



The Connecticut Line

The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Nathan Hale's 250th Birthday Weekend

A dedicated group of compatriots and others are making great strides for the Nathan Hale Weekend events. We've been meeting monthly and are now going to meet every two weeks as there are many details and tasks to tackle before the big birthday weekend.

We are getting a good amount of PR via advertisements and press releases, so we expect a great turnout of the public and SAR members.

If you as a fellow compatriot can volunteer in any way, please contact either Todd Gerlander at nathanhale250th@earlyroots.org or 860-872-0438 or Stephen Shaw at nathanhale250th@earlyroots.org or 860-916-1804.

Check our web site at www.ConnecticutSAR.org for full details.

Nathan Hale Schoolhouse Museum Project

Our planning project for the two schoolhouses continues to progress. This is being undertaken due to the grant we received from the Connecticut Humanities Council (CHC). The planning group of compatriots, historians, educators, and museum professionals is scheduled to meet in May and complete the master plan by the end of June.

The master plan will include items such as:

- Educational Display Panels
- Electricity
- Lighting
- Fire & Security System
- Reproduction Furnishings
- Educational Programs
- Visitor Center (cottage or new)
- Additional Parking

Meanwhile, our fund raising campaign moves ahead as well. Due to the generosity of our compatriots and branches, we have raised close to \$4,000. We have a long way to go to reach our goal of \$50,000. We hope to have these funds matched with an Implementation Grant from CHC.

Compatriot Frank Romig in honor of his patriot ancestor, has pledged to match donations from Connecticut SAR members up to \$25,000. So if you make a donation of \$500, it will be matched by Frank and then again by CHC. So a donation of \$500 could end up being worth

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Upcoming Events

CTSSAR Annual Meeting

April 16th, 10am
Hale Homestead
Coventry, CT

Nathan Hale Weekend

School Programs
June 3rd, All Day
East Haddam, CT

Encampment, Speakers & Etc

June 4th & 5th, All Day
East Haddam, CT
New London, CT

Nathan Hale Birthday Ceremonies

June 6th,
8am - Hale Homestead
Coventry, CT
10am - Williams Park
New London, CT
Noon - East Haddam Village
East Haddam, CT
2pm - Yale - Old Campus
New Haven, CT
4pm - State Capital
Hartford, CT

Hale Homestead Celebration

June 11, All Day
Hale Homestead,
Coventry, CT

4th of July Cookout

July 4th, Noon
Nathan Hale Schoolhouse
East Haddam, CT

The complete schedule is at:
www.ConnecticutSAR.org
If your event isn't listed, you can submit it on our web site.

The Connecticut Line March 2005

www.ConnecticutSAR.org

Editor

Stephen Shaw
stephen@whoistheoldguy.com

Contributors

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Dick Eastman
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Submissions

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

Deadlines

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

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

On March 13th, twelve other members of the CTSSAR Color Guard and I marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New Haven. The parade organizers say that this is "the largest non-commercial parade in New England", and that it "remains the largest spectator event in Connecticut". Displaying our banner before thousands of onlookers was an excellent way for us to increase public awareness of the SAR. Afterward, we walked over to the Nathan Hale Monument at Yale. This monument is located right next to the building that Hale stayed in while attending college there.



The Capt. Matthew Mead Branch will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary on April 2nd. This is the 7th Branch of CTSSAR to celebrate 75 years of continuous activity since its original charter date. Happy Anniversary!

The CTSSAR Annual Meeting will be held at the Hale Homestead in Coventry on Saturday, April 16th. Our Annual Meeting is always held as close to April 19th as possible so as to commemorate the start of the war in 1775. This meeting will be catered by the same people that catered our February meeting, and everyone that I talked to were really quite pleased with the quality (and quantity!) of the food that they provided. Please try to join us.

Lastly, I'd like to encourage everyone to plan on attending and/or participating in our Nathan Hale celebrations. Details, as they continue to develop, can be found at www.ConnecticutSAR.org

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

So Why Lock Up the Birth Records?

From - Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter <http://www.eogn.com>

It seems that every week we hear of one more situation in which some politician or bureaucrat is trying to restrict access to public domain vital records. Everybody is trying to lock out everyone, including genealogists. Our right to access to public domain birth, marriage, and death information is being threatened constantly under the guise of "preventing identity theft."

Balderdash! (That's as strong a word as I will use in this family-oriented publication.)

I am sure that the politicians love the limelight back home when they can brag that they have taken action to "prevent identity theft." Heck, nobody is in favor of identity theft, right? Therefore, just proclaiming to have taken some token action under the smoke screen of "preventing identity theft" is sure to win a few more votes in the next election.

"Facts? What facts? Don't bother me with facts, I've got a re-election campaign to win."

Well, now a new study has provided genealogists with some hard facts. These facts should serve as pinpricks to any inflated claims of preventing something that never existed.

A new survey of 4,000 consumers, about 500 of whom were identity theft victims, was recently conducted by Javelin Research and the Better Business Bureau for CheckFree, Visa, and Wells Fargo Bank. This study is based on cold, hard facts, not the rhetoric or conjecture of someone who makes pronouncements not grounded in reality.

According to the people who were victims of identity theft, here are the eight most common sources:

- Lost or stolen wallet: 29%
- Fraud that occurs during an in-store or telephone transaction: 12.9%
- Corrupt employees: 9%
- Stolen mail: 8%
- Spyware on the computer: 5%
- Sifting through garbage: 2.6%
- Computer viruses: 2.2%
- "Phishing" through fraudulent e-mail: 1.7%

Take a close look at the above. Please note the rating for "obtained a record from the vital records department." Do you see it? I don't.

The full report is quite lengthy. Here are a few other random facts extracted from the Better Business Bureau's announcement:

Among cases where the perpetrator's identity is known, half of all identity fraud is committed by a friend, family member, relative, neighbor or in-home employee - someone known by the victim.

A wide variety of metrics confirm that identity fraud problems are NOT worsening. In fact, the total number of victims is declining. The number of identity fraud victims dropped from 10.1 million in 2003 to

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\$2,000. The CTSSAR needs every compatriot's support to meet our goal.

The amount of money raised will decide which parts of the project will be completed with the implementation grant. The master plan will get estimates for each item and a priority list will be determined by the planning group.

Our goal is to submit the implementation grant to CHC by Oct 1st, so all donations must be collected by then to be matched.

I plan to donate \$500 or more. How much can you help for this project which will help educate school children for years to come about Nathan Hale and the American Revolution?

Donations can be made and sent to:
Connecticut SAR
PO Box 411
East Haddam, CT 06423

Nathan Hale Plaque

Ed Eckert and his wife Madeline have been working very hard to have a new marker for Nathan Hale placed at the site in Norwalk where he left for his spying mission against the British on Long Island.

Ed is the President of the Sherman Branch. At the last CTSSAR meeting he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his work on this project and many others. And his wife was presented with the Martha Washington Award for all of her help and support of the SAR.

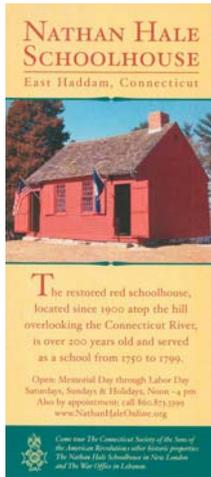
The Board of Managers approved funding for the new plaque which will be unveiled at the Sept. 10th, CTSSAR meeting in Norwalk.

Nathan Hale Brochures

As you read this, 10,000 of our new brochures for the Nathan Hale Schoolhouse in East Haddam are being printed.

They have been funded completely by a grant from the Middlesex County Community Foundation.

The next step is to distribute them around the state. If there is a revolutionary war related museum or other tourist attraction in your area that you could place some in, please let Stephen Shaw know at 860-916-1804 or stephen@whoistheoldguy.com



Continued from page 3 9.3 million in 2004.

The median value of identity fraud crimes remained unchanged at \$750; however most identity fraud victims incurred no out-of-pocket costs.

You can read the full report on the Better Business Bureau's web site at: <http://www.bbb.org/alerts/article.asp?ID=565>.

