

### President's remarks:

My Fellow Compatriots,

After a dreary winter and variable Spring it seems that Summer has finally arrived. In a few short weeks we will celebrate the Independence of our Great Nation for which our ancestors fought and sacrificed. While holiday weekends are mostly used for recreation, we should always remember why we can enjoy them.

As we indulge in cookouts, parades and fireworks let us always be mindful that our freedom and prosperity was purchased with the Lives, Fortunes and Sacred Honor of our Patriot ancestors for whom Liberty and Equality were ideas worth fighting and dying for.

If you have the opportunity, please visit either the grave fo Stephen Hopkins in Providence or William Ellery in Newport. Take a moment to contemplate their personal courage in signing the Declaration of Independence knowing that they were, effectively, signing their own death warrants as their actions in rejecting the authority of the Crown were treasonous. Please also take a moment to reflect on the words of Stephen Hopkins who, after signing the Declaration with a hand shaking from Parkinson's Disease, said, "Though my hand may shake, my heart is firm."

Patriotically,

John T. Duchesneau  
President  
RISSAR

### ROTC AND JROTC REPORT 2017

Once again, RISSAR participated in presenting certificates and medals to the cadets from the colleges and high schools that participated in the program. With the help of Ron Barnes doing the printing up of the certificates, the following people did the presentations: David Butler, Dr. Dan Harrop, John Duchesneau, Mark Trimmer and Ron Barnes. Thank you.

As in the case every year, it is difficult to get the chosen cadet names from the organizations. However, that was once again accomplished.

### Calendar:

BOM: 10/7  
Cooke House: September 25  
North Burial Ground: November 4  
Veteran's Day Salute: November 12  
Christmas Party: December 9  
Annual Meeting: February 24

## SAR / DAR Flag Day Luncheon at the Dunes Club on June 11, 2017

There were 71 guests in attendance and the weather and food were perfect as usual at the Dunes Club. Guest speaker was Elon Cook and she spoke on "From DAR to Public Historian: How the DAR helped lead her into a career as a public historian."



The Varnum Continentals provided the Color Guard with Carlen Booth and Lisa Daley.



Sheila and Harry Curran with Paul and Karen Smith



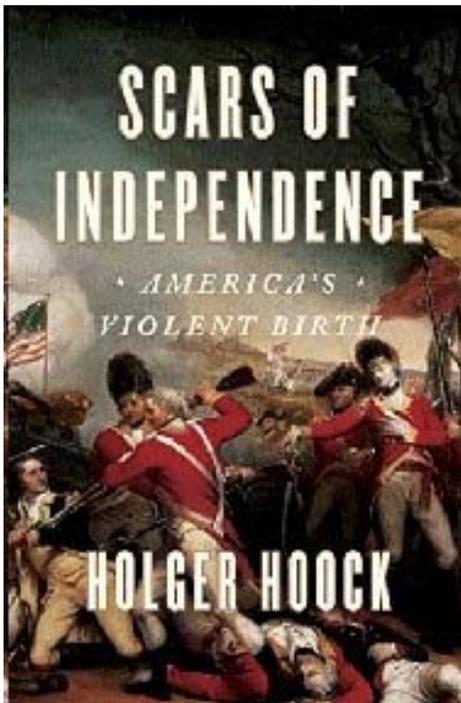
Charlene and Bob Butler with Dan Harrop

### **Registrar wanted:**

1. Do you have an interest in genealogy and genealogical research?
2. Do you have basic computer skills and the ability to maintain records?
3. Do you have the interest and the patience to help others do their own research and prepare their applications for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution?

If so, you may be eminently qualified for the job of Registrar for the Rhode Island Society.

The responsibilities of State Registrars, as stated by the NSSAR, are derived from the organization's status as a heritage society that requires sound proof of the bloodline to a patriot ancestor and of the service rendered by that ancestor. This means adequate documentation of each parent/child link in the line. The State Registrar, by signing an application, verifies that in his opinion it contains sufficient proof of every fact claimed to meet the requirements for membership in the National Society.

