

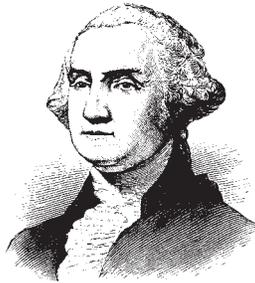


The Connecticut Line

The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Birthday Exhibit

The 2004 9th Annual American Revolutionary War Exhibit and Muster Day in Celebration of George Washington's Birthday will be held this year in Essex on Feb. 14th and 15th from 10am to 4pm.



The Essex Historical Society is letting us setup our displays in the historic Hill's Academy building on Prospect Street which they have as their headquarters.



Also in Essex that weekend will be the 4th Annual Eagle Festival, which is hosted by Connecticut Audubon. Last year over 10,000 people attended the festival to see Bald Eagles and other birds

of prey who come down the river for the winter. You can read more at: <http://www.ctaudubon.org/eagle.htm>

So please show your support and learn more about the men who fought for our freedom. And you may even sight one of the proud symbols of our country.

Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route

Several compatriots have asked me over time where exactly the Washington Rochambeau Route goes, where did the troops march. There is a full description on the W3R web site at <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/depatriot/w3r-de/default.htm>. I would enjoy giving you the full story but it is larger than the newsletter, so here a basic verbal map.

Rochambeau is in Newport, RI with 4000 troops. Lauzun is in Lebanon, CT with the cavalry. The troops were divided into four divisions, one moving in as the previous one moved out.

Rhode Island

Jun 10,11 From Newport to Providence by boat.

Jun 18-21 to Waterman's Tavern near what is now Pottersville

Connecticut

Jun 19-22 through Sterling to camp in Plainfield

Jun 20-23 through Canterbury and Scotland to camp in Windham

Jun 21-24 through Columbia, (then part of Lebanon), to camp in Bolton to East Hartford, where the troops rested for several days.

Jun 22-28 Lauzun's detachments began at Middletown. Four detachments. #1 to Hartford to join Rochambeau, #2 moved parallel to foot soldiers about 10 miles to the south to screen them, going to Ridgefield and NY.

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We Now Own a New Building in East Haddam

At the November state meeting in Bethel, the Board of Managers approved to accept the donation of a cottage in East Haddam for the price of \$1, which was handed back to us by the prior owner.



The 550 square foot cottage will allow us to expand our historic displays at the Nathan Hale Schoolhouse

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Deadlines

Jan. 1st Mar. 1st
Aug. 1st Oct. 1st

SNET's Free Money

The CTSSAR is participating in the SNET Community Connections program. Now, when you sign up with SNET for all your long-distance calling - or confirm that you're already using SNET All Distance, the Connecticut SAR will get 5% of your monthly long distance bill.

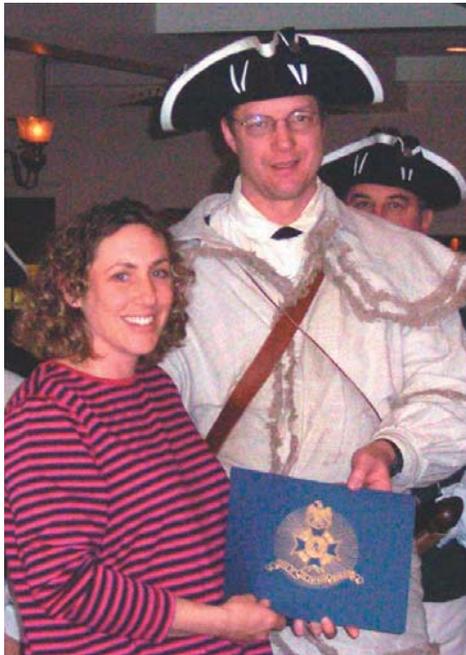
So far with just over 40 members participating, we've been handed almost \$500. The more members that participate the better for us and our programs.

Signing up is easy. Just call SBC/SNET at 1-800-635-7638, or sign up on the web at <http://www04.sbc.com/content/0,,163,00.html>. Our organization code is # 3585.

If you know of other phone companies that have similar programs, contact Stephen Shaw at stephen@whoistheoldguy.com or 860-916-1804.

President's Corner

Happy New Year! I hope all of you enjoyed the holidays.



