

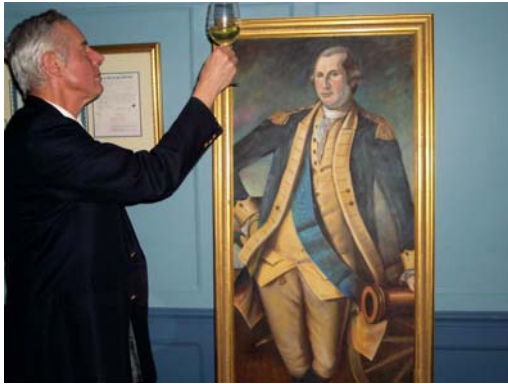


Volume 1, Number 2

54 Pearl Street * New York, New York * 10004

Fall, 2006

REPORTS & PROCEEDINGS



President of The NY Cincinnati, Thomas Pelham Curtis II Toasts George Washington

From the President

Greetings and best wishes for you and your family for the holidays.

The first ten months of my second term of office have been very busy and challenging. While I will admit that the blessed arrival of my daughter Anne, in September, may have helped delay production of this newsletter by a few weeks, I remain dedicated to serving the best interests of our Society. With the help and support of our devoted staff and board we have made great strides in improving the quality of our organization.

During this period, our members were treated to talks given by two respected historians, Barnet Schecter and Tom Fleming, at our Tallmadge Stated Meeting and our Family Stated Meeting respectively. We had an excellent honoree-speaker at our annual George Washington Ball and our Society and Museum both benefited from this financially successful evening. Our Color Guard was very active and traveled extensively, at their own expense, to participate in many events honoring events in our Revolutionary history. Our web site has been expanded to include an on-line membership application and a section devoted to the activities of our Color Guard.

Our 129th Annual George Washington's Birthday Ball was held at the St. Regis Hotel on Friday, February 24th. Our honoree was Arnold Fisher, Chairman of the Board of the Intrepid Museum Foundation. The Fisher Family

had been instrumental in saving the Intrepid and establishing its Museum. We also honored the memory of Anna Glen Vietor, a dear friend and supporter who had passed away, with a special proclamation. The evening was fun for all who attended. Although attendance by our membership was lower than in previous years, we were able to raise over \$5,000. An additional gift of \$10,000 was made directly to our Museum shortly after the event by our honoree. Please remember that this is our main fundraising event of the year; and if you unable to attend, please continue to support it by making a donation.

Among the charities Mr. Fisher has founded is the Fallen Heroes Foundation. This charity is constructing a state-of-the art advanced training skills facility to serve military personnel and veterans who have been catastrophically disabled in the performance of their duties, both combat and non-combat related. In a matter of a few short months, Mr. Fisher raised his goal of \$35 million. I am happy to report that contributions made by our members exceeded \$20,000. By honoring these fallen heroes, we also honor our own Revolutionary War ancestors.

The very next day, Saturday, February 25th, the Society was honored by the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New York at a ceremony at Fraunces Tavern. The President, Thomas Pelham Curtis II, of the New York Cincinnati presented us with a full size portrait of **George Washington at Princeton** which he painted. Mr. Curtis is a well-respected and recognized portrait artist. Many of the original founders of our Society were descendants of Washington's officers and members of the Cincinnati. An effort is being made to continue a relationship between our two societies and many of their members joined us at our Ball the previous evening. Our Membership Committee has been very busy. On April 26th, we had a prospective membership cocktail party at the Princeton Club. Over eighty members and guests attended. Since putting our application on-line, about 100 applications are in various stages of completion. Please consider taking advantage of our reduced life dues window for you or a family member. Congratulations go out to Charles Lucas, M.D., John Hilliard, and Tracy Crocker for their efforts.

Our exhibit, *If These Walls Could Talk: 54 Pearl Street*, is scheduled to continue through July 7, 2007. This exhibit is being presented to coincide with the centennial of our purchase and renovation of Fraunces Tavern. We are grateful for the generous support of Ambassador John Loeb, Arthur Loeb, and Elizabeth

From the President

continued from front page

and Stanley DeForest Scott through whom this exhibit is possible. We are continuing to raise money for the restoration of a series of Revolutionary War themed paintings by John Ward Dunsmore, which will be displayed following our current exhibit.

Restoration work has been completed on a reproduction George Washington desk, which had been in a state of disrepair for many years. This desk is made of wood from the English prison in New York City known as the Old Sugarhouse, where one of my own ancestors spent a year of his life. Funding for this project came from one of our long standing members, Ralph Sturgis O'Connor. Mr. O'Connor is the grandson of Ralph A. Sturgis, who was President of the Society from 1941 to 1944. This desk will be used by the President and will be the centerpiece for a room being reserved for workspace for our officers.

