



Utah Society
Sons of the American
Revolution

Inside this issue:

Role Models for Youth	1
The American Revolution - 1779	2
George Washington's Birthday Celebration	3
New Members Welcome	3
Fort Buenaventura Rendezvous	4
Memorial Day A Day for Remembering	4
Annual Membership Meeting Report	5
"Celebrate America" Awards and Recognition Banquet	5
Utah SAR Says Farewell to Compatriots	6
Book Review	7
Utah SAR President's Message	7
Mark Your Calendar	8
State Offices	8

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Utah Patriot

2019 - Issue 1

Role Models for Youth

Today we live in a world where it seems many of our heroes come from fiction. Iron Man, Aquaman, and new darker versions of Luke Skywalker, Batman and Superman. In recent years Hollywood has provided numerous "superheroes" for our youth to cheer for as they battle evil and overcome obstacles that threaten the peace of the world. These imagined individuals in their made-up situations can provide entertainment as well as object lessons for good and bad.

Fiction can be useful in teaching principles of life as we have learned from childhood stories such as Hansel and Gretel, Sleeping Beauty, and the Wizard of Oz. Stories with role models and object lessons are important to helping children develop and grow into responsible adults. Yet, there is something key that children need beyond make believe; they need to have real stories of real people, of real Heros who actually lived and are not just imaginary.

As Americans we are blessed with a rich history containing true-real-life stories of individuals who provide examples of compassion, charity, kindness, courage, determination, loyalty, perseverance, integrity, or strength — and many other attributes and values that we can admire in others and seek to emulate. As Sons of the American Revolution, we have our ancestors, and the other patriots who were resolved to do their part to bring about the Independence and Freedom of the American colonists. Their stories are essential to be told and to be remembered, as they comprise the essence of our American Heritage, and serve as reminders as to the type of people our youth should be as Americans.

The actions and deeds of those who won America's Independence need to be told and retold so

that our youth understand the price paid for freedom. The epic story of the American Revolution is one of the greatest stories in the history of the world. It is the story of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and of the creation of a depth and breadth of freedom, unknown among mankind until the establishment of the United States of America.

The American Revolution contains the stories of great men such as Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Adams, Madison, Hamilton, Marion, Greene, Lafayette, Knox, Jones, and Hancock; as well as great women such as Abigail, Dolly, Martha, Margaret, Lucy, Mary, Mercy, Betsy, Elizabeth, Catherine, Sybil, Nancy, and Esther.



Source: <https://www.timetoast.com/timelines/public-education>

How well do our children know the stories of these patriots? Do they know of their sacrifices, their contributions, their strength and fortitude? Do they know of the price they paid for freedom? Our patriot

ancestors gave us a precious birthright. Do we know what it is? Do our children know what it is? How will we value and preserve what we do not understand, value and appreciate? The freedom we have been given requires us to strive to fulfill the responsibilities associated with it. We must be prepared and willing to do as they did, to preserve our cherished freedoms and liberty.

The American Revolution is resplendent with true stories of men and women, whose actions and lives merit our remembering them. We must seek to embrace their values, as well as the principles by which they stood firmly to achieve America's independence and freedom. As Sons of the American Revolution may we do our part to share these stories with our posterity and community to help the coming generation to value what truly matters most.



1779 - The American Revolution - 240 Years Ago - Lest We Forget . . .

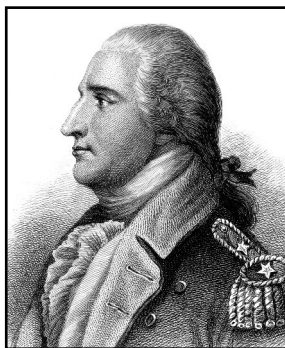
January 22 – Claudius Smith (Loyalist guerrilla leader) is hanged at Goshen, Orange County, New York for acts of terrorism upon the people of the surrounding communities, including aiding British ally Chief Joseph Brant.

February 23–25 – The Battle of Vincennes or The Fall of Fort Sackville – Frontier battle won by American militia forces.



Siege of Fort Vincennes

June 1 – Benedict Arnold is court martialed for malfeasance in his treatment of government property.



Benedict Arnold

June 16 – In support of the U.S., Spain declares war on England.

