

---

# Founders News

---

*Newsletter of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford* March 2005

---

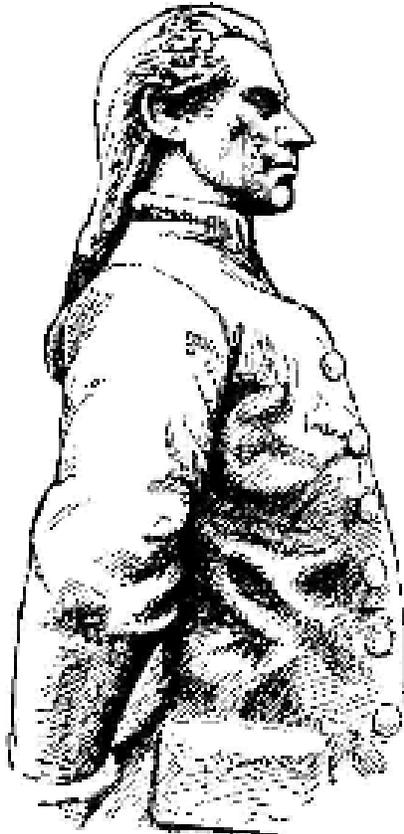
## Expert on Nathan Hale to Speak at Dinner

Most of us know the familiar story of Nathan Hale, Connecticut's official State Hero. Captured as a spy by the British during the American Revolution, the 21-year-old ex-schoolmaster was hanged, but not before he could utter his famous last words: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

But where, exactly, was Hale executed? That's a mystery that has endured for years. It was somewhere in what is now New York City, most experts agreed – but they couldn't settle on the exact spot, and several locations vied for recognition as the spot.

It took newspaperman Richard E. Mooney to find the genuine location. Working mostly with contemporary accounts of the incident, Mooney determined that the place where Hale was hanged is now the corner of East 66th Street and Third Avenue in Manhattan. A plaque (written by Mooney) approved by the New-York Historical Society has been placed on the apartment building that now occupies the spot.

Mooney, a longtime New York Times editor who in the 1970s was Executive Editor of the Hartford Courant, has



become a nationally recognized expert on the life and death of Hale, and he is now writing a new book on this famed American patriot.

Mooney will be the speaker on Tuesday, May 3, at the Annual Court and Dinner of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford. Cocktails will be at 6 p.m. with the dinner at 6:45. Mooney's talk will follow. We invite all members to attend what is sure to be a fascinating program about someone we all "know."

### **Members Join Society**

Several people have been approved for membership in the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford in the past year. They are:

Laurie Ann Cornwell Aldinger of North Charleston, S.C., descended from *Francis Andrews*; Marion Bailey Brunson Sr. of Elba, Ala., descended from *Richard Bronson*; Charles Green Banks III of Nyack, N.Y., descended from *Thomas Hooker*; Donald Tirrell Buck of Hadlyme, Conn., descended from *John Webster*; Donald Allerton Johnston III of Grand Rapids, Mich., descended from *Robert Bartlett*; Michael Casimer Michalczyk of Glastonbury, Conn., descended from *John Wilcock*; and James Kevin Raywalt of Sutton, W.V., descended from *Matthew Marvin*.

Congratulations to our newest members!

---

### **Statue Is Placed**

We hope all members have seen the new statue of founder Samuel Stone that has been placed in the vicinity of the Ancient Burying Ground in downtown Hartford.

## **Do You Know A Descendant?**

The Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford is always looking for new members. Do you know someone who is (or who might be) descended from a Founder? Please tell him or her about our Society. Those interested in being considered for membership should contact our Genealogist, Timothy Jacobs, at 113 Highland Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457.

---

## **Life Memberships**

As of the May, 2004 annual Court of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford, members voted to do away with annual memberships and instituted a change to life-member-only dues.

It was cumbersome to maintain two separate membership lists, one for annual members and one for life members. Many hereditary organizations similar to ours have adopted a "one-class" membership policy. And having only life membership is a way to ensure that our members stay committed and interested for many years.

Those who joined before May 2004 as annual members may continue to pay annual dues. However, anyone who wishes to switch from annual to life membership may do so at any time by contacting the Society at P.O. Box 270215, West Hartford, CT 06127-0215 and requesting the change.

## **Gifts Made to Support History of Hartford**

The Council of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford has voted to support several local organizations with monetary donations. The gifts help fulfill one of the purposes of the Society, namely to support those organizations that foster an interest in the history of Hartford.

This year, \$500 each went to:

- Connecticut Historical Society;
- Ancient Burying Ground Association; and
- South Burying Ground Association.

In addition, another \$1,000 was given to the Connecticut Historical Society to be used toward its purchase of a "face-up" book scanner for hard-bound, fragile books and large-format documents such as maps, drawings, and architectural plans. The Historical Society has invited all Society members to stop by and watch the scanner in operation.

The Council also voted to sponsor two \$100 prizes for students competing in the History Day in Connecticut Program of the Connecticut Historical Society. Every year, hundreds of high school students from across the state compete for these prizes and others at History Day. For four years, we have sponsored awards for Outstanding Entry in Connecticut History. The contest takes place in May.

## **Officers and Council**

Present officers of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford are:

*Governor*, Henry McNulty of Cheshire;

*Deputy Governor*, Carol Lee Joslin of West Hartford;

*Corresponding Secretary*, Jean Greene of Glastonbury;

*Recording Secretary*, Susan Motycka of Glastonbury;

*Treasurer*, Barbara Ulrich of West Hartford;

*Genealogist*, Timothy Jacobs of Middletown;

*Chaplain*, Rev. Canon Robert G. Carroon of West Hartford.

Council members are:

Barbara Abraham of Glastonbury;

Wilson Faude of West Hartford;

Pamela French of West Hartford;

Virginia Grant of Bloomfield;

Terry Harlow of Glastonbury;

Peter North of Woodbury;

Meredith Richardson of West Hartford;

Boynton Selden of Bloomfield;

Stephen Shaw of East Haddam;

Robert Storm of West Hartford.

New officers and council members will be voted upon by the membership at the annual Court and Dinner on May 3 in Hartford.