On April 27th, 48 compatriots, family and friends met at the historic J. Timothy’s Taverne in Plainville, CT – a perfect venue for the Connecticut Society’s Annual Meeting. State President Damien Cregeau held the business meeting. David Perkins presented the 13-star flag donated to the NSSAR that has been re-presented to the CTSSAR and will be on display at the War Office. One of the highlights was the formation and chartering of a new CTSSAR Branch, the Gov. Jonathan Trumbull Branch #13 in honor of Gov. Jonathan Trumbull, Sr., Connecticut’s “Rebel” Governor, and Captain-General and Commander-In-Chief of the Connecticut militia and Connecticut naval forces during the American Revolution. The Branch is being formed to raise interest and funds for the preservation of the War Office, which the Connecticut Society has owned and maintained since 1891. The War Office is where Gov. Jonathan Trumbull and the Connecticut Council of Safety met during the American Revolution. The branch will be open to all members of the CTSSAR, as a member’s secondary branch. State officers will serve as branch officers. All branch dues will go directly to War Office preservation. More than enough charter registrations were received at the meeting to found the Branch. The formal chartering will be held at the War Office in Trumbull, CT on Saturday, October 5th starting at 12:30PM. President General John (Jack) T. Manning will be visiting this event and will be one of the chartering members.

State awards were as follows: the Silver Roger Sherman medals and certificates were presented or announced for the following: Bill Fenn – Chancellor, Bob Carrara – Compliance Office and Manross Fund Board of Supervisor, Bill Lane – Chaplain, John Morgan - Chairman Knight Essay Committee, Ian King – Auditor, Eric King – Auditor.

Donald Studley received the Certificate of Distinguished Service for his work in both the state and property treasury books. Certificates of Appreciation went to Tyler Smith, Tim Wilkins and Stephen Taylor, and the Certificate of Military Service Veterans Corps went to Mike Juhase. After an excellent luncheon, three amazing youth award winners were introduced and each read their essays. Each received loud acclamation for their hard work and presentation skills.
The 6th CT Regiment along with General David Humphreys Branch No. 1 and the Derby Historical Society celebrated the life of Patriot Pvt. Timothy Cesar along with a Headstone dedication. The Humphreys Branch did an SAR Grave Marking with Ethan Stewart, Bill Lane, Jerry Wilson and Rich Swartwout. The 6th Regiment gave a 3-volley salute. This is the first time that the Humphreys Branch placed a SAR Marker on an African American slave’s grave stone. Timothy Cesar fought for the Revolution and his own freedom. He was a Pvt. Under Capt. David Humphreys of the 6th Regiment. On August 31, 1781 he was transferred to the Invalid Corps after being injured. Timothy was one of 34 African American soldiers, so far identified that served with the 6th CT Regiment.

The Grove Street Cemetery in downtown New Haven has 165 patriot graves as of last count, 21 being just recently documented as part of an ongoing project by the Humphreys Branch to identify possible new patriots at this Cemetery. Each year an annual 4th of July Ceremony is held in the ceremony to commemorate Roger Sherman, Gen. David Humphreys and the singers of our constitution. Submitted by Ethan A. Stewart, Branch No.1 Secretary

Thirty people, including 10 Compatriots of the CTSSAR plus 8 ladies of the CTDAR, gathered on Saturday, July 6th on the lawn in front of the Eunice Dennie Burr Chapter’s Old Academy museum facing Fairfield’s town green to commemorate the 240th anniversary of the British burning of Fairfield, CT on July 7, 1779. The event was hosted by CTSSAR’s State President, Damien Cregeau. Four powerful speeches were given, including by a member of the Burr Chapter, along with Ed Eckert of the Roger Sherman Branch, Patricia Smedley Buxton, Vice Regent of the CTDAR, and President Cregeau. About 170 structures were burned by the British, including both churches, parsonages and the county courthouse, as well as the Burr Mansion, home of Thaddeus and Eunice Burr, and site of the marriage of John Hancock and Dorothy Quincy in 1775.
Connecticut Society—240th Anniversary of the Invasion of New Haven

On July 13, 2019, a ceremony was held to celebrate the 240th Anniversary of the Invasion of New Haven, CT and the rededication of the SAR Tablet. The Ceremony took place at Fort Wooster Park in New Haven, CT on Beacon Hill. The 1895 bronze tablet went missing decades ago. With the help of the National Society’s George Washington Endowment Fund, a new granite tablet was embedded into the same rock.

