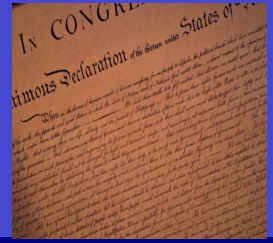




# Jersey Patriot



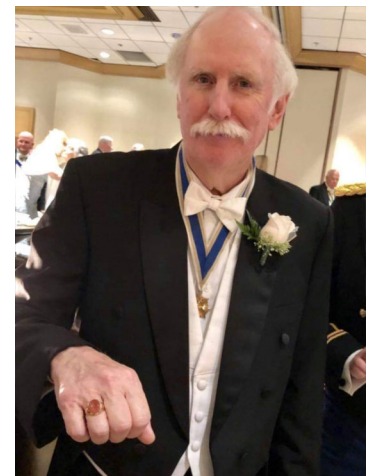
A NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Issue 5 | February 2020



## President General John T. Manning To Attend NJSSAR Meeting

John T. "Jack" Manning is the 116th President General of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution. Compatriot Manning is a resident of Scituate, Massachusetts. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and a Master of Education in Computer Information Technology. He is also a Journeyman & Master Electrician and an Electrical Instructor at Quincy High School.



President Manning joined the SAR in 1994 and has held several positions at the Chapter, State and National levels, along with several National Committees. He is an avid history fan and very passionate about discovering the roles his ancestors have played in the American Revolution.

President Manning and his wife Sheila have two daughters as well as two granddaughters. The NJSSAR welcomes President General Manning and First Lady Sheila Manning and we look forward to their visit with us in February.

### Attention NJSSAR Compatriots NJ Historic Sites Need Your Help

Responding to an urgent call by the NJSSAR and the Princeton Battlefield Society for emergency repairs to the Clarke House at Princeton Battlefield, Assemblymen Andrew Zwicker and Roy Freiman (D-NJ 16th) introduced a \$25,000 line item to Gov. Murphy's budget. The Assemblymen attended our October 2019 State meeting in Princeton where they were presented with the NJSSAR *Good Citizenship Award*. Please read the **JERSEY PATRIOT** Feature article on page 3 for an inspiring message for all compatriots to do our part for our State's treasured Historic Sites.

### New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution

#### Officers

**President**

Robert C. Meyer

**Vice President**

Charles F. Morgan Jr.

**Secretary**

A. Edward Glidden

**Treasurer**

Warren C. Fristensky

**Registrar/Genealogist**

Bruce A. Ryno

**Chaplain**

Rev. Dr. Donald K. Hummel

**Chancellor**

Eric Bal, Esq.

**Librarian**

Michael M. Alfano

**Historian**

William Locke

**National Trustee**

David G. Christoffersen, Esq.

**Alternate Trustee**

Frank M. McGonigle

# Jersey Patriot

## NJSSAR President's Message

### Robert C. Meyer - State President New Jersey Society Sons Of The American Revolution

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Here we are at the Washington birthday luncheon. With our honored guest President General Jack Manning and our First lady Sheila Manning. New Jersey is quite honored to have them.

We start a very interesting new year as we approach the 250th celebration of our country which is only 6 years away. New Jersey is one of the states with a very active Rev War history as many of you are very aware. We will be working with our chapters



to identify local historic homes that we hope we can promote advertising, and also help with repairs as we prepare for this celebration of our nation. The 27th the 28th the 29th of February and March 1st your State President will be at spring leadership in Louisville, Kentucky working on future plans for the National Society Sons of the American Revolution. Last year at was the first celebration of Monmouth Battlefield as an SAR National Event. Red Bank battlefield was approved as a National Event at fall leadership in Louisville in September 2019. Princeton was celebrated this year as a National Event , the first year as such. At spring leadership we will try to get Chestnut Neck recognized as a National Event, along with Trenton.

We kicked off Patriot weekend in Trenton at the memorial and finished it at the Princeton Clark House, where we laid a wreath. Our Color Guard is quite active and recording their dates of service so that they can earn the bronze and silver color guard medals. July 10th through the 16th, 2020 is the Sons of the American Revolution National Congress in Richmond Virginia. There is nothing like Congress to meet compatriots from all over the world and have a good time making new friends.

The Atlantic Middle State Conference runs August 6th through 9th, 2020 at the Cosmo Club in Washington DC. This is the district that your state is in and we take care of district work and initiatives with our national society. I'm hoping that many of you will join us in Washington for this very important event.

Our women's auxiliary is up and running and under the leadership of President Carolyn Kircher . Carolyn is doing a fantastic job!!!! Carolyn's project the last two years has been helping women who suffer from post-traumatic stress at the Lyons Veterans hospital. Remember. The Sons of the American Revolution, is what you put into it. In our Patriots cause I remain.

