



General David Humphreys Branch No. 1 Sons of the American Revolution

New Haven, Connecticut Founded

May 22, 1891

Meeting Summary April 2018 – April 2019

May 14 – President Fenn and Ethan gave Bob Donahue a Veterans Certificate and Ethan sent one to Tom Mulcahy's family.

Ethan told us that the Branch received the Thomas Knowlton Award from the State Society.

Past State President Stewart gave the first State Challenge Coin to Bill Lane and Greg Thompson who weren't at the April state meeting, he gave one to each of his officers. President Fenn and Ethan talked about doing 2 grave marking ceremonies during our 4th of July ceremony. They would be James Hillhouse & Simeon Baldwin. Rich Kendell made a motion to do the grave marking and it was second by Bill Lane and all members approved.

We also talked about doing a Branch Challenge Coin. Ethan passed pictures around for approval. Tim Wilkins made a motion to have the coin made and was second by Rich Kendell. Discussion was made on how many to buy and the Branch approved a quantity of 100 coins.

Ethan announced that he has sent out 12 Outstanding Certificates and Pins to area High Schools. He also bought the flags for the 4th of July ceremony.

VP Kendell introduced our guest speaker Melinda Elliot. She spoke about one room School Houses in CT. 18 people attended our meeting.

June 11 – President Fenn welcomed new members Bruce Meinsen & Thomas Chapman and they both spoke about their ancestors.

Ethan spoke about the new Humphreys challenge coin that should be ready by the end of June. Ethan also read a letter from one of Outstanding Citizenship winners Brian LoCicero from Notre Dame High School thanking us for the award.

President Fenn introduced us to 3 members of the Fisher House. Amanda Salthouse told us about the purpose of the Fisher House and we gave them a donation of \$500.00

VP Kendell introduced our guest speaker Frances Hendrickson. She spoke about how we lived in the 18th century America. 23 people attended our meeting.

July 4 – We had our 67th annual ceremony at Grove Street Cemetery in New Haven. Joining us was the Second Company Governor's Foot Guard, Humphreys 2nd Reg't along with State Color Guard Commander Dave Perkins, 6th Conn. Reg't Company of Light Infantry, Ct. Mayflower Society. Marshall Robbins gave a speech at Roger Sherman's grave site. This year we marked 2 Patriots graves, Simeon Baldwin and James Hillhouse. David Loda upon his horse at the Humphreys grave site gave a speech. 100 + people attended.

September 10 – Secretary Stewart inducted new member Brian Burland and he spoke about his ancestor. His brother Tom was there as a perspective member. Ethan spoke about the new Humphreys challenge coin that cost us \$575.00 that we have sold 65 coins for \$640.00 so we have made a small profit so far. Massing of the Colors is on November 3rd check SAR web page for more information. The same day as our SAR State meeting. The Cemetery is nearing completion if we could just get some good weather. Rich Kendell introduced our guest speaker Bob Begin. He spoke about the war of 1812, primarily about Commodore Issac Hull the Capt. Of the USS Constitution and his many exploits. 15 people attended our meeting.

October 8 - Ethan Stewart spoke about Wreaths Across America being on December 15th at 12 noon. Some of our members attend every year. Ethan Stewart made a motion to donate 10 wreaths the same as last year to Freeloze Baldwin Stow Chapter at a cost of \$150.00. and was seconded by Tim Wilkins. This was accepted. Ethan also gave an historical moment. He bought 2 books called the Guide to the History & Historic Sites of CT. printed by Yale in 1937. These books were written by the CT. DAR over a 7-year period. There was information in there about Colonel David Humphreys that I had not heard before. At the battle of Yorktown, Humphreys received the English Colors at the surrender of Cornwallis. He also carried those colors to Congress, which voted him "an elegant sword" presented in 1787. This sword is in the New Haven Museum on the second floor. Ethan also spoke about the cemetery. He had found General David Wooster's father Capt. Abraham Wooster buried there and David's oldest brother Col. Joseph Wooster & wife Mary was found by members of the cemetery group. Ethan would like to have a Ceremony at the cemetery because of its completion and to honor 1 additional patriot David Jackson. Ethan Stewart introduced our guest speaker, Susan Marchese. She spoke about her group the Friends of Fort Wooster Park and what they did for the park. She also spoke about the significance during the Invasion of New Haven and how important Beacon Hill was as a look out post. 17 people attended our meeting

November 12 - Meeting opened at 6:34 by Regent Kendra Davis & President Bill Fenn.

Regent Davis recognized all our Veterans at the meeting. Regent Davis also spoke about their ceremony for the Wreaths across America held 12/15/2017 at Kings Highway Cemetery, Milford.

President Fenn read a thank you note for our donation to Wreaths Across America.

