



PUTNAM VETERAN'S BULLETIN

The Fourth of July-Let Freedom Ring

"The Second Day of July 1776 will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America. . . . It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bon-fires, and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more."

- John Adams to Abigail Adams, July 3, 1776

Adams was celebrating the resolution by Virginia's Richard Henry Lee that was passed on July 2, 1776. Very briefly Lee expressed in simple words what Jefferson would eloquently express in the Declaration of Independence.

"Resolved, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved." - from Lee's Resolution

John Adams was correct about the enthusiasm in which we celebrate our nation's Independence. However what has also been forgotten or set aside for the purpose of celebration and the ubiquitous "4th of July Sales" is the fact that the **Declaration of Independence** put the colonies on the path to war. The United

States was forged in the furnace of war. Our nations very first Veterans were from the battlefields of Independence. The first Veterans organization was established after the war in Fishkill, N.Y. The Society of Cincinnati. Although an elitist group devoted to exclusively aiding officers in securing pensions for service during the war it did serve as a prototype for Veterans Service Organizations such as the VFW and the American Legion.

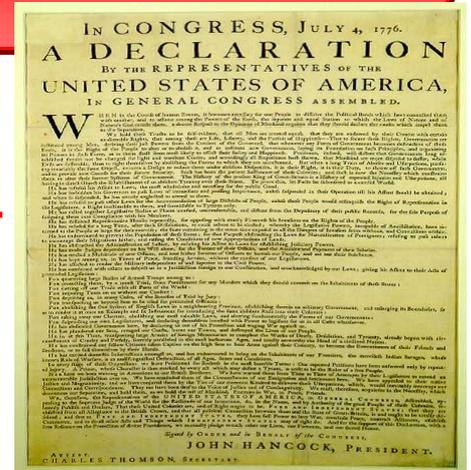
New York was also the location where the last verified Veteran of the Revolutionary War died. Lemuel Cook passed near Rochester, NY in 1866.

Out of a population of almost 2 million in the colonies 217,000 served. There were 4,435 combat deaths and 6,188 non-mortal wounds.

Again the United States was forged in the furnace of war.

The Declaration of Independence

if not a declaration of war was the document that insured the Revolution that began on April 18, 1775 would have a heart and soul. Please take time to read the full text of the Declaration that is on page two, few people read it. At one time it was a tradition for people to read this great document that remains the heart and soul of the United States every July 4th.



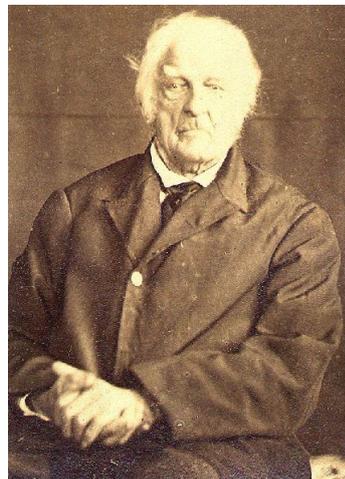
The beauty and essence of the Revolution is captured in the last line of the Declaration. The men who signed this document understood the gravity of what they were doing. They were not entering into a situation for personal gain or spoils. They were attempting to secure freedom. While they may not have been perfect men and they may not have always made correct decisions, they were helping to forge a nation that would stand as a symbol for freedom for generations to come. This is the last line of the Declaration:

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

It is rare in human experience that there is something so powerful and so important that people are willing to give up every-

thing to support it. Our Founding Fathers felt that way about the freedoms they were seeking each of us should be eternally grateful that they did have that passion. We should also be grateful that we have service members that have followed the bootprints of the service members of the Revolution to help let **Freedom Ring.**

-Karl Rohde, Director



The Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America.

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness -- That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive to these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shown that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

HE has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

HE has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

HE has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them and formidable to Tyrants only.

HE has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

HE has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

HE has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the meantime exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and the Convulsions within.

HE has endeavored to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migration hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

HE has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

HE has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

HE has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance.

HE has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies without the consent of our Legislature.

HE has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to Civil Power.

HE has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

FOR quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us:

FOR protecting them, by mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

FOR cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World:

FOR imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

FOR depriving us in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury:

FOR transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences:

FOR abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighboring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies:

FOR taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

FOR suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.

HE has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

HE has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burned our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.

HE is, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

HE has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

HE has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the Inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is undistinguished Destruction of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions.

IN every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

NOR have we been wanting in Attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time of attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and Consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace, Friends.

WE, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by the Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.



Veteran Hiring Initiative

We are looking for hardworking, reliable team members and want YOU to join us!

TBA Global's Veteran Hiring Initiative provides jobs for veterans at the events we execute throughout the United States. As an award-winning event marketing agency planning and producing events for Fortune 500 companies around the world, TBA Global needs the right personnel to make these events successful.

This is where you come in!



