



The SONS DRUMBEAT

Volume 38

Number 1

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Publication of the General Society Sons of the Revolution





Remembrances



Lucille Jay Hess
(1919-2020)

Lucille Jay Hess, the widow of the late Richard Farmer Hess and a previous editor of the *Drumbeat*, died on April 10, 2020, at the Willow Valley Community in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. She had lived 100 years.

Professionally, she went by the name of Jay Harris and worked as a writer, editor and journalist. Born in New York City on May 28, 1919, she grew up on Long Island and attended Barnard College, where American history was among her favorite subjects.

After receiving her degree in chemistry, Jay was alumnae president of the Class of 1939 for fifteen years and a founder and president of the Barnard College Club of Fairfield County, Connecticut. She married Mr. Hess after the death of her first husband, Carl Harris.

With Richard, she co-edited *The Patriot*, a publication of the SRNY, and from 1986 to 2000, co-edited the General Society's two publications: the newsletter, *Drumbeat*, and a scholarly journal, *Flintlock & Powderhorn*, devoted to articles on American history.

In 1991, Jay received the General President's Commendation Award. In 2000, the General Society created the Jay Harris Award in recognition of "her significant contributions to the better understand of our heritage."

For nearly twenty years, Jay served as a newspaper correspondent for Pound Ridge. She authored the 1971 book, *God's Country, a History of Pound Ridge, New York* (Pequot Press) as well as a 1973 supplement to *God's Country*. Subsequently, she published *For the Record: The People Who Made Pound Ridge "God's Country" 1718-1991* (1992).

She was highly active in her community, serving in the Pound Ridge Community Church for more than fifty years. She served on the local school board, the Red Cross, and on local committees for the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Additionally, she was vice chairman of the Pound Ridge Landmarks and Historic District Commission. In her leisure, she enjoyed gardening, sculpturing, and crossword puzzles.

Survivors include two daughters, Carolyn Jay Harris (Arthur Henderson, companion), Redmond, Washington, and Marilee Scott Twine (Jeffrey, husband), New York City; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a step-son, Richard Lowell Hess (Mary Elizabeth, wife), Aurora, Ontario, Canada, and two step-grandchildren.



"J.E.B." Stuart, IV
(1935-2020)

Our Society mourns the loss of Col. James Ewell Brown "J.E.B." Stuart, IV. Col. Stuart had served as Captain of the Color Guard for the General Society, 2000-2003, and Assistant General Treasurer, 2006-2012. He also served as President of the Virginia Society Sons of the Revolution.

Col. Stuart, born in Glen Cove, NY, was the great-grandson of Confederate Army Major General James Ewell Brown Stuart. As the original J.E.B Stuart is remembered for his brilliant work as a cavalryman, so J.E.B. Stuart IV should also be remembered for his valiant service to his country. Feeling the influence of his renowned ancestor, in 1958 J.E.B. IV was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and served twenty-seven years in the Army before retiring a Colonel in early 1985. During his tenure, he served two combat tours in Vietnam.

J.E.B IV's service awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, and the Army Commendation Medal. Foreign decorations include the Vietnamese Honor Medal 1st Class and the Vietnamese Air Medal.

After Col. Stuart's retirement from the Army, he and his wife, Weasie, moved "home" to Richmond, Virginia. From 1985 to 1991, he was a Chief Industrial Engineer with Figgie International. Afterward, he launched a third career as a financial planner.

In addition to his membership in the Sons, Col. Stuart was a member of many other lineage societies, including the Georgia Society of the Cincinnati and the Order of the Southern Cross, in which he served as Commander-in-Chief. For several years, he served as Chairman of the Board for the Museum of the Confederacy (Richmond) and volunteered as financial planner for the Civil War Trust. He was a member of the Saint James Episcopal Church.

He is survived by his wife of sixty-two years, Mary Louise McNiel Stuart; a sister, Olivia Stuart McFadden; his children (Elizabeth Pelham Stuart Hoehne, Dr. James E.B. Stuart V, and John Alexander Stuart), and five grandchildren (James E.B. Stuart VI, Mary Pannill Stuart McIntyre, Kathleen Columbia Stuart, Margaret Sheffield Stuart, and Alexander Wesley Stuart).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dr. Laurence S. Simpson

State of the Society

Friends,

Let's shine light on the state of our Society. We have addressed the following issues before in the pages of the *Drumbeat*, but now seems an opportune time to review them again. I think all members ought to be concerned that at present, our endowment is too small and the amount of dues we collect is not sufficient to fulfill our stated mission. Simply put, we are slowly running out of money.

Our Income

The easiest solution would be to raise membership dues. In a top-down organization such as the SAR, the board can decree an increase without the approval of the member-states below it. But our Society is a bottom-up organization, and any proposals for increases in dues must be brought forward and approved by the member-states.

We presently have a multiplier formula in place which calls for a percentage increase in dues every three years, but the percentage increase is not sufficient. If there were a robust number of members in every State Society, it would be a different story. Without more membership, and relying on the present dues structure, the prospects for the long-term are not very good.

The second part of the income equation is donations. If one makes a donation, as opposed to just paying dues, the donation is tax deductible since we are a 501 3(c) nonprofit. Mitchell Bush and I launched the Society of '83. This provides a means and recognition for concerned, dedicated, and faithful members of our Society to make donations to help cover projects, services, and other expenses which we ordinarily would not be able to do, given our budget restrictions. The Society of '83 also has the potential of increasing our endowment.

Over the last three to four years, concerned members have raised almost \$50,000. More than half of that amount was given to us by one man, the late Charles D. Carroll.

Other potential avenues of income need to be made available to the Society, and the Executive Committee is considering those. An example of one is to create other vehicles for donations, such as through an estate, trust, or will. We are also considering the sale of Society merchandise on the GSSR website.

Our Expenses

Let's now look at the expense side of the equation. We have three big, ongoing expenses. The first is operating and maintaining the Headquarters building in Williamsburg, Virginia. There has been disagreement between members as to whether or not a physical Headquarters is necessary. The rent in Colonial Williamsburg is about \$1,500 per month. Some suggest we can go completely virtual, with a presence only on the web. That was met by a violent reaction from other members who insist we need an actual brick-and-mortar building from which to operate and service our members.

The second is our support staff. We now have two part-time contractual employees working as HQ administrators about twenty hours a week. They are C.L. Sigmon and Sharon Toms, two very hard-working, dedicated, pleasant, and enthusiastic people. Once you interact with them, you will rapidly reach the same conclusion.

C.L. accepted our part-time job in Williamsburg after Jeffrey Lambert left. C.L. has been

doing a great job in handling phone calls from members and other responsibilities during his limited hours. Sharon works remotely, based in Missouri, and she has been charged with scanning all of the membership applications that the Society had previously kept in underground storage in Kansas City.

Both C.L. and Sharon are linked via computer network with General Registrar Jefferson Moak. All three of them are working in tandem on improvements to the General Society's online membership database.

Let's look at our next greatest expense, that of our publications. Our members have become accustomed to getting a quality publication, the *Sons Drumbeat*, several times per year. But for the issue you are reading now, we took the decision to forego the cost of printing and mailing and distribute it to you electronically. Our line item in the budget for Printing and Postage is about \$17,000 per annum.

As many of you are aware, especially if you have any investments in the market, the first half of 2020 has been very trying. The GSSR, like most of us, has not been exempt from temporary paper losses. In order to preserve the capital in our portfolios, we actively looked for ways to lower expenses as we saw our income lowered. It was decided between myself, General Treasurer Buzz Carmichael, and Publications Editor David Swafford to temporarily postpone printing and mailing at least until we can safely recover from the effects of the quarantine period.

Recruitment

Finally let's talk about increasing and attracting new members. Because of how we are structured, the GSSR is an umbrella organization to the State Societies. Recruitment lies primarily at the State Society level, from where we get most of our members. A few come direct to GSSR, but we quickly refer them to a State Society in their area, if they have one. At the Annual Meetings of the GSSR, delegates of the various State Societies have a chance to meet, network, and exchange ideas in all aspects of running a State Society—including recruitment initiatives.

One of the most actively recruiting states within the General Society is the Commonwealth of Virginia. They have done a fantastic job recruiting new members over the past several years. If we all could replicate what they are doing, our Society would be wondrously healthy, with new members being added constantly.

The most successful States Societies fine-tune what they do to attract new members. It takes just a few dedicated members in each Society to do this, but it has to be done. What is your State Society doing in terms of seeking new members?

If you care about the long-term health of the Sons of the Revolution, please involve yourself in recruiting efforts at the State Society level and consider making a donation to the Society of '83. Like anything else in life, you get out of it what you put into it. Let's all do it for the good of the Sons.

Dr. Laurence Simpson
General President, GSSR





Disney Meeting Still Onboard

By Dr. Laurence S. Simpson,
General President

I encourage all of you to remain upbeat about our 2020 Board of Managers Meeting currently planned for *Walt Disney World Resort*® in Lake Buena Vista, Florida (near Orlando), September 24-27. While this year has proven to be a trying time under difficult circumstances, with devastating outcomes in some areas, we as an organization want to stay on track with our announced plans.

The BOM is not until the end of September. That gives us more than four months to go. That said, a final decision on the viability of our chosen venue will have to be made near mid-August.

