



Drumbeat

with *Flintlock & Powderhorn*

News of the Sons of the Revolution

Volume 28 Number 3

Fall 2010



All Eyes on Maryland for September Meeting

The Board of Managers Meeting to convene in Baltimore on September 16–19, 2010, is a terrific opportunity for members to mingle with GSSR officers and learn more about the Society. It is also a chance to build friendships, enjoy touring the area, and take part in SR traditions.

On pages 7–10, the Society of Maryland has arranged an interesting, informative description of the special tours that are part of the event. For members making this trip, it is suggested to go early and stay late—so that the state's history and natural resources can be fully appreciated.

There is a little bit of everything in the Old Line State. That's because in the two-hundred-plus miles from Hagerstown in the northwest to Ocean City on the lower Eastern Shore, Maryland encompasses a wide array of geographic diversity: mountainous terrain, rolling farmland, inland waterways, the Chesapeake Bay estuary, and the seaside. There's also Assateague Island, a 37-

Continued on page 7



Harbor front, Annapolis, Maryland



Claude Harkins displays an original 13-star flag made in 1781 by a captured American seaman at Old Mill Prison, England.

Photo credit: Editor

Renowned Collector Joins the SR

Claude Harkins is a man of American treasures and a treasure of an American man.

His home is a veritable museum of Revolutionary era artifacts, much of it related to George Washington. He has a bronze of the Washington bust by Jean-Antoine Houdon. He has china dishes and wine glasses the General used. Then there's the locket of the Commander's light reddish hair, the 100 long strands valued at more than \$200,000.

Whenever Mr. Harkins is not collecting, the retired CEO is either researching or writing. When he makes a presentation to school children, assisted-living facilities, or patriotic groups, he does so with authority—and at no charge. This year alone, he's spoken to 1,500 students.

Recently this winner of the DAR's Medal of Honor joined the Kansas City Chapter of the Missouri Society and spoke at the Chapter's 115th anniversary meeting.

For more details, see page 16.

**A Garden Party in the Garden State, page 17.
Read All About It!**

LET FREEDOM RING

By Curtis P. Cheyney III, Esq.



The Pennsylvania Sons of the Revolution (PSSR), on July 4, 2010, held its 41st “Let Freedom Ring” ceremony at Independence Hall, Philadelphia. The PSSR has taken great pride in producing the annual patriotic celebration, one of the oldest and continuous events of the Society and the only July Fourth patriotic event in the city.

This year’s event began with a luncheon at the Society Hill Sheraton. PSSR President Benjamin C. Frick, Esq., introduced GSSR President Terry Davenport as an honored guest.

After the luncheon, the PSSR Color Guard, under the leadership of Captain W. Steven Mark,



Above, the PSSR Color Guard arrives in Washington Square, behind Independence Hall.

paraded colors from the Sheraton to the park behind Independence Hall, several blocks away.

More than thirty-six guardsmen participated in the parade. On that day, they presented the Society’s colonial flags which represented the regiments of the members’ ancestors who served the patriot cause. The Old Barracks Fife and Drum Corp led the parade, playing Colonial music as a call for all to take note and attend the procession.

The magnificent display of flags made the moment particularly patriotic and inspiring for all who attended.

An estimated five hundred spectators, including Philadelphia residents and visitors, came to see the 90-minute ceremony, despite the 100° heat. Some of the spectators sought relief from the heat under the large canopy of oak trees in the park behind Independence Hall and under the watchful eye of Commodore Barry, whose statue is the centerpiece of the park.

Philadelphia photos courtesy of PSSR, except where noted.



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l-r: David Eisner, President and CEO, National Constitution Center, Lanny Patten, Ann Patten, and Curt Cheyney.



PSSR President Benjamin C. Frick speaks in the Society Hill Sheraton courtyard.

President's Message

"Keep the Faith!"

One of my great friends and mentors in the Sons of the Revolution always used to encourage me by telling me to KEEP THE FAITH! Invariably, it would be when we were engaged in some project and when circumstances did not seem the best. He would say, "KEEP THE FAITH, Terry! NEVER GIVE UP THE SHIP! KEEP THE FAITH! Find a way to make it happen and it will happen!" As I travel around the country and witness so many great events and projects, I am reminded of this great admonishment to KEEP THE FAITH!



l-r: John Glynn, SR member and General President of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence; Allyson Davenport; Merry Ann Wright, National Daughters of the American Revolution President General; and GSSR President Terry Davenport at the 19th DAR Continental Congress in Washington, DC.

This spring and summer, I have attended fantastic events in Raleigh and Charlotte, NC, Briar Thicket and Kingston, TN, New York City, Philadelphia, and Washington, DC and I am aware of events which have occurred in other states as well. I want to thank each of you for all of the many hours of hard work that you are doing to make these events successful! You are making a tremendous difference not only for the good of the Sons of the Revolution, but also for the good of America!

One great event planned for the fall is the upcoming Board of Managers Meeting in Baltimore which is set for September 16th-19th (see page 7). I would like to encourage each member to give serious consideration to attending this meeting. It is a great opportunity to meet other members from all across the United States and to learn more about the Sons of the Revolution!

Please keep up the great work you are doing and may we all KEEP THE FAITH as we strive to keep alive the memory of George Washington and our Founding Fathers! ■

Terry L. Davenport

Military Academy Cadets Receive SR Awards

The Sons of the Revolution each year recognizes two outstanding senior cadets of the nation's military academies. The SR Annapolis Cup is awarded to the Naval Academy Midshipman with the highest achievement in Naval Weaponry and Systems Engineering. The Knox Trophy Award, presented by the New York Society, is reserved for the West Point graduate ranking highest for military efficiency.



This year, the Annapolis Cup went to Midshipman First Class Kiel A. Reese of Hummelstown, Pennsylvania. Mr. Reese graduated with honors in Systems Engineering. He was to begin Basic Marine Corps Officer Training (Ground Option) at Quantico, Virginia, starting in July. Maryland Society President Frank Shriver and Lancaster Chapter GSSR Regent Joseph Frantz presented the award in May.

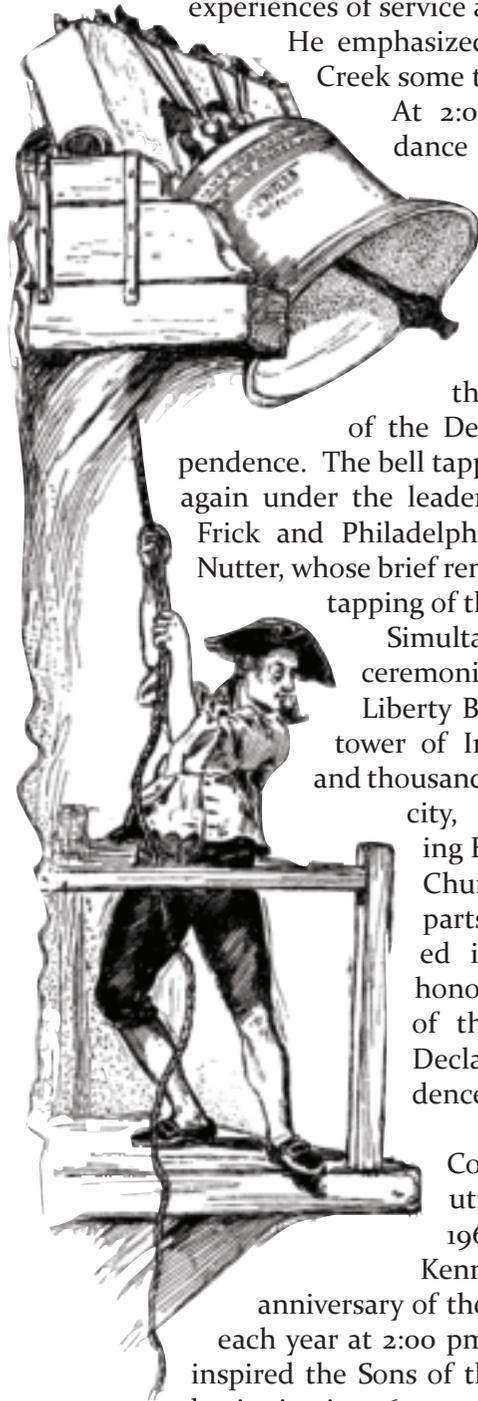
The Knox Trophy Award is named in honor of General Henry Knox, the first U.S. Secretary of War. It is the oldest award given to a graduating cadet at West Point; this year marked the award's centennial anniversary. On May 21, General Treasurer Philip Coombe III presented the award to Nick Reisweber of Cortland, New York, a chemical engineer and new second lieutenant. ■

—Editor

Let Freedom Ring Ceremony, Philadelphia

Continued from page 2

Mr. David Eisner, the newly installed President of the United States Constitution Center in Philadelphia, was the guest speaker. In addition to Mr. Eisner's presence, a re-enactor appearing as Colonel Marquee de Lafayette provided a historical presentation by recounting his experiences of service alongside General George Washington and accompanying troops. He emphasized the Battle of Brandywine, which occurred along Brandywine Creek some thirty miles southeast of the center of Philadelphia.