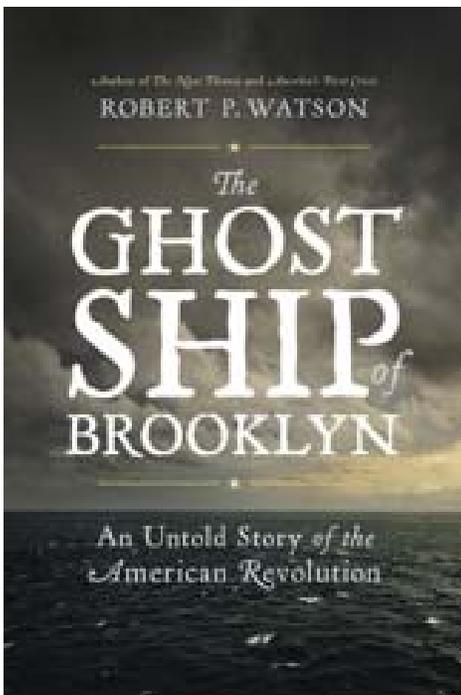


### On the bookshelf:

The American Revolution is often portrayed as an orderly, restrained rebellion, with brave patriots defending their noble ideals against an oppressive empire. It's a stirring narrative, and one the founders did their best to encourage after the war. But as historian Holger Hoock shows in this deeply researched and elegantly written account of America's founding, the Revolution was not only a high-minded battle over principles, but also a profoundly violent civil war—one that shaped the nation, and the British Empire, in ways we have only begun to understand.

In *Scars of Independence*, Hoock writes the violence back into the story of the Revolution. American Patriots persecuted and tortured Loyalists. British troops massacred enemy soldiers and raped colonial women. Prisoners were starved on disease-ridden ships and in subterranean cells. African-Americans fighting for or against independence suffered disproportionately, and Washington's army waged a genocidal campaign against the Iroquois. In vivid, authoritative prose, Hoock's new reckoning also examines the moral dilemmas posed by this all-pervasive violence, as the British found themselves torn between unlimited war and restraint toward fellow subjects, while the Patriots documented war crimes in an ingenious effort to unify the fledgling nation.

For two centuries we have whitewashed this history of the Revolution. *Scars of Independence* forces a more honest appraisal, revealing the inherent tensions between moral purpose and violent tendencies in America's past. In so doing, it offers a new origins story that is both relevant and necessary—an important reminder that forging a nation is rarely bloodless.



*The Ghost Ship of Brooklyn: An Untold Story of the American Revolution* by Robert P. Watson. Author of over three dozen nonfiction books including *The Nazi Titanic*, Watson's latest tells the story of the most infamous prison ship of the American Revolution, the HMS *Jersey*, and its role in the fight for independence.

Moored off the coast of Brooklyn, the derelict HMS *Jersey* was a living hell for thousands of Americans either captured by the British or accused of disloyalty. Crammed below deck without light or fresh air, the disease-ridden prisoners were scarcely given food and water. More Americans died in the ship's ghastly hold than on all the war's battlefields. Throughout the colonies, the mere mention of the ship sparked a fear and loathing of British troops that, paradoxically, helped rally public support for the war. In this thrilling book, Watson follows the lives and ordeals of the few survivors through newspapers, diaries, and military reports to tell the astonishing story of the cursed ship that played a crucial part in the war against Britain.

## The National Society Children of the American Revolution



The 59th New England Regional Meeting of The National Society Children of the American Revolution was held on June 9th and 10th in Nashua, New Hampshire. The Kelly, Daley, Holmstedt, LaPrade and Weaver families attended.

Caitlyn Holmstedt was installed as RISSCAR State President, Denise LaPrade was installed as the RISSCAR Senior State President and Carly M. Weaver served as color bearer for Rhode Island C.A.R.

### Your State Registrar reports the following:

#### New Members:

**Mark Hager Trimmer**, Richmond, RI, admitted February 17, 2017, national number 201500, state number 1806. Mark is a descendant of Jesse Babcock, 1759-1837, Richmond, RI - Private, served under Capt. Maxon and Col. Dyer, RI.



