



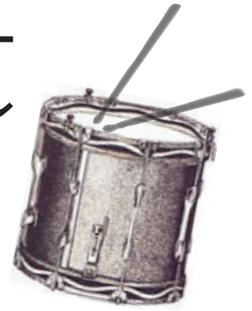
Drumbeat

with *Flintlock & Powderhorn*

News of the Sons of the Revolution

Volume 31 Number 2

Summer 2013



General President Cheyney Addresses CAR Convention



Curtis P. Cheyney III
—Photo by Martthew Carasella ©

General President Curtis P. Cheyney, III, in April was invited to the national convention of the Children of the American Revolution (CAR) to give greetings on behalf of the General Society and its State Societies. The convention was held just outside Washington, D.C., at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel, 19- 21 April 2013.

The occasion particularly suited President Cheyney's desire to continue reaching out to youth with the critical message to defend the country's cultural heritage and its founding fathers, and to celebrate patriotism. He commended the CAR National Project—raising funds for the Sword Surrender Site Project at Saratoga National Park (see related story, page 3).

The text of Mr. Cheyney's greetings is as follows:

"Thank you, National President [Gregory] Thorne and Senior National President [Hans] Jackson for your kind invitation for me to greet those honored guests, members and parents attending the 2013 National Convention of the Society of the Children of the American Revolution.

Greetings to you from the more than 5,000 members of the nationwide State Societies of the Sons of the Revolution. It is a great honor to join with you this evening and to offer greetings and well wishes as you celebrate your graduates and the successes of the CAR this year, especially the

—Continued on page 5

Saratoga's Significance

CAR Honorary National President Gregory J. Thorne knows the value of our nation's history. During his term in office, the organization's National Project focused on raising funds to assist in the completion of the Sword Surrender Site at Saratoga National Historical Park. The site memorializes the location where Patriot Gen. Horatio Gates accepted British Gen. John Burgoyne's sword following the 1777 battle.



Gregory J. Thorne

In President Thorne's words, "Saratoga was the turning point of the American Revolution. Saratoga was the turning point which resulted in our alliances with France and Spain. Saratoga was the turning point, not only for the colonists, but also for the world. Without this victory, there is no success in our Revolution, there is no French or Spanish Alliance, and there is no United States of America."

The preservation and beautification work of the site was initiated in 2006, when the federal government issued a \$75,000 grant to the Open Space Institute (OSI), present-day owners of the surrounding twenty-acre parcel. Since then, a



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—*Saratoga's Significance, Continued from page 1*

host of individuals and organizations, including the CAR, have come forward to ensure adequate funding for the site's development. Inauguration of the completed site was in June of 2013.

Why was the Battle of Saratoga so significant? Between victories at the Battle of Freeman's Farm, on 19 September 1777, and the Battle of Bemis Heights, on 7 October 1777, the Patriots curtailed Britain's plan to cut off New England from the other Colonies and thus break the Revolution's back. The second of the two was such a route of British forces that the army nearly lost its entrenched position. Following the surrender, British General John Burgoyne returned to England disgraced.—*Editor*



'The Surrender of General Burgoyne' by John Turnball (1821)

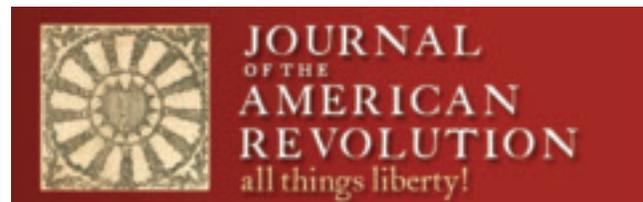


New Online Revolutionary War Journal

All members and the general public are encouraged to note a new online magazine of the American Revolution called *Journal of the American Revolution* – all things liberty! To peruse it, visit www.allthingsliberty.com.

The site's creator is Todd Andrlik, author of *Reporting Revolutionary War: Before It Was History, It Was News*. The e-magazine is co-edited in New York City between Mr. Andrlik and historian/author Hugh T. Harrington.

The point of the journal is to offer a fun, educational, and interesting resource for serious and casual consumers of American history. Its editorial mission is to inform and entertain.—*Editor*



Last of HQ Funding Arrives

Following the deadline of the previous issue of *Drumbeat* (Spring 2013, Volume 31, Number 1), additional funds designated to help with the move to Williamsburg were received. Please see table below.

Surname	Given Name	Society	Donation Level
Blackshear	H Chaffee, III David	LA	Patriot
Birmingham	John Martin	NY	Colonial
Landis	James	PA	Colonial
Leach	David Streeper	PA	Colonial
Strome	Charles B	PA	Colonial
Thornton	John Stuart	VA	Colonial
Troutman	Eric Henry	PA	Colonial
Nickerson	Martinus H	NY	Jefferson
Parmelee	William	NC	Patriot

The Sword Surrender Site

On Saturday, 1 June 2013, two eventful things happened at Saratoga National Historical Park: First, the parcel of land where British Gen. John Burgoyne formally surrendered his army to American Gen. Horatio Gates following the 1777 battles was officially incorporated into the park.

Second, during the ceremony, CAR Honorary National President Gregory J. Thorne presented Park Superintendent Joseph Finan with a check for \$30,000. The monies were raised by CAR members during the past year in an effort to help preserve this meaningful location in our nation's history.



Saratoga National Historical Park—Source: nps.gov

The surrender site, overlooking the Hudson River just south of Schuylerville, New York, will now undergo landscaping and related development to tie it into other areas of the park. Completion of the project is expected to take three years and cost an estimated \$500,000.

The Open Space Institute (OSI) acquired the land a few years ago for preservation purposes and deeded it to the National Park System. The first grant monies for the project came from the federal government. With the government's grant of \$75,000 in 2006, OSI President Joe Martens knew it was but a drop in the bucket of the total funding needed for the project.

The initial grant, he said, was just enough to get the site "shovel-ready." Fortunately, private donations have helped.

Plans call for development of a low, concave memorial wall to the east that will incorporate a bas-relief depiction of the sword surrender scene from John Trumbull's iconic "Surrender of General Burgoyne." The bas-relief depiction of Trumbull's painting was generously made possible by a \$38,000 grant in 2011 from the Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Trust to the Friends of Saratoga Battlefield.

The wall's design and materials will tie into

the adjacent Saratoga Monument obelisk. Its low height will allow visitors to appreciate the historical significance of the site as well keep an eye on the commanding views of the majestic Hudson.

Opposite the wall, on the western side of the location, plans call for erecting a marquee-like shelter with interpretive panels and an informative kiosk with orientation panels. The center lawn will feature reproduction period cannons, split-rail fencing and/or piked barricades, benching, landscaped pathways, as well as an interpretative trace of the colonial Albany Post Road, which ran from New York City to Albany along the Hudson. Park signage will be added, too.—*Editor*

American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

GSSR Executive Director Jeffrey Lambert was present in Yorktown, Virginia at a ceremony marking the beginning phase of construction for a new museum of the American Revolution. The cornerstone for the new American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, Virginia, was dedicated on 10 May 2013.

When completed, the museum will replace the current Yorktown Victory Center, operated by the



state's Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. Various dignitaries spoke before the unveiling of the 12- by 24-inch marble cornerstone, which will anchor an 80,000-square-foot building.

"When we tell the story of the American Revolution, as it will be told in the new museum," University of Virginia History Professor A. E. Dick Howard said in his address, "we're also telling the story that resonates everywhere that people yearn for accountable government, the rule of the law, and the freedom of the human spirit."

The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown will chronicle the Revolution from the beginnings of colonial unrest to the early national period and consider its meaning and impact. The project also includes relocation and expansion of the model Continental Army encampment site and Revolutionary-period farm.■—*Editor*



President's Message

In this modern time of seeking supplements, vitamins and energy drinks, pills and diets, one may conclude that our present condition is lacking and that there is a societal push to make improvements. It is in the

same context of self-improvement that I approach our SOR mission goals.

Our State and General Societies exist, in part, to remember and to keep before the public mind the memory of the services of our ancestors and of the times in which they lived, to perpetuate the memory of the men who, in the military, naval or civil service of the Colonies and of the Continental Congress, achieved the independence of the country. It is also our duty to inspire our members with a lively patriotic spirit.

Yet, today, our American society at-large is sorely lacking in its memory and reverence of our humble and awesome beginnings. To memorize names and dates is not enough; giving lip service or going through the motions of historical observations is not the point. "Remembering" alone is not sufficient. We need an energized spirit to meet the challenges involved in energizing others.

