

The Patriot



Latest News from the [Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York](#)

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SRNY President Dr. Charles C. Lucas, Jr. MD congratulates this year's George Washington Distinguished Patriot honorees Mrs. Victoria Hughes (top left) and Amb. G. Philip Hughes (top center) at the annual George Washington Birthday Ball. Mrs. Vickie Mazza (top right) was honored with the DAR Knickerbocker Chapter Patriot Award by the Chapter's Regent, Susan J. Coxe (also pictured). Guests enjoyed dinner at the Metropolitan Club (center). The U.S. Military Academy's Colorguard from West Point presented the National Colors as Mrs. Deborah Thomas Shull sang the National Anthem (bottom). Photos by Convention Photography:

<http://www.conventionphotography.com/nysrweb/>.

SRNY Marks Washington's Birthday with Ball, Distinguished Patriot Honors

The 132nd Annual George Washington Ball was held Thursday the 19th of February at the Metropolitan Club in New York City. The Ball, held every year in honor of the birthday of George Washington, was co-sponsored by the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York and the Knickerbocker Chapter, National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. Photos of the event are available for purchase and can be found at Convention Photography's website by clicking [here](#). A link to the website can also be found at <http://www.sonsoftherevolution.org/Reports.html>.

This year marks the first time the Ball was held at the Metropolitan Club in Manhattan. The beautiful Renaissance Revival building was constructed in 1893 at the request of banker Pierpont Morgan as a social club. Today, it is a New York City Landmark.

Following an enjoyable cocktail hour in the club's main hall, guests were led into the elegant ballroom for dinner, dancing and ceremonial events. SRNY was honored that members of the U.S. Military Academy Color Guard from West Point were present to post the National Colors. After the posting of the Sons of the Revolution Colors by the SRNY Color Guard and the Knickerbocker Grays, and a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem sung by Mrs. Deborah Thomas Shull, past SRNY President John Mauk Hilliard delivered a moving toast to the President of the United States. Other toasts included that to the U.S. Armed Forces given by LTC David Menegon and one to George Washington delivered by Ambassador John L. Loeb, Jr.

The honored guests of the evening were Ambassador G. Philip Hughes, Mrs. Victoria Hughes and Mrs. Vickie Mazza. Ambassador and Mrs. Hughes were honored with the SRNY's annual George Washington Distinguished Patriot Award which is presented to individuals who have shown exemplary service to their country. Amb. Hughes has served in several senior U.S. foreign policy posts in the White House and Departments of State, Commerce and Defense. He currently works as a Senior Associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Mrs. Hughes is the President of the Bill of Rights Institute, an organization dedicated to developing educational material for high school teachers and students on America's founding documents. Mrs. Mazza, who has dedicated her life to community service through the YMCA and the USO, was the recipient of the DAR Knickerbocker Chapter Patriot Award.

SRNY Annual Church Service Honors Memory of Those Lost

The 119th Annual Church Service was held Sunday, February 22 at Fordham University Church. The Service commemorates the birth of George Washington and is held in memory of those SRNY members we lost in the past year. It was tied in with the 11:00 AM mass at Fordham University Church and was officiated by Rev. Christopher M. Cullen, SRNY's Chaplain. This is the first time SRNY has held the commemorative service at Fordham's university chapel. John D. Bowman is the Chairman of the Committee on Church Service which made this annual day of remembrance possible.

The following were honored in loving memory during the service:

The Rev. Stephen Dibble
H. Fraser Gurley, Jr.
Donald Henderson
Dr. Paul Homan

Steward R. Kester
Henry H. Livingston, Jr.
James R. Henry
Gale Thomas Howe-Cornwell

In Memoriam: Ralph Boschen Stever, Sr. February 28, 1921-February 26, 2009

Ralph B. Stever, Sr., General President Emeritus of the Sons of the Revolution and member of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York, passed away on February 26, 2009. He served his country during World War II as a radio operator for the U.S. Army based in Kodiak, AK. After returning home, Ralph established Kings Highway American Legion Post #1358 in honor of his fellow soldiers serving in the Armed Forces. He was also a past Commander of the American Legion, and achieved life membership.

His children wrote in the Times Herald-Record on March 1 that "Ralph always had an abiding love for his country and took great pride in regard to his connection, through genealogy, to past family members who served the cause of freedom in Washington's army during our country's struggle for independence from Britain. Interest in keeping these ideas alive along with a strong love of country led him to seek membership in an organization dedicated to these same principles. The Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York introduced him to kindred spirits that shared and expressed his own patriotic values. He rose in stature from his initial membership to Captain of the Color Guard for the State of New York in 1957 and '58 and through various other leadership positions and eventually achieved the highest ranking conferred as National General Society President of the Sons of the Revolution for a period of three years and Honorary General President for Life. This was the culmination of a lifetime of service to an organization that brought much satisfaction and recognized achievement to a man highly regarded by his peers. It is not unfitting to say that he had no equal outside the pantheon of founding fathers in regard to his commitment and dedication to the cause of freedom and constitutional integrity as represented and embodied in the ideals expressed by the General Society of the Sons of the Revolution."

A funeral service was held on March 4 at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Pearl River, NY.

March Book Talk:

One Nation Under Debt: Hamilton, Jefferson and the History of What We Owe

Fraunces Tavern Museum's 2009 Lecture Series continues with a historic topic that still concerns us today.

With his new book *One Nation Under Debt: Hamilton, Jefferson and the History of What We Owe*, economic historian Dr. Robert Wright, PhD. explores the untold history of America's first national debt, which arose from the immense sums needed to conduct the American Revolution. In a riveting narrative, Wright brings to life the key events that shaped the U.S. financial system and explains how the actions of our forefathers laid the groundwork for the debt we still carry today.

The event will be held **Thursday, March 26th, 2009 at 6:30pm** in the Flag Gallery. Tickets are \$6 (members are free) and there will be a wine and cheese reception to follow.

For a list of all of our Spring 2009 events, please visit:

http://www.frauncestavernmuseum.org/mus_cal.html

Current and Upcoming Exhibits at Fraunces Tavern Museum

Proudly participating in the 400th Anniversary of the Dutch Foundation of Manhattan, Fraunces Tavern Museum will continue hosting two special exhibits in the month of March. "New York Waterways," on special loan from the Salmangundi Art Club, will continue until March 20.

On March 16 through March 20, the museum will be proud to host *History Panorama*. This exhibit will take place in the Flag Gallery and will feature images depicting colonial life in Dutch Manhattan. Topics will cover the beginning of commerce between New Amsterdam and Europe, the acquisition of Manhattan by the Dutch, the development of canals in the city under Dutch rule and Dutch influence on horticulture and local trade.

For more information, please contact ExecutiveDirector@SonsoftheRevolution.org.

Special New Benefit for Current Fraunces Tavern Museum Members!!

Fraunces Tavern Museum is pleased to announce its new partnership with the [New York City Police Museum](#). Members of our museum now have the benefit of free admission and a 10% gift shop discount at the New York City Police Museum when you present your FTM Membership Card. We are excited about this new partnership and encourage all of our members to take advantage of visiting our fellow Lower Manhattan museum!

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