President Fenn read off the nominations for the 2019-20 officers; Bill Fenn President, Ethan Stewart, Secretary, Asst. Treasure, and Registrar, Bruce Bathrick Treasure, Rich Kendall Chaplain, Greg Thomson Historian and Doug LeMay Neurologist. Chairman Marshall Robinson Law Enforcement Award, Ethan Stewart Outstanding Citizenship Awards, Tim Wilkins Eagle Scout, Chris Bandecchi Flag Award and Bill Lane Nominating. They were all accepted unanimously.

Ethan Stewart informed us that the General David Humphreys Branch has been awarded The Partners in Patriotism Certificate for Patriotic Outreach from National at the 128th Congress.

Ethan also spoke about the ceremony at the cemetery and how meaningful the work was. Ethan announced that the Derby Historical Society was having a fund raiser on Nov. 19th to finish the restoration of the Humphreys House. There was a motion put forth by Tim Wilkins for a donation of \$300.00 and second by Ethan Stewart. It was passed unanimously.

Ethan Stewart introduced our guest speaker Eric Chandler. He spoke about many different women who help in the Revolution. A few that he talked about were, Molly Pitcher, Anna Maria Lane, Sally St. Clair, Elizabeth Zane and Deborah Sampson. 44 people attended our meeting.

December. 10 - State President Damien Cregeau swore in our new officers for 2019-20. They are President Bill Fenn, Secretary Ethan Stewart, Sr., Treasurer Bruce Bathrick, Asst. Treasurer Ethan Stewart, Sr., Registrar Ethan Stewart Sr, Chaplain Rich Kendall, Historian Greg Thompson and Necrologist Doug LeMay.

Flag Chairman Chris Bandecchi presented Rich Kendall with the Flag Award.

Secretary Stewart introduced Carl Selvaggi, Jr. owner of Carl's Monument. Carl donated a lot of his free time with helping with the restoration of the Christ Episcopal Church Cemetery in Stratford, CT., such as moving a stone to their proper location, sand blasting and made two stones for free. They were the Patriot Daniel Jackson whose original stone was lost and marker with the SAR & DAR names in the new entrance way and with the year the project was complete.

For all his dedication we presented him with the Bronze Good Citizenship Award and Medal.

Dave Loda (AKA- Colonial David Humphreys) introduced our guest soprano Gretchen Tucker. She sang many Christmas carols and we sang along with them. It was enjoyed by all. President Fenn gave her a Certificate of Appreciation. 30 people attended our Christmas meeting

December 15 – We attended the Wreaths Across America with the Freelove Baldwin Stow DAR in Milford. 7 members attended and Color Guard Commander Dave Perkins.

January 14 – John Crowell spoke about Charlton Haddad and how he was getting along in the nursing home.

President Fenn spoke about Dick Reilly and his fight with cancer.

We welcomed new members; George Esposito and Steven Chapman and they both spoke about their Patriot Ancestor.

Ethan Stewart introduced our speaker Janet Barrett. She is the author of "They Called Her Reckless". Janet gave a brief description of the mountain's ranges in North Korea and how difficult it was to get around without roads. The Marine's had difficulty carrying ammunition up the steep hills to the front line, so they got a real-life workhorse to carry the ammunition she was called Reckless. Reckless was made a Private in the Marine Fifth Regiment. She got so use to the trails that she would go up with the ammunition by herself and back down. She was awarded two Purple Hearts and promoted to Sergeant by the Commander of the Marine First Division. Reckless was brought to the United States where she lived out her life. 20 people attended our meeting.

February 11 - Rich Kendall had a moment of silence for compatriot Dick Reilly.

Ethan Stewart said that he sent out applications to 14 area High Schools for the Outstanding Citizenship Award. Ethan also said that he his wife, Barbara and Greg Thompson are working on a complete listing and pictures of all gravestone to give the church and Historical Society.

President Fenn and Doug Lemay talked about the Fisher House and if we could make another donation. Bill Lane made a motion for \$500.00 and was seconded by Tim Wilkins and all members present voted in favor.

Rich Kendall introduced our speaker Fred Kerson. Fred brought in 3 muskets and 1 rifle so that we could see the difference. He also brought many items that had to do with the muskets and rifle. Fred gave us a history lesson about the muskets and a demonstration on how to load them. Fred also said that the Kentucky Long Rifle was made in Lancaster, Penn. 15 people attended our meeting.

March. 11 - President Fenn inducted new member Karl Neuman and was welcomed by all members.

Bruce Bathrick read us a thank you letter for our donation to the Fisher House. President Fenn also state that he would like Doug LeMay to present future donations.

Rich Kendall & Chris Bandecchi spoke about Stratford Council making October 7th William Samuel Johnson day. This stems from the awareness of all the work our branch and DAR chapter Freelove Baldwin Stow did to revitalize the cemetery he is buried in. Tim Wilkins told us at Leadership that our application to host Congress in 2023 was given to Florida who has applied for the last 3 years. The State Society will try again in the future.

