



The SAR Colorguardsman

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In this issue:

3 - Commander's Report

4-5 - Safety Officer's Report

6-7 - Artillery Report

7 - New Handbook Announcement

8-9 - Sarah Fulton Medal

10 - Caleb Gibbs Medal

11-12 - Listing of National Events

13 - Listing of State Commanders

14 - New Medal Recipients

15-87 - Reports From the Field

88-91 - Event Flyers

92 - Color Guard Committee

Information and Membership

Acceptable Content

Color guard activities at chapter, state, and National level are what should be submitted. These include activities where color guard units participate: parades, Grave markings, Flag retirements, posting/retiring colors at meetings, presentation of color guard medals (Bronze, Silver, Von Steuben, Gold, Molly Pitcher, etc). This includes the National Color Guard events as listed in this magazine.

All images submitted must show color guard participation in some way. Submissions without guardsmen present will not be included. The editor requests that along with each submission, there is also 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,

Following my installation as Commander of the National Color Guard at Congress this past July, I have had the honor of representing our Society at a number of significant events and ceremonies.

In the months since assuming this role, I have remained actively engaged in supporting our mission. I have reviewed and approved several Silver Color Guard and Von Steuben Medal applications, recognizing the dedication and service of our compatriots across the country.

Here in New Jersey, I have attended numerous local Color Guard events, proudly representing our organization and supporting chapter activities. In August, I participated in the commemoration of the Battle of Brooklyn and other key events in New York.

On September 13, I had the privilege of visiting the tomb of George Washington, a solemn and humbling experience. Just one week later, on September 20, I joined our President General in laying a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery, honoring our nation's fallen heroes and reaffirming our shared commitment to patriotism and remembrance.

Looking ahead, I am eager to continue the work from the National Leadership Meeting in early October, and I look forward to continued collaboration and planning for the year ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Meyer

Commander, National Color Guard, National Society, Sons of the American Revolution



Guardsmen,

Thank you all for the wonderful submissions, photos, articles, and feedback on the last issue. The level of activity happening across the country is truly impressive.

My apologies for missing the previous issue. Personal commitments caused the deadline to slip by, but those matters are now resolved and we're back on our regular schedule. I hope this double issue helps make up for the missed time.

I received many excellent submissions last time, but I want to encourage each chapter to designate a photographer for your events so we can fully capture the spirit of what you do. Post-event group shots are great, but they don't always show the energy and passion the color guard brings. Send us photos of your members in action—carrying the colors, firing muskets, and proudly representing the SAR and our Patriot ancestors.

Libertas et Patria,

Jacob A. Vink
Editor, The SAR Colorguardsman

Winter Event Safety

Brett Osborn - National Safety Officer



Guardsmen,

I feel like I'm repeating myself after the Safety article I wrote about trip hazards, it appears that problems persist and this is from personal observation in the last four months with two NSSAR National events. Some background information on trip hazards; this is the #1 safety hazard for events. I know of two events, one with a Compatriot who tripped over speaker wires and had crippling back injuries and the speaker attached to the wires fell off and hit the past NSSAR CG Commander in the back. The other involved a wife of one of our Color Guard Compatriots who tripped over a stone and broke her neck and was six weeks in a hospital. Please take this seriously.

I attended a fall National event where we had several grave marking ceremonies. There was little done to clear any of the three grave sites we attended. There were low hanging tree branches and debris on the ground at the first site, the second site had more low hanging branches, and past

NSSAR CG Commander and I had to kick dozens of walnuts and branch debris out of the path of march for the color guard. The third site was a cemetery also with low hanging tree branches, but several sunken gravesites. Fortunately, with the rain we reduced the number of flags to be carried. The host society needs to walk the ground and make a safety assessment in advance of the events.

At the most recent National event I attended, I initially saw five of the host State Color Guardsmen present and two with muskets. One musket man wandered off to socialize with friends. When I started the Safety Check, I was asked why I was conducting the Safety Check? TREAT ALL FIREARMS AS LOADED UNTIL CONFIRMED WITH A CHECK. In the NSSAR Color Guard Handbook "Firearm Inspection: Pre-Event: The Color Guard Commander, or his designate, shall perform a musket safety check prior to any use of a weapon in a SAR Ceremony." This is indoors, outdoors, anywhere! When I tracked down Musket Man #2 who was

socializing with a fraternal group, we started the musket inspection. He had an original 1795 Charleville musket, no hammer stall, no flash guard, although he said he had taken the flash guard off because it was too shiny. "NSSAR CG Handbook – "Firearms shall have a flash protector and frizzen cover/ hammer stall." This guardsman had trouble removing the ramrod for the search check, but with assistance got it out. He did not appear to know period drill and when asked if he had seen the NSSAR Color Guard videos on safety checks and firing, he acknowledged he had not.

Next, we had two more NSSAR Guardsmen show up from another State that I met at the fall grave marking events. This was a father/son team that were also reenactors with the Continental Line group that was reenacting a 250th Anniversary battle.



Click the image above for the Safety Inspection Video.

As the temperature was 28° and light snow accumulation, they had opted out of the reenactment due to the rough, slippery ground and the event requiring running up and down hilly terrain (good call). I told them we had two muskets already and the Commander approved them to be the rear musket men with the NSSAR Color Guard. They both passed the safety check flawlessly.

Our event Color Guard Commander had more of his state Color Guardsmen show up and he held a good session of sizing up the flags and going through the commands of how to carry the flags, high carry, low carry and order flags. Both the NSSAR CG Commander and I are carrying our state flags in this formation. As we were given short notice to march to the ceremony, the Commander of another State Society Color Guard shows up with an arm load of flags. Although he was a reenactor, he showed up late as we were preparing to march, his flag was not ready or sized. As he got in formation, he said he had four riflemen that were reenactors that were late showing up. As we were ready to march, he states he is falling out, because his men aren't there. Apparently, they showed up in the rear and he fell back in. At the end of the ceremony, I spoke to him and said those four riflemen had not been safety checked. His reply was they didn't have time to get to the event. So, they are on the field in a reenactment and show up at the SAR ceremony with no idea if their weapons had been cleared. In any risk assessment situation this is a major safety concern. It's not about getting credit for participating in a SAR event ceremony, SAFETY is paramount.



I've been to two reenactment events in the last two decades, where someone has discharged a firelock in public after walking off the field of an event without clearing. The NSSAR cannot have this happen at any event, particularly as we are in the 250th Anniversary cycle.

These are my personal suggestions for improvements to Color Guard procedures. For my State Color Guard, we have our own webpage with the annual Color Guard events and other information. For National events we have Playbook scenarios for six of our National events. This can include PowerPoint graphics of the site, photos and procedures for the Color Guard to support that event. We now are on version 13 of the

Playbook scenarios as they are continually updated. Even for many of our Chapter larger events, we put out Orders to the Guard. All Guardsman that has signed up for the event are given details pertaining to that event, weather, parking, uniform, who the commander is and assignments for flag and musket men. This changes when some guardsmen have other roles for the event, have physical limitations or are not available. We assign a muster time for events, usually a half an hour to an hour before the event starts. Equipment and flags are checked, safety checks done on firelocks and the optimum is to do a walk through on the site. I encourage extra drill practice to entice that muscle memory of period drill while color guardsmen are standing around waiting. If you show up late for the safety check or briefing, you are a liability.

The suggestions I provided have worked, but as mentioned we have several areas of concern.

Very Respectfully,

Brett Osborn
NSSAR Color Guard Safety Officer

More Than Just a Resounding Boom: Artillery Use in SAR Commemorations and Events

Stephen McKee - National SAR Artillery Commander

Ultima Ratio Regum, the “Final Argument of Kings.” Artillery reigned supreme on the battlefield in the 18th century, accounting for the majority of combat related casualties, resting easily in its place as the King of Battle. Oftentimes, artillery became the deciding factor in the outcome of an engagement, whether it was chasing the British out of Boston in March of 1776, breaking up American momentum at the third line at Guilford Courthouse in March of 1781, or forcing Cornwallis’ surrender at Yorktown that effectively secured the Independency of these United States in October of 1781.