The next time someone claims that access to public records needs to be restricted in order to "reduce identity theft," let's ask an embarrassing question: "Show me some proof." Then, in the awkward silence that follows, let's ask that person to read the facts as proven by the Javelin Research and the Better Business Bureau report.

Here's a bit of advice to politicians and bureaucrats: please focus on real issues where there is a demonstrated need. Otherwise, someone may just deflate your balloon.

My thanks to Peter Parkhurst for alerting me to the results of this new study.



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 ~ 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 16, 2004

In Honor of Patriot's Day and Nathan Hale's upcoming 250th Birthday, our state meeting will be held at the Hale Homestead in Coventry. This is our annual meeting to elect officers and present awards for the Eagle Scout, Essay, JROTC and other SAR Contests.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to tour the Hale Homestead if you haven't seen it before.

Hale Homestead
2299 South St
Coventry, CT 06238
860-742-6917
www.hartnet.org/als

10:00 AM – CTSSAR Board of Managers Meeting (All members welcome)

12:00 PM – CTSSAR Luncheon (Members and their wives are encouraged to attend)

Menu

A generous selection will be available. The meal is being catered by the company that we had at the last CTSSAR meeting with additional choices.

\$25.00 Per Person

Luncheon reservations must be received by April 9th

Name: _____

Number in your party _____

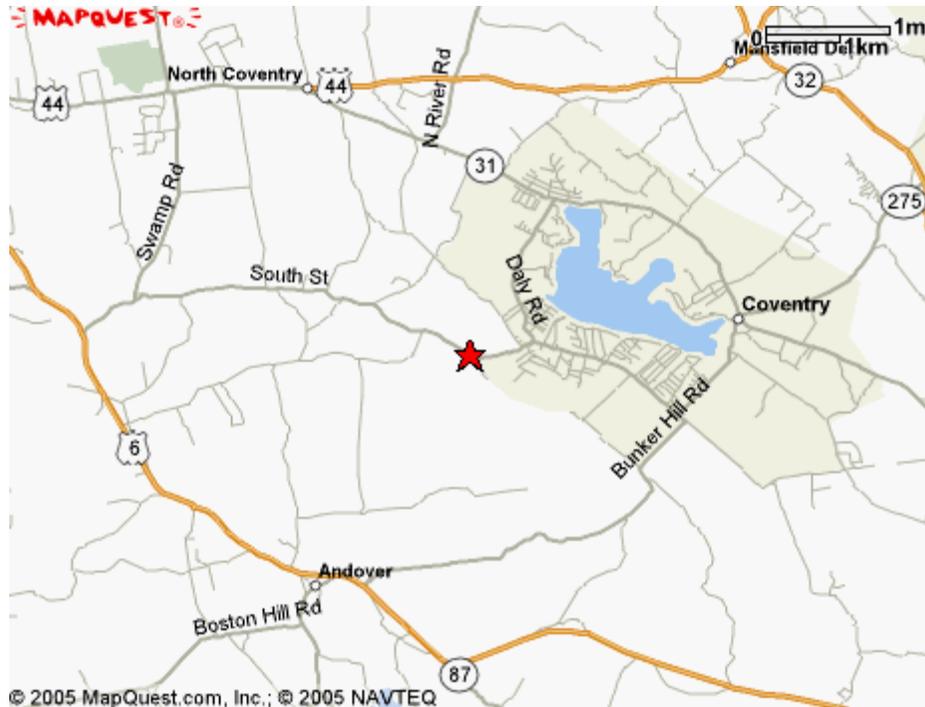
Amount Enclosed _____

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

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Connecticut SAR

DIRECTIONS to Hale Homestead

- **From west: I-84 to I-384 to Route 6. Left at South Street to Hale Homestead.**
- **From east: I-84 to Coventry (Exit #67); follow Route 31 south. Turn left at junction with Route 44, and right on Silver Street. At end of Silver Street turn left onto South Street and continue to Homestead, on right**





Nathan Hale

Teacher, Patriot, Spy,
Martyr & National Hero

Nathan Hale Weekend
June 4th, 5th & 6th, 2005

- Revolutionary War Encampment
- Colonial Soldiers & Craftsmen
- Musket & Cannon Firings
- Fife & Drum Musick
- Exhibits On Nathan Hale
- 18th Century Cooking
- Authors & Speakers

George C. Neumann Richard E. Mooney
Keith M. Jones Gregory T. Edgar
Kevin Johnson Robert G. Carroon

Join us to celebrate
his 250th Birthday!