In part, perhaps that missing energizer is "gratitude." We seem to be lacking in our public and private demonstrations of gratitude. There is a cultural debate occurring, which is found throughout cyberspace, throughout the news media, in school classrooms and political theater, between those that proclaim that America is in decline and those that argue that its original brightness has not diminished one iota. Both sides have their national spokespersons, and each side is well-lawyered and funded.

No matter which side of the debate you are on, the national preoccupation with sustaining our material wealth, found at all strata of the popular culture, has sidetracked the effort that's needed to halt the decline of gratitude for our Founding Fathers and their foundational moral principles.

And that is precisely where our Society's collective efforts can and ought to be focused. We need to provide for our members new energy for a moral and patriotic influence in this modern day. We can do that precisely because the message involving the extraordinary virtues and services of our ancestors,

who gave so much of themselves to secure our freedoms, is indeed a moral and patriotic message.

The political talk of today, especially in the cyber-messaging, vacillates between those that fear and those that proclaim utopia. Gratitude is missing from the debate. The modern mind has marginalized the relevance of our nation's early history; there is little, if any, traditional moral impute engaged in and used for shaping the current cultural debate on important public issues.

The Sons of that Revolution, our Revolution, must strategically be determined to engage gratitude into the dialogue. Gratitude is a disposition of thinking, but without training and knowledge of the historical lessons, gratitude cannot receive its welcome at the public square for the debates on the moral questions of the day.

Ingratitude is a moral fault; it is self-absorbed hubris to the highest order, prideful and irrational to the obvious: that we humans lack certainty and perfection. Are we too proud-hearted to be grateful? Are we too vain to be humble? Are we too preoccupied with the status of our material wealth to thank those who gave us the freedom and liberty to achieve that material wealth to begin with?

Unfortunately, ingratitude disdains any dependence on the lessons and persons of the past. But we all owe a debt of gratitude to our forefathers that cannot be fully repaid. All of us have an obligation to learn and revere the lessons of the past. It is up to us to honor our roots and to securely place the persons, their virtues, and the events into our long-term memories.

Deplorably, some say that our history can't be trusted; it was written only by the winners. Some new school textbooks refuse to teach the lessons of history that pre-date the Civil War, thus ignoring the values and ideals of the Founding Fathers, ignoring who they were, their stories, and their virtues. The historical stories and virtues from the Bible are likewise banned from classrooms and from the public square in current debates.

All of it has been stigmatized as irrelevant, impermissible public theology; it is said to be of political rhetoric that breaches the wall of separation of church and state. Furthermore, traditions and common courtesies are generally not valued, recognized, or taught as valuable lessons for a modern culture.

So what can we do? We must speak out together and strategically engage in the modern debate by

—Continued on page 5

—Cheney's Remarks, continued from page 1

success of your Saratoga project. We are, and wish always to be, your partners in this present day cultural war that in part marginalizes patriotism, our heritage and the history of our founding fathers, but strives more for political correctness than for grateful, common sense correctness.

We extend to each of you a hearty personal congratulations and a warm welcome to join together with us, or in whatever association you may choose, as together we seek to offer a positive and patriotic message for the good of America. Thank you, CAR, for your service; thank you for your leadership and your dedication to the patriotic youth of America.

Just two hundred thirty-eight years ago, on 18-19 April 1775, Paul Revere began his historic ride; and Lexington and Concord heard that shot that was also heard around the world (according to Ralph Waldo Emerson). It changed the world. The year 1775 appears on our Society's emblem and marks the beginning of the Independence of America. The engaged citizen Revere, the Minuteman – whose symbol is also emblazoned on our emblem – accepted personal responsibility to warn his fellow citizens and, because they listened, his message made a massive impact for good.

Some say today that American culture is declining, that our "light on the hill" is dimming. Others disagree and claim the citizen patriot is alive and well, our traditional morality, courage and patriotic messages are still wise, timely, and well on-track. Both sides have their spokespersons and are well-funded. It is easy to become embroiled in the debate, especially the cyber-culture messaging, and as a result of such proliferation of modern-day irreverence become terribly concerned—even fearful—for our country's future.

But, when I look around the room this evening and consider that since 1895, the CAR has been and is still engaged in training and in educating young patriots, instilling that love of country, of the flag, of limited government and of the Rule of Law (foundational principles of our nation), I am encouraged for our future. We at the Sons of the Revolution salute the patriotic work you and your leaders are doing.

Today, this day of our country's history, there are no children; we are all Sons and Daughters of that American Revolutionary Spirit of 1776, adults with an adult message to warn against forgetting our beginnings. We must be dedicated to the work of educating and training the long-term memories of others, including our leaders, about the history that we have inherited; there is a debt of gratitude

that we owe to our founding parents.

Thank you for the works of patriotism you have accomplished and those works and successes that you will be accomplishing – plan to make an impact for patriotism, and pass on the warning that our moral heritage is at risk and that our hero-ancestors, with their lessons—the best in our nation's history—must never be forgotten.

Thank you for all your courtesies this evening. ■

—President's Message, continued from page 4

setting examples of our gratitude for our nearly-forgotten past. We are the grateful people who not only remember and celebrate our flag and our heritage, but who are willing to talk about our roots and to humbly express a sincere reverence and thankfulness for those past lessons learned by our ancestors.

I challenge us all to be big, go big, and act boldly when speaking of our gratitude. Grateful Sons should be intentionally intolerant of ingratitude. Knowledge and reflection with information are essential lynchpins to sustain our honored traditions and to support commonsense moral thinking; gratitude makes history alive and relevant.

Grateful people are the stewards of that which we have inherited; and the Sons, in fact, all of us, joining together, are stewards of our traditions. It is the value of what WE HAVE INHERITED. Gratitude should not be mysteriously missing, but it will not rightly continue without the fuel from a grateful people.

When I see all the membership of the Sons of the Revolution working together, when I see enthusiasm for the patriotic traditions, for our heroic ancestors, and the lessons of our heritage (the very best of history), that's when I am confident that our gratitude can and will survive.

I am encouraged when State Societies and members are interested in continuing the fight against slothful ingratitude, by joining with the others to be the active members of the Sons.

Because of our great efforts as individuals and as an organization, our national debate can continue to be strong, free, and welcoming to our point of view. The work of the Sons of the Revolution will be successful as we instill and impress gratitude into our national culture as a permanent disposition of thinking— common-sense thought for our common-sense moral politics.

Thank you for the work you are doing to energize your State Society and encourage new generational leaders. Thank you also for your strong dedication to America and to our heritage. ■



The General Society Sons of the Revolution

***Board of Managers Meeting
in historic
New London, CT
September 26 - 29, 2013***

New London, located in southeastern CT at the mouth of the Thames River, is bounded on the north and west by Waterford, on the east by the Thames River and on the south by Long Island Sound. It covers 7.3 sq. miles and has a population of approx. 27,000.

The town, first settled in 1646, was founded by John Winthrop, the younger - son of the John Winthrop who led the second Puritan emigration from England. The town was named in 1658 and wasn't incorporated until 1784.

"During the American Revolution, it was an important base for privateers, and it was attacked and burned in 1781 by British forces led by the former American general Benedict Arnold."

Many more nearby attractions:

***Coast Guard Academy
Nautilus Submarine Museum
St. James Episcopal Church
(Bishop Seabury's burial site)
Mystic Seaport***



Fort Trumbull



Shaw Mansion



***Nathan Hale
Schoolhouse***



Hempstead Houses



Custom House



Fort Griswold

***For more information, visit the Connecticut Society web site at:
<http://www.connecticutsr.org/>***

General Society Sons of the Revolution

Board of Managers Meeting
September 26-29, 2013
New London, Connecticut

Name _____ State Society _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Highest SR Office _____

Name (or Nickname) for Badge _____

Guest(s) Name(s) _____

_____ Per Person Registration—through August 1st (\$230 each) \$ _____

_____ Per Person Registration—after August 1st (\$280) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to “Connecticut Society Sons of the Revolution” and send to:

Connecticut Society Sons of the Revolution
c/o Stephen Shaw
PO Box 77, Chester, CT 06412

Registration fees include:

Thursday Sept 26th—Reception

Friday Sept 27th—Meetings and Evening Dinner

Saturday Sept 28th—Meetings and Banquet

Sunday Sept 29th—Farewell Sherry

Plus Optional Tours

Reserve Your Hotel Room While Space Lasts

Holiday Inn, 35 Governor Winthrop Blvd, New London, CT 06320

860-443-7000 or **www.holidayinn.com/newlondonct**

Special room rates are available September 26th—29th starting at \$149 per night, plus tax.

Your room rate includes a full breakfast each morning of your stay.

Reservations must be made by August 27th to get the reduced rate.

Use the “RUH” code to get the lower rate.



