



The Patriot

Latest News from Fraunces Tavern® Museum & Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York

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SRNY Names Commander Wong 2012 Distinguished Patriot of the Year

By: Anthony Wellman

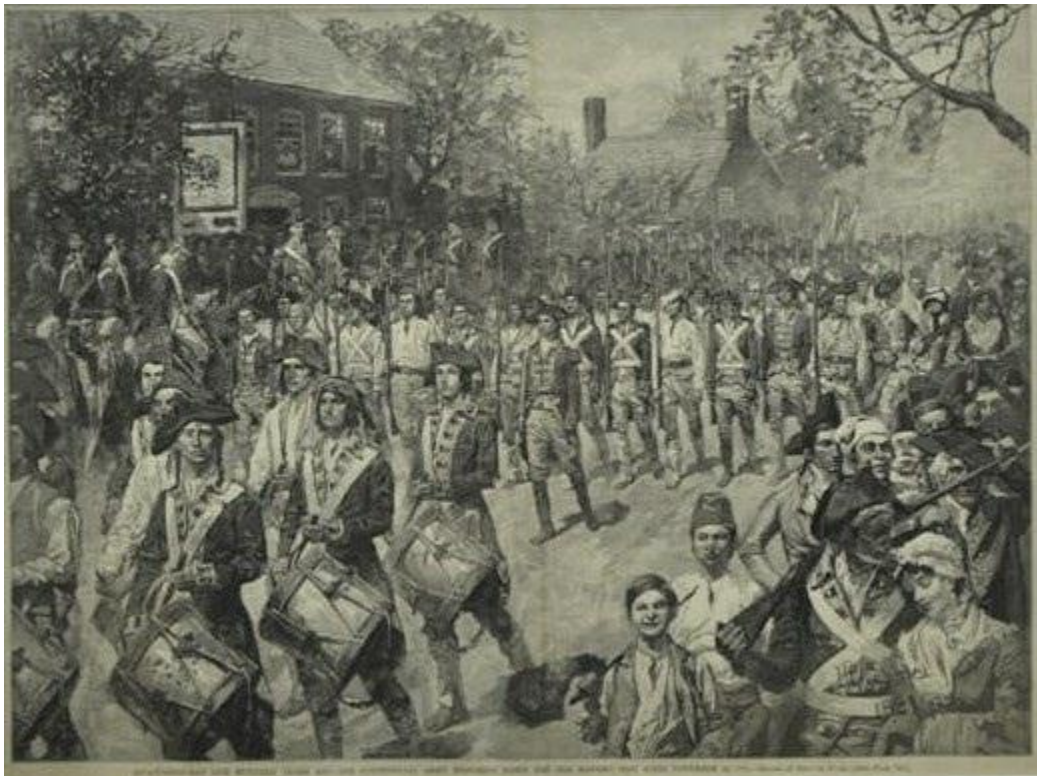


Fang A. Wong
Photo courtesy of American Legion

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York is pleased to announce that the recipient of its 2012 Distinguished Patriot Award is Fang A. Wong, National Commander of the American Legion. Born in China, a naturalized American citizen, his is an inspiring story of a first class American Patriot. He will be honored with the award at the Society's annual George Washington Birthday Ball this coming February 16 in New York City. Mark your calendar now--this will be a stellar evening.

If you are not already on the Ball invitation mailing list and wish to be included please contact the Sons office administrator at 212-425-1776, extension 10 or by email: 2Administrator@sonsoftherevolution.org.

Evacuation Day to be Celebrated at Fraunces Tavern!



Evacuation Day 100 Years Ago... By Howard Pyle from the Fraunces Tavern Museum Collection. Depiction of the Continental Army marching down the Old Bowery on Evacuation Day in 1783. Washington and his men observe (from the left side) as the army marches forward.

On November 25, 1783, the British Army left New York after occupying the city for seven years. General George Washington's re-entry into New York on Evacuation Day was planned carefully. This was the first time he and the Continental Army would set foot in the city since their retreat seven years prior. Homes, churches, places of business and streets were rundown as a result of isolation caused by military occupation. However, spirits were high among the Patriots whose city was being liberated. As the well-dressed British military evacuated New

York, the American army marched in. The contrast between the two armies was startling. One eye-witness described his reaction to the stark difference:

The troops just leaving us were as if equipped for show and with their scarlet uniforms and burnished arms, made a brilliant display. The troops that marched in, on the contrary, were ill-clad and weather-beaten, and made a forlorn appearance. But then, they were our troops, and as I looked at them, and thought upon all they had done for us, my heart and eyes were full, and I admired and gloried in them more because they were weather beaten and forlorn.

That night the first American-born Governor of New York, George Clinton, honored George Washington, the Commander-in-Chief, with a banquet held in Fraunces Tavern. At that dinner in 1783, thirteen toasts were offered:

1. The Untied States of America
2. His Most Christian Majesty
3. The United Netherlands
4. The King of Sweden
5. The American Army
6. The Fleet and Armies of France, which have served in American
7. The memory of those Heroes who have fallen for our freedom
8. May our county be grateful to her Military children
9. May justice support what courage has gained
10. The Vindicators of the rights of mankind in every quarter of the globe
11. May America be an asylum to the persecuted of the earth
12. May a close union of the States guard the Temple they have erected to liberty
13. May the remembrance of this Day be a lesson to Princes

The thirteen toasts will be offered once again at the dinner on November 21st hosted by he Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York at Fraunces Tavern® Restaurant commemorating the 228th Anniversary of Evacuation Day.

