

The  
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A Son of the Revolution,  
A Father of Statesmanship

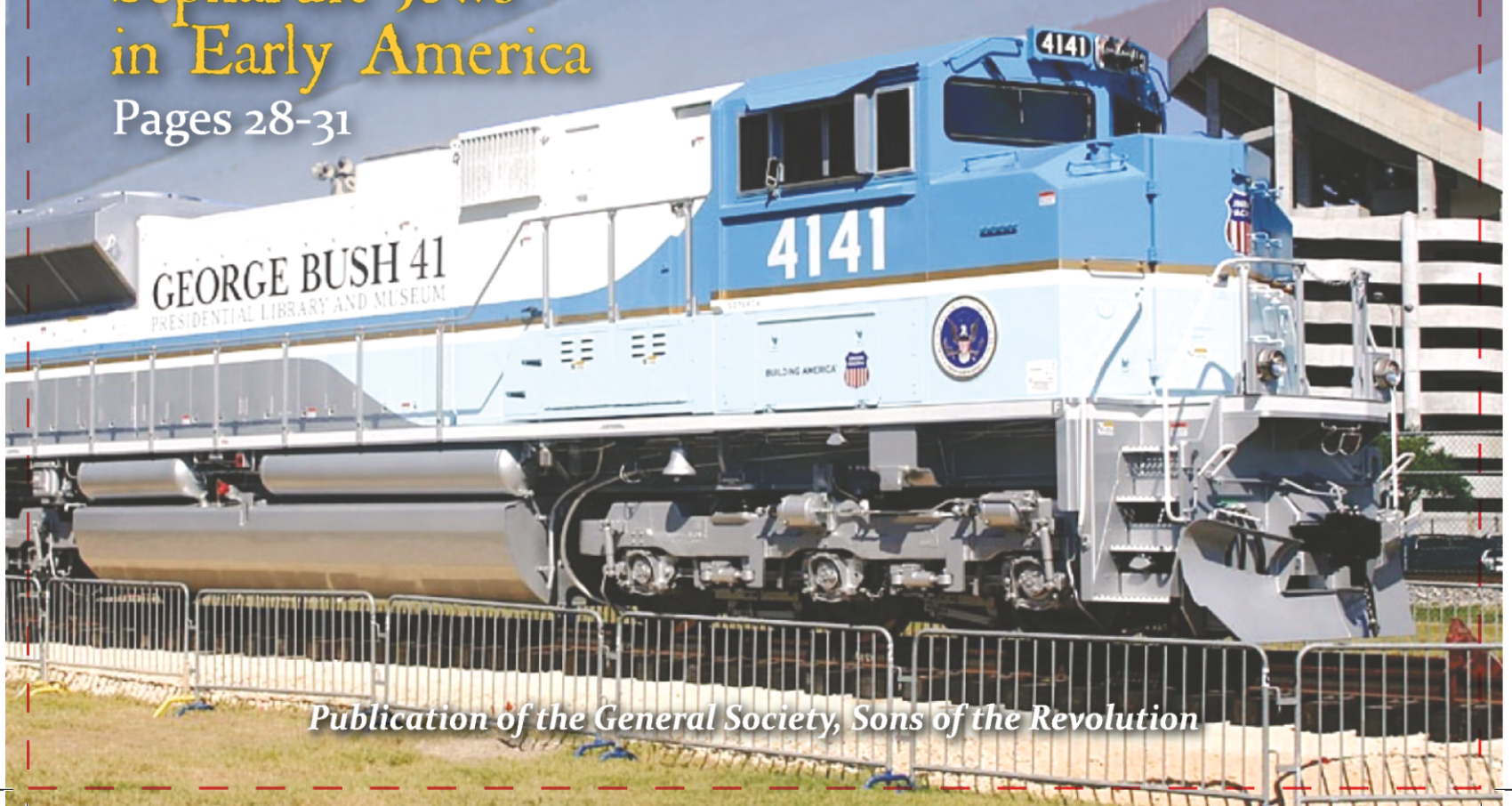
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*Publication of the General Society, Sons of the Revolution*

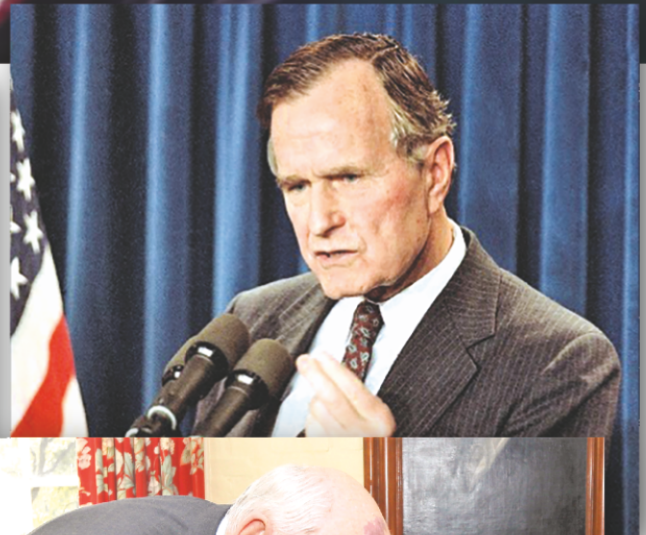


# GEORGE H.W. BUSH

1924 - 2018



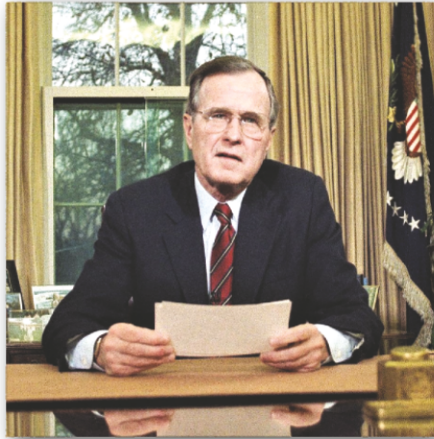
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# George Herbert Walker Bush: A Son of the Revolution, a Father of Statesmanship



BARRY THUMMA / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Without delving into contemporary politics, it is important to pause and reflect on the remarkable life of one of the most famous of past members of the GSSR: President George H.W. Bush. After serving eight years as Ronald Reagan's Vice President, Americans elected this man as their forty-first President in November 1988.

Four years later, by November 1992, a majority of Americans were impatient with the economy, wary of deficit spending, and may have yearned for a more verbose and charismatic leader to occupy the White House. But in voting #41 out of office, in fact, Americans delivered into their chronicles of history the most successful one-term President thus far in 242 years. Of course, we don't always see the truth very well in foresight or even in plain sight. Yet when we turn around and stare at it in hindsight, it can show up crystal-clear and sometimes roar back at us.

When President Bush succumbed on November 30, 2018, at the age of 94, we lost our last Chief Executive of the WWII-era, a hero and veteran who was decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross, among other medals. We also lost as fine a statesman as we have ever had serve in the Oval Office. It wasn't so much that George Herbert Walker Bush mastered the world's multitude complexities, but it was his masterful use of what his first-born son calls "personal diplomacy."

George H.W. Bush everted the possible outbreak of catastrophic war in Europe by his calm restraint and steady hand at the helm when the Berlin Wall came crumbling down and, later, when the Soviet Union dissolved. He allowed the peoples of Germany and Russia to determine their own course, and his example prevailed. For that, he earned praise around the world and gained lifelong friendships with Mikhail Gorbachev and Helmut Kohl.

Just as firmly and resolutely, however, Bush called together an impressive list of global leaders to condemn Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. Seven months later, he assembled a massive international force to push the Iraqis out of the strategic Persian Gulf nation. When the Iraqi army scrambled back inside their territory, that victory was the peak of his presidency.

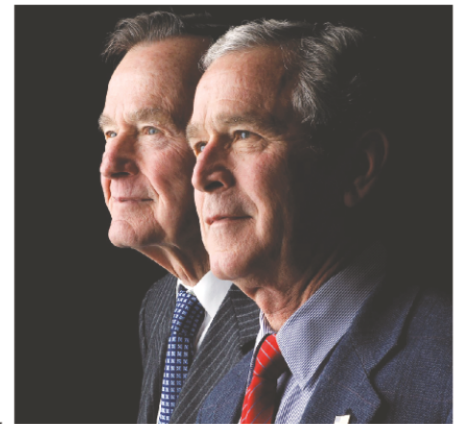
Yet, when he broke his famous promise about not raising taxes, he upset many in his party. And when he expressed amazement at grocery store scanning technology that had already been in use for some time, the media jumped on it and the public sensed he was out of touch with everyday America.

Those things aside, it was on the world stage where President Bush's points of light shone the brightest, and it was in his interpersonal relations with global leaders where Bush was at his best. You could see it in the way Gorbachev, Kohl and Canada's Brian Mulroney regarded him. You could see it again in the respectful manner in which the Chinese dealt with him. You could see once more in his post-presidency friendship with Bill Clinton, whose '92 campaign coined the phrase, "The economy, stupid."

Even in the pain of having lost the White House, President Bush had the decency and grace to leave President

Clinton an endearing letter: *Dear Bill... You will be our President when you read this note. I wish you well. I wish your family well. Your success now is our country's success. I am rooting hard for you. Good luck. —George*

After retiring from politics, President Bush joined the Tennessee Society Sons of the Revolution as a life member. In 1993, his membership was sponsored by Mr. Jack Westbrook and seconded by the Honorable John Duncan Jr., United States Congressman representing the Tennessee Second District in the House of Representatives. See page 26 for vignettes on his two Revolutionary War patriot-ancestors.—*Editor*



ERIC DRAPER



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,



*Dr. Laurence S. Simpson*

I humbly accept your affirmation in my having been named the next General President of our esteemed Society. There are multiple difficult challenges facing the Sons of the Revolution, but as our Founder John Austin Stevens once said, "With the will, the way is always found."

Our two biggest immediate hurdles are to increase membership and to increase funds so that the organization can do the things it needs to do to service the member states and grow. I therefore issue a challenge to each State Society to increase its membership by one-third during my three-year term. It's ambitious, but, I think, attainable. More on that will follow, along with further information coming from *Drumbeat* and from our new, e-mail newsletter to debut in 2019, the *SR Gazette*. We will also have think-tank sessions on membership and funding at the next two Annual Meetings.

With regard to the raising of funds, if we simply increase our dues, it would too heavily impact the larger states. Also, each of the states have different demographics, with some being more able to absorb increased expense than others. The Executive Committee decided it would be better and more tolerable if the General Society instituted an Annual Giving Campaign under its 501 3c status, which makes contributions potentially tax deductible. At the completion of the 43rd Triennial in Franklin, Tennessee, nearly a dozen members joined the Society of '83 (another Society that John Austin Stevens founded). Of course, we must call attention to Mr. Charles Carroll's extraordinary generosity and give him our unbridled thanks for his support.