Using artillery as a component of our commemorations offers an exciting way honor the legacy of our ancestors in a dramatic and memorable fashion. Doing it correctly is important, not simply for the educational opportunities to teach attendees about various field pieces and their use during the period, but also for ensuring the safety of the Compatriots manning the guns and the spectators in attendance.

Educating the Public: The Importance of Knowing Your Gun

A cannon always draws the curiosity of the public, whether on static display or when firing as part of a Memorial Volley. They will have many questions, and it’s important to know the facts about your gun, how it was employed in period, which pattern it’s design hails from, etc. Key to this is understanding the size of the gun, which in period is described from the weight of the projectiles they fired (ie a “3 pounder” fires three pound cannon balls, a “6 pounder” fires a 6 pound ball, etc). The most common sizes of field artillery pieces used in North America during the Revolution were 3 and 6 pounders (the French provided many 4 pounders as well), as the roads here in the newly independent States were not well developed for moving heavier pieces effectively (Burgoyne had some 12 and 18 pounders in his artillery train for the Battles of Saratoga and had a rough time moving them with his army). So knowing the basics of your gun is critical in educating the public.



The chart below has typical bore sizes for various sized guns from the Revolutionary era.

Cannon Size	Bore (Inches)
3 Pounder	2.775 in
4 Pounder	3.053 in
6 Pounder	3.494 in
9 Pounder	4.000 in
12 Pounder	4.403 in
18 Pounder	5.040 in

In reality, only 3 and 6 pounders (and maybe an occasional 4) will be found as part of SAR events, due to the weight of the guns themselves and transporting them. A typical 3 pounder weighs between 600-900 lbs and a 6 pounder weighs 1450-1650 lbs. You can see the size difference between the two on the next page:



3 Pounder



6 Pounder

Being able to talk about each gunner's role, and each step in the loading and firing of the piece is also critical to ensuring the public leaves better educated and ensures they understand what we're doing when the gun commander gives each command.

Ensuring the Safety of our Gun Crews and Spectators

Another huge consideration when using artillery is safety. The powder charges we're using aren't 90-110 grain (less than a quarter of an ounce), but up to 4 ounces for a sleeved iron 3 pounder to 8 ounces for a 6 pounder. This is a significant amount of low grade explosives which can cause catastrophic failures that injure gun crews or spectators in the event of a mishap. Careful and deliberate handling is essential to ensure safety is the top priority. A full and properly trained gun crew is absolutely critical in maintaining safety, as each man serves to back up that each step in the loading and firing sequence is done correctly.

It also ensures adequate gunners are available to evaluate and clear misfires, which have significantly higher consequences due to the size of the powder charges used. It will also ensure no one injures themselves loading or unloading the pieces from the trailers used to transport the cannons from place to place.

There is a National SAR Artillery Handbook in the works that includes everything you will need to conduct safe and meaningful artillery demonstrations as part of SAR events in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of these United States. It will include background information on various types of artillery pieces, loading and firing drills, as well as the steps to take during a misfire. Also included are inspection checklists that will ensure the physical condition of the piece is verified prior to firing. All of the information comes from period artillery manuals as well as National Park and various State Historic Site requirements. **NOTE:** *You must ensure your Chapter or State liability insurance covers the use of artillery, or your Chapter artillery crew needs to acquire its own liability coverage to use cannons during SAR events.*

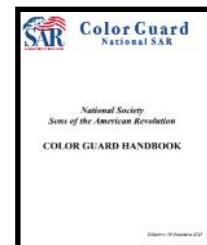
I will continue to send in articles to *The Color Guardsman* to better align us as Gunners in the NSSAR's Corps of Artillery, so stay tuned for more in the issues ahead.

2026 Revision of the Color Guard Handbook is now available!

The 2026 revision of the National Society Color Guard Handbook is available now. In the new handbook, you will find updated policies, safety procedures, commands, and much more.

The Handbook may be found by clicking the cover image below or by logging in to SAR.org and following the path of:

SAR.org>Members>Forms & Manuals>Color Guard Handbook



Growing Our Color Guard and Encouraging Participation!

Robert E. Vance – New Mexico CGC

Before the current emphasis on growing our color guards and increasing participation in related activities I believe most of us struggled with keeping our color guard members engaged and active, especially the small states and chapters west of the Mississippi where there are so few events directly related to the American Revolution. There are only so many times that a small color guard can be rallied to post the colors at a monthly chapter meeting, and that exacerbates the problem with recruiting and maintaining an active color guard. We must be creative and actively seek out new opportunities to showcase the SAR while wearing our uniforms or colonial attire.

In the early morning hours at Congress in Lancaster, PA in July 2024, I was contemplating this problem, and the youth color guard medal came to mind. We have this medal to encourage youths, male and female, to participate in our color guard activities and I thought, what do we have for the ladies? A quick look at our

handbook revealed the only color guard specific award for ladies is the Molly Pitcher award, but there are restrictions on who can earn this award. “Before a woman may be awarded the Molly Pitcher Medal, her husband or other male companion must have been awarded the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal.” (*Official Handbook, Volume 5: Individual Medals, Awards and Certificates*)

While this seems reasonable at first glance, it disqualifies untold number of ladies that support color guards and their activities around the country whose husband may or may not be an SAR member, much less a silver color guard medal recipient. These ladies deserve recognition equally as much, if not more, than the ladies who are eligible for the Molly Pitcher award. Many of them participate on their own without the prompting or help from a color guard husband or companion and thus should be rewarded for their enthusiasm.

So how do we solve this issue? I thought we should offer something with fewer restrictions, like the youth color guard medal and from this grew a proposal to promote a new ladies color guard medal available to all ladies with no sponsorship requirement.

Now I had to come up with an appropriate historical female figure to name the medal for. My initial proposal was to name it for Deborah Sampson, who most of us know, dressed as a man and went into combat during the Revolution. I got to work, with the help of Compatriot Roger Williams who helped with the original design of the drape and medal and then I contacted Ranger coin to come up with a medal design, For anyone who has ever tackled the task of proposing a new medal knows that it can be quite daunting to prepare a new medal proposal form and then going before the Medals and Awards committee (many thanks to Compatriot Keith Weissinger for his guidance).



Growing Our Color Guard and Encouraging Participation!

Robert E. Vance – New Mexico CGC

I made my presentation for the Deborah Sampson medal to the Color Guard committee at Spring Leadership and it was approved to go forward to Medals and Awards. Unfortunately, it was dead in the water almost as soon as it was approved, due to the fact that Medals and Awards approved a Deborah Sampson award for the DAR finders that same afternoon, so I could no longer use Deborah Sampson for my color guard medal.

After Leadership, one of my chapter members sent me a list of other notable females of the Revolution and among them was Sarah Fulton. I had never heard of her, but after a little research, felt that she would be a better figure to honor with having the new medal named for her.

Sarah Bradlee Fulton, 1740-1835, was born in Dorchester (Boston) Massachusetts and in 1765 she played a significant role in establishing the "Daughters of Liberty". This group of women aimed to support the American Revolution by organizing boycotts of British goods and promoting domestic production. In 1766 the Daughters of Liberty formalized female political agency with Patriot Sam Adams famously declaring "With ladies on our side, we can make every Tory tremble". For her part in helping to disguise Sons of Liberty members as Mohawks, she is sometimes referred to as the "Mother of the Boston Tea Party". After the battle of Bunker Hill in June 1775, because so few surgeons were available, Sarah helped to coordinate several women who did their best as nurses at a makeshift field hospital by Wades Tavern. In March of 1776, Sarah again answered the call of duty and delivered an important dispatch to General George Washington at the Charlestown war front, crossing enemy lines and returning home safely.

