

“THE GOWANUS GAZETTE”

Historical Journal and Newsletter

The Battle of Brooklyn Chapter

Empire State Society

Sons of the American Revolution

Vol. II Edit. 6 #10 I

LIBERTAS ET PATRIA

30 Sept 2024

RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Lafayette Trail Marker Dedication

15 Aug 2024

Port Richmond Reformed Church

We had a great turnout, Battle of Brooklyn Color Guard, Dave Nelson, Norm Gobin, Chris Sands, Jim Sarlo, Liam Ferguson and Dave Peters, with Gary Lane, Bill Caccese, Jerry Meekins and Thom Taylor and others, also in attendance was the Richmond Co. DAR and CAR, the Masons and the Hercules Mulligan Society. Norm Gobin acted as emcee, introducing the speakers and ending it with his “modus operandi” a musket salute. Julien Icher, president and founder of Lafayette Trail, Inc was the keynote speaker, speaking on the organization’s commitment to mark as many as many of Gen. Lafayette’s tour stops as possible. Both Julien and Dr. Warren MacKenzie, spoke on the historical background of Lafayette's visit to Staten Island and representatives of the Masons spoke on his life as a Mason.



D. Peters Photo



T. Taylor Photos

The Port Richmond event was marked to the day the 200th Anniversary of beginning of Gen. Lafayette's tour of the United States, the General's arrival was not far from the church and he stayed at the home of then Vice President Daniel Tompkins, an elder of the church

Lafayette's Arrival In New York Reenactment

16 Aug 2024

Battery Park City, NYC

On the day following after the marker dedication. The reenactment of Gen. Lafayette's arrival in New York City marked the second stop of his tour Mark Schneider who portrays Gen. Lafayette at Colonial Williamsburg was on hand with his entourage which included three direct descendants of Gen. Lafayette. The procession moved out of Battery Park City with the Color Guard of the American Friends of Lafayette in the vanguard followed by the Battle of Brooklyn Color Guard of Dave Nelson and Dave Peters with our friend Liam Ferguson, Staten Island BSA as flag bearers. We moved down Broadway to Evacuation Plaza, the French and American colors were raised and a number of dignitaries spoke. Present were national SAR officers, T. Brooks Lyle, Registrar Gen. and Jeffery D. Thomas, Historian Gen., SAR compatriots, Gary Lane, Chris Short (who filmed the event), Thom Taylor, Bill Caccese, and others, also Beth Fitzgerald from Brooklyn DAR as well as other DAR members and some BSA that came over with Gary from Staten Island



At
Evacuation
Plaza

T. Taylor
Photo



PRISON MARTYRS MONUMENT MEMORIAL
24 AUG 2024
FT. GREENE PARK

The Battle of Brooklyn Color Guard was invited by the Society of Old Brooklynites to be a part of this annual event. The Color Guard consisted of Norm Goben, musket escort, Jim Sarlo, spontoon escort, flag bearers, Jason Short, Chris Sands, Brian and Michael Ante, a well members of the FDNY Color Guard. The over 11 thousand Revolutionary War soldiers and sailors who died on the Prison Ships moored nearby at Wallabout Bay were honored and memorialized. I was also invite speak after giving some historical background on the Prison Ships, I spoke on those that survived the prison ships and lived to fight another day. Brooklyn Borough historian Ron Schweiger and Pres. of the Old Brooklynites Fred Monderson also spoke.

Compatriots Gary Lane, Thom Taylor, Bill Cacesse, Jerry and John Meekins as well as Beth Fitzgerald and the ladies from the Brooklyn DAR were in attendance.



Combined SAR and FDNY Color Guard

T. Taylor Photo

MARYLAND 400 MEMORIAL
BATTLE OF BROOKLYN COMMEMORATION
24 Aug 2024
OLD STONE HOUSE

Another good turn out this year. The names of casualties of the 1st Maryland Regt. were read by the Maryland SAR, DAR, and Society of Cincinnati. The Color Guard was regional with compatriots primarily from the Empire State and New Jersey SAR State Societies, about twelve in all, including one lady from the DAR, Chris Sands, Jason Short, Brian and Michael Ante, and David Peters, represented our chapter. The musket escort squad consisted members of the Huntington Militia Company reenactors with Norm Goben and Jim Sarlo. After the reading of names a wreath was laid, followed by a musket and rifle salute by the musket squad and members of the American Legion.

Norman set up his map display and SAR members and reenactors spoke with the general public about the Battle of Brooklyn and other Revolutionary war topics.

