

...reproduced with permission from the New Milford Spectrum

DAR honors Dayle Elsesser, Peter Orenski

Published 04:38 p.m., Tuesday, June 19, 2012



Dr. Peter Orenski of New Milford is presented with an "Americanism" award by Metta Delmore of the Roger Sherman Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution during a DAR awards dinner at the River Bistro in New Milford. June 11, 2012 Photo: Norm Cummings / CT



Dr. [Peter Orenski](#) and [Dayle Elsesser](#) took their bows Monday for their contributions to date in the Greater New Milford community.

The [Roger Sherman](#) chapter of the [Daughters of the American Revolution](#) presented medals to the duo during a ceremony at the [River Bistro Restaurant](#).

Dr. Orenski, a New Milford resident, was honored with the DAR's Americanism Medal in tribute to his "outstanding qualities of leadership, trustworthiness, service and patriotism."

Known throughout the community as the "Flagman," Dr. Orenski rose to prominence locally by advocating and then shepherding a contest to create a town flag during the 1990s.

He has been a strong supporter of veterans' causes and helped foster the 9/11 memorial at Patriot's Way, among other activities.

Ms. Elsesser, a former art teacher at [New Milford High School](#) who lives in Gaylordsville, received the National Society, [DAR American Heritage Committee](#) -- Women in the Arts Recognition Award because of her iconic Neapolitan crÃche, which she created and has put on display at her home during the holidays for the past 20 years.

DAR chapter members [Jolene Mullen](#) and [Metta Delmore](#) were recently named state winners at the state DAR's 199th conference.

Ms. Mullen was recognized as outstanding volunteer genealogist and Ms. Delmore was honored as outstanding junior member at the conference.

Their entries went onto the [National Society Daughters of the American Revolution](#) for further judging.

In addition, Ms. Delmore has also been named as one of eight national outstanding junior member finalists. The winner and runnerup will be announced June 27.

[Michael-John Cavallaro](#), author of "Tales of Old New Milford; The History, Legend and Lore of a Connecticut Frontier Town," was the evening's guest speaker.

In 2003, Mr. Cavallaro was presented with the DAR's award for Outstanding Achievement for Environmental Awareness from the organization's [American Heritage and Conservation Committee](#).

Among the other presentations during Monday's banquet:

American Heritage -- fiber arts hand quilting: Nancy Nichols (first place in the Northeast).

American Heritage -- fiber arts weaving: Joyce DeWolfe (first place in the Northeast and second nationally).

DAR \$500 scholarship: Toni Viola.

Outstanding work in American history: [Jacqueline Hopkins](#).

For more information, call 860-868-1819 or email mettadel@gmail.com.

[Norm Cummings](#)