



America's March to Freedom

Please take a moment to read the following notice concerning the plan to March from Newport/Providence, RI to Yorktown, Va. in the summer of 2006. As you all know, this year will be the 225th Anniversary of the combined French/American Armies March to Yorktown, Va. Certain members of the Connecticut re-enacting community, and others from the re-enactment community here in the Northeast, are planning to March the entire distance, as close as possible, along the same routes, and on the same dates as done during the Original March of 1781. This will be done in period attire, all horse and wagon are likewise invited to join with the soldiers on foot. Of course we are hoping that you will not only join with us, but that some of you might help with the organizing of this multi-Colony event, perhaps the longest troop movement in America since the Bicentennial. (?)

To that end, a meeting to continue the Organizing effort will be held at the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House, on the Green in Lebanon, Ct. We encourage all Patriotic, and Civic Organizations, as well as Re-enacting Organizations, to join with us in this endeavor. We will be tackling the obvious concerns, the safety and marketing of this event. We expect that many folks will join with us on this march, if but for an hour, an afternoon, a weekend, or even longer, as we travel the Historic Route through the American Countryside..

This march will consist of two parts, to historically mimic the Army movements of the time. The French Army stepped off from Newport, RI., aboard naval transports, on June 9-10, traveling north to Providence, and then by foot from Providence, RI, starting on June 18th, through Connecticut to Phillipsburg (now Dobb's Ferry), NY, arriving there on July 6th, 1781. Here the French Army combined with the American Army, and the Armies stayed in camp there for some 6 weeks. The date for the initial step off should be June 18th, from Providence, RI. We hope to coordinate our efforts with those folks in Rhode Island who are also involved in



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Another Grant

The Nathan Hale School house in East Haddam has been awarded another grant which will be used for two interpretive markers by the Middlesex County Community Foundation (MCCF).

The two markers will give a brief history of Nathan Hale, the school house, the Spencer Monument and the Charter Oak offspring. This will allow visitors to learn when the school house isn't opened or get an overview before they visit the museum.

Last year, MCCF awarded the grant for the school house brochure. We will unveil the new markers this year.

District Control

The New England District Council of the SAR was created decades ago to help the state societies in the area work together and learn from each other regardless of their sizes.

The way the bylaws are currently setup even a small society such as Maine or Vermont is given the right to have a say in all matters. There are some who want to change things so mob rule can dictate over the small societies.

As the largest society in the district we want to make sure that

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www.ConnecticutSAR.org

Editor

Stephen Shaw
stephen@whoistheoldguy.com

Contributors

Ken Buckbee
Robert Rivard
Stephen Shaw
Richard Swartwout

Submissions

Please send any material to:
Stephen Shaw
PO Box 411
East Haddam, CT 06423
860-916-1804
stephen@whoistheoldguy.com

Deadlines

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

Do You Want to Help?

Then simply sign up with SNET/SBC. If you are already a SNET/SBC customer then it doesn't cost you any more.

The CTSSAR is participating in the SNET/SBC Community Connections program. Now, when you sign up with SNET/SBC for all your long-distance calling - or confirm that you're already using SNET/SBC 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 over \$600. 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.

President's Corner

Another new year is upon us. I hope that it will be a prosperous one for all of us!

I had the great fortune to be able to attend the Christmas Meetings of The Gen. David Humphreys Branch (Dec. 12), and The Gov. Oliver Wolcott, Sr. Branch (Dec. 15). At both of those meetings I announced that I had a special treat for everyone. I stated that I had made arrangements for "a wreath of Franklin" (Aretha Franklin) to make a special appearance. After the members and guests expressed their doubts I revealed a wreath encircled with pictures of Benjamin Franklin, while Aretha's song "Respect" played in the background. There were a few expected groans but most everyone seemed to get a good laugh from it. The wreath is something that I thought of one day and made myself



Compatriot Paul Selnau took this excellent photo of "a wreath of Franklin". There is a good possibility that it may also appear in the next issue of *The SAR Magazine*.