Ethan Stewart said also that at Leadership that his application for funds from the GWEF (George Washington Endowment Fund) to cover the cost of the plaque for the event on July 13th. (Invasion of New Haven) Ethan applied for \$2500.00 and received \$2000.00. Tim Wilkins introduced our Eagle Scout Curtis Brown. He is from Troop 109 in the Naugatuck Council. His winning essay was about Samuel Adams and how he helped organize the Boston Tea Party. Curtis was given a Certificate of Recognition, Patch, Medal and a check from our Branch for \$200.00.

Bill Fenn introduced our speaker Gretchen Caulfield. She spoke about the Rosie the Riveter Society which was founded by Dr. Frances Carter. The Rosie's worked in a variety of factories when the men were called up to fight in World War II. They worked

on the B-29's, Corsair and many other war related items. They are also putting in Rose Gardens in CT.'s 5 Congressional Districts. 21 people attended our meeting.

April 8 – Secretary Stewart recognized Dave Perkins State Alternate Trustee, Corresponding Secretary, Color Guard Commander and Awards Chairman, State President Damien Cregeau and Past Branch Presidents, Tim Wilkins and John Towle.

Secretary Stewart gave us a Historical Moment, May of 1909 the CTSAR which it was called at the time had 1,060 members. In 1926 Humphreys had 222 members and Wadsworth had 313 members. Also, it listed in the CT. Manuel & Roll of 1926 Humphreys Branch officiated the 1895 ceremony at Wooster Park at Beacon Hill in New Haven, CT. and on June 27, 1914 placed a bronze tablet at the Hotel Taft which is on the grounds of the Beers Tavern. This is where George Washington stayed twice and it is where Benedict Arnold left to raid the power house to go to Lexington & Concord.

Bruce Bathrick read a thankyou letter from Gretchen Caulfield from the Rosie the Riveter Society for our donation of \$150.00. Several of our members sent in applications for family members to join the Society.

Secretary Stewart made an announcement that there will be a Cemetery clean up at Christ Episcopal Church in Stratford on May 11th rain date May 18th.

Dave Perkins awarded Doug LaMay the Service of Veterans Certificate and two gold and 1 bronze Oak Leaf Clusters. This represents over 6,300 Volunteer hours.

Dave Perkins also presented Rich Kendall with the Grave Marking Medal for assisting with 15 grave markings.

Vice President Kendall introduced our guest speaker Dayne Rugh. His presentation was the Sons of Liberty. The Sons of Liberty was very prevalent in Norwich, CT. In 1774 was the 12th largest city in the Colonies. Dayne showed us a very early map of Norwich where it showed where people lived. He talked about Jared Ingersoll who was the Stamp Act Collector for CT. Dayne spoke about Christopher Leffingwell as a Citizen Soldier. Two well-known people that were members of the Sons of Liberty were Benedict Arnold and William Williams.

16 people attended our meeting.

Humphreys Branch was awarded the Partners in Patriotism Certificate for Patriotic Outreach from National at the 128th Congress.

7 New Members, 10 Certificates of Appreciation, 1 Eagle Scout Award, 1 Flag Award, 10 Outstanding Citizenship Awards, \$1,300.00 in Donations and. We had an average of 23 members and guest at each event.

Certificates of Appreciation: Melinda Elliot, Frances Hendrickson, Bob Begin, Susan Marchese, Eric Chandler, Gretchen Tucker, Janet Barrett, Fred Kerson, Gretchen Caulfield and Dayne Rugh

Eagle Scout Awards: Curtis Brown

Flag Award: Richard Kendall

Outstanding Citizenship Awards: **Evans Schultes**. May 22, 2018, Guilford High, Guilford, CT. **Jackson Tubis**, May 17, 2018 North Haven High,

North Haven, CT. **Angelina Ramada**, May 16, 2018, North Branford High,
North Branford, CT. **Jenna Berens**, June 6, 2018, Hamden Hall Country
Day School, Hamden, CT. **Matthew Ticotsky**, May 29, 2018, Hamden
High, Hamden CT. **Jose Rodrigues**, May 17, 2018 East Haven High, East
Haven, CT. **Thomas Livesay**, May 16, 2018, Amity Regional High,
Woodbridge, CT. **Luke Horobin**. May 20, 2018, Lyman Hall High,
Wallingford, CT. **Rebecca Arribas Cockley**, June 8, 2018, The Morgan
School, Clinton, CT. **Catherine Herrick**, May 22, 2018 Sacred Heart
Academy. Hamden, CT. **Kyle Jasko**, June 8, 2018 Daniel Hand High,
Madison, CT. **Brian LoCicero**, May 17, 2018, Notre Dame High, West
Haven

**Donations: \$150.00 to Wreaths Across America (10 Wreaths), \$500.00 to Fisher
House in West Haven, \$300.00 to Derby Historical Society for the Humphreys
House, \$200.00 for the Eagle Scout and \$150.00 to Rosie Riveter Society.**

Respectively Submitted

Compatriot: Ethan A. Stewart, Sr.
Branch Secretary