



The SAR

Colorguardsman

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Liberty Trees Bloom in California

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Information and Membership

Acceptable Content

Color Guard activities at the chapter, state, and national levels should be submitted. These include any events featuring Color Guard participation, such as parades, grave markings, safety or training exercises, flag retirements, posting or retiring colors at meetings, and the presentation of Color Guard medals (Bronze, Silver, Von Steuben, Gold, Molly Pitcher, etc.). National Color Guard events listed in this magazine are also eligible for submission.

All submitted images must clearly show Color Guard involvement. Entries without guardsmen present will not be included. Each submission should also be accompanied by a brief description of the event.

Events that do not include the color guard should be submitted to the SAR Magazine instead of the SAR Colorguardsman.

All relevant submissions should be sent to:

Colorguardsman@gmail.com

Commander's Report



Compatriots,

As my time as Commander draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on what has been an exciting & rewarding and meaningful year. It has been an honor to serve alongside such dedicated and passionate members of the Color Guard.

I am especially looking forward to several upcoming events this

spring. The Battle of Bound Brook in April, followed by the Battles of Connecticut Farms and Springfield in June, are always significant commemorations of our shared history. This year, we will also have the distinct honor of welcoming the President General, who will be joining us to lay a marker at his ancestor's grave—a truly special occasion.

Beyond these events, I eagerly anticipate celebrating the Fourth of July in Philadelphia. I hope many Color Guard members will be able to join us for what promises to be a memorable and meaningful time together.

As we approach Congress, I also look forward to formally turning over command to Ken Goodson. Ken has contributed tremendously throughout this year, and along with the rest of our outstanding staff, has helped make my tenure both successful and enjoyable. This has truly been a team effort, and I am deeply grateful to the men who have supported me every step of the way.

I look forward to seeing many of you at these upcoming events or at Congress.

Stay well and be well,

Robert Meyer
Commander, National Color Guard

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

Spring Color Guard Checkout and Cleaning



The weather is settling down I hope and spring is here. The Color Guard has several great 250th Anniversary events coming up in 2026.

Time to check out the uniforms and equipment, like a shakedown to check them out. I have a problem as I get older with my uniforms shrinking in storage. Comes with old age, I guess.

Likewise, on the equipment, rust just gathers on my musket and bayonet. Give your firelock thorough check. I've seen safety checks where a re-enactor found a patch he'd left in the musket barrel from a fall event.

The Virginia Society Color Guard conducted two color guard workshops/musters in March. There were 25 color guardsmen certified to fire black powder and some new members rehearsed in drill and handling of flags. Time to work that muscle memory by practicing drill to maintain that SAR Color Guard excellence for our events. I'm attaching a copy of an After-Action Report (AAR) made by our Virginia Society Northern Region Commander Allan Phillips. (click image below to view the form)

V25-01 AAR_DATE: _____

AFTER ACTION REPORT		REPORTER: _____
		CHAPTER: _____
DATE OF EVENT: _____	EVENT: _____	LOCATION: _____
TIME: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> VIRTUAL
START: <input type="radio"/> AM <input type="radio"/> PM	CLASSIFICATION: _____	# OF ATTENDANCE: _____
END: <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> NAT <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> CHAP	IN ATTENDANCE: _____
WEATHER CONDITIONS: _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> SUNNY <input type="checkbox"/> CLOUDY <input type="checkbox"/> PARTIAL <input type="checkbox"/> WINDY <input type="checkbox"/> RAIN <input type="checkbox"/> SNOW <input type="checkbox"/> SLEET <input type="checkbox"/> HAIL <input type="checkbox"/> FOG <input type="checkbox"/> TSDR/LITE		
COMMENTS: _____		
FIRE <input type="checkbox"/>	# OF VOLLEYS: _____	COMMENTS: _____
NON-FIRE <input type="checkbox"/>		

This is not the AAR the Historic Sites and Celebrations has for National Events, but this is for Chapter and State events. It helps keep track of what color guardsmen participated in events. This is a beneficial tool for tracking status for Color Guard awards/medals, Americanism points and gives a great tool for the State Color Guard Commander to gauge the participation level of his Color Guardsmen. You may have something else in place, but this has been well received in Virginia.

Very Respectfully,

Brett Osborn
Safety Officer, National Color Guard

Music in the American Revolution:

The Girl I left Behind Me

Scott G. Giltner, Ph.D.



Many of the songs from the 18th century are shrouded within contradictory folklore regarding the song's origins and composers. The "Girl I Left Behind Me" is no exception. Some sources state the tune was popular as far back as Queen Elizabeth's (Elizabeth I) reign. Another story is that the tune originated in 1758 when Admirals Hawke and Rodney were watching the French fleet off the coast at Brighton.

Additionally Theodore Ralph wrote that the tune was known in America as early as 1650 and indicated it was a traditional fife tune, imported from England as *Brighten Camp*. Still others claim it is an old Irish tune, not English. Even the first extant printing of the song is in dispute, although most historians and musicologists at least agree that the most likely date of printing is in the 1790s. Despite the disagreement on the date of printing, almost all agree that the song is much older than the 1790s printing and predates the American Revolution. William Chappell referenced a manuscript of the song in the possession of Edward Rimbault who himself claimed the manuscript dates from the 1770s. Lastly, the song is known by several different names The Girl I Left Behind Me, Girl I Left Behind, Brighton Camp, and Brighton Boys, but again various musicologists will state these names belong to significantly different tunes.

William Chappell dated the song as originating in 1758 based on the fifth line of the second stanza which states "*But now I'm bound to Brighton camp*". During the period of 1758-1759 a series of military encampments were established along the coast of England around Brighton. The camps were built in anticipation of a French invasion during the Seven Year War (aka French and Indian War). This would coincide with the time and place in which Admirals Hawke and Rodney were at Brighton.

Regardless of its origin, the tune became popular during the American Revolution. During this period the lyrics underwent several modifications to fit various situations and contexts as did numerous other songs of the period. One factor adding to its popularity is that the tune can be played with a variety of instruments and is easily adapted to various musical styles and interpretations.

The lyrics of The Girl I Left Behind Me during the American Revolution tell the story of a man who leaves his beloved behind as he sets off on a journey, possibly related to military service. The song is often associated with soldiers and sailors, who would sing it as they left their homes and loved ones to go to war or to embark on a voyage. However, the song's themes of love, loss, and longing provide a sentimental connection for anyone who has had to leave a beloved one.

The tune has a lively and upbeat melody, appropriate for a marching song. Although the song is typically played in a quick upbeat manner, it can also be played at a slower tempo. When played slowly, the mood of the song changes from an uplifting march to somber, almost mournful. This variation in mood is one aspect of The Girl I Left Behind Me which makes it unique for its period.

Over the years, The Girl I Left Behind Me has been recorded and performed by numerous artists, including country singers, folk musicians, and even rock bands. Each rendition adds a unique touch to the song, while still keeping its original charm intact. The lyrics provided below are believed to be those most commonly sung during the American Revolution.

The Girl I Left Behind Me

I'm lonesome since I crossed the hill,
And o'er the moorland sedgy
Such heavy thoughts my heart do fill,
Since parting with my Betsy
I seek for one as fair and gay,
But find none to remind me
How sweet the hours I passed away,
With the girl I left behind me.

O ne'er shall I forget the night,
the stars were bright above me
And gently lent their silv'ry light
when first she vowed to love me
But now I'm bound to Brighton camp
kind heaven then pray guide me
And send me safely back again,
to the girl I left behind me

Her golden hair in ringlets fair,
her eyes like diamonds shining
Her slender waist, her heavenly face,
that leaves my heart still pining
Ye gods above oh hear my prayer
to my beauteous fair to find me
And send me safely back again,
to the girl I left behind me

The bee shall honey taste no more,
the dove become a ranger
The falling waters cease to roar,
ere I shall seek to change her
The vows we made to heav'n above
shall ever cheer and bind me
In constancy to her I love,
the girl I left behind me.

Sources: Linscott, Eloise Hubbard, *Folk Songs of Old New England*, Dover Publications, New York, 1993 (First published in 1939).
Ralph, Theodore, *American Song Treasury*, Dover 1964.
Chappell, Edward, *Popular Music of the Olden Times; A Collection of Ancient Songs, Ballads, and Dance Tunes, Illustrative of the National Music of England*, Volume II, Cramer, Beale, and Chappell, London, pg. 708

National Color Guard Events

The events in the table below count as National Color Guard Events for earning the Silver and Von Steuben Color Guard Medals. **Dates listed are approximate.** Please contact the State Color Guard Commander for more information and correct dates.

