



COLORADO RIVER RED, WHITE & BLUE

NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Number 2

December 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.

Chapter Meetings

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's 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

Election of Officers for 2013

Due to less than quorum of members at November meeting in Kingman, the election and installation of officers for 2013 will be at our 8 December 2012 meeting in Lake Havasu.

The following slate of officers for 2013 were nominated and approved at our October meeting:

President – Don Reighard

Vice-President – Ray Lackey

Secretary/Treasurer – Tim Keith

Registrar/Genealogist – Jimmie Bodenhamer

Chaplain - Jimmie Bodenhamer

Board of Managers – J. Michael Jones

Please try to attend our 8 December meeting and vote!

Member Birthdays

December

None

January 2013

Craig Vallon

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 Chance Vallon. I hope you enjoy this brief look at an American hero!

Patriot Ancestor of Chance Vallon

Ezekiel Stewart (son of John Stewart and his wife Elizabeth Upjohn) was born 26 June 1741, in Amboy County, New Jersey. Ezekiel's father John had immigrated to America from Antrim, Ireland in 1716 at age 14 with his parents Alexander and Margaret Dixon Stewart.

Ezekiel our Patriot married Rachel Garrison (Larrison) (probably the daughter of James Larrison and his wife Keziah Parke, born about 1740/5) on 4 May 1773, at Cape May, NJ. The children of Ezekiel and Rachel were: Rebecca 1778, Stephen 1780, Thomas 1782, Jacob 1783, Samuel 1784, David 1785, Ezekiel 1789 and Archibald 1795. Jacob (their fourth child) is the ancestor of Chance.

Ezekiel in his pension application stated that his parents moved when he was very young to Gloucester County, NJ and there he grew up and

lived until after the Revolutionary War. Ezekiel enlisted in the last week of November or the first week in December 1776, for four months, under Ensign Robert Snell, and Lieutenant Richard Stutman, 1st Lieutenant Richard Higby, and Captain Benjamin Weatherbly, in Gloucester County, NJ.

He would have served in the 3d Regiment, Gloucester County, NJ Militia. As part of his first action in the war his regiment marched to the Delaware River where the British had been marching up and down without much opposition, and took part in the attack on Trenton, NJ, 25/26 December 1776 and the Battle of Princeton. Ezekiel was discharged in April 1777 from his first enlistment. He reenlisted toward fall of 1778, and served two months under 2d Lieutenant Robert Snell, 1st Lieutenant Joseph Ingersoll and Captain's Samuel Snell and Cressy. One month of this enlistment under each captain, with the first month as a volunteer and the next month as a substitute for William Fox. During this enlistment Ezekiel was stationed as a guard at Haddonfield, and then discharged at the end of two months.

During the Revolutionary War Ezekiel's units was engaged in several decisive early battles in the Revolution beginning with the Battle of Trenton.

The Battle of Trenton took place on 26 December 1776, after General Washington's crossing of the Delaware River north of Trenton, NJ.

The Continental Army had previously suffered in New York and had been forced to retreat through New Jersey to Pennsylvania. Morale in the Continental Army was low; and to end the year on a positive note, George Washington—Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army—devised a plan to cross the Delaware River on Christmas night and surround the Hessian (German soldiers paid to fight for the British) garrison at Trenton.

Because the Delaware River was icy and the weather severe, the crossing proved dangerous for Washington's Army. Two detachments of soldiers were unable to make it across the river, leaving Washington and the 2,400 men under his command who made it across, alone in the assault. The army

marched 9 miles south from their crossing to Trenton. The Hessians since it was Christmas night had lowered their guard, thinking they were safe from the American army, and had no long-distance outposts or patrols. After having a Christmas feast, they fell asleep.

Washington's forces caught them off guard and, after a short but fierce resistance, most of the Hessians surrendered. Almost two thirds of the 1,500-man garrison was captured, and only a few troops escaped across Assunpink Creek.

Despite the battle's small numbers, the American victory inspired rebels in the colonies. With the success of the revolution in doubt a week earlier, the army had seemed on the verge of collapse.

The hazardous of the Delaware River in adverse weather made it possible for General Washington to lead the main body of the Continental Army forces against the Hessian soldiers garrisoned at Trenton.

The victory in the Battle of Trenton, significantly boosted the Continental Army's flagging morale, and inspired reenlistments which got soldiers to serve longer and attracted new recruits to the ranks.

Troop strengths, casualties, and losses for the Battle of Trenton: American Rebel forces were 2,400 with 18 guns while American losses were 2 killed (from exposure) and 5 wounded. British forces were 1,500 with 6 guns while British losses were 22 killed, 83 wounded and 896 captured.

The next battle for Ezekiel and the 3d Regiment was the Battle of Princeton 3 January 1777 a battle in which General Washington's revolutionary forces defeated British forces near Princeton, NJ.

On the night of 2 January 1777 George Washington, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, repulsed a British attack at the Battle of the Assunpink Creek in Trenton. That night, he evacuated his position, circled around General Cornwallis' army, and went to attack the British garrison at Princeton. Brigadier General Mercer of the Continental Army clashed with two regiments of British Army forces under the command of

Lieutenant Colonel Mawhood. Mercer and his troops were overrun and Washington sent some militia under Brigadier General Cadwalader to help him. The militia, on seeing the flight of Mercer's men, also began to flee. Washington rode up with reinforcements and rallied the fleeing militia. He then led the attack on Mawhood's troops, driving them back. Mawhood gave the order to retreat and most of the troops tried to flee to Cornwallis in Trenton.

In Princeton itself, American Brigadier General Sullivan forced some British troops who had taken refuge in Nassau Hall to surrender, ending the battle. After the battle, Washington moved his army to Morristown, and with their third defeat in 10 days, the British evacuated southern New Jersey. With the victory at Princeton, morale rose in the ranks and more men began to enlist in the army. The battle was the last major action of Washington's winter New Jersey campaign.

Troop strengths, casualties, and losses for the Battle of Princeton: American Rebel forces were 4,500 with 35 guns while American losses were 25-44 killed and 40 wounded. British forces were 1,200 with 6-9 guns while British losses were 18-100 killed, 58-70 wounded and 194-280 captured.

About 1792 Ezekiel migrated to Montgomery County, KY and resided there until his death. On 1 April 1832, Ezekiel applied for a Revolutionary War pension while living in Montgomery County, KY. Two of his old neighbors, William Barrow and John Craig, testified as to his war service. Ezekiel was granted a pension of \$20 per year from 4 March 1831 as a Private in the "Virginia" militia.

Ezekiel died 25 March 1837 at age 95 at his home in Lulbegrud Creek Township, Estill, Montgomery County, KY, his burial location is unknown. Rachel, his wife, died in 1837 at age 97 in Montgomery County, KY, but burial location is unknown.

Sources – Original SAR approved application, DAR Application, Ancestry.com, Fold3.com, wikipedia.org, and Google searches.

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 interested 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

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

January 1st – New Years Day

January 21st – Martin Luther King Day

February 2d – Groundhog Day

14 February – Valentine's Day

February 18th – President's Day

March 10th – Daylight Savings Begins

March 17th – St. Patrick's Day

March 20th – Spring Begins

March 31st - Easter

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.