

Sons of the American Revolution



The
Michigan
Society



Oaks
Chapter



The Acorn

Our Mission Statement

Promote in our youth and our community a sense of commitment to the Ideals of American Patriotism, to encourage participation in political processes and maintain camaraderie of the membership.

In This Issue:

- 1 - Message from our President
- 1 - Upcoming Meetings
- 1 - Upcoming Events
- 2 - Officers of the Oaks Chapter
- 3 - SAR Eagle Scout Award
- 4 - Tallest Flag - New Baltimore
- 5 - Nathaniel Squires of Utica
- 7 - Patriot Biography
- 8 - Research Tools

Upcoming Meeting:

Thursday Social time 6:30 P.M.
14 Sep 2017 Start time: 7:00 P.M.



Avery's Tavern
2086 Crooks Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48308
Tel: 1 (248) 270-4030

Upcoming Events:

MISSAR Board of Managers
Meeting: September 9, 2017
Livonia Marriott – 12 Noon

Message from Our President

Compatriots,

I hope you are enjoying your summer.

There has been a lot of activity regarding the upcoming Patriot Nathaniel Squire grave dedication in Utica Cemetery on Sept 17 at 2:00p.m. Approval has been granted by the Utica Cemetery Association to place a headstone, which has been approved by the VA and ordered. A SAR grave marker will also be placed by the headstone. The American Legion across the street from the cemetery will provide their hall for a reception gathering after the ceremony. Descendants of Nathaniel Squire have been found and will also attend. There has also been communication with Shelby TV, the Utica Mayors office, local DAR chapters, local veterans groups, and more to publicize the ceremony. Full military honors will also be given to Patriot Squire. This is a project that began about 10 years ago and we are excited to be able to provide this honor to Patriot Squire.

We still need help, however, in order to make the ceremony complete. If you know of a business that would be willing to donate refreshments for the American Legion hall reception, or perhaps a florist wreath for the grave, we would be happy to recognize them in our ceremony program. Feel free to contact me 586-744-2757.

James Walker
President

OFFICERS OF THE OAKS CHAPTER 2017 - 2018



President - James Walker
1st V. President - John Raya
2nd V. President - Thomas Coddington
Secretary - Vacant
Treasurer - Jeffery Yeager
Registrar/Genealogist - Raymond Lucas
Historian - Rodney Wilson
Chaplain - David Moore
Trustee DAR/CAR Liaison - Stephen Roberts
Trustee Public Relations - Jeffrey McQueen
Trustee Medals & Awards - Vacant



Standing (L =>R): Jeffery Yeager, Raymond Lucas, Jeffrey McQueen and John Crissman
Sitting (L=>R): James Walker, David Moore, John Raya and Rod Wilson
Missing: Thomas Coddington and Stephen Roberts

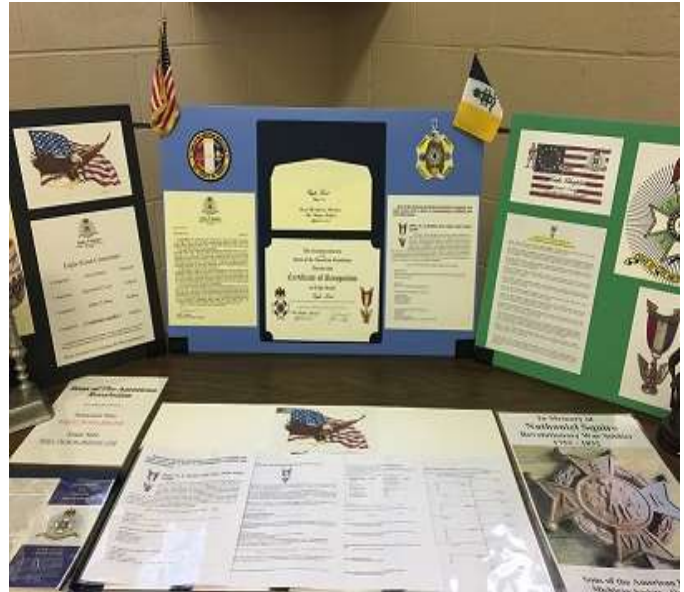
SAR Eagle Scout Award Ceremony

Arthur M. and Berdena King Eagle Scout Award Contestant

June 8, 2017



John Raya presents patch to Matthew Netherland, Eagle Scout and SAR Oaks Chapter member.



Arthur M. and Berdena King Eagle Scout Award display – created by John Raya, 1st Vice President of the Oaks Chapter



Matthew Netherland reads his patriotic themed essay, with his mother and grandmother.

New Baltimore, MI – Flag Ceremony

June 14, 2017



Tallest Flag Pole in Michigan: The 160-foot flagpole stands near the water's edge in New Baltimore.



Old Glory: Atop the flagpole waves a 30-by-60 foot flag.



SAR acknowledges the Lions Club: Oaks Chapter President, James Walker, acknowledges the Lions Club, accompanied by John Raya, David Moore and Rod Wilson.



\$103,000 Raised: The local Lions Club donated \$10,000 and were instrumental in raising the rest of the project funds with help from local businesses and private donors.

