



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

New Haven, Connecticut Founded  
May 22, 1891

## Meeting Summary March 2019 – October 2019

**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.

Rich Kendall & Chris Baldacci spoke about Stratford Council making October 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

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 13<sup>th</sup>.

(Invasion of New Haven) Ethan applied for \$2500.00 and received \$2000.

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.

21 people attended our meeting.

**April 9** - 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

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. 16 people attended our meeting.

**May 13** - We welcomed new member Joseph Markowski along with his family.

President Fenn spoke about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Ceremony and Ethan told us we have two new grave markings to do this year, Jeremiah Atwater and Thaddeus Beecher.

Past State President Stewart gave the Silver Roger Sherman Awards to Bill Fenn and Bill Lane. This was presented to them because they weren't able to attend the State meeting. Also, Ethan presented President Fenn with the Knowlton Award from the State Society for all that the Branch has accomplished.

Ethan asked for a donation for the July 13<sup>th</sup> event to dress up the areas around the new Tablet with flowers and etc. The motion was for \$100.00 and seconded by Bruce Bathrick and approved by Branch members.

Ethan announced that he has sent out 13 Outstanding Certificates and Pins to area High Schools. He also bought the flags for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July ceremony.

Rich Kendell introduced our guest speakers Tom & Mariana Oller. They spoke about Alexander Hamilton's life and his personal life. 20 people attended our meeting.

**June 10** - We welcome new member Thomas Burland and he was pinned by his brother Brian. Tom spoke about his ancestor.

Secretary Stewart spoke about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Ceremony and that we are doing two new Patriot grave markings. The Ceremony is at 9:00 at Grove Street Cemetery in New Haven. He also bought a new speaker system that has a wireless mike. Ethan also ordered new cards for our pledges and recessional.

Bill Lane said that we will meet at Grove Street Cemetery on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 to put flags on the Patriots graves.

Secretary Stewart introduced our guest speaker Steven Chapman. He is the Troop Historian for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Company Governors Horse Guard. 14 people attended our meeting.

**September 9** - We inducted new member Glenn Stevens and he spoke about his ancestor. We also have a new Junior Member Joshua Dokla, Ethan's Grandson.

Ethan told us he has been elected as Alternate Trustee for CT. He has also become a volunteer for the National Patriot Research System. Ethan said that at the State meeting that the P.G. will visit on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> to charter our new Branch #13. This Branch will be the Gov. Jonathan Trumbull. This event will start at 1:00 at the War Office in Lebanon. E-mails will be going out soon.

On Sept 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 at Grove Street Cemetery the Humphreys Branch will join the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment and have grave marking Ceremony for Timothy Cesar, a free black man that fought with the 6<sup>th</sup> Regt. Under Capt. Humphreys.

Ethan has been working on all the Patriots buried at Grove Street Cemetery. Using an old list and creating a new one with more information. He has added 25 new Patriots to the list which brings the total to 165 Patriots. Ethan asked if we could have a plaque made with all the names on it to be mounted at Grove Street. A motion was made by Tim Wilkins to approve that making of said plaque and seconded by Chris Bandecchi. This was approved unanimously.

After our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Ceremony at Grove Street Bob Donahue went to a person's house and fired a volley of 3 rounds for the neighborhood. In doing this jester he received \$100.00 which Bob donated to our Branch.

President Fenn announced that he will be moving very soon so his last meeting will be in October.

President Fenn introduced our guest speaker SGT Kayla Downey of the U.S. Army. 16 people attended our meeting.

**October 14** – Secretary Stewart has agreed to step up as President for the remainder of Bill Fenn’s term which is Dec. 2020. Tim Wilkins made motion to accept Ethan as President second by Bill Lane the vote was unanimous. Ethan recommended Chris Bandecchi to be his Vice President to Dec. 2020. A motion was made by Tim Wilkins and second by Greg Thompson the vote was unanimous.

President Stewart spoke about the Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> headstone dedication for a free blackman Timothy Cesar and the grave was marked by Bill Lane, Jerry Wilson and myself. The 6<sup>th</sup> Reg’t sent the Branch a letter thanking us for our participation in this event at Grove Street Cemetery.

Tim Wilkins spoke about the new Branch #13 and there were 5 members who attended the Ceremony and a total of 8 members joined. This Branch is just to give support to the War Office.

Vice President Bandecchi spoke about William Samuel Johnson day in Stratford who is buried at the Cemetery that we had worked on. He also spoke about Constitution Day. President Stewart asked for a motion to give Freeloze Baldwin Stow \$150. To purchase wreaths for Wreaths Across America. Greg Thompson made the motion and second by Jerry Wilson. This was passed unanimous.

President Stewart presented Greg Thompson with the Liberty Medal Certificate and 3 oak leaf clusters for bringing in 30 new members which brings his total to 103. He also spoke about his trip to Leadership and on ways to retain new members. Some of the highlights were to give new members a list of activities that the Branch & State have done. Also make out a questioner of what the new member would be interested in or goals.

Ethan Stewart introduced our guest speaker, Daniel Bosques. He is the Executive Director of the Derby Historical Society We presented Dan with a Certificate of Appreciation and a donation to the 1762 program for \$500.

16 people attended our meeting

Respectively Submitted

Compatriot: Ethan A. Stewart, Sr. – Branch President & Secretary