As you know, you are a member of a wonderful and unique hereditary Society. It was the first of many similar societies that were founded in the late 1800s. We preceded the SAR, DAR, CAR, and Colonial Wars, amongst others. We formed the precedent which other lineage and patriotic groups followed. The original members of the SR came mainly from members of the upper-class of Victorian New York City, along with a significant number of members of the Society of Cincinnati.

The Sons' earliest history has been mostly lost to time. Many of our members are versed in the various aspects of the Revolutionary War, but not in the early history of the Society. As a Past President of SRNY, I have had the opportunity over the last twenty-five-plus years to roam through the "attics" of Fraunces© Tavern, which the New York Society owns. It is a treasure trove of original source information lost to time.

To increase general awareness of and pride in the early SR, I will be publishing the early SR, I will be publishing many of the earliest pieces on SR history over the next three years. These are all unique and hard to find. The first installment, appearing in the next issue, will be on the first-ever dinner gathering of the Society, the Turtle Feast, held at Fraunces© Tavern on December 4, 1883. The point of holding that dinner was to celebrate the centennial anniversary of Washington's farewell to the men who served as his officers in the Continental Army. They gathered in the Long Room on December 4, 1783—following the peace treaty that had been achieved and the evacuation of all British troops from New York City.

The Society's founding event was not some spontaneous happening in a bar after a parade, but was purposefully done with a lot of forethought and copious planning. Stevens replicated historical details from fine dining during the 1783 time period. He extensively researched records of the event from the New-York Historical Society (our birthplace), with the help of its Librarian, William Kelby. At the turtle feast he chose a ballad which was written during the Revolutionary War period. He commissioned special glassware, plates, turtle bowls, napkins, punch bowls, and tobacco crocks. The plates, bowls and napkins were meant to be lasting mementos to be taken home by the participants after the affair.

Examples of all of these items are found in the permanent exhibit of the Sons' History on the third floor of Fraunces© Tavern Museum. If you have never visited the Tavern, put it on your bucket list. It was and is the womb and cradle of the early SR. All SR members are cordially welcomed. By showing proof of SR membership, you will receive a ten percent discount on food and drinks at the Fraunces© Tavern Restaurant.

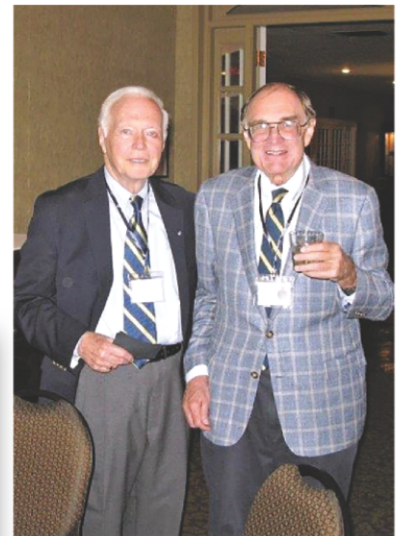
I look forward to an exciting three years to serve you.

Laurence S. Simpson, D.D.S.  
General President, GSSR





# 43rd Triennial Meeting Franklin, Tennessee • 2018







**DAVID CROCKETT**  
 Born in Tennessee, Died Defending the Alamo  
 1786 - 1836  
 Frontiersman and Militiaman

TENNESSEE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
 1821 - 1825  
 U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
 1827 - 1831, 1833 - 1835



# A Quality Show in Middle Tennessee

By Dennis Eggert, Tennessee Society Secretary

Our 2018 GSSR Triennial held in Franklin, Tennessee from Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup> was a memorable experience from start to finish. Members of the Tennessee Society Sons of the Revolution felt honored for hosting this event, and the TSSOR received many cordial thanks for their fine efforts.

Although it was “business as usual” for the various state delegates attending the morning meetings, an itinerary of various events in the afternoons provided everyone with something enjoyable to do.

## Interesting Tours

On Thursday evening buses transported everyone to the University Club Room at Vanderbilt University in downtown Nashville for the opening reception. The Pennsylvania Society Sons of the Revolution Color Guard, under the leadership of Eric Guenther, graciously sponsored this event. Featuring superb food and drink, the reception provided an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and make new friends with fellow Sons from different areas of the country.

Beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Friday morning, a Continental Breakfast was served to attendees in the Marriott Hilton hotel lobby, followed by the morning business session. That afternoon we again boarded buses for a tour of the Tennessee State Capitol and afterwards visited President Andrew Jackson’s home, the Hermitage.

At the State Capitol, Curator Jim Hoobler took us on an informative tour through the different chambers of government and shared with us some of the historic moments that have occurred there. In addition to his interesting stories, Mr. Hoobler emphasized the history and importance of unique ornate fixtures and furniture that are found throughout the capitol.

After that tour, we traveled to the Hermitage, home of President Andrew Jackson, the only U.S. President who was a prisoner of war. Not many people know that at the age of 13, Jackson fought during the Revolutionary War at the Battle of Hanging Rock and was captured by the British.

As our entourage toured the Hermitage, which is a Greek revival mansion built in 1835, we were transported back in time by knowledgeable tour guides. We were also introduced to the antebellum era, which provided us with a greater understanding of this unique place. Despite not having our planned lunches available on the Hermitage grounds, we nevertheless enjoyed a hospitality bar with refreshments and had a nice time for fellowship.

## Saturday Banquet

Following the Saturday morning business session and a free afternoon, delegates and their guests reconvened for the traditional banquet. Although formal attire was the order of the evening, some TSSOR members dressed in their finest late-eighteenth century attire, which made for great photo opps! Attendees were treated to the music of Tennessee State Senator Jack Johnson and his band playing a variety of genres, but emphasizing country music.

Outgoing General President Mitchell Bush presided over all the festivities and began the evening by inviting the Pennsylvania Color Guard to the stage to present colors. The Guard was led to the front by an inspiring bagpiper who brought all to their feet with patriotic enthusiasm. After the colors were presented and the invocation addressed, a delicious meal was shared by everyone. Following the dinner, Mr. Bush introduced the evening’s featured keynote speaker, Mr. Patrick O’Donnell, a combat historian and author of eleven books.

Mr. O’Donnell has also been involved with scores of films and documentaries spanning the entirety of the American Revolution. His subject for the evening was the Patriot militias’ involvement in almost every Revolutionary War battle and their contribution to the independence movement.

After the speaker’s presentation, Mr. Bush presented a series of awards in recognition of outstanding Societies and individuals. This was followed up by his emphasizing the *Society of ‘83* giving campaign that awards members with a distinctive rosette for their jacket. Before the night was over, a number of members generously pledged a thousand dollars each. By far the most generous pledges have come from Mr. Charles Carroll, President of the European Society, who has given nearly \$30,000 to the GSSR via the *Society of 83!*



# THE "SOCIETY OF '83" 2018 DONORS



<i>Charles D. Carroll</i>	<i>EU</i>	<i>\$28,000</i>
<i>T. Jeffery Clark</i>	<i>NJ</i>	<i>\$1,020</i>
<i>J. Robert Lunney</i>	<i>NY</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Ivan Bennett</i>	<i>SC</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Bev Mauck</i>	<i>VA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>David Dickey, Esq</i>	<i>GA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Mark Jacobowski</i>	<i>VA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Jimmy Smith</i>	<i>GA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Larry Leslie, Sr, MD</i>	<i>KY</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Roger Coursey</i>	<i>GA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Lanny R. Patten</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Laurence S. Simpson, DDS</i>	<i>NY</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>

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<i>Total Pledged</i>		<i>\$39,020</i>
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# GSSR 43rd Triennial Awards

## **2015-2018 Modern Patriot Award:**

*This award is presented to a non-member recipient who is deemed to be an outstanding figure of broad enough interest, responsibility, and exposure to further the patriotic aims of the Society.*

Winner: Brian Kilmeade

## **2015-2018 Patrick Henry Award:**

*This award is presented to a member who, being as Patrick Henry, has the courage and patriotism to speak out.*

Winner: James J. Shannon, Jr.

## **2015-2018 Jay Harris Award:**

*This award is presented to an individual, member or non-member, who has made significant contributions to the welfare and objectives of the Society.*

Winner: Terry Lynn Davenport

## **2015-2018 Richard Farmer Hess Award:**

*This award is presented to a Small, Medium, and Large State Society that has demonstrated leadership in its operation and management.*

Winners: Societies of South Carolina, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania

## **2015-2018 Trent Trophy Award:**

*This award is presented to a Small, Medium, and Large State Society that has made exceptional contributions to the purposes and good of the Sons of the Revolution since the last Triennial.*

Winners: Societies of Rhode Island, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania

## **2015-2018 Membership Achievement Award (Numerical):**

*This award is presented to the State Society that has experienced the largest numerical increase in membership since the last Triennial.*

Winner: Society of Virginia

## **2015-2018 Membership Achievement Award (Percentage):**

*This award is presented to the State Society that has experienced the largest percentage increase in membership since the last Triennial.*

Winner: Society of Rhode Island





2018-2021

# General Officers



## Laurence S. Simpson, D.D.S.

General President

**State Society:** New York

**Year Joined:** 1985

**Previous Offices Held:** GSSR Secretary; GSSR Assistant Secretary; New York Society President

**Occupation:** Retired General Dentist

**Education:** B.S., Manhattan College; M.S., Queens College and Professional Diploma in Secondary Educational Administration; D.D.S., NYU College of Dentistry; GPR Residency, Catholic Medical Center of Queens & Brooklyn

**Greatest personal achievement:** Having my daughter join us as a dentist in our practice in Manhattan.

**Greatest professional achievement:** Omicron Kappa Upsilon (Phi Beta Kappa of Dentistry)

**Guiding philosophy:** Follow your moral compass

**Favorite pastime activity:** Participation in lineage groups, including the SR and Colonial Wars

## Hans E. Jackson

Region 1 General Vice President

**State Society:** Massachusetts

**Year Joined:** 2012

**Previous SR Offices:** GVP District 1

**Occupation:** BISO for Epsilon Data Management, a subsidiary of Alliance Data Systems Corporation

**Education:** AB Colgate University; MA, MBA Bentley University

**Greatest personal achievement:** Teaching leadership skills and styles, and being a mentor to young people.

**Greatest professional achievement:** Creating an audit readiness and compliance program that exceeded all requirements and produced a 50% efficiency gain over the prior program.

**Guiding philosophy:** Learn from doing. Learn to take strategic pauses to evaluate, reset, and celebrate.

**Favorite pastime:** Travel and genealogy

## Charles Jones Scammell

Region 2 General Vice President



**State Society:** New Jersey

**Year Joined:** 1982

**Previous SR Offices:** SRNJ President; Local SR chapter president (12 years); member/chair of many committees

**Occupation(s):** Senior Strategist Omnicom Health Group (advertising); Management Consultant Pharmaceuticals; Hospital Executive

**Education:** U of Vienna Austria 1973; BS, St Lawrence U. (1975); MBA, Columbia U. Business School (1980); MPH, School of Public Health (1981)

**Greatest Personal Achievement:** Local Community Leadership (i.e., church, hospital board chair, county, social services, school boards, SRNJ). My son won Barrymore Award for Best Actor in Philadelphia 2017

**Greatest Professional Achievement:** Still very relevant in the rapidly changing, challenging and “young man’s” pharmaceutical business. A career of successfully building service and consulting life-science businesses.

