

SAR Sentinel

Oklahoma City Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



May, 2011

Heading by Megan Sanford

Next Meeting: Monday, May 9th, 6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting, Oklahoma BarBO, 50th & Meridian

New OKC/SAR membership represents 4 generations in Byford Family



OKC/SAR President Glenn Fast welcomes four generations of the Byford family to the OKC/SAR chapter. Top row from left to right: David Wyatt Byford, David Wayne Byford, President Fast, Dennis Wayne Byford; front row: Dennis Wayne Byford, Sr., Cleo Junior Byford, and Michael Christian. The Byford family patriot ancestor is David Lindsey. [individual pictures on page two]



2011-12 New OKSSAR officers installed during state meeting April 2nd, Quail Creek G&CC, Oklahoma City, OK

New officers from left to right: Peter Keltch, Trustee; Stuart Denslow, President; Ron Nicholson, 1st VP; Darrell Hensley, 2nd VP; Joe West, Sec/Tres; Glenn Fast, Historian; Glenn Lee, Register; Bil Gaddis, Chaplin; Frank Appl, Alt. Trustee

Chapter President's Report

“At the Fall Planning Meeting this past August, I requested that the May meeting be reserved for a business meeting atmosphere. This would give those who could not be present at that meeting or the next planning meeting later this summer an opportunity to be involved.



It also provides an opportunity to discuss (or cuss) those topics that might otherwise absorb time otherwise previously scheduled. This can be one of those “open-line” agendas.

In my assistance to Col. Melton’ search, I have a special Wounded Warrior to be recognized from the Korean Conflict.

I hope this meeting will be a time to reflect and enjoy the fellowship. If you cannot attend, please be safe in your events and travels in the next few months, and I hope to see you again this September.

In patriotism”

Glenn Fast

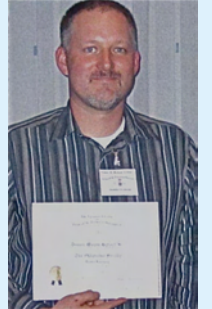
New Members: by Wayne Nash



Great Grandfather Cleo Junior Byford & daughter Carol Hall



Grandfather Dennis Wayne Byford, Sr.



Dennis Wayne Byford, Jr. 3rd generation



David Wayne Byford, brother of Dennis Wayne Byford, Jr., 3rd generation



David Wyatt Byford, twin brother of Michael Christian Byford, 4th generation



Michael Christian Byford, twin brother of David Wyatt Byford, 4th generation

Patriot Ancestor of the Byford family is David Lindsey



Fall Leadership Meeting, September 30th-Oct. 1, Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky; National Society, Sons of the American Revolution, 1000 S. 4th St. Louisville, KY 40203-3292 Ph: (502) 589-1776; fax: (502)589-1671; email: nssar@sar.org; WEBSITE: www.sar.org ; Director of Genealogy: Susan Acree, Ext. 6136; sacree@sar.org.



Teresa Potter, re in-acting Penelope Barker during the April meeting made a fabulous presentation of the Barker led Tea Party of October 25, 1774. Patriots all over the colonies followed Barker's lead and began boycotting British goods. Thank you Teresa Potter for a very educational and most entertaining presentation.

SAVE THESE DATES:

July 8-13th, 121st Annual Congress of SAR: Winston-Salem, NC @ Marriott Hotel; August 19-20, S. Central District SAR Meeting, Kansas City, MO

From the desk of: Robert R. Thomas, Chapter Registrar: With the Byford family we now have 110 members and 13 applications pending. HELP YOUR CHAPTER GROW: Do you have a son, grandson, brother or male family member or friend who may be interested in making application for membership in SAR? Contact Robert Thomas, Chapter Registrar (405-737-6181) rbjthomas@sbcglobal.net; and Wayne Nash (405-844-4740) pnwnash@sbcglobal.net, who are available to assist in the genealogy and locate necessary documents (no charge).

YOU'RE WELCOME TO JOIN THE COLOR GUARD, for more information & details please contact Color Guard Commander Henry Baer @ 720-2909. See article & picture in the national SAR Magazine, Winter addition , Page 35-36.

Please join your fellow Compatriots in attending the OKC/SAR meeting on Monday, May 9th, 6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting; Oklahoma BarBQ @ 50th & Meridian, OKC. For more info contact Wayne Nash (405)844-4740.

BOOK REVIEW BY COMPATRIOT JOHN PRIDDY, ON PAGE THREE:

Henry Knox, General Washington's General

by North Callahan

1958, A. S. Barnes and Company

Henry Knox is a name frequently unknown to many Americans, but its bearer is a key member of America's pantheon of Revolutionary heroes. This biography by North Callahan amply captures his personal complexities and the significant contributions he made to the founding of our country. Born and raised in Boston, Knox was the son of a shipbuilder who deserted his family for the West Indies, compelling young Henry to leave school at age 12 to support his mother and siblings by clerking in a local book shop. At his maturity he opened his own book store, the "London Bookstore," which soon became one of the social centers for Boston's elite. The author defines Knox as a young man committed to advancement and affluence, with a voracious appetite for reading and self-education, and a prescient preference for military history. Common to the times, young Henry joined the local militia, an artillery unit under British command, showing an early predilection for the arm which forever after he'd be most closely associated with. When Massachusetts revolted against Great Britain, Knox gained early experience under General Artemas Ward during the Battle of Bunker Hill. He came into his own during the subsequent siege of Boston, first by befriending General George Washington, newly appointed commander in chief of the fledgling revolutionary army, and then for proposing and successfully accomplishing one of the most spectacular military feats of the war. Author Callahan provides a vivid account of Knox's planning and execution of the removal and movement to Washington's army at Boston, during a bitter winter, of 59 cannons and mortars from captured Forts Ticonderoga and Stony Point. Enabling Washington to exploit the Dorchester Heights and dominate Boston and its harbor, Knox's massed artillery compelled the British to evacuate Boston and provided Washington and his army with their first victory. Knox rapidly became one of Washington's closest advisors in addition to being appointed his chief of artillery. He later established training schools for artillerymen and foundries to cast the revolutionary army's cannon. The author continues with ample details of Knox's participation in several of the key battles of the Revolution, including Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth and Yorktown. Not to be neglected is Knox's domestic life. Callahan paints a compelling family portrait of the General's marriage to Lucy Flucker, the daughter of Boston Loyalists who fled with the British army when they evacuated the city. Herself a formidable, somewhat brash woman, Lucy never saw her parents again. Basically homeless, she managed, similar to Martha Washington, to accompany her husband on many of his campaigns through out the war. Callahan follows the war years by detailing Knox's service as the new nation's first Secretary of War, responsible for sustaining and improving a small national army and for dealing with matters involving the government's relationship with Native American tribes. Knox's influence in creating the US Military Academy at West Point and his role in re-establishing a navy are also related, together with his role as a founder of the Society of the Cincinnati, a fraternal organization for direct descendants of Revolutionary army and navy officers which created interesting problems for George Washington as well as Knox himself. The biography concludes with explaining issues leading to the deterioration in Knox's relationship with Washington, as well as his profligate spending habits and penchant for shaky land deals which would ultimately lead to financial ruin and discolor his otherwise illustrious history. While somewhat dated, *Henry Knox, General Washington's General*, provides an excellent portrait of an often forgotten founding father and the justifiably acclaimed "Father of US Artillery." And at 385 pages, it is a relevant, informative and very enjoyable read.

Henry Knox, General Washington's General

Reviewed by Compatriot John Priddy