

THE PATRIOT



Established July 1981
Missouri SAR



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VOLUME 40 ISSUE 4 OZARK MOUNTAIN CHAPTER SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION APRIL 2020



The Presidents Message

By OMC Editor Dan Piedlow

Many of you may not know about the recent events that happened to President Gift. In March he fell off a ladder and cracked five ribs. He spent a few days in the hospital and was discharged. After some time at home recuperating, Gary's daughter, a nurse, checked on him and told him that his left lung had greatly diminished lung sounds. Gary was talked into going back into the hospital where they put him on a ventilator and inserted a drainage tube into his chest. Gary has just returned home from the hospital and he says that he may not be able to go back to work until June 15th.

As President Gift recovers at home, we all should pray for a speedy recovery and in a little while when he is feeling better contact him. I know he would like to hear from the members whether it's an email or a phone call.



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Compatriot Birthday's

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Barrett Barker | April 6 |
| Edwin Frederickson | April 11 |
| Randy Painter | April 17 |
| David Appleby | April 18 |
| Don Pruitt | April 25 |
| Frank Snelson | April 29 |
| Melvin McNeal | May 6 |
| Joel Monteith | May 8 |
| Ian Shepherd | May 8 |
| Daniel Piedlow | May 14 |
| Murray Bussard | May 19 |
| Donal Stanton | May 19 |
| Lee Viorel | May 19 |
| Robert Grover | May 21 |
| William Walker | May 23 |
| Brett Knowlton | May 26 |
| James Haas | May 28 |

Greetings fellow Compatriots,

As most of you know, our President, Gary Gift, was injured in a fall and while he continues to recuperate at home, he is unable to resume his duties until mid-June. The Ozark Mountain Chapter sends Gary our well wishes and we hope for a speedy recovery.



Given this fact, as chairman of the Chapter Development Committee, I have been asked to address our members as to the current status of our organization.

Where we have been;

The COVID-19 Pandemic has left our chapter at a standstill. The Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR has been on a hiatus per our State Society President's decree. Missouri Governor Parsons and local government officials issued quarantine guidelines for each of us to abide.

Our chapter had many events planned that had to be postponed or cancelled.

While we continue to navigate through this pandemic and the different phases of re-opening of our communities, we will be careful and cautious but as our nation's population returns to some sort of normalcy, The Ozark Mountain Chapter needs to begin to get back to work as well.

Where we are headed;

While we realize that things will be different for us in the foreseeable future, we must be nimble and creative to meet our SAR mission. Although we know we will not be able to participate in large group ceremonies, we can still provide special recognition to individuals with our Community Service awards i.e. Lifesaving, Fire safety, Law Enforcement, Heroism, and EMT in a more intimate surrounding. These presentations can be given in a small setting on a more personal basis and while

the ceremony may not carry the same pomp and flair that we are accustomed, we can still honor these special individuals and keep ourselves relevant and viable.

This will just be a beginning; the Chapter Development Committee will soon meet via Zoom Conference and begin to map out how we proceed going forward in the future to serve our community and fulfill the mission of the Sons of the American Revolution.

At this time, we are still unsure of when, where or how we will restart our regular Chapter meetings. Please be patient and stay tuned as we work through issues that we will encounter, while being committed to provide a safe environment for our members.

In the meantime, please stay safe.

Ken Lawrence,

OMCSAR Chapter Development Committee Chairman

Remember, you can order your Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR shirts from Missouri Embroidery. Their phone number is: (417) 889-2221 and their address is: 1307 S. Glenstone Ave.





The Sergeant's Corner

Compatriots,

You have heard me and others talk about the "Patriot

Research System" (PRS) maintained by the NSSAR. Here you can look up your Patriot and see what information is in this huge database.

This database is a work in progress, as you know because we are asking for volunteers to help digitize record copies of SAR applications from the old system to the new.

Did you know that there is another way you can help make this database even better? You can write a biography on YOUR patriot and submit it to "National" for inclusion in your Patriot's file.

There are three tabs that include vital information on Patriots:

1. Patriot Detail
2. Grave Detail
3. Contribute Biography

Number 3, Contribute Biography, is a place where YOU write your Patriot's story... and there isn't a limitation on the number of words... short of an encyclopedia... lol.