**Guiding Philosophy:** Enjoy life as if you will die tomorrow...Learn as if you will live forever.

**Favorite Pastime activity:** Travel and Golf





**Ivan Bennett**  
Region 3 General Vice President

**State Society:** South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky  
**Year Joined:** 2015 (SC); 2016 (GA); 2018 (KY)  
**SR Offices Held:** SC Society Secretary; SC Society President  
**Occupation:** Retired Public District School Administrator and State Department of Education Director (Kentucky)  
**Education:** BA Psychology, Thomas More College 1972 (KY); M.Ed. Special Education, Xavier University (OH) 1974; Rank I School Administrator, Xavier University (OH)  
**Greatest Personal Achievement:** Married 44 years; three sons graduated college and gainfully employed; six grandchildren; no debt to leave behind

**Greatest Professional Achievement:** Superintendent, President KY School Counselor Assoc., President KY Principal Assoc., Board Member Country Club of Hilton Head, VanLandingham Rotary Club (HHI) Secretary, Chair Education Committee, 2017 Rotarian of the Year, 2018 Presidents Award, Who's Who In America, Who's Who In World, SC SR Host 2017 GSSR BOM Charleston, SC., Member Society of '83, GSSR Richard Farmer Hess Award 2015-2018, Endeavors in Education 2015-2018  
**Life Membership:** Order of the Crown of Charlemagne, Order of Merovingian Dynasty, Kentucky Colonel  
**Guiding Philosophy:** Daily preparation, and "less is more"  
**Favorite Pastime Activity:** Tennis, Beach, Photography and Travel



**David L. Rutherford**  
Region 4 General Vice President (5<sup>th</sup> term)

**State Society:** Tennessee  
**Year Joined:** 1996  
**Previous SR Offices:** Past General Historian; Region 3 General Vice President  
**Occupation:** Retired  
**Education:** B.A., University of Tennessee (1975)

**Greatest personal achievement:** 1) Married 50 years; 2) Past National Commander, Scottish American Military Society; 3) Past Chair, Knoxville Metro Planning Commission and Historic Planning  
**Greatest professional achievement:** 1) Retired after 29 years with State Farm Insurance Companies; 2)

Air Force veteran, Staff Sgt during Vietnam war; 3) Current DOD area Rep for the "Employer Support Of the Guard and Reserve"; 4) Knight Commander of SMOTJ, and 5) Knight Grand Commander of Order of St. Andrew of Jerusalem.  
**Guiding philosophy:** Give and you will receive. But don't tread on me.  
**Favorite pastime activity:** Horology, history study, politics, ornithology and photography



**Robert Dean Rati**  
Region 5 General Vice President (4<sup>th</sup> term)

**State Society:** Illinois, Indiana  
**Year Joined:** 1977  
**Previous SR Offices:** Region 5 General Vice President, Illinois Society President (1981-83), Indiana Society President (2007-2010), GS Chairman Awards Committee (1983-91).

**Occupation:** Retired Computer Executive  
**Education:** B.A. University of Kansas (1961); M.A. Northeastern University (1970); M.B.A. Columbia University (1973)  
**Greatest personal achievement:** Met my wife in 1967, married 1969 (49 years)

**Greatest professional achievement:** Management Consultant, Ernst & Young, New York City 1973-75, followed by 30 years in computing management in several corporations  
**Guiding philosophy:** Do the best that you can  
**Favorite pastime activity:** Home computing, genealogy





**Doug Boyd**  
Region 6 General Vice President (3<sup>rd</sup> term)

**State Society:** California

**Year Joined:** 2000

**Previous SR Offices:** Member, California Society Board of Directors 2000-Present; Society Vice President 2003-2008, Society President 2008-2011; 2014-15; Society Secretary, 2017-Present; GSSR Region 6 Vice President, 2012-Present

**Occupation:** Attorney, Public Policy Advisor

**Education:** B.A. History, University of Maryland, European Division; 1976; M.P.A., Pepperdine University, 1978; J.D., Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, 1983

**Greatest professional achievement:** Passage of changes in law for city/county clients

**Greatest personal achievement:** My wife Linda & our 11 children. We are also blessed with several grandchildren.

**Guiding philosophy:** Do your best in all things, being mindful that God is in control.

**Favorite pastime activity:** Political & patriotic endeavors, along with American Revolutionary and Western History (U.S. and World).



**Russell P. Rich**  
General Secretary

**State Society:** Maryland

**Year Joined:** 2004

**Previous SR Offices:** Assistant General Secretary (2015-2019); Past President of SRMD (2014-2017); Vice-President of SRMD (2015-2017); Co-Chair, Annual French Monument Ceremony in Annapolis, Md.; Co-Chair, L'Hermione/Lafayette Parade & Celebration, Annapolis, Md.; Secretary of SRMD (2009-2015); SRMD Board of Managers (2007-2009).

**Occupation:** Chairman and President of Spectra Sciences, LLC, The Burns & Russell Co., and BBR International, Inc.; Construction Products, Chemical Manufacture, Fire Retardants, and Silica Additives,

Licensing of Technology; Past Board Member St. Joseph's Hospital, Baltimore County, Past Board Member, PCMA.

**Education:** Juris Doctor, University of Baltimore School of Law; Master in Business Administration; Carey School of Business, Johns Hopkins University; BA, Hobart College.

**Greatest professional achievement:** Inventing and patenting novel chemical compounds. Several years later, DuPont Research entered into a license to use this patented technology for their telecommunications cable.

**Greatest personal achievement:** Marrying my wife and raising three outstanding children

**Guiding philosophy in Life:** Give any challenge and opportunity your best effort and be guided by civility and an open mind, and sensitivity to the needs and wants of others.

**Favorite pastime activities:** Gardening, sailing, materials science, and travel.



**Ambrose M. Richardson III, Esq.**  
Assistant General Secretary

**State Society:** New York

**Year Joined:** 2008

**Previous SR Offices:** SRNY Board of Managers; Society Treasurer; Society 1<sup>st</sup> VP; Society President

**Occupation:** Attorney

**Education:** Harvard College; Harvard GSAS; UVA; Harvard Law School

**Greatest personal achievement:** Educating three wonderful kids.

**Greatest professional achievement:** A) Keeping alive the company that built the microprocessor for the Apple II and Commodore 64 (first viable personal computers); B) Making mortgage-backed securities legal.

**Guiding philosophy:** A) Love your neighbor; B) trust movement only. "Life happens at the level of events, not of words. Trust movement." – Alfred Adler.

**Favorite pastime:** Diminishing my overall ignorance.





**Louis A. (Buzz) Carmichael**

General Treasurer

**State Society:** Kentucky

**Year Joined:** 2001

**Previous SR Offices:** President, KY Society; Chairman, GSSR Investment Committee

**Occupation:** Equity Sales, VP Capital Markets of an R&D Company

**Education:** BA, Hobart College; MBA, Mt St Mary's; MSM, Frostburg State

**Greatest personal achievement:** Marrying a great woman and having four kids

**Greatest professional achievement:** Saving lives and making people a lot of money

**Guiding philosophy:** You have to know it or be exposed to it first. Then you can preach it or reject it later on.

**Favorite pastime:** Drinking wine, smoking cigars with scotch, sharing good conversation



**H. Edward Phillips III, Esq.**

Assistant General Treasurer

**State Society:** Tennessee

**Year Joined:** 2013

**Previous SR Offices:** This is my first office in the SR.

**Occupation:** Attorney, licensed in Tennessee since 1994; North Carolina since 2002; member of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States since 2006.

**Education:** B.A. in History, Univ. of Tennessee (1990, Magna Cum Laude); J.D., Univ. of Memphis (1994).

**Greatest personal achievement:** The day I entered Holy Matrimony with the wonderful Janna Mugumova, to whom I have been married almost nineteen years.

**Greatest professional achievement:** Being sworn in before the Supreme Court on Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's final day on the bench.

**Guiding philosophy:** To live a faithful life dedicated to serving my fellow man and hoping that in some small way I have made a difference.

**Favorite pastime activity:** My favorite activity besides spending time with my wife and our son Alex (not to mention our Beagle, Pete) is reading, writing and researching history and genealogy.



**Ronald W. Fenstermacher, Jr., PC**

General Solicitor (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)

**State Society:** Pennsylvania

**Year Joined:** 1996

**Previous SR Offices:** PSSR President, Vice President, Counselor, Assistant Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, Manager, and Delegate to GSSR; GSSR Solicitor (2015-Present)

**Occupation:** Lawyer - sole practitioner in trusts & estates, taxation and nonprofits

**Education:** Washington & Lee University, BA; The Dickinson School of Law, JD; Villanova School of Law, LLM (taxation)

**Greatest personal achievement:** Enduring army basic training at age 30

**Greatest professional achievement:** Achieving a result for a nonprofit client that multiple experts advised was impossible

**Guiding philosophy:** do unto others as you would have others do unto you; always try to do what you feel is right; do that which is honorable

**Favorite pastime activity:** spending time with my family; tennis, riding, reading history



**Jefferson Moak**

General Registrar (6<sup>th</sup> term)

**State Society:** Pennsylvania

**Year Joined:** 1990

**Previous SR Offices:** General Registrar, partial term 2000; General Registrar, full terms in 2000, 2003, 2012, and 2015; Pennsylvania Registrar, 2002-2018

**Occupation:** Professional genealogist and retired.

**Education:** B.A., History, Randolph-Macon College (1974); M.A. History, Temple University (1998)

**Greatest professional achievement:** During my first term as General Registrar, compiling the first



comprehensive accounting of all GSSR members since 1883. Since returning the office of Registrar in 2012, I have continually updated and upgraded this database so that it meets the various needs of the General Society. In 2017, this database replaced the previous database used by the General Society for membership.

**Greatest personal achievement:** My family, and accepting the trust of others to fill important positions in various genealogical, historical and lineage organizations.