According to the terms of our contract with *Walt Disney World Resort*®, if by then we still are facing a lock-down in Florida, we would not be penalized for postponement and rescheduling. For our own pre-paid events during the BOM weekend, if by mid-August we are forced

to postpone, the Sons would issue credits or refunds to you, depending on the circumstances.

All of that said, our members should still register now for their rooms at *Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resort*. We have a guaranteed rate of \$275 per night, double occupancy. That cost-effective rate will expire after mid-August. For reservations, call (407) 939-5277 or book online, (<https://mydisneygroup.com/gssr2020>).

If you use a credit card or debit card to book a room, the card will be debited at the point of reservation but the charge on your statement will not show up until after the event is concluded. If the meeting is postponed, and you booked your room electronically but are unable to attend the rescheduled event, your card will not be charged. That seems to be the way Disney is handling this.

Remember, if you and your guest(s) would like to extend your stay beyond the three days of the BOM Meeting (Thursday thru Saturday evenings), you need to contact Dr. Simpson via email (laurencesimpson@msn.com) or cellphone (917 921-0450). Act early or be left out.

Dining reservations at popular *Walt Disney World Resort*® restaurants, book out months in advance. To reserve dining space as an SR member, you must have a room confirmation # and an online account. If you are going to Disney but haven't made restaurant reservations yet, do so now. If you plan to see some of the *Walt Disney World Resort*® attractions, FastPasses are available for sale from about June 30th (90 days out). I look forward to seeing many of you there.

WALT DISNEY WORLD®



General Society Sons of the Revolution

Meeting Registration Form 9/24/2020 - 9/27/2020

at Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resort

Name _____ Wife/Guest _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone Number _____ E-mail _____
State Society _____ Position held _____

***Registration Fee for a delegate is \$ 395.00 per person.**

Registration Fee for wives and guests is \$370 per person

Fee costs are almost all for food and beverage, and include Thursday evening reception, a continental breakfast on Friday and Saturday AM, the Friday PM reception at *Epcot*®, and Saturday PM dinner at the *Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resort*

Thursday, September 24, 2020

	Yes	No
6 P.M. Executive Committee (only) meeting in the Ale and Compass Lounge at the hotel	_____	_____
7:30 – 8:30 P.M. Open bar reception in the hotel's Convention area	_____	_____

Friday, September 25, 2020

7:30 – 8:30 A.M. Continental Breakfast in the hotel's Convention area	_____	_____
8:30 A.M. – Noon GSSR delegate meeting in the hotel's Convention area (A&B Cape Cod Hall)	_____	_____
7:30 P.M. GSSR reception at Eau de Paris in <i>Epcot</i> ®	_____	_____

Saturday, September 26, 2020

7:30 – 8:30 A.M. Continental Breakfast in the hotel's Convention area	_____	_____
8:30 A.M. – Noon GSSR delegate meeting and GSSR member memorial service	_____	_____
6:30 P.M. GSSR Dinner at the hotel's Convention area (A&B Asbury Hall)	_____	_____

Sunday, September 27, 2020

8:30 A.M. GSSR Church Service and parting Sherry in the hotel's Convention area	_____	_____
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Make out your Registration Fee check to the **GSSR** and mail to:

General Society of the Sons of the Revolution

Board of Managers Meeting Registration

412 West Francis Street

Williamsburg, VA 23185

Total \$ _____

The host hotel is *Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resort* located at *Walt Disney World Resort*®, 1700 Epcot Resorts Blvd., Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830. (407) 924-7000

<https://mydisneygroup.com/gssr2020> to get convention room rate of \$275 per night

**** NOTE** All activities will be “resort casual”. No need for blazer, tie, etc. Nice collared golf type shirt and slacks or shorts will do. Don't forget to pack your bathing suit for the fabulous pool complex.

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

"It should be the highest ambition of every American to extend his views beyond himself, and to bear in mind that his conduct will not only affect himself, his country, and his immediate posterity; but that its influence may be co-extensive with the world, and stamp political happiness or misery on ages yet unborn."

—George Washington, to the Pennsylvania Legislature 12 September 1789

THE GENERAL SOCIETY SONS OF THE REVOLUTION INTRODUCES:

THE "SOCIETY OF '83"

How do you become a member of the Society of '83?

By giving \$1,000, \$10,000 or \$20,000



\$1,000 - \$9,999*

Membership in the Society of '83 signified by a buff-colored rosette jacket to be worn around your Society rosette.



\$10,000 - \$19,999 (Captain Level)*

Membership in the Society of '83 signified by a blue rosette jacket.



\$20,000 or more (General Level)*

Membership in the Society of '83 signified by a gold rosette jacket.
You will also be recognized in the Drumbeat.

What will your gift accomplish?

Aside from helping meet the day-to-day operating costs of the General Society, your gift could be used to fund one or more of the following projects::

- Creation of a Revolutionary War media app intended for school students.
- Creation and distribution of Revolutionary War educational programs to schools.
 - Promotion of scholarship through speakers, publications and awards.
- Implementation of a more active website with regular updates of content, links to important events, a Revolutionary War calendar, a members-only section, etc.
- Acquisition and preservation of artifacts concerning the Revolution and our own history.
 - Provision of funds to assist State Societies with recruiting new members.
 - Provision of funds to start new State Societies where we are not currently represented.
- Provision of funds for GSSR Society Regional Vice Presidents and other GSSR Society General Officers to travel to the various State Societies to bring all of our members closer and encourage them to be more involved.

What sort of gifts can you make? The General Society can accept gifts in any number of forms, including:

**Cash/checks • Appreciated securities • Life insurance
Real estate • Distributions from IRAs and other retirement accounts**

**The amounts do not have to be given in one year to qualify you for the Society of '83. They may be given over a period of up to ten years. For example, if you pledge to give \$1,000 to the Society each year for the next ten years (a total gift of \$10,000), you would qualify for the Captain level and would receive the blue rosette jacket.*

To recognize recent generous gifts, membership in the Society of '83 will be recognized retroactively. All of your donations to the annual campaign since July 1, 2015, will count towards your total donations to determine your gifting level.

Please do not forget to inquire whether your employer matches charitable gifts. The General Society qualifies for support from most companies.

The General Society is a 501(c)(3) organization. Gifts to the General Society are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

THE "SOCIETY OF '83"

2018-20 DONORS



<i>Charles D. Carroll</i>	<i>EU</i>	<i>\$29,000</i>
<i>Ivan Bennett</i>	<i>SC</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>
<i>John M. Daniel</i>	<i>VA</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>
<i>Lanny R. Patten</i>	<i>PA</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>
<i>Charles J. Scammell</i>	<i>NJ</i>	<i>\$1,100</i>
<i>T. Jeffery Clark</i>	<i>NJ</i>	<i>\$1,020</i>
<i>Roger Coursey</i>	<i>GA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>David Dickey, Esq</i>	<i>GA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Peter J. Gulden, III, Esq</i>	<i>FL</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>James F. Foster</i>	<i>MN</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Mark Jacobowski</i>	<i>VA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Allen James</i>	<i>NC</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Larry Leslie, Sr, MD</i>	<i>KY</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>J. Robert Lunney</i>	<i>NY</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Bev Mauck</i>	<i>VA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>William D. Parmalee</i>	<i>FL</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Laurence S. Simpson, DDS</i>	<i>NY</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
<i>Jimmy Smith</i>	<i>GA</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>

Total Pledged (as of 1-15-20)

\$49,120.00

State Reports

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Annual Meeting

The District of Columbia Society's annual meeting and dinner were held on December 10, 2019 at the Chevy Chase Club in Chevy Chase, Maryland. The membership elected a slate of officers for the coming year, and, at the dinner, the Society recognized the recipients of its 2019 Art in American History award, in conjunction with the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design of the George Washington University.

Though our art award for December 2020 was announced in early March, the students did not have time to complete the essays given the disruption of the academic year. The GWU liaison proposed that we postpone awarding the scholarships this year.

On February 22, 2020, George Washington's birthday, approximately thirty members of the Society and guests presented a wreath at the tomb of our First President at his Mount Vernon estate in Virginia, as is its annual custom. The wreath-laying tradition at Mount Vernon began in 1988. Society President Sean Patrick Redmond delivered brief remarks and our cherished stalwart and Past President Peter Dixon read George Washington's Prayer. Afterwards, those assembled, including General Secretary Russell Rich of the Maryland Society, gathered for lunch at the Mount Vernon Inn.

The DC Society had planned to hold its Annual Mess Dinner (stag) in March and a reception on April 30 commemorating the Society's 1919 gift of a portrait of George Washington to the Army Navy Club of Washington. The portrait, located in the Club's second-floor Washington Room, is an Arthur Dawson (1857-1922) copy after the Gilbert Stuart portrait. It was given in commemoration of the 130th anniversary of the First President's first inauguration.

Unfortunately, all of our events for March, April and into May were cancelled or postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Likewise, our traditional Champagne Brunch slated for mid-May (17th) at the Cosmos

Society members gather outside George Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon.

