

New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution

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Historian and Cartographer Adam Zielinski to Speak at NJSSAR Annual Luncheon October 26, 2024

Adam E. Zielinski, author, historian, cartographer and American Battlefield Trust Fellow will be presenting on the Events of December 1776 at Petticoat Bridge and Ironworks Hill in Burlington County. These actions were significant in Washington's Crossing of the Delaware and what would become the "Ten Crucial Days" of the American Revolution. Mr. Zielinski has also been very instrumental in the marking and commemoration of the sites and will display the work that he has done.



Adam is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University. He has served as researcher and writer on various projects with the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia and the American Battlefield Trust.

Mr. Zielinski has given lectures at universities and historical festivals in our area, and has worked with state elected officials on numerous projects in Mount Holly. He's been published with the Journal of the American Revolution. He is also a cartographer, a collector of colonial documents, and a proud bibliophile with a private library of 2,000 volumes. In his free time, he plays drums, roots for Philly sports, and enjoys surfing on Long Beach Island. He is a member of the South Jersey Chapter, NJSSAR and his wife, Betsy, is a K-4 school librarian and a history enthusiast (and a future DAR member once she gets the paperwork submitted).

Please don't miss this opportunity. Come out and join us on October 26, 2024 at 12 pm at the Princeton Marriott to listen to this interesting speaker and learn about the Petticoat Bridge and Ironworks Hill Event.

The National Society Sons of the American Revolution was founded in 1889 and is headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky. The SAR is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education to our future generations. SAR members volunteer untold hours of service each year in their local communities. SAR is very active in assisting veterans. We proudly assist teachers with living history interpreters, lesson planning materials and reenactment events for school aged youth to attend.

NJSSAR President's Message

Robert C Meyer- State President



Compatriots, it gives me great pleasure to inform you the SAR President General will be attending our October 26th meeting in Princeton. This will be the second year in a row the President General has attended our meeting. What's more, the New York Society SAR will be present and we will be sharing the meeting with them. I, unfortunately, will be unable to make the meeting due to a prior commitment. A few things to note about the upcoming NJSSAR meeting:

- The location of the meeting is the Princeton Marriott at Forrestal, 100 College Road East, Princeton N.J.
- The new line of officers will be present at the meeting and you will have a chance to see and speak to the new officers in advance of their installation at the February 2025 meeting.
- The Board of Managers meeting starts at 10:00 a.m., the luncheon at 12 noon.
- Our Women's Auxiliary has a meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the lobby of the hotel, the Womens Auxilliary President is Carolyn Kircher and she does a fantastic job.

It's been a very busy year. I recently attended the July Congress in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. It was a wonderful time and New Jersey was issued many awards. You will see and hear about our presence at Congress and the awards we received during the meeting on October 26th. In addition I attended the Fall Leadership Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky from October 3rd through the 6th. Speaking of Leadership meetings, they occur in the spring and fall and they are the most important part of our National Society's projects. During these meetings, discussions are had, and actions are taken, leading to awards and certificates at Congress. I ask all of you to think of attending future leadership meetings to learn about the wonderful things occurring in the SAR.

I also encourage you all to join our very active Color Guard and work on your bronze silver medals. The Color Guard is open to all and truly is a fun time. Currently, New Jersey has seven National Color Guard events, with Bound Brook just recently approved.

We also have many educational projects that we hope chapters will get involved with. We have an outstanding flag certificate program, and a flag retirement program that the state will issue to chapters to issue to people who fly or retire flags in their local community. We have Boy Scout certificates that we will issue to chapters for Boy Scouts who reach the rank of Eagle Scout.

New Jersey has a very strong SAR and I am very proud of that.

I hope to see you all at a future meeting. Until then, I wish you and your family a pleasant fall, a wonderful Thanksgiving, the joy of Christmas, and of course the happiest & healthiest New Year possible.

