



Pine Shavings



PineyWoods Chapter #51 Texas Society of Sons of the American Revolution



Dear Fellow Compatriots,

PineyWoods Chapter Member and Friends,

Fall may be here at last and I want to remind you of our Chapter Business meeting this week on Thursday **October 16, 2014, 6:30 PM, at Jimmy Gs.**

This is an important time for the chapter. All of our Youth Contests for NSSAR and TXSSAR scholarships for Eagle Scouts, JROTC Cadets, Essay Contestants for 9-12 graders, and the Oration or Speech Contestants for 9-12 graders should be submitted by December 31st, 2014 (Some may due in January 2015). We have a Poster Contest for students in the 5th grade and this fall the poster subjects are "*George Rogers Clark*" or "*Lexington and Concord*". Contest rules for subject and design can be found on the NSSAR Web-site under Youth Education. There is a new Brochure Contest for middle school students; in the 6th, 7th, 8th, or 9th grade, depending on what grade they study the American Revolution. This year

topic is "*The Foundation Documents of the United States*". The Scholarship contests have been briefly outlined in the electronic version of this newsletter. All contest details are found at our National Web-site under Outreach Education – www.sar.org. The contests will be discussed in the chapter meeting on the 16th.

Our two year Officer terms will end this next March 2015. It's time to prepare the slate of officers for terms beginning in March 2015-2017. The list needs to be announced in January 2015.

I would like to welcome our newest members to the chapter and ask each of you to attend our meetings. In August, John Collins and Jim Pinkerton were inducted into the SAR. Jim's son also became a member of our chapter. Their Membership packages were mailed to the wrong chapter but we have them now. Congratulations, Jim and John. Learning more of about our ancestors is fun and can be a challenge.

I will be on vacation in Italy beginning Monday so will miss the meeting. I have asked Past President Larry Stevens to fill in for me.

Ben Stallings
October 12, 2014

Meetings—2014

October 16, 2014 - Member
November 20, 2014 - Member/Guest
December 18, 2014 - Member

Meeting— October 16th
Member
Jimmy G's
307 N. Sam Houston E. Parkway, Greenspoint
6:30 p.m.

RSVP for the Meeting

Please respond with the number of people attending and names by Tuesday before the meeting date.

ASAP to Larry Stevens wardtracker@aol.com or 281 361-2061

This Month in the Revolution

Capt.. Patrick Ferguson

October 4-5, 1778 - Mincock Island (Egg Harbor), New Jersey -British Captain Patrick Ferguson led combined force of British regulars and Loyalists attempts to eradicate this nest of privateers a few miles north of what is today Atlantic City. About 50 colonials die in a surprise attack in the darkness before driving off the British and capturing some of them. Colonel Kazimierz Pulaski arrive the next morning to late to stop what was called a massacre but did stop Ferguson from attacking the iron works at Batsto and from raiding privateers at The Forks of the Mullica River.



Colonel Kazimierz Pulaski



October 8, 1778 - The Raid on Unadilla and Onaquaga was a series of military operations by Continental Army forces and New York militia against the Iroquois towns of Unadilla and Onaquaga in what is now upstate New York. In early October 1778, more than 250 men under the command of Lieutenant Colonel William Butler of the 4th Pennsylvania Regiment descended on the two towns (which had been abandoned because of their advance) and destroyed them, razing most of the buildings and taking or destroying provisions. The raid was executed in retaliation for a series of raids on frontier communities led by Mohawk chief Joseph Brant and British-supported Loyalists during the spring and summer of 1778. Unadilla was located in what is now the Village of Unadilla, Town of Unadilla, Otsego County, and Onaquaga was located in what is now the Town of Windsor, Broome County.



October 22, 1779 - The New York Act of Attainder or Confiscation Act - New York passed a famous bill on this date: fifty-nine loyalists-including three former governors, Lords Tryon, Dunmore, and Oliver De Lancey and fifty-nine other high-ranking colonial officials were declared guilty of having “voluntarily been adherent” to George III, “with Intent to subvert the Government and Liberties of this State.” New York’s constitution had outlawed bills of attainder, but made an exception for crimes “committed before the termination of the present war,” thereby authorizing more than a thousand attainders during the Revolution.

