

Lake Minnetonka Patriot Profiles Writing Guidance

- ***What is a Patriot Profile?***

A Patriot Profile is a brief overview of your Patriot and his/her contribution to the American Revolution. A Patriot Profile is typically 200 words in length.

- ***Why write our Patriot Profiles?***

The first reason for researching and writing our Patriot Profiles is to preserve this important history for our families. The second reason is to use these stories to educate others about American history. We can bring the events of the Revolution to life through our own Patriot's experiences. The third reason is to inspire others. As we research our Patriot's stories, we will undoubtedly discover the underlying values such as courage, perseverance, faith, freedom, and equality that motivated their service. These values are at the heart of our nation's founding and can still encourage us today.

- ***How will our Patriot Profiles be used?***

Our Patriot Profiles will be used during the Lake Minnetonka Chapter DAR's upcoming America 250! activities. America 250! is a ten-year long celebration of the birth of our nation beginning in 2023 with the anniversary of the Boston Tea Party and ending in 2033 with the anniversary of the Treaty of Paris. Our Patriot Profiles will be published in the Lake Minnetonka Chapter DAR newsletter and as snapshots on social media during this ten-year celebration.

- ***What information should be included in my Patriot Profile?***

- A. **Title**: Your Patriot's name, DAR ancestor number, birth and death years, and your name.
- B. **Introduction**: Paragraph 1 will introduce your Patriot's personal information. This may include your Patriot's hometown and colony, birth date, family members, occupation, and any other interesting personal information you discover. You may want to begin this paragraph by citing your relationship to this Patriot.
- C. **Revolutionary War Service**: Paragraph 2 is your opportunity to educate and inspire your audience by sharing your Patriot's contribution to the Revolutionary War. This may include military service and participation in historic conflicts. Or this may include civil and patriotic service roles your Patriot held. Importantly, this section is where you can express the personal value likely to have motivated your Patriot's service. You could express this value as a topic sentence to start this second paragraph. For example, "My courageous Patriot fought in the Battle of Yorktown." Or you could express this value in a conclusion sentence at the end of this paragraph. For example, "I am proud of the exceptional tenacity and perseverance my Patriot must have shown to survive the grueling winter at Valley Forge."
- D. **Works Cited**: Please include the information sources you used to write your Profile.

- ***How can I research my Patriot to find the information needed for my Patriot Profile?***

Please consult the "Patriot Story Writing Guide" and recorded webinar in the Members section of our Lake Minnetonka Chapter website for instructions and resources to developing your story. Please also see the document titled "Patriot Profiles" for additional examples.

Bartholomew Somers A110885**(1744 -1832)****Meghan Flannery**

Bartholomew Somers, born in 1744 in Cambuslang, Scotland, immigrated to America and settled in Ryegate, Vermont, in 1774. Nicknamed "Long Bart," Somers was a jolly man with a fondness for practical jokes. Like his fellow Scotsmen, Somers defended his new home from British threats, and he was elected corporal in Captain Frye Bayley's militia company.

In October 1777, Captain Bayley's company heeded the Continental Army's call for aid in Saratoga, New York, against British General John Burgoyne's campaign down the Hudson River. After marching over 170 miles, the company arrived in Saratoga on October 11, 1777. Captain Bayley heard reports of 15 poorly guarded, full British supply boats that they could easily capture. When they found these boats, Somers, along with another unnamed soldier, selflessly and courageously volunteered to swim across the Hudson to steal the first boat. They emptied the boat to carry over the rest of the company to capture the remaining 14 boats. This significant loss of supplies likely pushed General Burgoyne to famously surrender to the Continental Army on October 17, 1777. Throughout this adventure, Somers persevered through the long march to Saratoga and fearlessly forced the British to cease their attacks on his adopted homeland.

[Works Cited: Edward Miller and Frederic P. Wells. *History of Ryegate, Vermont: From It's Settlement by the Scotch-American Company of Farmers to the Present Time With Genealogical Records of Many Families*. St. Johnbury, Vermont: The Caledonian Company, 1913.]

Captain Eleazer Warner, Sr. A121074**(1729-1810)****Linda Kline**

Eleazer Warner Sr. was born in 1731 in Hadley, Massachusetts. One hundred years earlier, his ancestors had migrated from England to the Massachusetts Bay colony. Given his family's deep roots in the colonies, Eleazer volunteered to serve in the British Army during the French and Indian War in 1760. He returned to become a leader in his community, serving his town of Granby as a surveyor, assessor, and selectman.

During the American Revolution, Warner was as a courageous Massachusetts Minuteman. Outraged by the conflict between militiamen and the British Army at Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775, Warner marched to Boston the following day to join in a siege of the British controlled city. On June 17, Warner raced under cannon fire to fight in the Battle of Bunker Hill. Though a British victory, the battle was an unmistakable statement of American resolve. In his role as Selectman the following year, Warner likely participated in his town's historic vote for independence. On June 20, 1776 the people of Granby "[v]oted that we of this town will support the Independence of the American Colonies with our lives and our fortunes provided the American Congress shall declare these Colonies Independent."

[Works Cited: Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War; Massachusetts Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988. Granby 1710-1900; Wilder, Justin E. *The Descendants of Harvey Wilder*. Copyright 1974. Goshen, Indiana.]