Robert Meyer New Jersey State President

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*To Unite and Promote Fellowship among the descendants of those who sacrificed to achieve the independence of the American People, to inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom. SAR Mission*

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# Jersey Patriot

## FEATURE ARTICLE

### Inspiring The American Spirit By Roger S. Williams

"...within all Americans and each American, grounded in our nation's founding principles, for our continuing journey toward a more perfect Union." So reads the mission statement on page 13 of the 273 page report delivered to the Executive Branch on December 31, 2019 by the United States Semiquincentennial Commission (USSC), under its more consumer friendly moniker, "America 250". It is no surprise that the themes of the commission, "Educate, Engage, Unite" are so similar to goals to which we subscribe as members of the Sons of the American Revolution.

We are all proud of our patriot ancestors. We can only imagine the sacrifice they and their families endured from 1774 to 1783 and beyond. Our nation's war for independence was a civil war. Our ancestors had to make the commitment to join "The Cause", or remain loyal to their King. The decisions our ancestors made from that time to the present day have been about self-determination and the pursuit of happiness. As humankind will attest, comparatively, we live in freedom. But this freedom is not without the sacrifice by those before us, and among us, who fought to protect the enlightenment ideals and principles of our founding fathers. Our compatriots in other state societies and around the globe honor veterans, teach our children about our history, and serve society. We, members of the New Jersey Society of the SAR have a unique charge to do the same...and more.

We are stewards of the land on which more battles, skirmishes and engagements were fought for our nation's independence. George Washington's retreat through "The Jerseys" in 1776 was followed by his resolve at Trenton, the encampment at Jockey Hollow, the Forage Wars, Connecticut Farms and ultimately victory. As we march toward the Semiquincentennial we have both opportunity and challenges to fulfill our goals of the SAR in honoring our ancestors and promoting the ideals of founding fathers to our fellow citizens.

Our towns, our land, our backyards were scenes of struggle,

bloodshed and pain. We are the Garden State. The forage from our farms feed Continental troops and militia from New England to North Carolina who all came to the Jerseys

to fight the Crown troops and the Tory regiments who ravaged our lands. Today, there are ghosts of these vicious struggles that survive. The Sutphin House. The Clarke House. The Benjamin Cooper House. Echoes of musket shot...shouts of Hessians Fusiliers, British Grenadiers and Scottish Highlanders launching

bayonet charges against our ancestors. Cannonade of artillery from Mahwah to Cape May - Elizabethtown to Ft. Mercer. As we march toward the Semiquincentennial now is OUR call to arms.

In 2018, the New Jersey legislature passed A-4194/S-2738, which, if fully funded, will allocate \$500,000 each year until 2026 toward preparing New Jersey's sites for the 250th commemorations. In March the NJ Historical Commission (NJHC), and its non-profit partner, Crossroads of the Revolution will be announcing that approximately two dozen sites throughout the state will be benefit from a public/private partnership fundraising initiative. Note the language in the last two sentences; "...if fully funded..." and "...two dozen sites...". We, the NJSSAR will need to engage here. Compatriots will need to lobby their local state representatives to see that this legislation fully funds this initiative each year. And, even if it is fully funded, \$500,000 only goes so far. There are about 140 sites that were assessed by NJHC/Crossroads. The fundraising focus will only be for about two dozen. Our mission will be to support those fundraising efforts, but also to support all other sites within our chapters to take advantage of the national focus on America 250. Respectfully Submitted,

*Roger S. Williams, President Princeton Chapter  
Chair, Semiquin Project, NJSSAR*

**L to R) Assemblymen, Andrew Zwicker, Roy Freiman (D NJ 16th), Semiquin Chair Roger S. Williams, President Robert C. Meyer. Presentation of NJSSAR Good Citizenship Awards.**



# Jersey Patriot

Photos From the October NJSSAR State Meeting



NJSSAR supports sign in Moonachie, NJ to recognize John Outwater, Revolutionary war Patriot and 1774 Sheriff of Bergen County



Top: Seven Members of the NJSSAR Color Guard display their Silver Certificates at the October SAR Meeting in Princeton.

Bottom: Assemblyman Andrew Zwicker, D-NJ-16th, speaks to SAR Members about his support for the preservation of the Clarke House at Princeton Battlefield during the October Meeting.