Jefferson drafted the bill May 28, and introduced it to the legislature the same day. It begins:

“Whereas a certain Josiah Philips labourer of the parish of Lynhaven and county of Princess Anne together with divers others . . . have levied war against this Commonwealth, . . . and whereas the delays which would attend the proceeding to outlaw the said offenders according to the usual forms and procedures of the courts of law would leave the said good people for a long time exposed to murder and devastation. Be it therefore enacted by the General assembly that if the said Josiah Philips his associates and confederates shall not on or before the last day of June in this present year render themselves to the Governor . . . then [they] shall stand and be convicted and attainted of high treason, and shall suffer the pains of death.”

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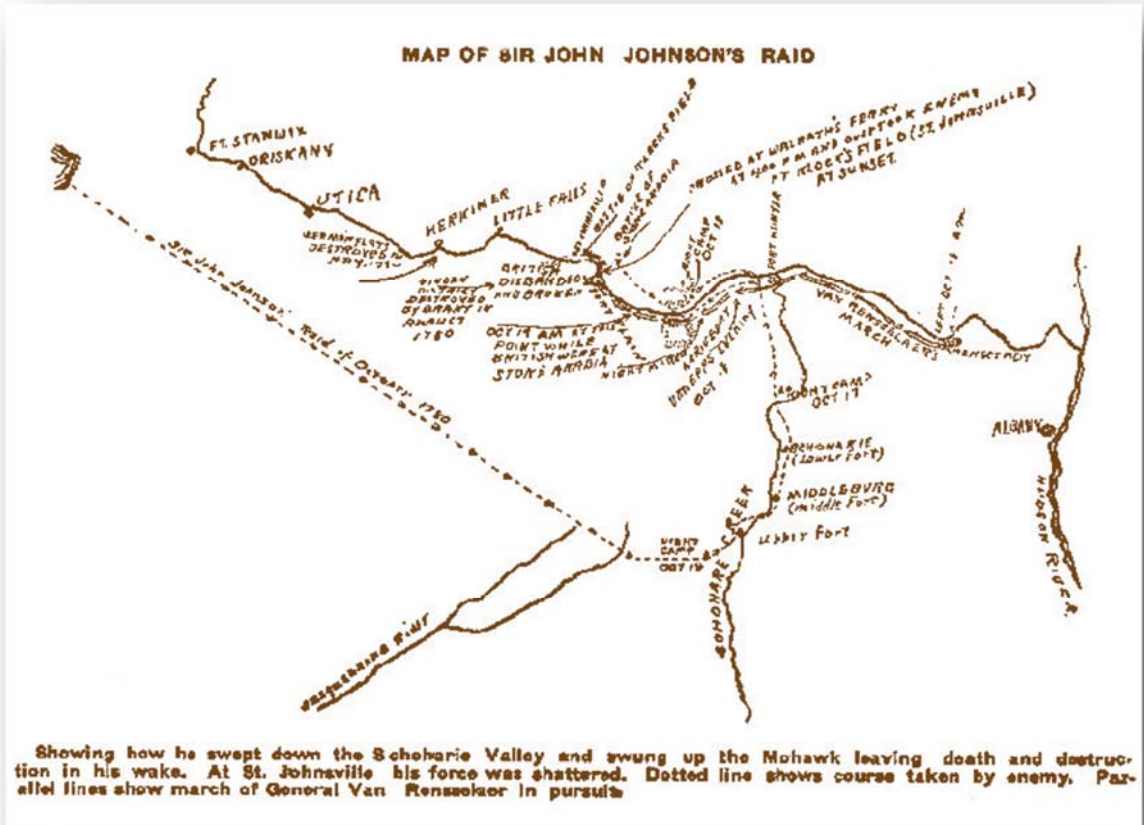
October 7, 1780 - Battle of Kings Mountain, South Carolina -Major Patrick Ferguson and his entire force of 1,100 Loyalists are either killed, captured, or wounded in this engagement with 1,400 frontiersmen led by Colonel William Campbell. Ferguson is the only individual in the battle that is not an American. The Loyalists forces rely on massed fire from volleys and the bayonet while the Americans use long rifles to pick the Loyalists off at long range, including Ferguson, who was killed by being shot off his horse while leading an ill-fated charge. For more complete descriptions of the Battle of Kings Mountain see earlier PineShavings.