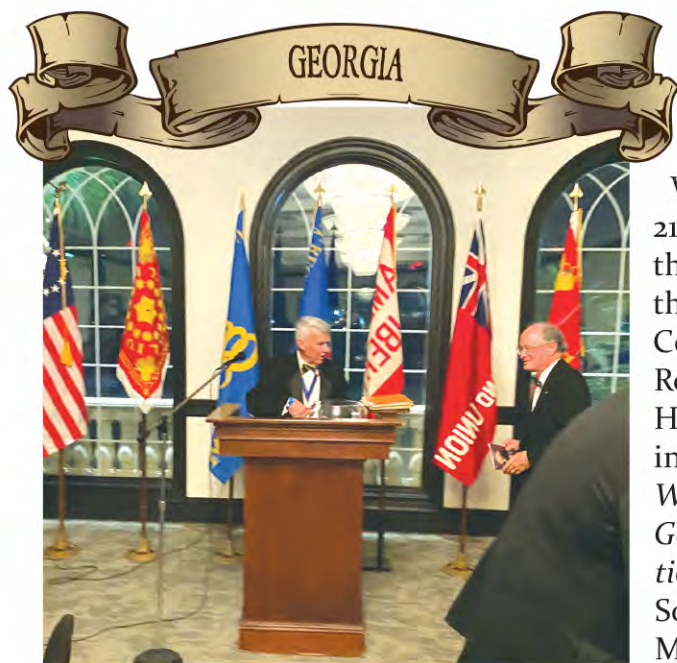
Club may likely slip to the summer, depending on when the DC government decides to end the lock-down.—text and photos submitted by Society President Sean Patrick Redmond.



Winners of the Art in American History essay contest, Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, George Washington University.



This Arthur Dawson portrait after Gilbert Stuart's original was gifted to the Army Navy Club by the DC Society in 1919.



Brig General (Retired) Steve Westgate introduces George Summerell, Jr.

George Washington's Birthday Banquet

The Georgia Chapter held its annual banquet celebrating George Washington's Birthday on February 21. Members, including several from the Nathanael Greene chapter, and their guests met at the Savannah Country Club. Our speaker was Mr. Robert Jones of Kennesaw, Georgia. He is a noted author of over 45 books, including *Top Innovations of World War II*, *A Guide to the Civil War in Georgia*, and *Heroes and Heroines of the American Revolution*. He is a past president of the Kennesaw Historical Society and an executive board member of the Kennesaw Museum Foundation. His talk explored the significant Revolutionary War battles fought in Georgia.

Music for the banquet was provided by Mr Rhett Mouchet. A medley of the Armed Forces songs was song by all, as well as a moving God Bless America. The toast to George Washington was made by Carolus Daniel, Jr., to the State of Georgia by Chip Grayson, to the Armed Forces by CAPT (Ret) Roger Coursey, and to the United States by George Summerell, Jr.



Brig General (Retired) Steve Westgate and Judge Lamar Davis, Esq.



Members and guests

Annual Meeting

At the Annual Meeting, the following officers were elected: President, Brig Gen (Ret) Steven Westgate; 1st VP, Jim Smith; 2nd VP, Chris Blaine; Secretary, Frank Hardeman; Treasurer, Paul Lester; Registrar, Charles Williams; Historian, David Dickey; Surgeon, Dr. Gene McLaurin; Solicitor, Honorable Lamar Davis; Chaplain, Gilbert Wells; Nathanael Greene Chapter Representative, David Wiley. The regularly scheduled Board of Managers meeting for April 1 was postponed and then cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We held our meeting April 27 via a ZOOM conference to conduct needed Society business.—text by Brig Gen (Ret) Steven Westgate



2019 President, CAPT (retired) Roger Coursey, passes the presidential medal to Brig Gen (Retired) Steven Westgate



Newly Elected Officers



Annual Washington Day Luncheon

Members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Washington Day Luncheon at Jax Café on February 15, 2020. The total in attendance was sixty-eight.

The Minnesota SAR Color Guard presented the colors. SAR President Dennis Garvin Croonquist led the Pledge to the United States Flag, and SR Chaplain Michael Swisher gave the invocation. Society President Larry Wray Sisk called the SR meeting to order and presided.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 16 February 2019 to mark Washington's Birthday had been sent to all members present by email and they were approved as presented. The 2019 Treasurer's report had also been sent to those present by email, and it was accepted as presented.

There was only one further item of business, the election of new officers and board members. The Nominating Committee, composed of Compatriots Minish, Finnell, and Galles and chaired by the first, was presented by Mr. Galles and recommended the following slate of candidates for election to a one-year term:

President, Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.,

Vice President, James Fredrick Foster

Secretary, Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.

Treasurer, Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.

Assistant Treasurer, Michael S. Swisher

Registrar, Arthur Louis Finnell

Assistant Registrar, Tracy Ashley Croker

Chaplain, Michael S. Swisher

Solicitor, William R. Johnson, Esq.

Representative to the General Board Duane L. C. M. Galles, Esq.

Board of Managers:

Larry Wray Sisk (ex officio) • Robert Arthur Minish, Esq. • Col. Ronald McRoberts

John Hallberg Jones • Edward Reino Lief, Esq. • Christopher Willard Moberg

Thomas Truxtun Morrison • Michael Perry Schenk • Michael LaLond West

The proposed slate was elected unanimously. President Sisk declared the officers elected and installed. He then presented the traveling president's badge and neck ribbon to Dr. Bodeau.

SAR Color Guard Commander Steve Hyde then introduced the speaker, Col. Ronald McRoberts. His illustrated presentation was, "The Colonial Wars: Lessons learned and lessons not learned," during North America's colonial wars that contributed (or did not) to victory in the Revolutionary War. His address was very well received with great applause. The Color Guard then retired the Colors and the meeting was adjourned.—submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.



L-R: Barnet Schecter, SRNY President Peter Hein, and Brian Gill, gathered for Tallmadge Day at Fraunces Tavern.

Support Outreach during COVID-19

A letter from Director Scott Dwyer to the SRNY and FTM community on April 8 requests assistance during these difficult times, to ensure that Fraunces Tavern Museum (frauncestavernmuseum.org/) and Fraunces Tavern Restaurant (frauncestavern.com/) can remain open for another 250 years and beyond.

“[With the Fraunces Tavern complex] Closed since March 16th, the financial impact has been immediate and catastrophic. Neither our Museum nor Restaurant were designed to completely transition our operations to off-site virtual platforms or to delivery, respectively. The Restaurant has laid off nearly their entire 70-person staff and the Museum has furloughed half our staff so far.

Income from our Restaurant tenant has been a significant source of revenue for the Museum and we are look-

ing at a potentially large and possibly long-term hole in the Museum’s operating budget. When both open again, it will be in a changed city in a changed economy, and the prospects for returning to their previous level of business any time soon are currently dim.

“More difficult decisions, including cuts to staffing, public programming and maintenance on our historic properties, will likely need to be made in the future to ensure our survival without new sources of income.

“Please reach out to your elected officials to advocate on our behalf for funding for museums and the restaurant industry in response to COVID-19. If you can provide additional funds or resources, or suggest ways we can be of continued service to you during this difficult time, we would be most grateful. Donations can be made via check or online on our websites.”



WIKIPEDIA.ORG/TIM PIERCE

Explore Fraunces Tavern Museum from Home

Now, visitors can explore Fraunces Tavern Museum from home! The Museum’s Digital Content Hub (frauncestavernmuseum.org/digital-content) is a virtual way to stay connected with the Museum and continue to learn more about the history of New York City and its role in the Revolutionary War.

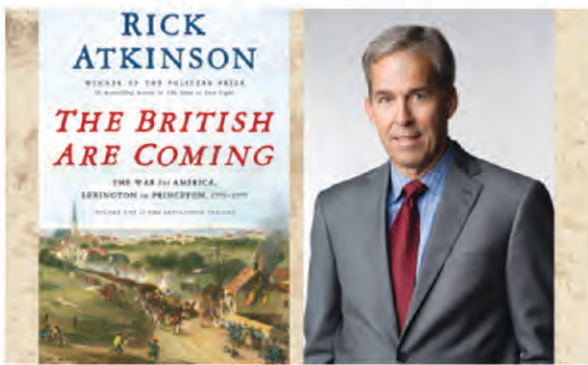
Browse the Museum blog and digital collections, including the Object of the Month (frauncestavernmuseum.org/object-of-the-month) series which highlights pieces from the newly acquired Worley collection.

Recordings from the Evening Lecture Series Archive are available to stream on the Museum’s website, as well as on Apple podcasts - search Fraunces Tavern Museum.

The Museum is also proud to present its first ever digital exhibition. “Valuable” (frauncestavernmuseum.org/valuable) was an exhibition at Fraunces Tavern Museum from November 4, 2016 through July 8, 2019. Visitors can explore the exhibition, which highlights eight objects in our collection that provide important contributions that preserve and interpret American history and culture, and take a digital guided tour.

Explore all of the offerings at

<https://www.frauncestavernmuseum.org/digital-content>, and be sure to subscribe to the *Museum Messenger* (frauncestavernmuseum.org/mailling-list) for updates.



Author Rick Atkinson and his award-winning book, *The British Are Coming: Lexington to Princeton, 1775-1777*.

Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award

On behalf of Fraunces Tavern Museum and the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York, Inc., we are pleased to present the **2020 Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award** to Rick Atkinson for his work, *The British Are Coming: The War for America, Lexington to Princeton, 1775-1777*. Honorable Mentions will also be presented to John Buchanan for *The Road to Charleston: Nathanael Greene and the American Revolution*, and T.H. Breen for *The Will of the People: The Revolutionary Birth of America*.

We are pleased to announce that Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Buchanan will be in attendance to accept their awards at our

Battles of Lexington and Concord Dinner (sonsoftherevolution.org/2020/02/27/battles-of-lexington-and-concord-dinner-fraunces-tavern-museum-book-award-presentation/)

at Fraunces Tavern, currently scheduled for Sept. 28, 2020.

Since 1972, the Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award (frauncestavernmuseum.org/fraunces-tavern-museum-book-award/?utm_content=2018+Book+Award) has been presented annually to the best author of a newly published work on the American Revolutionary War that combines original scholarship, insight, and good writing.

Tallmadge Day and the Battle of Golden Hill

This year's **Tallmadge Day Commemoration** was held on Jan. 27. The annual event honors the birthday of Frederick Samuel Tallmadge, who was the second president of the New York Society. His generosity enabled the Society to acquire Fraunces Tavern in 1904.

Tallmadge Day this year coincided with the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Golden Hill, which occurred just blocks from Fraunces Tavern on January 19, 1770. On the evening of Tallmadge Day, Fraunces Tavern hosted a presentation on the Battle of Golden Hill and its repercussions, given by historian Barnet Schecter and followed by a Q&A. Mr. Schecter is the author of *The Battle for New York* and *George Washington's America*.

Essentially, the battle was one of the first clashes in New York between British soldiers and local citizenry. Since it was the first in which serious injuries occurred, it is often called the "first blood" incident of the Revolution. The Battle of Golden Hill predated the Boston Massacre by six weeks.

The Sons of Liberty stirred up agitation in the month leading up to the battle. Alexander McDougall, a leader of the New York Sons, posted an anonymous broadside on December 16, 1769, addressed to the "Betrayed Inhabitants of the City and Colony of New York." News of the hostilities traveled quickly and came to influence events in Boston, where the Boston Massacre occurred on March 5th of that year.

After the battle presentation, a reception was held in the Fraunces Tavern Museum's "Fear and Force" exhibit space. Said exhibit illustrates the activities of the Sons of Liberty leading up to the Revolution.—*text and photos submitted by Colyn C. Hunt, SRNY Events & Membership Manager.*



Tallmadge Day gathering at Fraunces Tavern.

George Washington Birthday Ball





SRNC members pause in front of Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson's grave marker at Hopewell Presbyterian Church during the annual commemoration of the Battle of Cowan's Ford.

239th Commemoration of Cowan's Ford

The 239th Commemoration of the Battle of Cowan's Ford, a battle waged on Feb. 1, 1781, at which Gen. Wm. Lee Davidson gave his life for the cause of independence, was held at the Hopewell Presbyterian Church on Jan. 25, 2020. Organized by the Mecklenburg SAR and officiated by President Stephen P. McKee, the commemoration was highlighted by a first-person presentation of Benjamin Franklin. Afterwards, compatriots assembled in the cemetery for the presentation of wreaths at Gen. Davidson's grave site. In attendance were SRNC members John Misenheimer, Ken Luckey and Russ McCullough. SRNC President Gus Succop gave the closing Benediction.

Moore's Creek – 244th Anniversary of the Battle

Attending the 244th Anniversary of the Battle of Moore's Creek, Currie, NC, were SRNC President Emeritus Dan Hopping and President Gus Succop. Fought on Feb. 27, 1776, the battle was one of the first skirmishes between NC Patriots and Loyalist militia forces, mostly Scottish Highlanders wielding broadswords. The patriot victory spurred the creation of the Halifax Resolves on April 12, 1776, which instructed NC delegates to the Continental Congress to vote for independence.

Annual George Washington Luncheon

The SRNC held its annual George Washington Birthday Luncheon on March 7 at The State Club, Raleigh, NC. After a Board of Directors' Meeting and a Patriotic Social, the assembled



L-R: John Misenheimer, SR-NC President Gus Succop, and President Emeritus Dan Hopping at Moore's Creek National Battlefield. A February 1776 skirmish there spurred the creation of the Halifax Resolves.

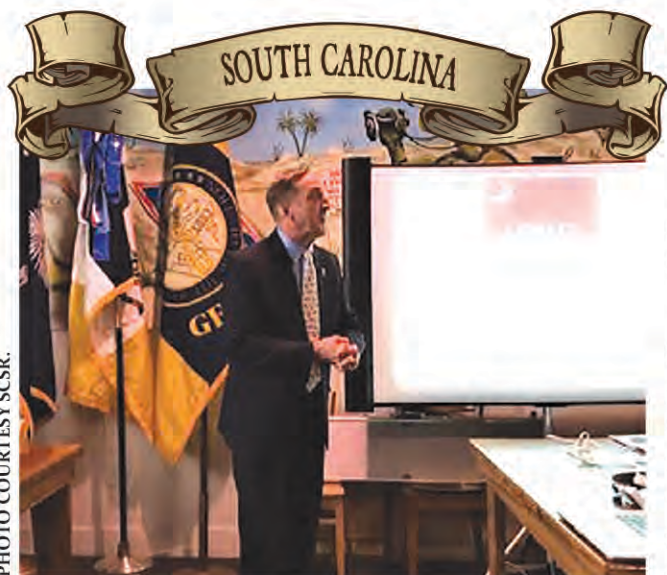
enjoyed a buffet luncheon which was followed by a presentation by keynote speaker John Braswell. Entitled "The Youngest Two Generals of the Revolutionary War," Mr. Braswell spoke of the heroic examples of Gen. Nathanael Greene and Major Gen. Marque de Lafayette.

(Nota Bene: In light of the current covid-19 health crisis, the 2020 Annual Meeting will now be held as part of the Nov. 14, 2020, Yorktown Commemoration at The North Ridge Country Club, Raleigh, NC. Members, guests, spouses and prospective members are invited.)

—text by SRNC President Gus Succop and photos by SRNC President Emeritus Dan Hopping



SRNC Registrar John Harman, left, inducts three new members during the Annual George Washington Luncheon March 7, 2020 in Raleigh.



David Paul Reuwer, Esq., during his presentation in Beaufort.

Port Royal Island Battle Site Tour

On February 1, the SR Societies in Georgia and South Carolina joined for a Region 3 event in Beaufort, SC. The event was a presentation on the 1779 Battle of Port Royal Island given by David Paul Reuwer, Esq., from Camden, SC. Mr. Reuwer is Vice President of the SC Battleground Preservation Trust.

In addition to members of the SR being present, representatives of the SAR and DAR were also on hand. The group met at Gilliam's Seafood Restaurant in Beaufort. After a wonderful seafood lunch, Mr. Reuwer took us through the battle event and tied it into his organization's plan of the site being added to the SC Liberty Trail. After the presentation, Mr. Reuwer led the group on a tour of the actual battle site.

Region 3 Vice President Ivan Bennett presented David

with a beverage glass etched with the seals of the SR, SAR, DAR, and CAR. In return, David presented Vice President Bennett with a cap bearing the logo of the SC Battleground Preservation Trust Liberty Trail.

Fort Hayes Station Massacre

South Carolina Society President Tom Weidner and some twenty other individuals attended the Society's first event of the year on March 7 to commemorate the Patriot fallen at Fort Hayes Station. The site was a tavern on an old stage coach line near present-day Mountville in Laurens County. Members of two SAR Chapters and two DAR Chapters also attended the event. SCSR streamers were presented to all who were present.

On Nov. 19, 1781, Major William "Bloody Bill" Cunningham and a large force of Loyalist militia attacked a much smaller group of Patriot militia at the home of their commander, Col. Joseph Hayes. The Patriots surrendered when the home was set on fire. Bloody Bill then lived up to his name. The eighteen prisoners, including Col. Hayes, were hanged. Their bodies were then dismembered and strewn about the area.



L-R: Region 3 GVP Ivan Bennett, Georgia Society President Steven Westgate, and Georgia Past President Frank Hardeman.

Spring Quarterly Membership Meeting

The Society held its Spring Quarterly Membership Meeting in Greenville, SC, on March 14, 2020. The meeting took place at the UpCountry History Museum. Special guests attending included Ellen Zaki, President, and Margaret Thomas, Vice President, Col. John Robbins Chapter Colonial Dames 17th Century.

After Executive Committee reports were presented and approved, business items were discussed. Total membership to date was thirty-nine members, with others pending. Four memorial commemorations were announced for 2020: Ft. Hayes' Station, Ft. Lindley, Ft. Gramby, and Ft. Thickety. But, subsequently the pandemic developed and the state was closed. Thus far, only the Fort Hayes' Station event has been held.



PHOTO BY TOM HANSON.

Board members and guests at the Spring Quarterly Membership Meeting.

During the meeting, by-laws were approved for the newly created Greenville Chapter. Founding members are Albert Futrell, Tom Weidner, Chuck Swoope, Steve Swoope, and Ivan Bennett.

