Rev. Ebenezer Baldwin Branch #9

Newsletter – October 2023

From: David J. Perkins
Branch President

Date: October 25, 2023

Branch reports for activity January to October 2023

Current Branch Officers:

President	-	Dave Perkins	Treasurer	-	Fred Burke
1st Vice-President		Mark Shisler	Registrar	-	Dave Perkins
Secretary	-	John Gelinas, Jr.	Historian	-	Robert Young
			Chaplain	-	Gordon Thompson

Officers were nominated at the August 2022 meeting and approved via an email vote.

Branch Treasurer Report:
Wells Fargo Bank checking account balance as of September 30, 2023 is $1,579.99

Membership: Ten new branch members in 2023

National#	CT#	Compatriot	Date Approved	Age
226084	6721	Roberto F. Espinosa	04/21/23	70
225647	6723	David E. Williams	04/27/23	52 (New/Trans-In)
226577	6724	Dennis F. Catalano	05/19/23	73
226884	6727	John T. Barnaby	06/09/23	61
227090	6731	Don M. Leavy	06/30/23	63
227264	6735	Brody T. Johnson	07/28/23	9
227265	6736	Brandon A. Johnson	07/28/23	12
227266	6737	Michael R. Johnson	07/28/23	15
227267	6738	Stephen P. Johnson	07/28/23	17
227420	6740	Gregory A. Rotello	08/04/23	72

Compatriots Dennis Catalano & Alan Anderson (who joined in Sept 2022) were sworn-in and presented with their rosettes following our state SAR Eagle Scout ceremony at Putnam Park on Sunday July 2nd. The event was hosted by our Branch Secretary John Gelinas, Jr. of Redding.

All 4 Johnson brothers ages 9 to 17 were presented their new member certificates, rosettes and sworn-in as new members on August 15th at their home in Newtown.

Compatriot Greg Rotello was presented with his certificate, pinned with the SAR rosette, and sworn in at his home in Danbury on Wednesday September 13 with his mom and her care giver there to enjoy the event. It was a great time!

Note: If you are a new member and have never been sworn-in or presented with your membership rosette, please just let me know and I will see that it gets done ASAP!

Deceased
Past Branch Secretary & Treasurer Willard R. Carter died on 09/04/2023 at age 90. On behalf of the branch, I asked State President Paul Selnau to sign an SAR Memorial certificate which I sent to his daughter who still lives in Newtown.

Transferred to Florida
Past Branch President Richard G. Hubert on 09/13/23, he now living in The Villages.

Total Branch membership is now 53, which is an all-time high for the branch!

Rev Ebenezer Baldwin Branch No. 9 does have a Facebook page.

It was created by our Branch Chaplin Gordon Thompson, see link below:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/592615405841201/

Branch Activity since our last newsletter.

Apr 22 – Compatriot John Gelinas, Jr. (right photo) was recognized the SAR Certificate of Appreciation for his work on the state Eagle Scout committee these past few years, at the state annual meeting. John is an Eagle Scout and past Boy Scout District Chairman for the Scatacook District which covers the northern towns of Fairfield County.





Apr 22 – State JROTC award was presented to Cadet Matthew Guertin (above left photo) of the Danbury High School Air Force JROTC unit. Cadet Guertin received a certificate, JROTC medallion with ribbon bar, along with a monetary award of $500 from the state society.

The state runner-up was Cadet Liam Mullins of the Bethel High School Naval JROTC unit. Cadet Mullins received a medal with certificate, along with a monetary award of $100.



May 26 – Warren Elementary School Grave Marking and Memorial Day Parade

Mike Bird, who is also the President of the Wolcott branch, along with 1st Sgt. Derek Brockhoff, Fred Rivard and Peter Stothart of the Connecticut Line were at Warren Elementary School for the grave markings at the cemetery next to the school and then marched in the school sponsored Memorial Day parade event. Huzzah!

June 28 – Branch President and State Color Guard Commander Dave Perkins attended the 243rd Anniversary of the 1780 Battle of Springfield in New Jersey and placed a wreath on behalf of the Connecticut SAR and our branch. New Jersey compatriot Roger Williams and color guardsman is standing to the right in the photo.





Jul 27 – Our branch awarded the SAR Flag Certificate to the Ridgefield Rotary Club for their Fly the Colors service which they have been doing in Ridgefield for the past eight years. Fly the Colors is an annual, subscription-based service. It provides the subscriber with an installation of a flag holder, a U.S. Flag which is flown throughout six American holidays from Memorial Day to Veterans Day, along with the maintenance, pick up, and storage of the Flag. This year they put out over 600 flags. Proceeds from Fly the Colors are used to benefit area veterans and their families.

Mike Anderson is the man behind the project. In the photo, he is dressed in dark blue clothing and wearing a Rotary Club hat. Compatriot Fred Burke is the presenter standing next to Mike. The other two gentlemen work with Mike on the project.

Note: Any compatriot can present a flag certificate on behalf of the SAR. If you know someone you would like to recognize for flying a flag and present a certificate to, just let me know.

June 8 – The SAR Outstanding Citizenship certificate and lapel pin were presented to a Newtown Middle School 8th grade student at their school's moving up ceremony. This is an annual award that is given by our branch.

This is an award that any compatriot can present if you find a school that might be interested in it.

SAR American History Teacher Award for 2022-2023



Robert Buccheri who teaches history at the Carmel High School in Carmel NY was sponsored by our branch and was selected as the National winner. As the national winner Robert attend a seminar at Colonial Williamsburg this summer paid for by the National SAR.

This is the first time that the Connecticut SAR has particpated in this national contest!

I met Robert at the Battle of Ridgefield in April 2022 while serving in his unit during the battle re-enactment. After discovering that he was a history teacher, I explained the contest and Robert completed the application paperwork during the fall of 2022 and was selected as the winner in April 2023.

The contest is also run at the Middle School level, and the branch did sponsor another teacher at that level, but they were not selected as a finalist.

Robert is Rev War re-enactor and is the commander of the 5th New York Regiment.

We are looking to schedule a meeting where we can invite Rob to receive the SAR Silver Good Citizenship medal and certificate for his selection as the national winner.

For more information on this contest, see the link below:

https://www.sar.org/dr-tom-betty-lawrence-american-history-teacher-award/

SAR Annual Dues Reminder!

The dues notices for 2024 just went in the mail today, please try to have them paid by the end of November.

Should anyone have any questions about the dues just let me know, as I am the State Secretary and put together the dues notices each year.

Branch Zoom Meeting – Thursday November 2 at 7PM

I have been very derelict in getting us together for any kind of branch meeting, so I would like to have a 30-to-40-minute meeting via zoom to discuss several topics.

- Location and date for next in-person meeting.
- Congress 2025 and the CT Sons of Liberty pledge for our branch.
- Branch elections and when to schedule them.

A zoom link will be sent out to you via email later this week.

Connecticut SAR All Member Meeting – Saturday November 18

The next in-person meeting will be on Nov 18, a great opportunity to see what the SAR is all about and a chance to meet compatriots from across the state. It will be a society event, we have some national & state awards to give out and we will be discussing the 2025 National Congress at the Mohegan Sun, of which we are the host society.

Check out the state webpage for the 2025 National Congress at the link posted below:

https://ctssar.wixsite.com/ctcongress2025

Huzzah and Happy Halloween!

David J. Perkins
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