At 2:00 p.m., in accordance with the US Congress resolution of 1963, the Liberty Bell was ceremonially tapped by eight young descendants of the actual signer's of the Declaration of Independence. The bell tapping ceremony was again under the leadership of President Frick and Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, whose brief remarks preceded the tapping of the bell.

Simultaneously with the ceremonial tapping of the Liberty Bell, the bell in the tower of Independence Hall and thousands more around the city, country (including Boston's Old North Church), and some parts of the world joined in the ringing in honor and celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The Concurrent Congressional Resolution of June 26,

1963, was adopted less than two weeks before President John F. Kennedy visited Independence Hall. The resolution declared that the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence should be observed each year at 2:00 pm (EST) by the ringing of bells throughout the United States. It inspired the Sons of the Revolution to inaugurate the "Let Freedom Ring" celebration beginning in 1969.

The celebration this year marked the 234th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence which was signed at Independence Hall, where the delegates, by their signatures, pledged their lives, fortunes and sacred honors to win liberty and freedom for all Americans, without any "exit strategy" but victory. ■



The Watson Highlanders, l-r: Dr. William Watson, IV, his daughter, Laura, Frank Watson and Tom Conner.

Photo by SusanScovill.com, ©2010



The PSSR Color Guard begins the procession to Independence Hall.



l-r: Terry Davenport, John Glynn, and Ed Butler pause inside Independence Hall.

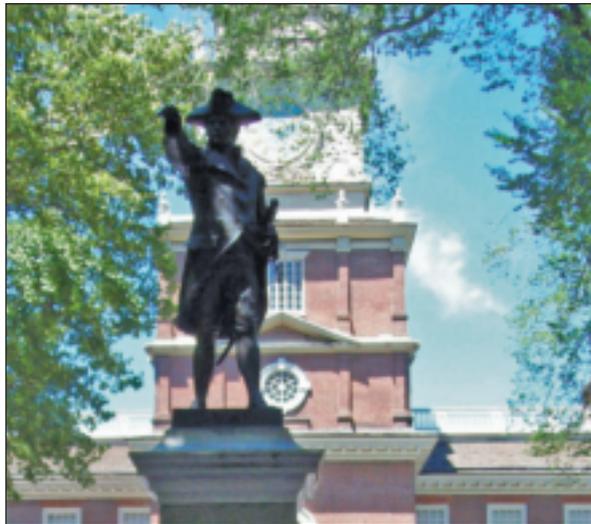
Let Freedom Ring Ceremony, Philadelphia



l-r: In front of the Liberty Bell, Shannon Davenport, GSSR President Terry Davenport, Kathryn Glynn, SR member and General President of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence John Glynn, Robin Butler, and SAR General President and SR Member Ed Butler.



l-r: Shannon Davenport, GSSR President Terry Davenport, PSSR President Benjamin C. Frick, Robin Butler, SAR General President and SR Member Ed Butler, Ann Patten, and PSSR Secretary Lanny Patten.
 Photo by SusanScovill.com, ©2010



A statue of Colonial Naval Commander John Barry dominates Washington Square.

Let Freedom Ring Invocation

Offered by the Rev. Dr. George Clayton Ames, III

Almighty and ever-gracious God, we give you thanks for this day of national celebration. We remember those who risked their lives and their livelihoods for the cause of Independency. We give you thanks for the freedom that is our heritage and all the freedoms we enjoy. Bless our land with honest industry, sound learning, and an honorable way of life. Save us from the sins of violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Make us who come from many nations with many different languages a united people. Defend our liberties and give those to whom we have entrusted with the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace on our land. Confirm, we pray, our dedication to the Great Principles of our founders for a more perfect union, for we ask it in the Most High name of Him who is and who was and who will be.

~Amen

Let Freedom Ring Ceremony, Philadelphia

"Hallowed be the day, forever bright its memory
in the heart of the Nation.
Sing to it, poets;
shout to it, freemen;
celebrate it with bonfires, parades, and triumphant
assemblies"

—*Daily Alta California, 4 July 1855*

In Philadelphia, the Fourth of July is not just an occurrence, nor is it just another holiday. In the City of Brotherly Love, July Fourth is bigger than Thanksgiving, bigger than Christmas, and bigger than Easter. It is an 11-day event and highlight of the summer.

This year marked the 234th birthday of the United States of America. To honor the occasion, Mayor Michael A. Nutter and other local dignitaries on July 4 gathered at Independence Hall at 10 a.m. and paid tribute to the earliest days of the colonies. Then at 11 a.m., the city's famous July Fourth Parade kicked off in Center City, the nostalgic heart of this thriving old urb. After the parade, Philadelphians gathered at the Liberty Bell Center for the annual bell-tapping ceremony.

By 2:00 p.m., descendants of the signers of the Declaration of Independence symbolically tapped the old bell thirteen times, indicative of the thirteen original colonies. Just at that hour, thousands of bells across the country and around the world participating in satellite programs rang out in celebratory unison. ■

—*Editor*



In 1776, four days after the Declaration of Independence was ratified, Colonel John Nixon read it to the public at Independence Hall. On July 8, 2010, INHP Park Guide John Wayne re-enacted the event.

Photo courtesy of NPS



Fireworks explode over Philadelphia's Museum of Art.

Photo by R. Kennedy for GPTMC

Grace at Luncheon

July 4, 2010 — Philadelphia, PA
Offered by Curtis P. Cheyney, III, Esq.

Lord, on this Fourth of July, we take a humble look back on our history in grateful remembrance of all the bounty and blessings of heaven bestowed upon us these past 234 years, and we thank you for your promises given in Holy Scripture. Our leaders have forgotten their past and have ignored your promises and warnings; this Fourth of July, Lord, cause righteous leaders to arise from the nation, bless the people again with peace and prosperity, and let it be again said, without fear or apology, that our Lord—and not man nor government—has granted the unalienable rights of freedom and religious liberty.



We beseech you, bless our men and women of the armed forces of this nation, who serve to protect our liberties from those enemies who would steal them from us; protect us from all false religions and the leaders who would seek to do us harm, and grant us quiet and peaceable times. Let honesty and truth abound once again, and may it be said all across this land that our motto is: In God We Trust.

Bless and look with favor, we ask you, upon our Society and its undertakings that seek to honor those of our ancestors who have served and have been faithful to our founding principles, and to those of our leaders and members who are serving now. In all these requests, and for whatever you know we may have need of, we bless you and thank you in Jesus' name.

~Amen.

Maryland



Board of Managers Meeting, continued from page 1

mile long barrier island famous for its beautiful beaches, wild ponies, and abundant birds. Culturally speaking, western Maryland is part of Appalachia while the Southern and Eastern Shore regions embody the South. Central Maryland, in contrast, has more of the feel of the urban Northeast.

Early History

Despite Maryland's Protestant majority, the colony of Maryland was initially established to be a haven for English Catholics. The first Roman Catholic cathedral in the United States was built in Baltimore, and that city also was the seat of the first Catholic bishop in the U.S. (1789). Georgetown University, the first Catholic University in America, was founded the same year in what was then Maryland territory.

For the military history buff, Maryland was the site of two famous battles in American history. During the War of 1812, the British attempted to capture the port of Baltimore, which was protected by Fort McHenry. It was after this overnight bombardment of the fort that Francis Scott Key witnessed the Stars & Stripes still waving the next morning and penned what became our National Anthem (see Tour #1).

Fifty years later, on September 17, 1862, armies of the North and South met on the western fields of Maryland and engaged in the Battle of Antietam—the single bloodiest day of the American Civil War. After nearly 23,000 soldiers fell dead upon the landscape, the battle drew to a standstill with no clear victor.

Today, Baltimore is the eighth-largest port in the U.S., and the state's average per capita income

level is among the highest in the country. Maryland is a major center for life sciences research and development. With more than 350 biotechnology companies located there, it is the third-largest center of that kind in the United States. Defense and aerospace, computer manufacturing, agriculture/fishing, higher education, and the federal government all represent a significant presence in twenty-first century Maryland.