The Sarah Fulton Color Guard Medal may be presented to any female over the age of 18 who, participates in a minimum of three events per year for a minimum of three years. The years do not need to be continuous. Any SAR event that includes a Color Guard at National, District, State or Chapter may be counted towards the award. The female must be in uniform or colonial dress and participate along with a member of the color guard. An individual may count events from 2022 forward so long as that individual was a female (over 18 years old) when the individual completed the required service. Events may not be double counted; if an individual counted events attended for any other Color Guard Medal (Molly Pitcher), then those same events may not be used to qualify for the Sarah Fulton Medal. A female may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

This proposal with the name change to Sarah Fulton was taken back to the Color Guard committee and then to Medals and Awards at Congress in Uncasville. It was approved and sent to the Executive Committee who also approved it. The initial order was made, and the shipment arrived at HQ in time for it to be available for sale in the merchandise room at Fall Leadership, and all the medals that were taken to leadership sold out on the second day. They are available in miniature only at the SAR store and a companion certificate is available for separate



State Commander Recognition

The new Caleb Gibbs State Color Guard Commander's Medal

Viren Lemmer - Drum Major

It is often said that the Color Guard is the public face of the SAR. Yet one of the most demanding and selfless roles within our Society frequently goes unnoticed: the State Color Guard Commander. This individual coordinates, directs, and oversees all state-level Color Guard activities, ensuring readiness for parades, ceremonies, and events that, for many Americans, may be their only personal encounter with the SAR.

Watching a State Commander lead the procession of colors down the street evokes a deep sense of pride and patriotism. It is a moment capable of sending chills down one's spine.

Unfortunately, many past Commanders have shared that they never felt properly thanked for their years of service, leadership, and sacrifice they dedicated to their state societies.

That is where the new Caleb Gibbs State Color Guard Commander's Medal comes in. It is our opportunity to say THANK YOU to all our State Color Guard Commanders, past and present.

To earn the Caleb Gibbs State Color Guard Commander's Medal, an individual must have completed two years of service as a State Color Guard Commander. Oak Leaf Clusters are authorized for each additional two-year period of service. The medal has an indefinite lookback period for all living former State Commanders, ensuring that every eligible leader, past or present, can receive the thanks they have long deserved.

The medal itself features the likeness of Major Caleb Gibbs, Commander of Washington's Guard from 1776 to 1781. Major Gibbs, though lesser-known among the Founding Fathers, played a critical role in safeguarding General George Washington throughout the Revolutionary War.



Members of Washington's Guard were hand-selected for their character, discipline, and exemplary appearance, serving as a model for the entire Continental Army. The medal not only honors modern leadership but also draws attention to the historic lineage of service, duty, and excellence represented by Major Gibbs.

The **State President** is the approval authority for this medal.



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 Briar Creek		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	Sprit 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
21 September	Battle of Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge, LA	email

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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>
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	City
Alabama	Joseph D. Barker, Jr.	334-221-3641	Jbark151@yahoo.com	Wetumpka, AL
Arizona	Robert Stanley Marks	480-250-5581	stanmarks@gmail.com	Scottsdale, AZ
California	Brandon Villardi	310-938-8916	bvillardi@gmail.com	Torrance, CA
Colorado	Tom Wellborn	303-810-3100	wellborns@mindspring.com	Littleton
Connecticut	David Perkins	203-948-7974	dperkinssr8@gmail.com	Bethel
Dakotas	Don Kellogg	605-662-7060	dkelloggster@gmail.com	Edgemont, SD
Florida	Jeff Brunelle	612-695-4604	jfbrunelle55@comcast.net	Fort Myers, FL
Georgia	K. Scott Collins	706-207-1663	scottcollins1775@gmail.com	Athens, GA
Hawaii	Elwin Spray	937-426-1086	Elwinspray@Gmail.com	Dayton OH
Idaho	Terry Patterson	208-286-8169	terrypatterson1876@outlook.com	Twin Falls, ID
Illinois	Jon Fixmer	630-639-2213	jfixmer73@yahoo.com	North Aurora, IL
Indiana	Jacob A. Vink	616-402-5709	vinkjacob@gmail.com	Fishers, IN
Iowa	Mike Rowley	812-678-2685	mjr1825@gmail.com	Clive, IA
Kansas	William Ira Marshall	785-479-3724	wmarshall@ksssar.org	Abilene, KS
Kentucky	Scott G Giltner	502-649-4534	stgilt@earthlink.net	Louisville, KY
Louisiana	Ted Brode	318-325-6519	tbrode@comcast.net	West Monroe, LA
Maine	Wayne Howard Mallar	207-942-9586	Essex103@aol.com	Bangor, MT
Maryland	Lawrence Price	301-535-2136	souvenirhound@yahoo.com	LaPlata, MD
Massachusetts	Christopher Tourtellot	808-492-8850	tallturtle@yahoo.com	Hubbardston, MA
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Oregon	Joel B Simmons	505-708-3582	Joel.lcc.sar@gmail.com	Beaverton OR
Pennsylvania	Fred Fonseca	610-547-7660	fredfons@msn.com	West Chester, PA
South Carolina	Scott Bruton	918-520- 3039	ssgbruton@gmail.com	
Tennessee	Cliff Kent	423-517-0284	marneexpress@ebpf1.com	Signal Mountain, TN
Texas	David Hamaker	936-522-6018	cg@texassar.org	
Utah	Jesse Black	801-201-7731	utsarcolorguard@gmail.com	Holladay, UT
Virginia	Brett Osborn	540-409-1140	bwosborn@verizon.net	Winchester, VA
Washington	Eric Olsen	425-286-5275	eolsen.sar.grc@gmail.com	Rochester, WA
West Virginia	MP Brady	256-740-1053	mpbrady30@aol.com	Charleston, WV
Wisconsin	Robert Haglund	920-621-1416	haglundrobert@sbcglobal.net	Green Bay, WI

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

Paul Beaur (KY)
Michael J. Rowley (IA)
Russell Cumbee (NH/CT)
Alan Thomas, (OH)
Jeff Thomas (VA)



Silver Color Guard Medal

Robert Vance (NM)
Ronald Swearingan (KY)
James Cordes (VA)
David Fautheree. (TX)
Melvin Oller (TX)
Randall P. Castle (AZ)
Stewart V. Morse (AZ)
Robert Anderson (NJ/FL)
Henry Bear (OK)
James Y Gaskins (FL)
William Bentler (WA)
Will Reynolds (VA)
"Eric" Robinson (VA)
Walter Pryor (TN)
Michael Giesinger (VA)
Paul Bobenhausen (TN)
Joshua Jolly (FL)
Tyler Bobenhausen (TN)
Byron Buck (VA)
Max Talley (OH)
Gorden Lee woodland (GA)
Neil Dunn (OH)
Richard Tyler (VA)
Brian Bayliss (VA)



Molly Pitcher Medal

Sue Petres (MI)
Kerri Crow (OK)
Lisetter Young (FL)
Dee Dee Simpson (WA)
Lisa Pupkiewicz (NC)

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.

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.



California



The combined California Color Guard took part in multiple events to celebrate the July 4th Holiday. Starting with the 121st Independence Day Parade in Huntington Beach California, members of the Harbor and South Coast Chapters were joined by members of the DAR & CAR. The Huntington Beach parade is the largest Independence Day Parade west of the Mississippi.



In the evening, a combined Color Guard representing the South Coast, Harbor and Orange County Chapters presented colors for the City of Cerritos, California. As part of the ceremony the proclamation was read by Orange County Color Guard Captain Dan McKelvie

In a star-studded night in Hollywood, the California Society Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Color Guard proudly marched beside the Army Rangers Association in the 93rd Hollywood Christmas Parade, one of the largest and most widely viewed holiday parades in the nation.

The 3-mile parade route was lined with an estimated 1 million spectators, with more than 10 million viewers tuning in to the nationally televised broadcast. This year's Grand Marshal was actor Luke Wilson, adding even more excitement to the iconic Southern California tradition.