I look forward to seeing you all at our meeting on February 15th 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Meyer, President,
New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution

To Unite and Promote Fellowship among the descendants of those who sacrificed to achieve the independence of the American People, to inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom. **SAR Mission**

Samuel Whittemore

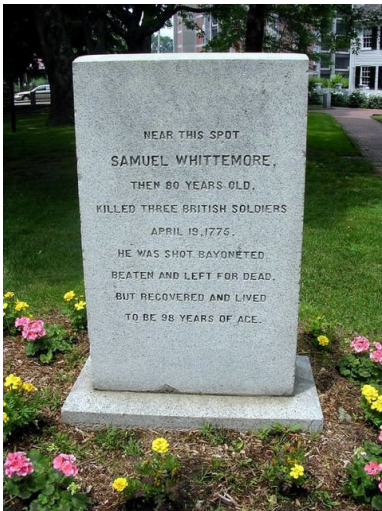
“A Man Who Would Not Give Up the Fight”

Samuel Whittemore Jr. (July 27, 1696 – February 2, 1793) was an American farmer and soldier. He was 78 years old when he became the oldest known colonial combatant in the American Revolutionary War (1775–1783).

Whittemore was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts, in 1696, the second son of Samuel Whittemore Sr. and Hannah Rix, also of Charlestown. He served as a private in Colonel Jeremiah Moulton's Third Massachusetts Regiment, where he fought in King George's War (1744–48). He was involved in the capture of the French stronghold, the Fortress of Louisbourg in 1745. He moved to Menotomy, Massachusetts (present-day Arlington). Recent sources suggest he fought in the French and Indian War (1754–63) at the age of 64, once again assisting in the capture of the Fortress of Louisbourg, and later in a military expedition against Chief Pontiac in 1763. None of them offer documentation to support such claims, though a nineteenth century reference mentions that he had served as a "Captain of Dragoons."

Battles of Lexington and Concord

On April 19, 1775, British forces were returning to Boston from the Battles of Lexington and Concord, the opening engagements of the war. On their march they were continually shot at by American militiamen.



Whittemore was in his fields when he spotted an approaching British relief brigade under Earl Percy, sent to assist the retreat. Whittemore loaded his musket and ambushed the British grenadiers of the 47th Regiment of Foot from behind a nearby stone wall, killing one soldier. He then drew his dueling pistols, killed a second grenadier and mortally wounded a third. By the time Whittemore had fired his third shot, a British detachment had reached his position; Whittemore drew his sword and attacked. He was subsequently shot in the face, bayoneted numerous times, and left for dead in a pool of blood. He was found by colonial forces, trying to load his musket to resume the fight. He was taken to Dr. Cotton Tufts of Medford, who perceived no hope for his survival. However, Whittemore recovered and lived another 18 years until dying of natural causes at the age of 96.

A monument stands in the corner plot (611 Mass Ave.) called Whittemore Park at the northeast corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Mystic Street in Arlington, Massachusetts; it reads (inaccurately as to age both at the time and 18 years later:

Near this spot, Samuel Whittemore, then 80 years old, killed three British soldiers, April 19, 1775. He was shot, bayoneted, beaten and left for dead, but recovered and lived to be 98 years of age.

In 2005, Massachusetts Senator Robert Havern III proposed that Whittemore be proclaimed the official state hero of Massachusetts and his memory be commemorated on February 3 each year.

There are few stories more interesting than those of our patriot ancestors. As we read about the lives they led during those tumultuous times we have to wonder how we can complain about some of the minor inconveniences that we now endure, like the air conditioner not cooling the house down quick enough or the television not working just as your favorite show is coming on. Imagine what Samuel Whittemore would say to someone complaining about those tragedies of daily life in the 21st century. Men and women once courageously sacrificed their time and needs for a higher cause. We no longer live in a time where that is necessary but you can still pay homage to those heroes of our past who once did.

Come out to a NJSSAR meeting and Luncheon in Princeton or attend a local Chapter meeting, You can find out where and when at www.njssar.org. Your patriot ancestor would be proud.

Recent Events



Top six-(6) photos, June 2024 NJSSAR Meeting and Luncheon at Princeton Marriott. Bottom right and left Mercer Oak Award at the Nassau Club in Princeton



Welcome - New Members of the New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution

Robert Nelson	Schulte	Princ-Cran	Curtiss Temple	Jameson	Jockey Hollow
Jason Robert	Schulte	Princ-Cran	Brian Joseph	Gilfedder Jr.	Jockey Hollow
Kenneth Richard	Schulte	Princ-Cran	Christopher Rober	Calderone	Princ-Cran
Paul W.	Marcontell	Monmouth	Richard Alfred	Vohden Jr.	Rosenkrans
Kenneth Arlie	Tyler	Rosenkrans	John Charles	Hensel	West Fields
Alfred Cookman	Jones III	Rosenkrans	Ellis Holt	Bailey	Jockey Hollow
Allan James	Johnson Jr.	South Jersey	Scott Steven	Bauman	Jockey Hollow
Allan James	Johnson III	South Jersey	William Peter	Terry	West Fields
Jason David	Newcomb	South Jersey	David Owen	Middlebrook	Somers
Alexander Uriah	Cole	Jockey Hollow	Gregory Allen	Crisp	Raritan Valley
Stanley Paul	Gorski Jr.	Jockey Hollow	Ryan C.	Wares	Pinelands
Kevin Todd	Barfield	Monmouth	Brian O.	Brennan	Monmouth
Joseph Robim	Diehm	Raritan Valley	Jonathon David	Pease	Somers
Joseph Patrick	Shephard	Monmouth	Stephen L.	Pease	Somers
Christopher Micha	Winters	Godwin	William Michael	Wallace	Somers
Brad Evertt	Turner	South Jersey	Russell David	Moore	First Mntn
Sean Paul	Seifert	Somers	John Charles	Hensel	West Fields
Thomas Jay	Maye Jr.	West Fields	Donald ferris	Baird	Monmouth
Robert Wade	Speir Jr.	Princ-Cran	Charles Howard	Manley	Godwin
Richard Dean	Forman	Princ-Cran	Iain Darrell	Jameson	Pinelands
Thomas Scott	Olsen	West Fields	Richard Burke	Marrin Jr.	Monmouth
Patrick Thomas	McCoy	First Mntn	Sarkis Krikorian	Marrin	Monmouth
Griffin Jack Rhys	McCoy	First Mntn	Maximus Krikorian	Marrin	Monmouth
Jacob Jesse	Hays	Jockey Hollow	William Cooper	Spencer	Monmouth
Stephen Dean	Vile Jr.	South Jersey	Henry Andrew	Spencer	Monmouth
George Mankin	Somers III	South Jersey	Noah J.	Gibbs	Somers
Andrew William	Kling	Jockey Hollow			
Louis William	Storms	Rosenkrans			
Keith William	Eckert	Godwin			
Michael Thomas	Kavanaugh	Raritan Valley			
Kevin Francis	Bennett	Monmouth			
Robert James	Beekman	Princ-Cran			
Michael Richard	Smilek	Jockey Hollow			

Please contact a member of this list and invite them to join you at our next meeting.

Revolutionary War in October

17 OCTOBER 1777 – BRITISH SURRENDER AT SARATOGA

One of the most important turning points in the Revolutionary War, the American victory at the Battle of Saratoga decisively proved to would-be allies that the fledgling Continental Army could defeat the British Empire in open battle.



Slowed by American delaying tactics and rough terrain, the British army of Lieutenant General John Burgoyne crossed the Hudson River on 13 – 14 September at Saratoga (present Schuylerville), New York, with an army of British regulars, Loyalists, and German auxiliaries.

He found that the Major General Horatio Gates' Northern Army, numbering about 7,000 Continental regulars and militia, occupied the high ground of Bemis' Heights, blocking his way to Albany and his planned rendezvous with another British army marching north from New York City.

Burgoyne's army was repelled by the stalwart Continentals in two engagements, the first on 19 September and the second on 7 October. After the American tactical success of the 7 October battle, the Continental Army (now reinforced to more than 10,000 men) surrounded Burgoyne in his fortified camp.

With his army besieged and supplies dwindling, Burgoyne surrendered men on 17 October 1777. News of the Continental Army's victory quickly made its way across the Atlantic to the court of King Louis XVI, who took the victory as proof that the rebellious colonies had a real chance at victory; France joined the war soon thereafter, providing vital manpower and materiel to the Patriot cause.

Photo and text from U.S. Army Center of Military History

Abraham Clark Memorial House



Cranford Scout Troop 75 meeting at the Abraham Clark Memorial House. IChris Sands gave all the Scouts and leaders who supported the NJSSAR with posting flags on Memorial Day, doing service projects at the Abraham Clark Memorial House or at French-Richards Historic Cemetery Certificates of Appreciation. Chris also presented Scout Leader Orest Hrycak with the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.

