125th Anniversary Meeting - April 5, 2014, 10am - State Capital

As you will read in the history, which is sent to all members, our first organizing meeting was on April 2, 1889 in the State Capital. There were close to two hundred interested members in attendance. Our society met for many years in the Capital, so it was only fitting to return for our big anniversary.

Judge Lucius Deming of New Haven was the leader of the new society for Connecticut and also became the first President General of the National Society. One thing that really impressed me is that he was not member number 1, he was number 2. He stepped aside for David Clark a true son of a patriot, Amasa Clark, who became member number 1.

We will have the regular order of business with reports from the officers, committees and branches. Since it’s the annual meeting we will also have our annual elections and awards. We will also have some important bylaw updates to approve which have already been approved by the Board of Managers to bring us up to date with our financial dealings, conflict of interest and etc. The full bylaw updates are at http://www.connecticutsar.org/pdf/bylaws_2014.pdf

Lunch will follow at Noon in the Bond Ballroom overlooking Bushnell Park. The winners of the JROTC and Eagle Scout Awards will be recognized.

Park on the South side of the Capital facing the State Library as it's closest to the entrance. There are metal detectors in use.

Annual Cleanup at Nathan Hale Schoolhouse, East Haddam

The yearly cleanup of brush and vines has been going very well this season. We’ve had lots of help from the Coast Guard cadets, Dave Packard, John Keeney, Tim Curtis and Stephen Shaw.

The last session of the season will be March 23rd at 10am. If you want to help, please bring hand saws and pruning tools. This work keeps a beautiful view open between the schoolhouse and the river.
Connecticut Line 2014 Campaign

Our Color Guard held our annual meeting on March 8th at J. Timothy's Tavern in Plainville. Their was a large attendance with our Commander Todd Gerlander leading the way.

All the members had a chance to remember the best events of the prior season, which is very important to help decide which events to participate in this year.

Paul Selna, Tyler Smith, Dave Perkins and Martin Spring were awarded the Bronze Color Guard Medal for their service.

The calendar was approved:

Saturday, April 12, 2014 - Sunday, April 13, 2014 - NRA Basic Muzzleloader Safety Course
New Hartford, CT
Monday, April 21, 2014 - Patriot's Day Parade Concord, MA
Saturday, May 17, 2014 - 275th Anniversary of the First Congregational Church of Plymouth Plymouth, CT
Saturday, May 24, 2014 - Commemoration of Washington's Visit to Wethersfield Keeney Center Wethersfield, CT
Monday, May 26, 2014 - Memorial Day Parade Litchfield, CT
Friday, June 6, 2014 - School Days at the Schoolhouse Nathan Hale Schoolhouse East Haddam, CT
Tuesday, June 17, 2014 - Bunker Hill Day, 239th Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill Charlestown, MA
Friday, July 4, 2014 - Independence Day Parade Columbia, CT
Friday, July 4, 2014 - Annual Ceremonies Litchfield, CT
Saturday, September 6, 2014 - 233rd Anniversary of the Battle of Groton Heights Fort Griswold State Park Groton, CT

We are always looking for new recruits into the Color Guard. It's a lot of fun to meet our members and the public. A very basic uniform is actually quite inexpensive and can be added to over time.

The objects of the CTSSAR are declared to be patriotic, historical, and educational, and shall include those intended or designed to perpetuate the memory of those who, by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people; to unite and promote fellowship among their descendants; to inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution; to acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patriots of the war, as well as documents, relics, and landmarks; to mark the scenes of the Revolution by appropriate memorials; to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and of the Revolutionary period; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to carry out the purposes expressed in the preamble of the Constitution of our country and the injunctions of Washington in his farewell address to the American people.
Wreaths Across America – December 14, 2013

The Gov. Oliver Wolcott Branch #10 Color Guard performed a musket salute to honor those who serve or have served in the branches of the military. Local veterans gathered at the All Wars Memorial Saturday in Bantam to participate in a ceremony for Wreaths Across America, a nation-wide recognition of military service performed in tandem with a ceremony conducted at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va.

Bantam’s ceremony took place at noon along with 800 other ceremonies around the country. The snow fell as Susan Harrison, veterans chairman for the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, led the proceedings. Following a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance, veterans placed wreaths for all six branches of the military. Compatriot Reg Harrison placed the wreath for the United States Air Force.

$2,000 Donation to the General David Humphreys House

On November 16, 2013 the CTSSAR made a $2,000 donation from our Roger Sherman Fund to the Derby Historical Society. The money will be used to help with repairs of the house. Compatriots and guests were given a tour of the house following the presentation of the by President Stephen Shaw.
The 125th Anniversary Medal, authorized in 2013, commemorates the one hundred twenty fifth anniversary of the founding of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Only a member who was a dues-paying member between January 1, 2014 and Dec. 31, 2014 may wear it. The cost for both medals is $30.00 http://store.sar.org/

Wadsworth Branch – Flag Certificate Presentation

President of the Colonel Jeremiah Wadsworth Branch No. 7 of the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Chris Nichols, left, presents the Branch Flag Award for Patriotism to Prospect resident Bob Hiscox, founder of the Prospect Flag fund. Hiscox was recognized for his work in establishing the Prospect Flag Fund. The fund displays over 100 American Flags throughout Prospect honoring all past and current military members. Nichols, a Prospect resident and a U.S. Navy veteran of the Persian Gulf War, was especially appreciative to learn of the purpose for the flag fund. Hiscox received the Branch’s Flag award along with the state society’s outstanding citizenship award during a regular business meeting of the branch recently held at J. Timothy’s Tavern in Plainville.

Color Guard - Veteran’s Day Parade in Enfield

On November 10, fourteen members of the Color Guard marched in the Enfield parade for the first time. It was a terrific parade. The Color Guard fired more musket volleys than in any other event this year. So many, that by the end of the parade only 5 or 6 muskets were either still able to fire or had any more carriages left to be fired.

Huzzah!

Please find that your CTSSAR Membership Card for 2014 is enclosed with this mailing!

National Emeritus Members
For 50 years of membership, all membership fees have been waived

John Phillips Archibald
Willard Ray Carter Esq
Edward N Coffey
William Walker Collins
Ernest Griffin Mansfield Jr
Lawrence Arthur Neumann

Connecticut Emeritus Members
For members over 90 years of age, all membership fees have been waived

William Hall James
Edward Charles Steele
Wilfred Henry Story Jr
John Allen Wright
Chester F Gaugler
Robert Clinton Barnum Jr
Robert Clarence Seymour
Livingston Van R. Crowell
Howard Saunier Dodd Jr
John Courtenay Long
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