As was done in 1895, the General David Humphreys Branch unveiled an Invasion of New Haven marker. Then the Connecticut Line and the 6th Regiment did a 3-volley musket salute. This historic event was organized by Connecticut Past State President, Ethan A. Stewart, Sr. and included speakers such as CTSSAR President Damien Cregeau, 2nd Co. Governor’s Foot Guard Commander Richard Greenwalch, and CTSSAR Past State President Marshall Robinson, Honorable Mayor of New Haven Toni Harp, Co-Chairman of the Friends of Fort Wooster Park Susan Marchese and DAR State Regent Christly Hendrie. Songs such as Bloody Mary, a song about the invasion, were sung by the Past State Troubadour. The Connecticut Line had an encampment on Beacon Hill which was visited by all guests. This ceremony was a tribute to the 1895 dedication in which Revolutionary War Governor Jonathan Trumbull’s Great-Great-Grandson Jonathan Trumbull arranged for the dedication of the tablet as the current president of the CTSSAR, all under the auspices of General David Humphreys Branch #1.

On July 4, 1779, British troops were sighted in Long Island Sound heading towards New Haven. Signal guns were fired from nearby Black Rock Fort and a signal fire was set atop Beacon Hill, East Rock, and West Rock to warn residents to prepare to fight.

On July 5, 1779 British troops landed on the east shore of New Haven Harbor. American patriots, including troops on Beacon Hill and 75 Yale students, bravely resisted a large force of invading troops. The British invasion of New Haven resulted in 56 English soldiers killed, wounded, or MIA. The American loss was 23 killed, 15 wounded and 12 taken prisoner. Many homes and properties were burned and destroyed. It is said that Rum played a big part in the British withdrawing from New Haven.

Beacon Hill was renamed Fort Wooster in August 1814 to honor Major-General David Wooster, who lost his life in 1777 during a battle in Ridgefield, CT. On Beacon Hill there is presently an underground bunker from the original Fort of 1814.

To commemorate the event, all the guest speakers received a 2019 CTSSAR challenge coin designed for the event, proceeds of which will help underwrite the cost of the project. The coin design can be found at www.connecticutsar.org.
Report on the July 6-10, 2019 129th Congress—David J. Perkins

Compatriots,

The 2019 Congress in Costa Mesa California started with a bang or at least a long rolling 7.1 earthquake! Trustee Ken Roach and I had very enjoyable time at the congress representing the Connecticut Society as delegates. The Connecticut SAR Historic Preservation pin was a big hit with everyone, PG Warren Alter and others wore it proudly, considering all the negative press lately on the Betsy Ross flag which is the center piece of the pin.

The following awards, certificates and streamers were given out on Monday evening:
- Jennings H. Flathers Award - certificate and $250 - for the Best News Publication for a state with fewer than 500 members, editor D. J. Perkins.
- President General’s Education Outreach Award – certificate and streamer - to CT Branches 6, 7, 9, and 10. The most by any state at congress.
- Admiral William R. Furlong Memorial Award (Flag Award) – certificate and star as repeat winner – Ken Buckbee, Chairman

Certificates of Participation:
- Outstanding JROTC Cadet 2018-2019 – Dave Perkins, Chairman
- George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest 2018-2019 – John Morgan, Chairman
- Arthur M. King Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest 2018-2019 – Tim Wilkins, Chairman
- The C.A.R. Activities Award 2018-2019 – Ken Buckbee, Chairman

Library Medals:
Gregory E. Thompson – 3 Oak Leaf Clusters (30 additional new members) for a total end 2018 of 87
David J. Perkins – 1 Oak Leaf Cluster (10 additional new members) for a total end 2018 of 57

Certificates of Appreciation:
- David J. Perkins – Vice Chairman of the Eagle Scout Committee
- David J. Perkins – Chairman of the ROTC/JROTC & Service Academies Liaison Committee

Meritorious Service Medal - David J. Perkins – National Recording Secretary to Executive Committee and the SAR Foundation.

Congress General Session Notes:
Nomination from the floor by Trustee Kenneth D. Roach of Connecticut to nominated Ethan A. Stewart, Sr. as Alternate Trustee for the Connecticut Society, to fill the vacant position held by David J. Perkins.
Seconded by David J. Perkins. Motion was approved. The BOM will need to officially fill this position at the next BOM.

Regards,
David J. Perkins
NSSAR Executive Committee
CTSSAR Corresponding Secretary

Calendar:
September 8, 2019 BOM Montfort Mansion at 11AM, Litchfield
Sept 1, 2019 238th Remembrance of Battle of Groton Heights
Sept 8, 2019 Litchfield 300th - Color Guard Encampment Litchfield Green
Sept 9, 2019 Litchfield 300th - CTSSAR Spy Conference, Litchfield Inn
Sept 19-22, 2019 NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference, Louisville, KY
October 5, 2019 Chartering Gov. Trumbull Branch No. 13 in Lebanon, CT
October 20, 2019 CT Massing of the Colors - Founders of Hartford
October 26, 2019 New England District Meeting, Westminster, MA
November 2019 All Member TBD

Visit us online at: https://www.connecticutsar.org/newsletter/