



Sons of the American Revolution
Harris Ferry Chapter
Pennsylvania



**Grave Marking Ceremony Dictation
for
Patriot Johannes Bock**

1. Call to Order (Lemon)

Hello, it is now ten o'clock, and I believe we can get started. Before we kick off the ceremony, I would like to welcome Harris Ferry Chapter Chaplain Ronald Coleman to lead us with the Invocation.

2. Invocation (Coleman)

3. Pledge of Allegiance & SAR Pledge (Lute)

Thank you Ron. Now, I would like to welcome Harris Ferry Chapter Vice President Dan Lute to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge, both of which are on the back of your program.

4. Welcome & Introduction of Dignitaries (Lemon)

Thank you Dan. Greetings Compatriots and guests and welcome! My name is Jacob Lemon, I am President of the Harris Ferry Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, and I will be your MC today. As some of you already know, the SAR is an organization dedicated to patriotism, honoring our forefathers that molded our great nation, respecting our country, and educating the youth on these values for a better and brighter future.

That is what we have gathered here today to do: to honor and commemorate the service and memory of patriot Johannes Bock (also known as John Buck), Private of the American Revolution, someone we all owe our lives to. As we honor this Patriot today, let it be a reminder to us to rededicate ourselves to the principles for which held sacred.

We will go more into Private Buck's life here in a moment, but I would like to take a brief minute to introduce a few individuals that we have here today to help us with this ceremony. First would be **Pamela Neill** of the Harrisburg Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution. The DAR is much like the SAR in that its values are rooted in patriotism, respect, and honor of our country and those that have helped defend it from its inception. Pam if you would please.



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Thank you Pam. Now this is not the first time Harris Ferry has been here. Back in 1963, Chapter President Robert Savage met with the President of the Harrisburg Hunters' & Anglers' Association Frank Hoffer to dedicate the grave of Private Buck after the cemetery was found by a group of kids playing. A ceremony was held with prayer, and at least one descendent, Mr. Luther Buck, was present. At this time, I would like to invite Harris Ferry Chapter Secretary Gary Coburn to come on up to introduce our next few guests.

5. Remarks from Harrisburg Hunters' & Anglers' Association (Coburn & Dougherty)

Jerry's remarks. Gary presents Eagle Scout Award, WAA Certificate, and 250 Plaque.

6. Introduction of Patriot Buck's Descendants (Coburn)

7. Dedication of Grave Markers (Lemon)

Thank you Gary. As I had mentioned before, we need to talk a bit more about Patriot Buck. Born in Germany, he moved to what would be Dauphin County around his twenties and started a family. He and his wife Gertrude were blessed with eight children. The land he purchased, well we are standing on it. He enlisted in 1776 with the Continental Army, and over the course of six years can be seen in various records with various units. At one point, his service led him through New York to assault Quebec against General Burgoyne. Several of his fellow men in arms were of this area of Paxton and Upper Paxtang Townships. In August of 1822, he passed away at the age of 69 and is buried here with his family.

With the 250th Anniversary of the United States upon us, we are trying more than ever to find patriots like John who are in deserving need of recognition. The Battles of Lexington and Concord officially ignited the powder in the muskets of our patriot ancestors 250 years ago last week, this being known historically as "the shot heard round the world." Next year, 2026, will not only be the 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, but it will also be 250 years after Johannes Bock enlisted with the Continental Army and militia.

Now, it is with great pleasure to present Patriot Buck with a few tokens of our appreciation. While we cannot tell him exactly what his service means to us, we can honor his legacy with a bronze grave marker. The SAR Patriot Grave Marker is reserved only for Patriots of the American Revolution, and Private Buck is more than deserving. We are also presenting him with a bronze Revolutionary War marker, which was a common-type marker for veterans (Revolution, 1812, Civil War), to have received by the Grand Army of the Republic or other patriotic organizations.



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8. Closing Remarks & SAR Recessional (Lemon & Lute)

Now before we wrap up today's ceremony, I have a few last people and organizations to express gratitude toward. As said numerous times already, Jerry and all of the Harrisburg Hunters' & Anglers' Association, thank you for helping coordinate today's event and your continued support of the cemetery. Also Jaden, again great job on the fence; your hard work is evident and will help protect the grounds.

I would also like to thank two other organizations: one is to Pennsylvania Skill for a grant that helped fund the SAR marker that Patriot Buck received, and the second is to the Pomeroy Foundation. Not installed just yet, but there will be a roadside marker cast and installed right down the way of the cemetery that would bring attention to this site. The Pomeroy Foundation is responsible for this funding.

And finally, I would like to thank Gary Coburn for all his hard work helping to put this together. From contacting Jerry and the descendants, and organizing media coverage, his work is well noted and helps keep this chapter oiled and running.

Thank you **all** for attending, we do have some snacks down in the clubhouse if you wish to partake. Please enjoy, and let's close this ceremony out with the **SAR Recessional** (again, found on the back of your program) led by Vice President Lute followed by the Benediction Chaplain Coleman.

9. Benediction (Coleman)

Thank you all again, careful heading down, and if anyone would like photos feel free to take them! I will be here at the top for a while if anyone wishes to chat, again help yourself to snacks in the clubhouse. Thank You!

END

Jacob R. Lemon
President, Harris Ferry Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution

Read and presented at Buck Cemetery in Harrisburg, PA on April 26, 2025.