

The Connecticut Line

Living History/Color Guard Unit The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Report - November 2, 2019

Insurance Coverage and Donations Update:

The cost of insurance for Living History/Color Guard Unit has been adjusted with expected annual savings on \$167 for the billing cycle (May 2018 – April 2019). We reduced the number of participants from 60 to 45. Cost of insurance is covered by annual donations of over \$700 from the annual dues process and the receipt of donation from Naugatuck for \$300 for the 2019 Memorial Day Parade, and a \$200 donation from Compatriot Fred Learned of the NC Society for the compatriot grave marking we did for his father in June in Guildford. See attached thank you letter. We also have 12 out of state dual members who pay \$25 each for a total of \$300 so they can be covered by our insurance while in the color guard. So, we actual have a positive revenue number for 2019.

The 2019 Color Guard Event Calendar for The Connecticut Line:

Completed

Sat February $2-1^{st}$ Women Veteran sponsored by the American Legion Post #44 in Bantam CT

Sat February 16 - Connecticut Line Annual Meeting/Lunch, J. Timothy's Tavern, Plainville, CT.

Fri April 12 - CTDAR State Conference Honor Guard, Red Loin, Cromwell, CT

Mon April 15 - NSSAR Patriot's Day Parade, 244th Anniversary (April 19, 1775), Concord, MA. (N)

Sat April 27- CTSSAR Patriot's Day Lunch/Annual Meeting, J. Timothy's Tavern, Plainville, CT.

Mon May 27 - Memorial Day Parade, Litchfield, CT (Wolcott's Brigade Detachment), (N)

Mon May 27 - Memorial Day Parade, Naugatuck, CT (State Color Guard, paid event), (N)

Fri June 7 - Schooldays at the Schoolhouse, Nathan Hale Schoolhouse, East Haddam, CT.

Mon June 17 - 244th Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill (June 17, 1775), Charlestown, MA. (N)

Thu July 4 - Let Freedom Ring - Independence Day Ceremonies & Bell Ringing, Litchfield, CT. (N)

Sat July 13 - Invasion of New Haven Encampment, Wooster Park, East Haven, CT.

Sun Sept 1 - Battle of Groton Heights (September 6, 1781), 238th Anniversary, Fort Griswold, Groton, CT (N).

Sat Sept 7 – 300th Birthday Town of Litchfield, CT (Wolcott Detachment)

Sat Oct 5 - Gov. Trumbull 309th Birthday/War Office & Grave Marking, New Branch No. 13, Lebanon, CT.

Sat Oct 19 - Patriot Grave Marking for Pvt. Jeff Liberty in Washington, CT (Wolcott Brigade Detachment)

Scheduled

Sat November 9 – Patriot Grave Marking event in Stonington, CT (Hale Detachment) Tyler Smith in Charge.

Mon November 11 – NSSAR Veterans Day events (N) December - Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, War Office, Lebanon, CT.

Sat December 14 - Wreaths Across America: Bantam, Milford and Lebanon.

Officers: Col. David Perkins, Lt. Col. Paul Selnau, Major Tyler Smith, Adjutant Russell Wirtalla

See attached report to NSSAR Color Guard E-magazine for next issue.

Respectfully submitted

David J. Perkins, Colonel Commanding, The Connecticut Line

September 25th, 2019

David J. Perkins, Commander CTSSAR Color Guard 3 Clearview Avenue Bethel, CT 06801

Re: Memorial Service for Compatriot Arthur N. Learned & his wife Shirley Davenport

Dave:

On behalf of my deceased parents and my entire family, we greatly appreciate your cooperation and active participation at my parent's Memorial service that was recently held April 1st at North Guilford Cemetery.

In grateful appreciation for your willingness to attend and perform outstanding efforts during, including incurring significant personal expenses to attend & perform patriotic memorial services & ceremonies throughout the State, enclosed is a small donation to the CT SAR for exclusive use and in any way that you, and the Color Guard men who assisted you, deem appropriate.

Sincerely,

Fred Learned

4030 Dresden Drive Winston-Salem, NC 27104

Cc: Ethan Allen Stev



Connecticut SAR Colorguard News - July 1 to September 30, 2019

4 July 2019 - Grave Marking of Wolcott & Tallmadge and Let Freedom Ring - Litchfield, CT

The 1st ceremony started at 12:00 Noon, the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter DAR hosts a ceremony that honors Gov. Oliver Wolcott, Sr. and Col. Benjamin Tallmadge at their graves in East Cemetery. The SAR, the C.A.R., and the First Litchfield Artillery Regiment will also participate. Gov. Oliver Wolcott, Sr. was the 19th Governor of Connecticut and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was the second of three generations of Wolcotts to serve as Governor of Connecticut.