Enjoy your stay! ■

—Editor

Tour No. 1 – Thursday (Sept. 16, 2010)

9 AM–5 PM: Registration

10 AM–6 PM: B&O Museum, Mt. Clare Mansion, Lunch & Ft. McHenry (optional)

7 PM–9 PM: Welcome Reception & Buffet

9 PM–11 PM: Hospitality Room

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Museum

At the B&O Railroad Museum, you can explore forty acres of historic locomotives and the nation's first commercial railroad track. This museum contains the oldest, most historic and comprehensive American railroad collections in the world.

Come take a round trip ride along the first mile of railroad track, recognized as the birthplace of American railroading. The first 1.5 miles of main-line railroad right of way in the U.S. carries visitors to the site where the first stone of the B&O Railroad was laid on July 4, 1828 by Charles Carroll of Carrollton, last living signer of the Declaration of Independence. SR members and their guests will enjoy an exclusive train ride to Mount Clare.

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Scenes from the B&O Railroad Museum

Mount Clare Museum House

Mount Clare, the 1760 Georgian mansion of Charles Carroll, interprets 18th century life, with an outstanding collection of Carroll family furniture and decorative arts. Known as “the Barrister,” this Charles Carroll was one of the Patriot drafters of Maryland’s first constitution adopted in 1776. He was a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1776 and again in 1777. He also served on Committees of Correspondence (1774) and Safety (1775). He was a cousin to Charles Carroll of Carrollton.

Fort McHenry National Historic Monument

It was early autumn 1814. Napoleon was exiled on Elba and the British were now free to punish the upstart Americans. After burning the nation’s new capital, they turned their ships north to Baltimore, “that Nest of Pirates!” At 7 a.m. on the morning of September 13, 1814, the bomb vessels *Volcano*, *Meteor*, *Terror*, *Devastation*, *Aetna*, and the rocket ship *Erebus* fired upon Fort McHenry.

The bombardment lasted all day and was joined by sixteen frigates during the night. A total of 1,500 bombshells were hurled at the fort. The bursting bombs illuminated the fort and its flag in the night sky. The shelling stopped before daylight and there was a mysterious silence. When daylight came on the morning of the 14th, Francis Scott Key raised his spyglass and saw the American flag with its 15 stars still flying from the flagstaff of the fort.

Tour No. 2 – Friday (Sept. 17, 2010)

- 8 AM–5 PM: Registration
- 8:30–11:30 AM: First Business Session
- 11:30–1:30 PM: Lunch
Region 2 Presentation
- 2:15–5 PM: State House & USNA Museum
- 6–9 PM: Dinner on your own
- 9–11 PM: Hospitality Room

Maryland State House

The beautiful Maryland State House is the oldest state capitol still in continuous legislative use and is the only state house to have ever served as the nation’s capitol. The Continental Congress met in the Old Senate Chamber from November 26, 1783, to August 13, 1784.

During that time, George Washington came before the Congress to resign his commission as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army and the Treaty of Paris was ratified, marking the official end of the Revolutionary War.

Extensive repairs and improvements made to the State House in 1948 included repairs to the dome, plaster work in the rotunda, new elevators, new HV/AC, and plumbing work. In 1966, the old Senate Chamber was restored but needs additional renovation.



U. S. Naval Academy Museum

The Museum’s exhibits, documents, and works of art demonstrate the Navy’s role, in war and in peace, in defending and preserving the ideals of our country and mankind. The exhibitions and related research are reminders of our naval heritage—a long record of loyalty, integrity, and service to the nation.

The museum originated as the Naval School Lyceum, established in 1845 under the Academy’s first chaplain. The permanent museum building opened in 1939.

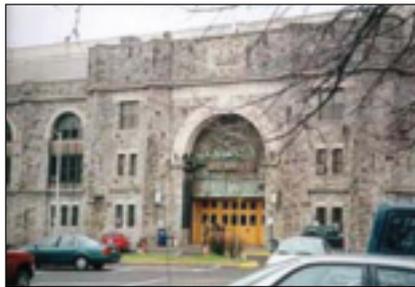


Tour No. 3 – Saturday (Sept. 18, 2010)

- 8 AM–12 PM: Registration
 8:30–11:30 AM: Second Business Session
 12–5 PM: Maryland Military Museum,
 Lunch & Hampton Mansion
 6–7 PM: President's Formal Reception
 (cash bar)
 7 PM–1 AM: Formal Banquet

**Maryland Museum of Military History
Fifth Regiment Armory**

This museum is located in one of the nation's oldest and most historic armories, and contains items of interest from before the Revolutionary



War to the recent conflicts in southeastern Europe.

The 175th traces its lineage to 1774. The lineage of the Maryland

National Guard (MDNG) goes back to the founding of the state in 1634. Located at the armory is the MDNG Museum, the only military museum in Baltimore City.

Hampton Mansion

The construction of "Hampton" was begun in 1783 by Captain Charles Ridgely (1733–1790). His Northampton Iron Works, which are located on the estate, supplied iron implements, arms, and ammunition to the American army as well as privateers during the Revolutionary War. Ridgely owned a fleet of merchant ships, which transported raw iron and cash crops to Europe in exchange for finished goods. His home was a showplace of America's new mercantile success. It is topped with a large cupola and had terraced gardens and clipped borders of English box. Ridgely's holdings in Baltimore county totaled 24,000 acres.

**Sunday (Sept. 19, 2010)**

- 9–10 AM: Worship Service by
 Maryland & GSSR Chaplains
 10–11 AM: Farewell Sherry in the
 Hospitality Room

**Baltimore Board of Managers Meeting
(September 16–19, 2010)**

BWI Airport Marriott
 1743 West Nursery Road
 Baltimore, MD 21240

Group Name: Sons of the Revolution

Reservations: Marriott Reservations
 (800) 228-9290 or (410) 859-8300
*Please identify yourself as
 part of the Sons of the Revolution.*

Special Room Rate: \$120.00/night, plus
 taxes, single or double

Room Block Cut-off Date:
 Friday, Aug. 28, 2010

Check-in Time: 3:00 p.m.

Check-out Time: 12:00 p.m.

Parking:

Complimentary parking is available.

Transportation:

Complimentary shuttle service between
 the BWI Airport and the Airport Marriott.
 Complimentary Light Rail Train to and
 from the Inner Harbor. Service is available
 every 15 minutes between 4:00 a.m. and
 1:00 a.m.

Questions/Contact:

M. Hall Worthington
 Home: (410) 923-2443
 Cell: (410) 382-0479
 Email: hworthing@juno.com



General Society Sons of the Revolution
Board of Managers Meeting
September 16–19, 2010
Baltimore, Maryland

Your Name _____ State Society _____

Address _____

Telephone and Email address _____

Highest Past or Current Office Held _____

Name (or Nickname) for Badge _____

Other Guest's Name _____

_____ Persons Registration (at \$295 each) \$ _____

_____ Persons Optional Baltimore Historical Day Trip: Tour # 1 (at \$70 each) \$ _____

_____ Persons Late Registration **after August 31, 2010** (at \$50 each) \$ _____

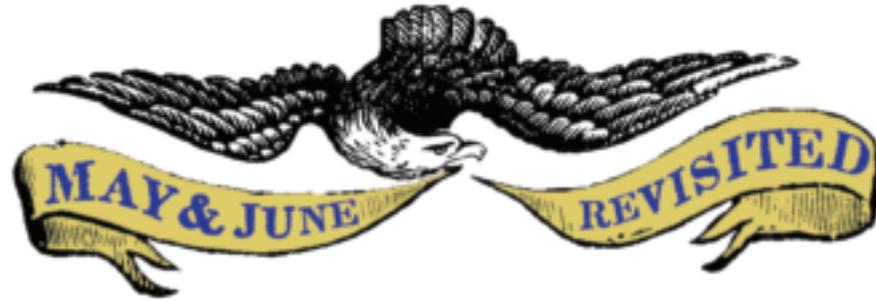
Total: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to “**Sons of the Revolution in the State of Maryland**”

Send to: B. Frank Shriver, President
Society of Sons of the Revolution
3200 Littlestown Pike
Westminster, Maryland 21158
email: bfshriver@verison.net

Registration fees include: **Sept. 16**–Cash Bar Reception, Buffet Dinner, and Hospitality Bar; **Sept. 17**–Continental Breakfast, Business Meeting, Lunch, Tour in Historical Annapolis, and Hospitality Bar; **Sept. 18**–Continental Breakfast, Business Meeting, Lunch, Tour in Baltimore City and Baltimore County, President’s Cash Bar Reception, and Formal Dinner; **Sept. 19**–Farewell Sherry.