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Corcoran Students Awarded Prizes

At the end of April, the Sons of the Revolution in the District of Columbia awarded money to another two students from the Corcoran College of Art + Design money for their winning essays in the Society's annual "Art in American History" essay contest. Each year, prizes go to the best undergraduate and graduate essays.

The competition's objective is to further a critical appreciation for the role of art in American history, especially during the formative years of the country. The prize competition encourages academic work that demonstrates how American art has developed alongside American history, and to show the connection between the two. Winners are selected by the College.



SR DC Vice President Donald Lamson congratulates undergraduate essay winner Ashley Hopkins.
—Photo courtesy of Joel Hinzman

This year's winners include undergraduate Ashley Hopkins, who wrote a historical perspective on "The Presentation of Tragedy in Design," and graduate Megan Butterfield, who wrote on the "History of Architecture and Interior Design."

For more than a dozen years, the D.C. Society

has awarded monies to talented art students.

"We at the Corcoran can't thank the Sons in D.C. enough for their continued support in combining art, American history, and academic achievement. The winning students always feel the deep honor that this recognition is!" said Casey Smith, Associate Chair of Arts and Humanities at the College.

Capt. David Franklin Smith, USN (Ret.), chairman of the Society's Awards & Memorials Committee, notes: "The D.C. Society's public community involvement as a benefactor to one of D.C.'s renowned cultural institutions has inspired students to explore American history and cultural values in a way that is relevant to their art studies and future."

Winning students are further celebrated in December as guests at the Society's annual formal holiday gala. The Corcoran is the only four-year accredited institution for education in the arts in the District. It is co-located with the Corcoran Gallery of Art, adjacent to the White House.

Spring Sunday Brunch

Another annual event sponsored by the Society was the Spring Sunday Brunch at the Cosmos Club, held in mid-May. Members of the Society were joined by their ladies and guests for cocktails in the Warne Ballroom and for an elegant brunch in the Powell and Heroy rooms. The annual brunch is one of the most popular events of the year, and this year was no exception, with tickets having sold out early. Priestley Toulmin, Ph.D., hosted the event.

The Cosmos Club occupies the Mary Scott (Mrs. Richard T.) Townsend house, at 2121 Massachusetts Avenue NW, in the Dupont Circle neighborhood. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The free-standing house, set in almost an acre of garden, was designed in the Beaux Arts French style by architects Carrère and Hastings in 1898 and essentially completed in 1901.

President Joel Hinzman had the pleasure of pinning the Society's rosette on new members Dick Patten, Thys De Young, and Chris Hughey, and welcoming them to our membership.—*submitted by President Joel Hinzman*

GEORGIA

Nathanael Greene Chapter Grows

In what was the fruition of a great idea for generating interest in membership, the Nathanael Greene Chapter of the Society of Georgia held a Meet-and-Greet Cocktail for targeted prospective

members in Atlanta on 14 May 2013.

"It was thought that gentlemen who are currently associated with other prestigious lineage societies would be good candidates and would have an interest in joining our Chapter," said newly-installed President Bill Daugette. "It was a very worthwhile event."

Immediate Past President Bob Evans had made membership a priority. He created a Membership Committee and charged it with finding creative ways to grow membership. Headed by Joe Scherberger, the committee also included members Tom Chrisman, Rowland Hawthorne, III, Joe Meyer, Arnold Moore, Esq., and Jack Winter, Jr.

The Committee met several times with the goal of hosting a cocktail event to court prospective members. The Committee assembled a list of invitees using chapter contacts and from that list generated twenty positive responses. The meeting was held at the Hardin Building in Atlanta through the generosity of Bo Hardin, a friend of Joe Meyer's. Mr. Hardin allowed our chapter to hold the gathering in his beautifully appointed conference space with overlooking patio and garden.

President Daugette opened the event by introducing the Committee and Board of Officers and gave a short history of the chapter and recent activities. Historian Rowland Hawthorne, III, gave an eloquent and powerful reading of the purpose of our Society. He was followed by Registrar Bob Evans, who described the application process.

Chapter Chaplain Arnold Moore informed the group about the Chapter's participation in the 'George Washington Portrait in the Schools' program sponsored by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association and listed the chapter's most recent portrait placements in area schools. Plenty of time was reserved for meeting guests, networking, and sharing our common love of history and our country.

In the weeks following the event, the chapter has received nine requests for membership and their applications are now in process. The cocktail was a huge success for the Chapter, said President Daugette, and many thanks go to Bob Evans, Joe Scherberger and the tireless efforts of the Membership Committee, whose work directly impacted the growth of our membership.—*submitted by Chapter President Bill Daugette*



MINNESOTA

Washington Day Luncheon

Members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Washington Day Luncheon on 23 February 2013 at Jax Café in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Sons of Union Veterans, in observance of the Civil War sesquicentenary and the subject of the address, also were in attendance. The total number in attendance was eighty-two.

In the absence of Society President William R. Johnson, Esq., Vice President Col. Ronald McRoberts presided over the meeting. The Minnesota SAR Color Guard presented the colors. SR Vice President McRoberts led the Pledge to the United States Flag, and SR Chaplain Michael Swisher gave the invocation. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 18 February 2012 to mark Washington's Birthday, along those of the 6 October 2012 Constitution Day luncheon meeting, were approved as presented.

Mention was made of the damage to Fraunces Tavern in New York City where General George Washington bade leave to his officers at the end of the Revolutionary War. It was moved, seconded and agreed to that the Minnesota Society make a gift of \$50 to the Fraunces Tavern Restoration Fund. Col. McRoberts announced that individual donations would also be accepted and sent along with the Society's gift. A further \$50 was sent along with the Society's gift and a letter of thanks was later received from the New York Society.

The only other item of business was the election of new officers. The Nominating Committee, consisting of Compatriots Galles, Lief and Finnell, presented the following slate of candidates for reelection to a second one-year term, and they were unanimously re-elected and duly installed. (See listing on page 10).

After business proceedings, Vice President McRoberts introduced the speaker, Steven J. Keilor, PhD, adjunct professor of history at Bethel University, whose address was entitled "First Minnesota Regiment: Civil War Heroes Inspired by Revolutionary Heroes." The audience thoroughly enjoyed his presentation. Vice President McRoberts presented him the Society's gift, a porcelain plate bearing the image of Mount Vernon, beloved home of Gen. George Washington, which was manufactured by the Herschenreuter Porcelain Works of Selb, Bavaria.

Officers

President	William R. Johnson, Esq.
Vice President	Col. Ronald McRoberts
Secretary	Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.
Treasurer	Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.
Registrar	Arthur Louis Finnell
Chaplain	Michael S. Swisher
Solicitor	William R. Johnson, Esq.
GSSR Rep.	Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.

Board of Managers

Edward Reino Lief, Esq. (ex officio)
 James Fredrick Foster
 John Hallberg Jones
 Michael Schenk
 Ronald McRoberts
 Thomas Truxtun Morrison
 The Hon. Edward C. Stringer
 Michael LaLond West

—submitted by Duane L.C.M. Galles, Secretary-Treasurer

NEW YORK**New York Society Forges Ahead**

The tenacious spirit of the New York Society has set an example in working toward overcoming adversity. In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, damage to the Fraunces Tavern complex was estimated at \$300,000—which the insurance company determined it could not cover. By springtime, the Board, Museum members, and other private donors had given over \$58,000.

Still, one of the ongoing needs for Fraunces Tavern is a new elevator. “It’s an expensive endeavor that really needs to be completed,” said First Vice President Ambrose M. Richardson, III.



The New York Anglers Club generously gives to the SRNY.
 —Photo courtesy of SRNY.

In mid-March, The Anglers Club of New York City, which leases space on the second floor of the Tavern, donated to the Society a check for \$2,500 to help with restoration costs. The Society gratefully acknowledges The Anglers’ donation as well as the generous gifts from the following persons and organizations:

\$20,000 or more

Alliance For Downtown

\$10,000 - \$20,000

Stanley DeForest Scott

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Stephen T. Whelan

Phil Bixby/JB Reynolds Foundation

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Kenneth H. Chase

The New York City Chapter DAR

Angler's Club

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Colonial Lords of the Manor America

NSDAR, Maryland

Frederick W. Pattison

Stephen Noonan

NOTE: Due to space limitations, we regret not being able to publish all individuals and State Societies that have given to the SRNY. Please accept our apologies.

Memorial Day Celebrations

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York by way of its Color Guard under the direction of Captain Jonathan Ridgeway participated in three major events honoring Memorial Day. The first occurred in mid-May when it presented colors in the annual ceremony at the historic Shearith Israel Congregation’s First Cemetery. Yearly, the SRNY recognizes the Jewish patriots of the Revolutionary era who are buried there.