I recently saw the statistics on States contribution to this section in the PRS and there is a Chapter in Ohio (Cincinnati) with 2278 biographies contributed... and that is just one chapter.. How many does Ozark Mountain Chapter have you ask? While we, OMC, lead the State of Missouri in the number we currently have 9 ... nine... biographies.

Here is your chance to write a biography for the World to see that will be there long after you and I are gone. Just do it!

Send your biography to: Patriotbios@sar.org

Archibald MCMILLEN [Edit Profile](#) [Search Possible Duplicate](#) SAR Patriot #: P-331387

The following information was assembled from numerous sources and cannot be used directly as proof of Qualifying Service or Lineage. It is considered a research aid and is intended to assist in locating sources that can be used as proof.

Patriot Detail | Grave Detail | Biography

State of Service: MA Qualifying Service: Private DAR #: A205152

Birth: 1731 prob Belfast / Ireland
Death: bef 22 Apr 1796 / New York

Patriotic Service Description:
A Private in Capt. William Scott's co. of Minute-men, Col. Paul Dudley Sargent's (MA) militia regt.; marched on Apr 20, 1775 in response to the (powder) alarm of Apr 19, 1775; service, 3 days; Capt. William Scott's co., Col. Paul D. Sargent's regt.; muster roll dtd., Aug 1, 1775; enlisted Apr 23, 1775; service 3 mos. 16 days

Additional Information:
New Boston was 1st granted in 1736 by colonial gov. Jonathan Belcher of Mass., and New Hampshire.

Sources:
Patriotbiography NH in the American Revolution, pp 67,89-90
MA Soldiers & Sailors of the Revolutionary War, Vol 10, pp 555-557
Lives of NH "Vol 5, 1704-1792, p 36
"NH State Papers" Vol XVI, pp 417-419; Vol IX pp 833-835
NH State Papers PHL 964.565 Vol 16: 417-12 Mar 1777
HAMMOND, ROLLS OF THE SOULS IN THE REV WAR NH STATE PAPERS, VOL 16, PP 346, 417-419, VOL 12, P 663, COCHRANE & WOOD, HIST OF FRANCES TOWN NH, P 96

Sponsor: Eleanor Graham
Childress: Alexander, Hugh, Jane, John, Archibald, Ananias

Members Who Share This Ancestor

| Date Approved | Society | ACM | SAR Member Info | View Application Detail |
|---------------|---------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2011-05-21 | MA | 42497 | Charles Gregory McMillan (17688) | View |
| 2013-02-25 | FL | 51657 | Ronald Edward Benson Jr. (178141) | View |
| 2016-12-14 | MA | 70972 | Jay Alan Baldwin (20817) | View |

An example of a patriot biography.

Important Dates in American History

- April 5 - Sugar Act 1764
- April 13 - Thomas Jefferson Birthday 1743
- April 18 - Paul Revere and William Dawes Ride 1775
- April 19 - Battles of Lexington and Concord 1775
- May 10 - Tea Act 1773
- May 10 - Second Continental Congress 1775
- May 10 - Green Mountain Boys seize Fort Ticonderoga 1775
- May 29 - Patrick Henry Birthday 1736
- May 29 - Virginia Resolves 1765

Compatriot J. Howard Fisk Being Sworn in as Missouri Society SAR President



L to R Executive Vice President George Swales,
President Howard Fisk, Past President and
Trustee James Osbourn, President General David
Appleby, Sargent at Arms Charles McMillan,
Surgeon Dr. Norman Knowlton.



President J. Howard Fisk and First Lady Jan Fisk.

President General David Appleby swearing in new
Missouri SAR President J. Howard Fisk with Past
President James Osbourn looking on.

Our Patriot Ancestors

Biography of John McElhannon, Sr.

By Dr. Donal J. Stanton

John McElhannon was born in Londonderry, Ireland on September 25, 1752, his father died before he was 14 and the family was so poor that following his father's death John was "apprenticed out" as an indentured servant. These young "bound outs" were usually indentured for seven years in the hope that in exchange for their servitude they would be cared for and trained in a useful trade. Some indentureds became a part of their new families and even changed their names. In other cases, masters proved brutal, abusive and uncaring.

