

NOTE: This bibliography has been compiled by Compatriot Paul Chase, a member in good standing of the Col. James Wood II Chapter. It is being shared here in the fraternal spirit to increase our collective knowledge on the Revolutionary War. It is not endorsed by the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution; The Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution or any of their collective chapters.

Allen, Ethan. ***The Narrative of Colonel Ethan Allen.*** Bennington, March 25, 1779.

Reader Comments: This is the account by Ethan Allen in his own words of his capture and experiences as a British Prisoner Of War. He wrote this after 29 months as a POW in Canada, England and New York City. His purpose was to expose the horrific treatment of American POWs to the public. This is the most detailed contemporaneous account of the American POW experience. The book was published at his own expense with multiple reprints due to its notoriety. The book helped develop an international code of conduct for the ethical treatment of POWs.

Babits, Lawrence E. ***A Devil of a Whipping, The Battle of Cowpens.*** University of North Carolina Press. 1998 ISBN: 978-0-8078-4926-2. **Reader Comments:** This is another “must read” for any student of the military history of the American Revolution. The information in Chapter One: Tactics is especially valuable because it is applicable to nearly all battles of the Revolution. This book clearly shows the genius of Colonel (later General) Morgan as a tactician and battlefield commander. This book is OUTSTANDING. Read and re-read cover to cover.

Borneman, Walter R. ***The French and Indian War, Deciding the Fate of America.*** HarperCollins Publishers, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022, ISBN 978-0-06-076184-4 2006 **Reader Comments:** A good understanding of the French and Indian War (1754-1763) is helpful in understanding the

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American Revolution in the following ways: (1) Many battles were fought over the same areas – Upper Hudson, Quebec (2) Many key commanders fought in both wars (3) France saw the American Revolution to as an opportunity to “get back” at Britain for their defeat in the French and Indian War (4) The Proclamation of 1763 which prohibited American settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains was a significant factor in arousing American ire. (5) The civil war aspects of the French and Indian War were replicated during the American Revolution. A very good book and easy to read.

Brand, Clare. ***The Man in the Mirror, A Life of Benedict Arnold.*** Random House IN., New York, NY 1994, ISBN 0-6679-40106-7 **Reader Comments:** This is a very good account of General Arnold’s life. However, the part of this story regarding his betrayal could be done better if were done in more detail. The problem is that some aspects are still controversial and complicated. This is one of the better books available about the life of Arnold.

Breen, T. H. ***American Insurgents, American Patriots, The Revolution of the People.*** Hill and Wang, 18 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011 ISBN: 978-0-8090-7588-1. **Reader Comments:** This book chronicles the two years (1774-1776) of America’s rise from insurgency to outright revolution against the British occupation of America. It documents the manner in which protests against the Coercive Acts of 1774 (known by Americans as the Intolerable Acts) galvanized Americans into coordinated action. The Boston Port Act was so damaging to whole portions of the population of New England that it caused the Continental Congress to enact the “Association” which called for a boycott of the sale or purchase of British goods. Enforcement of the Association rules was done locally through “Committees” of Safety, Observation and Correspondence which used increasingly harsh strong-arm tactics against those who did not comply.

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The book is not an easy read, but it is worthwhile to understand how the Revolution came into being.

Buchanan, John. ***The Road to Guilford Courthouse, The American Revolution in the Carolinas.*** John Wiley and Sons, 605 3rd Avenue, New York, NY 10158 ISBN 0-471-32716-6 1997 **Reader Comments:** This superb book covers the war in the Carolinas from February 1776 to April 1781 when General Cornwallis quitted North Carolina en-route to Virginia and ultimately his destiny at Yorktown. The battles of Sullivan's Island, Charleston, Camden, King's Mountain, Cowpens and Guilford Courthouse and others are superbly described. Don't miss this book if you want to know how the American Revolution was won in the south.

