



COLORADO RIVER RED, WHITE & BLUE

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Number 6

August 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.

1770 North McCulloch Blvd, Lake Havasu City. We meet here in the Conference Room just off the Main Library area.

September 8th is our first meeting of the 2012/2013 year and will be in Kingman. All our meetings start at 1100 and usually last until 1230. You can keep track of the meeting locations in our Calendar below. We hope you try and make one!

Meetings and Elections

As I am sure you remember, the Colorado River Chapter began the rotation of meetings between Kingman and Lake Havasu last year in hopes that one location would be more appealing to you than the other. While a few members took advantage of the alternate locations we hope more will do so this upcoming year.

Our meeting location in Kingman has been the Mohave Community College, 1971 Jagerson Ave, Kingman which is about 4-5 miles north of I-40. The meeting room is in the Library Building in a really nice conference room across from the Library itself. A great place to talk about your Patriot Ancestor contribution to our Freedom and Chapter future plans.

Our meeting location in Lake Havasu has been the Mohave County Library in the K-Mart Plaza at

Elections – have you thought about being nominated for one of our Officer positions for 2013, we hope you will. The following are the Officers we normally elect: **President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, Registrar/Genealogist, and Chaplain.** The duties are in our by-laws and if you are interested come to a meeting and we will tell you what they are. Nominations are made at our October meeting, and election is at our November meeting. We hope you will consider one.

If an officer is not your thing, you might consider presenting a program/discussion on your Patriot Ancestor or some other aspect of the Revolutionary War. We would love to hear your story!

Member Birthdays

August

None

September

Chance Vallon – 25th

Congratulations and hope you have a Great Birthday!



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 Brian Smith. I hope you enjoy this brief look at an American hero!

Patriot Ancestor of Brian Smith

Christopher Winter (son of Johann Christopher Winter and Sophia Huppington) was born about 1753 in Rhine Phalz, Sachsen, Germany and immigrated with his parents to Pennsylvania prior to 1727. Christopher married Catherine Schaffer (daughter of Johannes Schaffer and Maria Eva Sab, born 1754 in Germany) 10 Nov 1778 in Berks County, PA. Per Christopher's will from 1820, the children of Christopher and Catherine were: Catherine 1777, John Levi 1778, Jacob 1780, Samuel 1780, David 1783, Susannah 1785, Elizabeth 1787, Mary 1794, and Christopher 1799. John Levi (their second child) is the ancestor of Brian.

Christopher enlisted at Berks County, PA as a Private in the Pennsylvania Militia, 27 Aug 1776 serving under Captain George Miller's Company which was assigned to Colonel John Patton's Battalion of Foot, also known as the Heidelberg Brigade since it was composed of soldiers with German roots.

Christopher's unit also saw action in 1776 under Brigadier General Samuel Miles, 1776 under Brigadier General John Cadwallar, 1777 under Brigadier General John Armstrong, 1777 under Major John Armstrong, and 1779 under Major Arthur St Claire,

While specific battles that Christopher was in are hard to determine based on Pennsylvania records, it is known that he is shown on the Rolls of Captain George Miller's Company of Berks County Militia, which were on duty at South Amboy, NJ, 5 Sept 1776 when it was believed that British might move south from New York to New Jersey and the town of South Amboy, however no major battle was fought there.

It is also known that Captain Miller's Company was assigned to the Berks County Battalion of Foot, Pennsylvania Militia, commanded by Colonel John Patton, 27 Aug, 1776. This Battalion of Foot was also known as the First Heidelberg Brigade since all members were German, and Lower Heidelberg Township was in Berks County, PA.

On 11 January 1777, General Washington authorized the creation of an additional Continental Regiment, Patton's regiment, that was recruited from the colonies of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware and did see service during the Philadelphia Campaign.

Patton's battalion of PA State Rifle Regiment that included Captain Miller's Company from Berks County that Christopher was in had participated in the New York and New Jersey Campaign prior to the new regiment's formation in 1777.

The New York and New Jersey Campaign was a series of battles for the control of New York and New Jersey. Between 1776/1777, British General Howe had been successful in driving General Washington and the Continentals from New York City, but overextended his reach into New Jersey, when the active campaign ended Jan 1777.

British forces had landed 3 Jul 1776 on Staten Island and were composed of elements withdrawn from Boston. Additional British troops were combined with Hessian troops rented from Germany for the total force of 25,000. Landing on Long Island in Aug 1776 Howe defeated Washington in the largest battle of the war, but the Continental Army was able to retreat to Manhattan under cover of darkness and fog. After a series of defeats in Manhattan with the exception of a victory in Harlem Heights Continental forces retreated to White Plains, NY.

Washington and much of his Army crossed the Hudson River into New Jersey, retreating across the Delaware River into PA. As winter set in Howe set up series outposts from New York to Burlington, NJ. It was during this winter that Washington launched the attack on Trenton, causing Howe to pull his forces back to New York. Britain maintained control of New York City until the end of the war in 1783.

Continental Army forces totaled 20,000 soldiers and Militia, but no casualty totals were shown. British forces totaled 25,000, with casualties of 4,400 killed wounded or captured.

