



The Connecticut Line

The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Flag Poles for Hale

Thanks to the efforts of Compatriot Frank Romig both of the Nathan Hale Schoolhouses have modern fiberglass flag poles.

The new 50 footer was installed in East Haddam just in time for Hale's 250th Birthday Weekend. The plaque at the base of the pole reads



“In Memory of William DeWitt Romig and in Honor of Nathan Hale and All of Our Patriot Ancestors”. The first flag was raised by Capt. Thomas J. Hudner and Edward S. Romig who had just graduated from the Marines boot camp the day before.



The 30 foot pole is now proudly flying the U.S. Flag and the Grand Union at the Schoolhouse in New London on the old parade grounds.

Nathan Hale's Departure Site

Following the CTSSAR meeting on September 17th there will be a public reception, hosted by the Connecticut SAR. There will be presentations and talks concerning Nathan Hale's life, his final mission, and exciting newly discovered evidence linking Norwalk to this historic event. Refreshments at the reception will include “spy cookies” and other Rev War era fare.

The reception will be followed by a procession to Irving C. Freese Park, where the CTSSAR, the Color Guard, and others will participate in a ceremony to dedicate a monument commemorating the departure of Connecticut's State Hero from Norwalk to Huntington, Long Island on his fatal spy mission. Events begin at 1 PM at the Town House Museum located at Mill Hill Historic Park, 3 East Wall Street. Contact Edward Eckert, President, Roger Sherman Branch #5, CTSSAR by telephone at 203-847-3193 or by email at Sherman5CTSSAR@aol.com for more information.

Capt. Nathan Hale 250th Birthday Celebrations

On June 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution commemorated the 250th Birthday of Connecticut's State Hero, Captain Nathan Hale in Grand Style. On Friday, in East Haddam, we ran an educational program for the local schools which included stations covering an 18th century apothecary, equipment of a soldier, the firing of a musket, military drills with wooden muskets, and tours of the schoolhouse. 150 students took part in the program.

Over the weekend, the CTSSAR ran simultaneous events at both of our Nathan Hale Schoolhouses in East Haddam and New London. In East Haddam the Society sponsored a Revolutionary War Encampment which included Revolutionary War Living History units, Fife & Drum, Period craftsmen including a Blacksmith, Tinsmith, Potter, and a craftswoman demonstrating flax processing and spinning. Also participating was an 18th century surgeon, apothecary, and a Colonial sutler. Participants also included



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www.ConnecticutSAR.org

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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.

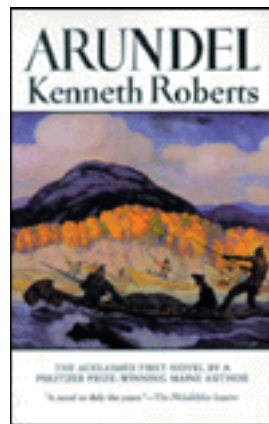
Signing up is easy. Just call SBC/SNET at 1-800-635-7638, or sign up on the web at <http://www04.sbc.com/content/0,,163,00.html>. Our organization code is # 3585.

President's Corner

I thank all of you who assisted with our Nathan Hale 250th Birthday Commemoration Weekend in June. Many of you helped by participating in, promoting, and/or supporting this important event. It is opportunities like this that allow us to show the public what the SAR is all about and help us to keep the memory of the cause for independence alive.

Another big project is nearing completion. Compatriot Ed Eckert has been working diligently, researching where Nathan Hale departed from Norwalk on his fateful spy mission and organizing the placement of a permanent marker designating that site. Please join us on Saturday, September 17th, for the unveiling of this marker. This is the same day as our next State Meeting and details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

In the January '05 issue of The Connecticut Line I reviewed an interesting book that I had read. Now I'd like to tell you about



another talented author and a series of fictional books he has written about The American Revolution. Kenneth Roberts (author of Northwest Passage) is known as one of the best American writers of historically accurate fiction. He has written some great stories that take place during the American Revolution. The first one that I read is Arundel, and it is based on Benedict Arnold's failed attempt to capture Quebec in 1775. The second, Rabble in Arms, features characters from Arundel and takes place in 1777, with the hopelessly outnumbered Continental Army facing the two-pronged British attack from Canada

and New York. Of course the Americans overcome the odds, mostly due to the leadership skills of Benedict Arnold, and defeat Burgoyne at Saratoga. A cast of colorful characters liven-up these stories. My favorite character, "Cap Huff", reminds me of my dear friend Compatriot John Crusius. While reading both of these books I couldn't help but envision John playing the part of Cap Huff.

Roberts has written other books that take place during the American Revolution. Oliver Wiswell is a book that portrays the view of the Loyalists during the American Revolution. The Battle of Cowpens is an account of this decisive South Carolina battle in 1781. I haven't read these two books yet but they are on my "must read" list. I will try to keep you posted.

Kenneth A. Buckbee, President - CTSSAR
(860) 496-1562 or buckb@snet.net

Online Merchandise

You can purchase items from our online store at www.connecticutsar.org. We have colonial toys, note cards, Nathan Hale memorabilia and so on.

All proceeds go to support the state society and our historic museums.

Upcoming Events

224th Battle of Groton Heights

September 4th
Fort Griswold Battlefield State Park
Groton, CT

Application/Genealogy Workshop

September 10th, 10am
Bridgeport Public Library
Bridgeport, CT

CTSSAR Meeting

September 17th, 10am
Ambrosia Bar & Grill
Norwalk, CT

Nathan Hale Plaque Dedication

September 17th, 1pm
Town House Museum
Norwalk, CT

W3R Rev War Encampment

October 1st & 2nd
Lebanon Green
Lebanon, CT

6th Annual Training Weekend of the New England Contingent SAR

October 8th & 9th
Fort No. 4
Charlestown, NH

The complete schedule is at:

www.ConnecticutSAR.org

If your event isn't listed, you can
submit it on our web site.

