



**The Florida Society of the
Sons of the American Revolution**
Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter



OCT 2012

website: www.learnwebskills.com/sar/index.html
Fort Lauderdale Chapter chartered December 8, 1966

Volume 45 Number 7

President's Message

Dear Compatriots:

The Chapter met on September 15, 2012 at the Colony West Country Club. There were nine members and one guest in attendance.

At the meeting, we discussed several items of business:

- (1) We need nominations for new chapter officers for 2013. If you are interested in being nominated or serving, please let me know.
- (2) We need better participation at chapter meetings. Your ideas and suggestions for the direction and activities of your chapter are important.
- (3) A dual member of our chapter has offered to establish a chapter page on Facebook. This was considered to be a good idea as it would help to facilitate communication among members and increase the chapter's visibility.
- (4) VP Lance Pfeifer continues to research alternate meeting locations. The Primavera restaurant on Oakland Park Boulevard has expressed interest in hosting our luncheon meetings for an approximate cost of \$25 per person. He also reported that he has a speaker interested in coming to one of our meetings and talking to us about the local ROTC program.
- (5) The chapter continues to be in good financial health. Treasurer Joe Motes' report was reviewed and approved.
- (6) The chapter voted to approve spending \$36 for a two-year ad in the national SAR Magazine. The ad is in the traveling section and lets readers know about our scheduled meetings if they are in the area and wish to attend.

- (7) The chapter decided to continue sending out hardcopy newsletters to all members, even those with e-mail. The hope is that members are more likely to read the newsletter in hardcopy format and attend chapter meetings.
- (8) The chapter received a letter of thanks from the Sea Cadets for our continuing financial support of their activities.
- (9) We inducted Bill Zimmer as a new member of our chapter.

Our next chapter meeting is on October 20. I hope that everyone is able to attend.

Fraternally,

Ted Duay



NEXT MEETING - OCTOBER 20, 2012

Colony West Country Club
6800 NW 88th Ave in Tamarac

Future Dates:

Saturday, 11/17/2012
Saturday, 12/15/2012
Saturday, 01/19/2013
Saturday, 02/16/2013

Time: 11:30AM social gathering; Lunch at noon
Buffet Luncheon - \$15.00
FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 954-441-8735
or e-mail Joe Motes at: joemotes@aol.com

The Commanders of The American Revolution continues**Sir William Howe**

Born 08/10/1729 in Cumberland, England

Died 07/12/1814 in Plymouth, England

Overview

William Howe, 5th Viscount Howe, KB, PC (10 August 1729 – 12 July 1814) was a British General who was Commander-in-Chief of British forces during the American Revolutionary War, one of the three Howe brothers. He was knighted after his successes in 1775 and was henceforth Sir William, inheriting the viscountcy only upon his brother Richard's death in 1799.

Howe's record in the war was marked by the costly assault on Breed's Hill known as the Battle of Bunker Hill and the successful capture of New York City and Philadelphia - the latter of which would have significant strategic implications.

Early life and career

William was born in England, the third son of Emanuel Howe, 2nd Viscount Howe and Charlotte, the daughter of Sophia von Kielmansegg, Countess of Leinster and Darlington - a half-sister of King George I. This connection with the crown may have improved the careers of all three sons, but all were also very capable officers. William's eldest brother was General George Howe, who was killed at Ticonderoga in 1758. His next brother was Admiral Richard Howe, who joined him in America during the revolution.

He entered the army when he was seventeen by buying a Cornet's commission in the Duke of Cumberland's Dragoons in 1746. By the next year, he was fighting as a Lieutenant in Flanders as a part of the War of the Austrian Succession. After this war, he joined the 20th Regiment of Foot where he became a friend of James Wolfe.

During the Seven Years' War, Howe's service first brought him to America. His service in this conflict did much to raise his reputation. William commanded a regiment at the siege of Louisbourg and led a successful amphibious landing. This action, carried out under fire, won the attackers a flanking position and earned Howe his commander's praise.

Howe commanded the light infantry under Major General James Wolfe at the Battle of Quebec, Canada on September 13, 1759. He led a fighting ascent to gain position on the Plains of Abraham, clearing the way for Wolfe's army to assemble before that battle. His actions here earned him the rank of Brigadier General. He earned further fame in the capture of Montreal under Jeffrey Amherst before returning to England. Howe also served in the capture of Belle Isle, off the French coast, in 1761.

He was adjutant-general of the force that captured Havana in 1762.

In 1772, Howe was elected a Member of Parliament for Nottingham. This was not unusual, as the election of 1761 sent more than 60 army officers to the British House of Commons. He was generally sympathetic to the American colonies. He opposed the Coercive Acts, and, in 1774, assured his constituents that he would resist active duty against the Americans. But when the time came and King George called in 1775, he sailed for America.

The American Revolutionary War

Major General Howe arrived at Boston, on May 15, at the head of the 4,000 additional troops sent to General Thomas Gage. Gage's orders were to clear the American Army and break their Siege of Boston. Howe's plan was to take Cambridge, but the Americans fortified the high ground above the town.

Bunker Hill

Howe planned to crush the American's position by massive assault. He was thus in command at the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775. Personally leading the left wing of the attack, Howe's assault gained the objective, but the cost was appallingly heavy. General Henry Clinton called it "A dear bought victory, another such would have ruined us."

While Howe was not injured in the battle, it had a pronounced effect on his spirit. The daring, aggressive commander, who had served with Wolfe, became the slow moving General who was reluctant to seek direct confrontation. His concept that those in open rebellion were a small minority of Americans who would fold with a display of force was shattered. Howe's report to Lord Germain called for 19,000 additional troops and included the prophecy that "...with a less force....this war may be spun out until England will be heartily sick of it." This "genial six-footer with a face some people described as 'coarse'" in private revealed a marked lack of self-confidence combined, not surprisingly, with a noted dependence on his brother Admiral Lord Howe and the elder Howe's opinions.