Revolutionary War Literacy Project

The SCSR has initiated a new program of donating children's books on the Revolutionary War to elementary school libraries. Each member in each region of the Society will select a favorite book on the Revolutionary War to present to a local elementary school library. The Society will then purchase the books and coordinate their presentation to the schools.

Each donated book will carry a label on the front cover indicating it is a gift from SCSR in the name of LTC Bradley Hudson. LTC Hudson, a member of SCSR, provided seed money for a scholarship fund. He joined the Society in 2008 and currently resides in Woodbridge, Virginia, and works as a Nuclear Research Officer/Manager at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

Thus far, the Society has raised \$500 toward the purchase of the books. In time, it is hoped that the fund will continue to grow to include our first scholarship awarded to a worthy high school graduate wishing to enter into the military and educational pursuits.—text and photos from *The Crescent Moon*, Spring 2020.



PHOTO BY TOM HANSON.

Society Vice President Albert Futrell signing the Greenville Chapter charter.





The Sons of Liberty entertain at the East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville.

Old Thyme Christmas Gathering

On January 4, 2020, the re-enactment group Tennesseans for Living History sponsored an “Old Thyme Christmas Gathering” at the East Tennessee History Center in downtown Knoxville. Society President David Daily, TSSOR Board members, and members of the Anderson County Chapter represented the Sons. Other societies present were the DAR, SAR, Overmountain Victory Trail Association, and board members from the James White Fort and Ramsey House historical sites.

Visitors were treated to an 18th century experience that began with a tour of the East Tennessee Historical Museum. Dressed in period attire, participants served an authentic 18th century meal that included a delectable pork dish, vegetables, and dessert. Finally for entertainment, music was provided by three talented young violinists from Ewing, Virginia known as the Sons of Liberty. They performed a lively touch of traditional period music that fit the occasion.

Educating the Public

On January 23, the Anderson County Chapter Sons of the Revolution gave a presentation to Claxton Elementary School students in Anderson County, Tennessee. This presentation was given during after-hours open house and was attended by interested students and parents. Jerry Mustin displayed a long hunter’s camp, and Harry and Elizabeth Bumgardner gave a presentation on the history of the David Hall cabin located in the Claxton community. SOR member Steve Portwood was also present. These TSSOR members fielded many questions from the receptive audience. Jerry demonstrated how to create a fire with a metal striker and a strip of flax cloth treated with gunpowder. Elizabeth provided a rich history of the David Hall cabin, informing the audience that this is an original structure owned by Revolutionary War soldier David Hall.

Following the Claxton school presentation, on February 5, Knox County SOR Chapter President Bob Jones organized a presentation for home-school students who attend the Rivers Edge Academy at the West Towne Christian Church campus. The event was part of the school’s proclaimed Historical Week. Portraying Tennessee Revolutionary War soldier and first Tennessee Governor John Sevier, Bob introduced the students to the life of this famous Tennessee founding father.

Again, Jerry Mustin was present at this event as well and displayed his long hunter’s camp. He introduced the students to the items a long hunter would take out into the frontier to survive. After the presentations, students asked many questions concerning the information given and about the many artifacts presented.



Knox County Chapter President Bob Jones portraying John Sevier at the Rivers Edge Academy for home-schooled children.



The Society's featured guest speaker at the annual banquet was Jim Claborn, historian, teacher, writer, and Davy Crockett re-enactor. Photo © The Greeneville Sun (2019).

2020 Annual Meeting and Banquet

On February 22, the State Society hosted its annual George Washington Banquet and State Meeting at the Jubilee Banquet Hall in Knoxville. This year our annual patriotic celebration and meeting fell precisely on George Washington's birthday, giving it special meaning. Though formal attire was recommended, some members came in period dress.

First on the agenda was the annual business meeting. After the various reports were presented, Mr. David Whaley, representing the nominating committee, submitted the proposed names for the TNSOR officers and board members for the upcoming year. The candidates were elected into office by a unanimous vote. The new officers and board members for the 2020-21 year are: David Daily, President; David Rutherford, Vice President; Robert Jones, Secretary; Jerry Cox, Treasurer, Larry Fox, Registrar. Board members are: Harry Bumgardner, Jerry Creasey, Steve Portwood, Jim Rivers, Alan Williams, and Leo York.

Our featured speaker was local historian Jim Claborn, a social studies teacher, filmmaker, and writer. But he is most known as a David Crockett re-enactor at Dollywood. Jim's talk was about the military veterans of East Tennessee who served their country from the Revolutionary War to the

present. He emphasized the sacrifices these individuals made for their country. In addition to sharing some personal stories about these veterans, Jim also displayed many artifacts donated to him from the many veterans he has met.

Concluding our celebration of George Washington's birthday was a solemn memorial honoring those members whose deaths were reported to the Society this past year. After the meeting, a delicious meal of a choice of pork or chicken along with a vegetable medley was served to members, family members, and guests. A wonderful fellowship was enjoyed by all.

For the Fox family, this social gathering was especially rewarding. Attending were four generations of Fox Society Sons of the Revolution members. Present with the patriarch Larry Fox were family members Douglas, his son; Paul Fox and Phillip McKenzie, grandsons; and Gibson McKenzie, great grandson.—text and photos from *The Tennessee Rifleman*, Vol. 61, No. 1.



TSSOR State Officers being sworn in during the annual George Washington Banquet and State Meeting, held on February 22.



VMI Pipe and Drum Corps performing at Commonwealth Club.

to the Supreme Allied Command Transformation SACT for France, was our special guest. In honor of Colonel Heluin's presence, the national anthems of both France and the United States were sung



Joe and Matthew Thornton

1980. He served thirty-three years as an intelligence officer.

Other News

Thirty-two new members were inducted into the Virginia Society, as our membership continues to grow. As of this writing, we have 598 active members. Our spring get-acquainted Happy Hour for prospective members that had been planned for March had to be postponed. We will re-schedule for early summer. Also, our Annual Meeting, which was set for May 6, 2020, will be re-scheduled for later this year at the Tuckahoe Women's Club.—submitted by VSSR President Dr. John Daniel

This Robert Scot rare map of the Yorktown battle shows the Lafayette flag on the bottom left-hand side. It is a cornerstone document of American national heritage. Only twelve original copies are known to exist in the U.S. As the only known American survey of the Yorktown battle (1781), it shows the investiture of Yorktown, with the American trenches and 'The Field where the British laid down their Arms.' The American forces are shown in blue, the French in yellow, and the British in red. The map was advertised for sale in The New York Packet and the American Advertiser in March 1782.

Washington's Birthday Celebration

The Virginia Society Sons of the Revolution held its 124th Annual Black Tie George Washington's Birthday celebration on February 22, 2020 at the Commonwealth Club in Richmond. We tied our attendance record, with 220 fellow patriots on hand. Of special interest, the Lafayette Flag was presented to our Society by compatriots Stephen Atkinson and his son Prescott Brandon Atkinson. Flown at the Battle of Yorktown and appearing in the 1782 map of the Yorktown battle (see image below), it will be added to the Society's cadre of more than fifty flags which we display at various events.

Colonel Bruno Heluin, the national liaison



L-R: Patrick Strecker, Craig Almond, Nick Almond, and VSSR Asst Treasurer Barry Almond.

as the evening got underway.

Flag Officers representing all services from our nation's Armed Forces were present, as was the Virginia Military Institute Pipe and Drum Corps. The VMI Pipe and Drum Corps' gallant procession and rendition of patriotic music is an annual highlight of this event.

The event's speaker was Admiral Sam Cox. Admiral Cox is the Director of Naval History and Heritage Command, and has been a foremost naval historian since graduating from the US Naval Academy in



SOURCE: RCT/UK COLLECTION/734069



Patriot Chronicles

THE DUTCH PATRIOTS: OUR THIRD HELPER AGAINST BRITAIN

By David W. Swafford, Editor

While France was the only 'official' Patriot ally in the Revolutionary War and Spain assisted the rebels covertly until 1779 and afterward more overtly, a third source of European material support came from the Dutch Republic. But unlike France and Spain, in the beginning the Dutch help did not emanate from the government. Initially, and for nearly the length of the war, it came only from supporters of the largely unorganized Dutch States' Party, a.k.a. the Dutch Patriots.

At the time, the Dutch Republic was deeply divided between Orangists (supporters of the Stadtholders by inheritance) and the Patriots, who favored local governments and states' rights. Among the most stalwart of Patriots were the Republic's many merchant-traders. Due to the economic benefits derived from trade with the early Americans, especially illicit trade, the merchants were ardent supporters of the colonists in their struggle for independence. The following story describes their aid.



West India Company Flag

In declaring war on the Dutch Republic in 1780, King George III refused to distinguish the difference between the government in The Hague and the New West-India Company (WIC). For it wasn't the House of Orange-Nassau or the States-General, per se, that irritated him so much as the directors of the reorganized charter company and the plethora of trader-merchants profiting from its activities.

Although the Dutch Republic and Britain were once allies, divergent trade interests between them led to a series of four Anglo-Dutch wars from 1652 thru 1784. In fact, Britain's Navigation Acts were as much designed to curtail Dutch shipping as they were to monopolize trade with the Thirteen Colonies. Hence,

the Dutch and the colonial Americans were "natural allies in the war against mercantilist protectionism," writes Professor Victor Enthoven of the University of Amsterdam.