Carbone, Gerald M. ***Nathaniel Greene, The Remarkable Life of an Unsung Hero of the American Revolution.*** Palgrave MacMillan, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010 ISBN 978-0-230-60271-7. **Reader Comments:** Nathaniel Greene does not get the credit he deserves for the success of the American Revolution. He was second in command to General Washington for much of the war. Due to his superb organizing abilities he managed to rescue the Quartermaster Corps from collapse during the critical Valley Forge period. He was in fact responsible for breaking the back of the British "Southern Campaign" which led to the American victory at Yorktown. The book is the perfect length (268) pages while covering Greene's contributions in detail.

Chernow, Ron. ***Alexander Hamilton.*** Penguin Press, 375 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014, ISBN 1-59420-009-2 2004 **Reader Comments:** This is likely the very best single volume biography (818 pages) of Hamilton. This remarkable individual who was raised fatherless and born in poverty in the British West Indies, overcame tremendous personal adversity to

become General Washington's aide/secretary, a combat general and ultimately America's first Treasury Secretary. This is a great book about a great American whose impact on our country is still felt in our financial institutions. His untimely death at the hands of Aaron Burr in a duel might have saved his reputation from ruin because he was flirting with those who might have wanted him to lead a break-a-way effort for New England from the United States.

Chernow, Ron. ***Washington, A Life***. Penguin Books, 80 Strand, London, England 2010 ISBN 978-59420-266-7 **Reader Comments:** This massive (904 page) account of General Washington has got to be the best single volume of this titanic individual. It is only for the serious reader of the American Revolution, if nothing but for its length. It clearly shows how as a general he grew into the job as Commander-In-Chief and gained confidence and competence as the war went on. It also shows that he was far and away more intelligent than he is given credit for. He successfully navigated through military and political minefields throughout his whole public life. Fortunately he left multiple boxes of his personal and public correspondence for future generations to research and digest.

Dameron, J. David & Savas, Theodore P. ***The New American Revolution Handbook, Facts and Artwork for Readers of All Ages***. Savas Beatie LLC., Fifth Ave., Suite 1700, New York, NY 10175 ISBN: 978-1-932714-93-7 **Reader Comments:** There is some minor duplication between this book and "Battles Of the American Revolution" by the same authors. However, it contains excellent timeline tables, battles by state, the commanders, and fairly detailed accounts of the contributions of the French, Spanish and Dutch to the Revolution. It is a worthy addition to the library of any Revolutionary War historian.

Ellis, Joseph J. ***American Creation, Triumphs and Tragedies at the Founding of the Republic.*** Random House Inc., New York, NY, 2006 ISBN: 978-0-307-26369-8 **Reader Comments:** This book is more about the political miracle than the military miracle of America's creation. Without the pre-war, war-time and post-war political miracles that were accomplished, the military miracles would have never happened or would have been wasted. This book takes the reader from 1774 up to and beyond the Louisiana Purchase, which was not accomplished so much by luck as by the political and diplomatic skill of President Thomas Jefferson.

Ferling, John. ***Almost a Miracle, The American Victory in the War of Independence.*** Oxford University Press, New York, NY 10016 ISBN 978-0-19-518121-0 2007 **Reader Comments:** This is another comprehensive (679 pages) history of the American Revolution. It is a little less detailed than Ward's "War of the Revolution". It is an excellent book that should be read along with Ward's book.

Fleming, Thomas. ***The Perils of Peace: America's Struggle for Survival after Yorktown.*** HarperCollins Publishers Inc., 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022 ISBN: 978-0-06-113910-9 **Reader Comments:** The American Army all but fell apart after Yorktown. Thinking the war was won, soldiers deserted en-mass. General Washington kept the army together through grit and leadership until peace was achieved with the Peace of Paris September 3, 1783. It is not a spell binding book but needs to be read to have a good understanding of how close the war was lost after Yorktown.