Patton's new regiment as mentioned above was formed in spring 1777 and had a strength of seven

companies. On 22 May the regiment was assigned to the 4th Virginia Brigade commanded by Charles Scott.

Patton's regiment is known to have participated in the Battle of Brandywine in 1777. The Battle of Brandywine, or Brandywine Creek, was fought between the Continental Army commanded by General Washington and the British-Hessian army commanded by General 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.

In 1777 Patton's regiment also took part in the Battle of Germantown. The Battle of Germantown, a battle in the Philadelphia Campaign, was fought 4 Oct 1777, at Germantown, PA between the British led by Howe and Continental Army led by 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 is now considered part of the city of Philadelphia.

Continental forces totaled 11,000, and casualties were 152 killed, 512 wounded, and 438 captured. British forces totaled 9,000, and casualties were 71 killed, 448 wounded and 14 missing.

The next action for Patton's regiment was at the Battle of Monmouth on 28 Jun 1777 along with Virginia regiments. At the Battle of Monmouth the regiment was led by Lieutenant Colonel Parke. The unit fought in William Grayson's 600 man and two gun detachment together with David's Cook's company of the 3d Continental Artillery Regiment, Grayson's additional Continental Regiment, and the combined 4th, 8th, and 12th Virginia Regiments under James Woods. Charles Lee ordered Grayson's detachment to lead his Advanced Guard in the approach march to Monmouth Courthouse. Lee placed Grayson, Henry Jackson's detachment, Richard Butler's detachment, and Eleazer Oswald's four guns under Anthony Wayne. Between 9:30 and 10:00 AM, Wayne's group engaged in a somewhat confused skirmish with the British rear guard. At this point, the British commander Sir Henry Clinton mounted a powerful counterattack with 6,000 men and Lee lost control of his division, which began to retreat. To his amazement, Washington saw Lee's troops retreating toward him, led by Grayson's and Patton's Regiments. After Washington and his generals organized a new battle line, Lee's division regrouped behind the main body and the second half of the battle began.

Continental Army 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.

On 22 Jul 1778, Patton's Regiment transferred from the 4th Virginia Brigade to the Highlands Department. The regiment ceased to exist on 13 Jan 1779 when it consolidated with Hartley's additional Continental Regiment.

There are no records indicating that Christopher or his wife Catherine received a pension for his Revolutionary War service.

Records for "The Dutch Fort Settlement" of Donegal Township, Washington County, PA notes Winter as one of the eight family names in that area and on the roles of the Zion United Methodist Church.

History of Washington County, PA, Donegal Township, (1882) contains the following narrative for Christopher: "Christopher Winter emigrated from Germany to this county, stopping first in this State east of the mountains. There he married Miss Catherine Schaffer, and with her crossed the mountains, and settled in Donegal Township. He took up a tract of land containing four hundred acres, and afterwards bought three hundred acres of the McClelland tract. The land that Christopher Winter took up is now¹ the property of the Linvilles and David Winter. The family of Christopher Winter was five sons and four daughters, John the eldest, married Miss Fremmer, and removed to Indiana. David married Elizabeth McCoy, and remained in Donegal Township. A son now lives on the winter homestead. Samuel Winter and his wife, Catherine Ravenaught, went to Hancock County, VA, Jacob Winter became a minister. His wife was Catherine, a daughter of Capt Jacob Miller, and their home was in Licking County, Ohio. Christopher Winter, Jr, married Catherine Simmons. Catherine Winter became Mrs. Simmer, and emigrated to Kentucky. Elizabeth was the wife of Samuel Sheller, and lived and died in Washington County. Daniel Sheller, of Claysville, is her son. Mary Winter married Solomon Reed, and moved to Coshocton County, Ohio. The Winter family has been intimately associated with the church of the United Brethren in Christ."

Christopher and Catherine are both buried in the Zion United Methodist Church Cemetery, Washington Co, PA. Christopher died 13 Mar 1823 at 71 years and Catherine died 9 Feb 1836 at 82.

¹ Book published in 1882

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

If you are a gun person or not, this is important to ensure our Freedom!



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

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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Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 9th – Chapter Newsletter Mailed

August 14th – V-J Day (1945)

September 3d – Labor Day

September 8th – Chapter Meeting in Kingman
Mohave Community College
Nominating Committee Appointed
2013 Officers

September 22d – First Day of Autumn

October 1st – Chapter Newsletter Mailed

October 8th – Columbus Day

October 13th – Chapter Meeting in Lake Havasu City
Mohave County Library
Nomination of 2013 Officers

November 3d – Veterans Day Parade
Northern Avenue, Kingman

November 10th – Chapter Meeting in Kingman
Mohave Community College
Election of 2013 Officers

November 11th – Veterans Day

November 22d – Thanksgiving Day

December 1st – Chapter Newsletter Mailed

December 8th – Chapter Meeting in Lake Havasu
City

Mohave County Library
Installation of 2013 Officers

December 21st – First Day of Winter

December 25th – Christmas Day

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.