A good friend of mine forwarded the following thought to me by e-mail. I got a real kick out of it and thought all of you might too. *They keep talking about drafting a Constitution for Iraq. Why don't we just give them ours? It was written by a lot of really smart guys, and it's worked for over 200 years. Besides, we're not using it anymore!*

Compatriot Paul Everett, President of The Gov. Oliver Wolcott, Sr. Branch, will be presenting a program titled "Christmas Night: Trenton 1776" at our next State Meeting on February 18th, at The Village Tavern in Old Wethersfield. Please try to join us! According to www.villagetavernct.com, The Village Tavern was built by Henry Deming in 1790. The building was run before 1840 as the "Wethersfield Village Hotel" by Roswell and Charles Clapp. The property was purchased in 1852 by Captain James Standish, cousin to the Demings, for his sons James, John and Ira Standish, who operated the Village Store, United States Post Office and the Red Bird Stage Company from the building next door. Passenger service was offered from Hartford to Wethersfield (.25), Middletown (.50), Saybrook (\$1.00), New London and New Haven (\$1.50). The stone step with embedded dinosaur prints, formerly in front of the store, now serves as a bench in Standish Park. The entire property was sold to the town of Wethersfield for \$1.00 to "preserve the rare setting and appearance of a most typical New England village" (Jared Butler Standish, Historian). The building was first converted to "Wethersfield Bank" to preserve the building's New England antiquity. Later the building served as the Board of Education, Police Station, and now The Village Tavern. I hope to see you there!

Kenneth A. Buckbee
President - CTSSAR
(860) 496-1562
buckb@snet.net

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commemorating this Historic Military event. We expect to arrive in Phillipsburg (Dobb's Ferry), NY, on July 6th where we shall camp for a short time. We then expect to return to Dobb's Ferry on Aug. 17th, to prepare for the kick-off of phase 2 of the March, leaving there on Aug. 18th for the trip to Yorktown, Va.

Yes, I assure you, we have folks who will do this entire distance, and as stated earlier, we expect members of the re-enacting community, as well as many others (interested Publick, etc) to join with this on this trek. It will happen, so join with us won't you, this surely will be an event to remember, a true once-in-a-lifetime-opportunity (at least for me, I won't be doing it 25 years from now) (grins). Currently we have support vehicles committed, and an energetic group to start the March. Also, we will have a day-to-day March schedule available, no later than the day of the meeting, or perhaps sooner via e-mail.

Interested.....?? Please reply to one of the following to indicate your desire to attend the meeting, and perhaps help to Organize. Or perhaps you don't want to work, but do want to March a bit, let us know that also. Of course, we need help in Rhode Island, Connecticut, and eastern New York for 'phase one' of the March. We need folks to help map the route for us in their community, or perhaps organizing support help (camp areas, food stuffs, etc) in those areas..... We need folks to help us with the PR, writing of Press Releases, lists of media in your area of the March. etc. The more folks we have to help, well, the easier it should be..... Please be so kind as to contact one the following.....

Rose Morin, Event Secretary
sixthrose@snet.net

Richard Swartwout
capt6th.coli@att.net or 860-742-9843
Captain, 6th Connecticut
Company of Light Infantry, circa 1777-80
for AMtF America's March to Freedom

www.MarchToFreedom.org

Membership Survey

In order to improve service to members and to increase participation by Compatriots, the CTSSAR is conducting a short membership survey. The survey form is included in this issue of *The Connecticut Line* and can be completed on line or filled out and mailed.

The survey asks some general questions about the types of activities that interest you and how you would like to serve the CTSSAR. If you are interested in serving on a committee or on the Board of Managers, please check the latest *CTSSAR Directory* for the names of committees and board positions.

On line – If you are reading this on line, you can just fill the form out now and click on the Submit button. If you are reading the printed copy of *The Connecticut Line*, and want to fill the form out on line, go to <http://www.ConnecticutSAR.org/survey.htm>.

Mailing – You can fill out the form and mail it to: Robert Rivard, 577 Levita Road, Lebanon, CT 06249.

Your input is needed to improve YOUR society.

