



# COLORADO RIVER RED, WHITE & BLUE

## NEWSLETTER

**Volume 2, Number 5**

**June 2012**

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.

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### **Annual JROTC Award Presentation**

On May 4th, Don Rieghard, Chapter President, made our annual JROTC Award Presentation at Mohave High School in Bullhead City.



This year's award was presented to Air Force JROTC, Tech Sgt Autumn Hilpiper shown accepting the award from Don. Tech Sgt Hilpiper is an outstanding cadet in the award winning program at Mohave High School.

The Air Force JROTC program at Mohave High School is directed by Lt Col Nolan Boyle, and SMSgt Tony Galvez. This JROTC program has an outstanding Color Guard and has offered to support our Chapter should we have an event where a great Color Guard would make the event/day and we thank SMSgt Galvez for his offer.

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### **Phone Calling Cards for Troops**

The Colorado River Chapter provided four \$10 calling cards and Thank You notes to the Arizona Ladies Auxiliary in support of this project during the 2012 Congress in Phoenix. The cards as indicated before will be sent to our troops at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Landstuhl, Germany.

**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

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## Member Birthdays

### June

Samuel Address – 28th

### July

Brian Smith – 17<sup>th</sup>

Russell Allen – 19th

Congratulations and hope you have a Great Birthday!

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## Our Patriot Ancestors

This section provides a look at one of our chapter 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 Samuel Address. I hope you enjoy this brief look at an American hero!

### Patriot Ancestor of Samuel Address

William Spencer (parents unknown) was born about 1757 in Pennsylvania. William married Susanna Allen (parents unknown) before 1790 as he appears in the 1790 US census from Bucks County, PA with a wife and two children. Probably the children of William and Susanna were: Jane, Frances, Mary, Sally, Anna, William, Charlotte Ann, William Spear, and George Washington. Jane (their first child) is the ancestor of Samuel.

William is a very popular name in the Spencer family and many of the early Spencers to American were named William. Over the years, a lot of confusion has arisen as to where this William came from, his

age and proof of his Revolutionary War service, so I intend to show material relating to the military service shown on the original SAR application.

William was shown as a Private in James Francis Moore's Company in the Pennsylvania State Regiment, but no dates of service were shown for William. Revolutionary War rosters for Captain James Moore show this unit to be the 4<sup>th</sup> PA Battalion from Chester County, PA. Pennsylvania Archive records do not have a complete roster of soldiers for this unit.

Since no dates of service were shown for William I will look at this unit in general and the battles it was involved in during the war. The 4<sup>th</sup> PA Battalion was authorized 9 Dec 1775 in the Continental Army. The 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion was organized between 2 Jan and 11 Feb 1776 at Chester County and consisted of 8 companies from Chester, Bucks, and Lancaster Counties. The above referenced US census showed William living in Bucks County in 1790.

On 1 Jan 1777 the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion was reorganized and redesignated as the 5<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment consisting of 8 companies. The 5<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment from Chester County, PA, served with the Continental Army and would see action during the Battle of Valcour Island, Battle of Brandywine, Battle of Germantown, Battle of Monmouth and the Battle of Springfield. The regiment was furloughed 17 Jan 1781 at Trenton, NJ and disbanded 1 Jan 1783.

The Battle of Valcour Island or Valcour Bay took place 11 Oct 1776 on Lake Champlain in New York. The main action occurred in the bay, a narrow strait between New York mainland and Valcour Island. The battle was generally regarded as one of the first naval battles in the American Revolutionary War, and one of the first fought by the US Navy.

Most of the ships in the American fleet under the command of Benedict Arnold were captured or destroyed by the British force under General Guy Carleton. The American defense of Lake Champlain stalled the British plans to reach the upper Hudson River Valley.

The Continental Army had retreated from Quebec to Fort Ticonderoga and Fort Crown Point in June 1776 and spent the summer fortifying these forts and building additional ships. During the battle British ships came into range of the American line and took heavy artillery fire. The exact role of the Continental Army seems unclear other than when ships were in range to the shore.

US casualties were 80 killed/wounded, 120 captured, and 11 ships lost. British casualties were 40 killed/wounded and 3 small gunboats lost.

The Battle of Brandywine; or Brandywine Creek, was fought between the American Army and Major General George Washington and the British-Hessian army of General Sir William Howe on 11 Sept 1777. The British defeated the Americans and forced them to withdraw toward the rebel capital of Philadelphia. The engagement occurred near Chadds Ford (Present-day West Chester) Pennsylvania during Howe's campaign to take Philadelphia.

Howe's army sailed from New York City and landed near Elkton, Maryland northern Chesapeake Bay. Marching north, the British-Hessian army brushed aside American light forces in a few skirmishes. Washington offered battle with his army posted behind Brandywine Creek. While part of his army demonstrated in front of Chadds Ford, Howe took the bulk of his troops on a long march that crossed the Brandywine beyond Washington's right flank. Due to poor scouting, the Americans did not detect Howe's column until it reached a position in rear of their right flank. Belatedly, three divisions were shifted to block the British-Hessian flanking force near a Quaker meeting house.

The defeat and subsequent maneuvers left Philadelphia vulnerable. The British captured the city on September 26, beginning an occupation that would last until June 1778.

US forces totaled 14,600, and casualties were 300 killed, 60 wounded, and 400 captured. British forces totaled 15,500, and casualties were 93 killed, 488 wounded and 6 missing.

