of the Revolution issues the following publications in print and electronic formats.

The Editor of the *Drumbeat* and the *Flintlock & Powderhorn* actively seeks manuscripts and articles for publication. Suitable topics for the *Drumbeat* are articles about the state and local Sons of the Revolution Societies, their activities and members. Articles should be approximately 100 to 500 words, and photos should be included when possible. *Drumbeat* submissions will be printed in a timely manner.

Articles sought for the *Flintlock & Powderhorn* include narrative history, biography, historiography, historic preservation, and related fields of study that deal with the time period and place of the American Revolution. The Editor reserves the right to submit all manuscripts for review by a committee prior to publication. No guarantee is given as to when an article will be published in the *Flintlock & Powderhorn*.

The Society assumes no responsibility for statements or opinions of contributors.

All submissions are requested by email or on disk/CD, but print versions can also be mailed or faxed. When mailed or faxed, submission must be typed on 8 1/2" x 11" paper, double-spaced. If pictures are to be returned, please send self-addressed, stamped envelope. The Society is not responsible for items sent through the mail. Please do not send original or irreplaceable materials or photographs.

The Editor reserves the right to conform the articles to style. Authors grant the General Society Sons of the Revolution one-time publication rights, both print and electronic editions. Articles in this publication are indexed by the Periodical Source Index (PERSI) produced by the Allen County Public Library Foundation.

Submission Deadline Dates

<u>Deadline Date</u>	<u>Issue Mailed</u>
January 1	March 1
April 1	June 1
July 1	September 1
October 1	December 1

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