Revolutionary War Author David Price speaks about his book, "The Road To Assunpink Creek" during the October Luncheon



## Upcoming Meetings of the New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution

<b>April 4, 2020</b>	Board of Managers Meeting and NJ Society Ladies Auxiliary 10:00 AM	Luncheon 12:00 PM Speaker TBD
<b>October 24, 2020</b>	Board of Managers Meeting and NJ Society Ladies Auxiliary 10:00 AM	Luncheon 12:00 PM Speaker TBD
<b>July 11 - 16, 2020</b>	National Congress, Richmond, Virginia	
<b>August 6-8, 2020</b>	Atlantic Middle States Conference, Cosmo Club, Washington D.C.	
<b>February 20, 2021</b>	Board of Managers Meeting and NJ Society Ladies Auxiliary 10:00 AM	Luncheon 12:00 PM Speaker TBD
<b>April 17, 2021</b>	Board of Managers Meeting and NJ Society Ladies Auxiliary 10:00 AM	Luncheon 12:00 PM Speaker TBD

## NJSSAR WELCOMES 25 NEW MEMBERS

Salvatore Balsamo  
 Christopher Aaron Grove  
 David Withington Lukens Jr.  
 Tod Randolph Mershon  
 Michael Thomas Russell  
 Gary Richard Smith  
 Craig T. Wall

Craig Walter Coolidge  
 Colton Joseph Grove  
 James B. McNichol III  
 Scott Dean Metzler  
 Richard Allen Schrader  
 Trenor Park Turner

Jonathan James Dorando  
 Clifford Joseph Laing  
 James B. McNichol IV  
 William Harold Meyer Jr.  
 Andrew Jeffrey Seise  
 Thornton Hall Turner

William Charles Grove  
 James Michael Lehmann  
 David Marano Merkel  
 William, Letts Russell III  
 Christian Cullen Shave  
 Hiland Hall Turner



## Chapter President's Report February 2020 - Warren C. Fristensky

### Dear West Fields Chapter Compatriots,

Thank you to those compatriots who have stepped in to assist while I am recuperating from recent surgery this fall. Despite being somewhat limited, our Fall and Winter chapter activities have been very successful. Several new members have been accepted into the West Fields Chapter this fall and winter, and we welcome them to join in our Chapter activities. Welcome to Compatriots:

Christopher Richard Black, Daniel David Black, Daniel George Black, Craig Walter Coolidge, and William Harold Meyer.

While I am the Chapter President, I also serve as the State Treasurer and have served as the National Vice-President General of the North Atlantic District (2016-2018). As such I often attend the National Congress, Fall and Spring Leadership meetings and the Atlantic Middle States Annual Conference. All members are welcome to attend any or all of the Leadership meetings, Atlantic Middle States or National Congress where you can meet Compatriots from all over the country as well as Europe. Its always an exciting experience and I encourage all to participate at the State or National level.

*Respectfully submitted, Warren C. Fristensky President, West Fields Chapter, NJSSAR*

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### The Abraham Clark House

The Abraham Clark Memorial House is supported by several of our members who are also members of the Abraham Clark Chapter. Located in Roselle, on a portion of the property owned by Patriot Abraham Clark, the house participates in the Four Centuries Weekend program run by Union County, on Oct 19-20th in 2019.

A joint meeting is again planned for the West Fields and Abraham Clark Chapters. Volunteers were very busy organizing and managing a series of repairs and improvements to the house. Completed projects include: Exterior painting, new gutters and leaders, sprucing up the landscaping, installing a new roof, painting the tenant apartment and installing a new driveway.



Visitors and volunteers for the Four Centuries Weekend, discuss the history of Abraham Clark. Over 90 visitors came to the house during the weekend.



The Abraham Clark House with new driveway, roof, gutters, exterior painting and landscaping

# Jersey Patriot

## West Fields Chapter Continued

Warren Fristensky

### November 15, 2019 Chapter Meeting

Our November meeting was held in the Westfield Community Center located at 425 E. Broad St in Westfield. The program was open to the public and light refreshments were served. Our featured speaker was John U. Rees, author of the recently published "They Were Good Soldiers: African-Americans Serving in the Continental Army, 1775-1783." Mr. Rees has more than 30 years experience writing about the lives of Continental Army soldiers in the American Revolution. John U. Rees, a lifelong resident of Bucks County, has been writing about common soldiers' experiences in the War for American Independence for over 30 years, on subjects ranging from battle studies, army food, and the soldier's burden, to army wagons and watercraft, campaign shelters, Continental Army conscription, and women with the army.

### January 31, 2020 Chapter Meeting

Our January meeting featured a presentation by Lance Ashworth, President of the Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot. In his presentation, "The Fishkill Supply Depot: Saving the Last Great Revolutionary War Site," Mr. Ashworth spoke about the historic significance of the Fishkill depot and encampment for the Continental Army and General George Washington, the multiple critical purposes it served in the Revolutionary War, and extensive current efforts to preserve the site—where graves of dozens of Continental soldiers have been identified—in the face of encroaching development. Mr. Ashworth, who lives in Fishkill, N.Y., is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and



served in the active U.S. Army where he achieved the rank of Captain. Under his direction, the FOFSD has reached significant milestones: achieving federal 501[c](3) not-for-profit status; creating and overseeing (in partnership with Fishkill Historical Society) an annual Revolutionary War Weekend encampment; and expanding strategic relationships at the local, state, and federal levels. As primary grants-writer, he obtained a \$24,600 grant from the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program to create a first-ever comprehensive technical report of the more than 3 dozen known archaeological digs to have occurred at the Supply Depot site since the beginning of the last century.