<u>Approximate Date</u>	<u>National Event</u>	<u>Location and State Website</u>	<u>Contact State Color Guard Commander</u>
17 January	Battle of Cowpens	Gaffney, SC	email
01 February	Battle of Cowan's Ford	Huntersville, NC	email
14 February	Battle of Kettle Creek	Washington, GA	email
14 February	Crossing of the Dan	South Boston, VA	email
27 February	Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge	Currie, NC	email
03 March	Battle of Brier Creek	Sylvania, GA	email
15 March	Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Greensboro, NC	email
16 March	Last Naval Battle	Cape Canaveral, FL	email
24 March	Battle of Thomas Creek	Jacksonville, FL	email
12 April	Halifax Resolves	Halifax, NC	email
13 April	Battle of Bound Brook	Bound Brook, NJ	email
16 April	Frederica Naval Action	St. Simons Island, GA	email
08 May	Battle of Pensacola	Pensacola, FL	email
Memorial Day Saturday	Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous	Vincennes, IN	email
29 May	Battle of Fort San Carlos	St. Louis, MO	email
29 May	Buford's Massacre	Lancaster, SC	email
05 June	Battle of Ramsour's Mill	Lincolnton, NC	email
11 June	Machias Battle of US Navy	Machias, ME	email
17 June	Battle of Bunker Hill	Boston, MA	email
26 June	Battle of Springfield & CT Farms	Springfield, NJ	email
28 June	Battle of Monmouth	Monmouth, NJ	email
30 June	Battle of Alligator Creek	Callahan, FL	email
15 July	Fairfax Resolves	Alexandria, VA	email
02 August	Siege at Fort Laurens	Bolivar, OH	email
19 August	Battle of Blue Licks	Carlisle, KY	email
27 August	Battle of Brooklyn / MD 400	Brooklyn, NY	email
05 September	Battle of the Capes	Virginia Beach, VA	email
06 September	Battle of Groton Heights	Groton, CT	email
07 September	Battle of Cooch's Bridge	Newark, DE	email
08 September	Battle of Eutaw Springs	Eutawville, SC	email
18 September	Vigil at Washington's Tomb	Mount Vernon, VA	email
18 September	Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN	email

National Color Guard Events

The events in the table below count as National Color Guard Events for earning the Silver and Von Steuben Color Guard Medals. Dates listed are approximate. Please contact the State Color Guard Commander for more information.

<u>Approximate Date</u>	<u>National Event</u>	<u>Location and State Website</u>	<u>Contact State Color Guard Commander</u>
21 September	Battle of Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge, LA	email
24 September	Medal of Honor Parade	Gainesville, TX	email
25 September	Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN	email
04-06 October	Point Pleasant Battle Days	Point Pleasant, WV	email
06 October	Battle of Chestnut Creek	Little Egg Harbor, NJ	email
07 October	Battle of Kings Mountain	Blacksburg, SC	email
17 October	Battle of Saratoga	Stillwater, NY	email
19 October	Yorktown Days	Yorktown, VA	email
22 October	Battle of Red Bank	National Park, NJ	email
19 November	Siege of Fort Morris	Midway, GA	email
09 December	Battle of Great Bridge	Norfolk, VA	email
25 December - 03 January	Ten Crucial Days	Trenton, NJ	email

The events in the table below count as National Color Guard Events for earning the Silver and Von Steuben Color Guard Medals, but will occur at locations around the country. Please contact your local State Commander for information on these dates.

<u>Approximate Date</u>	<u>National Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
22 February	Washington's Birthday	Nationally
Late February/Early March	Spring Leadership	Louisville, KY
18 April	Patriot's Day	Nationally
30 May	Memorial Day	Nationally
14 June	Flag Day	Nationally
04 July	Independence Day	Nationally
July	National Congress	Location Varies by Year
September	Fall Leadership	Louisville, KY
11 November	Veteran's Day	Nationally
15 December	Wreaths Across America	Nationally
Any Date	Liberty Tree Dedication	Nationally
Any Date	Fields of Honor / Healing Field	Nationally
Any Date	Massing of the Colors	Nationally
Any Date	Honor Flights	Nationally

State Society Color Guard Commanders

The list of State Commanders below is the most up to date that the editor has. If you find an error, please send the correction to colorguardsman@gmail.com. For information about State or National Events, please contact the Commander of the state in which the event occurs.

Each commander is emailed each new issue of The SAR Colorguardsman for distribution to the guardsmen within his state. Any questions about the distribution of the new issue should be directed to the respective state commander.

State	Color Guard Commander	Primary Phone	Email Address
Alabama	Joseph D. Barker, Jr.	334-221-3641	Jbark151@yahoo.com
Arizona	Stuart Morse	(480) 599-7977	stumorse@cox.net
Arkansas	Charles McLamore	501-209-9513	pcmcmountain@yahoo.com
California	Kevin Forrest	949-233-4048	bvillardi@gmail.com
Colorado	Tom Wellborn	303-810-3100	wellborns@mindspring.com
Connecticut	David Perkins	203-948-7974	dperkinsr8@gmail.com
Delaware	Larry Josefowski	302-857-0123	josefowski@gmail.com
Dakotas	Don Kellogg	605-662-7060	dkelloggster@gmail.com
Florida	Jeff Brunelle	612-695-4604	jfbunelle55@comcast.net
Georgia	K. Scott Collins	706-207-1663	scottcollins1775@gmail.com
Hawaii	Elwin Spray	937-426-1086	Elwinspray@Gmail.com
Idaho	Terry Patterson	208-286-8169	terrypatterson1876@outlook.com
Illinois	Jon Fixmer	630-639-2213	jfixmer73@yahoo.com
Indiana	Jacob A. Vink	616-402-5709	vinkjacob@gmail.com
Iowa	Mike Rowley	515-975-0498	mjr1825@gmail.com
Kansas	William Ira Marshall	785-479-3724	wmarshall@ksssar.org
Kentucky	Scott G Giltner	502-649-4534	stgilt@earthlink.net
Louisiana	Ted Brode	318-325-6519	tbrode@comcast.net
Maine	Wayne Howard Mallar	207-942-9586	Essex103@aol.com
Maryland	Lawrence Price	301-535-2136	souvenirhound@yahoo.com
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Michigan	John G Lepisto	616-901-5371	jglepisto@comcast.net
Minnesota	Terry Sater	262-443-9257	saterterry1@gmail.com
Mississippi	William Ronald Humphrey II	601-954-4027	kronyn@gmail.com
Missouri	Steven G. Perkins	417-319-7676	patriotmarcher@fastmail.com
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New Hampshire	Curtis Herman	603-305-1307	cwh_ancestry@outlook.com
New Jersey	Ed Glidden		eglidden@yahoo.com
New Mexico	Robert E. Vance	575-808-1844	revance58@gmail.com
New York	Michael Companion	518-885-5445	mikecompsar@gmail.com
North Carolina	Gary Spencer	919-749-7967	gspencer1861@hotmail.com
Ohio	William Robert Hill	614-237-5149	Leeslegiondragoon@gmail.com
Oklahoma	Joseph Lee Sieber	405-706.2453	sieberjl@hotmail.com
Oregon	Joel B Simmons	505-708-3582	Joel.lcc.sar@gmail.com
Pennsylvania	Fred Fonseca	610-547-7660	fredfons@msn.com
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Tennessee	Cliff Kent	423-517-0284	marneexpress@ebpfi.com
Texas	David Hamaker	936-522-6018	cg@texassar.org
Utah	Jesse Black	801-201-7731	utsarcolorguard@gmail.com
Virginia	John Lynch	757-345-8483	Jslidmsc@gmail.com
Washington	Eric Olsen	425-286-5275	eolsen.sar.grc@gmail.com
West Virginia	MP Brady	256-740-1053	mpbrady30@aol.com
Wisconsin	Robert Haglund	920-621-1416	haglundrobert@sbcglobal.net

Congratulations Compatriots and Ladies!

The following Guardsmen and Ladies have been recognized for their service with the Silver Color Guard Medal, Von Steuben Color Guard Medal, or Molly Pitcher Medal. We thank them for their dedicated service to the SAR Color Guard.



Von Steuben Medal

Neil Vernon (WA)
Michael Moore (WA)
James O'Kelley (VA)



Silver Color Guard Medal

Benny White (CA)
Kenneth Carlson (WA)
Robert Welch (AZ)
David Witter (OR)
Shawn Pritchett (TN)
Matthew Rosenberg (OR)
Randy Dhinda (CA)
John Russell (CA)
Jim Riley (CA)
Scott Nichols (CA)

John Vincent Richardson (CA)
Ramond Kyle Senior (GA)
Shawn Pritchett (GA)
Lewis Maudsley (WA)
Ken Carlson (WA)
Frederick W. Rivard (CT)
Thomas D'Amico (NJ)
Barry Lewis (NH)
David Sensing (TN)



Molly Pitcher Medal

Kate Forrest (CA)
Lois Herman (NH)
Ivy M. Spray (OH)

The **National Von Steuben Medal** may be awarded for sustained service to the Society as a Color Guardsman at the National or District Levels. This medal may only be earned after five years of service after receiving the Silver Color Guard Medal. Recipients must already have been awarded the Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals.

The **Silver Color Guard Medal** is for service at the District and National levels. The medal is awarded for at least three years of service at the applicable level. The three years may be broken, not continuous. Award of each medal may be for retroactive service, so that any living compatriot may receive it, even if he cannot march anymore. An SAR Color Guardsman must have the Bronze Color Guard Medal before he can be awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal.