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM NOW. Call the **Baltimore-Washington Marriott at (410) 851-8300**. Special single or double room rates are available through August 28, 2010, at \$120 per night. Number of available rooms is limited.



2010 Flag Day Parade in NYC



Charles Lucas welcomes the crowd.

SRNY President Dr. Charles C. Lucas, Jr., welcomed one and all to the Flag Day Parade Ceremonies at Fraunces Tavern, where the parade concluded. He then stepped aside so that Flag Day Festivities Chair Steven Trusnovac could begin the program, which included proclamations, awards, recitations, and songs sung by school children honoring the Stars & Stripes.

This year's parade honored the 233rd anniversary of the adoption of the American Flag by the Continental Congress in 1777. The SRNY has organized the Parade annually since President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation in 1916 establishing June 14 as Flag Day.



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l-r: General President Terry Davenport, Assistant General Secretary Dr. Laurence Simpson, and Dr. Henry N. McCarl, General Vice President-Region 1.



Colors adorn the parade route.

New York photos by Anthony Wellman.



The Davenports with their son, Lance, in New York City.



Members of the Armed Forces stand at attention.

A Celebration of John Austin Stevens

Members of the SR and Stevens family descendants gathered on June 21 at Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn to honor the centennial anniversary of the death of SR Founder John Austin Stevens. General President Terry Davenport spoke on Mr. Stevens' legacy and the importance of patriotism in today's society.

The commemoration, a General Society event, was conceived and organized by Assistant General Secretary Dr. Laurence Simpson. Under Dr. Simpson's leadership, a special SR headstone was installed next to the vault containing the founder's remains.

Mr. Stevens was a grandson of Lt. Col. Ebenezer Stevens, who took part in the Boston Tea Party, was an artillery commander at the Siege of Yorktown, and formed part of Gen. Washington's escort to New York City on November 25, 1783. He was also an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati.

John Austin Stevens organized the Sons upon being turned away from membership in the Cincinnati, which welcomes only the lineal eldest sons of its founders. Mr. Stevens' organization, however, would be open to all male descendants of all who served in the army, navy and civil services during the American Revolution.



SRNY Color Guard and the VCA at Green-Wood Cemetery.



l-r: M. Hall Worthington, SAR General President Ed Butler, Dr. Laurence Simpson, GSSR President Terry Davenport, and Curtis Cheyney.



Far left: Dr. Simpson emphasizes a point in his presentation about JAS.

Immediate left: Mrs. Mary McCarl; Byam Stevens, direct lineal descendant of Ebenezer Stevens; Byam's grandson, Joseph Sampson Stevens; and Jonathan Ridgeway, SRNY Color Guard Captain.

photos courtesy of Terry Davenport, Jeffrey Lambert, and Gerald Jack



Capt. James Jack and "The Spirit of Mecklenburg" unveiled.



Gerald Jack and speaker Cokie Roberts



l-r: GSSR President Terry Davenport, Gerald Jack, SR-CA; North Carolina Society President Jeffrey Lambert; and Dr. Bill Acuff, GSSR Representative for Tennessee.

"The Spirit of Mecklenburg"

In late May, a \$525,000 bronzed statue of Captain James Jack was unveiled in Charlotte, North Carolina, which captures the moment the young patriot took flight on horseback from Mecklenburg County to Philadelphia with the county's declaration of independence in hand.

About 1,300 people watched the unveiling. Best-selling author and TV commentator Cokie Roberts was the guest speaker. Politicians, SR representatives, period re-enactors, and some thirty Jack family descendants were on hand, including California Society member Gerald Jack.

After the unveiling, Mr. Jack told a local reporter: "Really, I am so proud. I will never forget this day." The May 20th Society raised the money and commissioned artist Chas Fagan to design the statue, aptly named "The Spirit of Mecklenburg."

John Shepherd Commemoration

In late June, SR member Charles Phebus orchestrated a two-day event in North Royalton, Ohio, to honor his fourth great-grandfather, John Shepherd, buried in the city cemetery.

Sgt. Shepherd fought alongside George Washington in the French & Indian War and in the Revolutionary War. He is perhaps the longest-lived veteran of the era, dying in 1847 at 118 years of age—thirty years after having moved to Ohio.

Over the years the memory of his person and service quietly disappeared until Mr. Phebus began digging into the past. Charles organized a long overdue 21-gun salute from period re-enactors and brought in a retired Army general who spoke about Shepherd's remarkable service. Some twenty ornamental wreaths were displayed, including one from the Society of Tennessee. A permanent marker now installed at the cemetery honors Mr. Shepherd's service and achievements. ■





CALIFORNIA

California Society Holds Independence Day Luncheon

The California Society held its 2010 Independence Day Luncheon at Annandale Golf Club on Saturday, 10 July 2010. Members and guests were treated to a wonderful menu.



Molly Schutzenberger, California State President, CAR.

Photo courtesy California Society

Molly Schutzenberger, California State President, Children of the American Revolution (CAR), extended greeting on behalf of her organization and reported on the July Fourth LFR Bell Ringing Ceremony held at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, sponsored by the California and Pennsylvania SR societies. Molly is a sophomore in high school and a member of the Los Angeles Eschsoltzia CAR Society.

For her project, she has chosen to work with the military program component of "United through Reading," a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization that serves to unite families facing physical separations for any number of reasons. The military program facilitates bonding between parents who are deployed and their children back home.

Among other items, membership certificates were presented to the Society's two newest members: Peter Ford and Andrew Clayton. Also, Society President Douglas R. Boyd, Sr. presented the Society's Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Roger McGrath, Ph.D. A U.S. Marine Corps veteran,

Dr. McGrath serves as a Lieutenant Colonel and Commanding Officer of the Naval Unit (Research & Study Element) of the California State Military Reserve.

Dr. McGrath spoke to the assembled audience on "The American Rifleman in the Revolution." To illustrate his presentation, Charles R. "Cap" Cre-sap, in Revolutionary War dress, showed several examples of the weapons used by the American riflemen of the period.

—submitted by Richard Breithaupt, Jr.



l-r: Society President Douglas R. Boyd, Sr., presents the Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Roger McGrath, Ph.D.

Photo courtesy of California Society

FLORIDA

Correction:

In the Summer 2010 *Drumbeat* (Vol. 28, No. 2), it was incorrectly stated that General Vice President-Region 3 R. Mitchell Bush had given a presentation on George Washington at the annual meeting of the Florida Society. The presentation was given by Florida Society Counselor David Mitchell, Esq. Please accept our apologies.



INDIANA



l-r: Margaret Rati, DeWayne Jackson, Robert D. Rati (holding award), Cody Lee, Don Gradeless, Robert H. Rati, S. Clarke Wyllie, Karen Bragg, Neil Pitts, and Chuck Bragg

Eleven members and guests attended the Indiana society spring meeting held at the Back 40 Junction restaurant in Decatur. The restaurant opened in the early 1950's and is full of antiques.

All members enjoyed the railroad cars located in front of the restaurant and dating from around 1800. Inside, there are many Tiffany lamps, including one from the home of Carol Lombard.

After the business meeting, everyone joined in an all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon. The Indiana Society's fall meeting will be a luncheon held September 4 at the Woodstock Club in Indianapolis.

—photo and article submitted by Robert D. Rati

IOWA

At-Large member Mike Rowley is recruiting all interested Iowans to join the Sons of the Revolution, in hopes of organizing an Iowa Society.

WWI Veteran Receives Military Honors

Mike Rowley, of Iowa, represented the Sons of the Revolution at the interment ceremony for the recently 'found' WWI veteran James Owen Perrine, a U.S. Army Captain. Having died in 1974 at the age of 88, Capt. Perrine's remains had been kept in a nondescript cardboard box in a Cedar Falls, Iowa, funeral home. No one realized what was in that box until just this year.



Photo credit: Daniel Rittel

After a lapse of three dozen years, he received a funeral with full military honors arranged by the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs. Patrick Palmersheim, executive director of the Iowa VA, was quoted as saying, "To have an original burying here [of a WWI veteran], as opposed to a reinterment, is very prestigious to us. We're very honored."

After the Army, Perrine graduated with a terminal degree in physics from Cornell University and went on to have a successful career at AT&T, where he became an executive vice president. He advised the U.S. Navy on submarine detection during World War II, lectured at 173 U.S. and Canadian colleges, and in 1963 published "The Slide Rule Handbook." Capt. Perrine was the first Commander of American Legion Post 237 in Cedar Falls, Iowa, where he remained an active member for over 50 years. The only survivor listed at the time of his obituary was his son, James Perrine, Jr., of Wheatridge, Colorado. Records indicate he died in 1984.

