

The Connecticut Line

The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Roger Sherman's Shop

Before Roger Sherman became a famous statesman for Connecticut during the Revolutionary War and the only founding father to sign all four of these documents:

The Continental Association (1774)
Declaration of Independence (1776)
Articles of Confederation (1777)
Federal Constitution (1787)



He was a cobbler.

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Help Needed

The Nathan Hale Schoolhouses need your help now more than ever. Over 200 years ago Nathan taught area school children the basics. Today we teach about him and the sacrifices that our patriot ancestors endured. What better way is there to honor our ancestors than by teaching about them and keeping their memory alive.

We have some large projects planned for the two schoolhouses and in order for them to succeed the Connecticut SAR needs your financial support. Your donations will be matched to make your contribution

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The 250th Anniversary of the Birth of Captain Nathan Hale, Connecticut State Hero (and what WE, the CTSSAR are going to do to celebrate the event)

Dear Compatriots,

I just wanted to bring the membership up to date on what YOUR Society is doing to Commemorate the Birthday of Connecticut's State Hero, Captain Nathan Hale. The CTSSAR has tremendous plans underway to commemorate this important event, but it is going to take YOU to make it possible. The Committee is working diligently to put on an event, worthy of the sponsorship of the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. First and foremost, the SAR's objectives of History, Patriotism and Education will be taught and observed. An event of this caliber requires both the financial generosity and volunteer time of it's membership. I ask and encourage each member to do YOUR part by either making a financial contribution, or in contacting the committee and volunteering your time, better yet, both. This event has the potential of bringing enormous publicity to our organization, while at the same time raising public awareness of the struggle for American Independence, and the sacrifices made by Captain Nathan Hale and our Patriot ancestors.

Let me give you a glimpse of what we are trying to achieve. This is all going to happen on the weekend of June 4 & 5, 2005. We are putting together an event that is both fun and educational for the entire family, an event similar to a Country Fair. Picture the grounds of the Nathan Hale Schoolhouse in East Haddam. We plan on having Revolutionary War Living History Units encamped, educating the public on the history of the American Revolution. 18th century artisans such as a Blacksmith, Tinsmith, Potter, and a wood carver; demonstrating their craft. 18th century sutlers, and food vendors selling Popcorn, Ice Cream, Hamburgers and Hot Dogs. Educational Displays on the life of Nathan Hale. Balloons and 18th century games for the kids, and a large educational tent where speakers; George Neumann, Richard Mooney, Keith Jones and more will talk on the life of Captain Nathan Hale, and the noble cause in which he died for, the American Revolution.

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The Connecticut Line January 2005

www.ConnecticutSAR.org

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Submissions

Please send any material to:
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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.

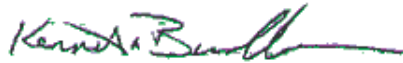
So far with just over 40 members participating, we've been handed over \$600. The more members that participate the better for us and our programs.

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

Happy New Year! It is my hope that this will be the best year CTSSAR has yet. Exciting things are being planned. If you are not already involved, please find out what you can do to be a part of it. Come to our February State Meeting. Details about this meeting can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. One of the features of the day will be a program I will present that I call "Ancestry by Numbers". It is inspired by Timothy Lester Jacobs - friend, fellow genealogist, compatriot, and Professor of Anthropology and Sociology - in his quest to set the record for having the most approved SAR supplemental ancestors. This program is a lighthearted look at past generations and time lines, and although quite factual it is not tedious or lengthy. I don't want to put anyone to sleep after a good meal! Please plan to attend.

Have you read a good book lately? I have read quite a number of books about The American Revolution and most of them have been non-fiction. However, once in a while I come across a fictional story about the period that is so well written that it actually makes me feel that I am there. One such book is Last Refuge of Scoundrels: A Revolutionary Novel (New York: Warner Books Inc., 2000) by Paul Lussier. This book not only takes you there, but it will have you looking at things from a whole different perspective. If nothing else it will get you thinking and, at times, have you laughing. If your local library does not have this ask them to get it for you through Interlibrary Loan (ILL). Perhaps in the next issue of The Connecticut Line I will review another favorite author of mine and a series of fictional books he has written about The American Revolution.



Kenneth A. Buckbee, President - CTSSAR
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As a young man he was apprenticed to a shoemaker and worked in the profession for a number of years. It has been said he had such a thirst for knowledge that he often had an open book in front of him as he worked. Roger continued his trade even after he moved to New Milford with his family.

His cobblers shop has survived and has been dismantled. The Sherman Historical Society with a small army of volunteers is rebuilding the shop on the grounds of the society. At this time the framing is back in place with much more work to be done this year. The society will use the 15' x 30' shop for a Roger Sherman exhibit and children's area.

If you are interested in helping either contact the Sherman Historical Society at 860-354-3083 or Compatriot Mark Labadia at 203-775-1648 or ml8thmevol@cs.com.

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We will require a large amount of members to volunteer their time to help out at the event, and I am not talking about Color Guard members. We will need members to help out with information, display tables, and in the schoolhouse itself. The Color Guard is going to be busy with educational school programs at the Schoolhouse on Friday, and taking part in the encampment on Saturday and Sunday. On Monday, June 6th, the actual date of Nathan Hale's Birthday, the Color Guard will become a mobile ceremonial corps with ceremonies planned for Coventry, New Haven, New London, East Haddam and Hartford.

