



# The Connecticut Line

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

## Nathan Hale's 250th Birthday

2005 is going to be Nathan Hale's year. He was born on June 6, 1755 in Coventry. He has been a hero in the hearts and minds of many American's for ages. He was officially made the Connecticut State Hero due to the efforts of Col. Jonathan Johnson, Sr. in the 1980's. The Col. was a member of the Nathan Hale Branch in New London.



Since we own and operate the two schoolhouses that he taught in before the war broke out, our role is vital to the memory of Nathan Hale. Todd Gerlander is heading up the committee which is planning a great weekend on June 4th and 5th in East Haddam and New London. If you would like to help, contact him and the committee at [nathanhale250th@earlyroots.org](mailto:nathanhale250th@earlyroots.org) or 860-872-0438. There is much to do and all help will be appreciated.

The CTSSAR has just been awarded a grant of \$10,090 from the Connecticut Humanities Council to plan for museum quality displays in both schoolhouses. It's a \$20,000 project which will be matched with

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## Huntington Digs In

Members of Colonel Huntington's Regiment participated at the 1st Annual Archeology Expo at the University of Connecticut. They helped to staff the exhibit of the Arthur Basto Society, which is a volunteer archeology group.



The exhibit was composed of a small part of the 30,000 artifacts that have been found at the site of Major General Joseph Spencer's homestead in East Haddam.

The color guard members brought the artifacts to "life". For example, people viewing the display would look at a flint. Captain Fred Rivard would then explain the firing of a musket, including the use of the flint (Special permission was obtained from UConn Security to bring in the musket!)

The color guard also did some drilling outside to bring in the crowds.

## CTSSAR Honored

At the Sept. 11th Meeting in historic Wethersfield, we were honored with the attendance of our President General Hank McCarl and his First Lady, Mary.

During the Board of Managers meeting, it was approved to allow voting via e-mail for items that don't involve bylaw or constitution changes and any financial matters below \$250. Complete support was also given for the events to celebrate Nathan Hale's 250th Birthday.

Dick Anderson and Ken Buckbee presented a number of national awards that had originally been presented at the National Congress in July. They are the **Smallwood Award** for the best news publication under ten pages, Stephen Shaw. The **Furlong Streamer** for flag presentations. The **C.A.R. Activity Award** for working with the Children of the American Revolution. The **Kendall Award** for signing up 32 new members, Stephen Shaw. Anderson, Dick Austin, Buckbee and Shaw also gained more **Oak Leaf Clusters** for their **Liberty Medals**.

The President General inducted Dwight Moody and Stephen Ferriss as new Compatriots. Dwight's application took many years to approve at headquarters for a

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## The Connecticut Line October 2004

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

### Editor

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### Submissions

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### Deadlines

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

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## Do You Want to Help?

Then simply sign up with SNET/SBC. If you are already a SNET/SBC customer then it doesn't cost you any more.

The CTSSAR is participating in the SNET/SBC Community Connections program. Now, when you sign up with SNET/SBC for all your long-distance calling - or confirm that you're already using SNET/SBC All Distance, the Connecticut SAR will get 5% of your monthly long distance bill.

So far with just over 40 members participating, we've been handed over \$600. The more members that participate the better for us and our programs.

Signing up is easy. Just call SBC/SNET at 1-800-635-7638, or sign up on the web at <http://www04.sbc.com/content/0,,163,00.html>. Our organization code is # 3585.

## President's Corner

We have an excellent opportunity knocking at our door. We have the opportunity to be much more widely recognized in the State of Connecticut, not merely as "the male version of the DAR", but as the significant organization that we are. Promoting and celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the birth of Nathan Hale could prove to be very beneficial for all concerned. The fact that Nathan is our State Hero is the key. Many of Connecticut's citizens, educators, corporations, and politicians will be interested in taking part in the celebrations. How can we make the best of it? Here are some of my thoughts:

The **Communications Committee** can help to keep all of us informed.

The **Education & History Committee** can help with educational materials and displays at our properties, especially the Nathan Hale Schoolhouses.

The **Fund Raising Committee** can reach out for donations from Connecticut's top businesses and grant giving foundations.

The **Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee** and the **Planning/Program Committee** members can help to organize and coordinate activities.

The **Ladies Auxiliary Committee** can help by seeing if any of the wives, widows, mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts, nieces, other women relatives, and girlfriends of CTSSAR members would be interested in joining together to help us.

The **Merchandise Committee** can help by having some items for sale at our properties and at any of our celebrations.