As you will read in this newsletter, we have some exciting new projects in the works. The Board of Managers has voted to acquire the cottage in East Haddam and we plan on applying for grant money to help us to fully utilize this building. It is our hope that this will also serve as a catalyst to prepare us for the 2005 celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the birth of our State Hero - Nathan Hale.

We have made plans to hold our annual George Washington's Birthday celebration in a different location with a good chance that a new and larger audience will visit us. This is in conjunction with our February State Meeting, (see details in this

newsletter). I would like to remind everyone that family and friends are welcome to attend these meetings and that we do encourage your participation. These meetings are for ALL MEMBERS. Your ideas and concerns are important to us.

We have done very well recruiting new members. I invite all of our new members to get involved with us in whatever way that they can. We can always use your help and the many and varied life skills that you have to offer.

I look forward to another productive year, and I thank all of you for your continued support of CTSSAR.

Kenneth A. Buckbee
President - CTSSAR

Trustee's Meeting

The next Trustee's Meeting will be held on February 28th at Louisville. If anyone has an interest, question, or suggestion, please let me know.

Connecticut will get at least three awards this year. If you have given an award such as JROTC, Law Enforcement, etc. send the names to the proper national committee or send them to me. (203) 469-1544 or real1812@yahoo.com.

Dick Anderson, Nat'l. Trustee.

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- #3 to Saybrook and then New Haven, #4 directly to New Haven to join #3 to Stamford.
- Jun 25-28 south end of Farmington.
- Jun 26-29 that part of Southington now called Marion
- Jun 27-30 through Waterbury Break Neck, now Middlebury to camp at Breakneck Hill
- Jun 28-Jul 2 camp in Newtown
- Jul 1-3 to Ridgebury
- New York**
- Jul 2 to Bedford. 2nd Brigade skipped the Bedford camp. Lauzun and Lincoln attacked British at the northern tip of Manhattan.
- Jul 3-6 stayed several days at New Castle what is now part of Mount Kisco
- Jul 5-Aug 19 at several campsites near Philipsburg, now Dobbs Ferry.
- Aug 19 American forces now split, 2500 continentals & thousands of militia remained behind to keep British bottled up in New York. Washington & Rochambeau led 2500 Americans & 4000 French on a 450 mile trip to the south. Americans took six days to ferry all the units across the Hudson at Kings Ferry. Half the French returned to North Castle, the other half Through Thornwood, Pleasantville and Chappaqua to visit Bill and Hillary.
- Aug 21 The French rejoined & crossed the Croton River at Pines Bridge, camped in Crompond (now Yorktown Heights)
- Aug 22 French camped at King's Ferry, (now Verplank)
- Aug 24 camped at Haverstraw.
- The forces now moved along three separate routes, rejoining at Princeton.
- Aug 25 #1 Americans from Kakiat (now New Hempstead) to Paramus, NJ. Then to Sandy Hook.
- #2 French camped in New Antrim (now Suffern)
- #3 American baggage train from Kakiat to New Antrim.

To be continued in the next issue.

Reinternment of Our First President

On November 24th, Samuel Huntington and his wife Martha were given honors at a touching ceremony in Norwich. Their burial site had been fully restored after the years had taken their toll. Samuel is felt by many to be the true first President of the United States. Not elected by the public, but by his peers in congress under the Articles of Confederation.



(L-R - Jackie Dodd, the wife of Sen Dodd, Congressman Rob Simmons, unknown, and our own Channing Huntington, with the Governor's Foot Guard.)

Where Are You?

We are the largest state society in New England, but you wouldn't know it based on our attendance.

We know that many different compatriots join our society for many different reasons. Some because their DAR relative put them up to it, others to hang a certificate on the wall, others who would like to help out but don't know where to start, and the few of us who put our heart and soul into this organization.

Over the last half dozen years, we have started with one state color guard, commanded by Richard Swartwout (who we don't see much anymore), to three branch color guards totaling thirty.

Based on last years numbers, we guess that it's not surprising that the three branches that did the best for member increases were Huntington, Putnam, and Wolcott who each have active color guards. We did have an increase statewide, but some branches lost big to the active ones.

It's really hurts some of us when we go to so much effort to put an event or meeting together and the only members who show up are in the color guard or officers. Where are the rest of you? Bring your family along.