July 3 - 5 - British Major General Tryon's division lands in East Haven Connecticut, met with spirited resistance from a band of local militia, take Black Rock Fort.

July 7 – Tryon's forces in the Battle of Fairfield destroy 54 barns, 47 store-houses, burned 83 homes, two churches, and municipal buildings including a schoolhouse, the courthouse and the

local jail.

July 11 – In the Battle of Norwalk Tryon's forces are weakly opposed by about 50 local militia, easily dispersed. The destruction of the village and its commercial infrastructure destroyed.

July 16 – United States forces led by General Anthony Wayne capture Stony Point, New York from British troops.

July 22 – Battle of Minisink. The Goshen Militia is destroyed by Great Britain's ally - Mohawk Chief Joseph Brant's forces.



Mohawk Chief Joseph Brant

July 24 – American forces led by Commodore Dudley Saltonstall launch the Penobscot Expedition in what is now Castine, Maine, resulting in the worst naval defeat in U.S. history until Pearl Harbor.



Penobscot Expedition

August 1 – Francis Scott Key is born. Author of The Star Spangled Banner (died 1843).

August 19 – Battle of Paulus Hook brought the Patriots success over British forces when Major Light Horse Harry

Lee launched a nighttime raid on the British controlled fort. Lee was rewarded by the Second Continental Congress with a gold medal, the only non-general to receive such an award during the war.

September 12-21 – Battle of Baton Rouge: Spanish troops under Bernardo de Galvez capture the city from the British.

September 16–October 18 – Siege of Savannah. The siege itself consisted of a joint Franco-American attempt to retake Savannah. On October 9 a major assault against the British siege works failed. During the attack, Polish nobleman Count Casimir Pulaski, leading the combined cavalry forces on the American side, was mortally wounded. With the failure of the joint attack, the siege was abandoned, and the British remained in control of Savannah until July 1782, near the end of the war.



Siege of Savannah



*Bernardo de Gálvez
1st Viscount of Galveston*

September 23 – Battle of Flamborough Head: The American ship Bonhomme Richard, commanded by John Paul Jones, engages the British ship Serapis. Jones famously says, "I have

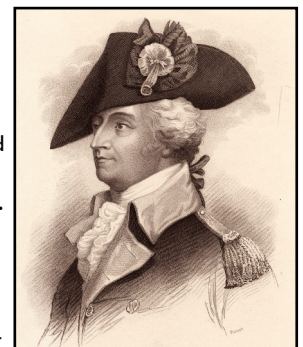
not yet begun to fight!" The Bonhomme Richard sinks, but the Americans board the Serapis and other vessels, and are victorious.

October 4 – The Fort Wilson Riot takes place. After the British had abandoned Philadelphia, Attorney James Wilson successfully defended at trial 23 people from property seizure and exile by the radical government of Pennsylvania. A mob whipped up by liquor and the writings and speeches of Joseph Reed, president of Pennsylvania's Supreme Executive Council, marched on Congressman Wilson's home at Third and Walnut Streets. Wilson and 35 of his colleagues barricaded themselves in his home, later nicknamed Fort Wilson. In the fighting that ensued, six died, and 17 to 19 were wounded. The city's soldiers, the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry and Baylor's 3rd Continental Light Dragoons, eventually intervened and rescued Wilson and his colleagues. The rioters were pardoned and released by Joseph Reed.

November 2 – The North Carolina General Assembly carves a new county from Dobbs County, North Carolina and names it Wayne County in honor of United States General Anthony Wayne.

December 25 – Fort Nashborough, later to become Nashville, Tennessee, is founded by James Robertson.

December 1779 – May 1780 Continental Army in fifth winter quarters at Morristown.



Anthony Wayne



George Washington Birthday Banquet — A Statue, An Artist, and a TV Star

On February 23, 2019 a standing room only group of people



Paul David Nichols and Raymond Vance Brown are inducted as Compatriots of the Utah SAR

filled the "Liberty Hall" facility in Farr West, Utah. Members and guests were welcomed by Utah SAR President Bill Simpson, who conducted a new member installation ceremony. Raymond Vance Brown and Paul David Nichols became the Utah SAR's newest compatriots.