Located at St. James Place just off Chatham Square in Chinatown, the First Cemetery dates back to 1683 and includes the graves of several supporters of the Revolution. Shearith Israel was founded in 1654, making it the first Jewish congregation established in North America. It was New York City’s only Jewish congregation until 1825.

The next two events occurred on 27 May 2013, which included the official Manhattan Memorial Day Ceremony with Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg



A desecrated Torah survives the Revolutionary period.
—Source: www.shearthisrael.org

at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in Riverside Park, as well as the Little Neck-Douglaston Memorial Day Parade in Queens, billed as the largest Memorial Day Parade in the nation.

In the morning ceremony in Manhattan, the Color Guard joined twenty civic, heritage and veterans organizations, including the Navy League, the DAR, the American Legion, and the Veteran Corp of Artillery, to lay a wreath at the portal of the monument.



The SRY Color Guard on Memorial Day.
—Photo by Lynn Ridgeway

J. Robert Lunney, SRY Past President, was a featured speaker at the event, along with Mayor Bloomberg. A US Marine Corps Color Guard also participated at the ceremony.

Family Night Stated Dinner

In late April, the Annual Family Night Stated Dinner was held at the Fraunces Tavern, following tradition. This dinner this year commemorated the 238th Anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord. The evening began with a reception in the Flag Gallery of the Fraunces Tavern Museum and was followed with dinner served in Fraunces Tavern Restaurant.

SRY members celebrating their 40th and

50th anniversaries of membership were formally recognized. The evening also included the announcement of the winner of the 2013 Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award. This year's award went to Jon Meacham for his *Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power*.

Honorable Mentions were awarded to Douglas R. Cubbison for *Burgoyne and the Saratoga Campaign* and to Theodore Corbett for *No Turning Point: The Saratoga Campaign in Perspective* (both titles published by University of Oklahoma Press). A Special Mention was awarded to Todd Andrlik for *Reporting The Revolutionary War* (Sourcebooks). Msrs. Cubbison and Corbett made contrasting presentations about Saratoga during the evening's event.



J. Robert Lunney speaks at ceremony.

—Photo by Lynn Ridgeway

Activity in Scott Gallery

In other news, this spring the Museum's Scott Gallery received a fresh coat of paint and nineteen new pieces from its rotating collection. As Museum Director Jessica Baldwin Phillips states, "The Scott Gallery was created in 2005 to honor Sons member Stanley DeForest Scott. In 1984 and 1986 he donated to the Museum over one-hundred prints, mostly of George Washington, and the majority of which are from the eighteenth century," she said. "Through his continued generosity in recent years, the Museum was able to create a permanent gallery in his name."

The prints which Mr. Scott donated will now be displayed via ongoing rotations. This is the first rotation of the prints since the exhibit opened in 2005; some of the current pieces haven't been displayed since 1984. Curatorial Intern Laura Augustin was tasked with selecting the prints for the display, which were chosen based on size and type.

Meanwhile, lectures at the Fraunces Tavern Museum continue to be broadcast on C-SPAN. One of the most recent broadcasts was entitled, "Loyalists in New York City during the Revolution," in which author Ruma Chopra discussed the research behind her book of similar title.—*Editor*



The prints on exhibit in the Scott Gallery
—Photo courtesy of SRNY

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Society Backs Symposium

During the last weekend in April, the North Carolina Society showed support for a three-day symposium by the *Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution* (SCAR) entitled, “Wedded to My Sword”—The Life and Times of Henry ‘Light-horse Harry’ Lee.” The weekend was a ‘boots-on-the-ground’ walking tour of the battle sites where Lee rode, fought, and sealed his reputation. Participants heard from prominent scholars and authors regarding Lee’s controversial life and contributions to American Liberty as a soldier, politician and early Southern Campaigns historian, as well as his roles in family and business.

Society President Jeffrey Lambert said of Lee, “The importance of the Cavalry and light troops in the Southern war led General Nathanael Greene to put Lee’s Legion ‘upon as good a footing as possible.’ Gen. Greene said to the dashing cavalry commander himself in 1782: “I believe few Officers either in America or Europe are held in so high a point of estimation as you are...”

Greene’s sentiments captured the opinion of many patriots. In early 1782, the twenty-six-year-old Lieutenant Colonel commanded a legion of mounted and dismounted dragoons that had just completed a spectacular year of military service in the South. Lee’s efforts, in conjunction with Gen. Greene and the American southern army, resulted in the British loss of most of South Carolina and Georgia.

Over the course of 1781, Lee and his legion, often detached from Greene’s army, helped screen Greene’s desperate retreat to Virginia in the race to the Dan River. He also captured or destroyed numerous enemy outposts and detachments in South

Carolina and Georgia, and played a crucial role in the bloody battles of Guilford Courthouse and Eutaw Springs, along with the sieges of Augusta and Ninety-Six.—submitted by Jeffrey Lambert

NOTE: The Drumbeat will publish in the Fall issue a longer feature story about the Symposium and insights gained on Lt. Col. Lee and Gen. Greene.

Gen. William Lee Davidson Activities

Having been chartered on September 28, 2012, North Carolina’s newest Chapter was planning to meet for a social gathering at Brio Tuscany Restaurant on Saturday, June 8. Members, guests and prospective members were invited to attend. Looking further ahead, the Chapter has scheduled its annual Chartering (Anniversary) Dinner to be held at the Charlotte Country Club on Friday, September 27, 2013. Then in mid-December, the Chapter will jointly hold a holiday social with a local DAR chapter at the City Club in uptown Charlotte. The Chapter’s officers, Gus Succop (President), Randolph Lee (VP) and David Boggs (Secretary), invite inquiries for membership from gentlemen in and around Charlotte. To learn more, visit the State Society’s website: www.nc-sor.org.

—submitted by Gus Succop, Chapter President

PENNSYLVANIA

PSSR Member Nominated for NPS Volunteer Award



Jack Scholl
—Courtesy of Lanny Patten

Pennsylvania Society member Jack Scholl was recently nominated for a prestigious 2012 George and Helen Hartzog Award within the National Park Service. The annual awards recognize outstanding NPS volunteers and volunteer programs on a national level. Nominees are selected by regional NPS superintendents.

Mr. Scholl lives in Palm Desert, California, and has traveled back to his hometown of Philadelphia every summer for decades to volunteer as a tour guide at Independence National Historic Park. Throughout the years he has logged thousands of

hours giving tours. He was nominated by NPS Superintendent Cynthia McLeod.

"It's a great honor for Jack and a wonderful tribute to his patriotism," said Lanny Patten, past secretary. Last September, Jack delivered a memorable address during the 225th Anniversary Day of the US Constitution, a grand occasion celebrated at Independence Hall.

It is during his Independence Hall tours when he speaks of the history he has absorbed through a lifetime of voracious reading. He has touched many lives of visitors and sometimes the visitors have touched him.

One year, according to a report in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, he gave a tour to the Mormon Tabernacle Choir: "At the end of their tour, while all of them stood in the room where the Declaration of Independence and Constitution were signed, the choir director asked Sholl, 'May we sing a song?' (This was highly unusual. Tours run like trains on a tight schedule.)

"Sholl said yes. The choir director raised her arms and the choir sang, 'The Star-Spangled Banner,' raising the roof on the birthplace of Liberty."

The paper said Mr. Sholl cried that day.

It's interesting to note that Jack's grandfather, Peter Shumaker, met William Penn eight generations ago. Jack was among a group of farmers that met with Penn in Germany in the late 1600s. Penn encouraged them to migrate to America, and in 1695 Peter Shumaker did just that. Later on, another relative of his helped runaway slaves escape to freedom through the Underground Railroad.

Furthermore, Jack himself is a superb athlete in addition to being an exemplary patriot. An internationally renowned rower, he has won many medals on all levels of competition.

An Active Calendar of Events

The 125th Annual Meeting of PSSR was held on 18 April 2013 at the Philadelphia Racquet Club. President James B. Burke was re-elected and new Vice Presidents elected were: John M. Blickensderfer, W. Murray Gordon, Dr. David M. Humphrey, Andrew R. Sullivan, and Ben R. Wolf. Secretary is Schuyler C. Wickes and Treasurer is Robert J. McNelly, Esq. A reception followed the business meeting.

Ten days later, on 28 April, the PSSR Annual Church Service took place at Wayne Presbyterian Church to commemorate the Continental Army Encampment at Valley Forge and to remember eighteen members of the Society who died during the year. Chaplain Reverend G. Clayton Ames, III,



125th Annual Meeting of PSSR, Philadelphia Raquet Club
—Courtesy of Lanny Patten

led the service. VP Dr. David M. Humphrey was chairman of the commemoration and reception, which was held at the Merion Cricket Club.