The Battle of Germantown, a battle in the Philadelphia campaign was fought on 4 Oct 1777, at Germantown, PA between the British army led by Sir William Howe and the American army under General George Washington. The British victory in this battle ensured that Philadelphia, the capital of the self-proclaimed USA, would remain in British hands throughout the winter of 1777–1778. Germantown was now considered part of the city of Philadelphia.

After defeating the Continental Army at the Battle of Brandywine on 11 Sept and the Battle of Paoli on 20 Sept, Howe outmaneuvered Washington and seized Philadelphia, which was the capital of the rebellious colonies.

US forces totaled 11,000 and casualties were 152 killed, 521 wounded, and 438 captured. British forces totaled 9,000 and casualties were 71 killed, 448 wounded and 14 missing.

The Battle of Monmouth was fought on 28 Jun 1778 in Monmouth County, NJ. The Continental Army under General George Washington attacked the rear of the British Army column commanded by Lieutenant General Sir Henry Clinton as they left Monmouth Court House (modern Freehold Borough). It is sometimes known as the Battle of Monmouth Courthouse.

Unsteady handling of lead Continental Army elements by Major General Charles Lee had allowed British rearguard commander Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis to seize the initiative but Washington's timely arrival on the battlefield rallied the Americans along a hilltop hedgerow. Sensing the opportunity to smash the Continentals, Cornwallis pressed his attack and captured the hedgerow in stifling heat. Washington consolidated his troops in a new line on heights behind marshy ground, used his artillery to fix the British in their positions, then brought up a four gun battery under Major General Nathanael Greene on nearby Combs Hill to enfilade the British line, requiring Cornwallis to withdraw. Finally, Washington tried to hit the exhausted British rear guard on both flanks, but darkness forced the end of the engagement. Both armies held the field, but the British commanding General Clinton withdrew undetected at midnight to resume his army's march to New York City.

US forces totaled 11,000 and casualties were 362-500 killed, wounded or captured. British forces totaled 14,000 to 15,000 and casualties were 65-304 killed, 170-770 wounded, and 60 captured.

The Battle of Springfield was fought on 23 Jun 1780. After the Battle of Connecticut Farms, on 7 Jun 1780, had foiled Lieutenant General Wilhelm Baron von Knyphausen's expedition to attack General George Washington's army at Morristown, NJ, Knyphausen and Lieutenant General Sir Henry Clinton, British commander-in-chief in North America, decided upon a second attempt

A two-pronged assault was planned: starting from Elizabethtown Point, one column would advance along the Galloping Hill Road, straight through Connecticut Farms and Springfield while another column took the Vauxhall Road north of Springfield along the southern edge of Short Hills. Both were heading for the same objective on 7 June: Hobart Gap, the path through the Watchung Mountains that would allow an advance across eleven miles of flat ground to Washington's main encampment at Morristown.

US forces totaled 1,500 reinforced by undetermined number of Militia, casualties were 23 killed, 49 wounded, and 9 missing. British forces totaled 6,000 and casualties were 25 killed, 234 wounded and 48 missing.

While there is no proof of William's Revolutionary War service it does appear that he was in Dearborn County, IN, since on 15 Aug 1803 Indiana Governor William Henry Harrison commissioned William Spencer and several other men as officers in the Indiana Territory Militia.

Also between 1805-06 William is found in Lawrence County, IL where he built a double log house on land where Cahokia trace crossed the Embarras River. This home was later moved farther down the river to Small's Mill. Also on 15 Mar 1806 William was granted a license to keep a Ferry across the Embarras River about half mile below where the present road leading from Vincennes to Kaskaskia crosses the river in Knox County.

There is no record of William or his wife receiving a pension for his Revolutionary War service. However William is listed in the directory of "Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Illinois, Lawrence County with the following statement: Came from Pennsylvania. He served in the war, probably from that state, but no official record of service has been obtained. In after life is he was known as Colonel, and he was Captain of the Militia in Indiana. He came to Illinois at an early date, and died there. He lies buried in the old cemetery, in Lawrence Township."

The dates of Susanna's death/burial are unknown. However, William does appear in the 1840, IL state census living in Lawrence County and according to his tombstone died 3 Dec 1841 and is buried in Lawrence County, IL.

Sources – Original SAR/DAR approved application, Pennsylvania Archives records, and Ancestry.com, Fold3.com, and Google searches.

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## Current Officers

Donald Reighard – President – (928) 680-4087

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

Tim Keith – Secretary/Treasurer – (928) 566-1132

Ron Smith – Chaplain – (928) 680-7924

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

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto:jimmieb@frontiernet.net).

Need another copy of this Newsletter? It is on our AZSSAR website link.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 1<sup>st</sup> – Chapter Newsletter Mailed

June 6<sup>th</sup> – D-Day (1944)  
Remember our Hero's

June 14<sup>th</sup> – Flag Day  
Fly your Flag Proudly

June 17<sup>th</sup> – Father's Day

June 20<sup>th</sup> – First Day of Summer

July 4 – Independence Day

July 7-11 – 122d SAR Annual Congress  
Phoenix

August 1<sup>st</sup> – Chapter Newsletter Mailed

August 14<sup>th</sup> – V-J Day (1945)

September 3d – Labor Day

September 8<sup>th</sup> – Chapter Meeting in Kingman  
Mohave Community College

September 22d – First Day of Autumn

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