I'm surprised to hear from some branch presidents, when they tell me that they have a hard time even getting a new member to attend their first meeting, so they can be inducted as a compatriot

So if you can afford a little bit of time, please attend something. Don't worry you won't be put to work just for showing up. You might meet some great people who share an interest in our heritage.

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property in East Haddam. Dave and Kate Johnston of Lyme had recently purchased the cottage and land just up the road from the schoolhouse. They will be building a new house on the same location. Since the Johnston's did not want to see the cottage simply torn down, they approach us to see if we could make use of it.

The cottage was originally thought to be a kit from a Sears Catalog, but while it was being taken apart it was found to be a Hodgson House made in Dover, MA. It was shipped by rail and pieced together on site. The entire building (floor, walls and roof) is made of five and ten foot panels, which are held together by pins and wedges. When it was broken down for storage it only took up the space of two cars. The Town of East Haddam is letting us borrow one of the old town garage bays behind the town hall to store it.



The property committee plans to place it near Main St to the left of where the current entrance is now. They don't want it to distract from the schoolhouse. This additional space will allow for new displays about the Rev War in

general, so that the school can focus on Nathan Hale, our state hero. The school is very limited on space.

The Property Committee is already working with two grant writers to secure funding for a planning session with museum professionals and some of our dedicated compatriots. The East Haddam Economic Development Commission has been approached about placing information for visitors/tourists within the enclosed back porch, which will draw more to the school and our exhibits. And we have discussed the possibility of public rest rooms to be added to the back of the cottage with the town. These are all just ideas, which will be ironed out.

The timing is perfect, since Nathan Hale's 250th Birthday is on June 6, 2005. So the plan is to have everything put together for the big celebrations.

We will need to raise about \$20,000 between donations and grants, which can be accomplished. If we were to build a brand new building of the same size it would cost between \$80,000 and \$100,000.

If you want to help in any way, contact Heath Herel, our new Property Steward at 860-434-2202 htherel@snet.net

www.ctsarr.org



TEMP - RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Connecticut Society of the
Sons of the American Revolution
PO Box 411
East Haddam CT 06423-0411

The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
~ **Washington's Birthday Luncheon** ~

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2004

In Honor of George Washington's Birthday, our state meeting will be held in Essex. The town has a lot of Revolutionary War history, and much of it hasn't changed. Many ships were built there for our patriotic cause.

The meeting will be at Oliver's Tavern which is only a short distance from our Revolutionary War Exhibit.

**Oliver's Tavern
124 Westbrook Road
Essex, CT 06426**

11:00 AM – CTSSAR Board of Managers Meeting (All members welcome)

12:00 PM – SOCIAL (Cash Bar available)

12:30 PM – CTSSAR Luncheon (Members and their wives are encouraged to attend)

Menu

Garden Salad

Choice of 4 entrees: Grilled 9oz New York Sirloin, Grilled Chicken Breast, Baked Filet of Salmon, or Pasta Primavera

Chef's Vegetable & appropriate Starch

Dessert

Coffee or tea

\$20.00 Per Person

Luncheon reservations must be received by February 10th

Name: _____ Entree _____
_____ Entree _____
_____ Entree _____

Number in your party _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Please mail to: Jeffrey Hessler
11 Bonny Lane
Clinton, CT 06413

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CTSSAR

DIRECTIONS to Oliver's Tavern

From New Haven

95 North to exit 65. Left at end of exit onto Rt 153. 4 miles on Rt 153, on left just before traffic Light.

From New London

95 South across bridge take exit 69 for Rt 9 North. Take exit 3 off Rt 9, take a left at end of exit, left at traffic light onto Rt 153. 1 ¼ miles on Rt 153 on right after traffic light.

From Hartford

Rt 9 South take exit 3, straight across at end of exit. At stop sign take a right onto Rt 153, 1 ¼ miles on Rt 153 on right after traffic light.

DIRECTIONS from Oliver's Tavern to Rev War Exhibit

Turn left onto Rt 153. Continue straight through traffic light, flashing traffic light and another traffic light. You will get to a fork in the road where the main road goes to the right, take the left fork which is straight ahead. Take a left onto Prospect St. Hill's Academy is a brick building a few doors down on the left, just before the Catholic Church. Parking is in the back.