**Photo Top:** Mayor Brindle is pictured here between President Fristensky (L) and speaker Lance Ashworth (R).

**Photo Bottom:** Members of the West Fields Chapter gather for the January 31, 2020 Chapter Meeting

*"We were delighted to have Westfield Mayor Shelley Brindle at our meeting, who congratulated the Sons for their nearly 100 years (99) in Westfield. Mayor Brindle discussed a series of events to celebrate Westfield's 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and invited all historical societies to participate in as many events as possible."*

**Warren Fristensky, West Fields Chapter President**

# Jersey Patriot

Monmouth Chapter Founded 1913

Covering Monmouth County



## Chapter President's Report February 2020 - Edward Glidden

### Monmouth Chapter's Gary O. Walling Receives Lafayette Medal

#### Great Work on the SAR Patriot Research System

The SAR Patriot Research System (PRS) is a database combination of the previous SAR Patriot Record Index, the SAR Revolutionary War Graves Registry, and information from the SAR Patriot Index CD (2002), plus additional information and updates from various state grave registry databases and patriot biographical sketches submitted to tell the story of our patriot ancestors.

Gary O. Walling was presented with the Lafayette Medal for Volunteer Service at the November 15 meeting of the Monmouth Chapter SAR by NJ State President Robert Meyer and Chapter President Ed Glidden. Compatriot Walling has been assimilating information from member applications, DAR Patriot records, Grave locations through the Find A Grave database and other sources and entering it into an updated format for the National Society.

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## Monmouth Chapter Participates in Wreaths Across America

### National Event Held on December 14th



On a rainy Saturday morning in December over 100 people assembled at the Fairview Cemetery in Middletown, NJ to pay tribute to the Veterans who call the hilly wooded acres their final resting place. Among the participants were families with young children, elderly grandparents, military veterans, boyscouts and neighbors. The

Monmouth Chapter of the New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution were there also. They stood in uniform to represent our revolutionary ancestors and pay respect to the many veterans who supported our country.

Participants were greeted by Wreaths Across America

Manager, Mehgan Kelly who instructed each of us to find a veterans grave, read aloud their name, rank and branch of military service and say "Thank you for your service" before placing the wreath just below the marker. It was a solemn event and the misty, drizzly, cold weather gave the occasion a special feel. If you haven't participated in one of these events

you can do so next year on December 19, 2020. You will feel good for giving your time to this important ceremony.

Wreaths Across America is a National Event whose mission is to; **Remember our Fallen US Veterans - Honor Those Who Serve - Teach Your Children the Value of Freedom.**





## The Seabrook House

By Gary O. Walling

The Seabrook's were early residents of Monmouth County, New Jersey. Thomas Seabrook, the son of Mary Brown and Daniel Seabrook, was born on February 16, 1735. He earned the rank of Lieut. Colonel in the Revolutionary War and married Martha Tallman, with whom he had five children: Stephen, Thomas Jr., Hannah, Mary, and Martha.



Stephen Seabrook, Martha and Thomas's son, was born in 1759. Like his father, he fought in the Revolutionary War.

Thomas Seabrook Sr. was Captain, First Regiment, Monmouth County Militia.

First Major, Col. George Taylor's First Regiment, Monmouth County Militia, prior to 12 April 1777; commanded detachment of his Regiment, on the march to Amboy, April 1776. He was Lieutenant Colonel in Colonel Nathaniel Scudder's First Regiment, Monmouth County Militia, 28<sup>th</sup> November 1776.

He was Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel Charles Read's

Regiment of Brig. General Mattias Williamson's Brigade of State Troops, November 27, 1776. The Regiment consisted of three companies from Middlesex, two companies from Monmouth and three companies from Burlington Counties.

Lieutenant Colonel Seabrook resigned his commission on 18 April 1778 to be appointed a member of the General Assembly from Monmouth County. A position he held until

1781. He was a member of many patriotic committees-one that demanded retaliation for the murder of Capt. Huddy. He also signed the General Articles of Retaliation in 1778.

After the Rebellion he was active in the local government affairs in Middletown. From 1789 until 1793 he was Commissioner of Appeals. 1799 until 1803 he was the Judge of Elections.

Lieut. Colonel Thomas Seabrook, my Primary Patriotic Ancestor died in Middletown, NJ on February 22 1805 aged 67 years, 11 months.