Greene, Jerome A. ***The Guns of Independence, The Siege of Yorktown 1781.*** Savas, Beatie, 521 Fifth Ave., Suite 1700, New York, NY 10175 2005 ISBN 978-1-932714-685 **Reader Comments:** This remarkable book combines the historical account of this culmination battle along with contemporary

archeological digs. The fortifications and trenches of the battlefield were largely filled in and destroyed after the battle to prevent their possible reuse by the British. The archeological reconstruction of the battlefield has helped in the understanding of this crucial battle. This book is a tutorial on artillery and siege warfare. It is a “must read” for any student of the American Revolution.

Hibbert, Christopher. ***Redcoats and Rebels, The American Revolution through British Eyes.*** W. W. Norton & Co., New York, NY 10110 ISBN: 0-397-02895-X.

Reader comments: This book reveals that morale among the British was a definite problem during the American Revolution. Many British soldiers realized that it was not possible to conquer America. It also reveals the devastating impact of the inability of the senior British Generals to cooperate and agree on common goals and strategies.

Higginbotham, Don. ***Daniel Morgan, Revolutionary Rifleman.*** University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 1961 ISBN: 0-8078-136-9 **Reader Comments:** This is a quick somewhat superficial biography of one of the giants of the Revolution. For someone who fought from start to finish and beyond the Revolution, 239 pages are not sufficient. There has to be a better more comprehensive biography of this individual who made so many immeasurable contributions to the Revolution.

Isaacson, Walter. ***Benjamin Franklin, An American Life.*** Simon & Schuster, Rockefeller Center, 1230 Ave., New York, NY 10020 ISBN: 978-0-684-80761-4. **Reader Comments:** This comprehensive (586 page) book of Franklin shows his extraordinary talents as an inventor, scientist, thinker, researcher, patriot and diplomat who made huge contributions to the success of the Revolution. He paid a personal price for his unwavering

support of the Revolution as his son William, who was a rabid loyalist, became estranged to him for life. A highly recommended book.

Ketchum, Richard M. ***Decisive day, The Battle for Bunker Hill.*** Doubleday & Company Inc., Garden City, NY 1962 **Reader Comments:** This is probably the best account available of the battle. The print is somewhat small. The content is detailed and supported by generous “notes”. It gives a good account of the contributions of one of the Revolution’s early firebrands and hero of the battle, Dr. Joseph Warren who lost his life in the redoubt at the top of the hill.

Ketchum, Richard M. ***Saratoga, Turning Point of the America’s Revolutionary War.*** Henry Holt & Co., New York, NY 115 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011 1997 ISBN: 0-8050-4681-X **Reader Comments:** This book has to be the ultimate book about the battles around Saratoga that culminated in the surrender of Lt Gen John Burgoyne on October 19, 1777. It is highly readable with fine, interesting and important detail. If you are going to visit Saratoga READ THIS BOOK FIRST and then TAKE IT WITH YOU. Fantastic!

Kidder, Frederic. ***History of the First New Hampshire Regiment in the War of the Revolution.*** Albany, NY 1868 **Reader Comments:** The accounts of battles in this book are contained in even more detail in other histories. The paymaster, muster rolls and battle casualty reports are of some interest. Otherwise this book is not likely to interest someone unless their descendants were members of the unit which served consecutively for eight years and eight months during the Revolution.

Kiernan, Denise & D'Agnes, Joseph. ***Signing Their Lives Away, The Fame & Misfortune of the Men Who Signed The Declaration of Independence*** Quirk Books, 215 Church Street, Philadelphia, PA 19108 2009 ISBN: 978-1-59474-330-6 **Reader Comments:** This book gives brief biographies of the 56 men who signed the Declaration Of Independence. It is an entertaining and useful book to read.