WHAT YOU GET:

- Accessible, local work
- Supplemental income from short and mid-term employment
- Valuable skills and experience working with top companies

HOW TO APPLY:

- Visit www.tbaglobal.com/veterans
- Fill out the short application
- Submit! You will become part of our talent database and we will contact you as event work becomes available in your area

**Thank you for your interest in TBA Global and
for your service to our great country!**

PEER TO PEER COUNSELING

Local and state officials came together at American Legion Post 506 in Ossining on Thursday to announce state funding and expansion for the PFC Joseph Dwyer PTSD Peer-to-Peer Veterans Counseling Program.

Among the attendees were State Senators Gregory Ball (R-40), David Carlucci (D-38) and Lee Zeldin (R-3), Westchester County Executive Robert Astorino and Putnam County Sheriff Donald Smith, among others. Several veterans also spoke to praise announcement, including Iraq War vet John Roberts and Gulf War vet Norman Cottrill

"We are looking to shine a light on a silent crisis," Carlucci said. Cottrill took time to explain his own experiences with a traumatic brain injury and PTSD incurred during his service while commending lawmakers for helping veterans who are often in desperate need.

"I'm proud of the military now being more responsive, reacting to these troops that have traumatic brain injury and I am also proud of these lawmakers like David Carlucci and Senator Ball, who take the effort to take care of

these returning men and women," Cottrill said. "It's very important that we take care of [veterans], because they will be our next leaders. They sacrificed so much to serve our country."

Cottrill also explained to viewers and readers who know somebody who suffers from these problems they could call the Crisis Call Center at 1-800-273-8255 and press 1 to receive assistance.

The program, which is named after an Iraq veteran from New York who took his own life, provides "peer-to-peer" support to create links and support networks between veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress

disorder and traumatic brain injury.

According to Zeldin, the program was given trial runs in Suffolk, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Jefferson Counties last year and saw significant success, with over 100 veterans participating in Suffolk alone.

"We know what works and what doesn't work based on those tests," Zeldin explained.

This year, the funding has been expanded to cover not only Rockland, Putnam, Westchester and Orange counties but also Nassau, Erie, and Onondaga. The size increase of the program comes with a significant increase in funding, with last year's \$800,000 increasing to \$2.3 million.

The program is being organized differently in each county, but all of them aim to begin offering counseling and support services by fall 2013. -

Mid Hudson News Service



The Putnam County Veterans Service Agency and the Putnam County Government are extremely excited that Putnam has been included in such a vital program. We look forward to implementing Peer to Peer counseling in the county soon. We will be seeking advise from those Agencies that were included in the initial program last year. We hope to glean from their successes and mistakes to avoid any problems they may have experienced. In

talking with some of those involved in this program we understand that there is no cookie cutter approach to

this type of program and that each county must create a program that fits the needs of the county. There will be a great deal of training and a great deal of time consumed to create a program in Putnam. The results will be more aid to our Veterans and their



July 4th Greetings!

As we are about celebrate the birthday of our Nation, it make sense for me write about those who have served in the Armed Forces throughout our history; to thank all who did serve, and to ask all of us to remember there are those out there today protecting our way of life as we sit by the pool or at the beach munching on hamburgers and hot dogs while waiting for the sun to go down so we can enjoy the fireworks. To write about those who come home with horrific wounds, some of them visible but many with the sometimes invisible wounds of Traumatic Brain injury and the almost always invisible wound of Post-Traumatic Stress. Instead, I will share some little known facts from the American Revolution which I found online at the Fox News website.

New York Was Late: When the Continental Congress declared independence from Britain the official vote was 12 in favor, 0 against. But wait, you may ask, weren't there 13 colonies? Where is that last one? The answer: The colony of New York abstained from the original vote on July 2. New York did not decide to join until July 19.



It Was a States Thing First: Independence was not something that was confined to Congress. It started out as a state and local thing. In fact, the very first Declaration of Independence came on Oct. 4, 1774 (21 months before the Continental Congress declared independence) from the town of Worcester, Mass. During the next 21 months a total of 90 state and local declarations of independence would be made. When Virginia declared its independence in May 1776, they sent Rep. Richard Henry Lee to the Continental Congress with specific instructions to put forth a resolution of independence for Congress to vote on, thus allying all the colonies -- soon to become states -- against the British Empire in the War for Independence.

American Troops Did Not fight Under the American Flag During the Revolution: The Fourth of July is always ac-

companied by a lot of flag waving, but the soldiers of the American Revolution did not actually fight under the American flag. In fact, our Founders did not really consider the flag to be all that important and the design of the flag varied both in the number of stripes and in the formation of the stars. The reason a uniform flag was adopted was so that our navy ships could be easily identified when arriving in foreign ports, but the boys in the Continental Army did not fight under this flag. In fact, the United States flag was considered so irrelevant that in 1794 when someone introduced a bill in Congress to add two stars to the flag in representation of the entrance of Vermont and Kentucky into the Union many members of the House considered it to be too trivial to pay any attention to. One representative is on record saying that this matter was "a trifling business which ought not to engross the attention of the House, when it was it was their duty to discuss matters of infinitely greater importance." In the end, the bill was passed simply to be rid of it. The Continental Army did still fight under flags, but these flags were all different depending on the regiment.