—Editor

KENTUCKY

The Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Kentucky held its annual meeting on April 17, 2010, in Lexington. Society President Louis Carmichael invited General Vice President-Region 4 David L. Rutherford to speak at the luncheon meeting, held at the Idle Hands Country Club.

Mr. Rutherford advised the officers on best ways to raise the Society's profile and gain new membership. New officers were installed,

and President Carmichael will continue to serve for another year. Building membership is his primary goal. Mr. Carmichael, who is active in many community organizations and committees, is Vice President/Capital Markets at CBA Pharma in Lexington.



GVP-Region 4 David L. Rutherford and Kentucky Society President L. "Buzz" Carmichael share an afternoon at Keeneland.

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KENTUCKY, Cont'd.

Many members and prospective members from both Kentucky and Ohio attended the luncheon.



Kentucky Society members pause at the KY Society's Board of Managers meeting held earlier this year.

After the meeting, Mr. Carmichael escorted GVP Rutherford and the gentlemen from Ohio to some sight-seeing around Lexington, including horse races at Keeneland. Keeneland Association is both a Thoroughbred racetrack and an auction company—in fact, it is billed as the world's largest and most prestigious Thoroughbred auction company. —photos and article submitted by David Rutherford

LOUISIANA

By invitation of Louisiana Society President Harry Kelleher, Jr., General Vice President-Region 4 David L. Rutherford met with officers of the Louisiana Society at the New Orleans Country Club on May 12, 2010. President Kelleher talked about recruiting and retaining members. Mr. Rutherford presented ideas to the group on projects that could build the Society name and its membership.

The beautiful and historic City of New Orleans was a great back drop to discussions of preservation and our shared love of patriotic history. President Kelleher hopes that current members and prospective members from across all Louisiana will join him in the effort to build an even greater state society. —submitted by David L. Rutherford

MISSOURI

Kansas City Chapter Celebrates 115 Years

On July 11th, 2010, the Kansas City Chapter celebrated Independence Day as well as its 115th anniversary. The event was held at the Grand Street Café, a celebrated restaurant on the Country Club Plaza. The featured speaker was Claude Harkins, whose presentation was entitled, "George Wash-

ington: Was he Predestined to Become the Father of our Country?"

Using colorful slides of historical paintings and engravings, Mr. Harkins presented an interesting account of the life of Washington, highlighting incidents not usually found in history books.

"During his lifetime," Harkins said, "there were many times when he could have and should have been killed—but was never harmed." He pointed out several of these instances, including the shots he took at Braddock's Defeat, and the close proximity to which he approached the British line at the Battle of Princeton and was not even grazed.

Mr. Harkins brought with him a wonderful display of personally owned artifacts, including various military items of the Revolutionary War period and personal items once belonging to George and Martha Washington.

Portions of his collection are on loan for upcoming exhibits at Winterthur Museum in Delaware, and for an upcoming touring exhibit in the Midwest in 2012.

In addition to the presenta-

tion, four new members were announced at the meeting, of whom Mr. Harkins and Jason Edwards were present. They were welcomed into the Society by Chapter President Michael Smith and each was given a Missouri Society membership certificate and rosette.



Mr. Harkins holds his SR membership certificate and the DAR Medal of Honor Photo credit: Editor



Chapter President Mike Smith presents SR certificate to Jason Edwards Photo credit: Inez Harkins

Special guests included General President Emeritus Paul F. Davis and Mrs. Davis of Arizona, and Missouri Society President Richard Strelinger and State Secretary Fairfax Jones, both of St. Louis. Other guests included Mrs. Joan Beeks, widow of Dr. John Beeks, MD, former General Surgeon, and Mrs. Carol Duncan, widow of the late John Duncan, a past president of both chapter and state.

Members and guests were presented with a 6" x 14" high quality photo reproduction of the 1899 panoramic group portrait of the first members of the Kansas City chapter. The original was also on display, to commemorate the chapter's 115 years.

—submitted by Gary R. Toms

NEW JERSEY

SR Organizes the First Multi-Societal Garden Party

The New Jersey Society of the Sons of the Revolution and the National Society Colonial Dames of America in the State of New Jersey invited seven other lineage societies to a Garden Party in mid-July. Held on July 11, 2010, at the New Jersey Dames' home, Peachfield, it was the first time in their history that these nine societies joined in a cooperative endeavor.

Members of each society came together for games of badminton and croquet. They took coffee, tea or lemonade and nibbled on cucumber sandwiches, sorbet, and other delectables.

The other societies represented were: The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New Jersey; the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New Jersey; the New Jersey branch of the National Society, Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims; the Princeton Company of the Jamestown Society; the New Jersey Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America; the Descendants of the Founders of New Jersey; and the Society of the War of 1812 in the State of New Jersey.

"The joint meeting was initially proposed by the SRNJ, and the other societies quickly signed on as co-sponsors," said Society President George J. Hill, M.D. "This was by far the largest group of lineage societies that have ever gotten together for anything in New Jersey. We hope it will create good will and membership growth for all of the societies involved."

President Hill said the idea for a multi-organizational event came about as a result of a Society planning workshop held on March 6. A rather

proactive development in and of itself, the Long-Range Planning Workshop was held during a board meeting and was open to all Society members. Board members and others went into a Committee of the Whole and formed four break-out sessions. The topics up for discussion included: 1) the Society's mission and how to deliver it; 2) the Society's niche – cooperation & competition; 3) membership, activities, and programs; and 4) governance, corporate compliance, and bylaws.

"After about 45 minutes, we reassembled and received reports from each breakout group. We discussed these and then returned to the Board meeting, concluded the business, and adjourned for a very pleasant lunch," President Hill said.

The idea to hold a planning workshop came from his daughter, who is a leadership training and development consultant for governmental organizations, non-profits, and large businesses.

—Editor

NEW YORK

SR Color Guard Honors Patriot Graves

This year, for the first time, the SRNY Color Guard participated with the Veteran Corps of Artillery to present colors as part of an annual memorial prayer service and ceremony in late May at Congregation Shearith Israel cemetery, opposite Chatham Square.



A marker denotes a Jewish Revolutionary War veteran's grave at Congregation Shearith Israel's cemetery.

Photo by Lynne Ridgeway

During the American War for Independence, Shearith Israel was the only Jewish congregation in New York City. The congregation's cemetery was purchased in 1683 and is the oldest surviving Jewish cemetery in North America. It is listed on the National Register of U.S. Historic Places. Eighteen Jewish Revolutionary Patriots were laid to rest there.

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NEW YORK, Cont'd.

The procession included four VCA Color Guardsmen in standard parade uniforms, Lt. Col. Ernest F. Grunenbaum in VCA dress blues, and VCA bugler Ed Stone in parade uniform with red coat. Representing the SRNY were Color Guard Chairman Jonathan Wolk Ridgeway and Color Guard Vice Chairman Philip Coombe III.

The Rabbi offered some remarks before leading the memorial prayer. Descendants of some of the Patriots, Hebrew school children, and Captain Ridgeway then placed flags near the appropriate headstones.

Before rendering Taps, the bugler decorated the grave of his own ancestor. Notably, several current members of the VCA have ancestors interred there.



VCA renders Taps at Shearith Israel Cemetery
Photo by Lynne Ridgeway

SRNY Color Guard Holds Drill Practice

On June 5, 2010, a Color Guard drill practice was conducted for the first time in the memory of SRNY's active Color Guard. The session took place on the property of Color Guard Captain Jonathan Wolk Ridgeway and his wife, Lynne, whose Ulster County home and two barns were built in 1850 amid rolling meadows delineated by nineteenth century stone walls. The land is set within the agricultural countryside of the Hudson River Valley, nearly ninety miles north of Fraunces Tavern. The day's drilling instruction was led by a contingency of the Pennsylvania Society's Color Guard, including Captain Steve Mark, M.D., Lieutenants Robert R. Van Gulick and Lewis Graham, and Sergeant Richard Walkup. Florida Color Guard members were also present. The training began with simple ways to improve the polished look of a marching

unit's skills and techniques. Some of the steps were practiced while marching with flags; other more sophisticated maneuvers were demonstrated afterward.

The afternoon was a thoroughly enjoyable learning experience and was not at all like boot camp. Many of the lessons explained here were practiced again nine days later for the New York City Flag Day Parade.