Earlier in the year, the Pennsylvania Society celebrated the 281st birthday of George Washington, with its traditional Birthday Ball on 16 February 2013 at the Crystal Tea Room in Philadelphia. The Chairman of the Birthday Ball was Rich Walkup. PSSR Vice President Dr. David Humphrey was the Ball chairman. An opening reception featured President James Burke along with officers, board members, and Color Guard officers greeting the more than 225 guests in a receiving line.

As the dinner began, the Color Guard, led by Captain Robert Van Gulick, paraded the colors for presentation to President Burke. The invocation, the pledge to the flag, and the National Anthem preceded traditional toasts, all adding to the colorful and patriotic atmosphere. Ladies in elegant gowns, members in their finest formal attire, and classical ballroom orchestra music made for a magical evening of celebration.

The Color Guard of the Pennsylvania Society operates independently while supporting the Society activities most generously. Color Guard membership is by invitation. It held its annual meeting on 16 January 2013. Elected officers are Captain Robert Van Gulick, First Lieutenant Timothy Gomes, Second Lieutenant Eric Guenther, Jr. and Historian Anthony Morris VII. Other important appointments were for Quartermaster, First and Second Sergeants, Flag Chairman and Uniform and Insignia Chairman.

The Society's historic flags are a key responsibility of the Color Guard. Much time and planning is devoted to the precision of marching maneuvers and presentation for the Society's various events throughout the year.

2012 Ends on High Notes

In another tradition of the Pennsylvania Society, the New Citizens Committee, chaired by John Blickensderfer, participated in the mid-December Bill of Rights Day Naturalization Ceremony of ninety-eight new citizens from forty-two countries at the Federal Courthouse in Philadelphia. The ceremony is an inspiring one as new citizens speak of their pride and happiness at becoming American citizens. President James Burke delivered the closing remarks and the Society sponsored a reception for the new citizens and their families at the Courthouse. The Pennsylvania Society has sponsored such ceremonies annually for at least sixty years.

Last fall, in October following the GSSR Triennial, the Society held its annual gala to commemorate the battles at Saratoga and Yorktown. Vice President Ben Wolf was chairman of the event,



Color Guard forms column of colors prior to service
—Photo courtesy Amy Van Gulick

held at the venerable Merion Cricket Club. The Musket Ball tradition celebrates and preserves the honor due those whose service prevailed in the American Revolution. The weather for the evening was fantastic, and the setting was colorful with Sun Porch views of the Great Lawn at the Club. Ceremony, food, and music enhanced the patriotic theme of the Ball.—all events submitted by Lanny Patten; additional reporting by Editor

RHODE ISLAND



The Rhode Island Society and the Nathanael Greene Homestead Assoc. hosted General President Curtis P. Cheyney, III, at a luncheon on 8 June 2013 at Bistro 9 in East Greenwich. President Cheyney updated the Society on the plans for the Nathanael Greene Statue Project at Valley Forge. Standing, from left to right: Ron Barnes, 2nd VP, David Dumas, Registrar, Bruce Westgate, Secretary, Col. Frank S. Hale,

President, Curt Cheyney, General President SR, Janet Uhlar, Nathanael Greene Homestead Assoc. Trustee; John W. Adams, 1st VP.—Photo courtesy of John W. Adams



Society President Frank S. Hale tours the Rhode Island Historical Cemetery Newport #18, wherein lays the gravesite of John Collins, who served in the Continental Congress and was Governor of Rhode Island, 1786-1790.

—Photo courtesy of Frank S. Hale

SOUTH CAROLINA

Meeting held at Fort Watson

The South Carolina Society, Sons of the Revolution (SCSR) conducted its quarterly business meeting at the site of the Siege of Fort Watson near Santee, South Carolina. The Siege of Fort Watson began on 15 April 1781 and ended eight days later, on 23 April, with a victory for the Patriots. The win was an important development in the events that made British authorities ultimately abandon the backcountry of South Carolina. The fort was one of a chain of British strong points that also included Fort Mott, Granby, Ninety-Six, Camden, and Charleston.



L-R: Reddick Bowman, Ed Latimer, Chuck Swoope, Scott Swoope, Kelly Jenkins and Dr. Michael Hull.

—Photo courtesy Jeff Jordan

It was named for British Colonel John Watson, who re-purposed the site into an outpost from its former use as a burial grounds and ceremonial site for the Santee tribe of Indians. The mound is the largest of its kind to be found on the U.S. coastal plain and is estimated to be one-thousand years old.

When Commander Watson left to meet with Lord Cornwallis in Camden in the spring of 1781, Lieutenant James McKay assumed command of the garrison with one-hundred twenty British regulars. Continental Army forces under Henry “Light Horse Harry” Lee and South Carolina militia under Francis “Swampfox” Marion then besieged Fort Watson.

After a couple of foiled attempts, Major Hezekiah Maham of General Francis Marion’s command, devised a plan to construct a tower of sufficient height and protected by freshly cut green pine trees that would protect sharpshooters firing over the protected walls of Fort Watson. The tower was constructed in eight days and positioned under cover of darkness on 22 April. The next day the Americans attacked, with riflemen shooting into the fort, forcing the defenders off the walls. Simultaneously, attacking Patriots successfully scaled the walls, forcing the surrender of the garrison shortly thereafter. The success of the “Maham Tower” was instrumentally used in a number of other engagements, most notably at the Siege of Ninety-Six.... And that’s another story to tell.



Fort Watson memorial marker at the base of the mound.—Photo courtesy Jeff Jordan

The Santee tribe numbered approximately three-thousand persons around 1650, when the early Spanish were exploring the area. By 1715, the tribe had been reduced to around five-hundred people, due to diseases brought by the early settlers. Within 150 years of first European contact, the Santee nation was history.

During the business meeting at the site, Society President Chuck Swoope, Vice-President Scott Swoope, Secretary Jeff Jordan, and Treasurer Ed

Latimer represented the Board of Managers. Members Reddick Bowman and Michael Hull also participated, along with Dr. Hull’s guest, Kelly Jenkins.

Reports included the mentioning of the Society’s Eagle Scout recognition program, which continues to be strong, especially in the Rock Hill area. The proposed memorial at Kings Mountain National Battlefield Park is not progressing as quickly as the Society would like to see, due to apparent delays by the National Park Service. The Society meanwhile has enlisted the assistance of GSSR Executive Director Jeffrey Lambert to help encourage the NPS to comply.

In other news, the SCSR presented the Children of the American Revolution (CAR) with a donation and is working diligently to attract younger members. Treasurer Ed Latimer reported that the Society’s treasury is healthy, but the Board has approved an increase of \$10 in annual membership dues to \$40 per member to help offset the increase in dues by the General Society. The SCSR had not raised fees in seventeen years.—*submitted by Jeff Jordan, Vice-President*

VIRGINIA

Virginia History Day

On 20 April 2013, Virginia History Day took place at Williamsburg and featured GSSR Executive Director Jeffrey Lambert (a recently inaugurated Virginia Society member) as a judge in the statewide history contest. Each year the event is sponsored by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

Virginia History Day is part of the greater nationwide National History Day program, a year-long educational competitive program designed for students in grades 6-12. Students are challenged to interpret

the significance of a local, national or international historical event of their choice that relates to the year’s chosen theme. They may demonstrate their interpretation by a dramatic performance, imaginative exhibit, multimedia documentary, web site, or research paper.

For 2013, the chosen theme was: “Turning Points in History.”



The winners were eligible to advance to the national-level contest held at the University of Maryland, College Park, on 9-13 June 2013.

HUZZAH! for each of the seventy-eight winning students from Virginia, and for all other state-wide winners throughout the country.—*Editor*

WEST VIRGINIA

Region 2 VP Speaks to WV Society

Region 2 General Vice President Caswell Cooke was guest of honor at the annual meeting of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of West Virginia held 28 April 2013 in Fairmont, West Virginia. The Society celebrated its 119th anniversary during the occasion. It is interesting to note that 119 years ago, in April of 1894, the nation was celebrating the 119th anniversary of the start of the American Revolution.

On 19 April 1894, nine patriotic gentlemen gathered together in Wheeling, West Virginia, and held their first meeting of the Sons of the Revolution. Wheeling was the state capital back then, having been founded in the year 1863—when the area now known as West Virginia chose to separate itself from Virginia. As such, West Virginia is the only state in the Union to have seceded from the South after the southern states seceded from the North.