After the installation ceremony, President Simpson opened the

event, which began with a heartfelt invocation offered by Utah SAR Chaplain Wade Alexander. The Utah SAR Color Guard provided the flag ceremony accompanied by drum and fife. Mrs. Shelia Simpson led the audience in singing "America the Beautiful." Susan Holt, Utah State DAR Regent, led the audience in saying the American's Creed. Regent Holt and President Simpson gave greetings and acknowledged special guests in attendance. The delicious dinner was catered by Majestic Grill.

The program featured Angela Johnson, the acclaimed Utah artist, who is known for her *Light of the World Sculpture Garden* located at Thanksgiving Point in Lehi, Utah. The 2.5 acre sculpture garden includes 14



Utah DAR Regent Susan Holt greeting the audience

scenes, with 35 sculptures from the New Testament. Angela spoke to the audience about her latest creation – a monumental statue of General George Washington on horse, entitled "Stand Your Ground!". This impressive work of art was on display during the banquet for all of the guests to see, and served as a magnificent background to Angela's inspiring message of miracles and Providence in the creation of the statue.



Angela Johnson speaking of the miracles and Providence she felt as she created the statue "Stand Your Ground!"

Angela was preceded by Stan Ellsworth, star of the TV show "American Ride" and author of the book *Renegades & Rebels: Epic & True Stories of our Revolutionary Heroes*. Stan captivated the audience with several seldom-heard and not-well-known stories from the American Revolution. These stories spoke of the bravery, courage, perseverance, devotion, and sacrifice of patriots who committed themselves to the cause of America's inde-



Stan Ellsworth, star of TV show "American Ride" and author of *Renegades & Rebels: Epic & True Stories of our Revolutionary Heroes*

pendence, and the reasons the patriots took up arms, as well as what freedom and liberty meant to those who opposed the tyranny of British rule.

After Stan's presentation, President Bill Simpson took a moment to express his thanks to Stan for his dedication and determination in presenting this message of the Patriots and the sacrifices they endured in the struggle for independence. He also expressed his gratitude to Stan for being a repeat speaker at Utah SAR events and presented him with a Sons of the American Revolution challenge coin, while explaining the significance of the coin. [Stan was previously awarded the SAR Silver Good Citizenship medal.]



Stan Ellsworth poses with Regent Holt and other DAR Daughters

With the conclusion of the program, Angela was gracious to make herself available for those who wanted photos with her and the statue. Stan autographed his book and met with many of the guests. It was a spectacular evening, which many will remember! We want to mention that compatriot Gary Parriott, from Nevada, flew to Salt Lake just to attend this meeting. Gary is a dual member of the Utah and Nevada Societies of the SAR.

"Liberty, honor, and safety are all at stake, and I trust Providence will smile upon our efforts and establish us once more, the inhabitants of a free and happy country."

— General George Washington, 1776

Welcome New Members!

Please welcome the following new members of the Utah SAR, not previously listed in our newsletter:

- Jeffery Bernhard Lensman - South Ogden, UT
- Jared Bryson Crapo - Draper, UT
- Colebie Thomas Smith - Farr West, UT
- Ammon Clark Millet - West Valley City, UT
- Brent H. Millet - West Valley City, UT
- Christopher Michael Record - Layton, UT
- Kyle Dean Walker - Herriman, UT



"If the liberties of the American people are ever destroyed, they will fall by the hands of the clergy."

— Marquis De Lafayette



Fort Buenaventura Rendezvous

On Saturday, April 20, 2019, members of the Utah SAR color guard joined with members of the American Long Rifle Association to provide a flag raising at historic Fort Buenaventura.



Utah SAR Color Guard at Fort Buenaventura Rendezvous: Jesse Black; Gregg Hansen, Matthew Putnam, David Putnam, Trent Grandy, Matthew Marchant

Fort Buenaventura hosts Utah's Easter Mountain Man Rendezvous. We were told that this year's attendance was the largest in the history of the rendezvous. The color guard began its march around the park pond at 8:00 a.m., pausing at the east shore of the pond for the ALRA members to shoot their flintlocks. The march of the color guard continued around the pond, where another volley was fired from the road to the fort. Inside the fort, the flag was briskly raised on the flag pole and another volley was fired. Attendees gave the Pledge of Allegiance, and then were favored to hear a bagpiper play a selection of patriotic tunes. The color guard marched out of the fort and returned to the park lodge.