Since we were the founding State Society of the Sons of the Revolution, we have always felt camaraderie with other state societies. When we have had an opportunity to meet with other state officers, such as at the Triennial meeting in Knoxville a few short months ago, we make overtures for joint cooperation. These gestures have resulted in donations to our Museum, dual memberships with our Society, and sometimes the loan of objects. I am pleased that the Pennsylvania State Society have loaned us a small log from the Valley Forge encampment. This loan is due to the efforts of Past President Laurence Simpson, D.D.S. We are planning a few other joint events with Pennsylvania and hope this good relationship continues.

I am pleased to announce the formation of our

Advisory Council. This committee was developed to expand our presence to the community and bring expertise in areas such as museum administration, collections, and fundraising. Membership in the Sons of the Revolution is not a requirement. The new members include Malcolm Pray, John Hertzog, Rodney Hilton Brown, and Frank Price. Mr. Pray, a member of our Society, is a retired businessman and founder of the Pray Achievement Center. Mr. Hertzog, a retired Wall Street executive, is the founder of the Museum of American Finance. Mr. Brown, a member of the Pennsylvania Society, is the founder of the War Museum and has donated a number of items to our collection. Mr. Price, a member of the California Society, is the former Chairman and CEO of Columbia Pictures and active with several museums. I expect this committee to grow and diversify over the next year.

I bid you all a fond farewell as your President. It hasn't been an easy two years. I leave knowing that we are on a strong financial footing, but cognizant of the fact as we continue to manage five historic buildings extensive maintenance will be needed at some point. I regret that I will not see some projects through fruition, but am comforted in knowing that my successor, John Mauk Hilliard, has the experience and leadership qualities to carry on right away. John has been President of several societies, most notably the St. Andrew's Society. I have served on the board of several of these societies and know John to be a man of discipline and drive. John has the support of a very talented Board of Managers and I ask that you give him your support by participating in some of our activities.

*John Arthur O'Malley
jominc@ix.netcom.com*

Calendar of Events 2007

Jan. 22 - Mon.	Tallmadge Day Meeting	6:30 P.M.
Feb. 19 - Mon.	Washington's Birthday	10:00 A.M.
	Open House	4:45 P.M.
Feb. 23 - Fri.	Ball - The St. Regis	7:00 P.M.
Feb. 25 - Sun.	Annual Church Service	TBD
Apr. 23 - Mon.	Family Night Meeting	6:30 P.M.
June 14 - Thurs.	Flag Day Celebration	10:00 A.M.
	Open House	4:45 P.M.
July 4 - Wed.	Independence Day	10:00 A.M.
	Open House	4:45 P.M.



Past Presidents Daniel Coleman, Robert McKay, Terry Livingston & guest

[A Look of our 2006 Events](#)

Monday, January 23rd

A plaque is affixed to the entrance of Fraunces Tavern attesting to the fact that Fraunces Tavern is a memorial to founder Frederick Samuel Tallmadge, through whose generosity we were able to purchase the building. The annual Tallmadge Day State Meeting serves to ensure this fact is not forgotten. On this particular evening we were fortunate to have historian and author Barnet Schecter discuss the background of Benjamin Tallmadge, spymaster and witness to George Washington's sad farewell to his officers. Mr. Schecter signed copies of his recent book, **The Devil's Own Work**.

Friday, February 24th

The patriotic tunes by the Veteran Corps of Artillery Field Music filled the ballroom. The music of the Phil Bennett Orchestra hadn't sounded better. Every able man was recruited to carry one of our colorful Revolutionary War flags. Long time members who had not been to our Ball in years came. We also had many guests from the Society of the Cincinnati, who were having a meeting the next day. This year was special because we also honored Anna Glen Vietor, a long-time supporter, who had passed away at the end of the year. Accepting her award was her son David.

Seated at our dais again was Medal of Honor recipient Tom Hudner, who flew in from Boston to be with us. Our Distinguished Patriot, Arnold Fisher, gave an inspirational speech which left no doubt in anyone's mind why he received the award. The President also presented him with a check from our members to the Fallen Heroes Fund.

The report from everyone who attended was that they had a very good time. To give you some idea, we were advised early in the evening that since Mr. Fisher had just flown in from Florida to be with us and would be flying back out at 6 o'clock the next morning, he would be leaving early. He enjoyed the event so much, he stayed the whole evening. We succeeded in raising money for our Museum. Attendance by our members was lower than previous years and we strongly encourage all members to support this event.

