



HARRIS FERRY CHAPTER  
OF THE  
PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

SEP 1980

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LTC Oscar H. Stroh	1980
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There will be a S.A.R. Dinner Meeting, Thursday October 23, 1980  
at the Officers Club at the New Cumberland Army Depot.

6:00 - 6:30 Social Hour  
6:30 Dinner

This should be a very interesting and informative meeting as our  
speaker will be Lt Col Benedict Fitzgerald from the Army War College, who for  
the past five years has been serving as military attache at Beirut, Lebanon.  
He will speak on "U.S. Strategic Interests in the Middle East in the 1980s."

The menu: Oriental Buffet. The price is variable, depending on how  
much one puts on their plate @ 35¢ an ounce. Each pays his own meal.

R.D.V.P. - Lt Col Oscar H. Stroh, 599-5117

SEP 1980

The story behind the General Galvez stamp used for this mailing is quite interesting: While governor of Spanish Louisiana during the Revolutionary War General Bernardo de Galvez greatly aided the American cause by providing arms to the frontiersmen and a safe haven for American ships. After Spains entry into the War Galvez left his post to lead the Naval Campaign to drive the British from the Gulf coast. After victory at Natchez, Baton Rouge and Mobile, his most daring feat came at Pensacola on May 7, 1781, ignoring the warnings of certain destruction for the Spanish fleet, Admiral Galvez sailed ships of his own past the guns of the British fort guarding the harbor, the fleet was shamed into following.

For this brave act, Galvez was distinguished by a Royal Proclamation allowing him to add to his family Coat-of-Arms the words "Yo Solo", that is "I Alone."

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Although most Americans seem to have forgotten the Bicentennial by now, we should stop and remember that 200 years ago in 1780 the Revolution was still in active progress. It was in September 1780 that General Benedict Arnold deflected to the British. Also in 1780 was fought the Battle of Kings Mountain which was a decided victory for the Americans.

It was on the 16th of August 1780 that General Gates was soundly defeated by General Cornwallice. This caused Congress to look for a new general to take over command of the Army of the South. General Nathaniel Green was chosen and on the 3rd of December 1780 took over command of the remnants of General Gate's Army of the South at Camden, South Carolina.

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During the Revolution, Pennsylvania provided the Continental Army with 15 regiments of infantry, one of artillery, one of cavalry, and one of "Artillery artificers" (essentially, performing ordnance maintenance and repair). At one time or another, approximately 15,000 men served in these regiments. On the basis of the records that have survived, it appears, predictably, that the average soldier was about 25 years old when he enlisted. In other respects, however, the facts are more unexpected. For example, with an average height of 5 feet 5 3/4 inches, these men were only a quarter of an inch shorter than the average World War I American soldier. Also, contrary to what is often assumed, only one man out of three was a farmer--the rest were artisans or craftsmen. Perhaps most unexpected of all, two men out of every three had been born outside America, well over half of these in Ireland.

--Source: John B.B.Trussell, The Pennsylvania Line (Harrisburg, 1977), pages 243-256

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There is a very important election coming soon, so be sure to get out and vote. The future of our country may be at stake. Your failure to vote actually helps the other party win.