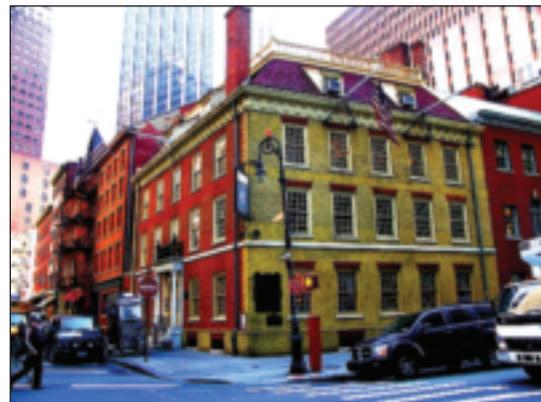
The event was initiated as part of the Membership Committee's outreach efforts under First Vice President James Grayshaw. Families of active and non-active members met and got to know each other better as well as potential new members. The interaction with the PSSR and Florida Society was just one more way the NYSR Color Guard has been integrating in joint activities with other state societies. On Flag Day, the Color Guard cooperated with members from Connecticut and Massachusetts. It was planning to commemorate the Battle of Brooklyn in late August with members from the Maryland Society.

—previous two articles and photos
submitted by Jonathan Ridgeway

'Revolution and the City' Exhibit Opens at Fraunces Tavern Museum

From 1776 to 1783, New York City was held captive by the King of England. For some New Yorkers this was just fine, but others opposed the King and were forced to either abandon their beloved city or continue the fight. This oft-forgotten era in New York's history will be featured in a new exhibit entitled "Revolution and the City," to open at Fraunces Tavern Museum on July 10, 2010. It runs through December.

There will be numerous artifacts and artwork bringing this compelling time of history into



Fraunces Tavern, NYC

focus, including a rare anastatic facsimile of the Declaration of Independence dating to the 1840s—one of only two known copies. The Museum has also reopened its Flag Gallery, featuring new displays presenting the evolution of the American Flag from 1775 to today, samples of American regimental flags from the Revolutionary War, and a special section devoted to maritime flags.

Visitors will see all the Museum's exhibits and have an opportunity to step into the Long Room, the very spot where George Washington bade his famous farewell. "Revolution and the City" runs through December 2010.

—submitted by Anthony Wellman

NORTH CAROLINA

On May 29, North Carolina Society President Jeffrey Lambert and Past President Frank Horton represented the Sons at the 230th Anniversary ceremony of the Battle of the Waxhaws, Buford's



I-r: David Reuwer chats with Jeff Lambert. Photo by NCSAR Lt. Cmdr. Bob Yankle

Crossing, S.C. Members of the SAR were also on hand for the ceremony.

David Reuwer, Esq., editor of the *American Revolution Association Magazine*, shared a light moment with Mr. Lambert.

The site is named after Col. Abraham Buford who had been leading 350 Virginia Continental replacement troops destined for Charleston, S.C., when he received orders to retreat to Hillsborough, N.C. British troops under Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton caught up with Buford's men and ran them down.

—Editor

PENNSYLVANIA

Building on Membership and Tradition

The Pennsylvania Society held its 122nd Annual Meeting at the Union League of Philadelphia on April 15. President Benjamin Frick presided, the Color Guard posted colors with ceremony, and the



PSSR gathered at Union League of Philadelphia

meeting commenced. The Secretary devoted remarks to the Society's history of special projects over the decades as being a tradition in support of patriotic and historic causes. Most recently is the restoration of the Washington Standard for the American Revolution Center (ARC), a developing museum. The project was jointly funded by the Society and its Color Guard.

Following the Secretary's remarks, the Treasurer, Color Guard Captain and Lancaster Chapter Regent all reported. New members and all fifty-year members were then recognized by President Frick. The election of officers was held and a spirited social time followed the meeting.



Two rows of waving flags through which guests and family members exited St. David's Episcopal Church

Just ten days later, on April 25, 2010, the Society met for its Annual Church Service commemorating the Valley Forge Encampment at St. David's Episcopal Church in Wayne. The service included recognizing those members who had passed away within the year.

Continued on page 20

PENNSYLVANIA, Cont'd.

Chaplain Reverend Clayton Ames III presided. The Color Guard paraded the Colors to begin the service and, following the service, paraded out the front door to form two rows of waving flags



l-r: Society President Benjamin C. Frick, General Chaplain Reverend G. Clayton Ames, III and Color Guard Captain Dr. Steven Marks.

through which guests and family members passed. Afterward, a reception and dinner was held at the Aronimink Golf Club. Revolutionary War hero General Anthony Wayne is buried at St. David's Episcopal Church.

In other news, the Society purchased at auction in April the letter of transmittal that accompanied the Congressional gold medal awarded to General Anthony Wayne to commemorate his victory at Stony Point, N.Y. The document, written in clerical hand, bears the signature of George Washington and a notation by Wayne's son Isaac.

The medal itself is also owned by the PSSR. It is kept on display at the Philadelphia Mint. The 1779 letter and gold medal are now together and join other Wayne artifacts owned by the Society, such as his presentation sword and military sash. It is hoped the acquisition of the letter will provide new opportunities to tell the story of General

Wayne and his part in the American Revolution.

—Text and photos by
Sec. Lanny R. Patten



RHODE ISLAND

The Rhode Island Society celebrated the 234th anniversary of Rhode Island Independence Day on May 2, 2010, and joined the SAR, the Colonial Wars and the Founder and Patriots organizations for a combined luncheon at Clark's Cookhouse on Bowen's Wharf in Newport.

Members celebrated the state's independence by placing flags on the grave of Governor John Collins, the third Governor of the colony and who cast the deciding vote in the state senate to allow discussion of adopting the Constitution of the United States; thus, he played an instrumental role in Rhode Island's eventual entry into the Union.

On July Fourth, Society members came together again to celebrate the American Independence. Meeting at the gravesite of William Ellery at 9:00 a.m., the Society paid tribute to Ellery and watched a musket salute performed by the Newport Artillery Company. Afterward, participants proceeded to Washington Square to hear the traditional band concert, followed by a reading of the Declaration of Independence, in turn followed by a twenty-one gun cannon salute. The Society then met for lunch at the White Horse Tavern.

—submitted by Secretary F. Bruce Westgate
and President Frank S. Hale II

TENNESSEE

The Roane County Chapter of the Society of Tennessee successfully held its first major entertainment event in the first week of June. Called Fort Celebration, the day-long festival and period re-enactment was held at Fort Southwest Point in Kingston, Tennessee, and featured Rick Revel as George Washington. Rick first performed for the Society at the George Washington Birthday celebration in February.

Additionally, the day included tours of the fort, tomahawk throwing, a blacksmithing demonstration, cannon firing, a period militia encampment and many other activities. The event attracted nearly 400 people. Chairman Arthur Rivers conceived the idea and wants to make it into an annual occasion. Next year's version may be a multiple-day extravaganza.

In other news, Lynn Fox and Jerry Mustin of the Anderson County Chapter dressed in period attire and traveled to Gatlinburg to give historical



Back row, l-r: Gary McDonald, TN State Vice President; Lynn Fox, Anderson County Chapter; Martin Cash, Jr., Roane County Chapter; Steve Jacks, Roane County Chapter; Terry Davenport, General Society President; Jim Rivers, Roane County President and TN State Treasurer, Arthur Rivers, Roane County Chapter and Event Chairman; Brantley Rivers, Roane County Chapter;

Front row, l-r: Gene Sage, Roane County Chapter; Martin Cash, Sr., Roane County Chapter and TN State Secretary, and Glenn Collins, Roane County Chapter.



Lynn Fox, of the John Rice Irwin Chapter, makes an informative presentation regarding the 16 star flag on Flag Day.

Lynn presents to over 1,000 persons each year on various historical subjects. He was the recipient of the first TNSSR Paul Revere Award, as well as a certificate of appreciation from the GSSR at the Tennessee Society's annual banquet in February.

Photo credit:
American Legion
News Herald

presentations. As the clock neared 12:00 a.m., they prepared to join the 35th annual Fourth of July Midnight Parade, the earliest Independence Day parade in the country.

By the time the sun came up, the two were ready to head back northwest to Anderson County to join the rest of their Chapter at the Museum of Appalachia's July 4th Anvil Shoot and Let Freedom Ring Celebration. Other Let Freedom Ring ceremonies in Tennessee occurred at Morristown City Hall and at the State Capitol Grounds in Nashville.

Photos and text submitted by Martin W. Cash, Sr., and Society President David Whaley

WEST VIRGINIA

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of West Virginia has updated its slate of Society officers. The officer list as of June 2010 includes: James Allen Rahr, President; Norman Blaine Moran, Vice President and Registrar; Hartis Gene McIntire, Secretary; Lowell F. Newbrough, Treasurer and Historian; J. Larrie Bailey, GSSR Representative; Robert W. Benson, Color Guard Captain; and Paul Edward Prunty, Chaplain. The Society was founded on April 19, 1894. ■

—Editor



SIGNING THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Flintlock & Powderhorn

ARTICLES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

John Adams and John Quincy Adams: The Father and the Son

By Ed Wright, Jr.



l-r: Author Ed Wright and Missouri Society President Richard Strelinger

The following is taken from a presentation made before the St. Louis Chapter of the Missouri Society by high school teacher Ed Wright, Jr. Mr. Wright was a successful attorney for many years before he began teaching

American history. In 2008, he was given the "Outstanding Constitution Teacher Award" by the St. Louis-Jefferson Chapter, DAR.