Many women who are the wives, daughters, sisters, girlfriends, and other female relatives and companions of SAR Color Guardsmen routinely and with great dedication support their SAR Color Guardsman and the SAR Color Guard. The **Molly Pitcher Medal** may be awarded to women who have supported the SAR Color Guard at the State, District and National Levels.

2026 Spring Leadership

The Galt House - Louisville, KY - March 6/7, 2026

Compatriots, Trustees, Officers, and Guardsmen from across the county met in March for the 2026 Spring Leadership Meetings. The color guard had the opportunity to participate in two separate events during the weekend.



For the first time, the National Color Guard led by Commander Robert Meyer and Vice Commander Ken Goodson presented the colors at the beginning of the Trustee's Meeting at Leadership on Saturday morning.



Quartermaster Chris Canine keeps the Guard in step while 1st Adjutant Patrick Wesolosky leads the command group after posting the colors prior to the Saturday evening banquet.



Past Commander Scott Collins leads the flag detail consisting of the original 13 Colonies prior to the Saturday evening banquet.



The traditional Saturday evening Veterans Photo includes many of our guardsmen who have served our country and our organization with dedication and patriotism.

Reports From the Field

State Society highlights since the last issue. Submissions should be made through each state's Color Guard Commander. Please refer to submission guidelines on page 2.

Alabama



The ALSSAR Color Guard presented the colors for an America 250 event at Montview Elementary School in Huntsville and displayed a large Betsy Ross flag sewn by Color Guardsman Cade McCool (second man from left). The students were presented with a book "The Flag We Love".



The Alabama Society's Color Guard also had an early-season training session in the events barn at American Village in Montevallo in February. New and old members joined to learn and refresh. We also conducted black powder safety training. Dodging the rafter beams was good practice for the color guard entering through doorways.

The ALSSAR Color Guard also presented the colors for the ALDAR Convention in Auburn and several members of the Color Guard were presented certificates in appreciation of their support to many DAR activities last year. The large Betsy Ross flag became a favorite backdrop for many attendees' photos, frequently with a Color Guardsman.



As a conclusion to this quarter's activities, the ALSSAR Color Guard presented the colors and, as an Honor Guard, fired three volleys at the grave marking for Compatriot Dallas Jones, father of Past ALSSAR President David Jones, in Danville on March 28th. A large number of family and members of SAR and DAR were in attendance. Compatriot Jones died in December. Here is a volley from the Honor Guard as viewed from behind the ALSSAR colors.




On Saturday, March 14, 2026 The Arizona State SAR Color Guard proudly presented the Colors during the National Anthem at a sold-out spring training game between the San Francisco Giants and the Arizona Diamondbacks. Pictured left to right: State Commander Stu Morse, Mark Seifert, Rick Spargo, Brad Hopkins, Jim Clarke, Eryk Yoakam, Mike Templeton, and George White




Executive VP, CASAR, Randy Dhindsa giving Liberty Tree Speech Feb 14, 2026

The Yosemite Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, along with co-sponsors, held a Liberty Tree planting ceremony in downtown Hanford, California, on Saturday, February 14, 2026. The event served as an early celebration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and was officially recognized by the America250 Committee.

The ceremony featured speakers from local government, the Sons of the American Revolution, and the SAR Continental Color Guard. The SAR color guard, dressed in Continental Army uniforms, also provided a striking visual tribute during the event.



Scott Nichols, President, Yosemite Chapter, SAR, Ms. Jacqueline Uecker, Congressional Aide for US Congressman David Valadao, Mr. Brad Albert, Director, City of Hanford Parks and Recreation, Mr. Victor Chavarin Jr., District Representative for Calif State Senator Melissa Hurtado, Randy Dhindsa, Executive VP, California Society, SAR

The program honored the historic Liberty Tree as a symbol of defiance, unity, free speech, and the colonists' resistance to British rule. Organizers framed the dedication as both a commemoration of the nation's founding ideals and a call to continue upholding liberty and justice.



On February 15, multiple CA Color Guards took part in the 42nd Annual Massing of the Colors. Hosted by the Sons of Liberty Chapter at Forest Lawn in Hollywood Hills, the annual celebration of George Washington's birthday included a 3 Round Volley from the Color Guard.



At the Annual CA DAR Celebration Dinner, members of the CA SAR Color Guard presented colors to open the event. L/R: Kevin Forrest; Kevin Knapp; Brandon Villardi Bruce Wearda; John Szychulda; Norman Kelsey; Martin Juarez



L/R (last 4): Brandon Villardi (Harbor); Nolan Forrest (South Coast); Kevin Forrest (SC); Jon Burk (Orange County)

Members of the South Coast, Harbor, Orange County, Gen. George Patton and Sons of Liberty Chapters took part in the Huntington Beach Historical Society's annual Revolutionary Weekend. This event includes living history reenactors, shops, camps and battles. Members of the Southern California SAR color guard participate to further the SAR goal of educating the public on the founding of the country.



On Saturday March 21st, CASSAR Color Guard members took part in the 66th Annual Swallows Day Parade in San Juan Capistrano. The annual parade celebrates the return of the Swallows to the Mission in San Juan Capistrano. In addition to celebrating



L/R: Kevin Forrest (South Coast); James Klingler (Orange County) Nolan Forrest (SC); Bob Maples (SC); Mike Miller (OC); Jim Hernandez (SC)

the 250th anniversary of the United States, this is also the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Mission at San Juan Capistrano, and the SAR, along with the CSSDAR had the honor of being the Finale to the Parade. In recognition of the 5 Spanish Patriots buried at the Mission, the Color Guard included the Cross of Burgundy in the colors.



Delaware



L/R: Michael Gallagher, James Pillegi, Owen McKinnley, PG Michael Elston, Troy McKinney, Larry Josefowski, and James Guo.

The Delaware Society held its annual Ratification Day, commemorating Delaware being the first state to ratify the US Constitution. We were honored to have PG Michael Elston there, who took the time to award three Youth Color Guard Medals to Owen McKinnley, Troy McKinney, and James Guo.



Florida

On January 19th, Guardsmen Craig FitzGerald and Lee Norris represented the SAR at the Crawfordville, FL Arbor Day celebration with an SAR informational table. They were joined by Kelly Rentz of the DAR, and Compatriot Shawn Cloud. Their uniforms and flags drew interest from attendees, resulting in several new member leads and invitations to



the upcoming Washington Birthday Luncheon. The group also raised \$5 in donations through the sale of pocket editions of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. A highlight of the day was meeting a grandson of Patriot Ansel Ferrell, the only known Revolutionary War veteran buried in Leon County, whose grave was marked in 2017. Plans are underway to return to the Ferrell family cemetery for a wreath-laying ceremony as part of the 250th anniversary observances. The event proved a successful outreach effort in raising community awareness of SAR's mission and local Patriot heritage.



Indiana



Members of the John Martin Chapter, Indiana SAR received a Proclamation from Compatriot State Representative Tim Yocum on Jan. 29, 2026



Despite 25-46 mph winds 6 members of the George Rogers Clark Chapter, 5 members of the DAR & young Hoyt who is always on the lookout for red coats marched or tossed candy from the float in Ireland, Indiana March 15. Pictured: Randy Helderman, Jules Mominee, Tom Leland, Daryl Hensley, Allen Helderman, Dale Beamon, Hoyt Stevens with his wooden gun. On the trailer is Terry Mominee, Lisa Sims DAR chapter regent, Donna Leland.



Iowa

Iowa SAR Color Guardsmen Ron Rittel (representing the War of 1812) and Mike Rowley in Revolutionary War uniform are leading an America 250 Iowa project to mark 76 unmarked veteran graves in Iowa in 2026.



Photographed here at the grave of George Oglevie, a War of 1812 veteran buried in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. While digging the hole for the new stone an older partial family stone was uncovered. to date Iowa members are at 31 toward their goal of 76 for the year.



Kentucky



The 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence has created a significant increase in the number of color guard requests for 2026. In preparation for all these events, the Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter of the Kentucky Society hosted a color guard training session on 28 February in Middletown, KY. This training has been conducted annually, beginning in 2015 and is open to all members of the SAR. The Kentucky

Society chapters who participated in the training were the Gov. Isaac Shelby, Col. Benjamin Logan, George Mason, Big Sandy, Lafayette, Col. Daniel Boone, Louisville-Thruston, and Simon Kenton. The training was conducted in two sessions. The morning session was for musket/rifle training. This session began with a review of the flintlock safety guidelines and procedures. The new insurance policy provided by the National Society was also reviewed. The remainder of the session focused on the flintlock drills. Also included in the training was



the loading and firing sequence for a gun salute. As this was an indoor training session, no black powder was used or allowed onsite.

