

Patriot Dedication Held Lamar County, Alabama

On October 3, 2015, a cool, rainy, windy, Saturday, the long forgotten village of Moscow in Lamar County, Alabama became alive with the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Honoring Ceremony held in Moore-Hill Cemetery aka Moscow Cemetery. SAR members, friends and patriot descendants traveled from Mississippi, Tennessee, Florida, Louisiana, and within Alabama to remember and to honor 5 patriots of the American Revolutionary War: Sgt. Daniel Holiday, Pvt. John Roebuck, Sr., Pvt. Thomas Stanford, Pvt. James Lindsey, Sgt. Richard Priddy buried in Marion county now Lamar county. Before the honoring ceremony, the color guard marched down Main Street in Sulligent during Old Fashion Day festivities, then traveled to the Moore-Hill Cemetery.

Rev. Robert Stamps (retired Navy), pastor and members of Mulberry Springs Baptist Church graciously allowed their fellowship hall to serve as a welcome center with Lamar County Genealogical & Historical Society members providing refreshments to travelers participating in the ceremony.

Barb Carruth, Lamar County Genealogical & Historical Society Vice President, welcomed the group to the Sulligent area.

SAR Color Guard, Bob Anderson Commander presented the colors. Invocation was given by Rev. Robert Stamps, Mulberry Springs Baptist Church. Wayne Baines, President Lamar County Genealogical & Historical Society led the pledge of allegiance. Greetings were given by Joel Mize, President, Shoals Chapter ALSSAR.

A most distinguished roster of speakers was presented to those in attendance. Michael Wells, Vice President General, Southern District, stirred our hearts with "Remember Me" tribute to our departed patriots. Bill Stone, President ALSSAR, talked of "SAR Patriotic Outreach Within Our Communities". Rick Hollis, Past Vice President General, Southern District; Board of the SAR Foundation, held our attention with "Our Obligation to Our Forefathers".

Kay Koonce presented each patriot's biography: Sgt. Daniel Holladay (aka Holiday/ Holliday) S10867:SC Troops, under Lt. Fuller, for 3 years, served in 2nd Regiment of regular Troops (SC Continental Line) under Lt. Hall, Capt. James McDaniel & General William Moultrie. From High Hills of Santee, Sumpter District, marched to Ft. Moultrie, Sullivan's Island, Charleston SC; after 2.5 years, hired a substitute, George Powell (paid 200 # currency). Stated he is known (in 1832) by Colonel John Hollis; Colonel James Moore & D. Hollis, Esquire.

Pvt. John Roebuck, Sr.: Spartan Regiment of Spartanburg SC ; aka Roebuck's Regmt. Mudlick Creek, March 1781; Under Col. Benjamin Roebuck & Lt. Col Henry White; at William's Fort, Newberry District SC. Roebuck & White led 150 men against a heavily fortified location, much outnumbered. Shown on roster in a "snapshot" of muster roll printed in Spartanburg newspaper.

Pvt. James Lindsey, S10992: Enlisted Orange Co NC, Feb 1781, under Capt. Thompson & Col. Thomas Taylor. Battle of Guilford Courthouse; from Troublesome Iron Works chased British to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River, thence to Raleigh. Guarded British & Tory prisoners at Hillsboro.

Pvt. Thomas Stanford, S11463: Enlisted Chester District SC, Feb 1776; under Capt. George Wade & Col. Thomas Sumter. Joined army at Eutaw Springs and marched to Charleston SC > Sullivan's Island > Haddrell Point. Battle of Rocky Comfort Creek GA, against Indians under Capt. Nixon & Col Lacey. At Augusta GA (no action reported). Wateree Creek to join Col Sumter's command; Friday's Fort/Ferry (Ft. Granby) battle. Thompson's Fort/Siege of Belleville at Thompson's Plantation; skirmish. Marched to Wright's Bluff near Eutaw Springs, skirmish at Ft. Watson. Marched to near Camden SC; skirmish at possibly Ratcliff's Bridge (Lee Co SC).

Sgt. Richard Priddy, W5593: Enlisted for 3 years in VA by August, 1776 in 1st VA Line, Northern Continentals under Capt. John Fleming; Col. Isaac Read/Col. Richard Parker & Col. William Davies. Battle of Monmouth; taking of Stony Point Fort; served until Aug 1779, discharged from service at Rampaugh, NY. Thomas Hubbard, S17227 appeared on behalf of applicant and testified that he served as Quartermaster of same 1st VA Continental Line, was acquainted with Priddy and statements correct.

Descendants participating in the event, honoring their patriot were: Sgt. Daniel Holiday: Kay Koonce and Paula Lampkins; Pvt. John Roebuck, Sr. Deana Newell-Vernon.; Pvt. Thomas Stanford: James Pruett and Bobby Stanford; Sgt. Richard Priddy: Geoff Baggett. Kay Koonce honored Pvt. James Lindsey in absence of a descendant.

Before closing, a SAR Southern District Wreath, ALSSAR Wreath, and other SAR State/Chapter Wreaths were placed on-site along with an individual grave marking placed at Daniel Holladay's grave and Sgt. Richard Priddy's grave. Bob Baccus played TAPS then Colors were retrieved by the Color Guard. Rev. Robert Stamps offered the benediction and dismissal for the group. As we were all walking away from the cemetery, I felt gratitude for these 5 patriots, who served, and those men and women, who are serving today, so that we might have the freedom to remember, and participate in a ceremony such as we had today.

After the ceremony, a convoy led by Shoals Chapter President Joel Mize traveled to gravesites of patriots not buried in Moore-Hill Cemetery, stopping first at James Lindsey's gravesite, nearby in Moscow- Armstrong Cemetery, then on to Old Nebo Cemetery near Vernon to visit the gravesite of Thomas Stanford, traveling next Northeast of Sulligent to John Roebuck's grave in Henson Springs Cemetery.

Sons of Liberty chapter president Carl Thornton and Shoals chapter president Joel Mize are to be commended for their service in putting together this grave dedication and marking event.

Barb Carruth