October 15, 1780 - Action at Middleburg (Middle Fort), New York - A combined force of 1,000 British regulars, Hessians, Loyalists, and Indians led by Sir John Johnson and Chief Joseph Brant attempt an unsuccessful attack upon Middleburg. The fort is manned by Major Melanchthon Woolsey and only 200 Continental soldiers that, unknown to the British, are low on ammunition. The British forces retreat in the direction of the Schoharie Valley and content themselves with destroying everything in their path.

October 19, 1780 - Battle at Fort Keyser or Palatine or Stone Arabia, New York -Colonel John Brown commands a force of 130 militia at the fort located in Palatine. Brown receives assurances that General Robert Van Rensselaer's forces will arrive in time to succor the garrison. Based on this information Brown sallies forth from the fort and attacks his besiegers led by Sir John Johnson, whose force is ten times as large as Brown's. Brown and one-third of his men die when Van Rensselaer's force fails to attack Johnson's rear.

“Learning at this place that Fort Paris, in Stone Arabia, about 20 miles northwest from the American camp, was to be attacked the following morning, Gen. Van Rensselaer sent a note to Col. John Brown, its gallant commander, to turn out and head the enemy at nine o'clock and he would fall upon his rear.Col. Brown, a very brave man left his little fortress and led his men to attack the foe. Said George Bauder, who died at Palatine Bridge about 1857, who was a boy present and saw him start, Col. Brown paraded his men, mounted upon a small black horse, and thus led them from Fort Paris, and tradition says he was on horseback when he fell. After marching some distance from the fort, lest the letter of Gen. Van Rensselaer should fall into the hands of the enemy, he dispatched a messenger with it to the fort. As this letter could not afterwards be found at the fort, it was conjectured that possibly the bearer had acted the traitor, and borne it directly to the enemy, as the greater part of his forces united soon after the firing began between Brown and the advance. “ From a personal account of J. Becker, New York frontiersman.

October 19, 1780 - Battle of Klock's Field, New York - After his victory at Fort Keyser, Sir John Johnson's force is pursued by General Robert Van Rensselaer's militia. Johnson ambushes his pursuers near Fort Plain. The American militia manages to repulse the British attack but misses an opportunity to decisively defeat the British when Van Rensselaer refuses to mount a counterattack



Membership News

New member James Pinkerton and his son Scott were approved for membership in July of 2014.

Their patriot was Private Samuel Rowan who fought from York County, SC before moving to Alabama where he received his pension.

Jim is retired and has for many years participated in the "Why America is Free" program at the school where his wife is Principal.

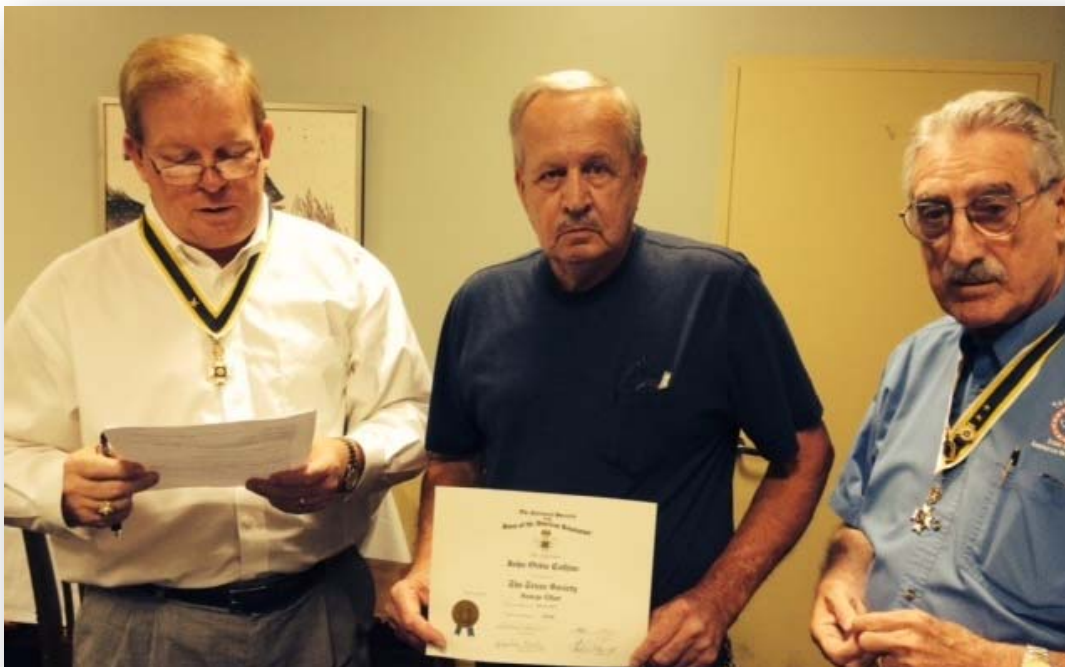
Pictured at right is Jim with President Ben Stallings after being inducted into SAR at our meeting in August.

