

# “THE GOWANUS GAZETTE”

Historical Journal and Newsletter  
The Battle of Brooklyn Chapter  
Empire State Society  
Sons of the American Revolution

Vol. II Edit. 8 #13

LIBERTAS ET PATRIA

6/9/2025

## RECENT EVENTS

Battle of Brooklyn and 1<sup>st</sup> N.Y. Continental Chapter Meeting

29 May 2025

Rawley American Legion Post

## New Member Inductions

Sawyer White and our youngest member his son Damian, with his wife and Damian’s mother and Dave Nelson. Sawyer and Damian are the descendants of Simms Brown (1760-1822) who at age 15 enlisted in the South Carolina Militia as a scout, He served in the Spartan Regiment under Brig. Gen. Andrew Pickens and Colonels John Taylor, Jr. and Philemon Waters. He likely fought in a number battles near Newberry County where he lived, many of the major battle in South Carolina were fought in this north central region of South Carolina, Cowpens, Kings Mountain, Ninety-Six, and Camden



[The American Revolution in South Carolina - The Privates - Last Names Starting with "B"](#)

Ryan Kinney (left) and Emeric du Mas de Paysac with Kevin Johnson and Dave Peters.

Ryan is descendant of Sgt. Nathan Kinney, 11<sup>th</sup> Connecticut Militia Regt. and Emeric of Colonel Johannes Knickerbocker, commander of the 14<sup>th</sup> Albany Militia Regiment



Sgt. Nathan Kinney (1750-1798) served in the 11<sup>th</sup> Connecticut Militia Regt, Capt Zabariah Ingall's Co., commanded by Col. Ebenezer Williams. This regiment was commanded initially by Israel Putnam who was promoted to Maj. General in the Continental Army, the 11<sup>th</sup> marched to the Siege of Boston in 1775 and fought at Bunker Hill. Williams commanded the regiment from 1776 to his death in 1780. Kinney's name appears on the muster rolls of the 11<sup>th</sup> in 1776, Westchester Co., N.Y. His enlistment and discharge dates are not known, the 11<sup>th</sup> fought at the Battle of Brooklyn, the early New Jersey campaign of 1776 and the Battle of Rhode Island in 1778

[U.S., Find a Grave® Index, 1600s-Current - Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)

Emeric du Mas de Paysac is descendant of Col. Johannes Knickerbocker, who commanded the 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Albany Co. Militia. The 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment was in Brig. Gen Abraham Ten Broeck's Albany Co. Militia Brigade at 2<sup>nd</sup> Saratoga (Bemis Heights) on the left wing. Col. Knickerbocker and his son of the same name a private in his regiment were both wounded in action, he was also present at Burgoyne's Surrender.

Additionally, Emeric is also eligible through Col. Zebulon Butler, through whom his uncle and a number of cousins have joined the French SAR society. Butler was a Connecticut Line Colonel who was command at Fort Mifflin during the Wyoming Valley Massacre in Pennsylvania in 1778, he additionally commanded troops in the retaliatory Sullivan's Expedition against the Iroquois in 1779. He is also a descendant of Comfort Sands, one of five patriot brothers of Sands' Point, now Nassau Co., NY, Comfort was a member of New York Sons of Liberty who with Isaac Sears led the raid on the Arsenal at City Hall in 1775 and also an early militia soldier and paymaster of New York troops.



Above, 19<sup>th</sup> Century etching of Col. Johannes Knickerbocker and his wife Rebecca Fonda and Jon. Trumbull's Burgoyne's Surrender at Saratoga, Gen. Gates and Col. Daniel Morgan(white rifleman's shirt) are in the foreground and Lt. Col. Ebenezer Stevens, far right leaning on the cannon

[COL Johannes Harmen Knickerbocker Jr. \(1723-1802\) - Find a Grave Memorial](#)  
[Immigrants to Schaghticoke: The Knickerbockers | History of the Town of Schaghticoke](#)

## Awards and Officer Swearing In

Thom Taylor, Kevin Johnson and Vince Katinas were awarded a Certificate of Recognition. To those that do not know Vince he's a long time friend of the chapter and a knowledgeable local historian on the Revolutionary War in Brooklyn

Dr. Scott Postell (U.S. Army, ret.) was also inducted into the SAR's Southwest Asia Veterans Corp and received a certificate for his service in Middle East, this entitles him to wear the corresponding medal



[Southwest-Asia-Veterans-Corps.pdf](#)

Chancellor Mike Morris swearing in new officers Thom Taylor V.P, Scott Postell, Treasurer, 1<sup>st</sup> NY Cont., Gary Lane, 2<sup>nd</sup> V. P. and Kevin Johnson 1<sup>st</sup> V. P. , Battle of Brooklyn and Dave Nelson , President, Battle of Brooklyn and 1<sup>st</sup> NY Cont.