**David Bowen Trimmer**, Warwick, RI, admitted April 7, 2017, national number 2002032, state number 1807. David is a descendant of Jesse Babcock, 1759-1837, Richmond, RI - Private, served under Capt. Maxon and Col. Dyer, RI.



#### **In Memoriam:**

**William Nightingale Makepeace**, Little Compton, RI, admitted September 27, 2005, national number 165725, state number 1681. William was a descendant of William Makepeace, 1738-1822, Norton, MA - Sgt, Capt. Seth Smith Co of matrosses engaged June 3, 1778.

William was born in Providence and graduated Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy making several trips aboard ships carrying fighter planes and high octane gasoline to England in WWII. He was called into the U.S. Navy in the Korean War serving aboard an LST. He was employed in engineering and management by Grinnell Company and Corp Brothers, Inc. in Providence. He enjoyed an active civic career and was also active in a number of clubs and organizations. In addition to SAR, he was a member of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America and served as Governor of the Rhode Island Society of Colonial Wars.

**Albert Thomas Klyberg**, Lincoln, RI, admitted November 20, 1969, national number 99353, state number 1353. Albert was a descendant of Michael Collar, 1754-1817, Philadelphia, PA - Fifer and Drummer, PA Militia, 1777.

He was a New Jersey native, coming to Rhode Island after completing his doctoral courses at the University of Michigan. He became executive director of the RI Historical Society and held that position with distinction for three decades. In 1981, he received a presidential appointment to the National Museum Services Board. He also served on many local boards including the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities. He received a Doctor of Humane Letters from Rhode Island College in 1986 and was inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame in 2014.

#### **Common Burial Ground Grave Stone Restoration Project – Society of the Sons of the Revolution**

As many of you are aware, Compatriot Bob Butler and his DAR wife Charlene were the people responsible for restoring the Gen Barton stone in the North Burial Ground. Their wealth of experience and the great attention to detail through the restoration of 110 grave stones by themselves in West Greenwich, has led them to another project.

So, in light of this expertise and because of the absolute dereliction and decay of many of the Revolutionary War grave markers, the Rhode Island Society Sons of the Revolution, having as their mission previously demonstrated by the thorough restoration of the Signer of the Declaration of Independence from Rhode Island, William Ellery, were chosen by President of the Sons of the Revolution, Compatriot Bruce MacGunnigle, to evaluate and make suggestions for the repair of a good number of grave markers in the Common Burial Ground in Newport. The Butlers have prepared a thorough report for the Sons of the Revolution to consider.

Notes regarding the attached pictures:

1. The John Greene stone is broken diagonally in two pieces.
2. The Benjamin Fry stone is upside down, but we at least put the 2 pieces adjacent to each other, but not right side up (very heavy marble!).
3. Isaac Martindale stone, same condition.
4. Joshua Tripp stone had been moved to stand at a tree...not the actual gravesite!



#1 – John Greene



#2 - Benjamin Fry



#3 – Isaac Martindale



#4 – Samuel Jeffers

### **Did you know – Bristol, Rhode Island's 4<sup>th</sup> of July:**

The annual official and historic celebrations (Patriotic Exercises) were established in 1785 by Rev. Henry Wight of the First Congregational Church and veteran of the Revolutionary War and later by Rev. Wight as the Parade, and continue today, organized by the Bristol Fourth of July Committee. The festivities officially start on June 14, Flag Day, beginning a period of outdoor concerts, soap-box races and a firefighter's muster at Independence Park. The celebration climaxes on July 4 with the oldest annual parade in the United States, "The Military, Civic and Firemen's Parade", an event that draws over 200,000 people from Rhode Island and around the world. These elaborate celebrations give Bristol its nickname, "America's most patriotic town". In 1785 the Bristol Fourth of July Celebration (beginning as the Patriotic Exercises) was founded and the Fourth of July has been celebrated every year in Bristol since that date, although the parade itself was canceled several times. – (wikipedia)