

THE COLONIAL NAVY OF MASSACHUSETTS CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

The gala celebration was held at the Officers Club in Newport, R.I. Friday evening, the 19th of October. Over 100 past and present members and their guest attended the dinner. The ceremonies commemorated the founding of the Colonial Navy of Massachusetts by the State Legislature to perpetuate the legacy of the original State Navy of Massachusetts formed to defend the Commonwealth against the British on December 19th, 1775.

The group first received its charter from the then Governor John Volpe on December 19th, 1967 and many of the “plank” members, our founding fathers, were there to reminisce that evening.

State Representative, Patricia Haddad, presented the group with a proclamation in recognition of “the Auspicious Occasion” from the House of Representatives and also brought a citation “in appreciation of *it’s* dedication to the preservation of history and the naval traditions of the Commonwealth” from Governor Patrick Davol. As chairwomen of the Joint Committee on Education, she expressed her delight with the historical significance of the group and their performances at local schools.

The Colonial Navy, which is primarily a fife and drum corp., currently has 53 active members, and participates in approximately 12 to 14 events each year, ranging from parades and concerts, to school presentations, they attend and perform as a group at a local church each year for Veteran’s Day. They have traveled all over the world, including England, Canada and will be returning to Savannah, Georgia in 2008.

Many members of the group have a strong interest in the history of the Revolutionary War, and many are skilled musicians, but all the members enjoy the friendships and thrill of performance. The group is headquartered in Fall River but comes from all over Massachusetts, Rhode Island and nearby Connecticut.

We are looking for recruits to join the group. Please drop us a line at PO Box 1775, Fall River, Ma 02722. You do not have to be a musician to join in the fun, we have a Marine Contingent and Color Guard. Also, please visit our website at www.CNM1775.org or send us an E-mail at cnm1775@CNM1775.org.