Utah's Easter Mountain Man Rendezvous at Fort Buenaventura, Ogden, UT

Each year the Fort Buenaventura Rendezvous committee requests the participation of the Utah SAR color guard in providing the Saturday morning flag raising ceremony. Those who are in period dress are admitted for free, and those who are not are asked to pay a nominal entrance fee. There are many fun things to see and do at the rendezvous, as participants attempt to relive a colorful time in American's past.

"Your love of liberty, your respect for laws, your habits of industry, and your practice of the moral and religious obligations are the strongest claims to national and individual happiness."
— President George Washington, 1789

Join the Color Guard and inspire others to remember and cherish their heritage of



LIBERTY AND FREEDOM



Visit our website UtahSocietySAR.org
Click Color Guard on the Menu Bar or
Call the Utah SAR Color Guard Coordinator Today!
801-201-7731

Memorial Day A Day for Remembering

On Monday May 27, 2019 the Utah SAR gathered at *This Is The Place Heritage Park* in Salt Lake City, Utah to commemorate this special national holiday. President Bill Simpson, his grandson, Aiden McCormick, and members of the Utah SAR color guard: Trent Grandy, Chase Grandy, Matt Marchant, Gregg Hansen, and Doug McGregor were in attendance.

Due to inclement weather, the Utah SAR contingency was housed in the "Social Hall" building located on Main Street, where the color guard set up their displays for American Revolution soldier life, as well as an SAR information table.



Members of the Utah SAR Color Guard at morning flag ceremony L/R Douglas McGregor, Gregg Hansen, Matthew Marchant, Chase Grandy, and Trent Grandy

The color guard was honored to raise the flag and bring it to half-mast in the morning. At noon the color guard stood at attention at the top of Main Street as the canon fired and the flag was raised to the top of the flagpole. Before the park closing, the color guard ceremoniously took the flag down.

Many people came to visit the displays; some were from international locations, and others from various States. A highlight of the color guard's offerings was the flintlock demonstration provided by Gregg Hansen. Guests were able to watch a flintlock fire as well as to visit the display depicting arms of the common soldier, including how they



This is the Place Heritage Park personnel firing cannon

cared for them and used them in battle.

It was exciting for Utah SAR compatriots to have the opportunity to share with the visitors stories from the American Revolution, to remind them of the significance of freedom and liberty, and to talk about our ancestors, and our reasons for being a Son of the American Revolution.

All those Utah SAR members participating were given free park entrance passes for their families. Participants were also provided a free lunch and a store discount for purchases made in the park.

Those who come to visit the park are interested in heritage and history. It is fitting that representatives of the Utah SAR are there on Memorial Day to help the guests understand that the Utah pioneers revered their American Revolution ancestors and were profoundly grateful for those who suffered and sacrificed for the attainment of Independence and Freedom. *This is the Place Heritage Park* is a good place to remember these things . . .



Annual Membership Meeting Report

On June 1, 2019 members of the Utah Society Sons of the American Revolution held their Annual Membership Meeting at the National Society Sons of Utah Pioneers building, located in Millcreek, UT.

Utah SAR President William P. Simpson called the meeting to order, and Chaplain Wade Alexander offered a heartfelt invocation. Our Color Guard, clad in classic colonial uniforms, marched in, bearing the stars and stripes and we had the opportunity to pledge our allegiance to the flag.

First Vice President Douglas McGregor conducted the election of officers for the 2019–2020 year. All incumbent officers, with the exception of the Genealogist, were unanimously re-elected to their offices. An expression of gratitude was extended to Layton Patterson for his faithful service as State Genealogist. Paul Nichols was elected as the new State Genealogist. Other changes included Gary England as Correspondence Secretary and Larry Florence as Secretary/



President Simpson installs Paul David Nichols as new State Genealogist

Treasurer and Registrar. President Simpson led the installation ceremony for the new State Genealogist, Paul Nichols.