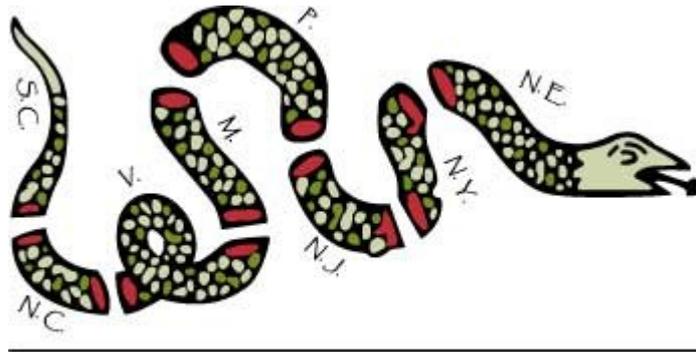
For more little known facts go to: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/07/04/10-things-might-not-know-about-our-independence/>

To all who served or continue to serve, Thank You!

To all, Happy Fourth of July, Happy Birthday United States of America!

Art Hanley, Deputy Director

#	State	Date of Admission
24	Missouri	8/10/1821
20	Mississippi	12/10/1817
32	Minnesota	5/11/1858
26	Michigan	1/26/1837
6	Massachusetts	2/6/1788
7	Maryland	4/28/1788
23	Maine	3/15/1820
18	Louisiana	4/30/1812
15	Kentucky	6/1/1792
34	Kansas	1/29/1861
29	Iowa	12/28/1846
19	Indiana	12/11/1816
21	Illinois	12/3/1818
43	Idaho	7/3/1890
50	Hawaii	8/21/1959
4	Georgia	1/2/1788
27	Florida	3/3/1845
1	Delaware	12/7/1787
5	Connecticut	1/9/1788
38	Colorado	8/1/1876
31	California	9/9/1850
25	Arkansas	6/15/1836
48	Arizona	2/14/1912
49	Alaska	1/3/1959
22	Alabama	12/14/1819
44	Wyoming	7/10/1890
30	Wisconsin	5/29/1848
35	West Virginia	6/20/1863
42	Washington	11/11/1889
10	Virginia	6/25/1788
14	Vermont	3/4/1791
45	Utah	1/4/1896
28	Texas	12/29/1845
16	Tennessee	6/1/1796
40	South Dakota	11/2/1889
8	South Carolina	5/23/1788
13	Rhode Island	5/29/1790
2	Pennsylvania	12/12/1787
33	Oregon	2/14/1859
46	Oklahoma	11/16/1907
17	Ohio	3/1/1803
39	North Dakota	11/2/1889
12	North Carolina	11/21/1789
11	New York	7/26/1788
47	New Mexico	1/6/1912
3	New Jersey	12/18/1787
9	New Hampshire	6/21/1788
36	Nevada	10/31/1864
37	Nebraska	3/1/1867
41	Montana	11/8/1889



JOIN, or DIE.

What was the order in which the States joined our Great Nation?

#	State	Date of Admission
_____	Alabama	_____
_____	Alaska	_____
_____	Arizona	_____
_____	Arkansas	_____
_____	California	_____
_____	Colorado	_____
_____	Connecticut	_____
_____	Delaware	_____
_____	Florida	_____
_____	Georgia	_____
_____	Hawaii	_____
_____	Idaho	_____
_____	Illinois	_____
_____	Indiana	_____
_____	Iowa	_____
_____	Kansas	_____
_____	Kentucky	_____
_____	Louisiana	_____
_____	Maine	_____
_____	Maryland	_____
_____	Massachusetts	_____
_____	Michigan	_____
_____	Minnesota	_____
_____	Mississippi	_____
_____	Missouri	_____

#	State	Date of Admission
_____	Montana	_____
_____	Nebraska	_____
_____	Nevada	_____
_____	New Hampshire	_____
_____	New Jersey	_____
_____	New Mexico	_____
_____	New York	_____
_____	North Carolina	_____
_____	North Dakota	_____
_____	Ohio	_____
_____	Oklahoma	_____
_____	Oregon	_____
_____	Pennsylvania	_____
_____	Rhode Island	_____
_____	South Carolina	_____
_____	South Dakota	_____
_____	Tennessee	_____
_____	Texas	_____
_____	Utah	_____
_____	Vermont	_____
_____	Virginia	_____
_____	Washington	_____
_____	West Virginia	_____
_____	Wisconsin	_____
_____	Wyoming	_____

TRY TO GET THE FIRST THIRTEEN FIRST!

(ANSWERS ON PAGE 5)