



Winner of the NSSAR 2012  
Carl F. Bessent Award  
to the editor of the most outstanding  
single sheet chapter newsletter.



# TUCSAR BUGLE

Summer 2012

The TUCSAR Bugle is a monthly publication (except during the months of June, July, and August when there will only be a special summer edition published sometime after the National Congress) of the Tucson Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. It is published at the first of the month and will be distributed by the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month by email for those members with email and USPS for those without. Articles, suggestions, and ideas are solicited and welcome – please sent them to the editor, Bill Aurand 10125 E Rainbow Meadow Drive, Tucson, AZ 85747 or email [vraurand@cox.net](mailto:vraurand@cox.net)  
Visit our Tucson Chapter Website at: <http://www.sar.org/azssar/tucson/index.html>

## A Thank You to Our Wonderful Congress Volunteers

Thank you everyone for making this a Congress to be remembered for years to come. All of the many volunteers and society members should be proud of the results we achieved this summer. I can't hope to list everyone, but we were noticed and for all the good things that happened.

### Congress Planning and Host Committees

NSSAR Planning Committee, Peter Grassl, Chair  
AZ & NM Societies Planning Committee

J. Michael Jones, Chairman  
Warren Alter, Vice Chairman  
Jim Thornton, Vice Chairman

Registration: Gene Tomlinson & Jan Huber

Credentials: Bill Aurand

Genealogy Seminar

Genealogist General Larry Cornwell  
Robert Fish, Genealogy Committee  
J. Michael Jones, Coordinator

Transportation and Tours: Dennis Weiland

Congress Website: J. Michael Jones

Packets: Daniel Heller

Ambassadors: Jim Kimbrough

Communication & Security: Warren Alter

Ladies Activity Planning & Flowers / Decorations:

Nancy Alter  
Martha Jones

Music & Entertainment: Charles Aurand, Jr.

Memorial Service: Chaplain General Rev. James Taylor

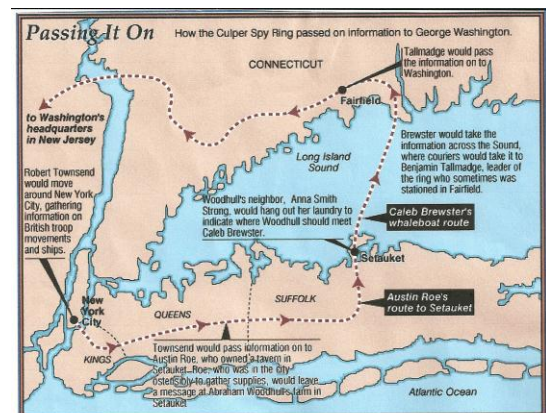
Day Captains:

H. Robert Young  
Dennis Weiland  
Robert Bohannon  
George Lipphardt  
Teddy Adams  
Edmund Karr

You! Our large army of unnamed supporters, helpers and workers.

## The 2012 National Congress was a Success in Every Way Possible!

Tucson chapter member Warren Alter received an oak leaf cluster liberty medal for recruiting new members, was elected to a four-year term on the George Washington Endowment Board and was installed as a national trustee. Dr. Abraham Byrd continued as National Surgeon General for a second year term. Our registration and credentials desk had no lines, the tours went well. The Rocky Mountain Breakfast was great. Ed Karr was applauded for his term as Rocky Mountain Vice President and Jim Thornton took over the reigns as our new Rocky Mountain Vice President. Mike Jones led the AZ/NM Societies for a great hosting at the Biltmore Resort. The AZ society Color Guard assisted in the many flag postings and George Lipphardt was selected to escort the George Washington ring during that ceremony at the Wednesday Installation Banquet. Look for the write up in the summer SARizona



(Map for Culper route Article starting on Page 2)

## **The Culper Spy Ring By Gerry Lawford**

September 22<sup>nd</sup> is the 236<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the hanging of Nathan Hale, arguably America's most famous spy and my 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin, 5 times removed. As Nathan was being hanged, George Washington was losing the city of New York to Gen. Howe. Intelligence was near non-existent when the British took NY. Most came through deserters, prisoners or the "lone wolf" who was sent behind enemy lines for a short time to gather as much as possible. Washington needed accurate, detailed and fast intelligence on the enemy.