From the British perspective, though, something had to be done to stop the growing amount of contraband trade that was going on from Massachusetts to Georgia with the non-British Caribbean. Colonial Virginia administrator Robert Dinwiddie in the 1740s estimated that trade between the Thirteen Colonies and the Spanish, French, and Dutch islands amounted to £1.1million annually.

"It is not known what proportion of this commerce comprised smuggling," writes Kenneth Morgan, Professor of History at Brunel University (UK), "but [illegal trade] in the Caribbean was extensive and involved every colony in the Americas... The Dutch, in particular, were deeply involved in smuggling in the

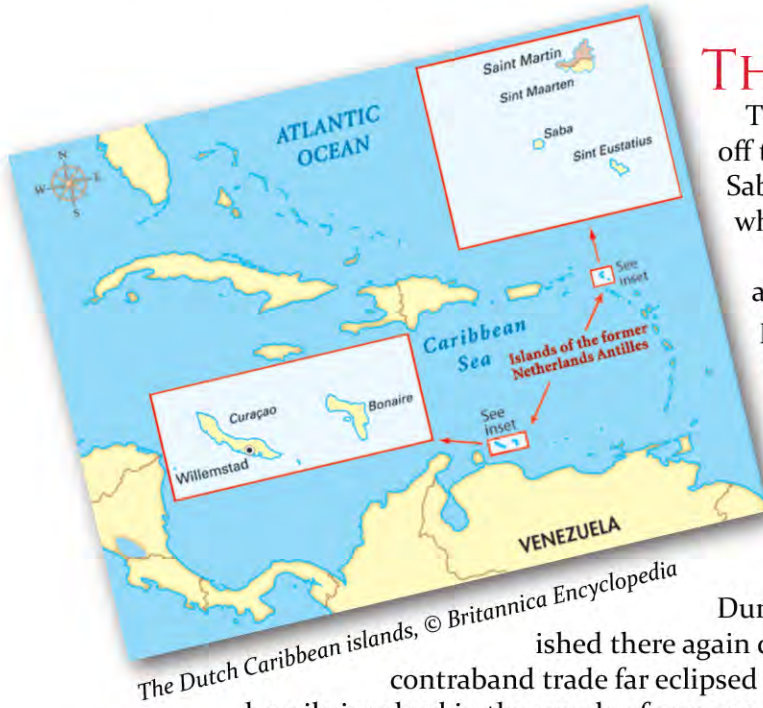


Dutch Regents were oftentimes wealthy merchant-traders who supported the American colonists. A leading Regent of Amsterdam, Jan de Neufville, put his signature on parts of a treaty outline with the Colonies which Britain later confiscated. Another Regent, Joan Derk Van der Capellan, included \$200,000 of his own money when the United Provinces agreed to loan Congress \$2 million.

West Indies.”

The issue of Dutch smuggling resulted from a clause in the peace treaty of the Second Anglo-Dutch War (1665 – 1667). It stated Britain would give the Dutch free-trade rights (excluding weaponry and munitions) during wars in which Britain was a belligerent but the Dutch proclaimed neutrality. It was known as the “free ship, free goods” clause.

An unforeseen ramification of this clause effectively made the Dutch Caribbean islands into colorful, teeming open markets during times of European wars, given their proximity to British, French, and Spanish isles. In particular when the belligerents were either Britain and France or Britain and Spain, the Dutch islands attracted vast amounts of people and ships looking to get around trade restrictions placed on the other isles.



THE ‘GOLDEN ROCK’

The Dutch islands included Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao just off the Venezuelan coast, and Sint Maarten, Sint Eustatius and Saba in the Leeward Islands. It was in St. Eustatius, especially, where wartime trade brought sensational prosperity.

St. Eustatius was first discovered by Christopher Columbus and passed hands several times between the different European colonizing empires. Its sovereignty stabilized after 1636, when it was officially taken by the Dutch West India Company. The island’s comparatively little arable acreage and scarcity of freshwater prohibited the cultivation of sugarcane. On the other hand, its deep, protected anchorage on the leeward side was perfect for ships to come and go. Its wide beach was an excellent resource for storage, too, even before warehousing was constructed.

During the Seven Years’ War, trade flourished there. It flourished there again during the Revolutionary War. By 1776, Dutch-American contraband trade far eclipsed Dutch-American licit trade. The Republic’s merchants were

heavily involved in the supply of arms and munitions to the American Patriots. Ships would sail from the Colonies into St. Eustatius bearing tobacco and indigo, among other products. They would return to their home ports laden with war supplies—or cheap French molasses.

By 1779, some 12,000 hogsheads of tobacco and 1.5 million ounces of indigo came to St. Eustatius from the Colonies. In the same year, 3,182 vessels departing the island, as reported by a Dutch rear-admiral. That volume was astounding, considering the area of St. Eustatius is just eight square miles and its permanent population at the time was just over 3,000, more than half of which was slaves.

At Oranjestad, the only island’s only settlement, Lower Town was dominated by merchant residences and extensive warehousing, where much “wheeling and dealing” occurred. Among the commercial class were hundreds of American trade representatives. According to Professor Enthoven, Oranjestad had a “Wild West” feel about it. The negligible profits of the WIC made investing in the island’s administration and law enforcement a disincentive.

HAVE POWDER: WILL TRADE

George III called the non-stop trading of military wares from St. Eustatius to his rebellious Thirteen Colonies an interference in the



The aerial view shows St. Eustatius from northwest to southeast, with St. Kitts rising in the background.



Former headquarters of Dutch West India Company, in Amsterdam. Today the John Adams Institute is housed there.

of 1776 alone, eighteen Dutch ships packed with black powder set sail for the Colonies. The high price of black powder in America proved a great temptation to the Dutch merchants. They could buy it in Holland for 40-42 florins per hundredweight and sell it in America for 240 florins per hundredweight.

In an incident that enraged the British government, the Dutch governor of the island, Johannes de Graafe, ordered a public salute of the first American ship into St. Eustatius bearing the new “Continental Flag” of the United Colonies (See flag, next page). The *Andrew Doria* commanded by Isaiah Robinson entered St. Eustatius on November 16, 1776 and fired a thirteen-gun salute. The commandant of Fort Orange returned salute with eleven shots, the normal procedure when welcoming a foreign sovereignty’s ship.

This was the first instance a foreign country publicly “recognized” the sovereignty of the Thirteen Colonies. De Graafe was sent to The Hague to explain himself, perhaps in a move meant to defuse British anger. He retained his position and was sent back to St. Eustatius.

SINK THE ‘GOLDEN ROCK!’

In order to shut down the island-emporium once and for all, George III needed a good excuse to make war. He found it when the 28-gun, sixth-rate British frigate *Vestal* intercepted the unaccompanied and unarmed Congressional brigantine *Mercury* on September 3, 1780, off the coast of Newfoundland.

Henry Laurens, a past president of Congress, was onboard heading to Europe to assume his new role as Minister to the United Provinces. The purpose of his trip was to seek financial and material support for the American rebels. The Continental Congress had authorized Laurens to seek a loan of \$10 million.

Before the British soldiers could detain him, he burned some of his most confidential papers and threw others overboard, in a duffle stuffed with lead shot. As legend now has it, from a high perch on the *Vestal*’s mast, fifteen-year-old recruit Michael Fitton spotted Laurens. He alerted his ship’s officers. A vigilant sailor dove into the water and retrieved the duffle before it could sink.

Among the recovered papers was the outline of the trade agreement, “Amsterdam Pact of Amity and Commerce.” Some of the pact’s articles had been signed by congressional agent William Lee and by John de Neufville, deputy pensionary for the city of Amsterdam. Laurens was arrested as a political prisoner and taken onboard the *Vestal* to London. He was detained in the Tower of London.

Meanwhile, George III declared war on the Dutch Republic. Its *Stadtholder*, the Prince of Orange Willem V, was a direct cousin.

war, even though the Dutch Republic had declared itself neutral and the Dutch military was never involved.

Above all, gunpowder dominated the illegal trade. The powder that was shipped through St. Eustatius usually originated in the Dutch Republic or in nearby countries. Early-twentieth century historian J. Franklin Jameson writes: “[T]he island played a far greater part in the economy of the [American] Revolution than most persons suppose.”

Gunpowder was sent north in massive amounts, in the tens of thousands of pounds per ship. One of the largest shipments of powder on a single vessel was 49,000 pounds. The powder was sent out “disguised in tea-chests, rice barrels, and the like,” Jameson states.

The Dutch themselves also sailed for the Colonies from St. Eustatius, given the “free ship, free goods” protection under their flag. In the first five months

RODNEY'S RAMPAGE

On Feb. 3, 1781, Admiral Sir George Rodney commanded a force of fifteen ships of the line and several frigates, accompanied by 3,000 land troops, to the harbor at Oranjestad to either secure an unconditional surrender or reduce the place to nothing. He gave Governor de Graafe an hour to comply. The latter, of course, handed over the keys to the island immediately.

Instead of assigning a contingency there and proceeding elsewhere as determined by his next orders, Rodney lingered on St. Eustatius for three months and led his men "like a swarm of locusts" to pillage the island and strip it bare. He first confiscated hundreds of vessels in port, seized all their goods, then declared that all foreigners had to leave (meaning French, Spanish, American, and British merchants).

