



Newsletter of the *Fernando de Leyba Chapter*
Sons of the American Revolution

VOL. XI6 Issue 02

September 2014

MEETS 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH (EXCEPT JULY
AND AUGUST) AT CULPEPPER RESTAURANT IN ST.
CHARLES, MO

ON THIS DAY REVOLUTIONARY WAR
OCTOBER 18, 1776



General Thaddeus Kosciuszko 1746 - 1817
Hero of America and Poland

Thaddeus Kosciuszko was born in Poland on February 4, 1746, son of Ludwik and Tekla Kosciuszko. He attended school in Lubieszow and then the Cadet Academy in Warsaw before continuing his engineering studies in Paris, France. By the time Kosciuszko arrived in America from Poland in 1776, he was a skilled engineer who came to offer his services to the American colonies in their struggle for independence. On October 18, 1776 Kosciuszko was commissioned as Colonel of Engineers by the Continental Congress and began his outstanding service of fortifying battle sites, many of which became turning points in America's fight for independence against the British.

Shortly after arriving in Philadelphia in 1776, Kosciuszko read the Declaration of Independence and was moved to tears because he discovered in this single, concise document everything in which he truly believed. When he discovered that Thomas Jefferson was responsible for drafting the Declaration, he felt compelled to meet him. A few months later, while moving south with the Continental Army, Kosciuszko stopped in Virginia to meet with Jefferson. After a very warm reception, the two men spent the day comparing philosophies and eventually became the best of friends.

In the early days of the war, Kosciuszko helped to fortify the Philadelphia waterfront at Fort Mercer. Shortly after, he was transferred to New York, where he helped with fortifications along the Hudson and planned the defense for Saratoga. The Battle of Saratoga became known as one of military history's most famous struggles for independence and proved to be a turning point in the war.

In 1778, Kosciuszko was made chief engineer of West Point, New York. This fortification became known as the American Gibraltar because it was unable to be penetrated by the British Army. Eventually West Point became a military academy.

In 1783, Kosciuszko was appointed Brigadier General and was awarded the Cincinnati Order Medal by General George Washington, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. Washington also presented

Kosciuszko with two pistols and a sword as gifts for his outstanding service to America.

After the colonies won their independence, Kosciuszko returned to Poland in 1784 to help his own country win independence from the surrounding European powers. Kosciuszko was the national hero of the 1794 insurrection. After the successful battle of Raclawice on April 4, 1794, first Warsaw and then Wilno were liberated from enemy occupation. Kosciuszko was wounded in the failed revolt and taken prisoner by the Russians. Upon his release from prison, he returned to America on August 18, 1797, which he considered his "second home." He received a hero's welcome when he reached the Philadelphia waterfront along the Delaware River. Afterward, he secured a residence at 3rd and Pine Streets, which is now the Kosciuszko House, a national memorial to this hero of the American Revolution.

Kosciuszko was admired by general and foot soldier alike, both for his technical knowledge and for his sympathetic understanding and generosity. Jefferson wrote of Kosciuszko, "He is as pure a son of liberty as I have ever known." Tragically, Kosciuszko, a devoted champion of the poor and oppressed, never witnessed the arrival of freedom in his homeland, Poland.

Kosciuszko was a firm believer of equality and requested, before leaving the United States for the second time, that the money from his estate be used to buy freedom for slaves, help to educate them and provide them with enough land to support themselves.

Kosciuszko spent the last years of his life in Switzerland, where on October 15, 1817 he died at the age of 72. He is buried in Wawel Castle, in Krakow, Poland, among the tombs of the Polish Kings.

In 1828 a Corps of Cadets erected a monument to Kosciuszko at West Point, where his work was of vital importance to America in the Revolution.