The SAR Color Guard was deeply honored to be joined by President General Michael Elston, who marched the full 3-mile route alongside the unit. Also marching with the contingent was California SAR President John Ferris, with the unit commanded by Past State Color Guard Commander and current Vice President South, Brandon Villardi. This year's guard brought together a unified team of members from nine SAR chapters and two Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.) societies, demonstrating the strong cooperation between the SAR and C.A.R. as America approaches its 250th anniversary.

In addition to the Color Guard, several non-uniformed members, families, and spouses assisted parade staff by managing the massive 40-foot Toy Soldier balloon. Special thanks to Kelly Villardi, Sheri Dalton, Jenni Jouan, Liz Ferris, Rhys Dalton, and Gloria Noell for their outstanding support.



A special thank you also goes to Compatriot Rev. James Richardson of the Sons of Liberty Chapter, as well as Joey Gatton of the Army Rangers Association, whose invaluable assistance in organizing, coordinating, and guiding logistics helped make this year's participation possible.

During the event, an official SAR 250 Minute was delivered by Kern Chapter member Bruce Wearda, marking another important contribution to America's upcoming 250th anniversary commemorations.



The outstanding performance and professionalism of the California SAR Color Guard left a strong impression on event organizers. As a result, the unit has already received an invitation to return for the 2026 Hollywood Christmas Parade, scheduled for November 29th.

With America's 250th birthday approaching, the SAR's participation in high-visibility community events continues to grow—honoring the nation's founding generation while inspiring new generations to learn, serve, and celebrate the American spirit.



Central District

On Saturday November 1, 2025, the Lafayette Chapter KY SAR sponsored a five Patriot Grave Marking Service at Bethel Presbyterian Church. The Grave Marking service was a part of Vice President General Tim Brown's Central District Meeting Weekend.

The service included the dedication of a Liberty Tree in the cemetery, an impressive color guard was led by District Commander and National First Adjutant Patrick Wesolosky and a musket salute was led by District Firing Detail Officer Jacob Vink.

The well-attended morning ceremony recognized the remaining five of ten Patriots buried in the church graveyard.





Florida



The Florida Society Sons of Liberty Color Guard Brigade posted colors at the NSCAR SE Regional Conference at the Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel and Convention Center in Orlando, Florida on July 8, 2025.

The Tallahassee Chapter Florida Society SAR recently participated in the local Veterans Day Parade and festival on November 11, 2025,

Members of our chapter ran an information table providing the public with SAR informational brochures and pocket-sized copies of the U.S. Declaration of Independence and Constitution. Participants included: Craig FitzGerald, David Ordner, Don Wilham, Lee Norris, Jeff Lehrkamp, and Mark Rominger.



On December 13, 2025, the 34th annual Wreaths Across America event was held to honor deceased military veterans at National Cemeteries throughout the United States. Sons of the American Revolution President General Elston's recent proclamation encouraged Compatriots to participate in this event to honor our veterans and "foster cooperative arrangements with patriotic organizations."

In North Florida, the Tallahassee chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution took part in this memorial ceremony locally at the Tallahassee National Cemetery. A color guard accompanied our chapter, including young members of the Ponce De Leon chapter of the Children of the American Revolution. In addition, members of several local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution were present. Altogether, our chapters helped to lay over 2000 wreaths on the graves of veterans at the National Cemetery in Tallahassee.



Indiana



On 02 August 2025, the John Martin Chapter, Indiana SAR hosted a Patriot Grave Marking and Pomeroy Foundation roadside marker dedication in Prairie Creek, IN. The marker commemorated William Thomas and possibly other patriots at rest in the cemetery.

The Indiana SAR Color Guard was joined by members of the DAR and CAR as they participated in the Blue Jeans Festival in Monroe City, IN on 21 September 2025. Guardsmen marched with colors in the parade and others enjoyed the SAR/DAR float along the parade route.





The Continental Chapter Indiana Society SAR Color Guard presented colors for the Constitutional Week Commemoration held at the Maring-Hunt Library in Muncie, IN on Sept 17, 2025. L to R: Thomas S Whiteman, Dennis L. Babbitt, Mark Kreps and James McNabb.



Kathryn Hiron Kesterson, Regent of the Paul Revere Chapter of the DAR, Muncie, IN presents Thomas S Whiteman a challenge coin on Sept 17, 2025 at the Maring-Hunt Library located in Muncie, Indiana, on behalf of the participation of Continental Chapter's Color Guard participation in Constitutional Week.



Members of the Sons of the American Revolution that attended the Sept 14 2025 grave dedication held in Clinton County Indiana at Grays Cemetery: The Color Guard presented the colors and provided a musket salute at the dedication ceremony.

The Indiana SAR Color Guard presented the colors at the opening ceremonies for the Indiana State Medical Association House of Delegates on Saturday Sept. 27. The color guard drew a lot of attention and questions about the organization and upcoming 250th. This photo, from the ISMA publication was distributed to over 8,000 doctors around the state.





The Indiana SAR Color Guard participated in the Bloomfield Apple Festival Parade on 05 Oct. 2025.



The Indiana SAR Color Guard was joined by members of the DAR and CAR as they participated in the Blue Jeans Festival in Monroe City, IN on 21 September 2025.

The Indiana Society of the Sons of the American Revolution participated in the 245th Anniversary Commemoration of Colonel Augustine Mottin de la Balme's Defeat at a marker located at 7175 E Dela Balme Rd. Columbia City, IN 46725 on Saturday, 1 Nov 2025. The commemoration remembers a military engagement that occurred in Whitley County, IN on 6 Nov. 1780. Miami warrior Little Turtle soundly defeated de la Balme and his soldiers in that fateful battle. (Right: Indiana Society Color Guard exits after presenting and posting colors at the de la Balme Commemoration held 1 Nov 2025 in Whitley County, IN.

L to R: Dennis Babbitt, Jeff Jones, (Tom Whiteman- primarily hidden) Mark Daniels, Gary Stebbins, William Pond and Mark Kreps. **Below:** SAR members with Indiana Color Guard members L to R: John Green, Jeffrey Jones, Mark Daniels, William Pond, Gary Stibbens, Dennis L. Babbitt and Mark Kreps.)





Iowa Public Radio's **River to River** program, out of Iowa City, Iowa invited Iowa SAR registrar Randy Breese and Color Guard Commander Mike Rowley to talk about the 250th anniversary of the American Revolutionary War and the name added to the Revolutionary War Monument in Iowa.

The 30 minute segment allowed for a little public education and mention of Iowa SAR, SUVCW, MOFW, SAPIC and the SHSI as well as upcoming plans.

You can watch the interview [HERE](#).



The City of Des Moines, Iowa created a volunteer poster that featured volunteers from the Iowa Society, Sons of the American Revolution members Doug Frazer and Mike Rowley as well as DAR members Marilyn Rittel and Kristine Bartley.



On Patriot's Day 2025 in Des Moines, Iowa members of Iowa SAR joined with community volunteers in the placement of 2996 flags to honor each killed in the 9-11 attacks.

Other events and member activities are taking place throughout the state.

Picture right - IA Color Guard Commander Mike Rowley in front of flags placed



The Iowa SAR hosted a ceremony on October 4 to celebrate adding the 41st name, Matrom Elmore, to the Iowa Revolutionary War Memorial in preparation for the nation's 250th anniversary. About 50 veterans, patriot descendants, and supporters attended the event honoring Elmore, the fifth great-grandfather of Iowa Color Guard Commander Mike Rowley. The memorial, dedicated in 2002, features a central obelisk engraved with the names of Revolutionary War veterans buried in Iowa, surrounded by 13 granite pillars symbolizing the original colonies, and accented by Iowa's state flower, the wild rose. Iowa SAR President Kevin Parmeter participated in the commemoration.



