



COLORADO RIVER RED, WHITE & BLUE

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Number 5

June 2011

Welcome to this issue of your Colorado River Chapter, AZSSAR newsletter. The Colorado River, Red, White & Blue is an official publication of the Colorado River Chapter, AZSSAR.

We hope you enjoy this Newsletter and the updates and information it provides.

Memorial Day

I am writing this newsletter on Memorial Day remembering all those who gave so much to help keep our Freedom. As I watched one of my all time favorite events, the "Indy 500", I was pleased to see this event continue to honor our military retired and serving as it seems to have done for all my life.

I started listening to the radio broadcast of the "Indy 500" as a kid, when every Memorial Day my Mother and Father, along with my Sister and Brother-in-law, would drive to visit all our ancestors' grave sites south of Kansas City in rural Kansas and Missouri. We would have the race on while we drove to each cemetery where we placed flowers on family graves. Something my Sister was doing today! This is where I got my love of racing and my appreciation and respect for my ancestors.

I also thought back to my career with HQ, U.S. Army Forces Command in Atlanta where my staff and I had the responsibility to select the best units for the

assigned missions and then ensure that these units had all they needed to succeed in their jobs as America's finest. I know we worked hard, just like another civilian or military officer did when I went to Vietnam, to ensure we were prepared and equipped. Throughout our history someone has done the same to keep us strong.

So, while you remember those who fought in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan we should always remember that we owe our lives and freedom to them. I ask you to take a moment and say a prayer for our soldiers of the past and present, as they are who we are and we should never forget them.

Chapter Monthly Meetings

As I am sure you remember, our regular meetings ended with our May meeting and chapter meetings will resume in September.

This fall when meetings resume we will move to our new format of rotating meetings between Lake Havasu and Kingman so watch for our August newsletter when I hope to have our starting schedule of meetings and locations.

We this format will allow more members to join us at a future meeting in their area.

Member Birthdays

June

Samuel Andress – 28th

July

Brian Smith - 17th

Joe Stevens – 27th

Congratulations and hope you have a Great Birthday!

The Origins of the SAR

Do you know the origins of Your SAR? Thought you might enjoy this information from our National Website.

Our Origin

In 1876 there were many celebrations to commemorate the centennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. As part of the patriotic fervor, a group of men in the San Francisco, California area who were descendants of patriots involved in the American Revolution formed an organization called the Sons of Revolutionary Sires. Their objective was to have a fraternal and civic society to salute those men and women who pledged their lives, fortunes and sacred honor to the battle for independence from Great Britain. They desired to keep alive their ancestors' story of patriotism and courage in the belief that it is a universal one man's struggle against tyranny – a story which would inspire and sustain succeeding generations when they would have to defend and extend our freedoms.

Out of the Sires grew the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, which was organized on April 30, 1889 – the 100th anniversary

of the inauguration of George Washington as our nation's first President. We have used the acronym SAR to identify ourselves for over 100 years. The SAR was conceived as a fraternal and civic society composed of lineal descendants of the men who wintered at Valley Forge, signed the Declaration of Independence, fought in the battles of the American Revolution, served in the Continental Congress, or otherwise supported the cause of American Independence. The National Society was chartered by the Act of the United States Congress on June 9, 1906. The charter was signed by President Theodore Roosevelt, who was a member of the SAR.

Our Patriot Ancestors

This section provides a look at one of our member's SAR Patriot ancestor's service to this country during the Revolutionary War. It will help us remember our Revolutionary War heroes and Patriots we honored when we joined the SAR.

This month's Patriot will be the ancestor of James McConnell. I hope you enjoy this brief look at an American hero!

Patriot Ancestor of James McConnell

Manual Newel McConnell (probably the son of Edward James McConnell and his wife Tabitha Ward) was born 1757 in Port Tobacco, Charles County, MD. Manual married Martha Armstrong (born 1772 in Abbeville, SC, died 12 Aug 1824 Mooresville, Maury County, TN). It appears that Manuel and Martha had eight children: Elizabeth, John A, Jeremiah, Rachel, Tabitha, Martha, James and Nancy. John A. is the ancestor of our James McConnell.

According to documents from the office of the Commissioner of Pensions in Washington, DC, Revolution and 1812, War Section, Manual filed a Revolutionary War Pension claim, S 2773. These papers make the following statements about his service: Manual when about twelve years old moved from Maryland with his father to Abbeville District,

South Carolina where he was living when he enlisted in May 1780 and served three months under Lieutenant Benjamin Lawrence in Colonel Pickens' South Carolina Regiment.