The afternoon session covered how to carry and post a flag, commands given to the color guard, dispositions of the color guard during a ceremony, giving of honors, saluting, wreath presentations, and flag folding. Particular attention was given to maneuvers in accordance with the 1764 Manual of Arms. A drummer was added to the afternoon session to provide music for marching. After the regular color guard training concluded, a fife and drum practice session was held to prepare the musicians for the upcoming year.



Everything learned in these training sessions will be applied numerous times in the coming months as the various chapters of the Kentucky Society have a full schedule of events in 2026.



The Shelbyville (KY) Chamber of Commerce hosted a showcase of local businesses on 14 March 2026. The Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter was recruited to present the colors for the opening ceremony of the showcase.



Participating in the Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter color guard were six flag bearers, one drummer and one fifer.

Over sixty businesses participated in the showcase which was well attended by the public.



On January 3, 2026, the Col James Harrod Chapter of the KY SAR hosted its George Rogers Clark Powder Run. At Fort Harrod, attendees heard how Clark went to Williamsburg in the fall of 1776 to ask for black powder to help defend the Indian territory of what was then Western Virginia.



Governor Patrick Henry offered to loan Clark 500 pounds of powder by saying Kentuckians "were a detached people not yet united to the state of Virginia." Clark replied to Henry with "that if the country was not worth protecting, it was not worth claiming." At that point, Clark was given the powder. The powder made it back to Kentucky in the spring of 1777 for the start of the Bloody Sevens.





On Saturday, February 21, 2026, the Louisville-Thruston Chapter held its annual George Washington Luncheon. Highlights of this popular and well-attended lunch included an informative presentation by Wayne Weaver on George Washington as a Mason and the swearing-in and pinning of two new Compatriots.



On Sunday, February 22, 2026, the Lafayette Chapter, along with the Captain John Waller Chapter, NSDAR hosted George Washington's 294th Birthday Commemoration. The event included a mixed Color Guard of SAR and DAR members, a presentation by Compatriot Ed Keeton on George Washington as Commander in Chief, and George Washington Bingo.



The Kentucky Society, Daughters of the American Revolution held its state conference at the Hilton Hotel in Lexington, Kentucky on 13 March. The Kentucky State Color Guard was honored to have been invited once again to provide the color guard for the Saturday evening banquet.

SAR members from the George Mason, Capt. Virgil McCracken, Gov. Isaac Shelby, Lafayette, Col. Daniel Boone, Louisville Thruston, and Col. James Harrod chapters participated in the color guard.



The color guard consisted of two riflemen, twelve flag bearer, and a fifer. During the opening ceremonies of the banquet the flag bearers formed a corridor for receiving the guests of honor for the banquet, which included DAR State Regent Julia Hood.



On Monday, February 23, 2026, the Col James Harrod Chapter provided a Color Guard for Boyle County's America's 250th Kickoff Celebration. The ceremony included the SAR posting and the retiring of the Colors, as well as speeches by city, county, and state dignitaries. The highlight of the event was a short production of a conversation between Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson. Ben Franklin was portrayed by Colonel James Harrod Compatriot Bill Nichols.



The Col James Harrod Chapter provided a Color Guard for the Mercer County Lincoln/Reagan Breakfast. The event was held on the original property owned by Col. George Thompson, Aide-de-Camp to General Lafayette. In the right photo, the Color Guard can be seen with KY Congressman Andy Barr, a new Compatriot of the KY SAR. In the background of the photo, the Thompson Cemetery is located around the center tree. *Photos: Kim Stinnett*



On Sunday March 15, 2026, the Col James Harrod Chapter conducted a Patriot Grave Marking Service for five Patriots buried in Mercer County. The well attended service was held next to Fort Harrod. Compatriots, DAR, and C.A.R. members participated in the Color Guard.



Members of the SAR, DAR, and CAR gathered in Woodford County to provide a Color Guard for the Woodford County National Vietnam War Veterans Day Honor Train Ride Service. Based on the Honor Flight concept, it was designed to take only a few hours rather than an entire day. As the Veterans disembarked, the Color Guard was first to welcome them as they approached the Walk of Honor and the waiting public.





Maryland



Maryland State Color Guard at the George Washington Luncheon held in Phoenix, MD on February 21, 2026 in Phoenix, MD



Maryland State Color Guard posts colors at the Maryland State DAR Conference at Turf Valley Conference Center in Ellicott City, MD on March 20, 2026



MD Color Guard at the Maryland Liberty Tree Project kickoff ceremony in Annapolis, Maryland on March 25, 2026. Each county in Maryland is planting a seedling from the original Maryland Liberty Tree. This planting ceremony was held at the home of William Paca, a Maryland signer of the Declaration of Independence.



MD State Color Guard participated in the Patriot grave marking of Dr. Joshua Clayton in Chesapeake, MD on March 28, 2026, presenting colors and a musket salute. Dr. Clayton was an aide to General Washington at Brandywine and Valley Forge, and was later Delaware's first elected Governor and a US Senator. Compatriots from Delaware SAR also participated in the ceremony.



Maryland Color Guard training held in March 2026, covering basic drill and firelock safety for color guard volunteers. Certificates were awarded to those completing training.



Michigan



The Michigan SAR Color Guard posted and retired colors during the DAR Traveling Revolutionary War Exhibit at the Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids, MI.

(L-R): Guardsman Mark Nesbitt, Vice Commander Davis Hill, Commander John Lepisto, Leah Sherman (DAR), Guardsman Mark Chamberlain, and National Vice Commander Ken Goodson.



The Michigan Society Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard was involved in the opening of a Revolutionary War Exhibit at the Macomb Community College, Chasing Liberty. Colors were posted and retired during the event.

(L to R): Vice Commander David Hill, Vice Commander Bob Hawcroft, CAR Guardsman Lincoln Mallott, Commander John Lepisto, Thomas Jefferson re-enactor, Steve Endenbo, Guardsman Aaron Wiles, Guardsman Mark Nesbitt, Piper Ron Barnard, Guardsman Eddie Howell.



Minnesota

The Minnesota SAR Color Guard Living History Team is already busy this year with educational presentations deploying our Patriot Chests to schools, scouting, senior facilities, and city celebrations.



Minnesota SSAR Color Guard member Grant Kruger and his wife, Nancy, as George and Martha Washington.



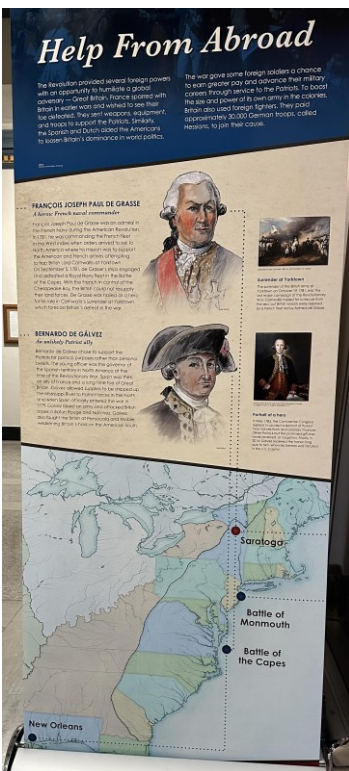
Minnesota SSAR President Kevin Sullivan and History Team leader Dr. Richard Howey during a Patriot Chest educational presentation.

Our two new Patriot Chest members are instantly recognizable as George Washington and Martha Washington.

General Washington is represented by Grant Kruger who is 6'5" and a near perfect representative of "His Excellency" as the Continental soldiers referred to General Washington. Martha is played by his wife Nancy who made both George's uniform as well as her own.



Ozark Mountain Chapter Color Guard members were honored to present colors prior to tip-off of the Missouri State Lady Bears vs. Liberty College basketball game February 19. State Commander Steve Perkins, Jeff Hicks, Gary Gift, Ken Lawrence, Don Higgerson, and Dan Piedlow (photographer) made their advance for the national anthem then departed to watch the game. It is not often we have this opportunity, yet Perkins saw this game on the schedule late last year and regarded it as the perfect opportunity to bring colors for all attendees and participants, to hopefully deliver a patriotic shiver. The outcome of the game went “Liberty’s” way!



MODAR Rachel Donelson Chapter (Springfield) held an opening ceremony for the *American Revolution Experience*, one of six displays traveling around the country this year. The pop-up panels tells key stories of events of the American Revolution, a fitting tribute as the country commemorates the 250th year since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Local dignitaries spoke, and the NSDAR Chair of America 250 Renee Pace spoke to over 200 guests.



OMC Color Guard Don Higgerson, Joe Walker, Dan Piedlow, Keith Chester, and Commander Steven Perkins, and Donelson Chapter member Janet Sing Perry advanced, posted, and later retired colors for the occasion. The Greene County Courthouse Corale sang the Star Spangled Banner. Band members from Republic provided patriotic brass band music to stir patriotic fervor of those gathering for the ceremony. Several organizations set up tables to display relevant information. The Ozark Mountain Color Guard filled their table with muskets, powder horns, and other accoutrement and period objects for the many who visited to view.