Iowa SAR Color Guard Commander Mike Rowley filmed a segment near the Iowa Revolutionary War Monument in Des Moines, Iowa for Iowa Public Broadcasting System. The segment gives an Iowa connection to the Revolutionary War as an introduction to the Ken Burns documentary.

The Iowa SAR helped lead the Wreaths Across America program at Woodland Cemetery in Des Moines, Iowa. Despite frigid temperatures and snow, over 1000 graves and veterans were marked and remembered.



Kentucky



Members of the Kentucky Society provided a fife and drum presentation on the military music of the American Revolution at the Blue Licks Battlefield State Park on 15 August. This was the second year in a row they have provided this presentation as part of the Battle of Blue Licks weekend commemoration.

The presentation was a musical and historical review of music leading up to and during the American Revolution. The first portion discusses fifes and drums along with the musicians who played them. How musicians were recruited, lived, dressed, and their role in 18th century armies was also covered.



On July 26, 2025, members of Kentucky's Eastern Brigade Color Guard had a practice to prepare for the upcoming Blue Licks Memorial Service. The practice included basic color guard drill and more advanced drills using oblique steps for changing of the wreath guards and wheel movements into Mourn on Arms.



Members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter provided a color guard for the Middletown Family Fun Parade in Middletown, KY. The chapter has been participating in this parade since at least 2010.

Seven members of the chapter participated in the parade. This included a fifer and drummer, two riflemen, and three flag bearers.



On Saturday, Sep 18, 2025, the SAR Color Guard posted the Colors at the DAR Marker dedication at Soldiers Retreat in Louisville, Kentucky. Soldiers Retreat was the home of Patriot Col. Richard Anderson.





On Sunday, Sep 28, 2025, members of the Kentucky Eastern Brigade Color Guard participated in a Masonic Service to honor Kentucky Veterans.

The 243rd Anniversary of the Battle of Blue Licks was commemorated by the Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter of the Kentucky Society on 16 August 2025. Present were approximately 250 attendees consisting of the SAR, DAR, CAR, other lineage societies, and the general public. Taking part in the ceremony were 40 SAR chapters, 15 DAR chapters, and 5 CAR societies. Sixteen SAR state societies were also represented. Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter President Chris Canine served as the master of ceremonies.

The color guard for the ceremony consisted of one fifer, one drummer, 30 riflemen, and 39 flag bearers. During the memorial ceremony, the Honor Roll of those Patriots killed in the battle was read and accompanied by the tolling of a bell after each name. Amazing Grace

was played on fife and drum as the musical tribute while members of the rifle/musket detail performed the drill 'mourn on arms'. The Patriots were also honored with 89 wreaths laid at the monument and a flag folding ceremony. The ceremony concluded with a flintlock gun salute followed by the sounding of Taps.



The Battle of Blue Licks, one of the last battles in the American Revolution, occurred on 19 August 1782 on a hill next to the Licking River in present day Kentucky. American Militia under the command of Colonel John Todd with subordinate officers Lt. Col. Stephen Trigg and Lt. Col. Daniel Boone were led into an ambush and defeated by a combined force of American Indians and British Rangers. The vastly outnumbered American force of approximately 182 suffered casualties of approximately 72 killed and 11 captured.



On Aug 9, 2025, Kentucky's Eastern and Western Brigade Color Guard helped the Col John Hardin Chapter dedicate an America 250th Bench at Freeman Lake Park in Elizabethtown, Kentucky.





On Sunday, Aug 17, 2025, the Lafayette Chapter hosted a Patriot Grave Marking Service honoring five Patriots in Lexington, Kentucky. The event was attended by members of the SAR, DAR, C.A.R., and Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge. Two District Vice Presidents General and Compatriots from 12 different states helped to make the service a success.



Kentucky's Eastern Brigade Color Guard supported the Rockcastle Chapter NSDAR and the Lafayette Chapter KY SAR in a Patriot Grave Marking Service for Private Thomas Gadd.

The Colonel James Harrod Chapter hosted a Grave Marking Service for five Patriots at New Providence Presbyterian Church Cemetery outside of Harrodsburg, Kentucky. The highlight of the day was the seven descendants who attended and participated in the service, including reading the biographies of their Patriot Ancestors and receiving American Flags.



On September 20th, the Col Stephen Trigg and the Captain Virgil McCracken Chapters of the KY SAR hosted the 2nd Annual Fort Jefferson Memorial Service. Compatriots from at least five states attended and participated in the Memorial Service. The highlights of the event included a presentation by Dr. Ken Carstens on his 45+ years of researching George Rogers Clark's Fort Jefferson, a floral tribute by descendants, a flintlock salute, and a five-cannon volley.

Photos used with permission of NSSAR Headquarters/
Gina Possanza



On October 12, the Captain John Waller Chapter, NSDAR, hosted a memorial service for Mary Desha, one of the four founders of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Each year, one of the five DAR chapters in Fayette County, Kentucky, takes a turn hosting a memorial service for the founder, with the SAR providing the Color Guard. Almost 50 people attended the well-planned service and enjoyed the beautiful weather at the Lexington Cemetery. KYSSAR President Patrick Wesolosky accepted a certificate on behalf of the Kentucky SAR Color Guard for the support they provide for this yearly event. SAR and DAR Color Guard members, KY State Regent Julia Hood and Chapter Regent DeeDee Lanham, are pictured with the Mary Desha's monument.



On Oct 18, 2025, the General Richard Butler Chapter KY SAR hosted a Patriot Grave Marking Service for five Patriots buried within Butler County, KY. The well-attended service was held on the lawn of the County Courthouse in Morgantown. The highlight was that a descendant of each Patriot read his ancestor's biography.



A media event was held on 3 November in Louisville, KY to promote Wreaths Across America at the Zachary Taylor National Cemetery. The colors for the event were presented by members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby and Louisville Thruston chapters in Kentucky.

The SAR color guard for the procession and ceremony consisted of one fifer, one drummer, two riflemen, and ten flag bearers



The Zachary Taylor National Cemetery was the site of a Wreaths Across America ceremony held on 13 December. Kentucky Society color guard members were on hand to participate in this event to honor our Veterans.

The Zachary Taylor National Cemetery contains 11,100 Veteran interments and is also the final resting place for our 12th president, Zachary Taylor, and members of his family. The burials in the cemetery include members of the Taylor family who served in the American Revolution, War of 1812, and the American Civil War along with Veterans who served in the Civil War, Spanish- America War, World War I, World

War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf War.

Members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby and Louisville Thruston Chapters participated in the color guard for the Wreaths Across America ceremony. Also participating in the color guard was the Corn Island Chapter DAR. The remainder of the color guard consisted of Vietnam Veterans, JROTC cadets (Lee Corps, Elite Corps, and Civil Air Patrol), Colonial Dames, Trail Life USA, and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. There was a total of 76 color guard members which included five SAR riflemen carrying flintlock firearms and two Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War carrying percussion cap muzzle loaders. The gun salute was provided by the VFW Post 1170 Honor Guard. The color guard for the ceremony was organized and supervised by the Kentucky State Color Guard Commander and State Safety Officer.

The speaker for the ceremony was Lt. Col. Steve Martin – U.S. Air Force retired. A special moment for the day was the laying of a wreath at the tomb of President Zachary Taylor. The honor guard for this presentation included members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby and Louisville Thruston Chapters along with members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This was the second year at Zachary Taylor National Cemetery that every grave in the ceremony received a wreath. Approximately 1,300 people attended the ceremony and placed wreaths on the graves in the cemetery.

The annual Flags4Vets event placing flags on the graves of Veterans in the Cave Hill National Cemetery was held on 9 November. The event commenced with a procession of volunteers into the cemetery led by a color guard composed of members of the Louisville Thruston and Gov. Isaac Shelby chapters, Kentucky Society.

Flags4Vets is a program to place an American flag on the graves of Veterans for Veterans Day. In the Cave Hill Cemetery 7,500 flags were placed on the graves of Veterans in the national cemetery section.