### Bayshore Waterfront Park Activity Center

The Bayshore Waterfront Park Activity Center (Seabrook-Wilson House), one of the oldest surviving houses in the region. This large frame building, dating back to the early 1700's, was constructed in several phases over the course of two hundred years. The Park System acquired the building from Middletown Township in 1998. The building has been fully restored and now hosts Park System nature and history programs. Most programs require pre-registration. Visit our [programs and registration page](#) to see upcoming offerings.





## Chapter President's Report February 2020- Richard Serfass

It has been a busy time for the South Jersey Chapter since the last Jersey Patriot issue in October 2019. The extensive plans for the Memorial Service at the Red Bank Battlefield for the 14 Rhode Island Regiment soldiers killed during the October 22, 1777 battle ended in a rain-out. This was the first time this 30<sup>th</sup>+ annual reenactment was canceled. We will try again in October 2020.

Our Chapter now has three members in the NJSSAR Color Guard: Rich Serfass, Larry Nelson and Jim Howard. They were active during the fall and bring great credit to our Chapter and State. We have a few more members who are interested.

Our January meeting inducted three new members: David Billiet, Alexander Harding and Adam Zielinski. Alex gave a presentation from his research at Villanova Graduate School at this meeting on Gouverneur Morris, the unappreciated Founding Father who, in effect, wrote the Preamble to the Constitution. At our next meeting Adam will be presenting on his new book about British cartographer John Hills. Adam recently published an article "Rediscovering British Surveyor John Hills" in The Journal of the American Revolution. They join our 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president Tim Ogline, author and presenter for Ben Franklin for Beginners. It is great to have such knowledgeable researchers and presenters in our Chapter. Two additional

new members, David Lukens and Scott Metzler will be inducted at the February NJSSAR meeting by P/G Manning. Here are some other activities from our

Chapter:

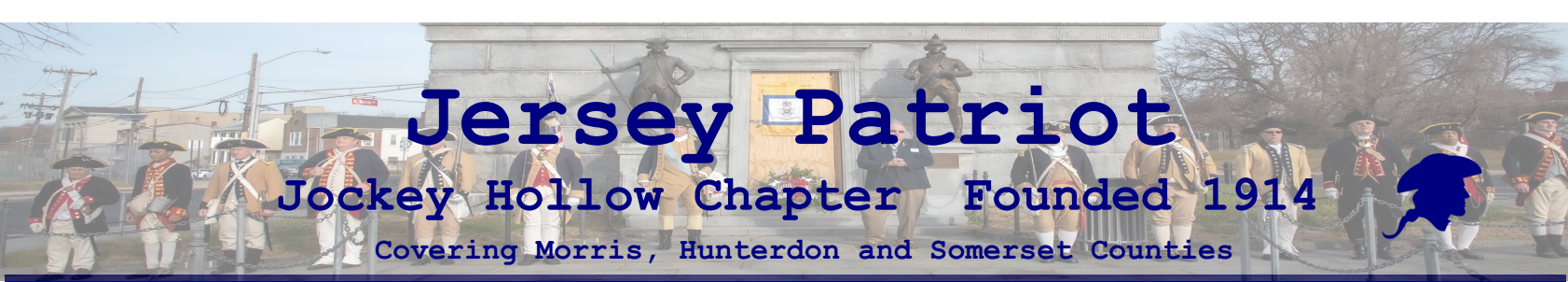
- Petticoat Bridge Skirmish: We are assisting the RevWar Alliance is trying to preserve the site of this pre-Washington's Crossing event as a significant area worth saving. Chapter member Adam Zielinski is an officer with the RevWar Alliance
- Camden's Cooper Ferry Tavern: We are working with the Camden County Historical Society to help preserve this Tavern. It was a major Delaware River crossing site for the British in the early part of the war.
- DAR Partnership: We continue to reach out to the DAR Chapters in our area. Here's what's happening: Our Chapter marches with the Moorestown Chapter DAR in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and partners in the Wreaths Across America program. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Tim Ogline is presenting at the next Whitall House Chapter DAR meeting. Past President Harry Schaeffer attended the Haddonfield Chapter DAR annual luncheon.
- JROTC! Can you believe it! There is a new JROTC unit in our Chapter area: Gloucester City High School just started their Navy JROTC. That is now 22 JROTC High Schools in our Chapter!!!!!!



**Left: Chapter members Treasurer Jim Requa, Serfass, Nelson and Howard salute the Veterans' gravestones in honor of the buried veteran.**

**Right: Wreaths Across America, December 14. The SJCSAR annually partners with the Moorestown DAR in the wreath laying ceremony at the Beverly National Cemetery. Chapter members (l-r) 1<sup>st</sup> VP Larry Nelson, Historian Jim Howard and President Rich Serfass performed as Honor Guards at the opening ceremony.**





## Chapter President's Report February 2020 - Roger B. Loomis

### Chapter Presented 20 SAR Eagle Scout Recognition Certificates in 2019

Jockey Hollow Chapter presented twenty SAR Eagle Scout Recognition Certificates in 2019. The first Eagle Court of Honor of 2020 was on February 1st for Mario Di Sanza from Troop 390 Denville, NJ. Troop 390 has advanced 23 boys to the Eagle rank since 1990. Jockey Hollow has recognized several Eagles from Troop 390 over the years including Mario's older brother Robert.