**Guiding philosophy:** Always look at the bright side of life, as well as both sides of an argument.

**Favorite pastime activity:** Singing, genealogy and bicycling



**David H. Dickey**  
General Historian (3<sup>rd</sup> term)

**State Society:** Georgia

**Year Joined:** 1992

**Previous SR Offices:** President, Georgia Society; Region 3 General Vice-President; Historian, Georgia Society

**Occupation:** Attorney, Partner at Oliver Maner LLP, Savannah, GA

**Education:** Attorney, B.B.A with dual degrees in Accounting and in Finance; Masters of Accountancy in Taxation, University of Georgia Graduate Business School; Juris Doctor, University of Georgia, School of Law (Law Review); Certified Public Accountant, Arthur Andersen & Co.; Accredited Estate Planner (“AEP”)

**Greatest personal achievement:** Father of David Bradford Dickey and Carolyn Amanda Dickey

**Greatest professional achievement:** Election to American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (“ACTEC”); President of the Savannah Estate Planning Council

**Guiding philosophy:** “A winner never quits, and a quitter never wins.” “Trust but verify.” Remember the Golden Rule

**Favorite pastime activity:** Studying history, politics, philosophy, economics & genealogy and participating in heritage organizations



**George Clayton Ames III**  
General Chaplain (4<sup>th</sup> term)

**State Society:** Pennsylvania

**Year Joined:** 2006

**Previous SR Offices:** General Chaplain

**Occupation:** Presbyterian Clergyman

**Education:** Lafayette College, Easton, PA; New College, University of Edinburgh, Scotland; Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ; Harrington University, London

**Greatest personal achievement:** Preaching for the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall, Philadelphia, January 2007

**Greatest professional achievement:** Working with National Guardsmen and their families through three deployments since 9–11–01

**Guiding philosophy:** I am an unabashed and unreconstructed Christian

**Favorite pastime activity:** Singing, baseball (the Phillies), rugby football



**Dr. Roland S. Summers, M.D.**  
General Surgeon (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

**State Society:** Georgia

**Year Joined:** 1978

**SR Offices Held:** GA Society President, 2016; GA Society 1st VP, 2014–2016; GA Society 2nd VP, 2012–2016; General Surgeon, 2006–2012; 2015–2021

**Occupation:** Physician

**Education:** AB – John Hopkins Univ.; MD – Northwestern University

**Greatest personal achievement:** Father of five children

**Greatest professional achievement:** President, Medical Association of Georgia; President, Georgia

Board of Licensure

**Guiding philosophy:** A pound of prevention prevents a ton of trouble.

**Favorite pastime activity:** Opera, Photography, Grandchildren





**Robert R. Van Gulick, Jr., CPA**  
General Captain of the Color Guard

**State Society:** Pennsylvania

**Year Joined:** 1981

**Previous SR Offices:** Pennsylvania Society, Captain of the Color Guard; Past Treasurer and Past Vice President, Pennsylvania Society; Past Assistant General Treasurer, GSSR

**Occupation:** Certified Public Accountant - Senior Director at RSM US LLP.

**Education:** Bachelor of Sciences in Finance and Accounting, University of Delaware

**Greatest personal achievement:** Marrying my wonderful wife, Amy, and having two beautiful daughters, Elizabeth and Emily.

**Greatest professional achievement:** Being promoted to Partner at KPMG, LLP, one of the Big Four accounting firms, and retiring after 28 years of service. Also receiving the firm's Chairman's Award for Community Service.

**Guiding philosophy:** "Happiness is not getting what you want, but wanting what you've got." (Sheryl Crow)

**Favorite pastime activity:** Enjoying the beach at our home in Lewes, Delaware.



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**Board of Managers Meeting  
October 4th-6th, 2019**



**The Westin Richmond  
6631 West Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23230  
(804) 282-8444 - (888) 627-7786**

**Room Rates: Standard King \$145/night**

**Friday Oct. 4th:**

**Check-In  
Registration 4:00pm - 6:00pm  
Cocktail Reception**

**Saturday Oct. 5th:**

**Registration 8:00am - 9:00am  
Continental Breakfast 8:00am - 9:00am  
Meeting 9:00am - 3:00pm  
Lunch Provided  
Buckhead's Coat & Tie Dinner 6:00pm  
Sat. Activity for Wives & Guests TBA**

**Sunday Oct. 6th:**

**Church Service followed by Sherry 8:30am**



# State Reports

GEORGIA



Eating roasted oysters at the Landings Yacht Club, Savannah

## Annual Oyster Roast

In early December, as the days turned crisp in Savannah, the Georgia Society gathered for its annual oyster roast and barbecue. It was held at Landings Yacht Club. Members and guests were treated to 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 sits on reclaimed land, built up by more than a hundred years of discarded shells from previous shucking operations.

Oyster roasts are a popular part of Southern culture and take place during the cooler months in the South and Southeast. Oyster roasts are almost always held outdoors and people will stand shoulder-to-shoulder at a table and “shuck” as many as they can eat while drinking a cold beer. It becomes a social event. Oysters can be prepared in a number of different ways, but steaming them is the most traditional.



Steven Westgate

After our Society members and guests enjoyed some wonderful oysters, we heard from Second VP Brig. Gen. Steven Westgate (Ret), who gave a talk on the *USS Constitution*. Also known as ‘Old Ironsides,’ the famous naval frigate was named by George Washington and features 44 guns and three masts. First launched in 1797, the vessel performed admirably during the Barbary Coast conflicts, but she is most noted for her actions during the War of 1812, when, against the United Kingdom, she captured numerous merchant ships and defeated five British warships.

Some of her most outstanding commanders were: Capt Edward Preble (1803-04); Capt Stephen Decatur (1804); Capt William Bainbridge (1812-13); and Capt Charles Stewart (1813-15). The *Constitution* was retired from active military service in 1855 and has been based in Boston since 1934.

## Commemorating the Siege of Savannah

On October 9, 2018, the Georgia Society of the Sons of the Revolution participated in the 239th annual commemoration of the Siege of Savannah during the Revolutionary War. To celebrate, the Georgia Society Color Guard joined with other military heritage societies before dawn to march its colors to the battle ground. Many of the participants dress in period uniforms with muskets, flags, and drums. At the battle ground, a larger gathering of patriotic societies presented wreaths in memory of the brave soldiers who lost their lives on that spot 239 years ago.

The 1779 Siege was a significant battle in historical importance and in terms of the blood-letting. The *(New) Georgia Encyclopedia* lists nearly 1,100 killed on the Patriot side, including about 650 French troops, while on the British side only about 40 were killed and 63 wounded. These figures make it the second-most lethal battle of the war (after Camden). It was the second instance of French naval action in the American Revolution (following the Battle of Rhode Island) and the first such instance in the South.

A humiliating loss for France, the Siege coalesced support for Britain in Georgia and other Southern colonies for a year or better as many colonists began to doubt the Patriot cause. Yet the Redcoats could not sustain a permanent advantage through changing circumstances. The French navy struck again at Yorktown, which, combined with the allied army, was a complete vindication for France and the Patriot cause.—text submitted by President Frank Hardeman, III; photos by David H. Dickey



Annual Commemoration of Siege of Savannah





Actor Gary Alan Sinise in 2017, at the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Sinise is an honorary Chief Petty Officer and an honorary Marine.

## Chapter Awards Established

The Ensign William Bates Chapter of the Kentucky Society has launched two new commendation awards to: 1) honor outstanding veterans of war (from any era), and 2) honor those who do an outstanding job serving veterans today. The Wall of Honor calls out individuals from all branches of the U.S. military who demonstrate/d unyielding courage, commitment and patriotism in the field.

The Chapter has already announced three names for the Wall of Honor in 2019, with others to be announced as the year progresses. The three individuals are: Julian C. Wills, US Army; Gene Porter Fouts, US Navy; and Pattie King Jackson, US Air Force.

The other commendation, which is the Ensign William Bates Chapter Distinguished Service Award, recognizes individuals who have gone to lengths supporting and honoring veterans and first responders (and their respective families) by providing housing, nutrition, education, and other needed services.

The Chapter recognizes actor Gary Alan Sinise for his devoted work serving veterans through multiple channels, including via the Gary Sinise Foundation and his Lt. Dan Band. The Chapter, under the leadership of President Jackie Miller, provides framed certificates to all award winners. —Editor



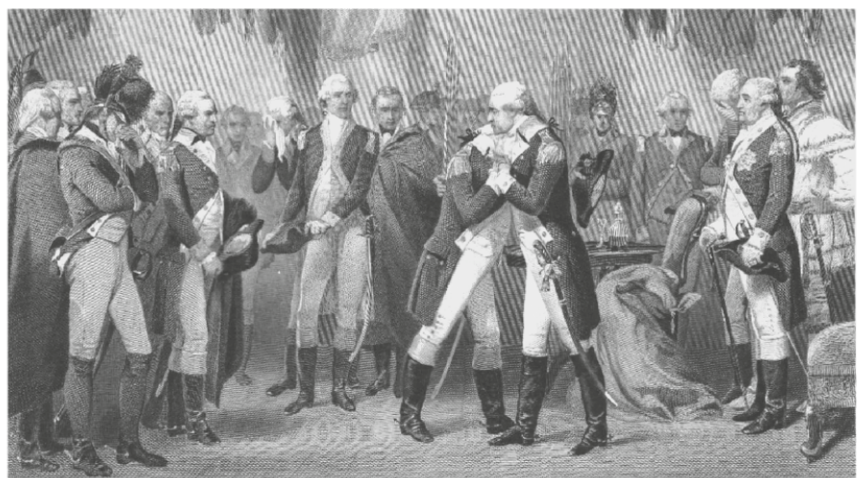
L-R: Incoming Society President Edward Church Bush, Outgoing President Clifford Jackson III, and General President Dr. Laurence Simpson.

## Annual Meeting and Officers Election

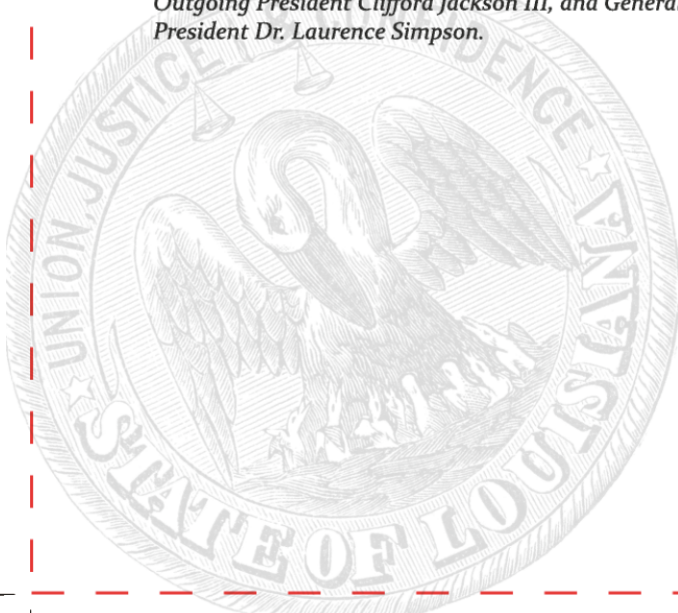
The Louisiana Society convened its Annual Meeting in late November at the uptown New Orleans home of incoming Society President Edward Church Bush and his wife, Cindy. The meeting's date coincided with the anniversary of General George Washington's farewell to his officers 235 years ago, December 4, 1783, in the Long Room of the Fraunces Tavern.