On 21 March 2026 at the Montclair Senior Living Center, Springfield MO the Color Guard of the Ozark Mountain Chapter were invited to a memorial ceremony presented by the United States Coast Guard from Kansas City. Colors were advanced and posted by the Color Guard before guests speakers and a crowded atrium which included many resident veterans. Chapter member Dr. Norman Knowlton worked with several organizers to present a historical look at the life of Jack Hamlin, a WWII Coast Guard member, who





lived beyond the centenarian mark. Some of Mr. Hamlin's family were in attendance to listen to a biographical sketch that told much more about his life outside of military service. Also shared were his experiences of returning to Normandy seven times beginning with the 50th anniversary. Dr. Knowlton, Jack Hamlin's personal physician for several years, accompanied Jack on three of his seven visits. Dr. Knowlton commented on how loved and honored Jack was treated when he returned, treated almost like royalty. The French called Jack and other WWII visiting veterans not Americans, but Liberators. Participating chapter members include L-R Rod Grewe, Don Higginson, Steven Perkins, Jeff Hicks, Joseph Walker, Norman Knowlton, Dan Piedlow.



Wednesday March 25, 2025 *Above and Beyond - Medal of Honor Day* was held at the Harry S Truman Presidential Library and Museum, 500 W US-24, Independence, MO 64050. The tribute honored three Medal of Honor Recipients from World War II that served in the US Army. The recipients are General Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright IV, 1st Lt. Vernon Joseph Baker and Staff Sergeant Herbert Hoover Burr. At the time of Staff Sergeant Burr's action that earned him the Medal of Honor he was a Private First Class.

The event was hosted by the Harry S Truman Chapter of the Missouri Society - SAR. Color Guard members from states other than Missouri participated. Junior ROTC students presented and retired the service flags of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard. Color Guard advanced to their post and retired the US Flag, State Flags and SAR Chapter flags with Jerre Robertson carrying the DAR flag. Mark Parks, Northwest District Color Guard Commander, was in charge of the color guard activities and the three volley musket salute provided by the SAR Color Guard Musketeers.

Two SAR Musketeers escorted Vice President General Phil Hunt, South Central District, and Steve



Biggs, President, Missouri Society SAR as they laid a wreath at the graves of Harry S Truman and his wife. Harry S Truman was the thirty third President and a compatriot of the SAR.

New Hampshire

The New Hampshire Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NHSAR) Color Guard proudly participated in two events marking the 250th anniversary of New Hampshire's, Constitution of 1776 - the first state constitution adopted in the American colonies - on January 5, 2026.

The day began with a ceremony at the State Archives, hosted by New Hampshire Secretary of State David M. Scanlan and State Archivist Ashley Miller.



Guardsmen Doug Wood, Al Lamson,

L/R: Greg Salts, Al Lamson, Mike Lapage, Curtis Hermann, Doug Wood, Brush Bradley, Charles Tarbell, Phil Bascom. Photo: Greg Salts

Brush Bradley, and Curtis Hermann presented the colors to open the ceremony. Brendan O'Donnell, Deputy Secretary of State, read a proclamation issued by Governor Kelley Ayotte. NHSAR collaborated with historical interpreter Mike Lepage, who portrayed Matthew Thornton and delivered a reading of New Hampshire's first constitution. Also in attendance were NHSAR Compatriots Phil Bascom, Charles Tarbell, Greg Salts, and Glenn Everett.



Later that evening, NHSAR participated in the **250th Commemoration of New Hampshire's Independence Day**, hosted by Representative Joe Sweeney at the Salem Historical Society. Guardsmen Doug Wood, Al Lamson, Brush Bradley, John Ginsberg, and Curtis Hermann again presented the colors. During the ceremony, Mike Lepage gave a powerful reading of the New Hampshire Constitution, portraying Matthew Thornton, one of the state's signers of the Declaration of Independence. Doug Wood followed with an inspiring presentation highlighting New Hampshire's critical role and contributions during the Revolutionary War; emphasizing how the state's influence far exceeded it's modest size. This event honored the state's rich revolutionary heritage and its lasting impact on American self-government.



L/R: John Ginsberg, Curtis Hermann, Mike Lepage, Doug Wood, Al Lamson, Brush Bradley, Greg Salts. Photo: Delores Lamson

On January 18, 2026, Stark's Company NHSAR Color Guard held its annual planning meeting and cartridge rolling workshop. During the meeting, the 2026 event calendar was reviewed, with particular attention given to ceremonies commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, hosted by local towns and historical societies.



L-R: Guardsmen Rob Sigmon and Barry Lewis

The unit's new Stark flags, embroidered with New Hampshire Sons of the American Revolution, were unveiled, and Vice Commander Barry Lewis demonstrated the proper technique for rolling and filling black powder cartridges. Guardsmen in attendance rolled and filled over 200 cartridges for use during the 2026 campaign.



L-R: Guardsman Curtis Hermann and Hans Jackson





On February 8, 2026, Stark's Company, NHSAR Color Guard hosted its biannual Musket Maintenance and Safety Workshop. This hands-on session, led by James Casco of Casco Historical Arms Services, focused on the proper care, inspection, and maintenance of flintlock muskets. Through demonstrations and supervised practical exercises, guardsmen learned how to perform routine field inspections, conduct detailed examinations, clean all major components, and disassemble and reassemble the lock and barrel. The workshop concluded with an open Q&A session and individualized assistance addressing muskets and issues brought by participants.



On February 21, 2026 Compatriots Greg Salts and Robert Sigmon formally enlisted in Stark's Company, NHSAR Color Guard. CG Commander Curtis Hermann conducted the enlistment ceremony during the NHSAR George Washington Birthday meeting held in Manchester, NH.



L-R: Guardsman Greg Salts, Febie Salts, Guardsman Rob Sigmon, Kayla Sigmon, Commander Curtis Hermann, NHSAR President Richard Baynes.

The Enlistment Ceremony was created to formally recognize the mutual commitment of time and resources shared between a Compatriot and the

New Hampshire Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NHSAR) when a member chooses to join the ranks of our Color Guard. Because spouses play a vital and supportive role in this commitment, they take part in the ceremony by holding *Baron von Steuben's Drill Manual*—a symbol of the training and discipline expected of every Guardsman. During the ceremony, each enlistee places their hand on the manual while reciting their oath, underscoring their dedication to the traditions and standards of the Color Guard. Each new Guardsman is then presented with an Enlistment Certificate and the SAR, two-flag lapel pin, to represent the colors they have sworn to protect.

During the enlistment, their spouses, Febie Salts and Kayla Sigmon proudly participated in this tradition, symbolizing the partnership and shared dedication behind every Color Guard member's service.



Guardsman Hans Jackson was awarded the Baron von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard on December 1, 2025. The medal was presented by New Hampshire Color Guard Commander Curtis Hermann during NHSAR's annual George Washington's Birthday



The New Hampshire Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard proudly participated in Boston's commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of Evacuation Day, marking the pivotal moment on March 17, 1776, when British forces withdrew from the city following the successful fortification of Dorchester Heights by General George Washington's army. Local news coverage highlighted the broad public interest in the event, with hundreds of spectators and reenactors gathering in South Boston to witness the ceremonies honoring what is widely regarded as the Continental Army's first major victory of the Revolutionary War.



NH Guardsmen Curtis Hermann, Phil Bascom, Ron White, Brush Bradley, Greg Salts, and Richard Wright represented the New Hampshire Society during the day's observances. The commemoration began at St. Augustine's Chapel and Cemetery, where reenacting units assembled before firing ceremonial musket volleys and forming a formal procession through the historic streets of South Boston. The NHSAR Color Guard then joined the cold and windy march to Dorchester Heights, where additional ceremonies were conducted near the recently restored Dorchester Heights Monument, providing powerful visual reminders of the events that forced the British evacuation of Boston Harbor.



L-R: Brush Bradley (partially obscured), Greg Salts Curtis Hermann (partially obscured), unknown, Phil Bascom, Ron White, Richard Wright.

Also participating with the NHSAR Color Guard was DAR member Lois Hermann, reflecting the ongoing service and sacrifices of the women during the Revolutionary War.

New Jersey

The Battle of Princeton, Jan. 3, 1777, part of the Ten Crucial Days, was one of the most important battles of the Revolution. A large-scale reenactment preceded the New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution wreath-laying ceremony. This year some 300 re-enactors participated. Cannon and musket fire echoed on the battlefield as the National SAR Event wreath-laying ceremony



immediately followed the battle. Color Guard members from NJSSAR, PASSAR, ESSAR, and VASSAR were led by National Color Guard Commander Robert Meyer and NJSSAR Color Guard Commander Ed Glidden. The Master of Ceremonies was Roger Williams, a member of NJSSAR Color Guard, President of the Princeton-Cranbury NJSSAR Chapter, State Historian and Youth Education Chair.



