

Deaf Culture Question of the Week – October 3 - 7, 2011
Bill Newell, Principal Washington School for the Deaf

Gallaudet was involved in the American Revolutionary War (1775 – 1783)
True or False

Scroll down for the answer.

Answer: True (sort of)

Two Gallaudet's (not The Gallaudet) were involved in the Revolutionary War. A Peter Wallace Gallaudet was a personal secretary to US President George Washington and enlisted as a soldier in the American Revolutionary War. He took part in the Battle of Trenton, December 26, 1776.

His uncle, Elisha Gallaudet was also involved. He hid some members of the New Jersey militia in his house during the Revolutionary War. The English soldiers discovered this and wanted to capture him. Elisha escaped. Peter and Elisha Gallaudet were ancestors of Thomas Hopkins and his son Edwin Miner Gallaudet. So, indeed, two Gallaudet's (but not The Gallaudet's famous in the history of Deaf Education) were involved in the American Revolutionary War that led to the formation of a new nation, the United States of America! (Source: <http://deafdigest.net/mid-week-news/20110406/>)

Read about these two ancestors of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet here:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Wallace_Gallaudet

Thanks to Kenneth Rothschild for his assistance along with Barry Strassler, Editor of Deaf Digest. Kenneth and Barry were immensely helpful in tracking down the information for this edition of DCQW.

Note: All previous issues of DCQW are archived at the Washington School for the Deaf website: <http://www.wsd.wa.gov>