John McElhannon's experience was apparently not a positive one because he ran away from his master when he was only about 15. He hid out for a few months around Ulster and then signed on as a cabin boy on a ship bound for America and landed at Boston Harbor in 1768 at the age of 16. John made his way to York County Pennsylvania and worked for several years as a farm laborer.

On November 20, 1775, John McElhannon enlisted for a period of three years as a private in the Pennsylvania Line of the Continental Army from York County. He first served in Capt. Peebles' Company, of Col. Chambers' Pennsylvania Regiment, under the command of General Anthony Wayne. He fought in the Battle of Brooklyn August 27, 1776, in which Captain Peebles lost his life. All the members of the company were killed or captured with the exception of John McElhannon and six other men.

McElhannon was taken prisoner at the Battle of Fort Washington where the British listed 67 killed, 335 wounded and six missing and the Americans 54 killed and more than 2,800 captured — a tremendous blow to the Patriot cause. Further, 43 cannon, powder and various vital supplies ended

up in British hands. Hundreds, including John McElhannon, were incarcerated on unbelievably squalid British prison ships where they died in large numbers because of malnutrition and disease. He was fortunate to have survived and to have been released in a prisoner exchange after the Battle of Princeton. After his release from captivity John McElhannon served under Capt. Armstrong, Col. Stewart and again under General Anthony Wayne in the Battles of White Plains, Brandywine and Germantown.

At Paoli, a part of the Brandywine Campaign, the British sneaked into General Anthony Wayne's camp under the cover of night and bayoneted and killed more than 300 American soldiers as they slept and escaped unscathed before the surprised Americans could respond. John McElhannon was again fortunate; he was in the camp but survived. General Wayne was court marshaled for negligence but was acquitted.

John McElhannon related in his pension application that during his military service he was scarcely ever called by his proper name, but was known as "Mac" and was enrolled in Captain Armstrong's company as "John Hannon." He was at Valley Forge during the fateful winter of 1777-1778. He is listed as John Hannon on the Valley Forge Muster Rolls. It's easy to see how John McElhannon became John "Mac" Hannon. He was discharged from service on November 20, 1778, but served several more tours of duty in the Pennsylvania militia. **(Sources: Revolutionary War Pension Application of John McElhannon #S31850; "John McElhannon of Jackson County," Jackson County Georgia Historical Society Newsletter, Oct. 1999, vol. 6, n. 42; Valley Forge.com/muster rolls).**

John apparently was granted a leave before his formal term of service expired because he married Elizabeth "Nancy" Cooper at Chanceford, York County, Pennsylvania on October 6, 1778. (McElhannon Family Documents). He was not formally mustered out until November 20, 1778.

In the autumn of 1787, a colony of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians started from the neighborhood of

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Carlisle, PA to seek new homes in the wilds of Upper Georgia were they had obtained land grants for their service in the Revolutionary War. Among them were John McElhannon and his wife Nancy (nee Cooper) and their six children: Christopher, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Unity, John, Jr., and an un-named child. John McElhannon and Nancy Elizabeth Cooper had married in 1778 in York County, PA.) (**McElhannon Family Documents**)

Georgia Pioneers, volume 5, page 61, notes:

John McElhannon came to America at age 16 in 1768. He served in the Pennsylvania line during the American Revolution. He moved to Northeast Georgia in the 1780's with a lot of other Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, to take up land taken from the Cherokee and given to Revolutionary War veterans. Because of reports of Indian outrages...most of the Pennsylvania emigrants had stopped for a year in Mecklenburg, North Carolina. They made a crop there in and in the fall continued on to Georgia. His first wife, Nancy Cooper, (born, 1758) died in route to Georgia and he married Eleanor Hodge, nee Branham, probably from the Carlisle, PA area. He had 13 children by his two wives, most of whom left descendants, before dying in Jackson County, GA in 1834. There is a reunion held every few years in Barrow County, GA. Descendants of at least 8 of his children have attended at one time or another.

John and his family settled at the fork of Broad River in Wilkes County where he founded the New Hope Presbyterian Church. His name appears in the Wilkes County tax records for 1787 (*Abstracts of the 1787 Tax Returns of Wilkes County, Georgia*, ed. Frank Parker Hudson).