A new member induction ceremony was held for Brent H. Millett and his son, Ammon Clark Millett. The color guard marched them to the front of the room, where they were sworn in by



Brent and Ammon Millett Inducted as newest members of Utah SAR

President Simpson. Welcome New Compatriots!!

The meeting then moved on to awards presentations. Service Certificates were presented to four of our compatriots for their five years of continuous service, and nine of our members for ten years of service. Paul T. Meyers PhD. has qualified for a Forty year Service Certificate. Eugene K. Walling has been a member of SAR for sixty years, and has been designated an “Emeritus Member by the National Society”. He is exempt from further payment of Society dues. Those receiving “Years of Service” certificates were commended for their devotion to the principles and values of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Jesse Black, our Color Guard Coordinator, received the State Distinguished Service Medal for his outstanding service to



President Simpson presents Compatriot Jesse Black with the State Distinguished Service Medal



President Simpson presents Compatriot Trent Grandy with Roger Sherman State Medal

the color guard and Utah SAR. Trent Grandy was awarded the Roger Sherman State Silver Medal. Wade Alexander, Paul Child Sr., Larry Florence, Jason Henderson, Douglas McGregor and William Simpson received Oak Leaf Clusters for their Roger Sherman Medals. The State Patriot Medal was awarded to Larry Florence for his significant, faithful service to the Utah SAR. Color Guardsmen recognized were Jesse Black, Josh Elliott, Gary England, Lyle Gingery, Trenton Grandy, Gregg Hansen, Matt

Marchant, and Douglas McGregor for 50% or higher participation in 2018. Special appreciation was also given to Lyle Gingery, Gregg Hansen, and Doug McGregor for their service to the American Revolution 4-H Patriots Club, Color Guard and Utah SAR.

Certificates of Appreciation for notable service given to the Utah SAR were awarded to: Wade Alexander, Jesse Black, Paul Child Sr., Larry and Shirley Florence, Jason Henderson, and Scott Swain.



President Simpson presents Compatriot Larry Florence with the Patriot Medal

“Celebrate America” Awards and Recognition Banquet

Compatriots, family, friends, members of the DAR, and special guests all gathered in Salt Lake City at the Sons of Utah Pioneers building for the annual “Celebrate America” Awards and Recognition Banquet. The audience was favored with an invocation offered by Chaplain Wade Alexander, followed by the presentation of the colors, given by our own Utah SAR color guard--the selfless men and boys who wear the iconic uniform of their patriot ancestors to inspire others to remember those who gave us freedom and established liberty upon the land. The audience participated in the pledge of allegiance, the singing of the National Anthem, and reciting of The American's Creed. Utah SAR President Simpson and Utah DAR Regent Susan Holt gave greetings. The audience then enjoyed a delicious New England themed dinner catered by Majestic Grill.

After dinner, President Simpson returned to the podium to introduce the new 2019-2020 Utah SAR Board of Managers and Committee Chairmen.

The Compatriots who qualified for 5, 10, 40 and 60 year Service Certificates were recognized by President Simpson. He also announced SAR awards to: Color Guard member, Matthew Marchant - SAR Outstanding Citizenship Pin, Cadet Major Boston John - JROTC



Continued from Page 5

SAR State Medal, and Spencer Capener, - Utah Top Eagle Scout for 2019, received the State Eagle Scout Medal and trophy, as well as a \$1000.00 monetary scholarship award to Weber State University.



Utah's Top Eagle Scout Spencer Capener with Utah SAR President Simpson and Alternate National Trustee and Utah SAR Scout Committee Chairman Paul Childs

Wade Alexander introduced our guest speaker, Kyle Fox, founder of "Follow the Flag." Kyle spoke of the "miracles" that had occurred in the creation of "Follow the Flag" and still more of them since the organization's inception.

Free-flying an American flag large enough to cover 1/4 of an acre, (150 ft. X 78 ft.), across a 1,100 ft. canyon of the Wasatch Front mountain range is a daunting task to say the least.

Kyle was driven by a desire to honor Major Brent Taylor, the mayor of North Ogden who died in Afghanistan in November 2018, leaving behind his wife and seven children.