Langguth, A. J. ***Union 1812, The Americans Who Fought the Second War of Independence.*** Simon & Schuster, 1230 Ave., of the Americas, New York, NY 10020 2006 ISBN-13: 978-1-4165-3278-1 **Reader Comments:** This long book (486 pages) covers the period after the Revolution thru the War of 1812. The book covers in considerable detail the successive miracles of succession, Federalism vs Republicanism, geographical divisions (north vs south), pro-active vs isolationist foreign policy, military weakness and incompetence and financial crises that followed the Revolution culminating with the War of 1812 itself. The treaty of Ghent of 1814 which ended the war basically returned the situation for both countries to the pre-war conditions minus the major irritants of impressments, boycotts and violations of the 1783 Treaty of Paris.

Leepson, Marc. ***Lafayette, Lessons in Leadership from the Idealist General.*** Palgrave MacMillan, 175 Fifth Street, New York, NY 10010 2011 ISBN: 978-0-230-10504-1 **Reader Comments:** Lafayette was one of the group foreigners who volunteered their services to the American Revolution. Again and again he demonstrated his high ethical principles and courage on the battlefield. Considered a son by Washington he sacrificed everything short of his life for the Revolution. After the War he barely escaped execution during the French Revolution and suffered imprisonment and poverty. A very good book.

Lockhart, Paul. ***The Drillmaster of Valley Forge, The Baron de Steuben and the Making of the American Army.*** HarperCollins Books, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022 2008 ISBN: 978-0-6-145163-8 **Reader Comments:** This book dispels the common perconception that he was not a baron. He was in fact one, albeit a poor one. This book places Baron de Steuben in the pantheon of heroes on the American Revolution. Without his discipline and combat training he instilled in the army it would not have survived many of its battles with the British. His service in Virginia is especially well noted as well as his lasting impact on the U.S. Army's military philosophy and traditions. A surprisingly good book on this man's underestimated contributions to the Revolution.

Logusz, Michael O. ***With Musket and Tomahawk, The Saratoga Campaign and The Wilderness War.*** Casemate Publishers, 908 Darby Road, Havertown, PA 19083 2010 ISBN: 978-1-935149-00-2 **Reader Comments:** This is one of the most readable and highly informative and educational books on LTG John Burgoyne's 1777 campaign down from Canada via Lake Champlain with the ultimate goal of meeting the British Commander in Chief at Albany, NY. It shows the catastrophic effect of the failure of the British generals to coordinate their plans. General Howe went south to Philadelphia and General Burgoyne was led to believe Howe was going north to meet him up the Hudson River. The result was Burgoyne was stranded and crushed in a series of battles around Saratoga, NY. This is an excellent book and should be one of the first a new reader of the Revolution should tackle.

Martin, Joseph Plumb, ***Memoir of a Revolutionary Soldier; The Narrative of Joseph Plumb Martin.*** Glazier, Masters Co., Hallowell, ME 1830 ISBN 0-486-45146-1 **Reader Comments:** Written 47 years after the Revolution this is probably the most quoted and referred memoir of an American soldier during the War. There are many memoirs of soldiers of the Revolution

but few or none others who served in the Continental Army from start to finish. Curiously, he reports in the book that he saw little direct combat action. His recollection is one of near constant starvation, privation and hardship.

Middlekauff, Robert. ***The Glorious Cause, The American Revolution 1763-1789.*** Oxford University Press Inc., 198 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016 1982 ISBN: -13-978-0-19-502921-5 **Reader Comments:** This comprehensive work combines the political and military history of the Revolution into a substantial book (696 pages). The book has puzzling gaps on such things as POWs and the Andre'/Arnold affair. Otherwise this book is rated as a masterpiece by professional historians.

Murphy, Daniel P. ***The Everything American Revolution Book.*** Adamsmedia, 57 Littlefield Street, Avon, MA 02322 2008 ISBN 10: 1-59869-538-X **Reader Comments:** Written mostly in a Q & A format it might be helpful for a grade school teacher. The book has little worth to the serious student of the Revolution.