By allowing the Dutch flag to remain flying at port, Rodney took possession of still other incoming ships. Next, decreeing that all islanders were temporary prisoners of war, he robbed a hundred Jewish men of all their money and, without their wives and children, deported them to St. Kitts and St. Thomas.

He also confiscated everything in the warehouses and even the personal valuables of the island's inhabitants. He auctioned off a great deal of the booty and returned the rest via merchant convoy to England, in the name of His Majesty the king.

Sir Edmund Burke in Parliament later described such actions as a disgrace to the honor of England. Burke said he had stripped without regard to friend or foe the wealth from the opulent, goods from the merchant, tools and utensils from the artisan, and the basic necessities of the poor. In the blink of an eye, he "pronounced a sentence of general beggary upon a whole people."



Color reverse print of Rodney's fleet at St. Eustatius, 1781, by Johann Baptist Bergmüller.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

With Henry Laurens detained in London, Congress appointed John Adams to take his place as Minister to the United Provinces for the purpose of securing a loan. He presented his credentials at The Hague in the spring of 1781. A year after he had made his request and six years after the rebels had declared their independence from Britain, Adams was officially acknowledged as ambassador.

The future President was constantly put-off by the endless delays and non-commitments he faced in trying to rally money for the Colonies. The careful and deliberate nature of the Dutch, especially in the context of the geopolitics of the day, exasperated his patience.

It wasn't until after the decisive battle at Yorktown that the government in The Hague warmed to the Americans. Nearly a year after Cornwallis' surrender, Adams was able to conclude a loan of 5 million guilders (\$2 million) at five percent interest. It was not the \$10 million that Congress had hoped for, but all parties were content.

The Dutch Republic further deepened its financial commitment to the United States following the signing of the Treaty of Paris (1783), which ended the Revolutionary War and recognized U.S. independence. By 1794, the total amount lent by the Dutch had risen to thirty million guilders or \$12 million. At the time, it comprised the entire foreign debt of the United States.



The "Continental Flag," "Congressional Flag" or "Grand Union Flag" is considered the first national flag of the United States of America, pre-dating the Bennington flag and the Betsy Ross flag. It was adopted Dec. 3, 1775 and used both as a garrison flag and a naval ensign. It was relinquished June 14, 1777.

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CHAMPIONS OF LIBERTY

Service Records

FORTTICONDEROGA.ORG/CHASE



This rugged star-fort at the southern end of Lake Ticonderoga was a strategic point during the French & Indian War and Revolutionary War.

Capt. John Bull (1749-1839)

Revolutionary War veteran John Bull, a native of Hartford County, Connecticut, served in the Continental Army for just over three years, from April 1775 to May 1778. The peak of his service was probably May - July 1777, when he was named Director of the Artillery Laboratory at Fort Ticonderoga by Maj. Gen. Phillip Schuyler.

With the title and pay of captain, he served under then-Maj. Ebenezer Stevens, Commandant of Artillery for the Northern Department (and future grandfather of this Society's founder, John Austin Stevens).

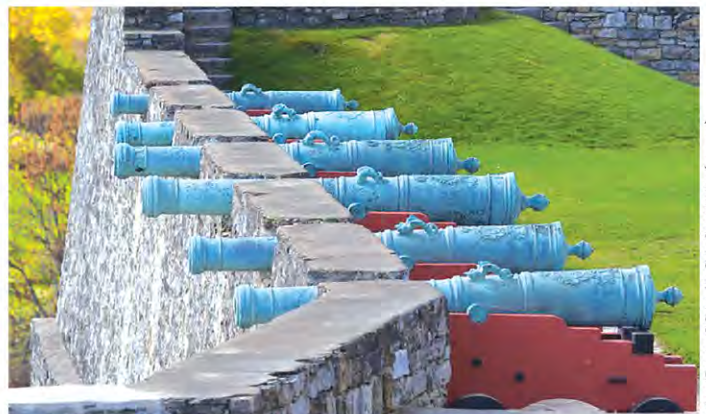
During that short two-month period, according to his pension files, Capt. Bull was charged with procuring, producing, and distributing ammunition. Among other duties would have been the acquisition of gunpowder (probably smuggled) and the manufacture of shell cases, fuses, etc. His service at Fort Ticonderoga was cut short on July 5, 1777, though, when General Arthur St. Clair ordered an immediate evacuation of all Patriot forces in advance of a probable British cannonade. St. Clair surrendered the fort without any shots from the enemy.

A year following the evacuation at Ticonderoga, Capt. Bull was honorably discharged. He had quickly enlisted in the Patriot cause not long after the Battle of Lexington-Concord. On April 21, 1775, he was listed as a private in Capt. Jacob Brown's Company of Minutemen. That May, he re-enlisted in an artillery company at Roxbury under Capt. John Wiley. In October he appeared as a private in Capt. Moses Saul's Company, Col. John Fellow's 8th Regiment. By December, he was a First Sargent in Capt. Ezra Badlam's Company, Col. Richard Gridley's Artillery Regiment. On Jan. 20, 1776, he received a commission as Second Lt. in Gridley's Regiment.

Bull was born in Enfield, Connecticut, on Feb. 11, 1749, the third child of Amos and Mindwell (Pease) Bull. Prior to the Revolution, he removed to Sandisfield, Massachusetts, where he went into general trade with his brother, Luther. He married Dorcas Smith, daughter of Benjamin and Ruth (Snow) Smith, of Sandisfield, Jan. 12, 1770. In 1771 John Bull is listed on the Tax valuation list in Sandisfield, but after the Revolutionary War he removed with his family to Stockbridge, Massachusetts, where he again went into business with his brother, Luther.

By 1790, he had moved his family again to Canajoharie, New York, as they are listed there in that year's census. In 1791 he was appointed the first town clerk of Cherry Valley, New York, some twenty miles south of Canajoharie. In 1806 he removed to Canaan, New York, which was near the home of his son, John, Jr., at Lebanon Springs.

He likely resided at Canaan until after the death of his wife in 1831, when he appears to have removed to Lebanon Springs. Capt. Bull died at Lebanon Springs, N.Y., on Nov. 14, 1839, aged 90 years, 9 months, 3 days.—Sharon Toms



A battery of 24-pounders point out from atop Fort Ticonderoga overlooking the Narrows.

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CHAMPIONS OF LIBERTY

Service Records

Denis-Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen (1745 – 1808)



Denis Cottineau

In a quiet corner of Colonial Cemetery in Savannah, Georgia, lay the mortal remains of Denis Nicolas Cottineau de Kerloguen, a truly heroic naval veteran of the American Revolution. After the outbreak of the war, Capt. Cottineau received a commission in the Continental Navy and served as captain of the *Pallas*, a French man-of-war of thirty guns loaned briefly in 1779 to the squadron of John Paul Jones.

Cottineau seconded John Paul Jones during the famous defeat of the *Serapis* by the *Bonhomme Richard*, on Sept. 23, 1779. Just before this battle took place off Flamborough Head on the eastern coast of England, he told Jones, "I will stand

by you in any event." With his corvette's guns blazing, he took on the much larger H.M. *Countess of Scarborough*, and, after an hour's hard fighting, the British warship struck her colors.

A French compatriot of Cottineau's, named Capt. Pierre Landais, formed part of the American force and commanded the *Alliance*. But during the battle, instead of helping the cause, Landais turned his guns toward both the *Serapis* and *Bonhomme Richard*, firing indiscriminately at both, significantly hampering Jones' progress.

Cottineau later corroborated Jones' account of the treason which Landais committed. After that, Landais challenged Cottineau to a duel by the sword on a coastal island off Holland, which the latter accepted. During the bloody fight, Cottineau was seriously wounded in the right side but survived.

Our French hero was born at Nantes on the Loire River about 1745. His was from a family of government officials who derived nobility from the office of *échevin* of Nantes. He began his fascinating life when young, sailing to Saint-Domingue (later renamed Haiti) and acquiring a love of the sea. He began his military career as a lieutenant in the French Navy before the American Revolution commenced.

Following the close of the Revolutionary War, Cottineau returned to Saint-Domingue and became the owner of a large sugarcane plantation near Fort-Dauphin. He served as an electeur of the island parish of Saint-Marc, and as late as 1789 as member of the Comité of Port-au-Prince. His fellow parishioners elected him as a deputy to the Constituant Assembly in France, but he never served as such. Following the 1790 French campaign against the British, during which he commanded an armed ship, Cottineau returned to Saint-Domingue and became a coffee planter.

When the slaves under Toussaint l'Ouverture began their massacre of 50,000 French men, women, and children on the island, the Cottineaus fled to Pennsylvania. Capt. Cottineau invested in and moved his family to the Azilum Company in Pennsylvania, a planned settlement for French refugees built in 1793 in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, along the Susquehanna River.

After a few years in Pennsylvania, the Cottineaus again relocated to Savannah, and the veteran captain became a schoolmaster there. He also became an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Georgia. He died of consumption in Savannah on 29 November 1808.—compiled and submitted by the late Gordon S. Smith, former General Historian.



State Historical Marker at Cottineau's gravesite, erected 1957.