As you can see, this is BIG, and I have not yet mentioned any of the activities being planned for the Schoolhouse in New London. Let's all make an effort on this one, worthy of our Patriot forefathers. Please be generous in both your financial contributions and/or time. We really need it. If you have already made a financial donation, and/or volunteered your help for the weekend, Thank You.

Application Progress

A recent update from our Genealogist General Ed Butler.

Compatriots,

The membership department has done a wonderful job in getting us caught up on applications.

Before the Christmas holidays the staff was working on applications received in DECEMBER 2004! Actually 9 of the 181 new applications received in December were approved. Currently there are 192 unreviewed new applications, including 20 new ones received in Jan. 2005, and 3 unreviewed Jr. Applications.

Progress has also been made on the backlog of Supplemental applications. The staff is currently working on Supplemental applications received in Sept. 2004. The backlog that was over 900 this time last year has been pared down to 169, which includes 39 received in Dec. 2004, and 12 received in Jan. 2005. At this rate there should be little or no backlog by the time of the March trustees meeting.

During the period of time that the staff was so overwhelmed with Supplemental applications, it was felt that unreviewed applications should be looked at before going through the additional documentation submitted from those which had earlier been pended. In talking with Susan Acree this past week, the staff will now start addressing some of the older Supplemental applications which have been updated with additional proof.

Fraternally,

Ed Butler
Genealogist General

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go even further. You may work for a company that will match your donation.

Already both the Huntington and Humphreys Branches have each donated \$500. A number of individual compatriots have also chipped in, but we have a long way to go to reach our goal. As of now we have less than 10% of our target.

If it had not been for Frederick Manross who wanted to honor his patriot ancestor Fife Major Elijah Manross we would not be able to maintain our historic properties. He left over \$150,000 in his estate to the CTSSAR.

Unfortunately the interest income from the Manross fund is not enough to allow us to expand and improve our programs and displays. We need your help to succeed.

If you have already made a donation, thank you very much. If you'd like to make a donation, please send it to Jeff Hessler, Treasurer, 11 Bonny Ln, Clinton, CT 06413. All donations will be recognized at the schoolhouses.

App Progress Footnote

In the past others and myself have criticized the backlog of applications at headquarters. I feel that our comments and those of other state societies have made a difference by helping to force changes.

It's been said that we should not be so harsh in our newsletters. I for one disagree. When we have little or no representation at the national level, this newsletter and others are our only means to voice our opinions. In a number of cases we tried the proper channels to find that they we're being followed.

Upcoming Events

Washington's Birthday Meeting

Feb. 19th, 10am
Windsor Historical Society
Windsor, CT

Application/Genealogy Workshop

Mar. 19th, 10am
Connecticut Historical Society
Hartford, CT

Mead Branch 75th Anniversary

Apr. 2nd, Noon
Riverside Yacht Club
Greenwich, CT

CTSSAR Annual Meeting

Apr 16th, 10am
Hale Homestead
Coventry, CT

Nathan Hale Weekend

Jun. 4th & 5th, All Day
East Haddam, CT
New London, CT


Official Birthday Dedications

Jun. 6th, All Day
Hale Sites in CT and NY

Hale Homestead Celebration

Jun. 11, All Day
Hale Homestead,
Coventry, CT

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

	<p>PATRIOTS AND PILGRIMS</p> <p><i>FIND YOUR CONNECTION</i></p> <p>Society of Mayflower Descendants State of Connecticut</p> <p><i>Membership Information:</i> Midge Hurtuk 39 Buttemut Lane Vernon, CT 06066 www.ctmayflower.org ~ mhurtuk@aol.com</p>
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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 19, 2005

In Honor of George Washington's Birthday.

Windsor Historical Society
96 Palisado Ave
Windsor, CT

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

12:00 PM – CTSSAR Luncheon (Members and their wives are encouraged to attend)

1:30 PM – Program

Menu

Stuffed Chicken Breast
Garden Salad
Roasted Red Potatoes
Green Beans
Baked Butternut Squash
Rolls and Butter
Cheesecake
Coffee or Soda

\$25.00 Per Person

**Luncheon reservations must be received by February 14th
Since this is being catered, please make a reservation.**

Name: _____

Number in your party _____

Amount Enclosed _____

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

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CTSSAR

DIRECTIONS TO WINDSOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

From I-91 northbound

Take exit 36 (Park Avenue/Bloomfield), turn right onto Park Avenue (Route 178 east). Proceed approximately 1 mile. Turn left at light onto Windsor Avenue (Route 159 north). Proceed approximately 1.5 miles (Windsor Avenue becomes Broad Street, then Palisado Avenue). Turn right onto North Meadow Road. Turn right again to the main entrance. The Society is at the corner of Palisado Avenue and North Meadow Road.

From I-91 southbound

Take exit 37 (Bloomfield Avenue/Windsor Center), turn left onto Bloomfield Avenue (Route 305 east). Proceed approximately 1 mile. Turn right at light onto Poquonock Avenue (Route 75), then left onto Palisado Avenue (Route 159 north). Turn right onto North Meadow Road. Turn right to the main entrance. The Society is at the corner of Palisado Avenue and North Meadow Road.

From I-291 westbound

Take exit 3 (Windsor Avenue/Route 159), turn right at second light onto Windsor Avenue (Route 159 north). Proceed approximately 3 miles (Windsor Avenue becomes Broad Street, then Palisado Avenue). Turn right onto North Meadow Road. Turn right again to the Society's main entrance. The Society is at the corner of Palisado Avenue and North Meadow Road.

Parking

Parking is available in front of our building, around the Palisado Green, or in the Milo Peck Center lot (east of the Palisado Green).