L-R: Larrie Bailey, Jim Rahr, Gene McIntire, Jack Anderson, and Caswell Cooke.—Photo courtesy of SR-WV

Vice President Cooke spoke about what an honor it was for him to be able to address the West Virginia Society, given its lengthy history. Three of the Society's nine founders were grandsons of Revolutionary War veterans. In 1973 and again in 1994 the Society was named the winner of the Traveling

Banner Award for numerical increases in membership.

At one time, there were as many as four-hundred members in the Society. Through the years, most members have hailed from the Upper Monongahela Valley, but the Society welcomes qualified individuals from every corner of the state. In addition to giving deference to the Society for its history, Vice President Cooke relayed the successful work of the volunteers who helped move the General Society headquarters from Independence, Missouri, to Williamsburg, Virginia. He described the new location as being well situated between the College of William & Mary and historical Williamsburg, with plenty of parking available.

He also reported that several State Societies and many generous individuals donated more than \$60,000 to help defray the costs of the move and to help establish the new facility. The General Society estimates that about 1.5 million people will pass by the headquarters every year.

Lastly, Caswell could not leave the meeting without validating that West Virginia is indeed Almost Heaven. He owns property in the "wild and wonderful mountains" near Parsons, West Virginia, about sixty miles to the southeast of Fairmont.

Society President James Rahr served as master of ceremonies and introduced Gene McIntire, Secretary; Jack Anderson, Past President and Historian; and Larrie Bailey, Past President and Representative to the General Society. He then introduced Caswell Cooke to the gathered membership.

Current Officers

President	James A. Rahr
Vice President /Registrar	Norman Moran
Secretary	Harris Gene McIntire
Treasurer/Historian	Lowell Newbrough
Chaplain	Paul Prunty
GSSR Representative	Larrie Bailey

The West Virginia Society is now planning its 120th anniversary in 2014. Mr. Cooke told of the incentive grants being worked out to help stimulate new membership growth in the various State Societies. The next BOM Meeting of the General Society will be held later this year at New London, Connecticut, where delegate Larrie Bailey will represent the West Virginia Society. Mr. Cooke wound up his talk by reiterating how nice it was to be in the company of good men of fine character who are so closely connected to those who fought in the struggle for American independence.—*submitted by James A. Rahr, President*

Flintlock & Powderhorn

ARTICLES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

Revolutionary Patriots of Louisiana

In the summer of 1779, some six-hundred Cajun militia in Louisiana took up arms against the British. Most of those men were either from France, of French parentage or hailed from French-Canada. Also, some were African or of African descent.

The Cajun culture of Louisiana developed as a result of the displaced Acadians of Canada's Maritime Provinces. In 1710, Britain invaded that area of Canada and robbed France of its possession, renaming Acadia as Nova Scotia. During the Seven Years' War, Britain sought to neutralize the Acadian military threat by deporting French Acadians to Louisiana, in what has become known as the Great Upheaval or Le Grand Dérangement.

In 1778, four days after France and the Thirteen Colonies signed the Treaties of Alliance, Britain declared war on France. When France promised to aid Spain in capturing Gibraltar, the Floridas, and the island of Minorca from the British, Spain then joined with France to aid the Thirteen Colonies against the British. In June of 1779, Spain declared war on Great Britain. As Louisiana was under Spanish control at the time, it meant that Louisianans could pick up arms against the British.

When the opportunity came for these Cajuns to fight the British (again), they jumped at the chance. Old memories die hard. On Louisiana soil, they fought their old foes under the flag of Spain.

Bernardo de Gálvez y Madrid had just been named the Royal Governor of Louisiana. In September of that year, he organized an expedition to attack and clear the British forces from the banks of the Mississippi River, including at Natchez, and capture the forts at Mobile and Pensacola. The Battle of Baton Rouge would stand as the only land-based military battle of the American Revolution to be fought outside of the original thirteen colonies.

Expedition to Baton Rouge

In organizing the land expedition from New Orleans to Baton Rouge, Gálvez called upon the assistance of militias from the Acadian Coast (the posts at Attakapas, Opelousas, and Pointe Coupée). From that region, free men of color and slaves were said to have joined with Gálvez. Reportedly, free blacks formed two companies of 89 men each.

Gálvez left New Orleans with an army of about 600 men. They were joined along the way by the 500 or so men from the Opelousas, Attakapas, and Point Coupée posts as well as those from the German Coast Militia. It is said the first militia company of the town of Galvez, Louisiana was formed primarily of men from the Canary Islands. Native Americans were also said to have taken part in the offensive. This army, containing men of every "class, nation, and color," endured many hardships on the nearly two-week-long journey.

In total, Gálvez led about 1,300 soldiers from New Orleans to Baton Rouge, where after an intense but short fight they captured Fort New Richmond. Gálvez renamed the site Fort San Carlos, in honor of Carlos III of Spain. At the same time that they lost Baton Rouge, the British also handed over Natchez. Not slowing down, by May of 1781 Gálvez had recaptured Mobile and Pensacola, too, leaving the British with no bases in the Gulf of Mexico.

The capture of Nassau in The Bahamas enabled Spain to also recover East Florida during peace negotiations. The Treaty of Paris of 1783 confirmed the recovery of the Floridas and Minorca, and restricted the actions of British commercial interests in Central America. The Brits got to keep Gibraltar, however. ■—*Editor*

NOTE: In the following issue of Drumbeat, the names from two units of the Louisiana militia-men will be published.

General Greene and the Trial of Major André

By RADM J. Robert Lunney, NYNM (Ret.)

Major General Nathanael Greene, born in Rhode Island and raised a Quaker, was a Private in the Kentish Guards when the Revolutionary War began and emerged from the war as one of General Washington's most respected and dependable officers. Before his interest in military science pulled him toward serving his country, he had lived a quiet life as a blacksmith in his father's foundry.

His insatiable curiosity in guns and boots, however, led to division in the family. He attended a military parade in 1773, after which he was expelled from a Quaker meeting. He never looked back.

Readers of this publication are familiar with Gen. Greene's participation in early battles of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, with his reluctant acceptance of the quartermaster general position at Valley Forge, and with his taking command of the Southern Department of the Continental Army.

One frequently-overlooked aspect of his career, though, is the short period of time during which he

Missing the Boat

André had been captured on 23 September, Tarrytown, New York (neutral territory--neither fully controlled by the rebels nor by the Brits) as he attempted to slip back into New York City leaving him no choice but to return by land.

The plan had been for him to board a British sloop in uniform and be taken downriver, but the sloop came under attack and had to abandon the area, leaving André no choice but to return by land—and do so in civilian clothes. He was stopped by three militiamen, only one of whom could read, John Paulding. After searching him, Paulding and the others confiscated the incriminating documents, suspected him a spy, and handed him over to Continental Army headquarters at North Castle, New York.

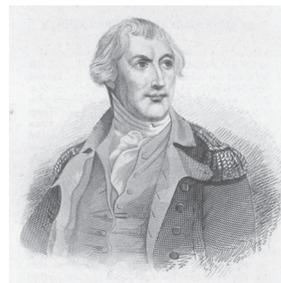
Soon thereafter, Washington selected Greene to preside over the military tribunal, together with thirteen other general officers. Some of the others



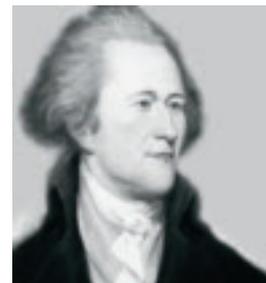
Gen. Benedict Arnold



Maj. John André



Gen. Nathanael Greene



Lt-Col. Alexander Hamilton

was placed in command of the Hudson Valley. Albeit of brief duration, the position thrust him into the vortex of one of the darkest chapters of early American history: the treasonous betrayal of the Patriot cause by General Benedict Arnold.

In September 1780, when Washington set out to meet French General Rochambeau in Hartford, Connecticut, he entrusted to Greene the command of the Patriot forces in the Hudson Valley. As if by fate, with Washington being gone, Greene received an urgent message on 25 September from Alexander Hamilton at West Point: "There has unfolded at this place a scene of the blackest treason. [Benedict] Arnold has fled to the Enemy. [Major John] André, the British Adjutant General, is in our possession as a spy. His capture unraveled the mystery. West Point was to be the sacrifice."

included Marquis de Lafayette, Baron Von Steuben, Henry Knox, John Stark, and John Glover. On 29 September, the case against André was heard inside the Old Dutch Church in Tappan, New York.