Manual enlisted again in the early fall of 1780 and served nine months under Captains James McCall and Moses Little, Colonels Washington and Lee and during this service saw action at the battles of Hammond's Store, Cowpens and siege of Ninety Six.

Again Manual enlisted in May 1782 and served until the last of August 1782 in Captain Richard Hurd's Company, Colonel James Jackson's Georgia Regiment.

These papers further state that Manual was allowed a pension for his Revolutionary War service on 18 September 1832 while a resident of Maury County, Tennessee, at the age of seventy five.

Taking a look at the battles Manual participated in the first was the battle of Hammond's Store. Hammond's Store was a headquarters for Tories in eastern Laurens County, SC along Bush River. On 29 Dec 1780, Lieutenant Colonel William Washington engaged a Loyalist (Tory) militia unit under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Waters (GA) at the battle of Hammond's Store which is near modern Clinton, SC. The Loyalist losses were about 100 men killed or injured beyond recovery. The Continentals took 40 prisoners and captured 50 horses, without the loss of a man. LTC Washington's forces attempted to pursue escaping Loyalists who fled to the garrison at Ninety Six which led Cornwallis to dispatch Colonel Tarleton to Ninety Six.

The next battle referenced in his Revolutionary Pension papers was the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina which is located just south of the North Carolina line. The Battle of Cowpens occurred 17 Jan 1781 and was a decisive victory by American Revolutionary forces under the command of Brigadier General Daniel Morgan, in the Southern campaign of the American Revolutionary War. After many defeats by the British, this battle was a turning point in the reconquest of South Carolina from the British and a major defeat for the hated British

Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton of the 17th Light Dragoons. American casualties were 25 killed and 124 wounded, British casualties were 100 killed, 200 wounded 712 captured and 2 guns lost.

The final battle referenced in Manual's records was his participation in the Siege of Ninety Six. The Siege of Ninety Six was a siege late in the American Revolutionary War which lasted from 22 May to 18 June 1781, when Continental Army Major General Nathanael Greene led 1,000 American troops in a siege against the 550 Loyalists in the fortified village of Ninety Six, South Carolina. The 28 day siege centered on an earthen fortification known as Star Fort, and despite having more troops, Greene was unsuccessful in taking the town and was forced to lift the siege when Lord Rawdon approached from Charleston with British reinforcements. The site of this battle is located 60 miles south of Greenville, South Carolina.

A Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution shows the following entry to Manual McConnell:

McConnell, Manual, born Charles County, MD, died 9 Sept 1842 – During May 1780, while residing in Abbeville District, he enlisted under Lieutenant Benjamin Lawrence and Colonel Pickens. In the fall of 1780, he was under Captains James McCall, Moses Little, Liddell, and Colonels Washington and Lee and was in battles at Hammond's Store, Cowpens, and the siege of Ninety Six. During May 1782, he served under Captain Richard Hurd and Colonel James Jackson of Georgia. (Moved to Tennessee) A.A.4949A: P278.

Manual shows up on the 1840 US Census at age 84 living in Marshall County, TN.

Manual died 9 September 1842, at age 86 in Mooresville, Marshall County, TN.

Sources – Original SAR approved application, Footnote.com, and Ancestry.com.

Current Officers

Donald Reighard – President – (928) 680-4087

Ray Lackey – Vice President – (928) 754-1941

Tim Keith – Secretary/Treasurer – (928) 302-1279

Ron Smith – Chaplain – (928) 680-7924

Jimmie Bodenhamer – Registrar/Genealogist – (928) 692-6636

Membership

If you need assistance with a membership issue, or know someone interesting in joining the NSSAR, please provide me the contact information and I will work the issue for you.

Jimmie Bodenhamer, Registrar/Genealogist, 5805 N Cedar Ridge Lane, Kingman, AZ 86409-9345, jimmieb@frontiernet.net, (928) 692-6636.

Meeting Location

Colorado River Chapter, AZSSAR monthly meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at the Mohave County Library, 1770 McCulloch Boulevard North(K-Mart Plaza), Lake Havasu City, AZ at 11:00. Check our upcoming events section below for dates.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

No Chapter Meetings until Fall

June 1st - Chapter Newsletter mailed

July 4th – What our Patriots fought and died for

August 1st – Chapter Newsletter mailed

September 10th Chapter Meeting LHC

October 20-24 – Vietnam Traveling wall in Kingman

Hope to see you at a future Chapter event.

Newsletter Editor

Hope you enjoyed this newsletter and I look forward to any comments or suggestion for future newsletters. Colorado River Chapter, AZSSAR: Jimmie Bodenhamer, Editor, jimmieb@frontiernet.net.

Need another copy of this Newsletter – it is on our AZSSAR website link.