He later moved to Jackson County where he became a ruling elder at Thyatira Presbyterian Church near Comer, GA. He spent the remainder

of his life in Jackson County.

An appendix to the *1820 U.S. Census of Georgia* contains a listing of "Manufacturers and Merchants," including data on investments, products, employees, costs and profits and provides a fascinating view of life during that era.

The exact location of these individuals is not provided, but most lived in the eastern part of the county. The "Headright" section had been settled originally as a part of Jackson and Franklin Counties. This area had been divided into ten militia districts, which were not numbered but were given the names of the "Captains" who commanded each militia district. Some of these early Militia Captains included: **Captains John McElhannon**, Buffington, Reid, Benjamin McCutchen, John V. Cotter, Carnes, Byrd, Abercrombie, Elias Miller and Tanner.

The men who served in the militia during the Indian Wars received more free land in those Southern States which opened up for settlement due to the evacuation

of the Indians. John McElhannon and several of his sons were beneficiaries of

this land policy, thus, beginning the spread of the McElhannon Family in the South and Midwest. Two of his sons, John Jr. and Christopher, participated in the War of 1812 for which they received bounty land in the Midwest.

Georgia was sparsely settled and there was an ever increasing demand on the Governor to protect the few white settlers from the Indians. As the number of new settlers increased so did friction and conflict between them and the natives. The first of the Cherokee wars began in 1818 and by 1830 the Indians had been rounded up and relocated via "the Trail of Tears" to reservations in the west in what became Oklahoma. John and his sons Christopher and John Jr. were active participants in the Georgia Indian Wars.

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By 1830, this very large and prosperous family was firmly established as one of Georgia's most respected families, even having a town named "McElhannon" in their honor. The name was later dropped since people had so much difficulty in spelling and pronouncing the name. (*Georgia Pioneers*, volume 5, page 61).

John McElhannon Sr.'s will, probated on 7 July, 1834, names his wife Eleanor; his sons Hugh, Cooper, James, John, Christopher, Isaiah, Hezekiah, Francis, and Stewart; his grandson Francis McElhannon; his daughters Eleanor Bell, Elizabeth McMurtry, Unity Potts, and Peggy Shields. (*Georgia Wills, Jackson County, Book A, p.189*).

John McElhannon Sr. died in Jackson County, Georgia on May 31, 1834 at the age of 82. His grave is marked by a lovely Revolutionary War military issued stone noting his service in the Pennsylvania Line of the Continental Army. The stone was placed at his grave in 1930 by his descendants. (*Application for Headstone*, U.S. War Department, #162361; application dated Nov. 20, 1929; approved Mar. 24, 1930; stone delivered to Winder, GA, May 9, 1930).

The John McElhannon gravesite was rededicated on June 12, 1999 by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Matthew Lyons, Donal J. Stanton, Randy Schnelle, Gabriel Schnelle, Garrett Schnelle and Tanner Schnelle are direct descendants of John McElhannon Sr. through his son Christopher McElhannon who was John's first born with his first wife Elizabeth "Nancy" Cooper McElhannon.

Christopher McElhannon married Margarette Bell at Jackson County Georgia in 1806. Margarette was a cousin of Sen. John Bell of Tennessee who was the Constitutional Union candidate for President of the U.S. in the election of 1860. He carried the states of Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia.

Christopher served in the 1st Georgia (Harris) Regiment in the War of 1812.

Christopher McElhannon was one of the earliest settlers in Greene County, Missouri arriving here in 1834. His sons John and James were two of the surveyors who laid out the City of Springfield. His son Capt. George Bell McElhannon served in the Phelps Regiment of the Union Army. He died of wounds received at

the Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas in March of 1862. (**Holcomb, History of Greene County, Missouri, 1883**)

Matthew Lyon is descended from Christopher's daughter Nancy Della McElhannon Sanford. We five new applicants are descended from Christopher's daughter Sarah Ann McElhannon Lemmon.

Monthly Events



Due to the continued Stay-At-Home order, there are no events scheduled for this month. If the situation changes, a notice will go out to inform of activities.