



# The Connecticut Line

*The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution*

## Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route

Continued from the last issue.

### New Jersey

- Aug 26 French camped in Pompton
- Aug 27 French camped in Whippany
- Aug 29 Bullion's Tavern (now Liberty Corner)
- Aug 30 Sommerset Court House (now Millstone)
- Aug 31 Princeton. Also on this day de Barras left Newport with an 8 ship squadron of siege artillery and food.
- Sep 1 Trenton
- Sep 2 Red Lion's Tavern, Americans in the lead through Philadelphia to demand a month's pay. Robert Morris borrowed it from Rochambeau. French troops that accompanied de Grasse's fleet disembarked in Virginia to support Lafayette's American forces, 4,800 troops under Saint-Simon.

### Pennsylvania

- Sep 3-4 Philadelphia, French paraded through town in two divisions
- Sep 5 Chester

### Delaware

Allied forces, now combined in a single column of march, passed through. Roughly 5,500 troops formed about 75 companies of 72 men and officers. Continued on page 3

## “Liberty!” The American Revolution in Connecticut

When the first blood of the American Revolution was shed at Lexington on April of 1775, Connecticut moved unhesitatingly in support of the Patriots. Some 3,600 militiamen marched to join the Patriot force collecting in Cambridge. Connecticut's immediate response was characteristic of its support of the American cause throughout the Revolutionary War.

Though the more dramatic battles took place elsewhere, the importance of Connecticut to the war effort cannot be underestimated. Besides contributing troops, the colony was largely responsible for keeping Washington's army clothed and fed, as well as being a major manufacturer of arms and supplier of gunpowder. An argument could be made that without Continued on page 4

## February's Meeting

Too sum it up there was lot of business and not enough time. It's a catch-22, when you have more members who are active and more events the business piles up. Here are some highlights.

National's proposal of Associate Memberships was voted down.

Our insurance needs will be fully reviewed to make sure we have the coverage we need to host events.

Only one dues bill will be sent out on Nov 1st and be due on Nov 30th.

## Upcoming Events

### CTSSAR Annual Meeting

Apr. 17, 10:30am  
Indian Harbor Yacht Club  
Greenwich, CT

### Docent Training Day

May 22, 9am, Noon, 3pm  
War Office, Lebanon, CT  
Hale Schoolhouse, New London CT  
Hale Schoolhouse, East Haddam CT

### 4th of July Cookout

Jul. 4, 1pm  
Nathan Hale Schoolhouse  
East Haddam, CT

The complete schedule is at:  
<http://www.connecticutsar.org/happenings.htm>

## The Connecticut Line March 2004

[www.ConnecticutSAR.org](http://www.ConnecticutSAR.org)

### Editor

Stephen Shaw  
[stephen@whoistheoldguy.com](mailto:stephen@whoistheoldguy.com)

### Contributors

Ken Buckbee  
Ronald Howard  
Stephen Shaw  
Russ Wirtalla

### Submissions

Please send any material to:  
Stephen Shaw  
PO Box 411  
East Haddam, CT 06423  
860-916-1804  
[stephen@whoistheoldguy.com](mailto:stephen@whoistheoldguy.com)

### Deadlines

Jan. 1st            Mar. 1st  
Aug. 1st            Oct. 1st

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## What're You Missing?

If we don't know your email address you are missing a lot. This newsletter only comes out four times a year, but emails are sent out whenever it may interest you.

You won't get flooded with unwanted email from us. Some months very few emails are sent out. And other months when we hear interesting news related to the Revolutionary War and the SAR they will be sent.

We don't share your address with anyone other than our own members. And you have the option to only get highly important emails. You can also decide whether you want this newsletter in printed form or via email.

Just send an email to Stephen Shaw at [stephen@whoistheoldguy.com](mailto:stephen@whoistheoldguy.com) and he'll get you setup.

## President's Corner

I wonder what George Washington would have done if he were in my situation. George could rally his retreating troops in the face of threatening danger. He could convince men to stay on past their discharge date in the dead of winter while suffering from harsh weather, lack of food, clothing, and supplies - at a time when they were paid with practically worthless paper currency, if they were paid at all! George could get those around him to give their all for the cause even when it looked hopeless. Unfortunately, Gen. Washington is no longer with us, and I will never be anywhere near the leader that he was. Nevertheless, I shall herein attempt to inspire more of our members to help us in whatever way that they can so that we can more rapidly achieve the goals we have set for this organization.

We, the members of the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, are the custodians of the memory of not only George Washington but also all of the patriots of his day who sacrificed everything to give us the freedom that we enjoy today. It is the responsibility of each and every one of us to keep that memory alive and to pass it on - not only to our children, but to as many people as we can. To that end, let us all take a minute to think how we can contribute a little extra to the SAR. Can you offer some time, expertise, skills, or funds? Will you help one of our committees? Would you like to be an officer? How can you help to promote the objectives of the SAR?