Attendees were treated to hors d'oeuvres and a buffet of New Orleans-style cuisine prepared and catered by Laura Arrowood Catering. Outgoing President Clifford Jackson III was congratulated for having superbly revived the Society's social agenda during the last two years. Joining incoming Society President Bush are Dr. Robert Hewitt as 1st VP and William Sewell as 2nd VP.

General President Dr. Laurence Simpson was the special guest, on hand to officiate the swearing-in of new Society officers. Dr. Simpson spoke of his ideas to further develop membership in the Sons of the Revolution, all well received. —submitted by Past President Cliff Jackson



Steel engraving, "Washington's Farewell to his Officers," by Alonzo Chappell (1857).







*Adjunct Professor and former Marine Marlon Moran.*

## Year-end tribute to George Washington

In early December, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Maryland gathered at the Engineers Club in Baltimore for the Society's annual luncheon tribute to George Washington. The day's arrangements were made by Tom Shettle and Charles Morgan, who acted as master of ceremonies.

The program's speaker was Marlon Moran, who gave an insightful presentation on Washington's approach to education and learning. Members concurred Mr. Moran was one of the best lecturers we've had to date. It was also the largest attendance on record for the Washington brunch.

A Marine Corps veteran, Mr. Moran immigrated to the United States from Guatemala as a child. In 2002, after receiving his bachelor's degree, he began teaching in the Frederick County public schools. He subsequently earned a master's degree and began teaching American history at Frederick Community College as an adjunct professor. He is also an alumnus of the Mount Vernon Teacher's Institute and in 2013 earned the Charles E. Tressler Distinguished Teacher Award.

Mr. Moran noted that Washington's level of education was far lower than any of the other Founding Fathers. His older half-brothers were formally educated in England but upon the death of his father in 1743, George's formal schooling ended and he had to run the family farm. The future first President then took it upon himself to become self-educated in as many ways as possible. He read numerous books and is said to have copied the 110 maxims for gentlemanly etiquette from the *Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior*.

He also received additional training from his beloved half-brother Lawrence, who encouraged in him an interest in topography. Lawrence also hired a professional surveyor to teach George basic math and surveying. The overall theme of Mr. Moran's presentation was the critical importance of education in one's life, in society at large, and in national interests.

## 56th Annual French Soldiers Monument Ceremony

On October 18, 2018, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Maryland convened for the fifty-sixth annual wreath laying ceremony at the French Soldiers Monument at St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. The SRMD was joined by a number of dignitaries, Naval Academy representatives, and other patriotic societies for the solemn occasion.

General President Emeritus M. Hall Worthington of the Maryland Society once again served as emcee. Hall was joined by co-chairmen Russell Rich and Charles Morgan, and by Col. (R) James McMahan Jr., the ceremonial commander of troops. Participants included a contingent of Midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy, representatives from the French Embassy, musketeers from the Maryland State Society of Sons of the American Revolution, and a number of government officials and state and national patriotic society representatives.

For the first time in memory, children of the Naval Academy Primary School also participated and sang *La Marseillaise* and the *Star-Spangled Banner*, the respective national anthems of France and the US.

This yearly event dates from 1962, although 2018 marked the 107th anniversary of the monument's unveiling. Design and construction of the monument was sponsored by the GSSR, and it was unveiled on April 10, 1911 before a multitude including President William Howard Taft and French Ambassador Jean J. Jusserand.

In a 1924 letter, Ambassador Jusserand described the monument as the first in the world designated to unknown soldiers. That detail merits repeating: Members of the Sons funded the world's first monument to unknown war dead.

Located on the back-campus of St. John's College, it marks the vicinity where in mid-September 1781 several thousand French troops succumbed of heat exhaustion while on march to Yorktown, Virginia. The French made an encampment nearby to bury their dead. The exact number of individuals and their identities remain unknown.

## Brandywine Valley Excursion

On May 17-18, 2018, a Thursday and Friday, SRMD members toured the Brandywine Valley (southern Chester County, Pennsylvania and northern New Castle County, Delaware) and visited several sites of interest and historical importance there.

The first stop was the Hagley Museum and Library, located in Wilmington, Delaware. Encompassing 235 acres along



*The French Soldiers & Sailors Monument, Annapolis.*





*The du Pont Estate, Eleutherian Mills.*

the banks of the Brandywine Creek, the Hagley Museum is the site of the black powder works founded by E. I. du Pont in 1802. The Brandywine Mills (early du Pont Company) became the largest maker of black powder in the United States. Almost all the major products developed and manufactured by the du Pont Company in over two hundred years are on public display here.

The museum's namesake predates the arrival of the du Ponts in this area. Historians believe Philadelphia Quaker merchant Rumford Dawes, who acquired property there in 1783, later named his land Hagley on the Brandywine. The name stuck.

Adjoining the museum is Eleutherian Mills, home to five generations of the du Pont family in America. Built in 1803 by E. I. du Pont, the Georgian-style house features antiques and du Pont family memorabilia. The estate's French-style gardens which E. I. du Pont designed still exist in full splendor.

Just seeing Hagley took most of the day Thursday. Following that, members retired to the hotel for cocktails and off to a fabulous dinner. On Friday, many took the opportunity to visit Valley Forge. There is an excellent museum and educational film at Valley Forge, the latter a Pennsylvania Society-sponsored project. After watching the PSSR video, most of the group took the well-designed driving tour throughout the park.

Highlights included seeing Washington's Quarters as well as the impressive GSSR-sponsored statue of Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene, adjacent the Washington Memorial Chapel.—*text and photos from the SR Intelligencer newsletter*



*Longfellow's Wayside Inn, Sunbury*



*“One Autumn night, in Sudbury town,  
Across the meadows bare and brown,  
The windows of the wayside inn  
Gleamed red with fire-light...”*

*“As ancient is this hostelry  
As any in the land may be,  
Built in the old Colonial day,  
When men lived in a grander way,  
With ampler hospitality;”*

*-- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

On November 30, 2018, the Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts revived a year-end tradition of joining with the Society of Founders and Patriots for a shared Christmas Gala. Held at Longfellow's Wayside Inn in Sudbury, the occasion marked the first time in over a decade that our Society participated in the formal dinner and dance.

More than 50 members and guests attended and were treated to the live sounds of Jazz in the Air, a local jazz band trio. The historic venue was memorialized in the lines of Longfellow's poem, reproduced above. In his book *Tales of a Wayside Inn*, published in 1863, Longfellow not only wrote about the Inn, but also included his famous "Paul Revere's Ride."

The Inn was founded in 1716 by David How(e), an ancestor of many of our members. The business was licensed and began as a four-bedroom home catering to travelers on the old Post Road heading west out of Boston. Originally known as How's Tavern, the Inn was operated by four generations of the same family, including Ezekiel Howe, a Lieutenant Colonial in the Revolutionary War. The latter Howe led the Sudbury Minute and Militia to Concord on April 19, 1775.

Today, Longfellow's Wayside Inn is the centerpiece of the Wayside Inn Historic Site, a Massachusetts Historic Landmark on the National Register of Historic Places. —*text and photos submitted by Society President Shervin Hawley*



*Longfellow's is the oldest operating Inn in the United States.*





## Constitution Day Luncheon

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota met on September 22, 2018, at Jax Café in Minneapolis. The event was the annual Constitution Day Luncheon, held jointly with the Minnesota Society Sons of the American Revolution.

Society President Larry Sisk presided, with the invocation given by Society Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher. A total of fifty-one members and guests attended. The only business was the approval of the minutes of the special meeting held September 23, 2017, which had been sent by email to all in attendance. It was moved and seconded to approve them as printed.

The luncheon program was a fine presentation entitled, "The Revolutionary War and the Battle of Germantown," by Michael David Moses. Mr. Moses is a retired Episcopal priest, historian, and Marine Corps veteran. His presentation was enjoyed by all. Afterwards, the colors were retired and the meeting adjourned. —submitted by Society Secretary Duane LCM Galles



SRNJ President Michael Bates with NJCAR President Sheila DeLorean.

## An Active Schedule for SRNJ

The New Jersey Sons were very active over the summer and fall, hosting or participating in various events to promote public awareness of SRNJ and its mission. The summer began with two events on Flag Day, June 14. Benjamin Strong served as emcee of the 2018 Mercer Oak Award Reception, a fundraiser organized by the Board of Trustees of the Princeton Battlefield Society. Proceeds from this benefit were earmarked for signage that guides visitors to the Princeton Battlefield State Park.

At the second event, Howard Thomas attended Revolutionary Spirit Night at TD Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater and represented the Society at the evening's many activities. This event was co-sponsored by the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area, with which SRNJ partners.

On August 5 Society President Michael Bates attended the New Jersey State Society Children of the American Revolution annual picnic at Washington's Headquarters in Morristown. On behalf of SRNJ, he presented C.A.R. President Sheila DeLorean with a check for \$500 in

support of her project, "Flying Back to the Future." This project is raising funds to attach a solar-charged battery satellite transmitter to a juvenile eagle nesting in New Jersey, in order to study its migration habits.

As reported earlier, the Society's quarterly Board of Managers meeting was held on September 15 at which the formation of a new chapter was authorized to cover Hunterdon County in western New Jersey. The chapter has been named the General Daniel Morgan Chapter in honor of Hunterdon County's most famous native son. Earlier that same day, SRNJ held a joint outing with the Younger Members Committee of the PSSR to visit the historic

sites associated with the Battle of Trenton on December 26, 1776.

## SRNJ and PSSR

Organized by Past President Charles Scammell, the outing began at the state park in Washington Crossing, where participants watched the film "Of Dire Necessity" at the Visitor's Center. Historical interpreter Tom Maddock then lectured on the famous Christmas night crossing of the Delaware River and led a brief walking tour of the Village, highlighted by a visit to the Durham Boat Barn. After a short drive to the Old Barracks in Trenton and a light lunch, author and historian Larry Kidder gave a detailed presentation on the events of the battle after the troops had crossed into New Jersey. A special tour of the Old Barracks closed out the event.



SRNJ at the DAR marker ceremony for Pvt. Garrett Probasco.



Author and historian Larry Kidder speaking on Battle of Trenton.





*The 46th Annual Princeton-Dartmouth tailgating social.*

III hosted the 46th annual tailgate social in the parking lot adjacent to Princeton Football Stadium. BG Dean, as customary, provided the special recipe whiskey sours, while members and their spouses and guests provided various sandwiches and appetizers.

The outing saw a record turnout to watch the Princeton-Dartmouth football game, where both teams were coming in undefeated. Special guest Gary Nordlinger III, President of the DC Society, had the honor of holding the flag in our group photo. After the game, won by Princeton, many reconvened at the Nassau Club for continued socializing and dinner.

—photos and text submitted by Society President Michael Bates

In late summer and early fall, members represented the Society at several special events of the New Jersey State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. We were present at the NJDAR Fall State Meeting in Princeton, a special marker ceremony recognizing Pvt. Garrett Probasco, sponsored by the Old White House-General Frelinghuysen-Colonel Lowrey Chapter, and the 125th Anniversary of the Camp Middlebrook Chapter.