Sadly this will be Troop 390s reduced the number of scouts three remaining scouts will be this is not a trend.

last Eagle. Declining membership has below the required threshold. The absorbed into other troops. We hope



Also, on Sunday, 3 November 2019 there was an Eagle Court of Honor at Troop 112 in Morristown, NJ. Two certificates and patches were provided to Daniel O. Martinez and Lucas E. Chu (right), see pictures attached, by President Roger Loomis on behalf of Jockey Hollow NJSSAR.



# Jersey Patriot

## New Jersey Society Color Guard



## NJSSAR COLORGUARD REINVENTED

### Honoring New Jersey's History

#### Richard Serfass

The New Jersey Society SAR Color Guard has reinvented itself over the past year under the newly appointed Commander, none other than our NJSSAR president, Robert Meyer. In the past the Color Guard's primary mission was to present and retire the Colors at State meetings. The new Color Guard under Commander Meyer's leadership and with assistance from Sergeant Ed Glidden, Captain Dick Blundin and Lieutenant/Adjutant Rich Serfass has reached both nationally and Statewide to bring patriotism, recognition, and honor to historic events.

The NJSSAR Color Guard has been present at more than twenty-five events this past year. Nationally they included the SAR National Congress, the SAR Leadership Conferences, and the Atlantic Middle State Conference. Statewide they include the Battle of Bound Brook, Princeton Battlefield, The Middlesex History and Jersey State Fairs, the Proprietary House, Springfield's 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Battle of Monmouth, with wreath laying ceremonies at Fort Lee, the New



Jersey Viet Nam Memorial, Wreaths Across America in Fairview and Beverly, and at the Battles of Trenton and Princeton to end the year.

There are currently 24 members in the Color Guard which is barely enough to cover the calls from various state communities for representation in their local historical events. The SAR reaps great benefits from attending and being the focus at these events, not only in vividly picturing the Revolutionary War soldier, but also talking with the audience about who we are. Besides being present, we also provide noise, with musket fire and the sound of a six-pound cannon blast.

Wouldn't you want to be part of this super Patriotic unit? You can. While the Buff and Blue uniform colors are the official uniform, other 18<sup>th</sup> century attire is more than acceptable. Join the Color Guard and/or Cannon Crew today Give it a try by emailing [rserfass@comcas.net](mailto:rserfass@comcas.net) for how you can start.

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## George Washington Was Born 288 Years Ago February 22, 1732

County Surveyor, Colonial Activist, Delegate to the Continental Congress and Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces during the American Revolution, George Washington went on to become the First President of this Great Country of ours.

*"Your love of liberty – your respect for the laws – your habits of industry – and your practice of the moral and religious obligations, are the strongest claims to national and individual happiness."*

**George Washington**

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# Jersey Patriot



## NOTES FROM THE NJSSAR OCTOBER 26, 2019 BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

The October 26, 2019 New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution Board of Managers Meeting (BOM) was Held at the Princeton Marriott from 10 AM to 12 PM.

- President Meyer opened the meeting by saying that many battlefields in NJ have been designated as a National Event and he thanked all that have contributed to this achievement but cautioned that much more needs to be done.
- Pennsylvania will host the 2021 National Congress - What better place than the City of Philadelphia. NJ, De and PA will all assist in this effort.
- Roger Williams 250th Semiquin Chair reported that Princeton was sanctioned as a National Event and there will be a wreath laying during the Ten Crucial Days/Patriots week. He also asked members to develop ideas for celebrating the 250th Anniversary in our area.
- Treasurer Warren Fristensky reported that Bruce Ryno, Registrar, Ed Glidden Secretary and Himself have all kept in constant contact to ensure timely processing of all new members, supplemental and reinstatement transactions.
- 63 new members were added year-to-date.
- We are researching an on-line subscription to Quick Books which would replace the old PC based version.
- A Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled soon to review the current year financial's and investments and to schedule the audit of financials.
- The NJSSAR invites all teachers in the State of NJ whose approved curriculum teaches students anything about the American Revolution era from 1750 to 1800 , to apply for the NJSSAR American History Teachers Award. Interested Teachers may contact Roger Williams or their local SAR Chapter.

