

Minutes of the Second Quarter Chapter Meeting

Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter, SCSSAR

6/24/2016

The Meeting was called to order by President Dinkins at twelve o'clock noon, at the Marine Corps Air Station Officer Quarters. Compatriots Tommy Logan and Michael Keyserling lead the group with the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and Pledge to the SAR. Some fifty-five members and guests were in attendance, including guests from the Beaufort County Historical Society, Hilton Head Chapter of Children of the American Revolution, Colonial Dames XVII Century, DAR, and SCSSAR.

President Dinkins then introduced the guests attending the meeting, and then called our Speaker, Robert de Treville, to the podium to introduce his guests, the descendants of Maj. John LaBouarderie de Treville, the subject of the day's program.

Mr. Robert de Treville introduced his attending relatives, who had come from as far away as California and South Florida, and some who had not been together as a group for fifteen or twenty years. The speaker presented a short biography of Maj. De Treville, beginning with his birth in Lewisburg, Nova Scotia, on January 26, 1741. Maj. de Treville's father was an officer in the French Army, and his grandfather was given a grant from the French King in Nova Scotia. When the British made the mistake of taking all that the French settlers had in Nova Scotia, and in exporting them to other places, Maj. de Treville, like so many others, wound up in South Carolina, and more specifically Beaufort, in about 1774 or 1775. He joined other Frenchmen from Nova Scotia, in fighting for the Colonists.

Maj. de Treville went immediately into the fighting, under General Marion, working to saw down and prepare palmetto trees for constructing coastal forts. He eventually earned the command of the Beaufort Volunteer Battery, and was instrumental in protecting Ft. Lyttleton, on the Beaufort River, from falling into the hands of the British. In 1779, when the British were sighted sailing into Port Royal Sound, according to the Speaker, Maj. de Treville had the guns "spiked", and blew up the powder so as to keep it from being used by the British. When the British went up the Broad instead of the Beaufort River, Maj. de Treville was among those who met them in the battles of Port Royal Island, also known as the Battle of Grays Hill.

Maj. de Treville survived the war, but later died, on his birthday, in 1790, from sword wounds incurred in his second duel with the same man. Maj. de Treville is buried in the de Treville-Lawrence Cemetery at MCAS Beaufort, on the bank of Albergotti Creek.

Vice President Mikell then came to the podium to discuss the ongoing work to identify and pinpoint the exact locations of the Battle of Grays Hill, and other battles fought in the area. He told the group that our speaker a future meeting will be talking more about the progress of that archeological search.

President Dinkins thanked Mr. de Treville for his presentation, and presented him with the chapter "Certificate of Appreciation". Then he called on the Secretary for his report. Compatriot Wilson asked the attendees to please sign in on the signup sheets at each table, so as to be able to accurately report attendance. Then a motion was made and seconded, and passed with no objections, to approve the

minutes of the March 25th meeting with corrections, which members had received by email. Finally, Mr. Wilson briefed the members in attendance on President Dinkins' initiative to have everyone in the club have a nametag by the end of the year. Details will be emailed to the membership soon.

President Dinkins then presented Bill Ten Eyck with his Veteran Corps Certificate and thanked him for his service. Tom Anderson was presented with his fifteen-year service certificate as well. SCSSAR State

President Wayne Cousar then presented the club with a red streamer for our flag, for Americanism Participation in 2015. President Cousar repeated his interest and desire to get more young people involved at all levels in the organization. He then announced that the State SAR annual meeting will be held in Beaufort in April, 2017. The festivities will start with a less formal, jeans and boots, low country boil.

In the absence of Maj. John Simpson, Communications Committee Chair Jody Henson gave the following report. Chapter members presented seven Bronze JROTC Medals as follows: Billy Syfrett presented medals at Colleton County HS to Nav. Cadet CPO3 Colyn Wilson; Maj. John Simpson at Bluffton HS to Army Cadet Maj. Giselle Delgado; at Hampton County HS to Naval Cadet LTCDR Bobby Holland; at Estill HS to Army Cadet Maj. William Mitchell; at Beaufort HS to Air Force Cadet SMSgt Briana Pope; and at Whale Branch Early College HS to Marine Corps Cadet 2nd Lt Gabrielle White. Jody Henson presented a Bronze JROTC medal at Battery Creek HS to Marine Corps Cadet GySgt Matthew Hurtt. In addition, Maj. Simpson presented the SAR Good Citizenship Medal to Lt Col. Robert Johnson upon his retirement after 25 years at Beaufort HS as Air Force Senior Military Instructor; and also presented the DAR JROTC Medal for the Thomas Heyward, Jr. Chapter at Whale Branch Early College HS.

Compatriot Jody Henson then announced the directions to and details for the Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony to follow immediately after the meeting at the de Treville-Lawrence cemetery on the MCAS. All members and their guests were invited to attend.

There being no further old or new business, Frank Gibson gave the benediction, and Tom Mikell led the group in the SAR recessional, and President Dinkins gave the meeting to a close.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Wilson, Secretary

*Subsequent Event

Patriot Grave Marking Service

At the Grave of Maj. John LaBoularderie de Treville, 4th Continental Regiment of Artillery, 2nd Cmdr. Beaufort Militia, at the de Treville – Lawrence Cemetery on the MCAS Beaufort.

Descendants, SAR members, and friends met at the Cemetery at 2:00 pm, to honor Maj. John de Treville with a short ceremony. SAR President Claude Dinkins called for the SAR Chapter Color Guard to present the Colors. Wreaths were laid at the grave of Maj. de Treville by the State Society SAR, Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter, by the Thomas Heyward Chapter of the DAR, and by the Henry Woodward Chapter of the Colonial Dames XVII Century. Chapter Vice President Tom Mikell followed with the dedication of the SAR Patriot Grave marker placing it near the headstone. Robert de Treville briefly described the death

of his Patriot Ancestor, and noted that he died on his birthday, from sword wounds received in a duel. His daughter is also buried in the cemetery nearby. Mr. de Treville pointed out that the original cypress grave marker, still stands at the foot at the grave, as it has for over two hundred twenty five years. At the end of the ceremony, a direct descendant of Maj. Treville, Mr. Rick de Treville of Orlando, Florida sounded taps with his Bugle.