Nathaniel Squire (1752 – 1832)

John Raya, 1st Vice President of the SAR Oaks Chapter and resident of Shelby Township, became curious about the history of **Nathaniel Squire**, one of Utica, Michigan's first settlers, through his involvement with the **Utica Historical Commission**. The Commission was in the process of arranging for **Utica's Bicentennial**. Some stories had first settlers of Utica, Nathaniel Squires and his wife Jemima, coming from Canada. However, John Raya dug deeper and found evidence of his duty in the **American Revolution** in Connecticut and his travel with his family from Connecticut, to Vermont, through Canada and his pioneer settlement in what is now called: "**Utica, Michigan.**"

Through further research John was able to find the probable burial site of Nathaniel Squire in the **Utica Cemetery**. **A marker will honor Nathaniel Squire in the Utica Cemetery on Sunday, September 17, 2017 (2 p.m.), where it will be installed by Squire family member markers.** Recently John Raya presented Nathaniel's story to a crowd of nearly 200 folks who participated in the recent **Utica Cemetery Walk** which was held on Sunday June 25, 2017 (see photo below).

As part of his project, John Raya also created a display on Nathaniel Squire, which can be found at the **Utica Public Library** (see photo next page).



John Raya telling the story of Nathaniel Squire and his family at the Utica Cemetery Walk.

Nathaniel Squire (1752 – 1832) – Cont.



Nathaniel Squire display at the Utica Public Library, created by John Raya of SAR Oaks Chapter



Descendants of Nathaniel Squire with John Raya and David Moore of the SAR - Oaks Chapter

For more on patriot and pioneer Nathaniel Squire and his family, go to:

<http://shelbyhistory.tripod.com/id26.html>

Patriot Biography

Benjamin Darling (1758 – 1841)

SAR Descendant: James Thomas Walker, SAR Oaks Chapter President

SAR National Number: 189299

Benjamin Darling and his twin brother, David, were **born October 6, 1758 in Lunenburg, Massachusetts**. David died from childbirth complications the same day.

On March 28, 1777 Benjamin enlisted in the Continental Army and served as a Private in the 7th Connecticut Regiment, 1st Division under Captain Theodore Woodbridge and Colonel Heman Swift.

Benjamin first saw action in the **Battle of Germantown**, fought on October 4, 1777, which was a major engagement in the Philadelphia campaign of the Revolutionary War. British units were housed in Germantown and the Continental Army attacked the garrison. A heavy fog caused a great deal of confusion among the approaching Americans and the Americans withdrew after firing on one another in the confusion of the battle, leading to the determination that the battle resulted in a defeat of the Americans. However, the battle is sometimes considered a victory by Americans. The American loss was 673 and the British loss was 575. Washington's intact army, withdrew to **Valley Forge**, where he wintered and re-trained his forces. **Benjamin was part of the long, harsh winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge.**

Benjamin also participated in the **Battle of Monmouth** fought on June 28, 1778. The Continental Army under **General George Washington** attacked the rear of the British Army column. But darkness forced the end of the engagement. Both armies held the field, but the British commanding general Clinton withdrew undetected at midnight to resume his army's march to New York City. The battle effectively ended in a draw, as the Americans held the field, but the British were able to get the army and supplies safely to New York. The British official casualty return reported 65 killed, 59 dead of "fatigue", 170 wounded and 64 missing. The American official return stated 69 killed, 161 wounded and 132 missing (37 of whom were found to have died of heat-stroke). Other estimates increase the losses to 1,134 British and 500 American casualties.

Benjamin was discharged March 28, 1780 and returned to Massachusetts where he **married his first wife Tabitha Johnson on November 12, 1783**. They had five children when Tabitha died July 9, 1795 while giving birth to their 6th son. **He then married Susannah Priest on March 29, 1796** with whom, over the next twenty-one years, they would have eleven children.

The family was living in **Mason, New Hampshire** in 1798 and then in **Jaffrey, New Hampshire** in 1818 when Benjamin began receiving a pension of \$8 per month for his service. They then removed to **Peacham, Vermont** where he transferred his pension about 1825 before finally settling at **Shelby, New York** where he transferred his pension in 1834. **Benjamin passed away February 7, 1841 and is buried in Shelby in Maple Ridge Cemetery alongside Susannah who died March 11, 1844.**

James Walker
4th Great Grandson

RESEARCH TOOLS

Websites:

www.ancestry.com (\$)
<http://archive.org>
<https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy>
www.billiongraves.com
<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>
<https://glorerecords.blm.gov/default.aspx>
www.cyndislist.com
www.familysearch.org
www.findagrave.com
www.fold3.com (\$)
www.newspapers.com (\$)
<http://stevemorse.org/>
www.usgenweb.com

Software:

Now Available!

Family Tree Maker 2017 (MacKiev)

DNA:

www.ancestry.com
www.familytreedna.com
www.livingdna.com
www.myheritage.com
www.23andme.com

Editor's Note:

This page is expected to grow as you submit and share additional websites, software and research resources for our membership. It is meant as a quick reference tool and a gift to friends and relatives who show an interest in entering their quest to get to know their ancestors better.

As always, we welcome your ideas and suggestions as long as they are not tied to a rock and thrown at the Editor. ☺

Jeff McQueen

Email me at: MCQUEEN327@aol.com