**The NJSSAR supports the SAR Annual Conference on The American Revolution with a \$250 Contribution**

**Purpose:**

- To have an intellectually stimulating conference
- To produce a peer-reviewed volume of papers



**The NJSSAR makes \$1,750 Contribution to the Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award**

**Purpose:**

- Raise visibility of SAR
- Strengthen relationship between SAR and state education community

# Jersey Patriot

First Mountain Chapter - Founded 1928

Covering Essex, Bergen and Hudson Counties



## Chapter President's Report - February 2020 - George Lindgren

First Mountain and Godwin held our meeting jointly and then went on the field trip to the church. George Washington used the parsonage as a HQ several times during the war. There are tapestries and stained glass windows on which many of our Patriot ancestors' family names appear, my own included. It was very exciting to see that they are being so well-preserved and stewarded by the church's current occupants.

We have several Eagle Scout and JROTC presentations scheduled over the next 3 months and our next big project after that will be to plan the celebration of the Centennial of the founding of Godwin. We continue to meet jointly.



Members from both First Mountain and Abraham Godwin Chapter received a tour on Sunday Feb 2nd of the Reformed (Dutch) Church at Hackensack which was established in 1686 and which has a large cemetery on its grounds including the grave of Revolutionary War General Enoch Poor. The tour was arranged by member Eric Scanlon and was led by the current owner of the Church.

Most of the attendees of the outing were dual members of both Chapters. In the photo where the members are standing in a straight line, are George Wright (President of Godwin Chapter), Eric Scanlon, George Lindgren (President of First Mountain Chapter), Eric Bal, George Davis, Paul Ossou, and Larry Driever.

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## Carolyn Kircher and Ladies Auxiliary Pen Letters to Lady Veterans Compatriot Billy Locke Hand Delivers Letters and \$500 Gift Card

Members of the Ladies Auxiliary penning notes to Lady Vets at Lyon's VA hospital. As President of the Ladies Auxiliary, I am grateful to Compatriot Billy Locke for hand-delivering our messages to the VA along with a generous gift card from the NJ Sons for the ladies to engage in social activities like going to



lunch courtesy of the Sons. The Ladies Auxiliary is grateful to the NJ Sons for their generosity in funding this important outreach.

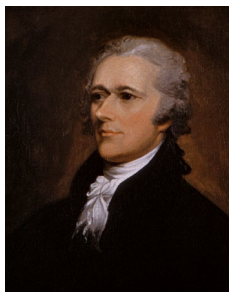
Please join the Ladies Auxiliary on February 22 from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon as we will be writing Springtime Greetings to the lady veterans of Lyon's VA.



## Alexander Hamilton and Raymond Burr

### A Discussion With Former State - Chapter President Richard Burr

What do Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton have in common? What is their relationship? I am sure you have read about the tenuous, contentious, and deadly connection they had, which left Secretary of Treasury Hamilton dead and Vice President Aaron Burr ostracised from the American government.



Well, there is another relationship. Alexander, "What" you

is another They, Burr and are actually related! say?

Let me introduce you to Richard Burr, member of the South Jersey Chapter, former State and Chapter President. Rich is an avid genealogist, spending much of his retirement time

searching his computer for family connections. He has 18 stars that he wears on his neck ribbon to identify his 18 patriot ancestors. He wanted to get credit for a Tory who fought in the Revolutionary War, but that obviously doesn't count.



As a result of this Rich found out that both Burr and Currently he has in his family tree. Hamilton is his 6<sup>th</sup> removed, whereas 4<sup>th</sup> cousin 6X

extensive search, he is related to Hamilton. 681,587 people Alexander cousin 3X Aaron Burr is his removed. That makes Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton 13<sup>th</sup> cousins 1X removed. What can one say about that?

***Past President Burr was interviewed by current South Jersey Chapter president Rich Serfass***

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## The Fall State Society meeting featured many members of the West Fields Color Guard, wearing the 3<sup>rd</sup> NJ Regimental uniform of buff and blue.



There were many different uniforms worn during the course of the Revolution (even though many soldiers never had proper supplies or uniforms), the New Jersey regiments were not the elegant type worn by some units. Pictured below, members of the NJ State Color Guard are at ease after presenting the colors.