We also had news that the application of Todd Simmons was approved on the 30th of September. His certificate and membership packet have not been received by the Chapter.

Kermit Breed has been busy this summer working on applications, as I have been very busy I greatly appreciate his hard work and look forward to seeing more of his fine genealogical work! He is currently working on the application for Marty Landry. I am working on the application for Stephen Gorman, son of our late member Rodney Gorman III.

At our August Meeting we were also pleased to swear in new compatriot John Collins. Our good friend from the Freedom chapter John Meredith worked with John to complete his application. John's patriot is George Elliot, an Irishman. He was naval captain during the Revolutionary War.

Pictured at left are President Ben Stallings, new Compatriot John Collins, and former TXSAR President, and two time Piney-Woods President, James T. Jones, Jr. John has just been inducted into SAR.



Calendar of Events

National Society

George Washington Parade – Laredo, Texas – 21 February 2015

Spring Leadership – Friday, 6 Mar 2015 – Saturday, 7 March 2015 – Brown Hotel, Louisville

125th NSSAR Congress – Friday, 26 June 2015 – 1 July 2015 – Galt Hotel, Louisville

Fall Leadership – Friday, 25 September 2015 – Saturday, 26 September 2015

Texas Society

Fall BOM – 7 November 2014 – 9 November 2014 – Hilton Garden Inn, Temple, Texas

Texas Youth Scholarship Contests—2014

The Texas Society of the Sons of the American is offering \$2,500 Scholarships to first place winners of the Texas Society Scholarships. These are not cash awards. The Scholarships are used to help with expenses at institutions of higher learning and are transferred to the institution of choice for the students use. Applications must be submitted to a State Society Chapter.

Texas Society first place contestants are automatically entered in the National Society Contests. The Texas Society contests are at part of the National Society competitions thus using the National Society Contest guidelines and rules.

The PineyWoods Chapter 51 participates in all youth contests using the guidelines found on the National Society Sons of the American Revolution – www.sar.org The PineyWoods Chapter may be contacted for details and how to obtain and submit scholarship application. The list of our officers may be found in our chapter newsletter, “Pine Shavings” or on our chapter Web-site – PineyWoods Chapter 51 www.txssar.org/PineyWood.

Examples of applications and essays can be found on the National Web-site for each contest.

The Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest - Chapter Contact Jeff LaRochelle (Or Chapter President)

Texas Scholarship – First Place - \$2,500 (National Society - \$8,000 – First Place)

The winner of the Texas Society Contest is forwarded on to the National Society Contest (see more complete information and the necessary application and release form at http://www.sar.org/Youth/Eagle_Scout).

Eligibility:-

- ◇ All Eagle Scouts registered in an active unit
- ◇ Must not have reached 19th Birthday in calendar year (1 Jan. to 31 Dec.)
- ◇ May apply more than once but cannot be awarded more than \$2,500 in the Texas Society contest
- ◇ Entrants need to complete only one application - the one for the entire competition.
- ◇ The application consists of:
 1. The two page application form
 2. The Four Generation ancestor chart
 3. The 500 word essay
- ◇ 4. A completed Permission/Release Form

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The Knight Essay Scholarship Contest *Chapter Contact – Chapter Vice President or President*
Texas Scholarship – First Place - \$2,500 (National Society - \$2,000 – First Place)

The winner of the Texas Society Contest is forwarded on to the National Society Contest (see more complete information and the necessary application and release form at <http://www.sar.org/Youth>).

Essay:

An original researched and proven topic written in English.