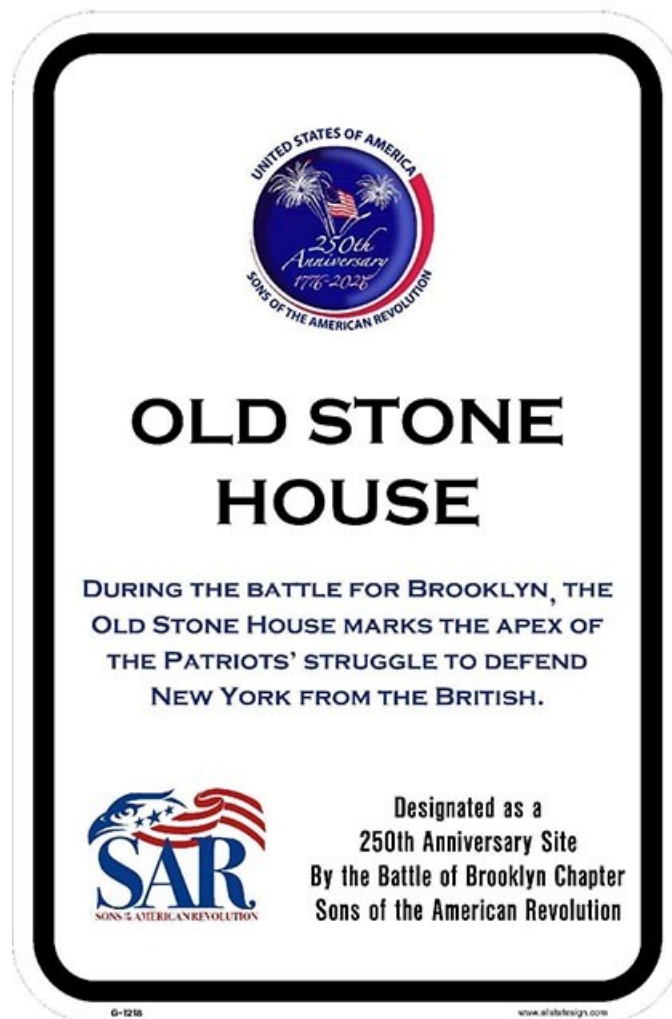


Musket Salute and Mourn Arms Tribute to the 1st Maryland “the Immortals”



J. Short Photos

250th ANNIVERSARY PLAQUE PROJECT



The first of many we hope install over the next 2 years. Date of installation and dedication TBA, the OSH is undergoing some renovations, so we may be a ways out on this. Green-Wood plaque has been approved and is in the works, we are looking at a November installation, TBA. The 250th committee is collecting data on potential Revolutionary War historical sites where plaques can be placed, so if you can think of any sites, please let me know. Big net approached, we will collect all the data and go for the low hanging fruit first. Some proposed sites, Conference House, Historic Richmond Town, New Utrecht Reformed Church, Trinity Church, and the Gowanus American Legion Post.

CHAPTER MEETING
Battle of Brooklyn and 1st Continental Chapter
25 Sept 2024
T. J. Byrnes Bar and Restaurant
77 Fulton St. NYC

Topics of Discussion

The main topic was rejuvenation and reorganization of the 1st Continental Chapter, a new board of officers was elected and appointed, they are, David Nelson, President, Thomas Taylor, Vice President, Scott Postal, Secretary/Asst. Treasurer, Wesley Oyler, Treasurer, and Rev. Evan Cummings was appointed Chaplain.

Chris Wiecha our friend from the Society of Old Brooklynites spoke on preserving the Wyckoff-Bennet House

A 250th Committee was formed with Norm Goben and Dave Peters as co-chairs, Gary Lane is also involved in this.

Americanism Awards- Dave Peters spoke of documenting chapter activities for the SAR Americanism Awards and went over the events and activities which can be added to date Dave Peters and Brian Ante will be adding data to the SAR spreadsheet. Points are awarded in the following twelve categories: 1. Media Publicity, social media, website and other forms of promoting the SAR, 2. SAR Speakers Bureau, educational lectures to groups and organizations, 3. Support of CAR and DAR, 4. Support of Youth Programs, BSA, JROTC, etc., 5. Public Service Programs, participation in workshops, seminars, history fairs and similar programs, 6. Historic Sites and Celebrations, National SAR event, parades, 4th of July, Old Stone House, MD 400, 7. Grave Marking, 8. Color Guard Activity, 9. Medals and Awards 10. National Society Service 11. Membership, 12. Meetings, Local, Regional and National

250th Awards

Additional Points are awarded for 250th Anniversary Events participation, which is separate from the Americanism Awards Program. Dave Nelson has been tracking this.

NEW MEMBERS INDUCTION



D. Peters Photo

Bill Caccese and Evan Cummings with Dave Nelson, is that a halo above Nelson's head or just a wall sconce.

New Members, Bill Caccese was inducted into the Battle of Brooklyn and Evan Cummings into the 1st Continental

I also like to a little bio on the patriot ancestors of our new members, Bill's ancestor was James Morris and Evan's Heinrich "Henry" Knerr, Sr.

