

Basic information about the pension site and how to gain access.

It is costly to do the pension work and we request a donation, one of any size is appreciated. Send a check to:

AJ Berry Enterprises
14092 Wellman Ct
Manassas, VA 20112

Make sure and include your e-mail address.

Jim Morrison and AJ Berry have worked on the pensions for several years to have all the soldiers of the Revolution from and from other states but served in NY have been transcribed. Unfortunately AJ's goal of getting to the rest of the nation will never be reached. Joyce died with her family around her on December 23rd 2014.

The process was lengthy, first the documents have to be accessed and then AJ selected a deposition which was given by the soldier, if possible. The handwriting in many cases is deplorable, the spelling was done however it sounded best by the scribe. Then there is the difficulty of making out some of the words due to these problems. Joyce had her share of typos in too! Then Jim corrected the transcription, and verified the service. Pensions corrected and end noted have an * in front of the names. He verifies the information through the regimental records, payroll records, and the muster rolls. Some complain about the spelling, it is not us, but spelling was not standardized in that time.

Just because a soldier says he served, doesn't necessarily mean he did so. Old age, time, and illiteracy were mostly the culprits. Then too there was another large factor. The men wished to qualify for a pension. The \$80 a year was a handsome pension. You will find some of the old men married young women, because the women knew they would have an income for as long as they lived.

If a man served in the Continental service, usually he would simply state so because the service was continuous and they were wintered by the government. These were the national troops, Washington was the Commander-In-Chief. Often there were physical descriptions when the men enlisted, so if they went AWOL, they could be identified.

The Levies served mostly for 6-9 months and they were the state troops, often drafted or levied from the militia.

Then there was the militia, these were the county troops and served when called. This could for be a day or two or a week or two, etc. Six months of service was necessary to qualify for a pension and the man had to have witnesses to verify the service. Naturally they wanted to qualify and often stretched the time, can't say I blame them. A scouting detachment was usually about 3 days, no more than a week, but the soldier might claim 3 weeks. The service had to be documented or verified by other sources. So many interesting stories come from these men.

So far there are *over* 7200 pensions on the site. Here is the opening page for the site. <http://revwarny.com>