Steady growth of this Society is also necessary to ensure that we continue to meet our objectives. Every member of SAR should be a recruiter. There are many ways to do this. Proudly display your membership certificate, license-plate frame, automobile decal, coffee mug, etc. Wear SAR clothing, distribute SAR literature to libraries and historical societies, and publicize SAR activities, events, & meetings. Talk about SAR to your friends, relatives, and people that you meet. Creating an interest is the first step. All of us can and should be doing this. We are very fortunate that we have several members who will do what is needed to help prospective members with their applications. Just think about this for a moment if each one of us were to recruit just one new member this year CTSSAR would have nearly 1200 members!

I appreciate the hard work we have done so far, and the support that your dues payments provide. Now, let's give our all for the cause. I'd like to see more of our members helping us to realize our maximum potential. Let's keep the memory of our patriot ancestors alive and show the general public what CTSSAR is all about! Please contact me if you want to help in any way.

More majoram. (After the manner of our ancestors)



Kenneth A. Buckbee, President - CTSSAR  
393 South Main St. Apt. 2  
Torrington, CT 06790-6729  
(860) 496-1562  
[buckb@snet.net](mailto:buckb@snet.net)

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Sep 6 First Brigade to Wilmington

Sep 7 Second Brigade to Newport

### **Maryland**

Sep 8 Head of Elk (now called Elkton) About 1000 American and 1000 French embarked on transports here for Williamsburg VA. Senior officers rode on ahead to Mt. Vernon, VA. The rest kept walking.

Sep 9 Lower Ferry (now Perryville)

Sep 10 Bush Town

Sep 11 White Marsh

Sep 12-15 Baltimore, stayed here a few days before moving to Annapolis to board ships.

Sep 12 Main supply train (220 wagons, 800 oxen, accompanied by the hussars and 1,500 horses Split off to take the land route to Yorktown.

Sep 16 Infantry units at Spurrier's Tavern near Harmans.

Sep 17 Camped at Scott's house near Crownsville.

Sep 18 Camped at Annapolis. Over a 3 day period they embarked and joined the fleet with the 2000 other troops on a six day trip to the Yorktown peninsula.

### **Virginia**

Sep 9-11 Senior Staff at Mount Vernon. (First time Washington had seen his home in six years)

Sep 12 Officers spent the night in Fredericksburg.

Sep 13 Officers to New Post, Wideawake, Villboro, Bowling Green, Lorne to Hanover Court House. (53 miles)

Sep 14 Officers to Old Church, Tunstall, Toana, Norge, Lightfoot to Williamsburg. (47 miles)

Sep 17 Washington met with de Grasse on the flagship, the Ville de Paris at Hampton Roads.

Sep 24 Transports from Annapolis began to arrive at Archer's Hope with 7500 infantry.

Sep 28 At 5 AM the grand army, some 16,000, marched out of Williamsburg to Yorktown.

Oct 7 French wagon train arrived.

After the British surrender at Yorktown in October 1781, Washington and the American forces returned to their camp outside New York to prevent the large British force there from breaking out into the countryside. De Grasse returned to the Caribbean. Rochambeau and his French forces remained in Virginia for the winter.

July 1, 1782 - They returned north, taking an overland route through Virginia to Baltimore, to Peekskill NY, to Hartford, CT and Providence, RI, and north via Wrentham MA & Dedham MA to Boston for their return to France. Lazun's Legion remained in Wilmington DE from Dec 24 until March when they marched to Philadelphia and shipped out for France.

During the summer of 2004, Lee Patrick Anderson, an author, re-enactor and chair of the W3R-Pennsylvania, will retrace (on foot, by car, and by boat) the path of the two armies. Part 1 is the section from Rhode Island to New York.. Ralph Nelson, an SAR color guardsman and chair of the W3R-US, will accompany Lee with a support van. More at: <http://www.w3r-us.org>

## **An Apology**

In the last issue of the newsletter I made a statement that could have been taken the wrong way.

I hereby formally apologize to Richard Swartwout for my comment.

It was made in jest only. Especially, since most of us who are involved know how much Richard has done to bring the history of our patriots alive for the public.

Richard has been working heavily with the Connecticut Colony Military Association (CCMA) which is made up of members of our society and many others.  
<http://www.revwar.com/ccma/>

He also works with the Connecticut 6th Regiment, Company of Light Infantry which had it's beginnings with the CTSSAR Color Guard.  
<http://www.6thconnecticut.org/>

Richard and many others will be reenacting the 225th British Invasion of New Haven at Black Rock Fort on June 26th. There will be battles and many ceremonies. If you and your family have never been to one of these events, the time is now. You can get more details from him at [capt6th.coli@att.net](mailto:capt6th.coli@att.net).