In other related news, through the efforts of Past President Glen Beebe, the Society sponsored the Fall 2018 Lecture Series hosted by the Old Barracks of Trenton, where presentations of historical books are given by the authors. Finally, on November 3, Past President BG Guy Dean



## NC Society Garner Two Awards

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of North Carolina (SRNC) sent a delegation of three to the 43rd Triennial Meeting of the GSSR held in Franklin, Tennessee, in early October.

Attending were Director Allen James, President Gus Succop, and Vice President Randall Sprinkle. The Society received two awards on Saturday evening during the closing banquet: The Trent Trophy and the Richard Farmer Hess Award. The Trent Trophy is awarded to the best overall performing/operating Society in three categories: large, medium, and small-size.

The Richard Farmer Hess Award is likewise bestowed on a large, medium, and small-size Society that demonstrates outstanding leadership. For 2015-2018, the two neighboring Carolinas won the Richard Farmer Hess Award in their respective divisions. The N.C. Society awards reflect the excellent work done by Past President Dan Hopping, along with the team of key State Officers and Board members which he directed during his period in office.



*L-R: Allen James, Gus Succop, and Randall Sprinkle at the Triennial Awards Banquet.*

## 2018 Yorktown Luncheon

The SRNC held its Annual Yorktown Luncheon on October 27th at the State Club in Raleigh. We had a large crowd, great food, and great fellowship. Our program was on “The Revolutionary War in the Backcountry,” given by History Professor Hugh Dussek, Ph.D., of Central Piedmont Community College. Professor Dussek, from England, gave a very informative and entertaining presentation on the war in the North Carolina



*The Society won a Trent Trophy at the recent Triennial for overall excellence.*





*President Gus Succop presents the Past President medallion to Dan Hopping.*

backcountry, with many new perspectives on the times.

At that event, Society President Gus Succop presented Past President Dan Hopping with his Past President's medal. President Succop and Registrar John Harman also welcomed six new members, four of whom represented three generations of the Tribble family. In 2018, the North Carolina Society grew by ten percent, and it is our goal to double our size within five years.

Color Guard Commander, Scott Kennedy awarded Color Guard member Hollis Posey with the SRNC Liberty Medal for his service. Our Color Guard is very active and we consider it to be the face of the SRNC since it is what most people see of our organization. It performs in about a dozen patriotic events each year and has a recruiting booth at a major NC State Historic Site each Memorial weekend.

### **Wreaths across America Ceremony**

In mid-December, the Society co-hosted the Wreaths across America Ceremony at Raleigh National Cemetery on December 15th. The SRNC co-hosted this event with the Cleveland High School Junior ROTC, led by LTC. Carol Redfield. Colonel Brent Orr was the speaker. The ceremony started promptly at noon with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem. North Carolina President Emeritus Dan Hopping laid a wreath for all the soldiers of the Revolution.

At the end of the ceremony, the SRNC Color Guard fired a volley and performed Morn Arms as Taps were played. The volley was performed with period-correct Flintlocks, in spite of the rain. The SRNC Color Guard includes Commander Scott Kennedy, Albert Hopping, Dan Hopping, Hollis Posey, and Harley Walker.

### **Davidson Chapter Social**

On Dec. 22, the Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson Chapter held a Holiday Social at Brio Restaurant in the South Park area of Charlotte. Members of the SAR and DAR added to the twenty-three attendees, all of whom toasted the season of Christmas. Two new members, Frank Highley, who has transferred from the SRVA, and Wells Van Pelt, were recognized along with their wives. Chapter officers David Boggs (VP) and Gus Succop (Pres.) expressed greetings to the gathering on behalf of the SRNC.—text and photos submitted by Past President Dan Hopping and Society President Gus Succop

*The SRNC Color Guard performs Morn Arms at Raleigh National Cemetery for Wreaths across America.*







## SRSC Wins Triennial Award

We are proud of having been named the recipient of the GSSR Richard Farmer Hess Award 2015-2018, given out during the 43rd Triennial Meeting convening in Nashville, Tennessee in early October. The Hess Award is given to a deserving small, medium, and large-scale State Society that has demonstrated leadership excellence in terms of its operation and management.

The award was created in 2000, in honor of then-retiring Editor and Publications Chair Richard Farmer Hess. Richard was a Life Member of the New York Society and also belonged to the Pennsylvania Society. He served the Sons in numerous ways and was made Editor of its publications in 1985, a job he shared with his second wife, Jay Hess.

At the Nashville Triennial, outgoing South Carolina Society President Ivan S. Bennett was given a GSSR Presidential Commendation for Endeavors in Education. This commendation goes to a member who shows leadership in commemorating our American heritage and patriot-ancestors both in the Society and out.

## A Two-Day Annual Meeting

Friday and Saturday, November 9-10, 2018, the South Carolina Society held its Second Annual Membership Election Meeting. It was a special event, given that it occurred over a two-day period and given it was held at the Fairfield County Museum in Winnsboro.

On Friday evening, Society Past President Dr. Jack A. Meyer hosted a

social for members and their guests at his home in Winnsboro. "We are very grateful to Dr. Meyer," said outgoing President Ivan Bennett. "It was a wonderful opportunity for fellowship."

The business meeting got underway Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. A number of members and their guests were in attendance, and everyone had a chance to be introduced and recognized. The main item on the agenda was the election and installation of new State Society officers.

The following slate of officers was moved, seconded, and approved: Tom Weidner, President; Albert Futtrell, Vice President; Dan Woodruff, Secretary; Ivan Bennett, Treasurer; Charles Swoope, Registrar; Tom Hanson, Chaplain; Tom Weidner, Historian; Color Guard Capt, William Suggs; and Solicitor, Matthew Breen, Esq.

Prior to adjournment, outgoing President Ivan Bennett presented Certificates of Appreciation to Tom Weidner, Tom Hanson, and John Fitzgerald for their significant contributions to the Society during the 2016-2018 period.

## Revolutionary War History

Following the meeting's adjournment, attendees heard a presentation on the Revolutionary War in Winnsboro from a museum staff member, and later we all convened for lunch at the Cornwallis House Tea Co. in the Winnsboro's Old English District. As the home is currently not open to the public, owners Jenny and Don Praser graciously invited the Society into their home for lunch and a private tour.

It is a historical fact that British General Lord Cornwallis used this home as his headquarters during the "Winter of Discontent," October 1780-1781. The Commander of British forces chose Winnsboro as a good place for winter encampment because it offered advantages for supplies and was a strategic location between the British strongholds of Ninety-Six and Camden.

Several other houses in town were commandeered by British officers during that winter, and troops are documented as having occupied the campus of the Mt. Zion Institute across the street from the Praser home.

Following the war, in 1797, the house was deeded to Revolutionary War hero and distinguished soldier, Captain John Buchanan. In 1777, Capt. Buchanan had been the first Patriot military officer to greet and entertain General Marquis de Lafayette upon the latter's arrival to Georgetown, Virginia.—submitted by Past President Ivan S. Bennett



PHOTO BY TOM HANSON.

The Society's Richard Farmer Hess Award 2015-2018.



Ivan Bennett hands the gavel to Incoming President Tom Weidner.

PHOTO BY TOM HANSON.



SOURCE: WWW.CORNWALLISTEA.COM

Historical residence of Jenny and Don Praser, proprietors of Cornwallis House Tea Co.





General President Dr. Laurence S. Simpson stands with VSSR delegates and wives at the recent Triennial Meeting.

## Fall Events of the VSSR...

The Virginia Society Sons of the Revolution maintained a busy fall calendar that featured social events and important recognition of historical dates and persons. On September 29, 2018, the Society participated in a wreath-laying for Edmund Jennings Randolph, whose remains are located in the Old Chapel Cemetery, a.k.a. Burwell Cemetery, in Millwood, Virginia.

Randolph studied law and was an Aide-de-Camp to General Washington during the Revolution. In 1776, he became the first mayor of Williamsburg and the first Attorney General of the Commonwealth. Following the war, he served the United States as the nation's first Attorney General and its second Secretary of State, positions to which Washington had appointed him.

He was an influential Delegate to the Annapolis Convention of 1786 and the Constitutional Convention of 1787, where he introduced the Virginia Plan and was a member of the Committee on Detail charged with framing the first draft of the Constitution.

In early October, the VSSR Board of Managers and their



Edmund Jennings Randolph

wives attended the 43rd Triennial in Nashville. Past Society President Matson Roberts as Outgoing General Treasurer was given a strong ovation for his lengthy contributions to serving well the GSSR. After the Triennial, Society President Bev Mauck and Board member Mark Jakobowski represented the Sons at the annual Yorktown Day celebrations on October 18.

In November, it was time for our Society's Fall Oyster Roast. Held jointly at the Wilton House in Richmond in conjunction with the Colonial Dames and the Society of Colonial Wars, we were blessed with perfect weather for the event which featured non-stop oysters along with barbeque pork & chicken and delicious side dishes, desserts, and refreshments – all while overlooking the James River. Turnout was terrific, and the Fall Oyster Roast was yet again a huge success.

In between all of these things, VSSR Membership Director Scott Brussels organized happy-hour recruiting events that have proven to be a success in our recruitment efforts.

## ... and then celebrating a Wedding

Then, in December, Society members came together in classic style to formally celebrate the holidays as well as the Dec. 8 nuptials of Board Member Nick Almond and Meriwether Mauck, the eldest daughter of Society President Bev Mauck. The wedding took place at All Saints Episcopal Church in Richmond, followed by a reception at the Country Club of Virginia. What a celebration it was! Congratulations to all.

—Submitted by Mark Jakobowski, VSSR Board of Managers



Celebrating a wedding with fraternal solidarity.



Nick Almond and Meriwether (Mauck) Almond.



# Patriot Chronicles

## Bush Patriot-Ancestors from East Tennessee

*George H. W. Bush was as much at home in East Tennessee as he was in Texas and New England. In 1990, when the President accepted an invitation to speak at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, a reporter with the Knoxville Sun Sentinel welcomed him “home” by writing a piece about two of his 4th great-grandfathers, who were early settlers in Blount County and heroes of the Revolutionary War. The article states, “Both William Gault and Jonathan Weir played significant roles in the history of East Tennessee and the nation.” The following vignettes pull information from that article and other sources.—Editor*



### Jonathan Weir

The Jonathan Weir from whom the late President descends was one of the several sons of Hugh Weir and his wife, Margaret, of Augusta County, Virginia. His father was an immigrant from Enniskillen, Ireland. Jonathan was born 1750-1760 in Virginia, and died in 1832 in Blount County, Tennessee.

Five of the seven sons fought at the Battle of Kings Mountain on October 7, 1780. They were: Samuel Weir (captain), John Weir (captain), James Weir, Jonathan Weir, and Joseph Weir. Jonathan was an enlisted. They were part of the 400 men under Col. William Campbell that mustered at Abingdon, Virginia and marched southward to Sycamore Shoals ( Elizabethton, TN) and then over the mountains into fame and glory.

