

Republic Reporter

Little Known Facts about the September 11, 1777, Battle of Brandywine

The one-day Battle began at 3:30 a.m. and lasted nigh unto midnight.

It was a victory won at great expense for the British. Their casualties were estimated at about 2,000; American casualties, at about 1,200. The British took 5 days to regroup and move on; the Americans marched over 40 miles the next day.

The American Loyalist unit, the Queen’s York Rangers, greatly distinguished themselves on the field. After the war, they founded a city in the Canadian wilderness (Toronto) and became the first, and still active, unit of the Canadian army.

Two of the American units that served on the Battlefield are still in operation today. They are the 3rd U.S. Infantry (the Old Guard) and the 111th and 113th Pennsylvania National Guard.

The Marquis de LaFayette joined the Continental Army just before Brandywine. He showed such courage and energy, carrying on even when wounded, that he became a permanent favorite with George Washington and many of the soldiers.

The local citizens were devastated by the fighting and the subsequent foraging by both armies. Three townships were so stricken that they were exempt from providing tax returns for several years.

African-American Edward Hector, a private in Proctor’s Pennsylvania Artillery, received a very rare honor—the formal thanks of Congress for outstanding bravery. He rescued some of the Artillery’s equipment in the face of Hessian advance.

The first effective use of cavalry took place at the Battle of Brandywine, under the command of Casimir Pulaski, a Polish volunteer. He helped cover Washington’s retreat from the Battle of Brandywine.

General Howe and the British troops never missed a meal. Howe authorized the advance guard’s early afternoon break—for tea—at Osborne Hill. And, according to one account, before 9 p.m. they sat down and refreshed themselves with cold pork and grog.

Thanks to the [Delaware County Planning Department](#) for this list.

Source: <http://www.chaddsfordhistory.org/history/battle.htm>

Republic Chapter Officers

- President
Compatriot Ken Betterton
- Vice President
Compatriot David Devin
- Secretary/
Treasurer
Compatriot Archie Mustard
- Registrar
Compatriot Willis Meisenheimer
- Editor
Compatriot Johnny Alexander

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The Republic Chapter of the National Sons of the American Revolution

Our meetings are generally the third Saturday of the month. We meet at the Sizzler Restaurant located at 1151 Lancaster Drive NE in Salem, OR. We start our meetings at Noon.

We have a variety of interesting speakers and our own members give presentations on their Patriot Ancestors.

Upcoming meetings:
September 18, 2010
Christy Van Heukelem
Salem Public Library

October 16, 2010

November 20, 2010

December 18, 2010

Important September dates in 1777

Sep 1 - Battle of Fort Henry, Wheeling, VA.

Sep 3 - Sharp skirmishes near Cooch's Bridge (near Newark) DE left several Americans dead. This is likely where the "stars and stripes" flag (approved only three months previously) was first flown in battle.

Sep 9 - John Jay opens the Court of New York in Kingston as its Chief Justice.

Sep 11 - Battle of Brandywine PA.

Sep 11 - Engagement at Chadd's Ford

Sep 18 - The Americans are defeated at Lake George NY.

Sep 19 - The British invasion from Canada is checked at the first battle of Saratoga NY (fought near Freeman's Farm in the Bemis Heights area near Stillwater NY).

Sep 20 - Many Americans die at Paoli PA during a surprise night attack by British troops (under Gen. Grey) using bayonets only.

Sep 23 - Engagement at Diamond Island NY

Sep 24 - Battle of Diamond Island NY.

Sep 26 - Triumphant British march into Philadelphia PA.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orrcsar/>

President's Message

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer. It's ended too soon! Our first meeting after the summer break is coming up.

The Liberty Bell ringing event on July 4th at the State Capitol was well attended and a success. I was not able to attend as I was flying back to Salem from Congress in Cleveland on July 4. The same for the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes baseball game that evening. SAR and DAR were well represented. I hear the event honoring veterans was a great success.

At the Board of Managers' meeting on July 10, the Board voted to amend some bylaws and propose changes to the Society's Constitution. The Board voted on and approved the bylaw changes at the August 28 picnic. The proposed changes to the Constitution will be addressed by the membership at the annual meeting in October.

The August 28 picnic hosted by the Lewis & Clark Chapter was well attended. The weather was perfect, the food tasty and plentiful. Compatriot Bennett Wight and wife Lynn and I attended from our Chapter.

Dues are due! Compatriot Willis sent the notices to members recently. We raised the Chapter dues to \$15 from \$7. The extra money is needed to keep up with expenses.

It's about that time of year to select Chapter officers for next year. Compatriot David Devin has agreed to be President next year; Bennett Wight will be Vice President; Treasurer will be Johnny Alexander; Chapter Trustee will be Bob Harrison; and Chaplin will be Dick Duer. We still need a secretary and a registrar. Compatriots Archie Mustard and Willis Meisenheimer have elected not to continue in those positions next year. We need members to fill these two important posts in the chapter.

The speaker for the September meeting will be Christy Van Heukelem. She works for the Salem Public Library and is an expert on genealogy. She also has written books on Salem history. We also plan to induct a new member at the September meeting, Shawn O'Neil, an attorney with the Oregon Department of Justice.

Plan to attend the September meeting.