

The Picket Line

Newsletter of the Lyman Hall Chapter
Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution
Gainesville, Georgia
August, 2010



Since our last Picket Line report in April, 2010, we had the event of Patriots' Day (April 19) which was well attended and is covered in the 'on line' version of Chapter activities.

The following events are also reported on our chapter web site, to which the reader is referred.

April 16th -18th, 2010, Frederica Patriots Day Celebration, Saint Simons Island, Glynn County, GA. Lyman Hall Chapter VP Ed Rigel, Sr. drilled new recruits and taught them how to "Present Arms". He also participated with the GASSAR Color Guard in the parade through the St. Simons Village. That afternoon, there was a very well attended ceremony in the Casino Courtyard commemorating Patriots Day and the Frederica Naval Action. Compatriot Rigel participated with the Color Guard, presented a wreath on behalf of Lyman Hall Chapter and took part in the Musket Salute. A Colonial Worship service was held Sunday morning and Compatriot Rigel was honored to have been asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

April 28-29th, 2010, Louisville, Kentucky. NSSAR Compatriots from around the country gathered in Louisville to form a Combined Color Guard to march in the Kentucky Derby Pegasus Parade which included GASSAR NE Regional VP (and Lyman Hall VP) Ed Rigel, Sr.

May 2nd, Grave marking for Oliver Crawford, Rev. War Patriot. Ed Rigel Sr. participated with the GASSAR Color Guard and the musket salute given by the militia.

May 27th, in the afternoon, the Lyman Hall Chapter joined with Col. Wm. Candler Chapter NSDAR in marking the grave of Lillian Martin.

May 29th, 2010, Scout Day, Marietta National Military Cemetery, Marietta, Cobb County, Georgia. Marietta National Military Cemetery was established during the War Between the States. Ed Rigel, Sr. participated with the GASSAR Color Guard in the presentation of the Colors and the musket salute. Following the ceremony, 6,000 Scouts placed US flags on the 18,000 graves of US Vets.

Activities of Chapter Members April-August

May 27th in the evening, Lyman Hall Chapter meeting took place at the Elks Club, Gainesville. Former Gainesville Police Chief, Frank Hooper, was presented the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal. Eagle Scout Jason Wynne was present with his family and was presented the Chapter's Eagle Scout Scholarship. The Chapter was presented the GASSAR awards presented at the Annual Meeting, Distinguished Chapter Award and two stars for the Grave Marking streamer for the Grave Markings performed in 2009. Vince Evans, Superintendent of Alta Vista Cemetery presented the program - a talk on some of the many famous, and infamous, people buried in the cemetery.

In addition to the State and National level achievements reported last quarter; Ed Rigel, Sr. has additional state and regional responsibilities (outlined below) of which you should be aware. Please pass along your congratulations to Ed.

July 10th, Ed Rigel Sr. attended the Summer BOM meeting of the GASSAR, Forsyth, GA, and served in his capacity as GASSAR NE Regional Vice President and Recording Secretary. Roscoe McMillan and Rigel, Sr. participated with the Color Guard.

In August, Ed was appointed to the NSSAR Color Guard Committee and Vice Chair of the National Eagle Scout Committee

Other events not previously reported are:

April 2nd, Messrs. Rigel Sr., Rigel, Jr. and Roscoe McMillan participated with the Color Guard at the opening ceremonies at the Annual Conference of the GASSAR at the Marriott Hotel in Duluth, GA. The following day Rigel, Sr. attended the GASSAR BOM and Annual Meeting where he was elected GASSAR NE Regional Vice President and Recording Secretary.

The same week, McMillan participated with the Color Guard at Governor Sonny Perdue's signing of the Peace Officers' Proclamation at the State Capitol.

Between April 18th and 11th May, 2010 various members of Lyman Hall Chapter presented more than seven Bronze JROTC medals at area high schools and the Military academies. Members participating were McMillan, Parker, Beale, Benton and Martin (See Quarterly GSSAR BOM Rept. June 8, 2010).

June 26th – President Beale attended the homecoming for Reserve Unit Charlie Company as the unit returned to Gainesville from Afghanistan. An enthusiastic crowd acclaimed the many compliments and awards handed out that day.

Late June to early July, 2010 Ed Rigel, Sr. attended the NSSAR Annual Congress in Cleveland, OH where he served in the Color Guard, attended committee meetings and the general sessions.

July 10th, Rigel Sr. and McMillan attended the GASSAR BOM in Forsyth, GA, both in uniform.

July 23rd – August 3rd, Compatriots Jim Parker and Rigel, Sr. attended the Boy Scouts of America National Jamboree at Fort AP Hill, VA, as representatives of the NSSAR. They participated with other members of the NSSAR at the King Eagle Scout Scholarship promotion booth in the National Exhibits area. They estimated that the team educated 2,800 Boy Scouts and 4,500-5,000 Scouters, parents of Scouts, and others on the Scholarship Program. The team acquired names and contact information for over 220 individuals for sharing with the Registrars of the various State Societies, including 13 from GA, who felt they might be eligible to join the SAR. Rigel, Sr. participated in colonial uniform on two of the exhibit days.



July 24th, Compatriot Beale, in Massachusetts, submits photos of Fort Phoenix, Fairhaven, MA, which played a role in the Rev. War in 1775 and 1778.



The guns guarded the New Bedford harbor from 1775 to 1876. Troops there guarded the port against General Gage in 1775 and fought off the British who were foraging for supplies after Concord and Lexington. In 1778 Gen. Gage sought revenge against the fort as recounted in the tablet above. 'Phoenix', like the mythical bird, represents rising from the ashes; because the Brits burned the fort once.



August 7th, Rigel, Sr. and Rigel, Jr., in uniform, participated with the Piedmont Chapter, as the SAR Color Guard led the 58th Annual Old Soldiers' Day Parade, Alpharetta, GA.

August 14th, McMillan and Rigel, Sr. participated in posting and retirement of Colors at the 230th Anniversary of the Patriot Victory at Musgrove Mill, Clinton, SC

Please keep Compatriots Judge W L Norton and Craig Leyda, both veterans, in your prayers during their ailing health.

Respectfully submitted, John Beale, Chapter President

*Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers,
who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court,
and a Nation of Free Men.*