In February, the NJSSAR held its annual board meeting and Washington's Birthday Luncheon at the Forrestal Marriott near Princeton, part of a joint celebration with the Empire State



Society. NSSAR President General Michael Elston was the guest of honor. PG Elston was presented with an honorary sword by NJSSAR Color Guard Commander Ed Glidden and NJSSAR President Chris Sands. Also attending, Past President General Joseph Dooley, National Color Guard Commander Robert Meyer; David Powell, President of the Empire State Society, NSSAR Trustee and George Washington Fellow; Peter Moller, a National Trustee and active with the NJSSAR, DESSAR and VASSAR. Linda Jurczak, Regent of the New Jersey Daughters of the American Revolution and other state officers of the NJDAR were also present as were officers of the Children of the American Revolution.



Veterans of the Vietnam War were the focus a ceremony on March 27 at Barnegat High School in Barnegat, N.J. The NJSSAR Color Guard participated in the ceremony offering a symbolic welcome home to dozens of veterans from all the major branches of service, along with color guard units from the Army, Marines, JROTC and New Jersey Police. The event was hosted by Thy Cavagnaro, a refugee of the war who emigrated to America with her family in 1975.



The NJSSAR Color Guard presented the colors at the Atlas Pythagoras Masonic Lodge in Westfield, N.J., on March 28 for the "new" unveiling of a mural depicting the Revolutionary War's Battle of Spantown, one of several battles fought in what is now the town of Rahway in the winter of 1777. The historical artist Lloyd Garrison, who was also an artist in the Army, painted the mural in 1988. The 22-foot-wide canvas hung for many years in a bank in Rahway before being put in storage when the bank changed owners. Mr. Garrison has made a gift of his painting to the West Fields NJSSAR Chapter.



NJ Color Guard with the Mayor of Cranford, NJ



New Jersey color guard in Cranford, NJ with the VFW Color Guard celebrating Cranford's 250th



March 28th 2026 - New Brunswick New Jersey real daughters dedication with the DAR



Steve Kaplan and Lee Emrick, members of the Richard Montgomery Chapter Color Guard and with cooperation from the Fort Greenville Chapter DAR, gave a presentation entitled "Fun Facts about Our Founding Fathers" to 3rd - 6th graders at the St. Mary's School in Greenville on February 19th.





At the Annual Benjamin Franklin Chapter George Washington Birthday Celebration held at the Cintonville Woman's Club on February 21st, re-enactor Dale Fellows who portrayed George Washington, and his wife Nancy, who portrayed Martha Washington are presented a Certificate of Appreciation by Chapter President Bill Johnson. Dale is also a member of the Northeast Ohio Chapter SAR Color Guard.



State Commander Bob Hill is presented a Certificate of Appreciation by President Bill Johnson for leading the Presentation of the Colors.

Cincinnati Chapter Color Guard members, Jerry Knight (L) and Stephen McClanahan (R) stand with new American citizens, a happy couple from Kenya, at Naturalization Ceremonies for 48 new citizens from 27 countries at the Potter Stewart Court House in Cincinnati on February 20th.



Cincinnati Color Guard members, along with State First Vice President Doug Pettit - a member of the Lt. George Ewing Chapter Color Guard (3rd from R), stand with nurse re-enactors at the TriState "Flightless" Honor Flight in Cincinnati on March 8th, giving a Welcome Home celebration for veterans.



Steve Kaplan of the Richard Montgomery Color Guard, and Steve's wife, Patty Kaplan - a member of the Fort Greenville Chapter DAR and a Camp Follower in the RMC Color Guard, gave presentations to six classes of 4th graders at Piqua Central Intermediate School on March 9th & 10th.



Steve Kaplan (L), Steve Lawrence (R), members of the Richard Montgomery Chapter Color Guard, and Steve Lawrence's wife Becky - a Camp Follower in the RMC Color Guard, gave a presentation entitled "Myths About the Revolutionary War" to the Shelby County Historical Society in Sidney on March 11th.



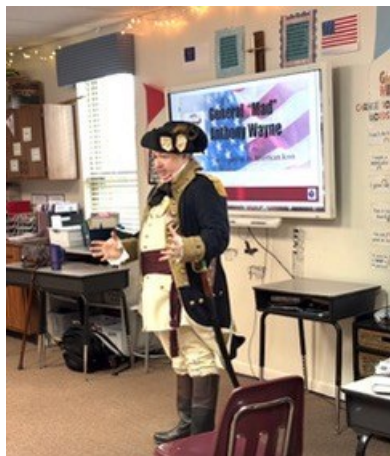
Tulsa Chapter Color guardsmen Steve King, Jim Seward and Loyd Ingham presented the colors at the opening of Revolutionary Day held in Sapulpa, OK. Over four hundred fifth graders from Sapulpa's elementary schools, as well as Lone Star School, Depew Schools and Glenpool Public Schools, gathered for the seventh annual Revolutionary Day on Thursday, March 26, 2026.



At this immersive social studies event, students went back in time to colonial America, learning from historical actors from Colonial Williamsburg. Thanks to these actors who portrayed James Madison, and George Washington's physician, Dr. Craik, students got an entertaining insight into what it was like to live in 1700's America.



Students made tin punch art, dipped candles, completed an Indian corn craft with Sapulpa Indian Education, played colonial games, danced, and learned soldier drills from the Tulsa Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Color Guardsmen.



Hocking Valley Chapter Color Guard members Bob Hill (L) and Tom Hankins (R) and Camp Charlotte Chapter Color Guard members Max Demp (L) and Kevin Donahue (R), gave a combined class presentation to 90 4th graders at the Hanby Elementary School in Westerville on March 11th.



The Cincinnati Chapter Color Guard held its first formal training class on Cannon Safety and Firing in Batavia on March 22. The cannon is a "one-pounder" signal or swivel gun mounted on a gun carriage. The chapter received this cannon through a donation and restored it last fall. The training instructor was Color Guard Drill Master Brad Jarard, who is also a re-enactor with the 8th PA Regiment BAR, and he wrote a manual and quiz as part of the training. Joining their Cincinnati compatriots for training was State Commander Bob Hill, and Centennial Chapter Color Guard member Jim Cooper.





Tulsa Chapter Color guardsmen Steve King, Jim Seward and Ron Shoaf welcomed newly naturalized citizens at a naturalization ceremony held on February 18, 2026 at the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

 **Pennsylvania**



Philadelphia Continental Chapter's Washington's Birthday Celebration and March includes a traditional photo at The Museum of the American Revolution. Left to right - PASSAR and Phila. Continental Chapter Color Guard Commander Fred Fonseca, Michael Carver, Chris Snyder, Historian General Jeff Thomas, Steve Kopsick, Rich Lind, Spencer Snyder, Shane Moyer, Gene Hough, Scott Willson, Glenn Tyson, Glenn Foster, Tom Conner and Bill Watson.



On January 29th Washingtonburg Chapter presented colors to open the Cumberland County America 250 Kickoff Rally at the Historic Cumberland County Court House in Carlisle PA. From left to right are Chapter President Dale Leppard, Steve Troutman, Todd Hockensmith, Dale Beaver, Steve Messner, Steve Burd, and Robert Keck

 **South Carolina**



On January 17, Color Guardsmen from around the country gathered to commemorate the 245th Anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina. The Color Guard was led by Vice Commander Ken Goodson. The same day, the South Carolina Society was joined by President General Michael Elston at a wreath laying event in honor of Daniel Morgan.



 **Texas**



On Wednesday February 18, 2026 San Antonio Chapter #4 conducted a Change in Command of its Chapter Color Guard Command Post.

Texas Society Past State Color Guard Commander, Major General Frank Rohrbough transferred his Chapter Command to Major General Blair Rudy, also a past State Color Guard Commander. Commander Frank Rohrbough has excelled in his position as the San Antonio Color Guard Commander for Twenty Years. Since 2006 he has led our chapter into our communities heart and incredibly advanced our Society mission in the Bexar County area. Three Huzzahs ! For our friend Frank Rohrbough!



On a beautiful Texas Spring morning, Saturday, 21 March 2026, at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Texas, in honor of National Medal of Honor Day (annually - 25 March), members of the Texas Society SAR from many chapters conducted a Massing of the Colors and walking tour to visit the graves of the fifteen



Medal of Honor recipients interred there. Hosted by San Antonio Chapter #4, over forty men and women participated including one Former President General (the Honorable Edward Butler), the Texas State Color Guard Commander (David Hamaker) and members of Texas SAR, Texas DAR, General Society War of 1812, Granaderos & Damas, Sons of the Republic of Texas and Daughters of the Republic of Texas and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Thirty-one Medal of Honor recipients are interred in San Antonio and next year a similar Massing of the Colors will be conducted at San Antonio National Cemetery, located downtown not far from the historic Alamo.

 **Virginia**



A proud moment for the Virginia SAR Color Guard at Virginia SAR's Installation Banquet! With President General Elston in attendance — and celebrating his birthday — thirty-four Color Guardsmen gathered for the annual meeting. The evening also marked a special occasion as John Lynch, pictured left, assumed command as the new VASSAR Color Guard Commander during the formal change of command ceremony.





This year 12 February 2025 a program was presented at the South Boston / Halifax County Historical Museum.

