

### Presidents Remarks:

I have to start by explaining why I am standing here speaking as the new President. What many of you know is that I always said that I would not ever want to be President. I always just preferred to work behind the scenes on the nuts and bolts. Well, here I am.

Why? Well, the simple answer is that I feel that we are at an inflection point in our history. I do not mean the history of 'man', this great country, or anything too lofty. What I refer to is the lack of understanding I see, in general, for the reasons behind the Revolutionary War and all of the history associated with it including what our ancestors did to win it. Our group needs to continue the fight to make this information relevant in today's world.

With that in mind, this group has tried over the years since its founding to do things that were to make the memory of those ancestors permanently represented by remembrances in the form of statues, grave markers, books, plaques, street names, historic places preserved, and more.

Do not get me wrong, many have continued to do things along the way to reflect on what we represent and keep the society going. We must thank those compatriots that our society today is still as strong as ever. Our membership numbers have stayed relatively stable for years thanks to the efforts of Carlen Booth and his tenacity in making applications complete and accurate before they are sent to National to be confirmed. I have been an active member for many years and at times I have been distressed by the number of times that I have had to tell people that although I am a member of the Sons of the American Revolution that I am not related to John Adams—the President. Usually, that is the end of the conversation. When I digress to enlighten someone about the SAR, I feel that I have to explain the Revolution and why I would belong to such an organization that seems so difficult to become a member of.

With that in mind, I figured that the publication of our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book would be an important milestone for us to accomplish and I wanted to be an integral part of it. The book will be done with the help of Ron Barnes, who has personally taken on this project and already has put together a significant amount of material—this includes the names of all of the members of the Rhode Island society from its founding—not an easy task and never before done.

Although this publication would be a great thing to state as an achievement for a new President's remarks, there is one other item I want to mention.

I am not sure how long ago it was when I started publishing the Independent Man newsletter again. Somewhere I found the letterhead for the newsletter with Robert Allen Greene's address on it and wondered what happened to it. Today, we publish it several times a year and it is full of good information about what we are doing and what we want to communicate to our members.

I have to tell you a story about Compatriot Edgar P. Johnston, Jr., who now lives in Virginia. He just turned 100 and sent us a letter with his picture showing him celebrating his birthday with his brother. In his letter, he stated how much they both enjoy reading the Independent Man newsletter and knowing that our society is well and functioning. Think about that!

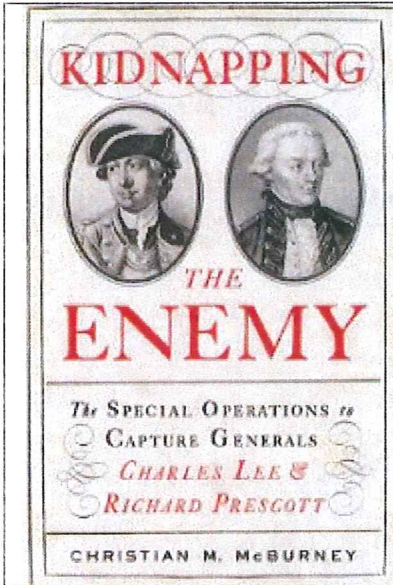
Our meetings are attended by a small number of our membership. What about the others? If they can attend and don't, they have a reason—distance, health, work, family, other plans, whatever. So, what keeps them



paying their dues and getting something back from this Society—the Independent Man newsletter. We need to continue to improve this means of communicating with our membership.

I usually allow my actions behind the scenes to be what motivates me. So, I do not want to say any more other than I will keep doing what I have always done and hope to continue to improve our Society.

**On the book shelves: Chistian M. McBurney's Kidnapping The Enemy**



During the American Revolution, the Nichols-Overing House at Prescott Farm, played host to a nationally famous event. In response to the capture of George Washington's second-in-command, Major General Charles Lee, Rhode Island's William Barton led a daring raid to capture British General Prescott from the farmhouse to offer in a prisoner exchange. Barton's successful raid was one of the outstanding special operations of the Revolutionary War, and still ranks as one of the greatest in American military history.

Christian McBurney will be giving a lecture on Kidnapping the Enemy, at the Portsmouth Free Public Library, 2658 East Main Road, Portsmouth, RI, Thursday April 3 at 6:00 PM. No event is no charge, however, space is limited, call 401-683-9457 for reservations.

**RISSAR Annual Meeting, with Rhode Island State Society Children of the American Revolution :**

Shown in the photo is John Adams, State President , Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution at the RISSAR Annual Meeting, with Rhode Island State Society Children of the American Revolution , State 2nd Vice President and RISSCAR Senior State Officers and Chairman.