The **Public Relations Committee** can help by increasing public awareness through the media and the tourism bureaus.

The **Real Property Committee** can help with staffing and training of docents, and also by working with the **Public Relations Committee** to create a plan marketing the availability of our properties for tours to schools.

And, of course, any and all members of CTSSAR are encouraged help in any way they can. The interest and excitement that we can create regarding this commemoration, and ultimately its success, should have a snowball effect on our other endeavors. It sure can help us to get the cottage up and serving as a museum/education center. The clock is ticking. Let's not let this golden opportunity pass us by! Thank you

Kenneth A. Buckbee, President - CTSSAR



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## You Asked For It!!

How does the old advice go, “Be careful of what you ask for, you may get it?” From the time that I first joined the S.A.R. I have heard “We need to bring in younger members” or “If we don’t start bringing in new young members, who is going to take our place?” An honest concern, I think. Now that I have reached the sunny side of seventy I can really appreciate these concerns. (My aunt said I don’t look a day over twenty two, but that was just before her cataract surgery.) Well anyway, Connecticut has taken that advice. Our State President Ken Buckbee is a young father who sports a long black pony tale for authenticity when he dons his militia color guard garb. He is also Chairman of the Budget Committee, and Elijah Manross Board of Supervisors.

Our State Secretary, George Husted, has small children. George works many hours at Bradley International Airport in traffic control, and carries his beeper at all times, even under his militia outfit.

First Vice President Dean Gaugler has very young children and commutes daily to Wall Street. Dean is also President of the Gen. Gold Selleck Silliman Branch.

Second Vice President Todd Gerlander, an artist, is Commander of the New England Contingent, Commander of the Gen. Israel Putnam Branch Color Guard and Chairman of Sites and Celebrations Committee. He and his Dad Lee and his brother Randy participated last year in over fifty color guard events.

Our Registrar, “Mr. SAR” Steve Shaw has always maintained that he likes working in the background, but we can’t keep him there. (as hard as we try) He is not only the Registrar, but also the Web site Guru and Computer Dude, Newsletter Editor, Technologies Manager, Chairman of the Communications Committee, Merchandise Committee, Nominating Committee, and Planning and Program Committee. He just got married to a beautiful young lady named Deborah. Maybe that will slow him down a bit. By the way, Steve is also in the militia color guard.

As you know, Connecticut SAR owns three museums that are open to the public. When they need repair and/or maintenance, that falls to the Property Steward in the name of Heath Herel. Heath is also the Senior State President of the Connecticut CAR and Secretary of the Gov. Samuel Huntington Branch. Heath and his wife are both active in Fife and Drum, and sure enough, Heath is in the militia color guard.

There are so many other young members that are active in the Connecticut SAR, like the Rivards. Bob Rivard (shhh He looks like Bill Clinton) is President of the Gov. Samuel Huntington Branch, and portrays a surgeon in the color guard and at school lectures. His son Fred, a full time college student, is the Commander of that branch’s color guard, which is both militia and continental. There is Norm Gilman, Secretary of the Gen. Israel Putnam Branch, Chairman of the Knight Essay Committee, and color guard of course. There are our Treasurer and Vice Treasurer, Jeff Hessler and Bruce Lyon, respectively, and Gary Pitcock our Historian, and others.

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number of reason’s. With the help of many it did finally go through.



Compatriot Shaw presented an original CT Continental Line Pay Record to the CTSSAR for it’s properties. It was payment to Maj. William Commins on June 1, 1780 for 13 pounds 2 shillings & 4 pence.



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volunteer time. We will be working with professionals in the field and authorities on Nathan Hale.

When the planning is complete we will go after an implementation grant from CHC to carry-out the plan. This will be a matching grant, which we will soon be starting a large fund raising drive for. The more funds we raise the better and more complete the displays will be.

We are also waiting to hear about another grant. This one is for \$2,500 to produce professional brochures for the East Haddam Schoolhouse. We will also go after a similar grant for New London.

Ed Eckert is leading the way to present a new plaque to the City of Norwalk to mark the place that Nathan Hale left from on his ill fated spying mission on Long Island in Sept. 1776.

Watch your e-mail and mailbox.