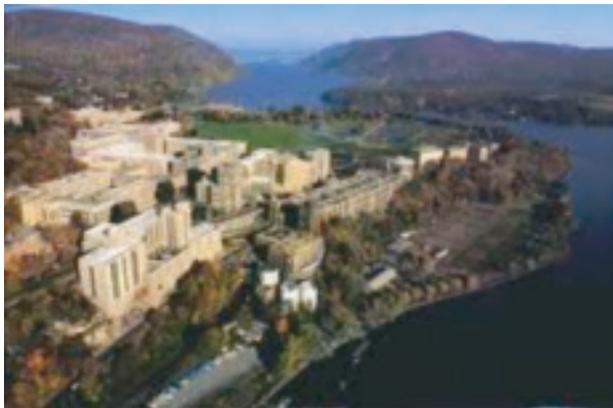
Washington ordered the tribunal to, "...report a precise state of his case, together with your opinion of the light in which he ought to be considered and the punishment that might be inflicted."

An important piece of evidence was an exculpatory letter which André wrote to Washington soon after his capture. In it he had admitted most of the facts of his activity. It is interesting to note, though, that in the last paragraph of this letter he included a threat of retaliation: "I take the liberty to mention the condition of some gentlemen at Charleston [American prisoners] who were engaged in a conspiracy against us ... they are objects who may be set in exchange for me, or are persons whom the

treatment I receive might affect....”

This letter, together with the papers seized from him at the time of his capture, resulted in his being found a spy. The hearing was completed in one day. Greene, as presiding officer of the tribunal, signed the verdict. In part the verdict states, “...he came to shore...on the twenty first of September...in a private and secret manner...he changed his dress within our lines, and under a feigned name and in a disguised habit...and when taken he had in his possession several papers which contained intelligence for the enemy...”

The punishment was clearly set forth: “...that Major André ...ought to be considered a spy from the enemy and that agreeably to the law and usage of nations...he ought to suffer death.”



West Point Military Academy, Middle-Hudson Valley

An Obstinate Clinton

Washington approved the verdict and ordered that André be executed on 1 October. The sentencing was met with mixed reaction. For many Brits, Loyalists, and even more than a few Patriots, John André was an example of a fine officer. He was an affable man, cultured in many respects. His first loves were reportedly of poetry and painting, and he spoke several languages.

Upon hearing from British Commander Sir Henry Clinton, however, the future President stayed the execution long enough to respond to the British Commander. He relayed that André had not come ashore under a flag of truce, nor had he been wearing the British uniform when behind enemy lines.

Despite the Adjutant General’s being one of Clinton’s most favored aide de camps, and despite Clinton himself intervening, still the British Commander wouldn’t do what the Americans demanded for André’s release—the return of the traitor.

After Washington stayed the execution, Greene was sent with Alexander Hamilton to meet with

Major-General James Robertson at Dobbs Ferry, New York. According to Robertson’s report of the meeting, Greene stated, “If we give up André we shall expect you to give up Arnold.” The talks went nowhere. Surrendering Arnold was a moot point for the British.

André’s Intelligence Background

By 1774, André had joined a British army regiment in Quebec. Late the next year, he was part of the defenses at Fort St. Johns on the Richelieu River, north of Lake Champlain. Major-General Richard Montgomery and Patriot forces laid siege to the fort from August 21 to November 3, when they captured André and brought him back to Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

He spent more than a year in prison behind American lines, where he picked up considerable information. Wishing to be useful to the Crown, André discreetly and resolutely collected as much intelligence as he could. He also drew maps of Patriot movements and strongholds. When he was freed in a prisoner exchange in 1776, British Commander Sir William Howe became especially interested in all that André had learned.

By 1778, he joined the staff of Henry Clinton, General Howe’s replacement. In April 1779, Clinton made him head of intelligence for the British army in North America. By October, he appointed him Adjutant General, with the rank of Major.



Another view of the campus.

After he had been appointed head of intelligence, it was not long when Tory messenger Joseph Stansbury established communications between Arnold and André. Over the next many months, Arnold supplied the British with crucial intelligence in return for promises of considerable money and a position in the British Army. Among the information he passed on was a plot to take over the fort at West Point.

When George Washington gave Arnold the command of West Point and the fortifications and defense of the Hudson Highlands in the summer of 1780, the Redcoats took note. Their army was holed up in New York City and Clinton could not commit to an offensive move in the Hudson Valley. They reckoned: What better way to gain control of the region than to have it given to us by a disgruntled turncoat?

Alas, it did not come to pass. When André was found guilty, he begged Washington to have him shot by a firing squad, as would befit an officer, rather than have him hanged, as was the customary treatment of spies. Washington refused and hanged him as a spy on 2 October 1780 in Tappan, New York. The hanging took place from a gibbet on a hill. His body was buried at the foot of that gibbet.

Of Greene's Resoluteness

On a final note, in spite of André being remembered by some for his youthful grace, charm and amiability, it must be remembered that his intention at all times was to crush all hope of independence for the struggling Patriots. Indeed, André's personal participation in the massacres of American troops at Paoli in September 1777 and a year later at Old Tappan became generally known only with the discovery of his diary in 1901.

Had his link to these shameful incidents were known by some of his sympathizers their concerns would certainly have been less intense. It is thus clear that Greene's tribunal rendered a fair and just verdict.

Following the hanging, still within the month of October, Washington appointed Greene as the Commander of the Southern Army. Within a year, he was



Memorial to NY Minutemen at Patriots Park, Tarrytown, NY. The statue is said to be in likeness of John Paulding.

— Source: www.wikipedia.com



—Photo source www.tumblr.com

formulating a most successful strategy—surprise attacks and hasty retreats. His genius would be revealed in the success of his strategizing.

For the next two years, Greene fought a bitterly contested war in the Southern states and ultimately emerged victorious. His lengthy campaign combined regular troops with bands of irregulars, breaking the protocol of eighteenth-century warfare and foreshadowing wars to come.

As author Janet Uhlar wrote in her biography *Freedom's Cost*, it was General Greene who petitioned Congress for a Declaration of Independence. It was General Nathanael Greene who pulled the Continental Army from the throes of death at Valley Forge. It was Nathanael Greene who was given the desperate task of commanding the Southern Department of the Continental Army after other commanders had failed, and it was Nathanael Greene whom Washington would name to lead the Army should he himself become incapacitated.

Nevertheless, when Greene was a young man and yearning to ascend in military ranks, Rhode Island's Kentish Guards held him to the rank of private and would not promote him. The slight limp he walked with and his sickly asthma condition made the commanders leery of his strength.

But in 1776, George Washington placed Greene as commander overlooking Boston after the British abandoned that city. That was all he needed to rise to fame—someone giving him a chance. ■

—The Editor contributed research and writing to this article



An 18th-Century American Merchant's Dilemma

By Leo Shane

Colonial Coin Collectors Club Librarian

The following article is an adaptation of the original, which appeared in the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) Newsletter, Spring Edition, 2006. It is written by the organization's research librarian, Leo Shane, and appears here with the Club's authorization. Mr. Shane has published numerous articles on coins of the Colonial period. For further information about the C4, please visit: www.colonialcoins.org

Buying and selling goods in the eighteenth century was very different than it is today. Of course there were no dollar bills, no quarters, nickels or dimes. For many household purchases such as food and clothing, merchants and store owners accepted payment in goods (country pay), coins, and tokens.

Paper currency issued by the different colonies was also accepted, as were issues of Continental Currency. While some of the [individual currencies] of the colonies held their value over time, Continental Currency was severely discounted until it became worthless. The phrase, "Not worth a Continental," relates to this paper currency.

More often than not, rather than accept immediate payment, eighteenth-century merchants kept "day" books or books of account where credit was extended to be settled sometime in the future.

Fig 1

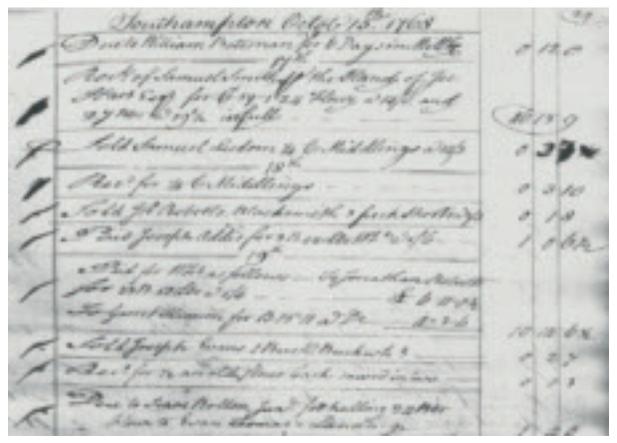


Fig. 1 shows a copy of a page from the "daybook" of Joseph Hart of Southampton, Pennsylvania. Hart was a prominent businessman in the Philadelphia area during the colonial period. He was also a patriot and later became a Colonel in George Washington's army during the Revolutionary War.

On 15 Oct. 1768, we see he paid William Bateman twelve shillings for six days of labor in the mill. On Monday, 17 Oct., he received a payment for a previous debt from Samuel Smith. The flour he accepted is an example of "country pay."