13 February 2025 the Banister Encampment part was presented in the Town of Halifax. Program on the Crossing of the Dan was given followed by a march of the VASSAR Color Guard to the Halifax County War Memorial where three musket volleys were fired.

Capacity crowd of the National Event in The Prizery was reported by local newspaper Virginia Gazette. Both the North Carolina 250 State Committee and the Virginia 250 State Committee were present at the Crossing of the Dan. Virginia 250 Traveling Museum was also obtained by the Crossing of the Dan Committee and was present at the site for three days and local school children attended. The local JROTC unit participated in the event and provided a flag detail for the ceremony.



On Jan 24, 2026 the WASSAR Fife and Drum Corp led by WASSAR the President / Fife and Drum Commander and the National Fife and Drum

Major, WASSAR CG Commander Eric Olsen joined the Blue Angel Sea Cadets to post colors at the Washington Society Daughters of the American Revolution winter BOD meeting in SeaTac, WA.



On February 11, 2026 members of the Washington State Color Guard posted colors for the 2nd year in a row. Four chapters were represented this year. On the drums was Jam Lemmer from Alexander Hamilton, CG Captain William Bentler from George Washington, CG Captain Larry Heckethorne from Fort Vancouver, and WASSAR CG Commander Eric Olsen from George Rogers Clark. Drummer Jan lemmer has now drummed in WASSAR CG members in both the House and Senate in Olympia, WA. Photos were taken with several elected leaders and the comment "It's good to see some color here" was heard several times.



On Feb 16th Members of the WASSAR Color Guard and Fife and Drum gathered on the University of Washing Campus for the 117th annual George Washington Statue Memorial Celebration This yearly event held by Greater Seattle DAR Regents Council. Color guard members from the Alexander Hamilton, Cascade Centennial, George Rogers Clark, George Washington, Seattle participated in the event by playing the fife & drum, carrying flags and wreath laying. The weather was pleasant but a bit on the chilly side.





On Feb. 27th members of WASSAR CG from the Alexander Hamilton, George Rogers Clark and George Washington Chapters traveled to Mt Tahoma for a service to honor 5 veterans. WASSAR CG Commander Eric Olsen joined the procession of over 30 vehicles that started at the Chehalis Veterans Museum as they travelled up to Mt Tahoma to escort the cremains of Shelva Jennings, U.S. Army, Michael Braroe, U.S. Army, Troyce Stirkins, U.S. Army, Roger Thompson, U.S. Navy, and Thor Silva, U.S. Army. Once at Mt Command WASSAR CG Commander Olsen joined the other members of the CG and participated in honoring the 5 veterans. The weather was pleasant and the event was well attended.



On March 21st members from the Alexander Hamilton Chapter, George Rogers Clark Chapter and Seattle Chapter along with members of the WASSAR Fife and Drum Corp the met up at the Pioneer Middle School in DuPont, WA for the annual Massing of Colors. Surprisingly the event had fewer Cg members this year and even the audience seemed to have fewer people. They changed it up a bit this year and had members from the Spirit of 76 group in British uniforms "occupying Boston". After they marched out the SAR marched in led by the Fife and Drum Corp. Once again, the WASSAR adult group took 1st place with the honors this time going to the Fife and Drum Corp and a \$500 check to be divided between the 3 chapters that were present.



Members of the George Rogers Clark chapter color guard led by WASSAR CG Commander Eric Olsen gathered on Tenino, WA to post colors for the new Ann Cochran Chapter WSSDAR at their organizational meeting on Feb 28, 2026. Joining them was the WASSAR Fife and Drum Corp led by Viren Lemmer. The ladies were excited to have the color guard them and many thanks were received.



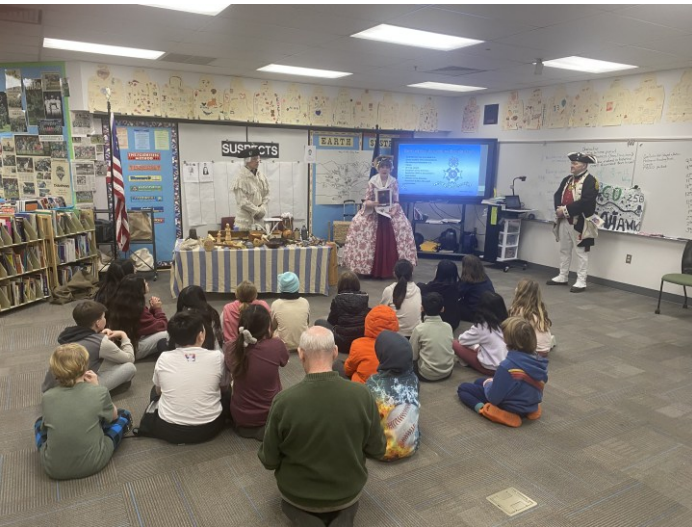
On March 1, 2026 members of the George Rogers Clark CG led by WASSAR CG Commander Eric Olsen and members of the WASSAR Fife and Drum Corp led by National Fife and Drum Major Viren Lemmer met up once again. This time it was to post colors for the new WSSDAR Chloe Clark Chapter at their organizational meeting in DuPont, WA city hall.



On March 11th the WASSAR CG Commander and George Rogers Clark Chapter member Eric Olsen attended the PNW-ACBS (Pacific Northwest Antique & Collectable Boat Society) meeting to talk about the SAR and give a presentation on Colonial Naval



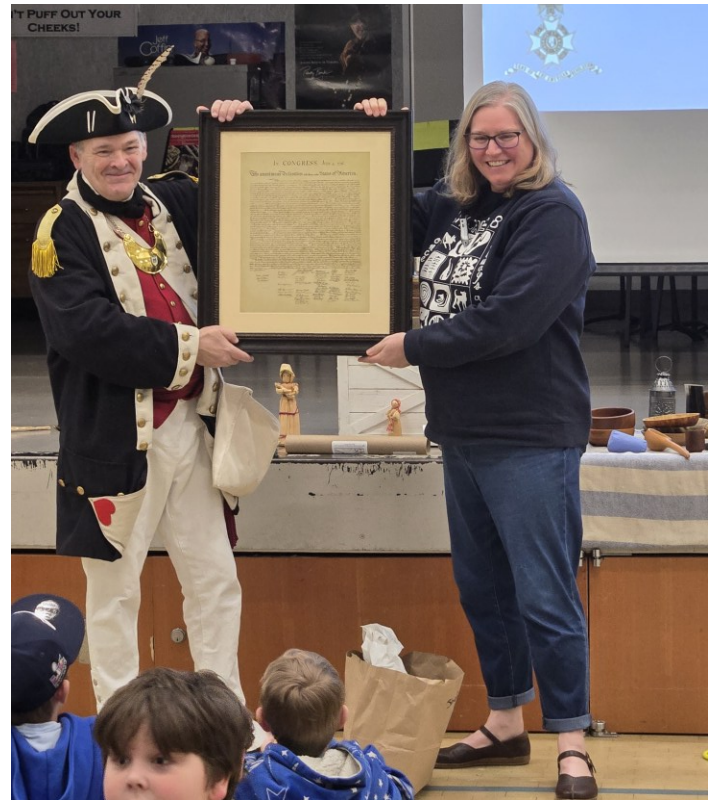
flags that would have been in use during the American Revolution. This was a lead up to the SAR and DAR participating with the PNW-ACBS in the annual Opening Day of Boating on May 2nd on Lake Union held each year by Seattle Yacht Club.



On March 2, 2025, the Seattle Chapter Education team presented at West Mercer Elementary School. Compatriots Grant Rauzi and Neil Vernon of Seattle and Michael Moore of Alexander Hamilton presented to the 64 students. We had a special treat this with Washington State C.A.R. President Danika Bendickson presenting "Youth in the Revolution".

Following Danika's Presentation, the presentation was given with emphasis on the Declaration of Independence and the signers. A reading of the preamble was also included.

After the presentations, Compatriot Neil Vernon presented to the primary instructor, Julie Langley, a framed copy of the Declaration of Independence.



The Seattle Education team presented to the Cascade K-8 Community School in Shoreline, Washington, on Friday, July 20, 2026. 48 students of the 4th and 5th grade classes learned about the purpose of learning history, with special emphasis on the reading of the Declaration of Independence. They also learned how the youth assisted in the Revolution, Soldier Uniforms, and what life was like in the 1770's.

After the presentation, Compatriot Neil Vernon presented to the school a framed copy of the Declaration of Independence.

Compatriots in colonial attire were: Neil Vernon (SE), Grant Rauzi (SE), Richard Seeder (SE), and Tim Doughty (RNGR).



The Seattle Education team presented to the St. Brendan's Catholic School in Bothell, Washington, on Friday, March 27, 2026. 24 students of the 5th grade class learned about the purpose of learning history, with special emphasis on the reading of the Declaration of Independence. They also learned how the youth assisted in the Revolution, Soldier Uniforms, and what life was like in the 1770's.