Treasurer's report as of September 09, 2014:

Beginning Balance = \$3,723.79 – Ending Balance = \$3,825.17

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Genealogist report as of March 2014:

New Members: Tom Buskin, Richard Denning, David Hoffman, Ron Hauser, Adam Schnelting, Jim Bunch, Marvin Koechig, Adam Bell, J.D. Kirtlink

“FDL “52” members strong”

Genealogist report:

New member applications going to state

Thomas Robertsen

Chase Zancanata

New member applications at national

Benjamin Shea

Michael shea

Supplementals at national

David Hoffman-2

Pat Jefferson-9

Doug Neff-1

Supplementals at state

Pat Jefferson-2

At the September 09, 2014 meeting:

Meeting Opens 7:04 pm

Introductions: Michael Shea, Mary Johnson, and Jan Beardsley.

Veterans: David Christian

Sep 11 is Patriots Day.

3rd Friday in September POW MIA – Still finding remains of WWII, Korean and Vietnam War Veterans!

Mark your Calendar - November 21, 2014

The November 21st Naturalization Class will be held at the Eagleton Court House, 3rd floor. The Eagleton is located between 11th and Tucker Blvd's, and just north of Market Street. The Naturalization program will start at 11:00 AM. You should be seated well before the start of the program.

Since The Fernando de Lebya Chapter is the class sponsor, you will be seated in the front of the Court Room, in the jury box. Wear patriotic wear, indicating your affiliation with the SAR,

PARKING FOR EAGLETON COURTHOUSE: There is no designated parking. You may wish to consider on street parking near Soldiers Memorial, the garage at Scottrade Center, the parking lot at the rear of City Hall, and you may wish to carpool.

Thanks for your interest and support of this program.

Color Guard: Bill Grote

Rose Hill Masonic Lodge June 21 2014

Meeting Actions:

1. Adam Schnelting: Food Drive to benefit The OASIS food pantry Sept 14th 11am-3pm at Midtown Market.
2. Dennis Hahn: Am vets having Flag Retirement Sept. 20 6:00 pm. House Tour St Charles Historical Society Tues 7:00 pm.
3. Mary White: Has worked 55 hrs at St Louis Lambert USO. FDL presented with Streamer from USO.
4. Dennis Hahn: Spanish Commander Bernardo de Gálvez y Madrid to become an Honorary US Citizen.
5. Mary Johnson: Vacation Liberty School is a two-week program on the founding of the United States. She is looking for a Volunteer Reenactment of the Revolution War era @ St Louis Priory stlvls.webs.com 5th – 8th graders.

6. Jim Borgman: Motion to donate \$90.00 to Wreaths Across America.
Motion PASSED.
7. Bill Grote: Received His 5 Year Certificate and Pin.
8. Jim Borgman: Received a Supplemental for Patriot John Newell.

Old Business:

Budget Committee chairman Bob Raines presented a Draft Budget to the Chapter.
Chapter Officers met August 26 to discuss budget and by laws.
Family Arena Volunteer dates are 10/4, 10/10, 10/11, 10/18

New Business:

Private Jonathan Hunt Memorial Fund:

Motion by Charles Lilly: To accept Jonathan Hunt's Challenge Donation to Fernando De Leyba Chapter MOSSAR. Motion PASSED.

Meeting Closed at 8:56 PM

September 09, Program: Postponed.

15 Members and Guest in Attendance:

Charles Lilly, David Christian, Bill Grote, Milan Paddock, Steve Oteged, Charles "Pat" Jefferson, Michael Shea, Jim Borgman, Diane Borgman, Jan A. Beardsley, Mary Johnson, Dennis Hahn, John Soucy, Adam Schnelting, Paul Smith

Announcements:

Barb Morris broke her Femur and is Healing. Hope to see her with us at the October meeting.
God Speed Your Recovery!

October 13, 2014, Program: John Attaway



Revolutionary War Quotes

***"A Constitution of Government once changed from Freedom can never be restored.
Liberty, once lost, is lost forever."***

John Adams - Letter to Abigail Smith Adams, July 7, 1775

Yesterday is History. Tomorrow is Mystery?? Today is a Blessing!!!

“CARPE-DIEM”

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday...

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Fernando de Leyba

Chapter

15 CHASE CT.

LAKE ST LOUIS MO

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