The New York Campaign

On October 10, 1775, he replaced Lieutenant General Thomas Gage as Commander-in-Chief of the British Army in America when Gage returned to England. He became Sir William when he was knighted in 1775. In April of 1776, the appointment was made permanent, although forces in Canada were placed under Guy Carleton. He defeated General George Washington at the Battle of Long Island in the summer of 1776. But Howe's refusal to allow his army to follow up their

victory with an assault on Washington's lines on Brooklyn Heights allowed the Continental Army to successfully accomplish a nighttime strategic withdrawal across the East River, aided by thick fog the next morning. Had Howe attacked Brooklyn Heights, as his subordinate General Henry Clinton and others urged him, with his full force of 33,000 men, he may well have captured Washington's entire army and possibly even ended the Revolutionary War there and then. His failure to do so is generally considered to be the greatest missed opportunity of the War. In September 1776, he ordered the execution of Nathan Hale for espionage.

The Philadelphia Campaign

On 30 November 1776, Howe wrote George Germain, 1st Viscount Sackville, Secretary of State for America, that he would send a 10,000 man force up the Hudson River to capture Albany, New York. Howe later changed his mind and informed Germain that the Albany Expedition would be postponed until after Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was secured. Germain received this letter on 23 February 1777.

Howe's campaign began at Head of the Elk Maryland, southwest of Philadelphia. On September 11, 1777, Washington attempted to stop the British movement near Chadds Ford along the Brandywine Creek in the Battle of Brandywine. Howe defeated Washington, and after several weeks of maneuver, Howe entered the city.

Consequences of the Philadelphia Campaign

Concomittant with the Philadelphia Campaign, General John Burgoyne led an expedition - the Saratoga Campaign south from Montreal to capture Albany and join the cancelled New York-Albany expedition. Burgoyne's campaign had been approved 28 February 1777, after Germaine had been notified that Howe was not moving up the Hudson to Albany. Whether Germain told Burgoyne about Howe's revised plans is unclear; presumably he did. Whether Germain, Howe, and Burgoyne had the same expectations about the degree to which Howe was supposed to support the invasion from Canada is also unclear. Some have argued that Howe failed to follow instructions and essentially abandoned Burgoyne's Army; others suggest that Burgoyne failed on his own and then tried to shift the blame to Howe and Clinton.

Regardless of which claim is true, the defeat and surrender of Burgoyne's expedition at Saratoga, New York dramatically altered the strategic balance of the conflict. Support for the Continental Congress, suffering from Howe's successful occupation of Philadelphia, was strengthened and the victory encouraged France to enter the war against Britain. Spain and the Netherlands soon

did the same. The loss also further weakened the current British government under Lord North.

After the revolution

Howe resigned in 1778, and, on May 20, Sir Henry Clinton took over as commander-in-chief of British armies in America. (See also Commander-in-Chief, North America)

Howe returned to England. In 1782, he was sworn a Privy Counsellor. When his brother, Richard, died in 1799 without surviving male issue, he inherited the Irish title and became the 5th Viscount Howe. In 1814, he was governor of Plymouth where he died. He is buried at Holly Road, Garden of Rest in Twickenham, England. Since he died without surviving male issue, and having no further living brothers, the Viscountcy died with him.

Thomas Graves

Born 1747 in Castle Dawson, Ireland

Died 1814 in Unknown

Admiral Sir Thomas Graves KB RN (1747 – 1814), admiral, third son of The Rev. John Graves of Castle Dawson, County Londonderry, by his wife Jane Hudson. He was a nephew of Admiral Samuel Graves and a first cousin once removed of Admiral Thomas, Lord Graves.

Graves' three brothers all served as captains in the navy, becoming admirals on the superannuated list. Thomas entered the navy at a very early age, and served during the Seven Years' War with his uncle Samuel on board the H.M.S. Scorpion, Duke, and Venus. After the peace he was appointed to the H.M.S. Antelope with his cousin Thomas, whom he followed to the Edgar, and by whom, in 1765, while on the coast of Africa, he was promoted to be lieutenant of the Shannon. It is stated in Foster's 'Peerage' that he was born in 1752, a date incompatible with the facts of his known service: by the Regulations of the Navy he was bound to be twenty years old at the date of his promotion, and though the order was often grossly infringed, it is highly improbable that he was only thirteen: it may fairly be assumed that he was at least eighteen in 1765.

Continued on the next issue

**Fort Lauderdale Chapter
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2013 Dues Notice Greetings Compatriot !

Your SAR dues notice and membership card for 2013 have already been received by each of you. Please mail your check no later than December 10th. This timing is required to meet the new deadlines established by the state and national organizations. If circumstances may delay your payment, call or e-mail the Treasurer (954-441-8735 or joemotes@aol.com

NOTE: Anyone who has not been heard from by 12/10/12 must be reported as dropped from membership. Reinstatement can be made at a later date but this will require processing a special application and the payment of \$5 in addition to the regular dues. These delays also may cause some issues of the newsletter and magazine to be missed. – Of course, it is hoped that everyone will renew but it also is very important that your response be timely.

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Joe Motes presented Eagle Scout certificates to Eagle Scouts Stephen Cuoco, Jacob Walters and Thomas Diehl, Jr from Troop 224 from Pembroke Pines.



President Ted Duay inducted Bill Zimmer as a new member of our Fort Lauderdale chapter during our September luncheon and meeting.