Col. Benjamin Tallmadge was a senior intelligence officer under Gen. Washington and the leader of the Culper Spy Ring. Upon learning that Maj. John André had been arrested with a pass for getting through the American lines and a set of papers detailing West Point's defenses hidden in his stocking, Tallmadge suspected Benedict Arnold to be André's accomplice. Tallmadge's actions led to the exposure of Benedict Arnold's treason. Maj. John André was found guilty of being a spy and was sentenced to hang.

The 2nd ceremony started at 1:45 PM, when the First Litchfield Artillery Regiment performed a "Let Freedom Ring" ceremony on the Litchfield Green during which, using two cannons, they fired 13 salutes for each of the original 13 States in the order that they ratified the Constitution of the United States of America. SAR Color Guard members each carried and presented a flag of the thirteen original states at the same time that a cannon fires a salute to each state. At precisely 2:00 PM Eastern Daylight Savings Time, just as the smoke cleared from the last cannon salute, the bells of the four churches that surround the Green began to ring. This is timed so that bells throughout the United States of America ring simultaneously to celebrate Independence Day.

Pictures:

LFR 2019 Pic1.jpg





LFR 2019 Pic3.jpg

LFR 2019 Pic4.jpg



LFR 2019 Pic5.jpg



13 July 2019 - 240th Anniversary of the Invasion of New Haven at Beacon Hill Park

The 240th Anniversary of the Invasion of New Haven was a great success. We had over 75 people attend this event along with the Mayor of New Haven. The Connecticut Line set up a small encampment on the top of the remains of the old fort at the top of Beacon Hill which overlooks the New Haven harbor and Long Island Sound. The only remaining features are the earthen walls of the fort perimeter and the War of 1812 ammunition bunker. Following speeches by the Mayor, the Friends of Ft. Wooster, and the Connecticut SAR the new tablet replacing the original from 1895 was unveiled. The Connecticut line along with members of the 6th Connecticut and the 2nd Co. Governors Footguard provided a 3-volley musket salute. Refreshments were served by the Friends of Fort Wooster and the New Haven Museum.

Pictures:

IVNH 2019 Pic1.jpg



IVNH 2019 Pic2.jpg



7 September 2019 – 300th Anniversary of the town of Litchfield CT.

The Gov. Oliver Wolcott, Sr. Branch awarded the SAR Flag Certificate to American Legion Post 44 in Bantam, Connecticut on September 7th. The occasion was the 359th consecutive Veteran of the Month ceremony performed by Post 44 and it coincided with the Town of Litchfield's 300th anniversary celebration. In honor of all veterans of the American Revolution from Litchfield and Morris, a large Betsy Ross Flag was flown over the Litchfield Green. This was the first time that Post 44's Veteran of the Month ceremony did not take place at the All Wars Memorial in Bantam.

The Veteran of the Month program was conceived in November 1989 by two past Commanders of the American Legion Post 44 in Bantam, CT. The SAR Flag Certificate was awarded in recognition of exemplary patriotism in the display of the Flag of the United States of America. Photograph of the flag raising courtesy of Eric Hahn.

The Connecticut Line provided the 3-volley musket salute following the raising of the Betsy Ross flag to begin the events for the day. As part of the 300th events that day, the Connecticut Line also setup a large encampment with multiple tents, weapons and equipment displays, maps and charts, and other items from the American Revolution.



Pictures:

L300 2019 Pic1.jpg

L300 2019 Pic2.jpg



L300 2019 Pic3.jpg



L300 2019 Pic4.jpg



1 September 2019 - The 238th Anniversary of the Battle of Groton Heights - NSSAR Silver Color Guard Event

Members of the Connecticut Line of the Connecticut SAR Color Guard/Living History Unit took part in the commemoration and memorial ceremony of those who died defending Fort Griswold on Sept. 6, 1781. In the battle 165 American Militia attempted to defend the fort against 800 British forces under the command of Benedict Arnold. The fort was overwhelmed, and many were killed following the surrender by Col. William Ledyard. A welcoming was given by Mayor Keith Hedrick of Groton. Following the presentation of the colors by the Connecticut Line, the 88 names of the slain defenders of Fort Griswold were read by the descendants of those patriots who gave all. Compatriot Dave Perkins read the names of six members of the Perkins family slain that day. Following the reading of the names, CTSSAR Capt. Nathan Branch President Stephen Z. Taylor placed a wreath inside the fort at the site where Col. Ledyard died. The Connecticut Line provided a three-volley musket salute after the laying of the wreath from a top the new viewing platform as the sun set to the West. The ceremony was hosted by the Friends of Fort Griswold Battlefield State Park Foundation. Prior to the ceremony inside Ft. Griswold the Connecticut Line had its usual grave marking ceremony at the grave site of Col. William Ledyard and this year we included the marking of four additional patriots buried in the Ledyard Cemetery which is about ½ mile away from the battle site.

Pictures: BGH 2019 Pic1.jpg



BGH 2019 Pic3.jpg

BGH 2019 Pic2.jpg



BGH 2019 Pic4.jpg



