



COLORADO RIVER RED, WHITE & BLUE NEWSLETTER

Volume 5, Number 1

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.

Our meeting location in Lake Havasu has been the Mohave County Library in the K-Mart Plaza at 1770 North McCulloch Blvd, Lake Havasu City. We meet

August 2014

in the Conference Room just off the Main Library area.

Chapter Meetings

**Next Chapter Meeting September 13th
Mohave County Library
Lake Havasu City**

Colorado River Chapter rotates meetings between Kingman and Lake Havasu in hopes that one location will be more appealing to you than the other..

Our meeting location in Kingman has been the Mohave County Community College, 1971 Jaegeron 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.

In Memoriam Robert Lee Murphy

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Colorado River Chapter member Robert Lee Murphy of Kingman. Robert passed away 18 Jul 2014 in West Linn, Oregon; he had been fighting cancer since late 2013. His family indicates that at some time in the future his ashes will be brought back to Kingman and spread over local mountains.

Robert was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on 5 Dec 1951 and was the son of Lester Earl Murphy and Elizabeth Carolyn Pich. Robert is survived by his daughter Jolynn Murphy Briles, son Benjamin Murphy, and sister Irene Hobbs, State Treasurer, California DAR.

Robert joined the SAR 29 Aug 2014. His Patriot ancestor was Michael Shiverdecker who was born in 1762 in Fredrick County, Virginia. Michael first served in 1777 as Private in Virginia Militia, and was

featured in our December 2013 newsletter which is on our website.

Our prayers and thoughts go out to Roberts's family.

Campaigns and Battles of the American Revolution (1775-1783)

Our series on Battles of the American Revolution continues with this issue's installment – Battle of Montreal. I hope you find it interesting and informative!

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Battle of Montreal (Canada Campaign)

24-25 September 1775

The city of Montreal as shown on map below is situated on a large island 40 miles long by 20 miles wide. As can be seen the Prairies River in the west and St Lawrence River wraps around the city in the south, east and north.



British General Carleton knew that based on the siege of Fort St. John since 3 Sept 1775 that Montreal would soon be threatened by the Americans. He initiated defensive plans to relieve his forces at St. John and protect British interests in the region.

British spies had informed Carleton that Americans had been attempting to recruit Canadians outside of Montreal with the intent of capturing the city on the evening of 24 Sept 1775. General Carleton established up an ad-hoc command of 235 soldiers to close with the rebels and remove the threat before it could fully mature.

Information became available to Carleton that American Colonel Ethan Allen had managed to fashion a small army of Canadian sympathizers Montreal. Carleton moved in a small British force of 235 men to attempt to trap Allen on the outskirts of Montreal.

From the siege works surrounding Fort St. John American commander General Montgomery dispatched Colonel Allen and Major Brown to gather Canadians to fight against the British as General

Carlton had feared, but the Americans fell short of the number they hoped would enlist. Nonetheless, Allen decided to try and invest Montreal, in an overly ambitious plan that quickly fell apart before the Americans could succeed.

Despite the recruitment shortfall Colonel Allen and Major Brown joined forces as they withdrew to Fort St. John and decided an effort to capture Montreal should be undertaken anyway. Their composite strength was now only 300 soldiers.

This bold and daring plan by the Americans called for Colonel Allen to lead his 110 soldiers across the St. Lawrence River below the city while Major Brown did likewise above the city.

Colonel Allen successfully got his men across the river under the cover of darkness on 24 Sept. However, once he realized Major Brown would not be able to get his men across to meet the mission deadline. He was forced to take up a defensive position a few miles from the outskirts of Montreal because he could not get his men back across the river to safety before daylight on the 25th.

Once British General Carleton realized Colonel Allen and his men were trapped, he moved against them with about 35 regular British soldiers and another 200 volunteer militiamen and Indians.

As Carleton's men pressed forward, firing into Allen's Canadian recruits, they began to flee from the field of battle in panic. Colonel Allen attempted to organize a fighting withdrawal, but unsure of his whereabouts, and how best to escape, he could not affect the outcome and was forced to surrender.

Casualties were: British none reported. The Americans had an undetermined killed and wounded, and 40 captured.

As an outcome, it was not until 13 Nov 1775, that American General Montgomery captured Montreal without firing a shot.

The negative of Colonel Allen's ill-planned and failed September raid was that it damaged the American cause in Canada by making it appear as

though the Americans could never win the war. Many Canadians either did nothing to help the Americans or decided to fight with the British rather than rally to a losing cause. Indian tribes did the same.

Sources: A Guide to the Battles of the American Revolution by Savas and Dameron, and Wikipedia.org.

NEXT: Battles of the Snow Campaign (Ninety-Six and Great Cane Brake), October through December 1775.

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Member Birthdays

August 2014

None

September 2014

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Current Officers

Donald Reighard – President – (928) 680-4087

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

Mike Boop – Secretary – (928) 753-7968

Ray Lackey - Treasurer – (928) 754-1941

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

Michael Boop – Sergeant at Arms – (928) 753-7968

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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.

Jimmie Bodenhamer, Registrar/Genealogist,
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Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 1st
Chapter Newsletter Mailed

September 1st
Labor Day

September 13th
Chapter Meeting
Lake Havasu City

October 1st
Chapter Newsletter Mailed

October 11th
Chapter Meeting
Kingman

October 13th
Columbus Day

October 31st
Halloween

Newsletter Editor

Hope you enjoyed this newsletter and I look forward to any comments or suggestion. Jimmie Bodenhamer, Editor, jimmieb@frontiernet.net.

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