The Evacuation Day Dinner is sold out. We regret we cannot accept any more reservations

SRNY Announcements:

GEORGE WASHINGTON BALL - SAVE THE DATE - The annual George Washington Ball will be held on Thursday, February 16th, 2012 at The Metropolitan Club in New York City. The Knickerbocker Chapter, NSDAR will again join us in sponsoring this event. We are pleased to announce that our Distinguished Patriot for 2012 will be Commander Fang A. Wong, National Commander of the American Legion.



Museum News

Dunsmore Paintings to be featured in New Jersey Exhibition

By: Jessica Baldwin, Museum Director

The Jacobus Vanderveer House is a non-profit operating in Bedminster New Jersey since 1998. Their mission is to restore, develop and operate the Vanderveer House property, significant in United States military history, as a nationally important historic site and an educational and community resource. What does this have to do with Fraunces Tavern Museum?

Jacobus Vanderveer Jr. was a wealthy Dutch miller. He built a small Gregorian style farmhouse just west of the North Branch of the Raritan River on the northern outskirts of Pluckemin, NJ. In 1778, Vanderveer and his wife, Maria, lent their home to General Henry Knox. At the time General Knox was to command a new artillery encampment and training academy being established by the Continental Army on a hillside above the village of Pluckemin. General Knox, along with his wife, Lucy, and family, occupied the house from the winter of 1778 through the summer of 1779.

The Vanderveer House is now the only remaining building from that chapter in Bedminster history, as the artillery park and its academy - a forerunner of West Point - no longer stand. Both sites are listed on the state and national [Register of Historic Places](#). The Museum interprets three important themes: Vanderveer family, Dutch Colonial life in America, and the Revolutionary

War Period, including General Knox's time spent in Pluckemin. The Museum currently provides scheduled school group tours and looks forward to weekly regularly hours of operation.



In order to help raise funds to allow for regular business hours the Vanderveer House will open its wreath-clad doors for the ninth annual Colonial Christmas show house and tour. This annual fundraising event will be held on Thursday - Sunday, December 1-4, 2011, with a Special Preview - November 30th, 2011.



The Jacobus Vanderveer House Colonial Christmas 2011

The three day fundraising event will feature twelve works by John Ward Dunsmore from the Fraunces Tavern Museum collection. Among the paintings loaned for this unique event are the "Portrait of General Knox" and "The Battle of Princeton 1777." In order to show their gratitude for the loaning generosity of the FTM & SRNY, The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House raised the funds to pay for the full conservation of the J. W. Dunsmore painting, "Portrait of George Washington."

To learn more about The Jacobus Vanderveer House Colonial Christmas click [HERE!](#)

Evening Lecture Series

18 Pence

The Story Behind a Piece of Colonial Currency*

Presented by Gordon Bond†

Wednesday, November 16th

*Please note this event is in place of John Ferling's previously scheduled talk "Independence: The Struggle To Set America Free"

What do Pontiac's Rebellion, colonial economic policy, New Jersey's delegate to the Continental Congress, someone mistakenly remembered as a Tory, a sage leaf, and New Jersey's first printer all have in common? Find out when historian Gordon Bond, who spoke at Fraunces Tavern Museum last March, presents "18 Pence," a talk that will explore the fascinating and surprising story that a piece of colonial paper money has to tell.

Cost: \$10 / Free for Members – includes light refreshments and access to all Museum spaces

† Books available for purchase

Reservations available for Members Only – Please contact curator@frauncestavernmuseum.org for more information.

Special Thanksgiving Week Event

Second Annual Evacuation Day Walking Tour

Friday, November 25th

11am – 12:30pm

New York City had been the main base for the British for over seven years of war. On November 25th, 1783, they filed onto their ships to leave for good; the War for Independence was finally over. Led by licensed New York City Tour Guide, Fred Cookinham, you will follow in the footsteps of General Washington & his troops as they entered New York in triumph. Picture Fraunces Tavern and the surrounding neighborhood as it looked over 200 years ago. See where

the Liberty Boys challenged the Redcoats on their own parade ground. Learn about the people of New York & what it was like for them to be caught up in a revolution. Which side would you have chosen to be on?

After the success of last year's tour, we are very excited to have this join our list of annual events! Attendees from last year said that the tour was filled with incredible amounts of trivia. Many complimented Fred in the way he put all of his information together, allowing one to wipe away the Manhattan we know today and visualize how it was in the past. We hope you make this walking tour an annual tradition for your family as well!

\$20 Regular Admission / \$15 Museum Members

Advanced tickets are required & may be purchased through the [Museum website](#). Once your tickets have been purchased, you will be emailed a confirmation receipt & the starting location of the tour.

Please Note: Ticket Sales Close at 4pm on Wednesday, November 23rd

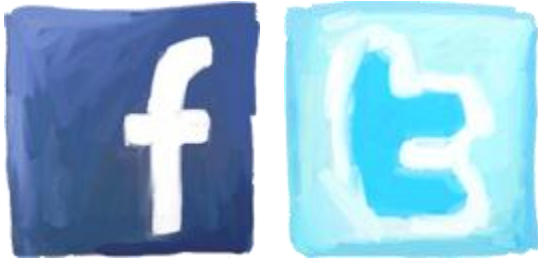
Comment Book Quotes of the Month



Over 100 comments were written in the month of October. Here are two you might enjoy:

10/2/2011 "FAB tour with Ms. Marino! Loved it! - Laura Tahir

10/21/2011 "I was here in 4th grade in 1955 and I recall the significant impression the school field trip has on me. (PS 24 Queens) Now, in 2011, age 64, I continue to be thoroughly awestruck and appreciate the devotion of the preservationist." -Judy Signorelli



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