Challenges and obstacles that seemed insurmountable were overcome, as persons and events continued to fall in place. It was a very moving and inspiring speech with stories that brought tears to many in the audience. It showed how the efforts of just one person can bring healing to emotional wounds.



Utah SAR President Simpson presents Kyle Fox with SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal

Kyle was awarded the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal for his outstanding work to inspire patriotism in our community.

After Kyle's remarks, the audience was delighted to hear from Stan Ellsworth, the TV star of "American Ride" and author of the book *Renegades & Rebels: Epic & True Stories of our Revolutionary Heroes*. Stan enthralled the audience with stories from the American Revolution and spoke about the work that went into the development of his book. After the meeting, Stan and his wife Stacy met with our guests and at a book table to autograph books. Kyle and his wife Carrie had a table as well, where they offered t-shirts and other patriotic items for sale.

President Simpson gave concluding remarks. As the meeting dismissed, several guests commented on the positive, uplifting time they had at the gathering.

Utah SAR Says Farewell to Compatriots

The Board of Managers, Utah SAR, asks you to join us in saying farewell to two of our compatriots who passed away since our last newsletter.

Compatriot Darwin Samuel Hunt of Cedar City, Utah, passed away on March 6, 2019 in Cedar City, Utah. He was the son of Royal Samuel Hunt and Phyllis Turman; husband of Kathryn Mennia Cooper; father of 4 children; grandfather of 14 and great-grandfather to 5. Darwin volunteered for service in the US Army and served during the Korean conflict and in the Utah National Guard. He was proud to serve his country and thrilled to have Revolutionary War Patriots that provided his entry into the



Compatriot Darwin Samuel Hunt

Sons of the American Revolution. His primary patriot was John Barney, who provided public service as a "fence viewer, assessor, and Member of Committees" in the state of Vermont. Darwin's membership in the SAR was approved in April 2018. This photo of Compatriot Hunt shows him holding his SAR certificate, with a "Patriot Pallet", that his daughter, Tiffanie, made for him that displays his patriot ancestors.

Compatriot David Hughes Horne of Salt Lake City, Utah, passed away on April 27, 2019, following an extended battle with several illnesses. David was born with twin brother, Jonathan, to Dr.



Compatriot David Hughes Horne

Lyman Merrill Horne and Myrtle Clara Swainston, their third set of twins. He grew up in Salt Lake City and earned educational degrees in chemical engineering and engineering administration from the University of Utah. He was the author of the "1976 Utah Indoor Clean Air Act" and a test engineer for the Air Force's F-16 fighter aircraft. David married Barbara Alice Davies in the Salt Lake Temple. They are the parents of

six children and the grandparents of nineteen. One of David's passions was being a Ham Radio operator, WA7LJU. David joined the SAR in 2002 with Samuel Smith as his primary patriot. Patriot Smith served as a Captain in the Massachusetts Militia, a member of the Committee of Safety from 1771-1775, chairman of the Tea Committee, 1773, and a provincial congress delegate. As a member of the Utah SAR, David served for many years as the State Society Chaplain and Member of the Board.

Please take a moment to pay tribute to these two compatriots. Our condolences to each of their families.

"May our land be a land of liberty, the seat of virtue, the asylum of the oppressed, a name and a praise in the whole Earth, until the last shock of time shall bury the empires of the whole world in one common undistinguished ruin!"
— Joseph Warren



Book Review

At our Annual Member Meeting on June 1st, special recognition was given to Lyle Gingery and Gregg Hansen for the outstanding service that they gave to the SAR Patriots 4-H Club and the Utah SAR Color Guard. As a token of appreciation, they were presented copies of "Washington's Immortals" by Patrick K. O'Donnell. We pass on this review of the book on the chance you may be looking for a good read. It is available in paperback form at a modest price.

Washington's Immortals: The Untold Story of an Elite Regiment Who Changed the Course of the Revolution by Patrick K. O'Donnell c.2016

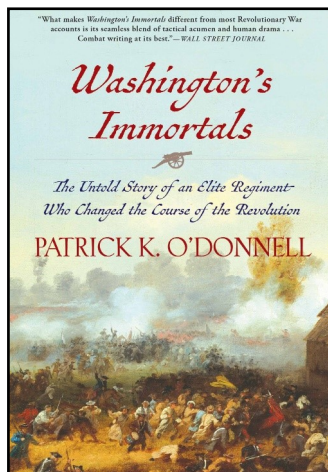
Have you ever wondered . . . is there a nonfiction book that tells the story of the American Revolutionary War in an interesting and informative way, with stories that are seldom told, with details from letters and diaries not well known?

