

The Patriot



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

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Left: Members of SRNY present Revolutionary War flags from their collection in front of City Hall. **Right:** The Peace Chorus of PS 164Q and students from PS 124 lend their voices to the Nathan Hale ceremony. Photos by Lynne Rideway

Colorful Ceremonies Honor Revolutionary War Hero Nathan Hale

Nathan Hale, that brave young school teacher and army captain who volunteered as a spy for George Washington and paid for it with his life when he was captured by the British, was honored with ceremonies at New York City Hall Park on Wednesday, September 22—the very day that Captain Hale was hanged by the British in Manhattan in 1776. His reputed last words, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country" were an inspiration throughout the colonies as well as to the beleaguered citizens of New York City, which had only days earlier been occupied by the British.

The ceremonies took place at the foot of City Hall steps near the statue of Nathan Hale. Featured was a program of participants as diverse as New York City itself, including The Mayor's Proclamation read by Manhattan Borough Parks Commissioner William T. Castro, The Peace Chorus of PS 164Q (pictured above) and readings from the students of PS 124.

The Color Guard of The Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York presented some of their historic Revolutionary War flags and The Veteran Corps of Artillery, State of New York provided its historic Field Music. Representatives from the Nathan Hale Homestead of Coventry, Connecticut also participated. A wreath was laid at the foot of the Nathan Hale statue which was a gift dedicated to the City from the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York in 1893.

The 13-foot bronze statue of Hale directly faces City Hall and captures the 21-year-old patriot's final moments.

(**Right:** SRNY Color Guard Chairman Jonathan Ridgeway stands next to a ceremonial wreath placed at the foot of the Nathan Hale statue in City Hall Park. Photo by Lynne Ridgeway.)





Left to right: Fraunces Tavern Museum Curator Suzanne Prabucki, Dr. David G. Martin: author of *The Molly Pitcher Sourcebook*, and Drumthwacket Foundation Trustee Jim Cline stand in front *Molly Pitcher at the Battle of Monmouth* at the New Jersey Governor's mansion.
Photo by Beverly Mills

Molly Pitcher on Display at New Jersey Governor's Mansion

On Sunday September 26th, Fraunces Tavern Museum was recognized during a ceremony at Drumthwacket, the historic Princeton mansion which serves as the official residence for New Jersey governors. [The Drumthwacket Foundation](#) is currently borrowing one of Fraunces Tavern Museum's most notable paintings, *Molly Pitcher at the Battle of Monmouth*.

The 1854 oil painting by Dennis Malone Carter depicts Mary Hays, better known to history as "Molly Pitcher," as she comes to the aid of the Continental Army after her husband was seriously wounded in the Battle of Monmouth. Hays was later presented to General George Washington who commended her for her heroic efforts. She and a number of other American women collectively came to be known as "Molly Pitcher": a symbol of women's contributions to the Patriot cause during the war.

The Drumthwacket mansion was built in 1835 upon the same land where the Battle of Princeton (1777) was fought during the Revolution. Its staff serves to educate its visitors, including hundreds of schoolchildren, about the history of New Jersey.

The staff of Fraunces Tavern Museum is delighted to assist Drumthwacket in educating visitors about New Jersey's role in the American Revolution, specifically the Battle of Monmouth. Through loans such as this, we are able to expand our outreach and assist other historic institutions in their educational missions.



From Left to Right: Jack Moffly, Charles Lucas, Jeff Thompson, Gordon Thompson, Matt, Mildenberg, Loren Mead, Chris Martin, Jim Grayshaw, Susan Grayshaw at La Alegria Polo Match on September 12.

Photo Courtesy of Jim Grayshaw

SRNY Scores Fashion Points and Good Time at Polo Match SR Member Fred Baker Reports...

On Sunday September 12, 22 SR members including President Charles Lucas, 1st Vice President Jim Grayshaw and guests ate, drank and watched 2 hours of major league polo as La Alegria defeated Heathcote 8-6 in Greenwich, CT. One of the guests was an experienced polo player and provided the group with details on the finer points of the game which added to our understanding and appreciation of the sport. We were fortunate to have also in attendance two prospective members.

During the match, the announcer singled out the SR group as the "best dressed". After awards were handed out to the polo teams, we asked for an award but alas, were told all the awards had been dispensed!

Two October Lectures!

Fatal Journey: Henry Hudson's Final Expedition †

Presented by Peter Mancall

Thursday October 14th at 6:30pm at Fraunces Tavern Museum

After a year of celebrating the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's European discovery of New York, 2010 finds us remembering another one of his journeys – his final voyage. In April of 1610, Hudson set sail on the Discovery with a crew of 22 on his 4th expedition in search of a shorter route to the Far East. Rather than return to England as winter approached, Hudson set anchor in the bay named for him and the Discovery became stuck in ice for seven months. With their provisions dwindling, the crew finally mutinied in the spring, forcing Hudson, his son, and seven other sailors in a skiff to float in the bay, & headed home to England. This tragic story of adventure & desperation reveals that the resolute will which served Hudson so well in exploration also led to his demise.

Indian Slavery in Colonial America †

Presented by Alan Gallay

Thursday, October 28th at 6:30pm at Fraunces Tavern Museum

European enslavement of American Indians began with Columbus' arrival in the New World. As the slave trade expanded with European colonies, and though African slave labor filled many needs, huge numbers of America's indigenous peoples continued to be captured and forced into slavery. Although central to the process of colony-building in what became the United States, this phenomena has received scant attention from historians. Gallay, along with other contributors, examines the complicated dynamics of Indian enslavement such as the fact that natives became both slaves and willing suppliers of slavery's victims to the Europeans.

\$8 admission at the door only-first come, first serve. (Museum members are admitted free of charge). Light refreshments will be available before and after the lecture.

†Books will be available for purchase -discounts apply for Museum members

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