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## **Colonial House on PBS**

Starting in mid May, PBS will air their latest series. This one will recreate life in 1628, which will give us a much greater idea of how our patriot ancestors lived as well.

I have seen some of the other time periods that they have covered and they have been very informative. Find out more at:  
<http://www.pbs.org/colonialhouse>

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Connecticut, Washington might not have won the war.

“Liberty” is a two-hour documentary for television that brings to life the events that led up to the war and Connecticut’s involvement in it. Through the use of archival materials, reenactments by professional actors and on-camera comments from American history scholars, we will hear the actual words of the principal players in the conflict from Jonathan Trumbull, Nathan Hale and Jared Ingersoll to Benedict Arnold and George Washington, as well as both colonial and British troops in the field.

Reenactments of the battle at Lexington, the attack on Fort Griswold and the Danbury Raid will add action and drama to this historical documentary.

“Liberty” is being produced by Connecticut-based motion picture company, Lionheart Films, inc.. The company is currently in the film’s pre-production stage with a completed script, locations secured and casting nearly completed and is seeking funding. Owner/ President Ronald Howard brings to the project over thirty years of experience in the feature and documentary film business as a writer, producer and director. The

company has recently completed a film for public television entitled “A Long, Hard Road to Freedom” that examines the abolitionist movement in Connecticut during the years prior to the Civil War.

“We fight not to enslave, but to set a country free, and to make room upon the earth for honest men to live in.”

--Thomas Paine



**PATRIOTS AND PILGRIMS**

***FIND YOUR CONNECTION***

**Society of Mayflower Descendants  
State of Connecticut**

*Membership Information:*  
Midge Hurtuk  
39 Buttemut Lane  
Vernon, CT 06066

[www.ctmayflower.org](http://www.ctmayflower.org) ~ [mhurtuk@aol.com](mailto:mhurtuk@aol.com)

**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  
~ Patriot's Day Annual Meeting ~

Saturday, April 17, 2004

In Honor of Patriot's Day, our state meeting will be held in Greenwich. This is our annual meeting to elect officers and present awards for the Eagle Scout, Essay and other SAR Contests. It is a joint meeting with the Mead Branch, which is having their annual meeting as well.

Indian Harbor Yacht Club  
710 Steamboat Road  
Greenwich, CT 06830  
203-869-2484  
<http://www.indianharboryc.com>

10:30 AM – CTSSAR Board of Managers Meeting (All members welcome)

12:00 PM – SOCIAL (Cash Bar available)

12:30 PM – CTSSAR Luncheon (Members and their wives are encouraged to attend)

Menu

Bread tray

Salad

Choice of chicken, pork or salmon  
with appropriate vegetables

Crème Brule

Coffee and tea

\$35.00 Per Person

Luncheon reservations must be received by April 10th

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Entree \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Entree \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Entree \_\_\_\_\_

Number in your party \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CTSSAR

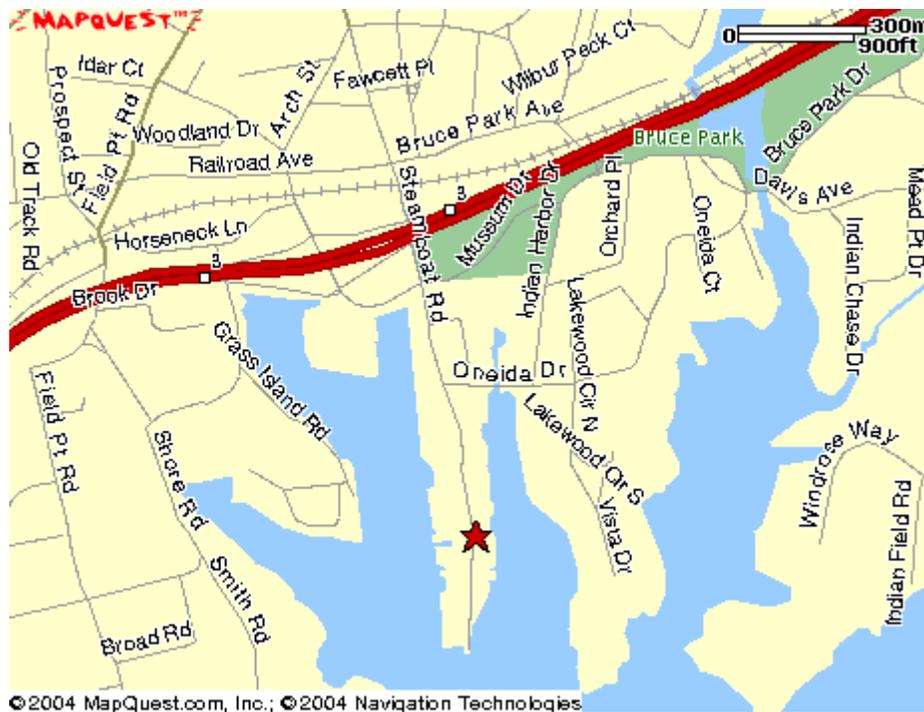
## DIRECTIONS to Indian Harbor Yacht Club