Washington's Immortals is that book. The author focuses on a group of Maryland soldiers, and follows their involvement in the Revolutionary War from 1775 to 1783.

The "Maryland Heroes" became an elite fighting unit -- one that Washington trusted and would send to do difficult, dangerous tasks in the "deeds" required to bring defeat to the Red Coats. Famously known in their day as the "Immortal 400," they fought in the Battles of Brooklyn, Trenton, Princeton, Camden, Cowpens, Guilford Court-house, and Yorktown.

Patrick O'Donnell engages the reader in stories of sacrifice, struggle, defeats, and triumphs. Among the many stories contained in the book, a few stories of the brave men that tell us of their friendships, their love for family, and their daring escapades that made a difference in the outcome of battles and, ultimately, the war. His book will capture your imagination with accounts of the, at times, starving, thread-bare-naked, group of heroic men who made a decision to leave their farms, businesses, and loved ones to take up arms for the defense of liberty, and the attainment of America's freedom from British tyranny.

Did you know that Patrick O'Donnell has written eleven critically acclaimed military books and is considered one of the world's preeminent military historians -- recognized as a seasoned expert on elite, and special operations units, and "irregular warfare?" The writer's style is light, yet detailed, and not pedantic or intellectual. The book *Washington's Immortals* was written to appeal to a wide audience of readers.



Utah SAR President's Message

Greetings Fellow Compatriots,

First, I extend a warm welcome to our seven new compatriots listed on page 3 of this newsletter. I had the distinct pleasure of meeting two of these new compatriots, Brent and Ammon Millet, at our Annual Membership Meeting held on June 1st, as they were inducted into the SAR as members of the Utah Society. I put young Ammon to work as our event photographer, and he did an extraordinarily good job of getting down and up - close to capture the memorable moments of our membership meeting and "Celebrate America" Banquet that followed. Thank you, again, Ammon! I invite the other new compatriots to join us at a future gathering where we can welcome them and formally induct you into our Society.



Utah SAR President Bill Simpson

The pages of this newsletter give you a good overview of all that's been happening since our last newsletter was published last fall. So, I won't spend a great amount of time repeating everything that has already been written. I will express my feelings and impressions as I participated in the events that have taken place thus far this year.

Our George Washington Birthday Banquet, co-sponsored with the Utah Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), in my opinion, is one of the best annual events we have. This year's event, held at "Liberty Hall," included the induction of two new compatriots, and we had two talented guest speakers: Angela Johnson, artist of the George Washington sculpture "Stand Your Ground!" (picture on page 3), and "American Ride" TV star, Stan Ellsworth. If you would like to learn more about our Founding Fathers, I highly recommend getting a copy of Stan's book, *Renegades & Rebels: Epic & True Stories of our Revolutionary Heroes*. It's almost like watching episodes of "American Ride." We are grateful to have had Angela and Stan help us celebrate George Washington's Birthday.

I spent part of Memorial Day with my grandson, and Utah SAR compatriot, Aiden McCormick, at *This is the Place Heritage Park*. I was touched as I watched members of our color guard present the colors in a solemn ceremony that included the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by a small choral group made up of park actors. Each time I sing our national anthem, I become a bit emotional, thinking about the struggle for freedom and independence of our patriot ancestors, in both the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

At the end of April, I had the privilege of attending, for the second time, the Utah DAR's Annual Conference held at the Double Tree Suites in Salt Lake City. My wife, Sheila, and I are grateful for the warm welcome given to us by Utah DAR Regent Susan Holt and the other Daughters in attendance. This year's topic of celebration was the 150th Anniversary of Driving the Golden Spike. I hope that you have an opportunity to get involved in at least one of the 150 events scheduled this year in commemoration of this event.