As such, Jonathan undoubtedly came into contact with Gen. John Sevier and Col. Isaac Shelby. Private Weir, who was in David Beatie's company, was probably among those who saw the fiercest action at Kings Mountain. The Virginians reportedly took the brunt of Patriot injuries and casualties in that famous battle during which British Major Patrick Ferguson was shot dead out of his saddle.

In the same year as that battle, Jonathan Weir married Mary (Polly) Pettus, daughter of William Rankin and Sarah Moore. By 1807, Jonathan received a land grant in Blount County of 533 acres, 2 rods, and 15 poles along the headwaters of Pistol Creek, south of the French Broad River. Jonathan and Mary had at least nine children, including Margaret “Peggy,” Nancy, Betsy, James, Hugh, Samuel Jasper, Jonathan, Eliza, and Polly.

### William Gault

William Gault was born in Ulster, Ireland and immigrated to the United States in the mid-eighteenth century. He and his wife, Margaret, were among the first settlers of Tennessee. They were living in Blount County by 1796, the year Tennessee became a state. The *Sun Sentinel* article states, “Gault was regularly one of the first to muster in the battles against the Cherokee. He helped [Sevier] defeat the Indians in a remarkable series of campaigns from Knoxville to Rome, Ga., that finally brought the peace pipe to East Tennessee in the late 1790s.”

Like Jonathan Weir, William Gault was awarded a land grant of hundreds of acres after he retired from the wars, a wounded veteran. Gault went on to become a prominent citizen in Blount County, marrying Rebecca Coffey and with her bringing thirteen children into the world. He is thought to be buried in an unmarked grave at Baker's Creek United Presbyterian Church cemetery, in Blount County.

This William Gault is listed in the First Families of Tennessee official register as being born in Ireland. After it was proven that William Gault was an ancestor in the late George H.W. Bush's maternal lines, the President himself personally made a formal application along with 13,000 other U.S. families to the East Tennessee Historical Society when the First Families of Tennessee register was being drawn up.



# BATTLES *at a Glance*

## Barren Hill

**Date of Battle:** May 20, 1778

**Location:** Barren Hill, about 12 miles from Philadelphia, in Whitemarsh Township.

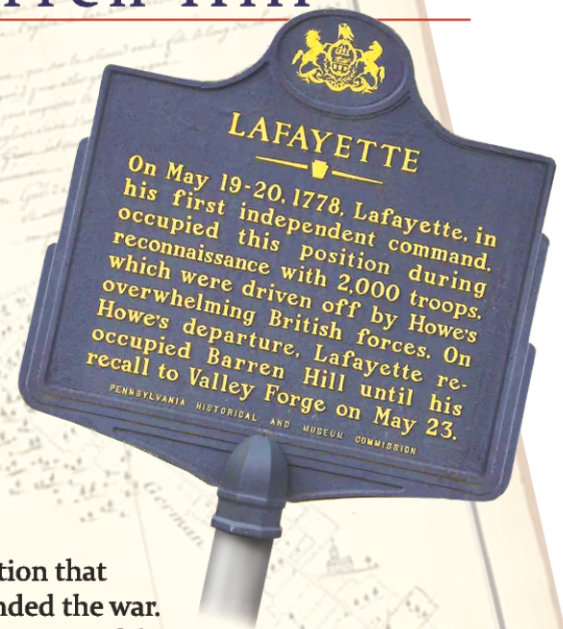
**Patriot Commander:** Marquis de Lafayette, leading 2,200 men.

**Opposing Commander:** Maj. Gen. James Grant, leading 8,000 men.

**Objective:** Initially, the British wanted to surround Lafayette's entire expedition that had marched out of Valley Forge, which would have effectively ended the war. Lafayette learned of their desires, however, and was able to lead a successful retreat.

**Outcome:** By sending in a small contingency including Oneida Indians to face and engage the British army, Lafayette fooled the enemy and created the opportunity for the Continentals to safely retreat back to Valley Forge. Washington called his move "timely and handsome."

**Casualties:** Very minor on both sides



SOURCE: LOCALCEMETERIES.NET



*The grounds where Lafayette's men faced the British*

As the horrid winter of 1777-78 gave way to spring, George Washington ordered the Marquis de Lafayette to lead more than 2,000 men from Valley Forge toward Philadelphia to reconnoiter British intentions and fowl British detachments that were foraging the surrounding area. Washington expected some type of movement from the British, but it wasn't clear what that might entail.

When Lafayette's train had reached Barren Hill, about halfway to the city, he encamped there. Meanwhile, the Redcoats had learned of the young Frenchman's moves and that very night sent out an army nearly four times as large. Early the following day, Lafayette learned of the British advances. Had they been successful at surrounding Lafayette's troops, it would surely have crushed the Patriot drive for independence.

Lafayette assigned five hundred soldiers and approximately fifty Oneida Indians armed with cannon to face the British onslaught and stand their ground on the backside of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, while he himself and the rest of his army fled west over a hidden path which the British didn't know about and crossed back over the Schuylkill at Matson's Ford.

The retreat cost the lives of six Oneidas, including a tribal sachem, Thomas Sinavis. While Lafayette and the larger army fled the scene, the Oneida engaged in woodland warfare tactics which included war cries that confused and intimidated the enemy. Today a plaque honors their sacrifices. The Battle of Barren Hill was a small skirmish, but with huge repercussions. George Washington called Lafayette's retreat "timely and handsome." More than 240 years later, some observers call this the most spectacular instance of an army's retreat in all of American history.

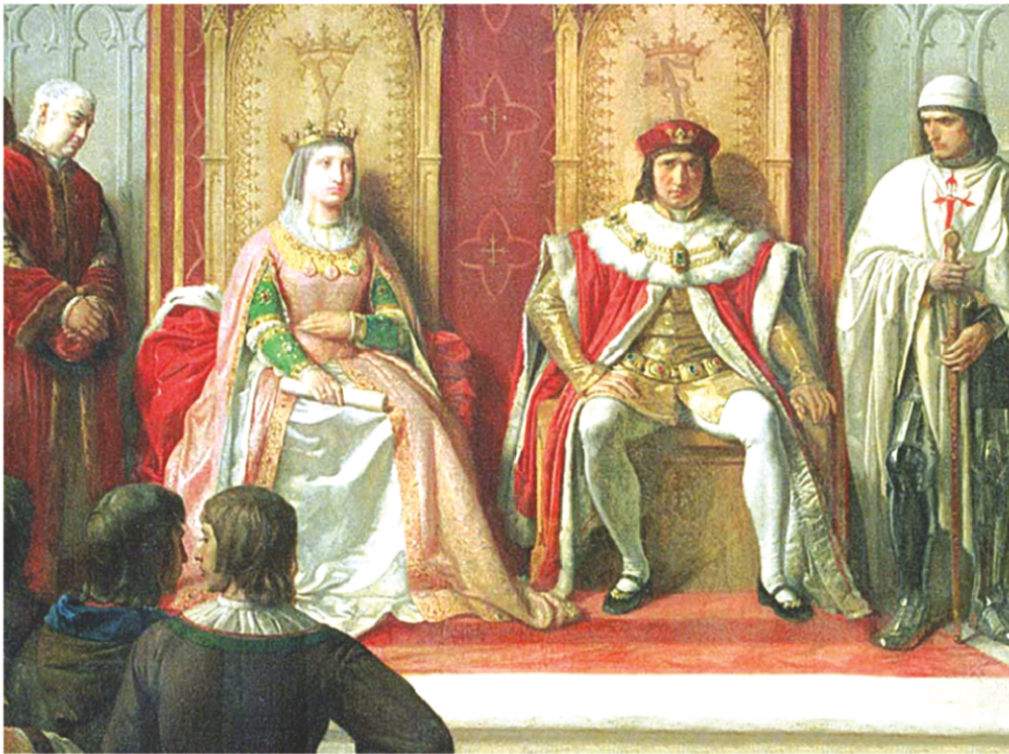


*Lafayette leads the retreat*



# Sephardic Jews Influence Early Americas

By David W. Swafford, Editor



*Court of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella*

**N**ow that Spain and Portugal have brought the Sephardic diaspora to a symbolic close by offering citizenship to descendants of the Jews who fled Iberia centuries ago, it is worth reflecting how that long-ago exodus impacted early American history.

Be sure it did.

When Moorish rule gave way to Catholic rule in the Iberian Peninsula (1238-1492), a period of bloody pogroms ensued against both Muslims and Jews. The late 1300s were particularly violent for non-Christians living there. As a result even 700 years ago, the western Sephardi (Jews from Spain and Portugal) began an odyssey that came to influence the United States.

During the era of Islamic Spain (711-1492), the Jewish community there thrived. The authorities welcomed Jews and Christians

because they were charged a poll tax which Muslim residents were not; therefore, government-led conversions were slow to proceed. Although considered second-class citizens, Jews and Christians were free to worship according to their traditions. Jews from Europe, Africa, and the Middle East flocked to Iberia. The diversity of the population made Iberia wealthy and sophisticated. Trade, business, architecture, fashion, and the arts flourished. Jews and Christians communicated in Arabic. Some in both religions converted to Islam.

The Moors imported to Spain and Portugal a rich intellectual tradition from the Middle East and North Africa, including knowledge of mathematics, science, and philosophy. Advances in farming techniques and new crops, introduced by the Arabs and including new irrigation practices, led to a remarkable expansion of agriculture.

## The End of the Innocence

But most of these progressive aspects of Moorish Spain evaporated when the Christians regrouped in the northern-most reaches of Iberia and reconquered the Peninsula. By the time that King Ferdinand of Aragon and Queen Isabella of Castile married, Catholicism was chosen as the state religion and their armies were charged with vanquishing those people who were not Catholic. The monarchs were intent on destroying the cultural diversity that had been the hallmark of the previous age. Cultural diversity was viewed by them as a potential liability for the longevity of their reign.

Beginning in 1478, the Inquisition in Spain was established as a tribunal to bring heretics to justice. In practice, it became a legal platform to institutionalize the torturing and killing of "New Christians" who feigned adherence to Catholicism in public, but privately still worshipped according to their former traditions. The policy was further strengthened by the royal decrees of 1492 and 1502, which ordered Jews and Muslims to convert to Catholicism or leave Spain. Any



non-Christians that remained in Spain but did not convert risked being burned at the stake. It was ancient history repeating itself; Jews had faced such policies before.

Hence, thousands migrated to Portugal beginning in 1492. The Portuguese monarchy had been traditionally more tolerant. (But) when King Manuel I of Portugal decided he wanted to marry the eldest daughter of Spain's Ferdinand and Isabella, in 1496, the Spanish monarchs insisted he expel all the Jews from Portugal first. Thus, in December of that year, King Manuel signed the decree of expulsion of Jews and Muslims to take effect by the end of October of the next year. After that period, any remaining in Portugal would be forced to convert to Christianity.