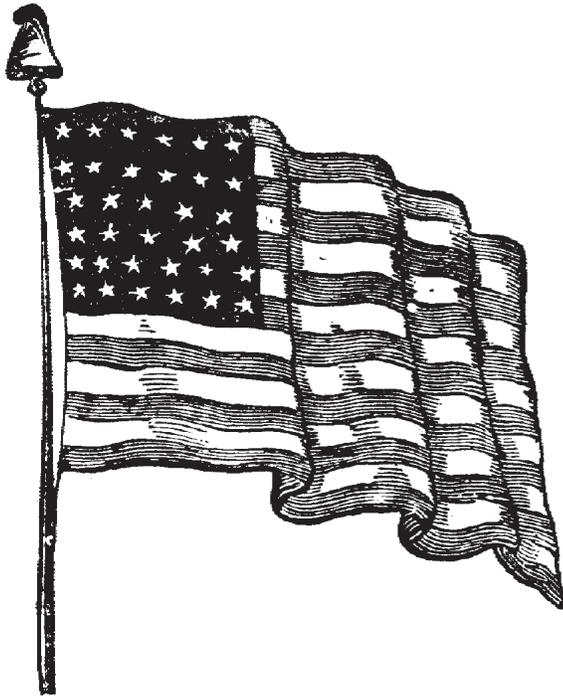
### **I-95 South (From New Haven)**

- Take I-95 South to Exit 3
- At the end of the exit ramp, turn left at the light onto Arch Street
- At the 3rd light, turn right onto Steamboat Road
- The Club is located at the end of Steamboat Road on the right hand side, last driveway

### **I-95 North (From New York)**

- Take I-95 North to Exit 3
- At the end of the exit ramp, turn right at the light onto Arch Street
- At the 2nd light, turn right onto Steamboat Road
- The Club is located at the end of Steamboat Road on the right hand side, last driveway





# 4th of July Cookout

at the

Nathan Hale  
Schoolhouse

in East Haddam, CT  
1pm until whenever

Independence Day wouldn't be the same without a cookout, so come and join your fellow compatriots as we celebrate the holiday.

Bring your family and friends and a chair too. Someone must have a frisbee that needs dusting off.

It's completely potluck, so there's no charge. Please bring something because we don't want to run out of food.

The usual items will be needed, such as: a grill, paper plates, utensils, cups, soda, condiments, potato salad, pasta salad, hamburgers, hot dogs, ice, trash bags, coolers, and lots of desserts.

Be there to hear the church bell ring 13 times at 2pm and to enjoy the river views that are being opened up around the schoolhouse.

If you volunteer to bring one of the main items, please be early.

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RSVP to: Stephen Shaw, PO Box 440, East Haddam, CT 06423  
860-916-1804 or [stephen@whoistheoldguy.com](mailto:stephen@whoistheoldguy.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of People: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Stephen will call to confirm what you're bringing.

What do you want to bring? (1st and 2nd choice): \_\_\_\_\_

From Greenwich Area:

Take route 95N to route 9N

Once on route 9N take exit 7 (route 82E - this is a long exit ramp)

At the end of the ramp (at stop sign) take a left (route 82E)

At light take a right (following route 82E)

Just after crossing the Haddam/East Haddam Bridge,  
take left fork onto 149N.

At the top of the hill, take a left into the St. Stephens Church parking lot.  
The schoolhouse is directly behind the church.

From New London Area:

Take route 95S to route 9N

Once on route 9N take exit 7 (route 82E - this is a long exit ramp)

At the end of the ramp (at stop sign) take a left (route 82E)

At light take a right (following route 82E)

Just after crossing the Haddam/East Haddam Bridge,  
take left fork onto 149N.

At the top of the hill, take a left into the St. Stephens Church parking lot.  
The schoolhouse is directly behind the church.

From Hartford Area:

Take route 91S to route 9S

Once on route 9S take exit 7 (route 82E - this is a long exit ramp)

At the end of the ramp (at stop sign) take a left (route 82E)

At light take a right (following route 82E)

Just after crossing the Haddam/East Haddam Bridge,  
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At the top of the hill, take a left into the St. Stephens Church parking lot.  
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