One of the activities I've become personally involved with is NSSAR's project that takes member applications and extracts the data from the applications into a system that will allow individuals who are seeking to find a patriot ancestor to easily search the extracted data. Utah has a small team of three working on Utah applications. This team is composed of me and Compatriots John Arnold, and Kyle Walker (new member), and I am pleased to say that our current batch of applications is just about completed. Thank you, gentlemen,





Continued from Page 7

for your willingness to become engaged in this important project. If anyone else would like to join the team, please contact me.

I've reflected a great deal on what it means to be a member of the Sons of the American Revolution as I've been working on this project. One aspect of the project includes editing the information on each patriot on the application; this includes adding information about the type of service performed and in which state, searching for and adding grave information using "Find a Grave," and adding reference information. Each time I begin this step of the process, I get to see how many other compatriots are tied to the same patriot. Some of these patriots have a number of descendants that have become members of the SAR. But most I've seen have only our Utah SAR member as their sole descendant. For those member applications that show children, especially sons, I find myself wondering why those sons haven't taken steps to add their names to their patriot ancestors.

When my father became a member of the SAR in Georgia, I initially looked into joining while living and working in California. I hesitated moving forward at that time because I felt that, when I finally joined, I wanted to be able to be an active participant and contribute what I could to the society. After moving to Utah, my other commitments lessened to the point where I felt I could now become that active participant, and I moved forward with my application.

I am sure that there are many of those who have applied to become members of the SAR in Utah who have had similar feelings and have felt that "Now isn't the best time to become an active participant... maybe later." According to current statistics, the Utah Society has 105 active-dues-paying members, including eight junior members and five dual members. This number has not really fluctuated much in the years I've been a member of the Utah SAR Board of Managers, even though we may have had anywhere from 15 to 40+ new member applications approved each year. I don't bring this up to point a finger at those who don't remain active by paying their dues each year. Instead, I'd really like to have your suggestions as to what we can do to make your experience as a member of the Utah SAR a better one. I know that opportunities for greater participation happen when there are chapters for our members to meet with more frequently and to become involved in the programs of the NSSAR on a local level. I believe if we can get 10 or more compatriots in our major population areas (Ogden, Salt Lake City, Provo, St. George) who would be interested in helping the Utah Society reestablish chapters in these areas, we would all benefit by the additional opportunities to be more involved, without too large of an extra time commitment. The job is always easier when there are more hands involved in the work. We, as a board, will give you all the support and assistance necessary, if you are interested in helping us make your Society membership more rewarding.

I am honored to be serving as your president, and I am dedicated to helping the Utah Society become a pleasurable experience for each of our members.

Yours in Liberty,

Bill Simpson
President, Utah SAR

Mark Your Calendar - Upcoming Events

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Utah SAR events

2019 Constitution Day: September 17, 2019

2019 Membership Renewal: Begins November 2019

Veterans Day Parade: November 2019; Layton, UT; check the Utah SAR website for more details.

George Washington Birthday Celebration: February 2020; check the Utah SAR website for details.

Annual SAR Congress:

2020 - Richmond, VA

2021 - Seattle, WA

2022 - Savannah, GA

"The foundation of our national policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality, and the preeminence of free government be exemplified by all the attributes which can win the affections of its citizens and command the respect of the world."

— President George Washington, 1789

State Officers

William P. C. Simpson, President
Douglas R. McGregor, 1st Vice President
Jason I. Henderson, 2nd Vice President
Larry D. Florence, Secretary / Treasurer
Gary A. England, Recording Secretary
Trenton G. Grandy, Historian
Paul D. Nichols, Genealogist
Larry D. Florence, Registrar
Wade C. Alexander, Chaplain
Regan G. Grandy, EdD., National Trustee
Paul L. Child Sr., DDS, Alternate Trustee

You can contact your state officers by going to our website, UtahSocietySAR.org and from the Home page click the About Us on the Menu bar, then [Utah Society SAR Officers](#). For Utah Patriot Newsletter contributions please contact our [Utah Patriot Editor](#).



HOW TO CONTACT US:

Do you have an interest, a request or need? Please go to the website: www.UtahSocietySAR.org; In the menu bar click "Contact Us"

You can copy and paste the Secretary's email address in your email "To", and send your message. If you have a Yahoo or Gmail email you can click the email address in blue to send an email.