

SAR Sentinel

Oklahoma City Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



January 2017

Heading by Megan Sanford

Next meeting is Monday, January 9, 6 PM dinner, 7 PM meeting at Rococo's, North Park Mall

Help preserve and protect a crucial piece of the Battle of Lexington & Concord: **Parker's Revenge**



After brushing aside the Massachusetts militia on the Lexington Green the morning of April 19, 1775, things had not gone well for the British: the troops failed to find a large quantity of arms at Concord.

News of the British expedition and the deaths of militiamen on the green spread across eastern Massachusetts. By noon, the countryside swarmed with angry militia companies. A British ensign later wrote: "All the hills on each side of us were covered with rebels."

As the British column reached a curve in the road between the towns of Lincoln and Lexington, Captain John Parker and his Lexington militia were waiting for them. Parker's company included many men who had fought that morning. Some wore bandages stiffened from the blood of wounds they had suffered earlier. All were eager to revenge themselves and their dead neighbors. On a rocky hillside, Parker's men waited until the British were close, then opened fire. The British staggered, then charged the hill. Parker's men shot down several Regulars before retreating, losing a few more of their own.

The purpose of Campaign 1776 is to protect battlefields of the Revolutionary War and to educate about the importance of these battlefields in forging the nation we are today.

<http://www.campaign1776.org/>

This crucial part of the Battle of Lexington and Concord known as "Parker's Revenge" is a key moment in American history: rather than bow down and accept defeat, those patriots regrouped and helped set the stage for eventual victory. Today, Campaign 1776 announced an unprecedented effort to save one of the last remaining acres from that battle that can be preserved, along with a new initiative to conduct major archeological work on the battlefield to pinpoint the action.

President's Dispatch



Compatriots,

Happy New Year! Another year has gone and a new one is upon us. With a new President bringing unprecedented change to our domestic and foreign policies the year promises to be one to remember.

This Christmas I was treated to a book on my family history my mother had compiled years and which I had not read since high school. I was a treasure to be able to reminisce on old stories of my ancestors and the struggles they faced in the 20th century.

I also read about a project where students took genetic tests to discover their ancestors. There were many surprises in the tests, with some students discovering Irish, Arab, Chinese, or African descendants they knew

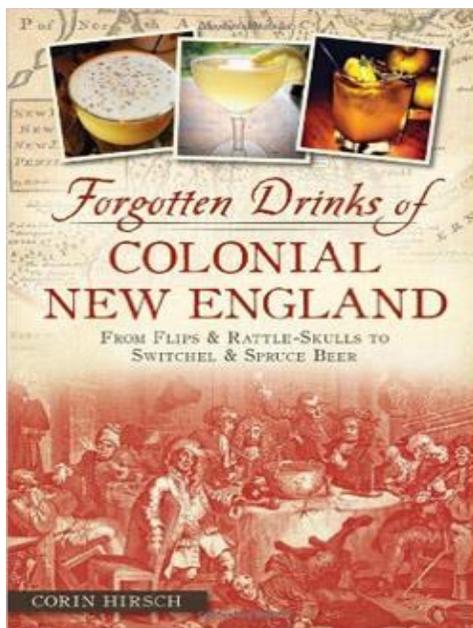
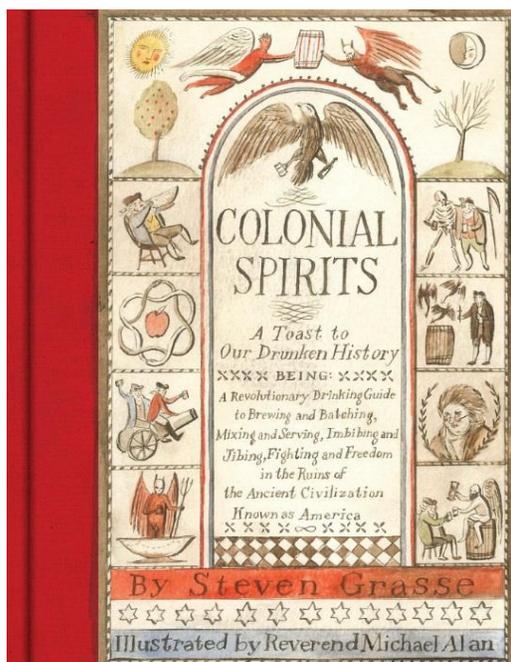
What was the reason for the American Revolution?

“No taxation without representation” – the rallying cry of the American Revolution – gives the impression that taxation was the principal irritant between Britain and its American colonies. But, in fact, taxes in the colonies were much lower than taxes in Britain. A British citizen paid 26 shillings in tax annually while the American colonists merely paid 1 shilling, says one source.

If this is true, what riled up the American colonists? The central grievance of the colonists could have been their lack of a voice in the government that ruled them. Robert Parkinson, an Assistant Professor of History at Binghamton University, provides a radical departure from this narrative in *The Common Cause: Creating Race and Class in the American Revolution*, however. Parkinson shows that the patriot coalition consciously and proactively used newspapers to propagate and disseminate revolutionary ideas. The ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness were only partially responsible for the fervor of the revolution, with racial fears resting at the heart of the discourse.

Parkinson makes exhaustive use of evidence from well over fifty different newspapers from across the colonies to present his thesis that the patriots, in their pro-revolutionary newspaper propaganda campaigns, participated in race-making that would come to define citizenship and liberty in the United States for decades to follow. Patriots capitalized on latent fears of slave insurrections and of Native American hostility, painting both groups as dangerous agents of the crown.

(Right) Colonial New England was awash in ales, beers, wines, cider and spirits. Everyone from teenage farm workers to our founding fathers imbibed heartily and often. Tipples at breakfast, lunch, teatime and dinner were the norm, and low-alcohol hard cider was sometimes even a part of children's lives.



(Left) Colonial Spirits: A Toast to Our Drunken History, tells the story of a time when water was full of deadly bacteria, making alcohol the safest liquid to consume. "I wanted to make this like a Betty Crocker kind of book," says Grasse. "This is not a book for snooty mixologists. These are culinary folktales."

nothing about. Projects and technology like these is making it easier to get students interested in their ancestry.

Any items that can be donated for our Veterans would be appreciated. Compatriot Patrick Cowan takes clothing, toiletries, or shoes to the VA every month.

Respect,
Kyle Reynolds

▪For **membership** inquiries, contact Secretary George Thompson at 405.722.1286 or gdt40@cox.net. Both Bob Thomas at 405.737.6181 or rbithomas@sbcglobal.net or Wayne Nash at 405.844.4740 or wlnash80128@gmail.com can assist you with locating the necessary documents.

▪For **website** (<http://okssar.com>) inquiries, contact Glenn Lee at 405.216.3275 or gleeedmond@gmail.com.

▪Like us on **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/okcsar) which is monitored by Michael Sanford at 405.445.9415.

▪Join the **Color Guard** by contacting Commander Terry Handley at 405.285.4933 or thandley1@me.com.

▪Chapter **meetings** are held on the second Monday of every month except June, July, and August, at Rococo's, 122nd & North May Ave in the North Park Mall in Oklahoma City. Members and their guests meet at 6 PM to place dinner orders with the business meeting starting at 7 PM.

▪**SAR Sentinel** is published monthly except June, July, and August. Article suggestions should be sent to Todd Murray at toddmurray65@att.net.