Most Common Coins

The coins most often used for day-to-day purchases in the eighteenth century included British Halfpennies, counterfeits and their equivalents. Commonly circulated copper coins, valued at a halfpence, included those issued by the various colonies, as well as private tokens and even patterns of copper coins. The manufacturers of the latter hoped they would be adopted by one of the colonies, by the Confederation, or later on, the new nation.

Fig 2



Fig. 2 shows examples of some of the coins that circulated as equivalents of the British Halfpence. Top row, from left to right, shows a New Jersey Copper, 1786-1788, minted by a private coin operation; a Nova Constellatio Copper, 1783-1785, minted in England and shipped to America, possibly in hopes of attracting a minting contract (such unauthorized coins are termed "speculatives"); a Vermont Copper, 1785-1788 (when VT was an independent republic), minted by a private coin operation; and a Massachusetts Cent, 1787-1788, authorized and minted by the state of Massachusetts.

The bottom row shows a Virginia HalfPence, 1773, authorized by the British Crown, minted in England and shipped to America; a 1788 Connecticut Copper: William Wood's Hibernia HalfPence, 1722-1724; and a British Halfpence, which was the official coinage of Great Britain. It is interesting to note that the Wood's Hibernia HalfPence were minted in England with the intention of speculative distribution in Ireland, but the coins were rejected by the Irish population and shipped to America.

Spain was an economic power in the eighteenth century, in large part because of its abundant gold and silver mines in the “New World.” As a result, silver coins, mostly the Spanish dollar and its fractions, were also commonplace in small-scale transactions of the eighteenth century. The Spanish dollar was cut into parts, and the parts then circulated as small change. (See Fig. 3) This was a common practice in the eighteenth century and “cut pieces” were a normal part of commerce in the Colonies.

Fig 3



Books and other information are available to illustrate currency and coins of eighteenth-century America. The most popular guide, and a great starting point for anyone interested in the period, is the Redbook (*A Guide Book of United States Coins*, edited by R.S. Yeoman and Kenneth Bressett). Updated annually, this book contains an entire section on coins used during the Colonial and Confederation era of the United States.

Larger Denominations

While halfpennies and Spanish silver pieces were the staple of small transactions, what about larger transactions, such as the purchase of a horse, a plow, or even a house? These transactions—and many others among merchants, suppliers, and ship owners—involved much larger values. Rather than counting out hundreds of halfpennies or small-value silver coins, merchants more often than not used credit, commonly extended for periods of a couple of months up to a year.

Various sources indicate that fifty percent to seventy-five percent of the total commerce done in the Thirteen Colonies during the eighteenth century was done on the basis of credit. The remainder was conducted using either promissory notes from prominent businessmen such as Robert Morris (“financier of the American Revolution”), currency issued by various governments, bills of credit, or coins. The coins, of course, had to be in values much larger than those used for daily shopping.

Fig 4

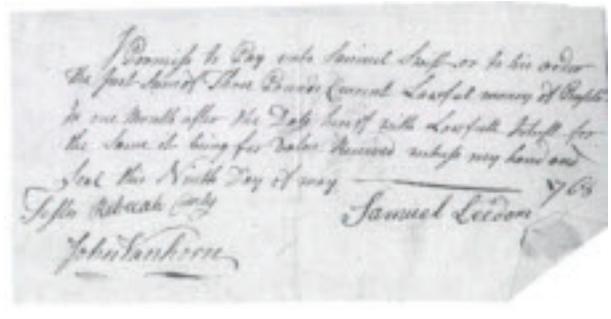


Fig. 4 shows a Promissory Note from businessman Samuel Leedom to another businessman by the name of Samuel Smith. It is a handwritten note which starts out with the words, “I Promise to pay unto Samuel Smith or to his order, the just sum of Three Pounds Lawful money of Pennsylvania.”

Promissory Notes could take the form of a simple document by an “honorable” businessman, with his signature and seal attached and witnessed by others. The witnesses were also “honorable” businessmen who also signed the document.

With the exception of a limited number of silver coins from Massachusetts (the shilling and its fractions), the colonies/states did not issue coins suitable for these larger commercial transactions. To make matters worse, England did not allow its gold and silver coins to be exported to the colonies in North America. It followed the prevailing economic theory of the time that a nation’s colonies should be the suppliers of raw materials to the mother country and that all trade and manufacturing should remain in “parental” control.

Alternative Sources

It so happened that circulating gold and silver coins of various foreign nations (chiefly Spain, Portugal, France, and the Netherlands) satisfied the dire need in the Colonies for larger-denomination coins suitable for commercial transactions. There were a number of ways by which these coins entered circulation: 1) from what immigrants brought with them and bartered; 2) from foreign-born troops stationed in or fighting in the Colonies; 3) from pirates, and privateers and other scoundrels of the sea coming into American port cities; 4) from trade with the West Indies “Sugar Islands,” and from trade with other nations.

This foreign money found its way into Colonial commerce and maintained legal tender status even after our new nation was formed. It wasn’t until the Coinage Act of 1857 (21 Feb 1857) that Congress forbade the use of foreign money as legal tender in the United States.

Although the quantity of foreign gold and silver circulating in the eighteenth century probably never was great, indeed there was enough commerce to require legislatures in the Colonies, such as in Massachusetts (1750), to establish rates of exchange for the circulating foreign gold and silver. Furthermore, after the Revolution, our new federal government authorized assays (metallurgic analyses) to be done on the foreign coinage.

Fig 5

Coin	Pennsylvania		New York	
	Wt.	Val.	Wt.	Val.
ENGLISH Guineas, at	1 15	17 3	1 15	17 3
French duros, at	1 14	16 4	1 14	16 4
Moidores,	8 5	10 0	8 5	10 0
Johannes,	6 0	8 0	6 0	8 0
Half duros,	5 0	6 0	5 0	6 0
Doubloons,	5 12	7 0	5 12	7 0
Carolines,	4 15	6 0	4 15	6 0
French milled Pistoles,	1 7	9 0	1 7	9 0
Spanish duros,	1 3	4 0	1 3	4 0
English Crowns,	0 8	10 0	0 8	10 0
French duros,	0 8	10 0	0 8	10 0
Spanish Dollars,	0 7	9 0	0 7	9 0

Early Currency Plays

“Sometimes, merchants would agree among themselves on the value at which they would accept coins from other nations. And they would publish their agreements in a local newspaper. The author knows of such an agreement published on 16 Sept 1742 in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*. It lists various foreign gold and silver coins and their agreed-upon values. At the bottom is the declaration that “this agreement be in force for three years from the date hereof.” The names of seventy-five businessmen involved in the agreement are listed at the bottom of the article.

Businessmen and banks of the day also published guide books with tables and charts to help merchants determine the value of foreign gold and silver coins. Some of those guide books were: *The Ready Reckoner* (Daniel Fenning), *The Universal Cambist*, *Father Abraham’s Almanack* (Abraham Weatherwise), *The American Negotiator*, and *A Pocket Almanack* (R. Saunders, Printed by Ben Franklin in Phila.)

In an effort to “lure” gold and silver coins from abroad, the individual Colonies would establish exchange values at higher rates than those of London. Thus, a Spanish dollar that was worth 5 Shillings in London was valued at 7,6 (7 shillings and 6 pence) in Pennsylvania. Furthermore, the Colonies would compete among themselves for foreign exchange trade.

Fig. 5 shows a weight and value table from the writer’s copy of *The Ready Reckoner* (1789), which lists the name and denomination of the coins, their weights, and their compared values between New York and Pennsylvania. There are tables in other guide books and almanacs showing values in other Colonies and, occasionally, in London, too. In the Fig. 5 table, the symbol “l” (£) represents British Pound Sterling while “s” stands for shillings and “d” for pence. Weights are given as “dt” (pennyweights) and “gr” grains.

Numismatic Slang

Just as immigrants to the United States today must learn that “nickel” means a five-cent coin and “dime” signifies a ten-cent piece, eighteenth-century American merchants were faced with learning the various monikers of the world’s major coinages. Certainly it would have presented some difficulties.

For example, the Spanish 8 Escudos, minted in Mexico City and common in the Thirteen Colonies after 1775, was commonly referred to as a “Doubloon.” But nowhere in the literature of Spanish coins is that word ever mentioned. Even more puzzling, what is a Moidore or a Johannes or a Caroline? They were all important coins of the day from lands far, far away.

The world of money, whether it was small change or big bills, presented the typical pre- and post-Revolutionary War era merchants with an assortment of challenges, opportunities, and managerial dilemmas that today’s average American merchant need not worry about. ■



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