# Jersey Patriot



## Portrait of an NJSSAR Patriot Ancestor

### Dr. Bodo Otto

#### Fifth Great Grandfather of Charles Morgan



Dr. Bodo Otto is the 5<sup>th</sup> Great Grandfather of NJSSAR Vice President Charlie Morgan. Dr. Otto was the son of Christopher Otto and Maria Magdalena Nienecken and was born in Germany about 1711. Around the age of 13, he began his education as a surgeon under the authority of the German government at the University of Göttingen. After graduating, he became a member of the College of Surgeons at Hildesheim, and Luneburg, and had charge of all the prisoners and invalids at the Fortress Kalkberg in Luneburg, Germany. Dr. Otto and his family (2<sup>nd</sup> wife and 4 children) arrived in Philadelphia on October 7 1755. Dr. Otto initially established his medical practice in Philadelphia and eventually moved to the Cohansey district in New Jersey, where his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife died in 1765. He continued living in New Jersey until shortly after his 3<sup>rd</sup> marriage. Apparently his new wife, who was English, did not like the wilds of southern Jersey and they relocated back to Philadelphia before ultimately relocating to Reading PA. Dr. Otto was one of the first skilled physicians and surgeons in the city of Reading, PA and he served as a member of the Committee of Berks County at the Pennsylvania Provincial Conference June 18 1775. He began his Revolutionary War military career in July 1776 at the age of 65.

He was named Surgeon of the Berks County PA militia battalion. He was present at the Battle of Long Island in August 1776 and lost all of his medical supplies and equipment. Thereafter the medical section of the Army was reorganized and Dr. Otto was transferred from field duty to hospital duty. Later in 1776 he was placed in charge of the hospital known as the Philadelphia Bettering House. He held the "rank" of Senior Surgeon by this time. In February 1777, he was sent to Trenton to inoculate the troops against Smallpox. Apparently he stayed in Trenton at the hospital in the Old Stone



Barracks as there are records indicating he was there in the fall of 1777 when the less seriously wounded from the Battle of Brandywine were sent to the Trenton hospital. In late 1777, Dr. Otto was transferred to the new hospital in Bethlehem, as the Trenton hospital had been ordered closed. Subsequently, Dr. Otto was transferred to the Yellow Springs

Hospital which was the principal hospital for the Valley Forge encampment. Washington Hall was built at Yellow Springs and Dr. Otto was ordered to take charge of the new hospital, which was full of the sick from Valley Forge, even before construction was completed. In June 1778, Dr. Otto was left in charge as Director of all hospitals in the Yellow Springs area when the Army moved out of Valley Forge and into New Jersey. In early 1780, Yellow Springs Hospital was reorganized and was then solely for those suffering lingering illnesses and for treatment and rehabilitation of the badly wounded. In late 1780, while still at Yellow Springs Hospital, Dr. Otto was elected a Hospital Physician and Surgeon by Congress as part of a reorganization of the Hospital Department. He remained there until the hospital was discontinued by order of the Board of War in September 1781. At that time, the patients still located at Yellow Springs were sent to Philadelphia. Dr. Otto moved with them as he had been ordered to "hold himself in readiness to join any other hospital where his services may be most wanted". On February 1, 1782 a reduction in the number of officers occurred, and Dr. Otto was discharged from the Army and re-established his medical practice in Philadelphia by mid Feb 1782.

Dr. Otto remained in Philadelphia for a short time before moving to Baltimore Maryland. He was back in Reading around 1784, and died there in 1789. He is buried in the cemetery of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Reading PA.

# The New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution Keep In Memory Those Compatriots Who Have Gone On Before Us

Including:



Joseph Edward Armstrong, Thomas Magee Cross  
George Graydon Curtis, Jr., Walter Lee DePuy, Jr.  
Richard Everett Freeman, George Paul Gross  
James L. Harper, Jr., Russell Francis Hoffman  
Charles Louis Rentschler, Harry Ruderow Steward  
Robert Tansill



## THE JERSEY PATRIOT

The Official Newsletter published by the New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution (NJSSAR). The newsletter is published in January, May and September. Past newsletters can be found on the Archives link of the NJSSAR website at [www.njssar.org](http://www.njssar.org).

Articles for inclusion should be submitted to Secretary A. Edward Glidden at [eglidden@yahoo.com](mailto:eglidden@yahoo.com) and Newsletter Editor Robert Fischer at [bfisch59@optonline.net](mailto:bfisch59@optonline.net). Deadlines for articles are December 15th, April 15th and August 15th.

### Driving Directions to the Marriott Princeton

**From Northern New Jersey:** Take the Garden State Parkway South to Exit 130. Take Route 1 South approximately 22 miles to College Road East. Marriott Princeton Hotel & Conference Center at Forrestal is the second driveway on your right. or

**Take the New Jersey Turnpike South to Exit 9 - New Brunswick.** Follow Route 18 North for approximately 1/4 mile to Route 1 South. Take Route 1 South approximately 13 miles to College Road East. Marriott Princeton Hotel & Conference Center at Forrestal is the second driveway on your right.

**From Southern New Jersey:** Follow I-295 North to Route 1 North (Exit 67). Take Route 1 North for approximately 6.5 miles to College Road East. Exit right on College Road East. Marriott Princeton Hotel & Conference Center at Forrestal entrance will be the second drive on your right.

**Think of Those Who  
Came Before You**



**Go to a NJSSAR Meeting  
and Represent Them**