Daniel Morgan:

The Heroic Revolutionary Rifleman of the Cowpens

By James E. Rhodes, SRNY Member

The following article continues our series on the Comitia Americana medals and others closely related. These late eighteenth century Congressional medals were approved, designed and struck to honor primarily ten Revolutionary War heroes, including Daniel Morgan, the subject of this essay. The project unfortunately languished over a period of several years, then fizzled before it was properly completed.

As a result, today's extant copies of these medals are valuable tokens for their historical significance and rarity. The text of these articles is largely excerpted from the 2007 book *Comitia Americana and Related Medals*:

Underappreciated Monuments to Our Heritage by John W. Adams and Anne E. Bentley, with permission from their publisher, George Frederick Kolbe of Crestline, California.



Daniel Morgan

His Career

"Daniel Morgan and his famous riflemen were present at most of the decisive points of the American Revolution. His unit reported to General Washington at Boston, after which it joined the invasion of Canada in 1776, where Morgan was captured by the British.

Exchanged in time to serve at Saratoga, he played an important role in that pivotal battle. He then rejoined the main army, where Washington entrusted him with important assignments at Monmouth, Morristown, and Germantown—and indeed, wherever the action was heaviest."

Thus do our familiar authors, Adams & Bentley, rightfully trumpet the accomplishments of this wagon-turned-brigadier general. No matter where he fought, his natural leadership and style of command was indispensable in the heat of battle. Clad in hunter shirts and bearing Pennsylvania Long Rifles, he and his men soon struck fear in the British forces because of their sniper-like fighting style and deadly accuracy.

Their performance at Saratoga drew praise even from the surrendering general, John Burgoyne. In fact, Morgan named his Virginia home after



that infamous battle. Yet, he is undoubtedly best known for his brilliant tactics and striking victory against Banastre Tarleton at the Battle of Cowpens.

“Morgan overcame the shortcomings of his force by a shrewd selection of the battle terrain and masterful deployment of his troops... The result was an utter rout, the first time ever that the 71st Highlanders were known to flee. The victors captured over 700 of the British, along with the colors of the 71st Royal Fusiliers, which were proudly delivered to Congress... The restoration of British control in North Carolina was now in doubt. Morgan proved the enemy could be out-generaled and outfought.”



The Medal

For the brilliant victory at Cowpens, Congress elected to award Morgan with a gold medal. “Augustin Dupre engraved six of the medals in our series. Although the *Libertas Americana* [yet to be featured here] is generally thought to be his best, his Daniel Morgan medal is a close second. Dupre’s depiction of the battle scene at the Cowpens is charged with energy and replete with details. The illusion of depth is a tribute to his technical virtuosity...

“There is a wealth of details in this medal: bodies and equipment strewn about, panic in the faces of the fleeing British, and, in a touch of poetic license, an Indian poised to dispatch a fallen British officer. The emblem on the flag, an eagle with arrows in his left talon and a laurel wreath in his right, with stars above, is a prescient forerunner of the obverse of the Diplomatic Medal that would be executed in the following year (1790).”



DANIEL MORGAN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
NATIONAL SECURITY (DMGS)

OBVERSE: Morgan on horseback leads from the right an infantry charge toward the retreating British cavalry on the left; another charge in the background. The Latin lettering at top reads: “Victory is the defender of liberty.” At bottom, “The enemy put to flight, captured, or killed at Cowpens, January 17, 1781.”

REVERSE: A semi-nude Indian female, an allegorical figure used by Europeans to represent America, reaches from the left to place a crown of laurels on the head of Morgan in uniform standing on the right. The hero strikes a modest pose, bowing slightly to receive his accolade and leaning on a grounded sword held in his right hand. In the background are the implements of war: two cannon, a shield, a trumpet, a faces, and sundry standards. The Latin lettering at top reads: “To Daniel Morgan, General of the Army.” At bottom, “American Congress.” COMITIA AMERICANA.

His Biography

Born in New Jersey on July 6, 1736, Daniel Morgan was the fifth child of James and Eleanor Morgan, Welsh immigrants in 1720-1730. When Daniel was still young, the family relocated to Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. His father's sister, Sarah, was Daniel Boone's mother. James Morgan became great friends with Daniel Boone's father, Squire, Sr.

Daniel had worked odd jobs around Carlisle and learned to be a wagoner. At 17 years of age, he left Pennsylvania and settled in Virginia. In 1755, both Morgan and his cousin, Boone, served in the British army as wagoners and were dispatched to Fort Duquesne with Gen. Edward Braddock's party.



Daniel Morgan's gravesite in Winchester, VA

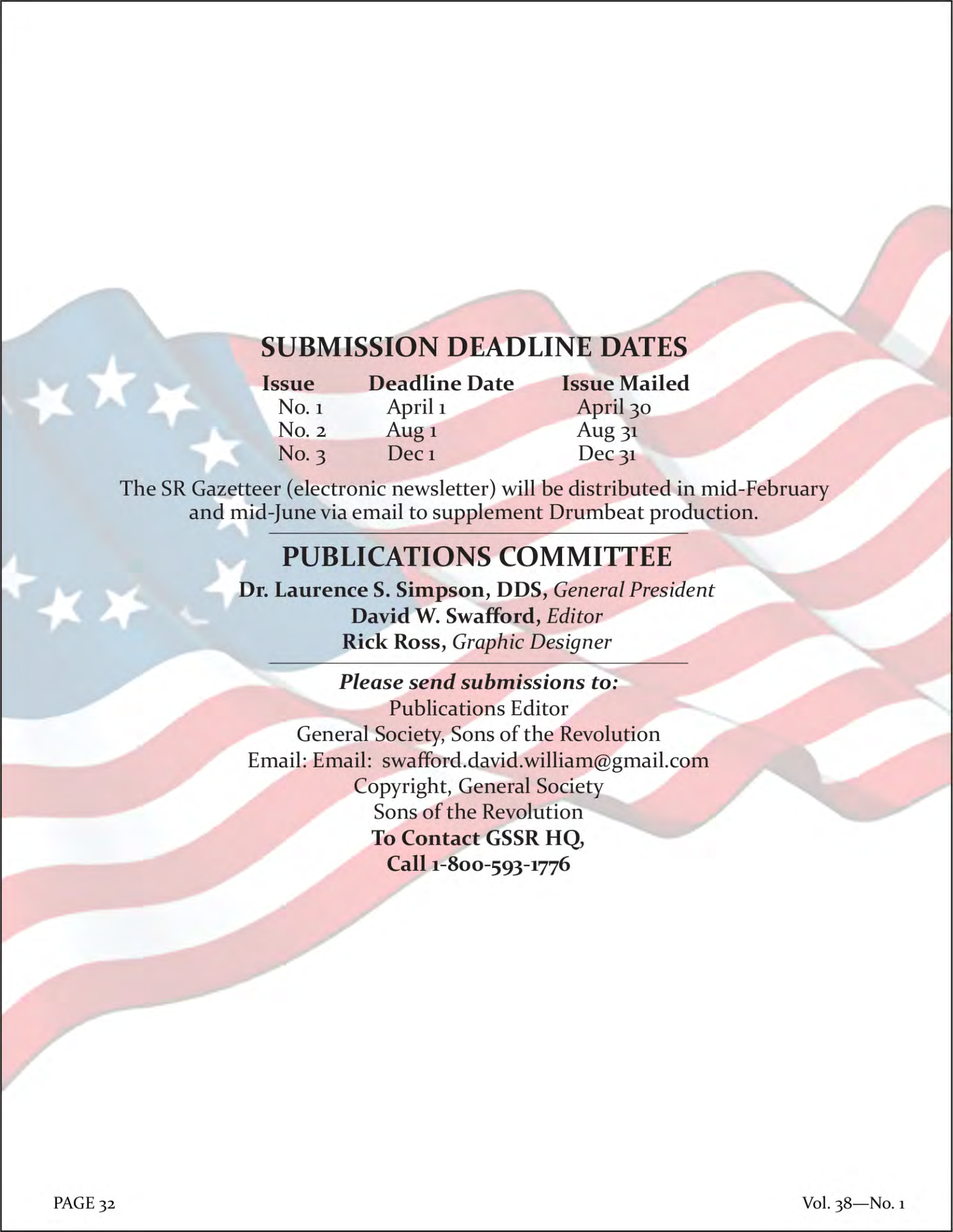
PHOTO © MIKE SLOBOT

From an early age, Morgan was tough as nails. He often got into brawls, and in the wilderness he survived experiences that others might not have. One of those was when, during the French & Indian War, he received five hundred lashes across the back for having knocked out a British superior officer who struck him with the flat of his sword. Legend has it, Morgan felled the lieutenant with just one punch.

Another brutal experience came two years later when, as part of a colonial ranger unit, he was ambushed by a group of Indians while traveling home. Shot in the back of the neck, Morgan lived through it but lost many of his top teeth as the projectile exited through his left cheek.

By 1779-1780, in the last his health was declining. He suffered from sciatica, a condition which causes pain, numbness, and/or weakness radiating along the sciatic nerve from the lower back to the buttocks and legs. Despite his age and condition by then, Morgan led a prosperous life after the war. He died in 1802 and is buried in Winchester, Virginia.





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