The SAR color guard for the procession and ceremony consisted of one fifer, two drummers, four riflemen, and four flag bearers. The SAR color guard members were assisted by Trail Life Troop KY-0413 which provided an additional ten flagbearers.





Members of the Col James Harrod and Lafayette Chapters of the KY SAR recently presented the Colors at two University of Kentucky Women's Basketball Games. The SAR Color Guard filled in for the ROTC programs that were away for holiday break. This was an excellent opportunity to for the Color Guard to be seen by 4500 spectators each night.

Protos provided by Danny Pendleton, Kim Stinnett, and Marika Wesolosky.



On Saturday Dec 13, 2025, the Lafayette Chapter KY SAR hosted the 2025 Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Lexington National Cemetery. The Color Guard was a blend of SAR Compatriots and Sons of Union Veterans Members carrying Historical Flags and Henry Clay High School Army JROTC Cadets carrying the Nation, State, and Service Branch Flags.



Louisiana



Members of the General Philemon Thomas Chapter color guard present the colors at 7 th Ward Elementary School in Denham Springs, LA. Left to right are: Christopher Achee – Past-president (front), Brad Richard – Sargent-at-arms (back), Steve Kubicek – Past-president, Paul Bledsoe, President, Derrick Spell – Registrar, Neil Hohmann – Chaplain, Greg Lindsly Past-president (back) Jeff Truax – Secretary.



Members of the General Philemon Thomas Chapter color guard field questions from students at 7th Ward Elementary in Denham Springs, LA.

Members of the General Philemon Thomas Chapter color guard present the colors at a graveside commemoration of Patriot Armand Duplantier. Left to right are: Steve Kubickek - Past-president, Stephen Estopinal, Paul Bergeron - Color guard commander, Jeff Truax - Secretary, Bill Taylor - Board Member, Mitch Pratt - Past-president, Greg Lindsly





Members of the General Philemon Thomas Chapter color guard fire a salute at a grave marking for Patriot Etienne Layssard.

Left to right are: Steve Kubicek - Past-president, Jeff Truax - Secretary, Paul Bledsoe - President, Leonard Rohrbough - Pierre Georges Rousseau Chapter President, Mitch Pratt - Past-president, Paul Bergeron - Color guard commander, Stephen Estopinal



Members of the General Philemon Thomas Chapter color guard posted colors at a Flag Day celebration at Louisiana's Old State Capitol. Left to right are: Paul Bergeron - Color guard commander, Brad Richard - Sergeant-at-arms, Mitch Pratt - Past-president, Derrick Spell - Registrar, Eddie Vaughn - Historian, Steve Kubicek - Past-president, Paul Bledsoe - President, Christopher Achee - Past-president, Jeff Truax - Secretary



Michigan



On September 20th, the MISSAR Color Guard honored Revolutionary War Veteran, Jeremiah Clark Jr. with a grave and plaque marking.

Photo: (L to R) Guardsman Aaron Wiles, Commander John Lepisto, CAR Guardsman Lincoln Malott, Vice Commander Robert Hawcroft, Guardsman Mark Nesbitt, Guardsman David Hill.



MISSAR Color Guard at the Grave Marking of Revolutionary War Patriot , Ebenezer Annabil on Oct 11th.

(Lto R) Guardsman Steve Nesbitt, Guardsman Mark Nesbitt, Eastern Mi Vice Commander Bob Hawcroft, Guardsman Bill Sharp, Guardsman Tony Gerring, Central Mi Vice Commander Chris Blunt.



A plaque dedication took place on November 8th at the Gilmore Car Museum involving the MISSAR Color Guard. The Revolutionary War Patriot honored was Thomas Campbell. He was born a slave and enlisted in the Army to secure his freedom. He was with Captain Wilson's Co. of the 4th Virginia Regt.

(L to R) Vice Commander Robert Hawcroft, Commander John Lepisto, National Vice Commander Ken Goodson, Vice Commander David Hill, Vice Commander Chris Blunt, Guardsman Tony Gerring.



MISSAR supporting the John Alden Chapter of the DAR on the 21st of December 2025, in Midland MI, with a presentation of the Colors for the American Battlefields/ DAR exhibit "The American Revolution Experience". It's an innovative exhibit that includes display panels and interactive digital kiosks using storytelling, illustration, technology and unique artifacts and primary accounts to connect modern audiences with the people and places that shaped the birth of the nation.

(L to R) State Vice Commander Davis Hill, National Vice Commander Ken Goodson, Dawn Brady, State Regent , DAR, Guardsman Mark Nesbitt, Guardsman Aaron Wiles.



(Above) Each year the West Michigan Chapter takes time to bring gifts to veterans, at the Grand Rapids Veterans home. This year Rick Arnold, our Chapter President, decided to give calendars designed and printed by the Chapter. The calendars depict scenes from the revolution and were a big hit to the veterans. They were passed out before this group placed wreaths during the coldest day we could remember for this year's Wreaths Across America dedication. *L to R Ken Goodson, John Lepisto, Rick Arnold, Mark Chamberlain, Dave VanHoof, Dave Hill*

(Right) National Vice Commander Kenneth Goodson places a wreath at Grand Rapids Veteran's Cemetery during the commemoration of Wreaths Across America.



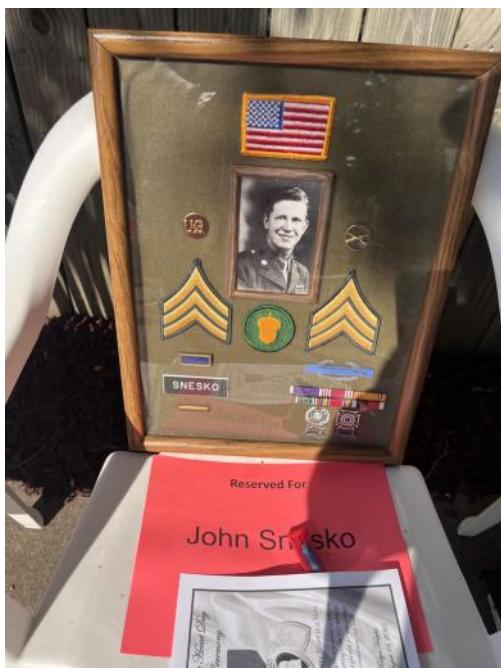
The Jeremiah Clark SAR Chapter and Sashabaw Plains DAR Chapter, and the MISSAR Color Guard participated for the Opening Ceremony of the American Revolution Experience traveling exhibit on Monday the 5th of January.

Back Row (L to R) Vice Commander Bob Hawcroft, Steve Nesbitt, Todd Brighton, Eddie Howell, Vice Commander David Hill, Vice Commander Chris Blunt, David Nesbitt, Britton Lawless, Ryan Allen, Piper Ron Barnard

Front (L to R) Lincoln Malott, Gina LaCroix, Lyndsay Lawless, Dennis VanWormer, Dawn Brady



Missouri



MSSDAR was supported by their brethren of the Missouri SAR and Color Guard at the Missouri Purple Heart Day Ceremony, Saturday August 16, 2025.

The well-attended event was held at the MSSDAR HQ known as Roslyn Heights, 821 Main Street, Boonville, Missouri. Flag procession/retirement included Jeffrey Willey, Drummer (SSL), Roy Hutchinson, Fifer (HST), Mark E Parks, Sword (WCC), Brad Frazier, musket (OPC), flag bearers J. Michael Robertson (JST), Ivan Stull (HST), Brad Harriman(MGC), MSSDAR Page (DAR Flag), Ben Crouch (FDL), John Coutts (MGC), Joe Walsh (Assoc.), Larry Montgomery, musket, (SSL).