Nelson, James L. ***The Battle of Bunker Hill and the Beginning of the American Revolution.*** St. Martin's Press, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010 2011 ISBN: 978-0-0-313-57644-8 **Reader Comments:** This is a good, but not great account of the battle. Interestingly, the author along with other historians about the battle believe that General Howe who was in the thick of it and splashed with the blood of his beloved grenadiers, was so traumatized that he was forever overly cautious when committing troops to battle. Thus, he lost opportunities to successfully strike at the Americans when they were at their weakest.

Nielson, Charles. ***Original Compiled and Corrected Account of Burgoyne's Campaign and the Memorable Battles of Bemis Heights, September 19 & October 7, 1777.*** J. Munsell, 58 State Street, Albany, NY 1844. **Reader Comments:** This book was written using some information from still surviving members of the battle. It accurately describes the importance of General Arnold's contributions which are sometimes underrated by historians of the battles around Saratoga in the fall of 1777. It is a worthwhile read.

Palmer, Dave R. ***George Washington and Benedict Arnold, A Tale of Two Patriots.*** Regency Publishing Inc., One Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington DC 20001 2006 ISBN: 1-59698-020—6 **Reader Comments:** This is a light read which focuses on the leadership characteristics of Washington and Arnold along with the ethical failures of Arnold. It actually helped to clarify some of the issues regarding how fortunate Arnold was in not being captured by Washington as he arrived at West Point after returning from Hartford with his meeting with French General Rochambeau.

Patton, Robert H. ***Patriot Pirates, The Privateer War for Freedom and Fortune in the American Revolution.*** Pantheon Books, New York, NY 2008 ISBN: 978-0-375-42284-3 **Reader Comments:** Logistics is widely regarded as England's Achilles Heel during the American Revolution. The 3,000 miles across the Atlantic Ocean caused enormous material losses for the British. Privateers attacking and seizing British ships increased their losses and required them to include escort ships. This book attempts to tell the story of these American seamen, but the tale all too frequently gets bogged down in the business of haggling over payments and business transactions vs. piracy on the high seas.

Paul, Joel Richard. ***Unlikely Allies, How a Merchant, A Playwright and a Spy Saved the American Revolution.*** Penguin Group Inc., 375 Hudson Street, New

York, NY 10014 2009 ISBN: 978-1-59448-883-2 **Reader Comments:** This book gets out the true story of Silas Deane and his crucial contributions to the American Revolution. Sent to France under cover, he was largely responsible with Benjamin Franklin for the covert arms and funds provided by the French to America. He was marked for assassination by the British. To succeed in his work he had to be duplicitous, fraudulent and a liar. That is the consequence of spy-hood and this besmirched his reputation. Deane endured sacrifice and danger for America no less than infantrymen who faced enemy fire.

Phelps, M. William. ***Nathan Hale, The Life and Death of America's First Spy.*** St. Martin's Press. 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 2008 ISBN: -13-978-0-312-37641-3 **Reader Comments:** Nathan Hale was a well-educated but naïve patriot who never should have volunteered or been accepted into the American spy service. He had no spy training or experience, was well known as a patriot and was an accomplished infantry ranger company commander who had the musket flash pan burns on his face for all to see and recognize. Like Andre' he was caught out of uniform, behind enemy lines under a false name with incriminating documents. Betrayed by Robert Rogers, a supposed American patriot, Hale was captured at Huntington Long Island on September 21, 1776. Unlike Andre' who was given a trial, publically hanged, with last rights, and decently buried; Hale had no trial, was denied a Bible, denied a pastor, denied a chance to write a will, and was secretly hanged in a secluded spot in New York City. His body was left to hang, stripped of its clothes and left to putrefy until passerby buried it because it was so offensive. Students young and old, especially the young should read this book to appreciate how such individuals willingly sacrificed themselves with honor for America's freedom.

