



The Independent Man

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF
THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
131 SPENCER WOODS DR, EAST GREENWICH RI 02818

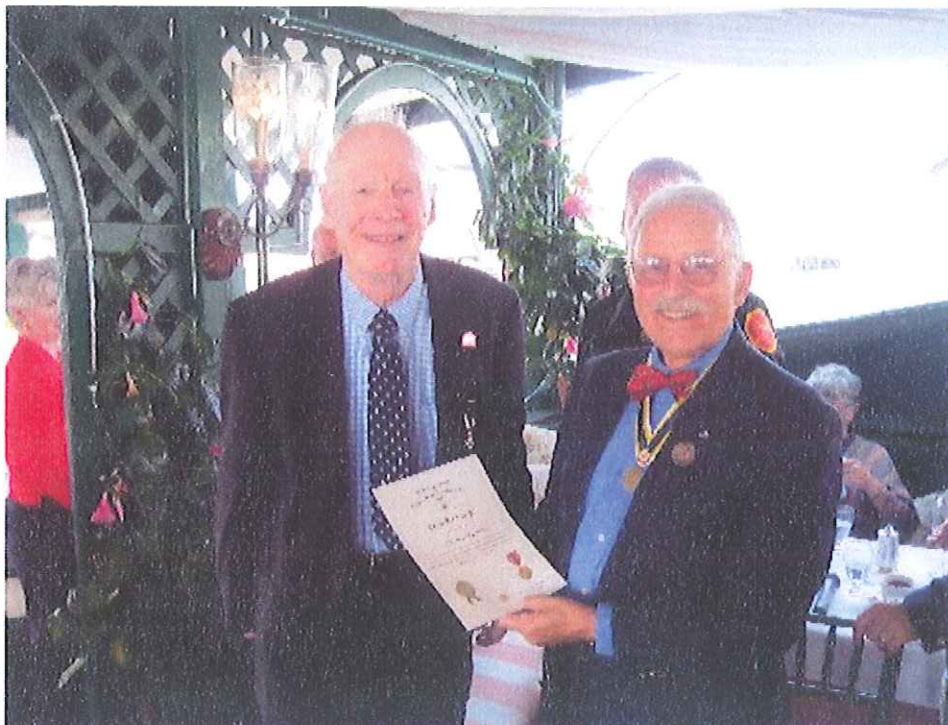


Our RISSAR Fall luncheon at the Clarke Cooke House was very well attended this year. In addition to the terrific weather we were all treated to a warm reception at fellow compatriot Walter Whitley's house. The event was a bit somber due to the fact that Walter was recently admitted to a nursing home.

After lunch, Janet Uhler gave a lively talk on the significance of the 'fighting Quaker'--General Nathanael Greene. Upon wrapping up her talk on Rhode Island's own General Greene she said the following:

Were not for Greene, the Continental Army would have dissolved at Valley Forge. Were it not for Greene, the South would have fallen to the British. Were it not for Greene, there would not have been a Battle of Yorktown. Were it not for Nat Greene, I believe the United States of America would not exist.

At their annual "Peanuts and Champagne" luncheon on September 12, President John C. Eastman II of the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, presents Compatriot Charles Smith with a Certificate of Patriotism for his service in the Navy in WWII.



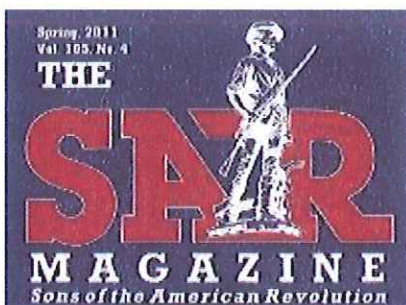


Carlen Booth, Registrar, Andrew Butler, Robert Butler, President John Eastman. Andrew Butler is presented with his certificate of membership to RISSAR.

On September 13, Past State President Bruce Campbell MacGunnigle was elected to a 3-year term as Governor General of the 28,000 member General Society of Mayflower Descendants, which is headquartered in Plymouth, Mass. Bruce is the 32nd Governor General, and is the fourth Rhode Islander to hold that distinction. Actually, all four were RI SAR Presidents as well! We must be a good training ground. The National SAR has about the same membership as the Mayflower Society.

Bruce is a 39-year member of the Mayflower Society, and served the RI Society as Treasurer, Deputy Governor, and Governor (1986-89). His extensive service for the General Society includes serving as Captain General, Member-at-Large of the General Society's 9 member Executive Committee for 6 years, and as Assistant Governor General (National Vice President, 1996-99). He is also the author of the 5 generation family genealogy of Mayflower Passenger Edward Fuller, a 260 page hardcover book published in 1990, with updated editions in 1995 and 2006. He served as the Congress Planning Chairman for the once-every-three-year Mayflower Congresses in 1987, 1990, 1993 & 1996, planning and coordinating this event in Plymouth for over 500 Mayflower delegates from all 50 state, DC and Canada. Bruce has 12 lines of descent to 7 of the 23 families who came on the Mayflower in 1620, and have descendants living today. As part of his job as Governor General, he and his wife Kate visit the state societies. In just the two weeks after his election, he has accepted invitations to visit Washington, Iowa, Colorado, Maryland, Delaware and Maine.