Fathers and sons throughout our history have assumed the role of teacher and student... sometimes overtly, sometimes covertly. There is great wisdom in the anonymous quote: "Every father should remember that one day his son will follow his example, instead of his advice."

Along America's journey, fathers have often passed history to and through their sons. Robert Frost once said that Americans are like rich fathers who wished they knew how to give their sons the hardships that made them rich. One of our nation's wealthiest fathers, in a cultural and intellectual sense, was John Adams, the second President of the United States. Inheriting that tradition was his son, John Quincy Adams, who became the sixth President of the United States.

So what about John Adams, the father? We know about his comfortable upbringing, his education at Harvard, his law degree and his move to Boston in 1768, at which time he immersed himself in the cause of the "patriots" pitted against Mother England. In Boston, he was a respected attorney

who took on at least two cases of major import: The first was in defense of John Hancock, of the large signature, whose ship *Liberty* was seized by the British for smuggling wine.

In an argument full of patriotic rationale, John Adams contended that enforcement of the law was unfair since Americans were not represented in Parliament, the same Parliament that had passed the trade acts...

Charges were dropped.

We would have expected him to take on that case, John Adams being the passionate American patriot he was. However, another case earned him even more recognition for doing the unexpected. In the famous Boston Massacre case, Adams and his partner defended British captain Thomas Preston and seven soldiers accused of murder in the famed March 5, 1770 incident.



John Adams, 2nd U.S. President, 1797-1801

While the future President may have been less than eager to take the case, other patriot leaders were glad he was defending the soldiers for two main reasons: 1) It showed that the resistance leaders stood for justice, no matter who was on

trial; and 2) Adams and his cohort could defend the British soldiers without inquiring into whether the massacre was, indeed, provoked by the patriots.

In his arguments, Adams described the mob as “a motley rabble” and that British soldiers had feared for their lives. Six of the soldiers were acquitted. Two were convicted of manslaughter but pleaded “benefit of clergy” and thus were branded on the thumb and released.

* * * *

Elected to the First Continental Congress, John Adams was impatient with the hesitancy of many delegates to favor complete independence, declaring in July of 1774 his own support for the cause to be irreversible: “I have passed the Rubicon, swim or sink, live or die, survive or perish with my country—that is my unalterable determination.”

By the time the Second Continental Congress gathered, Adams was one of the most dominating forces if not the most dominating. He pushed and prodded the delegates into recognizing the need for a Declaration of Independence ... a document which logically he would have authored ... except that he recognized his own unpopularity and Thomas Jefferson’s superior prose styling. And so the nation’s birth took precedence over his ego, and a mighty document issued forth.



Bronze of John Adams,
Quincy, Massachusetts

After the ratification of the Declaration of Independence, he negotiated the Treaty of Paris in 1783 (along with Franklin, Jay, Laurens, and a distant Jefferson). When Shay’s Rebellion broke out, 1786 to 1787, Adams increased his popularity and political capital by writing “A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America.” He was then elected Vice President in 1789 and held through to the end of President Washington’s second term, despite the office’s limitations.

In 1796, in the first of two Presidential election battles, Adams bested Thomas Jefferson by an electoral vote of 71–68 ... and Jefferson became his Vice President. Adams had problems with France during his presidency ... a matter of the French seizing our ships. Criticism of his administration



Backside of the Adams home, Quincy, Massachusetts

led to the passage of the Alien and Sedition Acts, though it was rarely used.

So, by the time of the rematch in 1800, Jefferson defeated Adams 73–65 in the Electoral College. As Jefferson prepared to take office, Adams witnessed the easing of tensions with France (just as Jimmy Carter saw the 1981 release of the American hostages held in Iran as Ronald Reagan prepared to enter the White House).

John Adams retired to Quincy, Massachusetts, where he farmed and wrote letters, the most notable being a series of correspondence with Thomas Jefferson after the latter President had also retired. And on July 4, 1826, Adams lay dying and gasped that “Thomas Jefferson survives!” unaware that Jefferson himself also expired that very day.

* * * *

When John Adams died, another Massachusetts man was occupying the White House ... his son. John Quincy Adams indeed had been a student at his father’s feet for many years ... but he was also his own man in many ways.

So what about John Quincy? In the HBO series, we see a young John Quincy telling his father that he wants to stay on the farm and live the pastoral life, but John Sr. quickly admonishes his son that he will attend school (Harvard) and study law.

As stated in the *American National Biography*, John Quincy’s parents “set perfectionist goals for him with the expectation that he would achieve distinction through strong moral commitment and assiduity in public service. Responding to these pressures, John Quincy was hard driving and ambitious, introspective, and severely critical in his judgment of himself and others.”

Despite that, it was clear that JQA, as he was known, wanted to please his father, as indicated in a letter written at the age of seven: “I hope I grow

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a better boy and that you will have no occasion to be ashamed of me when you return.”

The education of the father’s son in the arena of patriotic nationalism started early. At the age of 10, JQA went to Europe with his father on a diplomatic mission. At the age of 15, he actually served as a secretary to negotiations with Russia. At 16, he joined his father during the Treaty of Paris negotiations, causing concern in some of the others present, to which the father remarked: “He is a grown man in understanding as well as stature.”



John Quincy Adams, 6th U.S. President, 1825-1829

After the treaty was successfully negotiated, John Quincy returned home, went to Harvard, and studied law ... as the father-teacher had expected. After a brief time of practicing law, he was called back into service of the young nation by President Washington and became minister to The Hague. After that, his political career took off.

He was first elected to the Senate as a Federalist in 1803 (only to resign the seat in 1808, due to disagreements with the Federalists). He was then appointed as minister to Russia in 1809 by President Madison and as Secretary of State in 1817 by President Monroe.

In 1824, John Quincy Adams was elected President of the United States, helped along by Kentucky Senator Henry Clay’s mistrust of Andrew Jackson’s autocratic nature. Learning from his father’s wise use of political allies and “not-so-allies,” he appointed Clay as Secretary of State.

Despite his administration’s successes in negotiating many commercial treaties and internal improvements in the national infrastructure, Adams was doomed to being a one-term President on account of his self-imposed low profile ... as his father had been. Saying that “electioneering ran counter to his principles,” JQA, much like his father, refused to campaign vigorously.

He concurred with his father’s self-criticism when he said: “I well know that I never was and never shall be what is commonly termed a popular man. (Unfortunately) I have not the pliability to reform it.”

In 1828, he was defeated by the man now characterized as “the American Lion,” Andrew Jackson. Just as his father had first bested Thomas Jefferson then lost to him four years later, so history repeated itself between JQA and Andrew Jackson.

But unlike his father, JQA could not remain passive on his farm in retirement. He had an



Birthplace of John Quincy Adams

“insatiable passion” for politics and controversy.

He also harbored a fierce resentment for what he called “a conspiracy of power by which he and his father (as Massachusetts men) had been denied re-election” while four Virginians had each served two terms as President.

In 1830, he found his outlet. He was again elected to Congress, where he served until his death in 1848. In the years in Congress, he made a reputation as one willing to oppose his own party and raise issues others would rather keep hidden. As the leader of congressional opposition to the institution of slavery, he argued against the domination by southern states due to the 3/5 clause in the Constitution.

His final vote cast was no less controversial. He voted in opposition to a resolution that would thank American military officers for their service against Mexico, as that war was seen by many Northerners as a way to extend slavery. On February 21, 1848, just minutes after he cast a loud “No!” vote, John Quincy Adams had a massive stroke and collapsed on the House floor. He died two days later.

John Adams the father, John Quincy Adams the son. They were a mighty pair; teacher and student, comrades, a team, true patriots that helped shape a nation. Onward marches American history. ■

The Jefferson-Hemings Controversy: A New, Critical Look

By John Works

The author is an 8th generation lineal descendant of Thomas Jefferson's, as well as a past president of The Thomas Jefferson Heritage Society (group of Jefferson researchers and admirers), and a former president of The Monticello Association (lineal descendants who own the graveyard at Monticello). Recently, Mr. Works has appeared in the media promoting the need for a more careful inquiry into conclusions made based on 1998 DNA testing.

