

## President's Corner

I recently learned that there have been active efforts to recruit members from established chapters in VASSAR, at least the Culpeper Minute Men Chapter, to create new chapters in Vassar. This came to my attention while we were making calls to identify Culpeper Minute Men Chapter members who would be willing/able to fill vacant committee chairs and/or accept the nomination for a Culpeper Minute Men Chapter office in 2007. While it does seem reasonable to this writer to look for as many as two, or even three, veteran members to temporarily aid in the establishment of a new chapter which is needed because new applicants have expressed a desire to have a chapter in their specific community or neighborhood, the core of the new chapter should come from the new applicants; and the chapters from which help is being drafted should be made aware of the effort prior to the time the actual draft effort begins.

While having more chapters seems a reasonable goal for the society; the benefit derived from diluting the number of active members in established chapters eludes this writer. A reasonable method for expanding the number of chapters in VASSAR would seem to this writer to be to actually recruit new SAR applicants rather than to dilute established chapters. Otherwise, it would seem to be simply a book keeping , or bean counting ploy that does nothing to improve NSSAR Programs implementation.

7 October 1777

In the Second Battle of Saratoga at Bemis Heights, General Horatio Gates commanded a force including Generals Benedict Arnold, Daniel Morgan, and Ebenezer Learned, which defeated General Burgoyne and his troops.

### Convention of Saratoga

17 October 1777: By the terms of the "Convention of Saratoga", the British General Burgoyne surrendered his 5700 men to revolutionary soldiers led by General Gates. The British defeated at Saratoga were marched to Boston and loaded aboard ships bound for England. They swore not to bear arms again in the war against America.

This news, when it reached Europe, encouraged further support for the revolutionary cause.

### 2007 Officers

Jerry Hubbard is actively pursuing a slate of officers for next year. If you have an interest in an office for 2007; or if you have a suggestion you'd like to offer for one of the offices, please call Jerry Hubbard or email him at: [djhubbard@adelphia.net](mailto:djhubbard@adelphia.net) .

If you have an interest in one of the committees, or a suggestion regarding an activity that will enhance the public's view of our chapter, please call Larry Alexander at 540-727-9995 or Dominic Lay at 540-661-3315.