Saturday, February 25th

At a cocktail reception at Fraunces Tavern given by the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New York, President O'Malley accepted a portrait of George Washington at Princeton. The President of the New York Cincinnati, Thomas Pelham Curtis II, gave a flowing description of Washington's farewell in our Long Room and his desire to initiate a relationship with our Society. His sentiment was reciprocated. The painting now hangs along the stairs between the McEntee Gallery and the Zabriskie Gallery.



Guests Anne Teasdale and Susan Hefti at the annual dinner.



Stewards Wade Kirby, Michael Coneys, Allen Borst and Color Guard Chairman Jonathan Ridgeway



President O'Malley and his wife Ellen finally have a moment together.

Remarks by Arnold Fisher, Chairman of The Intrepid Museum Foundation



President O'Malley, Arnold Fisher, Capt. Tom Hudner and Bill White

By Arnold Fisher, Chairman, Intrepid Museum Foundation

In 1985 at a luncheon at the Sheridan Hotel on Seventh Avenue in N.Y.C., the Medal of Honor Society honored the 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan. While sitting on the dais in front of 162 Medal of Honor recipients prior to his introduction, he noticed a great many of the recipients walking close to the dais taking pictures of him.

He remarked to them, "I should be taking your picture instead of you taking mine."

I was told by the society prior to the luncheon that they would like to present me with an award for helping the Society build the Hall of Honor.

I replied, "That's fine except I will tell you the award I would like." The President of the Society looked at me with amazement. "You are telling me what award you want?"

"Yes, the greatest gift you could give this man born in Brooklyn, New York is the honor of standing in front of this audience and saying, "Ladies and Gentlemen, the President of the United States."

He smiled and said, "Go for it."

After my introduction, President Reagan received the Society's Patriot Award and said, "There's something wrong when you receive a medal for loving this country." I feel the same way tonight.

In 1991, my uncle Zachary Fisher initiated the Fisher House program and started to build the houses for families of wounded servicemen and women so they could be close to their loved ones during the stressful times, free of charge. Since Zachary passed away, our family has built 15 more houses, including two at Landstuhl, Germany, bringing the total to 33 completed and 6 more under construction as we speak, with 10 more on the drawing board. We have these houses at active military bases and at Veteran hospitals across the country.

In 2002, a Fund was established called the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund to help families of servicemen and women who had given their lives in Afghanistan and later in Iraq. The government was giving \$6,000 to families of those killed in action. They later raised that figure to \$12,420. This fund was established to help these families by giving each surviving spouse \$11,000 plus another \$5,000 for each child. I remember signing checks to the same family five times (1 spouse and 4 children). A year ago, Congress voted to increase the benefit to \$250,000 and if the family had opted to take further insurance, they

received another \$250,000. This was retroactive to the start of the war in Afghanistan. The Fund had a decision to make ... should we end the fund or continue? The board agreed to not stop helping these families, but to change the direction. With the help of the Army Surgeon General, Lt. Gen. Kevin Kiley and Vice Chairman of the Army, General Dick Cody, we decided to build a state of the world Physical Rehabilitation Center at Brook Army Medical Center. The facility will be called The Center for the Intrepid, a 65,000 sq. ft. facility with the most advanced rehab equipment in the world.

Whether you are for the war against terrorism in Iraq or not, let us not forget the men and women of our military. They are doing the job we asked them to do and they are doing it better than ever. You know ... the ratio killed in action to those wounded prior to Afghanistan ... was 1 killed to 3 wounded. It is now 1 killed to 7 wounded. This is due to new body armor, and the achievements made in medical care in the field. But even with these advancements, more head, leg and arm injuries occur, and a rehabilitation center is a necessity for the wounded servicemen and women. In addition to the center, we are also constructing two 21 room Fisher Houses so the families of these catastrophic wounded will be close to their loved ones while they undergo treatment, rehabilitation and training.

Many people have asked why the building of this facility is not the responsibility of the government – the answer is twofold. First, the government is our partner. They have proffered 5 acres of land to us and when the Center is complete, the government (active military and the Veterans Administration) will operate and maintain the facility. We have not and will not ask, or take government money, because this is the American citizens' gift to our servicemen and women. We have received contributions from over 28,000 Americans - \$10 from a woman on welfare to millions by wealthy Americans. It is to show our troops that we, the American people, care, respect and honor their service and their sacrifices.

We are currently constructing the fourth floor of the Center and framing for the 2 Fisher Houses. The total cost of this undertaking is \$45 million. We have received \$43 million to date and expect to reach our goal within the next few weeks. The Center will open January 17, 2007.