The ceremony began with a welcome and invocation by the DAR, Pledge to the Flag by Michael Powers (MOSSAR), and Gene Henry (MOSSAR) led the National Anthem. Esther Rosner, MSSDAR East Central District Director, presented the origin of the Purple Heart, followed by a reading of the Governor's Proclamation by Vice Regent



New Hampshire



NHSAR Guardsmen Richard Baynes, Barry Lewis, Curtis Hermann, Doug Wood and Richard Wright joined with MASAR Guardsmen for the Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony to honor General Henry Knox. This years ceremony also commemorated the 250th Anniversary of the Noble Train of Artillery and the unveiling of a new grave site sign created by NHSAR President Richard Baynes.

NHSAR Compatriots staffed the static display and Color Guardsmen performed demonstrations during the Londonderry Historical Society's Spring Open House.

L-R: Compatriots Hans Jackson, Doug Wood, Barry Lewis, Greg Salts, Richard Baynes and Curtis Hermann.

Photo by Greg Salts



NHSAR Guardsmen Doug Wood and Curtis Hermann joined numerous SAR & DAR Chapters along with other civic and historical groups who marked the 248th anniversary of the Battle of Bennington with a solemn wreath-laying ceremony at Hessian Hill. In the photo, NHSAR Compatriot Doug Wood places wreath, escorted by Guardsman Curtis Hermann



The New Hampshire and Massachusetts Color Guards joined forces to Present the Colors for the annual Cathedral of the Pines Memorial Service sponsored by the New Hampshire Society of DAR.

The Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge, NH, is a national memorial dedicated to the memory and honor of all Americans who serve the nation. NHSODAR has hosted an annual Memorial Service at the

majestic outdoor chapel since 1947. The Cathedral of the Pines event offers people from around the state, and across the country, the opportunity to come together for a time of fellowship and inspiration. Each year, a National Society DAR officer or other distinguished guest, brings an inspiring message for guests to contemplate.

Photo by Pat Wright



Compatriots of the New Hampshire Society participated in the Muster Field Museum Farm Days event with SAR & Revolutionary War information booths. They also provided musket volley demonstrations throughout the day.

Photo by Richard Baynes



New Hampshire SAR held a special 250th Anniversary Commemoration of the December 1774 raid on the Fort William & Mary with a grave marking ceremony honoring six Patriots who took part in the assault.

The commemoration took place on September 13, 2025, at Old North Cemetery in Portsmouth, NH. Joining NHSAR in the tribute were representatives from the Portsmouth Cemetery Commission, the New Ranger Chapter of the NHSODAR, Maine SAR, and the New Hampshire Children of the American Revolution, along with dignitaries from the New Hampshire State DAR. Many members of the public also gathered, drawn to the historic site, to honor the service and sacrifice of these local heroes of the American Revolution.

Photos by Lydia Cumbee



L-R: Elwin Spray, Dennis Walsh, Gail Klein (DAR), Dick Baynes, Shealagh Gray (DAR), Doug Wood, Henri Elliot (C.A.R.), Mason Gower, Trish Jackson (DAR), Jeff Durell, Dan Headley, Shann Croteau, Paul Ford (obscured) Ian Noon (C.A.R), Brush Bradley, Emelia Kill (C.A.R), Tom Rogers, Russ Cumbee, Timothea Smith (DAR), Marcia Elliot (DAR) Karl Kill (MESAR), Barry Lewis, Andy Akers, Bill Robinson, Simran Noon (DAR), Adelle Bausor (DAR), Jeffra Kill DAR) , Greg Salts.
 Kneeling, L-R: Curtis Hermann, Hans Jackson, Tim Billbrough.
 Not in picture: Phil Jamieson



On December 13, 2025, Members of the New Hampshire Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NH SAR) and the Molly Stark Chapter DAR, came together to honor our nation's military veterans by laying wreaths at their graves at the Pine Grove Cemetery in Manchester, NH. This solemn ceremony pays tribute to the service, sacrifice, and enduring legacy of those who defended our freedoms.

NH SAR Compatriots Richard Baynes, Dennis Walsh, Al Lamson, Bob Born and Bob Vercauteren participated in the placement of Remembrance Wreaths for each branch of the military along with Patriots of the American Revolution and POWs. Compatriot Greg Salts provided photography and video services.

L-R: Dennis Walsh, Al Lamson, Barry Lewis and Brush Bradley, NHSAR Auxiliary Lois Hermann and CG Commander, Curtis Hermann.



L-R: Doug Wood, Bill Jennison, Ron White and Curtis Hermann prepare to present the Colors.

On December 14, 2025, the New Hampshire Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NHSAR) and Bell's Co., 2nd NH Regiment, in collaboration with the New Castle Historical Society, the Ranger Chapter of the DAR, John Stark Society C.A.R. and Friends of Fort Constitution, proudly held the annual commemoration of the Raids on Fort William & Mary in New Castle, NH.

Coincidentally the icy conditions, blowing snow and 30 degree temperatures were identical to what the brave Patriots endured 251 years ago as they seized the gunpowder and arms from the British Fort.

The NHSAR Color Guard and Bell's Company, 2nd NH Regiment joined forces to provide a combined musket and cannon salute to honor the Patriots who participated in the raids.



Compatriots of the NHSAR and the Daughters of the Molly Stark Chapter DAR participated in the 37th annual Littleton, NH Christmas Parade on the 28th of November

NHSAR Compatriots Ron White, Curtis Hermann and Paul Ford salute the parade viewing stand with three Huzzahs as the NHSAR float comes into view.

On November 9, 2025, the New Hampshire Sons of the American Revolution (NHSAR) continued their tradition of honoring veterans in a meaningful way—by firing the ceremonial shots that launched this year's Manchester City Marathon and 5K.

Guardsmen **Curtis Hermann, Brush Bradley, and Russell Cumbee** along with prospective member **Rob Sigmon**, proudly represented the NHSAR by delivering the musket volleys that officially started both races. They were joined by **Lois Hermann** of the DAR, and **Lydia Cumbee**, whose support helped make the event a success.

On November 25, 2025, a wreath-laying ceremony was held at Old North Cemetery in Concord, New Hampshire to honor the 218th birthday of President Franklin Pierce, the 14th President of the United States. The program was led by the New Hampshire National Guard, with Lt. Elise MacLaughlin serving as master of ceremonies and Col. Tony Pellenz delivering the keynote address. The event featured a formal Color Guard presentation and musket salute by Guardsmen Doug Wood, Curtis Hermann, Paul Ford, Brush Bradley, and Al Lamson, joined by Lois Hermann (DAR) as flag carrier.





On Sunday, 19 October 2025, New Hampshire SAR was joined by the Daughters of the American Revolution and American Legion Post 17 (Groveton) in commemorating the 250th anniversary of John Stark's service at the Battles of Chelsea Creek and Bunker Hill, as well as his later service at the Battles of Bennington and Saratoga. President Dick Baynes read a proclamation to commemorate the event, John Stark Chapter C.A.R. President Henri Elliot placed a wreath at the statue, and new NHSAR Compatriot Phil Bascom was inducted.

L-R: Curtis Hermann, Rob Gagnon, Barry Lewis, Phil Bascom, Henri Elliot (C.A.R), Ron White and Russell Cumbee.



New Hampshire SAR and members of the DAR then participated in grave marking ceremonies to honor five patriots in two different cemeteries in Stark: Abijah Potter (1760-1842) and Daniel Rowell (1745-1842) in Percy Cemetery, and Elisha Blake (1743-1820), Peter Massure (1745-1842), and Caleb Smith (1736-1803) in Emerson Cemetery (relocated from their previous internment in Blake Cemetery after it eroded into the Ammonoosuc River in 2020).



New Jersey



On Sept. 13, the NJSSAR Color Guard performed honors for ceremonies honoring Patriot Robert French Jr. (1754-1830) and his wife, Rachel French (1752-1827) at the historic French-Richards Cemetery in Springfield, NJ. Robert French served in the Essex County Militia and was a private, scout and a farmer in the area now known as Springfield. Rachel French is best known locally for having engineered the capture of several unsuspecting Hessian soldiers at the couple's home, according to French family history.