Topic – an event, person, philosophy or ideal associated with the American Revolution, The Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the Constitution. NOTE: during the 2014-2015 contest year, to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the Magna Charta, a contest may also choose a topic that relates to Magna Charta and its influence on the American Revolution or one or more of the founding fathers.

The ESSAY must have at least five (5) references with the minimum of three (3) published books sources.

NOTE: Encyclopedias or Internet Sites will be accepted but ARE NOT a part of the three (3) published book sources.

The ESSAY must: 1) have a title page; 2) essay pages; 3) bibliography, 4) contestant's biography.

See - www.sar.org/Youth

Eligibility: Texas high school freshmen through seniors – public, private and home-schooled.

Follow National Society Sons of the American Revolution rules. See the NSSAR Web site.

Key date for students --- December 31st postmark or before:

Mail Knight Essay entries to TXSSAR Chapter President or Chapter Officer..

The Knight Essay State Chairman can help you locate a TXSSAR chapter.

Provide signed parent/guardian release form with entry.

The JROTC Enhanced Scholarship Contest—contact Committee Chairman – Larry Blackburn
PhD

Texas Scholarship – First Place - \$2,500 (National Society - \$2,000 – First Place)

The winner of the Texas Society Contest is forwarded on to the National Society Contest (see more complete information and the necessary application and release form at <http://www.sar.org/Youth>).

The enhanced JROTC program is for Outstanding Cadets in their JUNIOR year of JROTC (a Third Year Cadet-11th grade) in a four year program. For a two year JROTC program, a Second Year Cadet may be selected.

Information, forms and rules, are available at the National Society Web Site. A signed release form must accompany each entry or it will be disqualified. No Social Security number is to be placed on this work.

The Application includes the following (for the Chapter, State, and for National Competition.)

1. Copy of the application,
2. Parental release form,
3. Recommendation by Principal with verification of GPA and Class standing.,
2. Recommendation by Senior JROTC Instructor with specific comments about the Cadet's leadership potential,
3. Original Essay by the Cadet, of 500 to 700 words. The essay must be double-spaced and contain a word count at the end of the essay. The topic is - "How JROTC has prepared me to be a better citizen of the United States of America."

Submission to the Chapter must be by January 15, 2015.

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The Oration Scholarship Contest—contact Chairman – Jim Mitchell or Larry Stevens

Texas Scholarship – First Place - \$2,500

National Society - \$4,000 – First Place

A. The information outlined below is intended to assist our TXSSAR members, chapter presidents, regional oration chairpersons, and youth committee members on how to proceed conduct an Oration Contest. All necessary registration, judging forms, guidelines, and rules are found by going to the [National SAR Website](#). A completed [Permission/Release Form](#) must also submitted with your entry package.

1. The contest will be held in preliminary round(s) by state societies and/or chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution to select one winner from each participating state. In districts where no state society sponsors an entrant, a district entry is permitted. Each participating state society or district should provide information regarding the contest to senior high school, parochial, private and home-schooled speech and/or history teachers and principals or counselors as early as possible.
2. The contest is open to *all students* of the *freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes (Grades 9 - 12)* in the *public, parochial, private and home schools* within the jurisdiction of the sponsoring state society or district. The oration must be original of not less than five minutes or more than six minutes.
3. The subject shall deal with an event, personality, or document pertaining to the Revolutionary War and show a relationship to America today. The oration must be essentially the same as the submitted manuscript. Notes and props (including military uniforms) may not be used in the presentation.

Chapter Competition	Regional Competition	State Competition
Before January 14, 2015	January 15 through February 21, 2015	Saturday, March 28, 2015 12:00pm noon TXSSAR 120th Annual Spring Convention

National Americanism Poster Contest

This contest is directed at students in the 3rd, 4th or 5th grades, depending on which year the American Revolution is taught in their educational system - including ecumenical and home schooled students.

The contest is also open to members of the Cub Scouts and Brownies and CAR (Children of the American Revolution) who are in the same grades but whose school system may not be participating in the contest. In the case where the local school system, or its equivalent, is participating, the young person must enter the contest through the school and not as a separate entry. The 2014-2015 Contest Topic is either **George Rogers Clark** or **Lexington and Concord**. Strict rules for content and preparation are available on the website.