## Old and New Chapter Monkey Business

- Norm Goben spoke on painting a mural of the Battle of Brooklyn on the back wall of the Rawley Legion. This is quite a large mural and it will not be ready for this August's commemoration of the battle, so in the interim Norman is having a temporary vinyl graphic banner of the battle made up but we should be go to go by the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2026. Prep work will began probably in the late Summer or Fall. So we are in the process of assembling a crew, if you have the skills that will help let Norm know.
- Dave Peters on the Americanism Report, we are exceeding our last years point total at the mid-point in the year and will probably double our points from last year, especially with the busy summer we have coming up. Reviewed pending applications, Dave Nelson's cousin Dr. Tyler Nelson, Patrick and Ian McDonlad's



applications have been completed and will be forwarded to State, pending signatures.

- Gary Lane, BSA and Kevin Johnson, JROTC reported on the progress of their respective programs, additionally Brian Ante will be working with the JROTC program at his son's school Xavier HS. These two programs have really taken off this year. Kevin has awarded 5 Bronze JROTC bronze medals and Gary 8 Boy Scout certificates, an additional 2 cash awards have be awarded by the chapter to the Eagle Scout essay contest winner and to video contest winner a Tottenville HS student
- Trinity Church Patriot Marker Project, This is the prime event of the chapter this year, at this point 10 Patriots and Soldiers will be honored with markers this 17 th of Aug., with additional 8 patriots recognized. Brochures will be printed and I am currently finishing up the honoree's biographies. Further details TBA
- Upcoming Event are listed below, the next meeting should be late July or early August

### Green-Wood Cemetery and Rawley Post Event Background

This whole project was in works for the past year or so prior to the marker installations and Liberty Tree planting this past April. Green-Wood historian Jeff Richman and I documented over sixty five Revolutionary War Soldiers and Patriots buried in Green-Wood, Vince Katinas also provided additional information on other patriot burials, see the below for a link to Jeff's biographies on the G-W website and my list of verified soldiers and patriots. Gary Lane was point man on the this project and facilitated the planting of the Liberty Tree and the plaque and sign installations, working with Green-Wood staff and arborist.. Norm Goben was the point man on the installation of Rawley American Legion historic sign.

[Verified Soldiers.pdf](#)

[Verified Patriotic Service.pdf](#)

### [Revolutionary War Biographies - Green-Wood](#)

### TRINITY CHURCHYARD 250<sup>th</sup> SAR MARKERS

Soldiers and Patriots Verified to be Honored With a Markers

#### Founding Fathers

Alexander Hamilton, Francis Lewis and Dr. Hugh Williamsmon

## Soldiers and Patriots

Sarah Livingston Alexander, Maj. Anthony Lispenard Bleecker, Hercules Mulligan, Capt. Michael Cresap, BG John Morin Scott, Dr. Charles McKnight, Jr., Rev. Charles McKnight, Sr., and Capt. Richard McKnight (cenotaph) will be honored with his father and brother

Marked Previously with SAR Plaques  
Col. Marinus Willett and Commodore Silas Talbot

These Soldiers and Patriots will be honored and not marked  
Graves Unknown, Buried in Trinity  
Col. John Lamb, MG Horatio Gates and Capt. Hoystead Hacker

Graves Known  
John Alsop and Walter Livingston  
Believed to Buried in Trinity, Not Documented

According to the Trinity archivist there is no record of Gen. William “Lord Stirling” Alexander’s interment at Trinity, although it is believed he is buried in Alexander family vault with his wife Sarah Livingston Alexander

Alexander Hamilton’s Tomb at Trinity

TO THE MEMORY OF  
ALEXANDER HAMILTON  
THE CORPORATION OF TRINITY CHURCH HAS  
ERECTED THIS  
MONUMENT  
IN TESTIMONY OF THEIR RESPECT  
FOR  
THE PATRIOT OF INCORRUPTIBLE INTEGRITY.  
THE SOLDIER OF APPROVED VALOUR.  
THE STATESMAN OF CONSUMMATE WISDOM;  
WHOSE TALENTS AND VIRTUES WILL BE ADMIRIED  
BY  
GRATEFUL POSTERITY  
LONG AFTER THIS MARBLE SHALL HAVE MOULDERED INTO DUST.  
HE DIED JULY 12TH 1804. AGED 47



IN MEMORIUM  
DAVID ELLIGER (1940-2025)



N. Goben Photo

The Battle of Brooklyn lost a true friend this past May 17<sup>th</sup>. Dave Elligers was the long serving President of the Friends of Historic New Utrecht, he was found deceased in the work shed at the cemetery by the volunteers who had arrived to take part in the “Spring Clean Up” under Dave’s supervision. He was a retired attorney and local historian and was descended from some of the early founding Dutch families of New Utrecht. Norm Goben, Mike Grillo, George Tonkin and I go back quite a few years with Dave through participating in the annual “Liberty Weekend” and being a part of the Friends of New Utrecht historic lecture program, additionally he was always a big help to Jerry and John Meekins in finding patriot graves to be marked in the New Utrecht Cemetery. Dave always loved telling the history and story of “New Utrecht Liberty Pole” and how it was the last thing the British saw as they evacuated New York in 1783 and sailed back to England. You will be sorely missed, RIP Dave.