**Nathan Hale
Schoolhouses**

29 Main Street
East Haddam, CT
&
20 State Street
New London, CT

Check our web site at:
www.ConnecticutSAR.org
for full details on the festivities
& to order official Nathan Hale
250th Birthday memorabilia.



Honoring Connecticut's State Hero!

Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Inc.

Presents

Connecticut Independence Day

**Commemorating the 229th Anniversary of Connecticut's
Declaration of Independence, June 18, 1776.**



A cursive signature of Jonathan Trumbull, Sr. The signature is written in dark ink and is highly stylized, with large, flowing letters.

The Revolutionary Spirit was evident in Connecticut, when on June 16, 1776, the General Assembly directed our delegates to the Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, to vote for Independence. This was followed two days later with a Proclamation by Jonathan Trumbull, the Patriot Governor, which has become known as Connecticut's Declaration of Independence.

Governor Jonathan Trumbull's WAR OFFICE

**On the Historic Lebanon Green
Lebanon, Connecticut**

Saturday, June 18, 2005

11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Visit the Historic War Office where the Connecticut Council of Safety met during the Revolutionary War. Visitors have included Washington, Lafayette, Rochambeau, Knox, Huntington, Putnam, Parsons, Adams, Franklin, and Jefferson.

Meet Governor Jonathan Trumbull, Sr. Connecticut's Governor (1769-1784) during the American Revolution, and members of the Connecticut Council of Safety.

Talk with Connecticut Soldiers. (SAR Revolutionary War reenactors will be present to discuss Connecticut's roll in the American Revolution.)

Plan to attend, and join the CTSSAR as we Commemorate this important event which declared Connecticut's Independence from Great Britain.

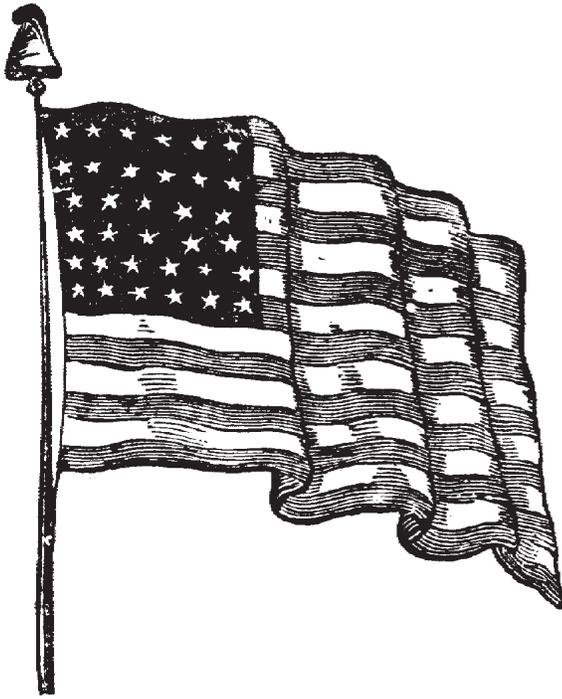
Learn how you can join or support the CTSSAR in Commemorating and Preserving our State's Revolutionary War Heritage.

2:00 PM - Governor Jonathan Trumbull will read the proclamation of June 18, 1776.



The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution has owned and maintained the War Office since 1891.

**For more information visit: www.ConnecticutSAR.org
Connecticut's Number One Source on the American Revolution**



4th of July Cookout

at the
Nathan Hale
Schoolhouse
in East Haddam, CT
Noon 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 have been opened up around the schoolhouse.

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

RSVP to: Stephen Shaw, PO Box 440, East Haddam, CT 06423
860-916-1804 or 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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