More Grants

The Nathan Hale Schoolhouse in New London has been awarded a grant for \$1,900. from the Connecticut Humanities Council via their Heritage Advancement program. This program will partially fund a new staff person for three years in total. The first year covering 50% and a lesser amount the remaining two years.

Our new guide opens the museum on Wednesday to Friday afternoons and our visitation has doubled as a result, which has brought in additional donations, merchandise sales and awareness of Nathan Hale.

Continued from page 1 members of the DAR and CAR.

President General Henry N. McCarl attended the weekend events and participated in the East Haddam Ceremonies honoring the Birth of Captain Nathan Hale, and the dedication of a new fifty foot flagpole and plaque donated by CTSSAR Compatriot E. Frank Romig. The dedication included a rendition of our National Anthem, followed by the raising of Old Glory by Edward Romig and Korean War Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Captain Thomas Hudner, Jr., US Navy. This was followed by a musket and cannon salute which roared over the Connecticut River.



The schoolhouses were also part of the Society's Revolutionary War History Symposium which included authors and speakers; George C. Neumann, Richard Mooney, Robert Carroon, Keith Jones, Gregory Edgar, Kevin Johnson, John Callahan, and William Hosley. The symposium was funded in part by the NSSAR George Washington Endowment Fund.



On Monday, June 6th, Captain Nathan Hale's 250th Birthday, the Society hosted five ceremonies throughout the State. We began the day at 8:00 AM at the Hale Homestead in Coventry, next to the Nathan Hale Statue in Williams Park in New London, then to the Hale Bust in East Haddam, Then the Nathan Hale Statue at Yale University in New Haven, and ending at 4:00 PM at the Nathan Hale Statue at the State Capital in Hartford. At each of the locations, the CTSSAR placed a wreath, and fired a Musket salute.



The Connecticut Society took the lead in commemorating Hale's 250th Birthday, sponsoring events which were the largest tribute to Captain Nathan Hale in the State of Connecticut. The Society received a lot of media coverage, both on television and in the newspapers. I would like to thank all the members who either donated money, or their time to make these commemorative events possible.

Todd L. Gerlander, Chairman
CTSSAR Captain Nathan Hale 250 Committee

Patriot Daniel Langdon

The color guards of the Governor Oliver Wolcott and Governor Samuel Huntington Branches collaborated on a grave marking for Patriot Daniel



Langdon at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Southington. The ceremony took place on July 30, 2005 and included members of General Wolcott's Brigade, Colonel Huntington's Regiment and the Woodruff Chapter of the DAR.

Compatriot David Whitfield from Missouri contacted the CTSSAR last year about conducting a grave marking for one of his patriot ancestors in Connecticut. Bob Rivard and Jim Klanski worked to put the ceremony together. Although Compatriot Whitfield could not attend, another descendent, Ralph Langdon, of Kentucky, proudly placed the marker.


The ceremony included Past CTSSAR President Jim Newton as master of ceremonies, Reverend Paul Everett as Chaplain and Fred Rivard as Commander of the combined color guards. The DAR members participated in the ceremony and also rededicated a DAR monument to Revolutionary War veterans that is almost 100 years old.

Silliman Upswing

Mike Nigro is the new president of the Silliman Branch in Bridgeport and is working hard to get on track.

He is working with others to restore a local revolutionary war marker.

If you want to help with his efforts or join the branch, he can be contacted at abel1775@aol.com or 203-268-5542



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



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The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

~ Nathan Hale Memorial Meeting ~

In Honor of Nathan Hale's departure from Norwalk in mid-September 1776 to Huntington, Long Island on his fatal spy mission, our state meeting will be held in Norwalk. Following the Meeting and Luncheon, there will be a public reception at the Town House Museum in Mill Hill Historic Park on East Wall Street. Then there will be a procession to Irving C. Freese Park by the Wall Street Bridge at the Head of Norwalk Harbor where the CTSSAR Nathan Hale plaque will be dedicated.

**Ambrosia Mediterranean Bar & Grill
16 River Street (off Wall Street)
Norwalk, CT**

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

12:00 PM – CTSSAR Luncheon

1:00 – Public Reception at Town House Museum followed by Dedication Ceremony at Irving C. Freese Park

**Prime Rib
Chicken Marsala
Salmon Florentine**

\$25.00 per person

Luncheon reservations must be received by September 10th

DIRECTIONS FROM I-95:

NORTHBOUND : Exit 16, turn LEFT onto EAST AVE. Five (5) traffic lights down.

SOUTHBOUND : Exit 16, turn RIGHT onto EAST AVE. Four (4) traffic lights down – turn LEFT onto EAST WALL STREET.

Two (2) traffic lights down – turn RIGHT onto RIVER STREET (between FLEET BANK and KIDDYTOWN awning). AMBROSIA is located on the RIGHT. YANKEE DOODLE PARKING GARAGE (*free parking!*) is on the LEFT.

DIRECTIONS FROM MERRITT PKWY (RT15) : NORTHBOUND & SOUTHBOUND :

Exit 40A, turn RIGHT onto MAIN STREET. Follow MAIN STREET to WALL STREET (about 2 miles).

Turn RIGHT onto WALL STREET, turn RIGHT onto RIVER STREET (between FLEET BANK and KIDDYTOWN awning). AMBROSIA is located on the RIGHT. YANKEE DOODLE PARKING GARAGE (*free parking!*) is on the LEFT.

Name: _____ Entrée _____

_____ Entrée _____

_____ Entrée _____

Number in your party _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Please mail to: Bruce Lyon
200 Luchon Rd
Willington, CT 06279

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Connecticut SAR