Puls, Mark ***Henry Knox, Visionary General of the American Revolution.*** Palgrave MacMillian, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010 2008 ISBN -13-978-1-4039-8427-2 **Reader Comments:** A superb book about a self-taught artilleryman who played an absolute pivotal role in the ultimate success of the Revolution. He pushed for a military academy to train future military leaders and was responsible for constructing our Revolutionary War Navy. Knox went on to make other contributions to the success of America. All biographies of our Revolutionary heroes should be this well written.

Rakove, Jack. ***Revolutionaries, A History of the Invention of America.*** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 215 Park Ave., South, New York, NY 10007 2010 ISBN 978-0-618-26746-0. **Reader Comments:** This book did not seem to contribute to my knowledge of either the political or military aspects of the Revolution. It should have focused on one or the other. It was a chore to finish.

Randall, Willard Sterne. ***Benedict Arnold, Patriot and Traitor.*** William Morrow & CO., 105 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1990 ISBN: 1-55710-034-9. **Reader Comments:** This is a superb book by a highly accomplished historian and writer. **However**, it has inexcusable editorial and factual errors, such as referring to **en**listed soldiers as **un**listed soldiers and the highly outrageous comment that Arnold had given a “direct order to Colonel Livingston not to fire on the ship” (VULTURE) page 547, which is not supported by footnotes or any of the many other historical accounts of the Andre’/Arnold affair. Lt Col Livingston and his superior Colonel John Lamb Commander of the Second Continental Artillery Regiment would not have obeyed such an outrageous order. Colonel Lamb was already suspicious of General Arnold’s all too frequent contacts with known Loyalists. Despite this, the book is excellent and likely the best that is in print about General Arnold.

Randall, Willard Sterne, *Ethan Allen, His Life and Times*. W. W. Horton & Co., 500 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10110 2011. ISBN: 978-0-393-07665-3. **Reader Comments:** Add this book to your MUST HAVE and READ library of American Revolutionary heroes. Ethan Allen was born in poverty, multi-talented, highly intelligent, and courageous warrior and patriot who was ultimately and almost singlehandedly responsible for the creation of the State of Vermont. He was a preacher, miner, successful businessman, writer, philosopher, combat leader and defender of the poor common man. He spent 29 months as a British Prisoner Of War under death defying harsh conditions and ultimately, along with Benjamin Franklin was responsible for raising international standards for the ethical treatment of POWS.

Rankin, Hugh F. *Greene and Cornwallis: The Campaign in the Carolinas*. Raleigh Office of Archives, NC 2003 ISBN 0-86526-119-9 **Reader Comments:** Interestingly this book mentions that the British turned south in 1779 because they thought American generals were weaker there, the resources there (tobacco, rice and cotton) more important to England and their mistaken belief they would get more Loyalist support from the southern colonies. Despite its short length (91 pages) it still contains valuable new information and perspectives. Knowing it was dangerous to divide his inferior force in the face of the superior British Army, Greene appointed Daniel Morgan to head its mobile (flying army) wing which was able to wear down and confuse Cornwallis and ultimately led to his disasters at Cowpens and Guilford Courthouse and finally Yorktown. This book gives an excellent, very readable concise account of the crucial Carolina Campaign.

Rappleye, Charles. ***Robert Morris Financier of the American Revolution***. Simon & Schuster 1320 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020 2012. ISBN 978-1-4165-7091-2 **Reader Comments:** Although he never wore a military uniform Morris owns a big share of the success of the American Revolution along with the greatest of our generals. A man of enormous talents and energy, by hook, crook and Ponzi schemes he managed to obtain the finances necessary to keep the Revolution from failing. Not an easy read but should be read by any serious student of the Revolution.

Rose, Ben Z. ***John Stark, Maverick General***. Treeline Press, Waverly, MA 02479 2007 ISBN: 978-0-9789123-0-7 **Reader Comments:** This may be the most current biography of General Stark, but it is a little shallow. Stark's contributions to the Revolution were significant but brief. He threw himself into the battles of Bunker Hill and Bennington and then mostly retired from the scene. Combative and independent to his death at age 94 in 1822 his words "Live Free or Die" have become the New Hampshire State Motto.