RISSCAR State Conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 29, 2014  
Varnum Memorial Armory  
6 Main Street East Greenwich, RI 02818  
For further information please contact:  
Bill Weaver, RISSCAR Senior State Treasurer  
bwricar@cox.net 401 377-0047



**Your State Registrar Carlen Booth reports the following:**

Skip Taylor (William Watson Taylor, Jr.) will be elected the new Governor of the RI Society of Mayflower Descendants at their annual meeting on March 19. Skip is a descendant of Governor Edward Winslow.

David Bancroft Butler, North Kingstown, RI, admitted January 29, 2014, national number 189941, state number 1787. David is descended from Ebenezer Gore, 1747-1791, Roxbury, MA - Capt. 1st Co, 1st Suffolk Rgt MA Militia.

**Supplementary application:**

Timothy Curtis Yuhas, San Diego, CA, approved January 3, 2014, national number 188822, state number 1786. Timothy is descended from Daniel Adams, 1750-1832, Medway & Rutland, MA - Private in the first Militia Company in Medway, MA.



**Nathanael Greene Homestead Association** – On May 17 and 18 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, the Greene Homestead will be hosting a Revolutionary War Living History encampment and reenactment on their 12 acres in Coventry.

The reenactment is called **Raid on Spell Hall, Battle for the Greene Homestead**.

The event is an open event, not sponsored by any of the reenacting umbrella organizations but based on safety regulations. The event is co-sponsored by His Majesties Own Flaming 54th Regt. of Foot and Le 13eme Regiment Bourbonnais and Lt. cmdr Dave Loda USN Ret. portraying Gen. Greene on his horse Huckleberry Finn McCool. So far units have signed up from New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire as well as units of the Rhode Island Historic Militia such as elements of the Pawtuxet Rangers, Gloucester Light Infantry and Artillery Co. of Newport.

The "battles" for the event depict a fictitious "what-if" scenario of British and Loyalist forces leaving Newport and raiding the home of Gen. Greene.

There will be book signings as well during the event by authors Janet Uhlar and Pamela Bauer Mueller and period pottery demonstration by Steinhagen pottery of Connecticut.

The event is Mat 17 & 18 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, with two battles a day, rain or shine.

Admission is \$6 adults, \$4 children/seniors/active military

Volunteers to help run this event and to volunteer in general at the Homestead are urged to contact [nathanelgreenehmst@gmail.com](mailto:nathanelgreenehmst@gmail.com).

#### **Upcoming SAR events:**

NEDC: March 29

RISSCAR State Conference: March 29

Board of Managers: April 5, July 12, October 4, January 3, 2015

RISSAR Spring Meeting: April 26

Flag Day Luncheon: June 14

Cooke House: September 29

Veteran's Day: November 9

Christmas Party: December 13



#### **Kentish Guards March Towards Lexington:**

On Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm the Kentish Guards will ceremonially recreate their 1775 march towards Lexington. In April of 1775 word was spreading throughout New England of the events at Lexington and Concord. On April 20<sup>th</sup> the Kentish Guards set out towards Lexington to aid the colonists, marching northward. Nathanael Greene and a few of his cousins met-up with them in Apponaug, a section of Warwick just north of East Greenwich. A witness would later write that he saw the Kentish Guards march to the north with Nathanael Greene marching noticeably among them, noticeable by his limp. When the Company reached Providence, they received word from the Governor not to leave the colony; so they marched to the border

and waited until they received word that it was all over. The event takes place at the Armory of the Kentish Guards at 1774 Armory Street, East Greenwich RI. Anyone is invited to attend this event.

**Lippitt-Olney Chapter Meeting Invitation:**

President Carlen Booth of the Lippitt-Olney Chapter No.2 of the Rhode Island Sons of the American Revolution would like to invite all Compatriots and guests to a luncheon at the Anawan Club, 13 Gorham Street, Rehoboth, MA on April 26th, 2014 at Noon. The Anawan Club was founded in the late 1890's and is beautifully situated on the shore of a large water reservoir. The building itself is quite rustic--log cabin with two fireplaces.

The meal will be \$35.00 per person and include a salad, johnny cakes, chicken in a lemon wine sauce and baked stuffed shrimp, dessert and assorted beverages. There is a maximum seating capacity of 42 people for this event so please get your reservations in early. To rsvp to this event, please forward your check to Ron Barnes and make the check payable to RISSAR, 26 Monroe Street, Warwick, RI 02888. If you have any questions about the event, please contact Carlen Booth at 401-438-8549 or by email at [cpbarri@aol.com](mailto:cpbarri@aol.com).



**Deadline for reservations is April 19, 2014.**



Please make your check payable to the **RISSAR** at \$35.00 per person and mail to:

Ronald W. Barnes  
26 Monroe Street  
Warwick, RI 02888  
Home 401-632-0976

I am enclosing \$\_\_\_\_\_ at \$35.00 per person.

Names of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_