When it came to intelligence gathering Washington was a "hands on" leader. He was rightfully called the First American Intelligence Chief. He understood the need to recruit more civilians in the business of gathering information. As such, Nathaniel Sackett, who served on New York's Committee for Detecting & Defeating Conspiracies, was enlisted by Washington, in January of 1777, to recruit agents. Capt. Benjamin Tallmadge was selected by Washington as Sackett's Deputy. Tallmadge was a close friend of Nathan Hale from their days at Yale.

Tallmadge was Sackett's point man for espionage in Long Island. Sackett recruited agents and set about gathering intelligence that was passed ultimately to Washington himself. Sackett recognized the value of gathering information from embedded agents who passed intelligence gathered through a series of agents. By April, Tallmadge had been promoted and his intelligence function was put on hold. Sackett's techniques were better than his results and his services ceased by mid 1777. Washington continued to direct the activities of numerous agents, most notably Maj. John Clark who had worked for Sackett. He was not yet convinced of the value of embedded agents.

Meanwhile, information regarding the enemy in NYC was still near non-existent. In August of 1778, Washington received a letter from Lt. Caleb Brewster offering his service to report on the enemy. Caleb was an expert seaman who grew up in Setauket, Long Island. Tallmadge also grew up in Setauket and knew Brewster from childhood. Brewster was instructed to watch naval activities in support of troop movement. Brewster was very good at this. Soon, Washington directed Gen. Charles Scott to manage Brewster and find more agents. Washington also chose Tallmadge to aid Scott.

Tallmadge enlisted Abraham Woodhull who he also knew from his boyhood days in Setauket. With Washington and Scott's involvement, aliases were devised. Tallmadge was "John Bolton" and Woodhull "Samuel Culper" after Culpeper County, VA where Washington surveyed in 1749. Thus was the birth of the Culper Ring.

Scott and Tallmadge did not get along either personally or regarding tactics. Scott was from the old school while Tallmadge had learned of embedding agents under Sackett.

The traditional approach wasn't yielding information and Washington suggested to Scott that Tallmadge's approach ought to be tried. Soon afterwards, Scott bowed out and Tallmadge was free to begin to build his organization. Woodhull, perceived to be a Loyalist, would go to NYC, pick up intelligence, bring it back to Setauket where Brewster would take it across the Long Island Sound to Tallmadge and then on to Washington. Soon couriers were added to save Woodhull from making the trip to Setauket. They too were known men from Setauket, Austin Roe and Jonas Hawkins. Soon information was flowing nicely from NY to Washington. The Ring was using disappearing ink, enciphered messages, couriers, and drops. The CIA website called them the most professional of Washington's spies.

In mid 1779, Robert Townsend entered the Ring. He lived in NY and was considered a Loyalist by the British. He was a successful merchant and was well connected with the British. He would go by the name Samuel Culper Jr.. This was a relief to Woodhull who was burned out. Soon the chain was primarily Townsend to Roe to Woodhull (in Setauket) to Brewster to Tallmadge to Washington. Excellent information was flowing and at a quicker speed, something that Washington was always pushing for. A British plan to draw Washington out via a diversion was soon uncovered.

A number of other agents, some used only as needed, were added to the Ring. In July 1780 a plan to attack the newly arrived French fleet and troops was uncovered by the Ring averting a certain disaster. Also, ongoing British forgery activities (to undermine the Continental currency) were uncovered resulting in Congress recalling all its bills in circulation.