Letter from the Editor

Barbara and I traveled a lot during the last few weeks; to San Jose, Costa Rica; Baltimore; and New York City. All were a lot of fun. Touring Ft. McHenry with the War of 1812 men's and women's society was great. We were treated like royalty at the evenings festivities and fireworks. In NYC we visited Fraunces Tavern and Museum. The Sons of the Revolution (not to be confused with SAR) rescued the building years ago from city demolishing plans and now own and operate the Museum. We did enjoy hoisting a pint and having plates of fish and chips in the tavern. General George Washington gave his farewell speech to his officers in the tavern at the end of the Revolution. Please submit to me articles on your ancestors for the next issues.

Larry G. Stevens, Editor

Fort McHenry – Baltimore Towne, Maryland

Larry G. Stevens - Editor

September 10 through September 14, 2014, Barbara and I traveled to Baltimore to attend the 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812 Battle of Fort McHenry. We were joined by Conni and Ron Barker. Ron is a Piney-Woods member and past president now living back in his home state, California. (Mine also). Ron, Barbara and I all belong to War of 1812 Societies so we attended all of the functions. The National Society made a



rather large donation and bought a new cannon, a 20 pounder, so Society members had center stage seats about 10 rows from the stage for the Saturday evening program and fireworks. It was absolutely amazing.

Curiosity lead me to learn more about Fort McHenry and the attacks of Britain on the Capitol and Baltimore in 1814.

The Battle for Baltimore; Washington in Peril

In 1814, the British landed 4000 British troops at Benedict in

Southern Maryland. A British fleet was also sailing up the Potomac River towards the Port of Alexandria while another was sailing up the Chesapeake. Washington was obviously a target but so was Annapolis and Baltimore. American leaders soon realized the 4000 British Army was marching directly on Washington DC. Thousands of militiamen and soldiers attacked the British at Bladensburg on August 24, 1814 which is just a few miles east of the Capitol. The Americans were poorly trained and led so the attempt to turn the Redcoats failed. The British raided Washington burning buildings, like the Capitol and the White House. President James Madison, wife Dolly and several hundred residents fled the city taking documents like the Declaration of Independence with them.



Painting of the militia soldiers firing at the Battle of North Point by Don Troiani, at which the Maryland State Militia were able to hold off a British land attack in southeastern Baltimore County on the "Patapsco Neck" long enough to further organize the successful land and naval defense of the city of Baltimore

The British did not wait long to attack the stronghold of Baltimore.

Baltimore had been preparing for an assault. The British attacked by sea and land. A large force

was landed at North Point on September 12, 1814. They were met by a group of US sharp shooters who killed Major General Robert Ross. A bloody battle followed. The next day the British again marched on Baltimore only to be met by a large force of American Militia and artillery. Their advance was stopped and after considering a night attack, they decided to wait the outcome of a sea attack on Fort McHenry.



Plan of Fort McHenry 1819 and much as is was in 1814

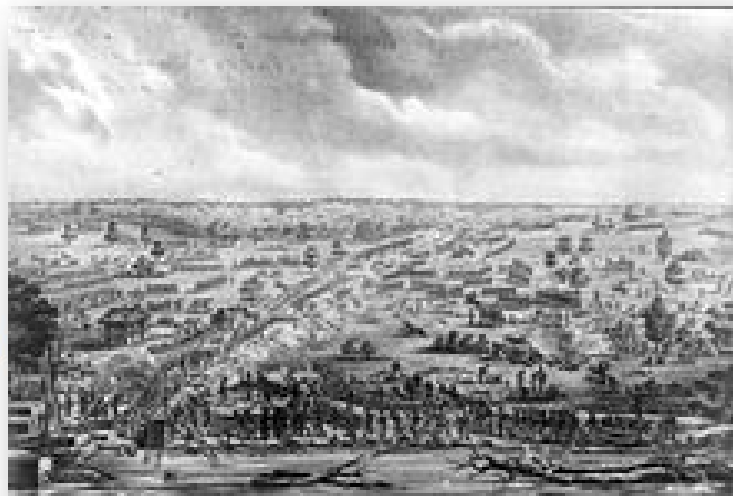
American Major George Armistead, Commander of the fort, had prepared his men for a long fight. The British ships lay out of range of the forts cannons in the Patapsco River.