## Upcoming Events

### Massing of the Colors

Nov. 7, 2pm  
South Congregational Church  
East Hartford, CT

### CTSSAR Meeting

Nov. 13, 11am  
Capt. Packer Inn, Mystic, CT

### Nathan Hale Weekend

Jun. 4 & 5, All Day  
East Haddam & New London, CT

### Official Birthday

#### Dedications

Jun. 6, All Day  
Hale Sites in CT and NY

### Hale Homestead

#### Celebration

Jun. 12, All Day  
Hale Homestead,  
Coventry, CT

The complete schedule is at:  
[www.ConnecticutSAR.org](http://www.ConnecticutSAR.org)

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When my SAR friends from all over the country ask me why only one or two Compatriots from Connecticut go to Congress or Trustee Meeting, I now have the answer. They work. They all have jobs to go to. I'm so proud of them.

Russell W Baker Wirtalla

## Your E-mail

As a rule, the CTSSAR does not share your e-mail address with anyone outside of our society. We respect your privacy, so it is only used to announce events or issues that effect our SAR society.

We have a new e-mail server, which makes it easy for any member to notify all of notable items. All you need to do is send an e-mail to [ctssar\\_members@earlyroots.org](mailto:ctssar_members@earlyroots.org).

Once the e-mail is approved it will be forwarded to all members online. If you would like to sign up, just send an e-mail to the address above to get added to the list.

Stay Informed!!



**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](http://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



## DIRECTIONS TO CAPT PACKER INNE

### **DRIVING SOUTH ON ROUTE 95:**

Take exit 89 (Allyn street) and turn **left** at the end of the ramp.

### **DRIVING NORTH ON ROUTE 95:**

Take exit 89 (Allyn Street) and turn **right** at the end of the ramp.

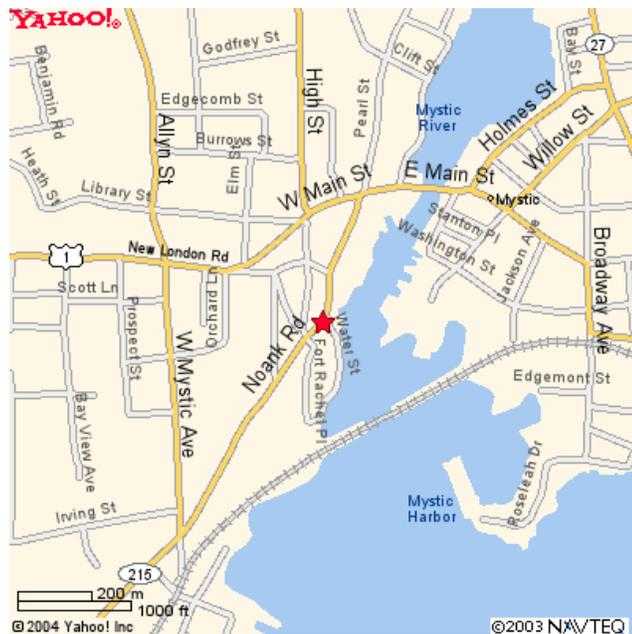
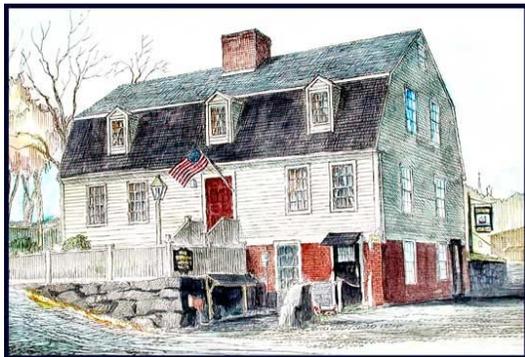
\* Follow Allyn Street to the traffic light (Route 1). Turn left onto Route 1 North. Just before you enter downtown, turn right onto Water Street (Route 215).

\*\* Continue for two blocks (approx. 2/10 of a mile). Bear left when you see an island in the road. The inne is on the right side of the street across from the marina. Parking is in the back of the building.

### **FROM THE MYSTIC SEAPORT:**

From Route 27, turn right onto Holmes Street. Follow this road to the flag pole (at the flashing light and stop sign). Turn right onto West Main Street to go over the drawbridge and through downtown Mystic. Take the first left onto Water Street (Route 215).

\*\* Continue following directions as above.



### **From the Inne to the Homestead**

1. Start at **32 WATER ST, MYSTIC** - go **0.2** mi
2. Turn **R** on **US-1** - go **0.3** mi
3. Turn **L** on **WILLOW ST** - go **0.2** mi
4. Turn **R** on **MISTUXET AVE** - go **0.7** mi
5. Turn **L** on **PEQUOTSEPOS RD** - go **0.4** mi
6. Arrive at **120 PEQUOTSEPOS RD, MYSTIC**, on the **L**