[RIP Dave Elligers – President of the Friends of Historic New Utrecht](#)

*Memorial Service*

*C. David Elligers*

*President - Friends of Historic New Utrecht*

Observance

Saturday June 21st 2025

Open 9:30

Service 10 AM

**Miraglia Funeral Chapels**

**8519 New Utrecht Ave**

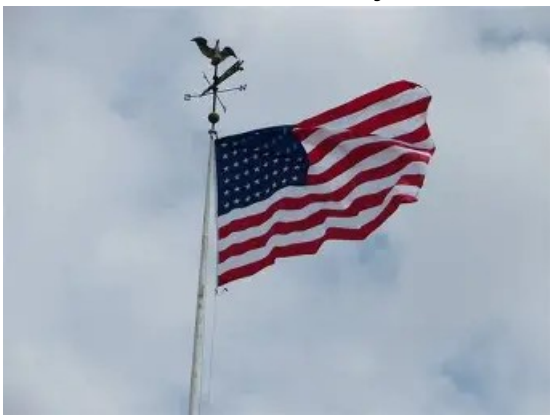
**Brooklyn NY 11214**

**(718) 865-3692**

**(Intersection of 86th Street)**

*All Friends and Family are invited to celebrate the life and share the stories of Dave Elligers. Interment will be Private per Families Request*

New Utrecht Liberty Pole



John Van Arsdale at the  
Bowling Green  
Liberty Pole  
25 Nov 1783



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Flag Day Parade

Friday 13 June

Sponsored by the New York Sons of the Revolution



11:30 Muster at City Hall Park, South End

Dress: Revolutionary War Uniforms or

Blue Blazers, Khaki Slacks, and Society Tie, if you have it

Refreshments afterwards at Fraunces Tavern or The White Horse

Fort Hamilton Bicentennial and the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Founding of the U.S. Army

Friday 13 June, Event Begins at 4:30

Follow Link for further Information and Registration

[View Event :: USAG Fort Hamilton Bicentennial :: Ft. Hamilton :: US Army MW](#)





BSA Flag Retirement Ceremony  
13 June, 6:30 PM  
Camp Pouch, Staten Island



**ANNUAL FLAG  
RETIREMENT CEREMONY**  
**At Pouch Camp**  
**FRIDAY JUNE 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 6:30 PM**  
**Rain or Sun Shine**  
(Manor Rd - Camporee Field)  
All are welcome Cubs, Scouts BSA, Explorer, Venture, Sea  
Scouts, Family and Friends

All can participate each family or unit can have a table and help with the proper disposal of Flags that doesn't burn nylon and other material besides cotton which causes dangerous gases, using an approved technique that doesn't cut through the blue star field. When a flag has been properly cut up, it is no longer officially a flag

**Scouts Wear Your Field Uniform (Class A)**

Questions call Paul 347-277-3009



**NATIONAL SAR 250TH EVENT**

Saturday 14 June

Grave Marking of Gen. George and Martha Washington

250 Anniversary of the Founding of the U.S. Army

Mount Vernon and Ft. Belvoir

Sponsored by the Virginia Society, SAR

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

See attached link for further information

[250th Anniversary of U.S. Army, Grave Marking for George and Martha Washington](#)

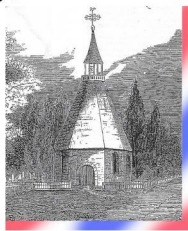


4<sup>th</sup> of JULY EVENTS  
Sunday 29 June  
Knights of Columbus  
Brooklyn 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade  
Parade starts at 11:30  
Muster Place and Time TBA

Let's have a good showing this year and support the Grand Marshals  
NORM GOBEN and MIKE GRILLO

NEW YORK 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY PARADE  
Muster at Castle Clinton, Battery Park  
Muster Time and Details TBA

**Celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup>**



**Dutch Reformed Church  
JULY 6th 2025**

**enjoy:  
Lead Elder Warren McKenzie  
at 11am**

**Film about Revolutionary efforts  
Special ministry in yard**



54 Richmond Terrace  
Staten Island, NY 10301  
718) 442-7393



First Regimental Flag of the Continual Army  
Adopted by the 1<sup>st</sup> Continental Pennsylvania Regiment  
in late 1775 or early 1776.

This regiment was raised in June and July of 1775  
from riflemen on the Pennsylvania frontier and the  
first non-New England troops to reach Boston after  
Bunker Hill.



TRINITY CHURCHYARD  
250<sup>th</sup> Grave Marker Commemoration  
Sunday 17 Aug  
Broadway and Wall St.  
Details TBA

This a national SAR event and space may be limited

BATTLE OF BROOKLYN  
Anniversary of the Battle of Brooklyn  
Maryland 400 Memorial  
Fri. Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Green-Wood Cemetery  
Sat. Aug.23<sup>rd</sup> at the Old Stone House

It will be a two day event this year on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at Green-Wood, Norm and I, as well as other chapter members will be working with Jeff Richman to provide a forum for the general public on the Battle of Brooklyn. The 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the Maryland 400 Memorial and Battle of Brooklyn anniversary observer. Times and agenda to TBA



In closing I am compiling the names of patriot ancestors of compatriots that fought at the Battle of Brooklyn to be read or published for the event, I will send out an e-mail blaster in the near future.

Evacuation of the Army at Brooklyn Ferry