Heinrich "Henry" Jacob Knerr (1735-1806) Was born in the German Palatinate about 1735 and emigrated through Philadelphia as a young man and settled Lower Vincent, Chester County about 1752. In the first organization on the Pa. Militia of 1777 he was in Col. Wm. Evans 4th Bn. of the Chester Co, Militia in Capt. Michael Cypher's Lower Vincent Twp. Company in 1779 with his eldest son Henry Jr, (b. 1760). In the 1780 reorganization the 4th Bn. was designated the 2nd Bn. and was command by Lt. Col. Thomas Bull, Knerr was in Capt. Holman's Co.. Henry Knerr in all likelihood fought at Brandywine and other battles of the Philadelphia Campaign of 1777, Brandywine on 11 Sept 1777 which only about 20 or so miles his home, Evan's 4th Chester Co. Bn. was attached to BG James Irvines's Brigade of MG John Armstrong's Division of Pa. Militia.

James Morris (1754-1820) Was born in Monmouth County, NJ. On 13 Feb 1777 a private in Capt. Joseph Stillwell's Co. of Major Asher Holmes' detachment of the 1st Regt. of Monmouth Co. Militia. At Navesink, near Sandy Hook, NJ. Maj. Holmes' command attempted to capture a British supply ship moored off Sandy Hook and rescue a captured French naval officer, in a skirmish with British Regulars and NJ Loyalist, 72 of the 1st Monmouth were taken as POWs and sent to the Sugarhouse Prisons in Lower Manhattan, including James Morris, he spent 15 months in the sugarhouses. After his exchanged he reenlisted in Col. Matthias Odgen's 3rd Regt. NJ Line and served the duration of the war and was discharged May of 1783, he may have also served prior to the 1st Monmouth in the 3rd NJ. He was pensioned in 1818 and after his death in 1820 his wife Lydia nee Patterson, received a widow's pension.

[Battle of the Navesink | Monmouth Timeline](#)
[The Mysteries of the 1777 Battle of the Navesink \(youtube.com\)](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS
THE SOCIETY OF OLD BROOKLYNITE
Proudly Presents
DAVID PETERS
Sons of the American Revolution
Battle of Brooklyn Chapter Historian



NARRATIVE OF THE KINGS CO. MILITIA 1775-1776
Battle of Brooklyn, Notable Soldiers of the Regiment, Burning of the
Lefferts House, Capture and Death of Gen. Woodhull, British
Occupation, the Arrest of the Van Brunt Brothers, Skirmish at
Flatbush and Green-Wood Cemetery Interments

WEDNESDAY, 2 OCT. @ 6:30 P.M.

Brooklyn Borough Hall-209 Joralemon St.

Free Admission

**Open to the Society of Brooklynites, SAR, DAR and the
General Public**

For further info: David Peters at peters1stpa.rr@yahoo.com

250th NATIONAL SAR EVENT
COMMEMORATION OF THE FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
PHILADELPHIA, PA.



1-2pm Charles Thomson Grave Marking Secretary of the Continental Congress Laurel Hill East Cemetery, Philadelphia

4-5pm Carpenters' Hall, 250th Ceremony 320 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia

5-6pm Carpenters' Hall Private Tour

6-8pm SAR Dinner, Glory Beer Bar & Kitchen 126 Chestnut St, Philadelphia

Hosted by the Pennsylvania SAR and the Philadelphia Continental Chapter
Registration Link

[250th of the First Continental Congress \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com)

SATURDAY 19 Oct 2024
Historic Richmond Town, Staten Island
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

The chapter booth will be promoting the SAR. Gary Lane will have merchandise will be on sale to raise funds. Dave Peters as chapter genealogist will be promoting membership and help prospective members with genealogical questions and membership application information. Maps, flags and Revolutionary War weapons and accouterments will be on display.

[Historic Richmond Town](#)

Lower Manhattan Revolutionary War Walking Tour
Saturday 26 Oct 2024
11:00 AM to About 1:00 PM

I will be giving a guided tour of Revolutionary War historical sites in Lower Manhattan. This tour is free and open to all SAR, DAR, and CAR members, their families, friends and invited guest. Donations for the chapter will be accepted but not required. We will met at the Municipal Building, Chambers and Centre Streets and work our way down Broadway, among our stops will be the Rhineland Sugarhouse Window, Trinity and St. Paul's Chapel, where a number of Revolutionary Soldiers are buried. Federal Hall, our 1st Capitol, Bowling Green and Evacuation Plaza, Battery Park, Site of the Golden Hill Riots of 1770 and many other places to numerous to mention. I'll post a flyer and more details a little further, please RSVP so I can get a head count;

FINIS

See you next month- David Peters, editor, Part II to follow



Thom Taylor Photo