So may I end by saying, "Stay safe America, and may God bless our Troops, and may God bless all Americans everywhere."

[A Look of our 2006 Events](#) *continued*

Sunday, February 26th

A strong turnout by our Color Guard attended services at the Church of the Incarnation, 37th and Madison, to honor the memory of our members who passed away in the last year. Color Guards from West Point and the Veteran Corps of Artillery served as honor guards. A reception was held afterwards.

Monday, April 24th

Our annual Family Stated Meeting is usually one of our most popular meetings. This year was no different. We were fortunate to have noted historian, Tom Fleming, speak. He was also the winner of our 2006 Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award, which was presented that evening. He spoke about little known facts concerning Valley Forge and answered many questions from our audience about his book, **Washington's Secret War The Hidden History of Valley Forge**.

Wednesday, April 26th

In an effort to attract members and prospective members who may find it inconvenient to travel down to Fraunces Tavern for an event, we held a prospective member cocktail party at the Princeton Club. We had over 125 in attendance, many of whom were prospective members. A slide show was given on how to complete our new on-line application. Much of the credit for the events success was due to the efforts of Chairmen Charles Lucas, M.D. and John Hilliard for both planning the event and getting so many to come.

Wednesday, June 14th

Flag Day is the day that our Society, in cooperation with the Mayor's Office and the Downtown-Lower Manhattan Association, celebrate and promote patriotism. Although we were without the services of our Chairman, Peter Nemiroff, John Hilliard did a masterful job as master of ceremonies. Perhaps due to the good weather, more participants than usual paraded their flags from City Hall to

Fraunces Tavern. We had more than one bag pipe bands. The two student essay winners read their very inspirational papers. We were again entertained by the USO Troop of New York and Mrs. Debra Shull's rendition of "God Bless America." Afterward, all the participants were treated to lunch. This event could not be a success without the hard work of our staff, Margaret O'Shaughnessy and Ceceila Mahnken.

Thursday, June 22nd

Our Society co-sponsored a cocktail reception at the Mount Vernon Hotel and Garden on East 61st to raise funds for the 400th Anniversary of the founding of Jamestowne. Over 150 people attended, many of whom were prospective members of our Society.

Friday, September 22nd

We had a large contingent of Color Guard members participate in our annual wreath laying ceremony at City Hall in honor of Nathan Hale Day. They were joined by the Color Guard of the Veteran Corps of Artillery. After a few remarks by our President, a Proclamation from Mayor Bloomberg declaring this day as Nathan Hale Day was read. The event was capped by a poem read by school-children from Queens.

Thursday, September 28th to Sunday October 1st

Ten representatives from our Society attended a Triennial Meeting of the General Society in Knoxville, Tennessee. The purpose of this meeting was to share information and ideas with the other state societies. Past President Kevin Hansley was appointed Vice President of the Northeast Area. Our Society offered to host the 2012 Meeting.

Monday, November 20th

This is the evening we celebrate the British evacuation from New York City. One hundred guests joined us for our Evacuation Day Dinner. The guest speaker was Eric Peter Axelson, who wrote a recent cover article in **American History** magazine on Evacuation Day. Thirteen traditional toasts are made through the course of the evening which made the event very entertaining.



**The Society would like to thank the following members
through whose generosity made our George Washington Ball such a success.**

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Richard W. Sage, 1st Vice President Alan W. Borst, Jr., Secretary
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Frank Price	Rev. William A. Purdy	Nicolas Quintana
MG David J. Ramsay	John Ramsdell, M.D.	Louis Snell
	Steven Trusnovec	

The Society would like to thank the following members who contributed to the Fallen Heroes Fund

Edward Franklin Romig II	R. Rennie Atterbury III	Gregory D. Chambers
Bromme H. Cole	Wallace H. Cox	E. Gray Currier
Rev. Dr. Edmund Fisher	Todd G. Fitch	Joe Grills
Raymond A. Irwin	G. Lynton Kaufman	Stewart R. Kester
Barton T. Lewis	Lt. Col. Arthur Newton U.S.A.	Martinus H. Nickerson
John A. O'Malley	Frederick A. Parker, Jr.	George K. Pond II
Louis W. Snell	John L. Teague	Reynal de St. M. Thebaud
Peter S.A. Trundle	Steven Trusnovec	Donald Westervelt