"Beginning at 6:00 a.m. on 13 September 1814, British warships under the command of Vice Admiral Alexander Cochrane continuously bombarded Fort McHenry for 25 hours.^[4] The American defenders had 18-, 24- and 32-pounder (8.2, 11 and 17 kg) cannons. The British guns had a range of 2 miles (3 km), and the British rockets had a 1.75-mile (2.8 km) range, but neither guns nor rockets were accurate. The British ships were unable to pass

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Fort McHenry and penetrate Baltimore Harbor because of its defenses, including a chain of 22 sunken ships, and the American cannons. They were, however, able to come close enough at maximum range to fire rockets and mortars at the fort. Due to the poor accuracy of the British weapons at maximum range, and the limited range of the American guns, very little damage was done on either side before the British, having depleted their ammunition, ceased their attack on the morning of 14 September. Thus the naval part of the British invasion of Baltimore had been repulsed. Only one British warship, a bomb vessel, received a direct hit from the fort's return fire, which wounded one crewman.



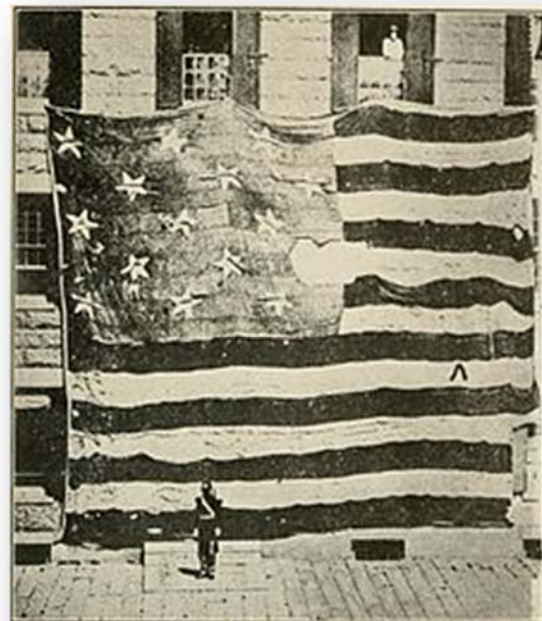
Picture – Battle of New Orleans

The Americans, under the command of Major George Armistead, did suffer casualties, which amounted to four killed, including one African-American soldier and a woman who was cut in half by a bomb as she carried supplies to the troops, and 24 wounded. At one point during the bombardment, a bomb crashed through the fort's powder magazine. Fortunately for the defenders, either the rain extinguished the fuse or the bomb was merely a dud.” (National Park Service)

After the loss at Lake Champlain and Fort McHenry, Britain and America negotiated a settlement to the conflict called the Treaty of Ghent. However, the treaty was not ratified until the 19th of February, 1815, after Andy Jackson defeated the British at the Battle of New Orleans.

The Star Spangled Banner

Flag that flew over Fort McHenry during its bombardment in 1814, which was witnessed by Francis Scott Key. The family of Major Armistead, the commander of the fort, kept the flag until they donated it to the Smithsonian in 1912.



Francis Scott Key, a Washington lawyer who had come to Baltimore to negotiate the release of Dr. William Beanes, a civilian prisoner of war, witnessed the bombardment from a nearby truce ship. An oversized American flag had been sewn by Mary Pickersgill for \$405.90 in anticipation of the British attack on the fort. When Key saw the flag emerge intact in the dawn of September 14, he was so moved that he began that morning to compose the poem "Defence of Fort McHenry" which would later be renamed "The Star-Spangled Banner" and become the United States' national anthem.” (reference -National Park Service)

Revolutionary War 1776-1783

Fort McHenry's history began in 1776 when the citizens of Baltimore Town feared an attack by British ships. An earthen star fort known as Fort Whetstone was quickly constructed. The fort, like Baltimore, was never attacked during our first conflict with England.

The Formative Years, 1794-1811

In 1793, France declared a war on England that became known as the Napoleonic Wars. In 1794, Congress authorized the construction of a series of coastal forts to protect our maritime frontier. Construction began on Fort McHenry in 1798 and, by 1803, the masonry walls we view today were completed. The fort was named for James McHenry, our second Secretary of War. In 1809, the U.S. Army's first light artillery unit was organized here.