Compatriots the following is available online.



The National SAR magazine <http://sar.epubxpress.com>.



Massachusetts SAR magazine <http://www.massar.org/> is available online as well.

Pawtuxet Rangers and The Centennial Legion of Historic Military Commands

The Pawtuxet Rangers are proud to be members of groups that support the perpetuation of the military history of our country. One such group that the Rangers are members of is The Centennial Legion of Historic Military Commands. The Centennial Legion was organized on July 4, 1876, in Philadelphia, at the Centennial Celebration of our nation. A mammoth parade featured the newly formed Legion comprised of Historic Military Commands from the thirteen original Colonies.

The suggestion to form the Legion was made a year earlier (1875) at the Bunker Hill Centennial Celebration in Boston by Major George W. McLean, Commander of The Old Guard – City of New York and Captain Robert C. Gilchrist, Commander of the Washington Light Infantry, Charleston, S.C..

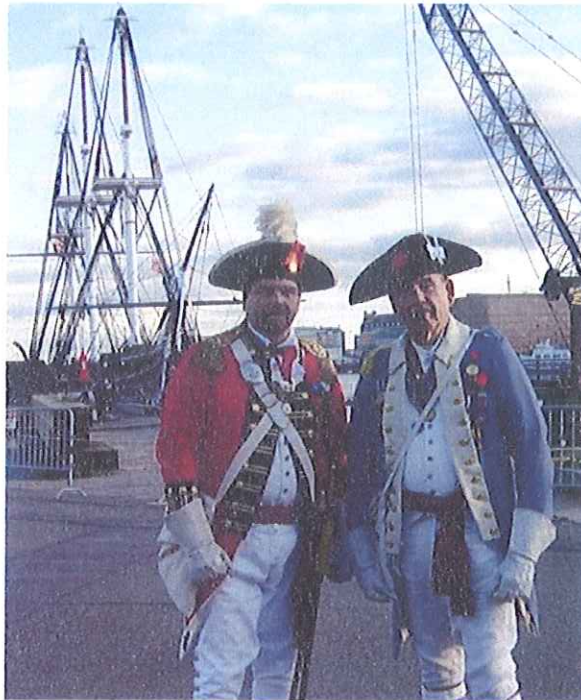
The unhappy War Between the States had ended only ten years before and there still existed very strong sectional feelings which many level-headed men of that day sought to eradicate for the general national good. Two such men were Major MacLean and Captain Gilchrist. This friendly association together of soldiers at Bunker Hill, many of whom had a few years previously been engaged in actual warfare with one another, created a feeling of fraternity and good fellowship that set the stage for organizing The Centennial Legion.

The Centennial Legion remains an active organization and is comprised of 83 Historic Military Commands. It seeks to perpetuate the Military Organizations who served and protected our country in the early days of its history, prior to, during and subsequent to the Revolutionary War. It was formed to unite together those Military Commands that still exist, together with their successors, in one body, pledged to keep alive their ancient traditions and to preserve the records of their Military Achievements.

The organization fosters patriotism and encourages National Defense. It is bound to uphold the national institutions of the United States in their integrity and to maintain a brotherly union and benevolence among our armed forces. It recognizes and honors all citizens who served or are serving in the Army, Reserve Corps, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard and the National Guard.

One of its principal objects is to teach and impress respect for our flag and to the Constitution as well as obedience to constituted authority. It is dedicated to uphold Allegiance and Loyalty to the United States of America and to defend it against all enemies.

The Legion holds an annual meeting each year to conduct its business including election of member units and election of officers. The Pawtuxet Rangers were honored to co-host the meeting in Warwick in 2009. At the meeting, Pawtuxet Rangers member COL K. Frederick Holst was elected State Director for Rhode Island, a post which he maintains today.



COL Ronald Barnes Adjutant with CPT Edgar Hebert, Centennial Legion Commander prior to the Change of Command ceremony aboard the USS Constitution, Nov 2010.

COL Ronald Barnes of the Rangers, was appointed Adjutant during 2010 to CPT Edgar Hebert of the Warren Federal Blues (RI), then Commander of the Legion.



Evening Colors about the USS Constitution

Your State Registrar Carlen Booth reports the following:

Andrew Beyer Butler, Pawtucket, RI, admitted May 20, 2011, national number 179619, state number 1757. Andrew is the son of Robert Stetson Butler, admitted 2010, and is descended from Ebenezer Gore, Captain, 1st Co., 1st Suffolk Regt., Massachusetts Militia.

Request for RISSAR Records

Our Registrar, Compatriot Carlen Booth (cpbarri@aol.com), would like anyone who has RISSAR records to please contact him.

Upcoming SAR events:

October 15th New England District Council Fall Meeting, Vergennes, Vt.

November 12th Vets Day program at Veteran's Cemetery Exeter--luncheon at 1149 Restaurant

December 9th Christmas Party at 1149 Restaurant