Sargent, Winthrop. ***The Life of Major John Andre' Adjutant General of the British Army in America***. D. Appleton and Company 549 Broadway, New York, NY 1871. **Reader Comments:** This is likely to be the most comprehensive biography that will ever be written of John Andre' who played a pivotal role in Benedict Arnold's September 1780 betrayal of the American cause. Written in the style of the time (19th century) it somewhat difficult to understand but it is definitely something that must be read and digested if you are going to seriously know what happened in this affair.

Sheinkin, Steve. ***The Notorious Benedict Arnold, A True Story of Adventure, Heroism and Treachery***. Roaring Book Press, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010 2010 ISBN: 978-1-59643-486-3 **Reader Comments:** This is a fairly

good, but not excellent book up to the time of Arnold's betrayal of the American cause. The account of Arnold's and Andre's partnership to hand over West Point and possibly capture General Washington is not very detailed or accurate as it should be.

Savas, Theodore P. & Dameron J. David, ***A Guide to the Battles of the American Revolution***. Savas Beatie LLC., 521 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 2010, ISBN: 978-1932714-94-4. **Reader Comments:** This book individually covers 69 army and naval engagements of the American Revolution. It also contains state by state lists of units along with those of Britain and Germany along with the senior commanders. The dates of battles, weather conditions, terrain, tactics, casualties, senior battlefield commanders and outcomes along with maps are shown. If you are going to do Revolutionary War battlefield touring, this book is a must.

Unger, Harlow Giles, ***Lion of Liberty, Patrick Henry and the Call to Liberty***. De Capo Press, 11 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, MA 02142 2010. ISBN: 978-0306-81886-8. **Reader Comments:** Patrick Henry was home schooled by his highly educated parents. Although he wore the clothes of a backwoodsman and looked and acted like one, he was brilliant enough to pass the law bar exam without any formal legal training. He was passionate in his defense of underdogs and was an awe inspiring firebrand of an orator. His March 20, 1775 "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" speech at the Second Virginia Convention in Richmond caused a sensation and helped bring the southern colonies into the revolutionary fold. He was the orator of the Revolution just when one was needed and screamed to the rafters words that galvanized Americans into direct action.

Urban, Mark, ***Fusiliers, The Saga of a British Regiment during the American Revolution.*** Walker and Company, 104 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011 2007 ISBN: 978-0-8027-1647-7 **Reader Comments:** This book is written by a British historian using British documents. It pulls no punches as it documents the six years of service in America by the much honored 23rd Fusilier Regiment, otherwise known as the Royal Welch Fusiliers. It dispels the notion that British officers were all inept and their soldiers only motivated by the lash. Among many other things it reveals that ravishment (rape) of American women by British and German soldiers was far more frequent than is commonly known or reported. This is an excellent MUST READ book!

Van Dorn Carl, ***Secret History of the American Revolution.*** The Viking Press, New York, NY 1941. **Reader Comments:** This is the history of the John Andre'/Benedict Arnold conspiracy to allow West Point to be captured by the British and quite possibly George Washington with it. It contains copies of the previously secret British correspondence between Arnold and Andre'. It is very likely the most comprehensive account of the affair that will ever be written, which could have quite possibly been a fatal blow to the Revolution had it succeeded. The writing style makes it somewhat difficult to read, but you must read it!

Ward, Christopher, ***The War of the Revolution.*** Skyhorse Publishing, 307 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018, 1941. ISBN: 978-1-61608-080-8. **Reader Comments:** This is unquestionably the best and most comprehensive (989 pages) account of the military events of the American Revolution. Again and again historians of the American Revolution use this book as a reference, and rightly so. Unfortunately, it refers the reader to Van Dorn's work for the Andre'/Arnold affair. Despite its length this book is easily readable and very enjoyable.