It's not clear how much information the Ring had uncovered regarding Benedict Arnold's treason but it was enough to alert Tallmadge when John Andre was captured. Initially Col. Jameson was going to send Andre back to Arnold with a note saying suspicious documents were found on him and that the documents had been sent to Washington. Tallmadge persuaded Jameson not to and eventually Andre confessed. Prior to the confession Jameson did send the letter to Arnold thus, unwittingly, alerting Arnold who skedaddled. In his interrogation of Andre, Tallmadge related the story of his friend Nathan Hale. Andre said that surely he didn't think his case and that of Hale's similar. Tallmadge supposedly replied "precisely similar and similar will be your fate."

After 1780, the Ring's intelligence gathering was not as successful. Partly because Arnold had information on the Americans' spy activities and that Tallmadge had an agent in NY. Members of the Ring became quite skittish. The cast of characters would change but it would not achieve the heights it enjoyed from 1778-1780. None the less, Washington would continue to use them in addition to now numerous other agents in NY. Built on mutual respect, Washington and Tallmadge would continue their close bond after the war. Tallmadge was present at Washington's Farewell. No other spy efforts enjoyed the success of the Culper Ring. Some call it the precursor of the CIA.

## Cadet Alexandra Provine Goes to West Point, New York

Alexandra Provine, accompanied by her mother, Linda Sipi, went to West Point Military Academy on the Hudson River in New York. She arrived on the first of July and reported at the training “Beast Barracks” on the second. Alex worked with the venture scouts this past spring on shooting. Her mother wrote a beautiful thank you note to the chapter for our \$550 scholarship which she received. Study hard this fall, Alex! We’re all pulling for your success.



(Cadet Alexandra Provine)

## Dr. A. Ruddell Byrd Installed as NSSAR Surgeon General a Second Time

Tucson Compatriot, Ruddell Byrd was installed for a second year at the 2012 Congress as the NSSAR Surgeon General. His duties include giving advice and assistance for maintaining the health of our members.



(Dr Byrd and his wife Gayle at the installation banquet)

## Tucson Members Become George Washington Fellows at Congress

John Niemeyer, Richard and Amanda Arndt, and our Arizona State Vice President, Art Cantrall were awarded George Washington Fellow Memberships at the Congress this year. Remember that all monies donated to the George Washington Endowment Fund are kept in trust and only 80% of the proceeds from the fund are used to benefit the SAR. Information can be found at

[http://www.sar.org/Committees/George\\_Washington\\_Endowment\\_Fund](http://www.sar.org/Committees/George_Washington_Endowment_Fund)



(Tucson member John Niemeyer and Arizona Vice President, Art Cantrall )



(Amanda and Richard Arndt getting their GW Fellow Pins at the \$1000 Club/GWEF Breakfast. Warren Alter is on the left and Frank Appl, GWEF Board Chairman is the man on the right.)

## 2012-13 Nat'l Committee Appointments

Tucson Chapter Society Members included are:

Ruddell Byrd - Color Guard Committee, Chairman of Council of State Presidents, Chairman of History Committee, Chairman of Medical Committee.

Warren Alter - Congress Planning Committee, GWEF Board and GWEF Fund Raising Committee, Chairman of Public Service & Heroism Committee, Vice-Chairman Magazine Committee, & member of 250<sup>th</sup> Anniv. of Am Rev War Celebration Committee.

Dick Zeilman - Library & Archives Committee

## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 09/15/12 Chapter Meeting

Skyline Country Club, BOM 7:30, Mtg 9:00am

### 10/20/12 Chapter Meeting

Skyline Country Club, BOM 7:30, Mtg 9:00am

### 11/10/12 Chapter Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday due to El Tour

Skyline Country Club, BOM 7:30, Mtg 9:00am



(Our 2012 Tucson Bugle Newsletter Award)

## Flag Day in Saddlebrook



(The Sons of the American Revolution, veterans, lodge members, and community volunteers escorted the flags. Pictured are Al Niemeyer and George Lippardt)

### Tucson BOM Contact Information

Members are welcome to contact any BOM member with suggestions or questions. See list below:

- President: James Williamson Email: [creedmoor20024@gmail.com](mailto:creedmoor20024@gmail.com)  
Phone: 405-4226
- Vice Pres: James Kimbrough Email: [sandcreekjim@gmail.com](mailto:sandcreekjim@gmail.com)  
Phone: 336-8597
- Sec-Treas: Gerard Lawford Email: [sandyatPD@aol.com](mailto:sandyatPD@aol.com)  
Phone: 797-0583
- Registrar/Genealogist: Warren Alter Email: [warrenalter@cox.net](mailto:warrenalter@cox.net)  
Phone: H):886-1980 W):351-4636 C):465-4015
- Genealogist Emeritus: Charles Harrar Email: [chas.harrar@gmail.com](mailto:chas.harrar@gmail.com)  
Phone: 296-4106
- Historian: Bob Vint, Jr. Email: [bob@vintarchitects.net](mailto:bob@vintarchitects.net)  
Phone: 323-0166
- Chaplain: Mark Blanchard Email: [mb62illini@yahoo.com](mailto:mb62illini@yahoo.com)  
Phone: 529-6229
- State Brd of Mgrs: John Lyons Email: [lyonsj5267@yahoo.com](mailto:lyonsj5267@yahoo.com)  
Phone: 834-5784
- Immediate Past President: John Lyons (see above)
- Chap Brd of Mgrs: Bill Aurand Email: [wraurand@cox.net](mailto:wraurand@cox.net)  
Phone: 574-2271
- Chap Brd of Mgrs: Lance Dickenson Email: [Lance5467@msn.com](mailto:Lance5467@msn.com)  
Phone: 818-2636
- Chap Brd of Mgrs: A. Rudy Byrd, MD Email: [arb3574144@pol.net](mailto:arb3574144@pol.net)  
Phone: 742-1672
- Chap Brd of Mgrs: George Lipphardt Email: [Gabbott46@comcast.net](mailto:Gabbott46@comcast.net)  
Phone: 818-0988
- Chap Brd of Mgrs: Al Niemeyer Email: [aljoy@dakotacom.net](mailto:aljoy@dakotacom.net)  
Phone: 744-4350
- Chap Brd of Mgrs: Scott Driver Email: [scott\\_driver@yahoo.com](mailto:scott_driver@yahoo.com)  
Phone: 955-0979
- Chap Brd of Mgrs: Richard Zeilman Email: [dickzoo@comcast.net](mailto:dickzoo@comcast.net)  
Phone: 575-0218

Web Site: <http://www.sar.org/azssar/tucson/index.html>

### Tucson Chapter WEBSITE LINK:

Your chapter's website has a great deal of information. Visit it at: <http://www.sar.org/azssar/tucson/index.html>  
Want to check the latest calendar events, go to: <http://www.sar.org/azssar/tucson/calendar.html>

### Tucson Chapter Birthdays

#### July Birthdays

#### August Birthdays

7/3 Roger Greenlees	8/1 Abraham R. Byrd
7/6 Daniel Gnau	8/3 Lauren Alter
7/13 James McBain	8/5 Brendan McGowen
7/14 Andrew McCreery	8/8 Charles Goddard
7/17 Scott Andrew Pettett	8/9 Willis Haas
7/18 William Michael Moore	8/10 Eugene Riebling
7/28 John Niemeyer	8/12 Richard Zeilman
7/30 Werner Harsch	8/15 Kirk Aurand
	8/18 Richard Arndt
	8/26 Jack Clark
	8/26 Michael Pavlich
	8/29 Ryan Lipphardt
	8/31 Jeffery Kimbrough

HAPPY BIRTHDAY COMPATRIOTS!

### Historical Quote

I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.  
[Nathan Hale](#)

"Nathan Hale." BrainyQuote.com. Xplore Inc, 2012. 31 July. 2012.  
[http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/n/nathan\\_hale.html](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/n/nathan_hale.html)