New Members Elected in 2006

Edward Nicholas Brown	Ancestor-Nicholas Brown
Bromme Hampton Cole	Ancestor-Johannes van Etten
Tracy Ashley Crocker	Ancestor-Lemuel Snow
Barry Christopher Howard	Ancestor-Nehemiah Howard
Nicholas I. Quintana	Ancestor-Abner Graves
Sumner Anderson	Ancestor-Caleb Nash
Paul Kenneth Hartje	Ancestor-John Hinton, Jr.
Christopher M. Norfleet	Ancestor-Andrew Lewis
Wesley M. Oler IV	Ancestor-Lemuel Clark(e)
Edwin David Robinson	Ancestor-Thomas Towles
Brian Edward Gill	Ancestor-Isaiah Burdick
Donald Lewis Shiro	Ancestor-Joseph Janis
Terrell Lee Boyes	Ancestor-Thomas Boyes
Stephen P. Foley	Ancestor-Roger Sherman
James Letton Hilliard	Ancestor-John Nelson
William Kent Hilliard	Ancestor-John Nelson
Thomas D. Reed	Ancestor-Warfield Hayward
Thomas Allen Richards	Ancestor-Seth Bullard
Brent Andrew Sims	Ancestor-Matias Felter
Donald Liddell Twiss	Ancestor-William Stewart
Charles Collin Hilliard	Ancestor-John Nelson
William Lee Hilliard	Ancestor-John Nelson

Junior Members Transferred to Senior Membership

David Warner Clarke, Jr.	Ancestor-Caleb Smith
John Philip Coombe	Ancestor-Timothy Corwin
Tyler Yewell Grant	Ancestor-James Grant
Joseph Anthony Iatauro, Jr.	Ancestor-Timothy Corwin
Duncan Rath Kopp	Ancestor-George Stearns
Jason Robert Olver	Ancestor-Thomas Sampson
William Chapman Page	Ancestor-William Roberts
Edward Stanley Romig	Ancestor-John Frederick Romig, Jr.
Winchester Logan Stuart	Ancestor-John Stuart

New Junior Members

Gregory Grant Hausheer	Ancestor-Peter Slater
Alexander John Moazed	Ancestor-John Schell II
Henry Fielding Elser	Ancestor-Christopher Loving, Sr.
Peter Charles Hein, Jr.	Ancestor-Aaron Powell
Nicholas Zachary Trusnovec	Ancestor-John Buchingham
John Arthur Elcock O'Malley	Ancestor-Anthony Maxwell

New Dual Members

Stephen Arbogast (MA)	Ancestor-Moses Kirkpatrick
Harlan Wetmore Johnson (PA)	Ancestor-Seth Oak
John F. Newman (NJ)	Ancestor-Joseph Beavers

Deceased Members in 2006

Dr. Paul Adams	E. Butler Moulton, Jr.
Irving R. Boody, Jr.	Richard Wallace Murrin
Sheffield Bunker	Ralph F. Peters
Arthur T. Ellsworth	Theodore F. Talmadge
Frederick B. Gleason III	Benjamin Trammell
Hon. Francis Kellogg	Thornton W. Willett
Roger I. Lengel	Howard W. Wiseman

Committee Notes

Our most active group is our **Color Guard**, which represents our Society at public events by carrying Revolutionary War battle flags from our extensive collection. Beside their already busy schedule, some of our members traveled to Virginia in October to participate in the 225th Anniversary of the British surrender at Yorktown. We were also represented at the opening ceremony of the National Purple Heart Memorial at the New Windsor Cantonment in Newburgh, N.Y. Our Christmas Dinner, a Society tradition which had been missing for several years, will be held for the second season in a row following our December Board Meeting. If you would like to join the Color Guard or attend any of its events, please contact our Chairman Jonathan Ridgeway at jonathanridgeway@aol.com. Information and photos are available on our web site.

The **Membership Committee** is continuing to make its best efforts to develop an interest for prospective members, get applications completed on a timely basis, and get new application approved. With the assistance of Tracy Crocker, our application is now available on-line or by request to Tracy. His email is smy1776@earthlink.net.

We have had several Prospective Member receptions and have made a conscious effort to cooperate and participate with other genealogical societies that may be a source for new members. We want to remind everyone that we have a reduced life membership which may not be available for long.



Maitte Montes-Bradley, Florida SR President Saul Montes-Bradley and Cornwell Martin.

Feedback

REPORTS AND PROCEEDINGS

A Publication of the Society written, edited and produced by

JOHN A. O'MALLEY
JEFFREY PIPES GUICE

Please let us know what you think of this newsletter. If you would like to see this continue, consider sending a tax-deductible contribution to the Society's "Publication Fund."

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Official Four-in-Hand Necktie	\$ 15.00
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