Upcoming Events

CTSSAR Meeting

February 18th
Village Tavern
Wethersfield, CT

Spring Leadership Meeting

February 24th & 25th
Louisville, KY

Heroism, Nationalism & Rights

February 24th & 25th
Dodd Research Center
Storrs, CT

New England District Meeting

April 1st
New Haven, CT

Patriot's Day Parades

April 17th
Concord & Lexington, MA

CTSSAR Annual Meeting

April 22nd
New Haven, CT

The complete schedule is at:
www.ConnecticutSAR.org
If your event isn't listed, you can submit it on our web site.

Washington's Bodyguard

One of our new SAR applicants has proven his connection to Simeon Simons who was a Mashantucket Pequot and chosen by General Washington to be his personal bodyguard for much of the war.

Simeon also served as a Private in Rhode Island's Black Regiment commanded by Capt. Brown and Col. Jeremiah Olney. He was granted a pension for his service in 1820.

the small societies don't get shut out because one large controlling society thinks they know what is best for all.

Right now there is a regular rotation, so that each state society has a turn to select a compatriot to become the district secretary and then move up to be the Vice President General, which is a national office. There is also a fairly equal number of votes in the district as each state can have a vote from only certain officers. A small society such as Vermont which has less than 50 members, still has a say in district business and has a chance to have one of their members become the VPG, such as the former VPG from last year who is now a national officer.

Unfortunately this is not the first time the society in question has tried to take full control of the entire district with no regard for the little guys in the neighborhood. They made their last attempt in the late 90's and failed because level heads prevailed.

They have proposed bylaw changes which will be voted on at the district meeting in April here in Connecticut. As the largest society in the district, we need to make sure that the right thing is done so that the small societies can still have a voice.

Our patriot ancestors fought for our freedom so that all would have rights and can be heard. It seems contrary to our organization and nation to allow the neighborhood bully to call all the shots and shut out the rest.

Please plan to attend the district meeting so that we can keep the district fair for all. Let's get past this nonsense and move onto projects to remember our patriot ancestors.

Sherman Leadership

The Roger Sherman Branch elected a new slate of officers at their December meeting which includes:

Harold Osgood - President
Paul Caravatt - Secretary
Roger Smith - Treasurer
Andy Mylott - Registrar

Ed Eckert can take a breather after a busy couple of years at the helm.



PATRIOTS AND PILGRIMS

FIND YOUR CONNECTION

**Society of Mayflower Descendants
State of Connecticut**

Membership Information:
Midge Hurtuk
39 Buttemut Lane
Vernon, CT 06066

www.ctmayflower.org ~ mhurtuk@aol.com

www.ConnecticutSAR.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 18, 2006

In Honor of George Washington's Birthday.

Village Tavern
222 Main Street
Wethersfield, CT
860-563-5277

11:30 AM – CTSSAR Board of Managers Meeting (All members welcome)

12:30 PM – SOCIAL (Cash Bar available)

1:00 PM – CTSSAR Luncheon (Members and their wives are encouraged to attend)

2:00 PM – Speaker – Paul Everett – Christmas Night: Trenton 1776

Menu

Soup du Jour

Choice of 3 entrees:

**Blackened Prime Rib, Maryland Style Crab Cakes or Buffalo Chicken Wrap
Potatoes & Fresh Vegetable**

Dessert

Coffee or tea

\$25.00 Per Person for the Meal

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 14th

Name: _____ Entree _____
_____ Entree _____
_____ Entree _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Please mail to:

Bruce Lyon

200 Luchon Rd

Willington, CT 06279

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CTSSAR

DIRECTIONS TO VILLAGE TAVERN

From Points North

1. Take Route 91 South
2. Take the Great Meadow Rd exit towards Old Wethersfield
3. Turn Right on Great Meadow Rd
4. Turn Left on Marsh ST
5. Turn Left on Main ST

From Points South

1. Take the CT-99 exit towards Rocky Hill/Wethersfield, Exit #24
2. Bear Right towards CT-99 North/Wethersfield
3. Continue on CT-99
4. Turn Right on Wells Rd
5. Wells Rd becomes Main St