West Virginia



The West Virginia SAR color guard set up a display for WV legislators to educate about the SAR and our goals and mission. This photo was taken in the West Virginia Capital Building in Charleston, WV by WV Legislature Photographer Perry Bennett (submitted with permission). Left to right: JK Lilly President Daniel Boone Chapter, Charleston, WV, Greg Conger, Point Pleasant Chapter, and Joe Burge, President Point Pleasant chapter, Point Pleasant, WV



On Jan. 28, the WV Color Guard had the honor of presenting Colors at the Sojourn Flag Ceremony at the WV Capitol. This single flag is traveling to all states, territories, and 26 overseas military cemeteries. The Sojourn Flag journey concludes in Washington, D.C., on July 4, 2026. This Flag is sponsored by many organizations including Nat. Sheriffs Org., Vietnam Vets. Assoc., and the Flag is being transported by UPS. WV SAR was proud to take part in this ceremony. L to R, CGC MP Brady, Mark LaFrance, JK Lilly, Joe Burge, and Greg Conger

WISCONSIN



1848

Wisconsin



On February 7, 2026 a Patriotic Luncheon was hosted by C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in Wauwatosa, WI. Over 30 Hereditary Organizations were represented including the Sons of the American Revolution.

Pictured L to R: Three members SUVCW; Will Ammann, Andrew Sabin, Tom Brown (Color Guard Commander), and James Greer (WISSAR).



On March 21, 2026 the Annis Avery Hill Chapter of the Wisconsin DAR hosted their 13th Annual Genealogy Workshop at Brookfield Academy's Heritage Days in Brookfield, WI.

Adjacent to the Brookfield Academy Campus is the Oak Hill Cemetery, final resting place of Revolutionary War Veteran Nathan Hatch (first two photos)

The event welcomed many prospective members to the SAR, DAR, and CAR. Attendees had the opportunity to learn how to research their genealogy and to have their pictures taken with SAR and DAR members.





George Rogers Clark Wreath Laying Ceremony

Celebrating the 247th Anniversary of the
Capture of Fort Sackville

Patriot Grave Marking

for Nicholas Cardinal, Louis Victor Edeline, Michel Campeaux,
Antoine Bordeleau, and Pierre Levry-dit-Martin.



Saturday, May 23, 2026, 11:00 a.m. EDT

at the Clark Memorial,
George Rogers Clark National Historical Park
401 S 2nd St, Vincennes, Indiana 47591

Hosted by:

George Rogers Clark Chapter
Indiana Sons of the American Revolution

Interested in Participating?

Please REGISTER ONLINE if you plan to do ANY of the following:

- ★ATTEND or PARTICIPATE in Wreath Laying Ceremony, Patriot Grave Marking
- ★Make a DONATION to the event
- ★JOIN us at Procopio's for Dinner on Friday Evening

★To Register★

Scan the QR Code or go to website: bit.ly/SARGRC26

Please respond no later than **May 11, 2026**.



[Bit.ly/SARGRC26](https://bit.ly/SARGRC26)

Need More Information?

Contact: Daryl Hensley: (812)582-9147. Hensley.Daryl@gmail.com



Battle of Fort San Carlos Festival and Grave Marking

**EXPANDED TWO DAY EVENT:
MAY 30-31, 2026
STE. GENEVIEVE, MISSOURI**

In partnership with the city of Ste. Genevieve, this year there will be added events to commemorate this pivotal battle and enjoy the historic town.

SAR Event Schedule Preview for Sunday, May 31

rain or shine event

**11 a.m.
Militia and Color Guard muster at
Guibord-Valle House**

**1 p.m.
Memorial Cemetery Ceremony**

**Bring your own wreath and receive
a commemorative flag streamer.**

**SAR members must
register to receive credit.
Scan below to visit the
event website:**

**[www.mossar.org/battle-
of-fort-san-carlos/](http://www.mossar.org/battle-of-fort-san-carlos/)**



**Extra weekend events: Market Vendors,
Colonial Reenactors, Encampments, etc!**

National Color Guard Event - Sons of the American Revolution

Participating Color Guard members must contact State Commander Steve Perkins
to review safety requirements and eligibility for medal qualification: patriotmarcher@fastmail.com



2026 Blue Licks Weekend

August 14-16, 2026

Blue Licks State Battlefield Park & The Winchester Cemetery

Please join the Kentucky SAR, Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter, and the Lafayette Chapter for a weekend of SAR Activities.

Blue Licks Battlefield State Park

Friday Night - Dinner, Speaker, Fun Activities, and Compatriot Jam Session.

Saturday Day - Blue Licks Memorial Service, Lunch at the Lodge, and the KY SAR State Meeting.

Winchester Kentucky

Sunday Morning - 5 Patriot Grave Marking at Winchester Cemetery

More Information Coming Soon.



Battle of Blue Licks Memorial Ceremony



The Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter
Kentucky Society

Sons of the American Revolution
invites you to attend the Memorial Service for the
244th Anniversary of the Battle of Blue Licks

Saturday, 15 August, 2026 @ 10 a.m. EDT
Blue Licks Battlefield State Park
10299 Maysville Road, Carlisle, KY
(Color Guard muster at 8:45 a.m.)

Join us in this National Color Guard
event by presenting a wreath, carrying
your state flag or participating in the
flintlock gun salute.

Contact Scott Giltner – stgilt@earthlink.net to register.

https://gissar.org/pages/blue_licks.html



VIGIL AT WASHINGTON'S TOMB

HOSTED BY THE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION COLOR GUARD



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

LOCATION: MOUNT VERNON, VA



MUSTER TIME:

8 AM

MT VERNON

**SCHEDULE: START
GUARDING THE TOMB
AT 9 AM. 15-MINUTE
POSTS UNTIL 4 PM**



**NEAREST HOTEL
(ABOUT 1 MILE):
HAMPTON INN & SUITES
FORT BELVOIR
ALEXANDRIA SOUTH**



**A SIGN UP GENIUS
WILL BE SENT OUT
AFTER CONGRESS**



COLONIAL VENDORS' STALLS:

**WE ASK GUARD MEMBERS
TO VISIT DURING THE DAY,
ON THE PROPERTY.**

National Color Guard Committee

The Committee is the largest committee of the SAR as every Color Guardsman is automatically considered a member of the committee. A listing of committee members is published by the National Society whose Chairman, Vice Chairman, and members are appointed by the National Society SAR President General. Members of the Color Guard who are not appointed to the committee, but who attend a meeting at the National level, are eligible to vote on issues brought before the group during the meeting.

#172564 (GA) SECRETARY GENERAL – GO LIAISON William Allen Greenly	#162857 (AZ) Abraham Ruddell Byrd III	#150769 (NC) Samuel Christopher Powell
#200554 (NJ) CHAIRMAN/COLOR GUARD COMMANDER Robert Charles Meyer	#153289 (MI) Paul Robert Callanan	#222616 (KY) Richard Lee Quire
#187555 (MI) VICE-CHAIRMAN/VICE COMMANDER Kenneth Linwood Goodson Jr.	#175076 (GA) Kenneth Scott Collins	#168829 (MD) C. Louis Raborg Jr.
#206026 (KY) FIRST ADJUTANT Patrick Joseph Wesolosky	#173691 (VA) CHANCELLOR GENERAL Peter Malcolm Davenport	#177927 (VA) William Lewis Schwetke
#171318 (GA) SECOND ADJUTANT Edward Paul Rigel Jr.	#204019 (NC) Jay A. DeLoach	#161749 (MI) William Edward Sharp III
#195659 (NC) ARTILLERY COMMANDER Stephen P. McKee	#147977 (VA) PG Joseph William Dooley	#177590 (NC) George Shrunk
#192623 (WA) DRUM MAJOR Viren K. Lemmer	#214693 (VA) Gary Howard Dunaway	#159735 (GA) PG John Michael Tomme Sr.
#216827 (KY) QUARTERMASTER Christopher Allen Canine	#213898 (KY) Stephen Austin Gahafer	#220709 (NM) Robert E. Vance
#223244 (KY) ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER Patrick McMurchie	#170854 (KY) Scott George Giltner	#204537 (CA) Brandon Alexander Villardi
#159769 (VA) SAFETY TRAINING OFFICER Brett Warren Osborn	#168757 (NC) GENEALOGIST GENERAL Gary Owen Green	#207598 (NJ) Roger Sidney Williams
#206108 (IN) COLOR GUARD MAGAZINE/ASSISTANT SAFETY TRAINING OFFICER Jacob Aaron Vink	#210714 (WI) Robert M. Haglund	
#166888 (VA) PRESIDENT GENERAL Michael James Elston	#214823 (TX) David Hamaker	
#184415 (OH) John Henry Bredenfoerder	#148489 (MD) David Wayne Hoover	
	#168548 (KS) Bobbie Arthur Hulse	
	#208634 (TN) LTC Cliff Jay Kent	
	#170717 (NC) TREASURER GENERAL T. Brooks Lyles Jr.	
	#183738 (MI) James Leslie Petres	