Whether Thomas Jefferson had sexual relations with his slave Sally Hemings may rank as one of the longest ongoing controversies in American history. It still has not been adequately settled. Just more than ten years ago, after DNA testing had become very topical, a retired pathologist in Charlottesville, Virginia, wanted to settle the issue definitively by performing DNA



Jefferson family cemetery at Monticello.

tests on living members of the Jefferson, Carr, and Hemings families. In fact, the only thing the study managed to do conclusively is stir up more dust.

The testing centered on the Y-chromosome, since it is passed from father to son and goes unchanged from generation to generation. Thomas Jefferson had no acknowledged male descendants, so it was necessary to examine the DNA of his closest relatives. Five descendants of Jefferson's uncle, Field Jefferson, agreed to have their blood drawn and compared to that of male descendants of the Carrs and Sally Hemings.

On November 5, 1998, the results were published in the British journal *Nature* under the unfortunate title, "Jefferson Fathered Slave's Last Child." It was, I dare say, intentionally misleading. A more ethical and accurate title would have been, "A Jefferson Fathered Slave's Last Child." (Of

course, the more accurate version is certainly less glamorous.)

Some Questions Answered

The findings answered a few questions, but not the most critical one. For example, it repudiated the long-held belief that either Peter or Samuel Carr, Jefferson's nephews, had fathered Sally's last-born son, Eston. It did not exclude the possibility of one of them having fathered the other four Hemings children. Furthermore, no match was found between the Jefferson descendants and descendants of Tom Woodson, Sally's alleged child conceived in Paris, who, for generations, had been suspected of being fathered by Thomas Jefferson.



Thomas Jefferson gravesite at Monticello.

However, a definite match was discovered between the Jefferson descendants and Eston's descendants. Yet from finding that link to announcing that Thomas Jefferson had fathered Sally Hemings' last child was premature, inaccurate, irresponsible and sensationalist. The research was simply not conclusive.

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Approximately twenty-five adult male Jeffersons lived in Virginia at that time, carrying the same Y chromosome as did Thomas Jefferson. Eight of those individuals are known to have made frequent visits to Monticello. To be fair, one must consider the circumstances and the sake of Thomas' reputation.

Eston was born in 1808, having been conceived in 1807, when Thomas was a frail 64-year-old and declining in health. Physically speaking, he was not exactly primed for new fatherhood. Characterwise, it is simply hard to imagine the careful, cerebral and attentive Thomas Jefferson acting in a way that would have brought him immediate shame and dishonor had he been discovered. There is also the morality issue involved. Maintaining a 37-year affair with a house servant would have been preposterously out of character for him.

What about Randolph?

Another potential father is Randolph Jefferson, Thomas' much younger and less cerebral brother. Any of his four eldest sons could have been the father. In *Memoirs of a Monticello Slave*, Thomas Jefferson's slave Isaac wrote, "old master's brother, Mass Randall, was a mighty simple man—used to come out among the slaves, play the fiddle and dance half the night." Furthermore, it is reported that Randolph fathered children by his own slaves and was friendly with white men who kept black mistresses.

There is no similar pattern of behavior recorded for Thomas Jefferson. In 1807, Randolph was 51 years old, in good health, and not married. What's more, all of Sally Hemings' children were conceived and born between 1795 and 1808—when Randolph was single. As circumstantial as it is, Sally Hemings had no more known children after Randolph remarried in 1809.

What we among Thomas' lineal descendants find most disturbing about the DNA study was that no one involved in the study bothered to determine which Jefferson it was. It seems to us

that Thomas, the famous one, the third President of the United States, the author of the Declaration of Independence, was being purposefully targeted from the very beginning.

Otherwise, where is the rest of the science? What about a necessary conclusion? Why weren't additional questions asked? It makes us question the intention behind the DNA testing.

The Scholars Commission

After publication of the Nature article, The Thomas Jefferson Heritage Society sought to establish an interdisciplinary blue ribbon panel of senior Jefferson scholars willing to pursue the truth, wherever it led, and to report its conclusions. The Scholars Commission selected its own thirteen members, which included a diverse group of senior academics. Several had written highly respected books about Jefferson.

The commission made its own rules and demanded complete independence—which they received—treating all interested groups equally.

In addition to the DNA evidence, the commission also sought and obtained additional and new information from various reliable sources. Spending nearly a year without pay and looking carefully at all arguments and all evidence, its members released a final report on April 12, 2001, the anniversary eve of Thomas Jefferson's 268th birthday.

Released at the National Press Club, the report comprised 500 pages. It unanimously concluded that the case for Jefferson's paternity of any Hemings children was far from proven, and by a margin of 12 to 1, the individual members' views ranged from "serious skepticism" about the allegation to a conviction that it was "almost certainly" not true. Their report also disclosed numerous representations and at least one doctored

h i s t o r i c a l
d o c u m e n t
used by those
s c h o l a r s
advocating
Jefferson's
paternity.

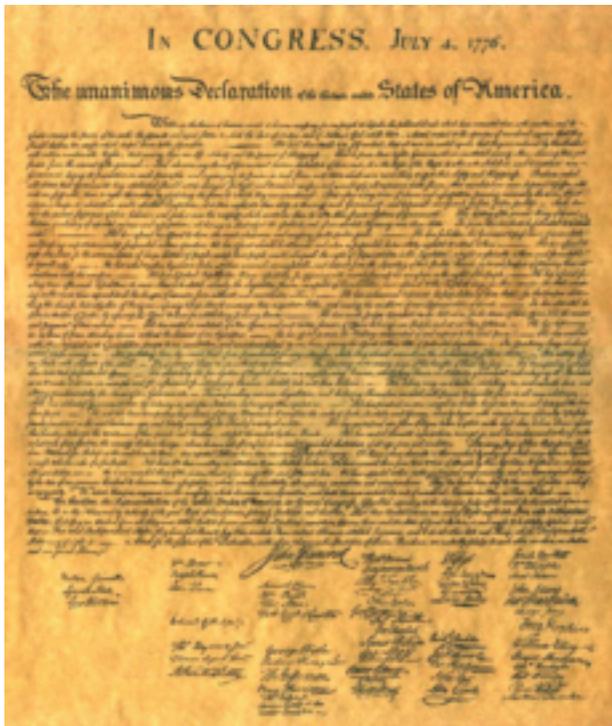
The introduction states:

"The question of whether Thomas Jefferson fathered one or more



children by his slave Sally Hemings is an issue about which honorable people can and do disagree. After a careful review of all of the evidence, the commission agrees unanimously the allegation is by no means proven; and we find it regrettable that public confusion about the 1998 DNA testing and other evidence has misled many people.”

In the meantime, some media organizations still report that Thomas Jefferson was the definitive father of at least one of Hemings’ children.



The PBS Frontline website, www.pbs.org, under a section entitled “Jefferson’s Blood,” asserts:

“... A separate study of Jefferson’s Monticello visits finds they coincide so closely to Hemings’ pregnancies, that even without DNA, the probability of his being the father is 90 percent or more. With DNA, it is far higher, perhaps 99 percent—not proven, certainly, but as close to proven as most history ever gets.”

The website continues, “Now, the new scientific evidence has been correlated with the existing documentary record, and a consensus of historians and other experts who have examined the issue agree that the question has largely been answered: Thomas Jefferson fathered at least one of Sally Hemings’ children, and quite probably all six.”

With all due respect, this is an example of agenda-based journalism in which objectivity, truth, and equanimity of dignity and compassion suffer dramatically.

The Nature Clarification

Dr. Foster, now deceased, was a co-author of the Nature study and lead researcher in the DNA study. In January of 1999, Nature published a clarification of sorts from Dr. Foster. He admitted that the title assigned to the story alleviated the Carrs from paternal responsibility, but did not distinguish paternity among the Jeffersons. He said in hindsight, “It is true that men of Randolph Jefferson’s family could have fathered [Sally Hemings’] later children. ... We know from the historical and the DNA data that Thomas Jefferson can neither be definitely excluded nor solely implicated in the paternity of illegitimate children with his slave.”

In the aftermath of the DNA testing, lineal descendants of Eston Hemings began requesting burial rights in the Jefferson family graveyard at Monticello. The Monticello Association had to determine whether the descendants of Sally Hemings met the criteria for membership. An advisory committee to the association spent three years examining whether they had a right to burial at Monticello. In 2002, the association voted 67–5 (93%) against permitting their inclusion.



While we may never know who fathered Eston Hemings, or any of Sally Hemings’ other children, we do this great man in American history a big disservice by prematurely concluding that this centuries-old paternity case has been adequately and responsibly resolved. ■

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

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

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