By the time of Portugal's King John III, thousands of New Christians lived in that country. But, as he was intent on improving relations with the Vatican, he agreed in 1536 to institute the Inquisition in his country. The development helped relations with Spain, too. It meant that in Portugal, as in Spain, there would be brutal torturing and worse commenced in the name of the Church. Both the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions were imposed not only in Iberia, but throughout their vast colonial holdings as well. Before coming to an end (1821 in Portugal; 1826 in Spain), the Inquisitions had targeted even Protestant Christians. In the meantime, the Sephardic diaspora continued.



Wood engraving of a T. Robert Fleury painting.



Post Card (c. 1910) of sugar cane in Madeira.

settled there that an island economy developed.

Throughout the ages, in many parts of the Mediterranean, Jews had a monopoly on processing and trading sugar. It would be no different in Madeira. Sugarcane production began there in 1455, with the help of imported African slaves and advisers from Genoa and The Netherlands. By 1480, some seventy ships were engaged in sugar transport between Madeira and Antwerp. Both ends of the trade were largely controlled by Sephardi, with the refining and distribution concentrated in the latter port city. By the 1490s, Madeira had surpassed even Cyprus as a producer of sugarcane.

The next century, however, saw a big change. Brazil would surpass Madeira in sugarcane production. Jewish experts were recruited to the large Portuguese colony to assist in developing the technical aspects of the trade. A Sephardi community took hold in Recife, but, for the most part, Jews did not migrate to Brazil in any appreciable number until after the Dutch seized political control of the northeast coast.

## New Holland

In 1630, the Dutch West Indies Company (WIC) invaded a coastal zone of Brazil, from approximately Fortaleza in the north to the estuary of the São Francisco River in the south. Their intention was to gain control of the richest sugar-producing sector in the world, the state of Pernambuco. They called this territory "New Holland" and would hang onto it for the next twenty-four years, despite numerous military incursions with the Portuguese.

During that time, a much greater number of Jews migrated to Recife and other towns to establish themselves in sugar refining or just to openly worship in their own faith without fear of persecution. Flemish authorities allowed the construction of the Kahal Zur Israel Synagogue in Recife, between 1635 and 1640. Yet everything changed when Portugal

## An Island Oasis—Madeira

Many of the Sephardi that left Iberia re-settled elsewhere in Europe, including France, the Netherlands, Poland, and the Balkans. They fled to North Africa, too, particularly Algiers and Morocco. Some moved to the Ottoman Empire, while still others went to the Portuguese island of Madeira—some 500 miles off Morocco's coast and 300 miles north of the Canaries.

Jews began arriving to Madeira in 1420. The island was a natural stopping place in inter-Atlantic trade routes. Although Madeira had been discovered and visited by various peoples long before the fifteenth century, it was not until the Sephardi and others





recaptured control of the region in 1654. As the Dutch receded, the Jews fled. This time, they either went back to The Netherlands or settled in and around the Caribbean. In the latter geography, the Sephardi were instrumental in introducing sugarcane production and milling in Barbados, Jamaica, Monserrat, and Guadalupe. They also went to Dutch Guiana and Curacao.

Just as Brazil had overcome Madeira in sugarcane production, the Caribbean isles and periphery would soon overtake Brazil. Although Jews fulfilled key roles in the pioneering of sugarcane production and refining in the Americas, their involvement as plantation owners and slave traders was on a smaller scale compared to non-Jews, although it did happen.

Meanwhile, the Portuguese gave the Flemish and Jewish colonists six months to exit Brazil. Authorities lent the departing groups a fleet of Portuguese ships. Historical reports indicate that all the ships reached their various destinations safely, save one. That lone vessel, the *Falcon*, was captured by a Spanish captain; its passengers and crew were detained in Cuba. After several weeks spent there, authorities released the Dutch "Calvinists" and twenty-three of the "New Christians" and placed them aboard a French vessel, the *St. Catherine*, bound for New Amsterdam (New York City).



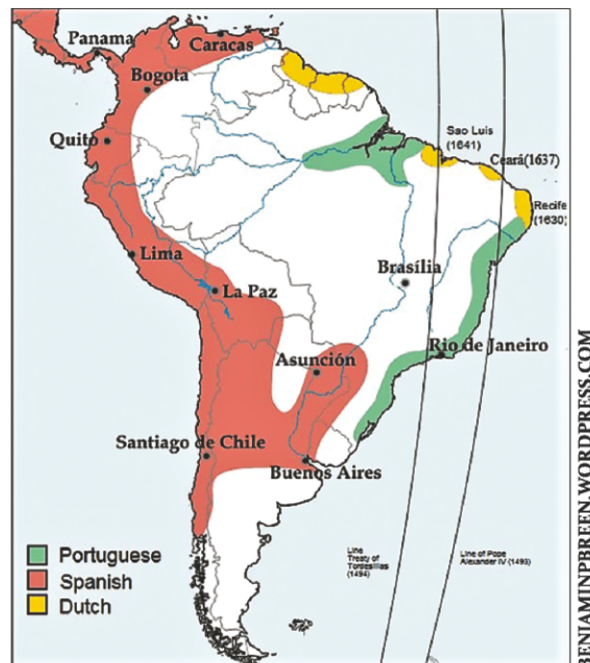
Peter Stuyvesant

Those twenty-three individuals represented the first significant numbers of Jews in the colony. But troubles began upon their arrival. These refugees could not pay for their passage. The captain of the *St. Catherine*, Jacques de la Motte, filed suit in court against them to recoup their share of his expenses. When they were unable to meet his demands, two heads of Jewish families were imprisoned as hostages until funds to pay the debt could be obtained.

Another immediate obstacle was Director-General of New Amsterdam, Peter Stuyvesant. A self-righteous tyrant, "Peg-Leg" Stuyvesant was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church and did not want to accept the Jewish refugees into his colony, just as he did not want Lutherans, Quakers, or Catholics to settle there.

He tried to expel the twenty-three from the colony but was rebuked by the WIC. The company's directors, which included Jews, admonished Stuyvesant and called his desire "unreasonable and unfair." Religious pluralism in The Netherlands was already a tradition, and it had naturally spilled over to Recife, Surinam and New Amsterdam, among other Dutch colonies.

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South American colonies, c. 1650.

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## Synagogue-Cities

New York's Congregation Shearith Israel was founded soon after the arrival of those refugees. According to the Tamid's website, Jews were given official permission to settle in the colony in 1655, which marks the founding of the Congregation Shearith Israel. For years the Congregation was not given permission to worship in a public synagogue. Its first synagogue was not consecrated until April 1730; however, its first cemetery was founded in 1656.

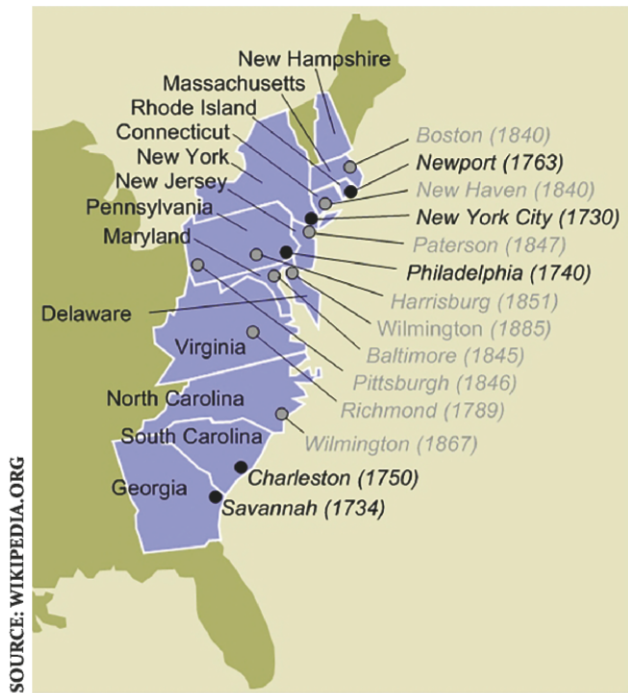
In British-occupied New York, hazzen Gershom Mendes Seixas was the spiritual leader of Shearith Israel. After the British forces took New York, Seixas courageously led many congregants to Philadelphia, where a significant number of the men joined the Continental Army. Before leaving, Seixas saved the Congregation's Torah scrolls, which were damaged by British soldiers. The damaged scrolls made it back to New York and are maintained in the Synagogue today.

Elsewhere along the Atlantic seaboard, Sephardi formed communities in Newport, Philadelphia, Charleston, and Savannah. They came to America from Europe as well as from the Caribbean, with Jews from the islands migrating to the warmer climates of southeastern coastal cities.

The community at Newport, like that of New York, was founded early on. Records indicate a Jewish presence there since 1758. Given that Rhode Island was from the beginning an "oasis of tolerance," the Jews in that city encountered a golden age soon after their arrival. Jewish businesses thrived. Unfortunately, the Revolutionary War dispersed that community and it did not come back. In the beginning, Newport Jews conducted service in private homes until Congregation Jeshuat Israel was established in 1759. Its synagogue, Touro Synagogue, dates from 1763 and is the oldest existing synagogue in the country. In much of the nineteenth century no Jews lived in Newport, so the ownership of the building and synagogue were entrusted to Congregation Shearith Israel.

Sometimes the presence of Sephardic Jews pre-dated the migration from Brazil and the Caribbean. For example, a list





Earliest synagogues in colonial America.

of inhabitants of Virginia as of February 16, 1623, includes several Spanish and Portuguese surnames, with the inference being that they were Jews that had fled Europe.

Farther south, Sephardi began to settle in Charleston as early as 1670. This came after the adoption and distribution of the Fundamental Constitutions of Carolina (March 1, 1669). Article 97 of the Constitutions indicated Carolina would be a refuge of religious freedom and its subjects should demonstrate tolerance to non-Christians. Jews helped build the city's early prosperity.

In post-Revolution years, Charleston evolved into the largest Jewish community in the young country. By 1810, some 500 Jews contributed significantly to the cultural and economic advancements of the city. Yet for all of the prosperity, the coming of the Civil War halted further progression. Just as happened in Newport, war displaced the Jews of Charleston. The Jewish community there, and the city as a whole, did not recoup to the level it had been for years.

The number of Ashkenazi Jews from Eastern Europe surpassed the Sephardi population in America by 1720, although there was cooperation between them. For years the Ashkenazi worshipped according to Sephardi liturgy and customs. This was due largely to there being just one synagogue in each major city.

So how did these Jews influence early American culture? They contributed as shopkeepers, traders, merchants, and brokers, among other things. They brought with them Mediterranean tastes, customs, and intellectual pursuits. But beyond all that, their mere presence tested the fabric of religious freedom in what became the United States.

*This concludes Part I of the early influences of Sephardic Jews in the Americas. Part II in the next issue of the Drumbeat will focus on Jewish involvement in the American Revolution.*

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