



Norfolk Patriot

Honoring our Forefathers - Serving our Fellow Men



<http://www.norfolkchapter.org>

Nº 4, September 2010

September Meeting: Saturday, September 18, 2010
11:00 a.m. (social); 12:00 noon (lunch) (\$30 per person)
Place: Virginia Beach Resort & Conference Center, Exec. Board Room
Program: "The Waterways of the Battle of Great Bridge"
Speaker: Lin Olsen, Executive Director, Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways
RSVP: Robert Hitchings at 757-423-0191 by Tuesday, September 14th

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Compatriots,

The guest speaker at our September luncheon is Lin Olsen who will talk about our waterways that lead to Great Bridge and the importance of this area during the American Revolution.

Many do not know about our famous battle here in Chesapeake, The Battle of Great Bridge. As a native of this area I call this our backyard battle, "The Southern Bunker Hill." It lasted only about half an hour. The British lost 61 men, killed, wounded or taken prisoner; while the American forces lost not a single man and only one was slightly wounded, a Thomas Nash.

Many local farmers were at this battle, including Butts, Portlock, Fentress, Herbert, Etheridge, and Whitehurst, who took their stand against the British for American freedom. And who could forget Billy Flora, a free African American at the battle with his fellow farmers? John Marshall, who would later become Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and George Rowland, a patriot who buried the gallant Capt. Fordyce at St. Brides, bore arms here also. The heroine of the day was Miss Polly Miller (1741-1814), the "Molly Pitcher of the South," a young maid who nursed the sick and wounded of both sides.

This is our own backyard battle, fought on a cold day on December 9, 1775, when we drove the British out of our area. Let's give Lin Olsen a warm welcome to our luncheon.

Robert B. Hitchings
President, Norfolk Chapter, SAR

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History Quiz:

Where in Washington, D.C. are the words "Laus Deo" inscribed?