In addition to the Patriot Grave Marker, a sign donated by the Pomeroy Foundation marking the cemetery as a Patriot Burial Ground was dedicated in a special ceremony led by NJSSAR President Chris Sands. Also in attendance, NJ DAR State Regent Linda Jurczak, NJ State Assemblywoman Michele Matsikoudis and Springfield Police Chief John Cook. NJSSAR Color Guard from the West Fields, Princeton Cranbury, Abraham Clark and Elizabethtown chapters participated, as did the Union Catholic High School Color Guard. The Springfield Fire Department suspended a giant American flag high over the proceedings using the ladder on one of their trucks.

On Sept. 6, NJSSAR Color Guard traveled to Iron Hill, Delaware, for the Commemoration of The Battle of Cooch's Bridge, fought on Sept. 3, 1777. This national SAR event was held at the Pencader Heritage Museum, which is located on part of the battlefield. More than 100 people gathered to pay tribute to the colonial soldiers killed at the Battle of Cooch's Bridge, the first battle of the Philadelphia Campaign and the only battle fought on Delaware soil during the Revolutionary War. At least two-dozen Continental soldiers were killed during that battle and are believed to be buried in forgotten, unmarked graves somewhere on the battlefield. Participating organizations supporting the commemoration: Pencader Heritage Area Association, Friends of Cooch's Bridge Historic Site, Delaware Division of Historic and Cultural Affairs, Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, 1st Delaware Regiment and the W3R.



On August 23, members of the NJSSAR Guard traveled to the Old Stone House in Brooklyn, NY, to celebrate a national SAR historic site event, the wreath laying commemorating the Aug. 28, 1776, Battle of Brooklyn, the largest battle of the Revolutionary War. The Color Guard was led by National Commander Robert Meyer. This ceremony, hosted by The Old Stone House, part of the New York City Parks System, the Empire State SAR's Battle of Brooklyn Chapter and the Society of the Cincinnati of Maryland, drew SAR color guard members from New York and New Jersey and members of the Society of the Cincinnati from Maryland. The central focus of this ceremony is the sacrifices of the Maryland 400, many of whom gave their lives covering the retreat of the main body of the Continental Army that day to Brooklyn Heights.





On July 4, the New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard assembled in Perth Amboy for the city's annual Let Freedom Ring ceremony. Perth Amboy Mayor Helmin Caba rang the city's Liberty Bell replica on Market Square and a series of citizens of all ages took turns reading the Declaration of Independence. The NJSSAR Color Guard was well-represented and took the occasion to introduce its new 3rd New Jersey flag, a gift from longtime color guardsmen and quartermasters Gary Beauregard and Ed Glidden.



The Col. Richard Somers Chapter hosted the annual memorial of the Battle of Chestnut Neck, a National SAR event, on Saturday Oct. 4th at Chestnut Neck near Port Republic, N.J.

On Oct. 6, 1778, British Capt. Patrick Ferguson led an attack on Chestnut Neck, N.J., a base for privateers on what is now known as the Mullica River near the present-day city of Port Republic, N.J.. When captured ships were brought in, the goods went overland to George Washington at Valley Forge. The British burned homes, destroyed 10 captured ships and destroyed whatever confiscated goods they could not carry off.

Nevertheless, the port was back in business as soon as the British withdrew.



On Wednesday, Nov. 19, at Ocean County Courthouse in Toms River, N.J., the NJSSAR Color Guard helped celebrate the county's Countdown to Independence and our nation's 250th birthday. In addition to the NJSSAR Color Guard, Michael T. Mangum, President of the Richard Somers Chapter was present along with representatives of the Captain Joshua Huddy Chapter of the New Jersey Daughters of the American Revolution. Ocean County during the Revolution served as a base for privateers of Chestnut Neck and was the scene in 1778 of both the Battle of Chestnut Neck and the Little Egg Harbor Massacre. The Cedar Bridge Tavern, in Barnegat Township, is considered by some to be the location of the last skirmish of the American Revolution.



There were two Battles of Trenton. The first, known as The Battle of Trenton, December 26, 1776, was the surprise attack that shocked the Hessians and British and restored American faith that the Revolution could still be won. The Second Battle of Trenton, The Battle of Assumpink Creek, on Jan. 2, 1777, ended as a standoff but managed to hold at bay the British forces led by Lord Cornwallis and set the table for another key American victory the next day, The Battle of Princeton, on Jan. 3.

The two Battles of Trenton make up the middle portion of the National SAR event known as The Ten Crucial Days, and were the focus of two wreath-laying ceremonies on Dec. 27 by Revolutionary War societies led by NJSSAR. The first was held at the Trenton Battle Monument, a 148-foot granite column designed by John H. Duncan, the architect of Grant's Tomb. National Color Guard Commander Robert Meyer led the Color Guard, which included NJSSAR President Chris Sands, Historian and President of the Princeton-Cranbury Chapter Roger Williams, South Jersey Chapter President James Howard and Monmouth President Jake Rue and Chris Sands from New Jersey, and Chris Snyder and Spencer Snyder from Pennsylvania. Representatives of the New Jersey Sons of the Revolution participated as well. The second wreath laying was at Assumpink Creek, roughly half a mile away, in a green space preserved as Mill Hill Park, Trenton.



On Nov. 22, the NJSSAR Color Guard performed a wreath presentation commemorating the Abandonment of Fort Lee on Nov. 20, 1776. The ceremony in Monument Park at noon included the the Brigade of the American Revolution and VFW. Fort Lee stood on the crest of the Hudson Palisades across the Hudson River from Fort Washington, at the north end of Manhattan. Fort Lee's abandonment to the British shortly after the surrender of Fort Washington marked the end of a disastrous New York theater of operations for the Americans. It also marked the beginning of a turning of the tide: Washington's strategic retreat across NJ and the stunning U.S. victories at Trenton and Princeton. Attending the ceremony for NJSSAR were NJSSAR President Chris Sands, Color Guard Commander Edward Glidden, Quartermaster Gary Beauregard, Color Guard Adjutant Jay Hershey. Fort Lee Mayor Mark Sokolich also was present and spoke about the event and its historic importance.



New Mexico



The Gadsden chapter, New Mexico SAR, participated in the Veterans Day Parade held on 08 Nov 2025 in Las Cruces NM.

L to R: Robert E. Vance, Bill Oltmanns, Nancy Berger, Don Berger, Glen Porter, Bill Kinsella, Tanner Guskey, Cheryl Vance (Photo courtesy Fernie Zeh)



Empire State (New York)



The Walloomsac Battle Chapter was represented at the annual wreath laying ceremony at Saratoga Battlefield on September 21, 2025.

L to R: Chapter President Mike Skelly, Chapter VP Michael Golden, Compatriot Joel Butler, NYS Color Guard Commander and chapter Chaplain Michael Companion.

Photo: Leslie Smith.



On September 21, 2025, the Saratoga Battle Chapter Color guard participated in the annual wreath laying ceremony at the Saratoga Battlefield, Stillwater NY.





Dakota Society



The Dakota Society Color Guard, Don Kellogg, Stuart Rice and Edward Clendenin of the Texas Color Guard, presented colors for the 15 annual reunion The Flying Horseman WWII 449th Bomb Group in Rapid City, SD. Left to right Don Kellogg, Edward Clendenin, Stuart Rice.



The Seventh Annual Tomb Guard of the Unknown Patriot at Fort Laurens in Bolivar, Ohio took place on Friday, July 25th. A dozen compatriots from eight different chapters took part in the solemn duty for six hours, taking turns at guard duty every 15 minutes in the extremely hot, humid weather. The Tomb Guard Commanders were compatriots Tom Hankins and Bob Hill. The changing-of-the-guard ceremony mimics the Arlington National Cemetery ceremony. But it wasn't all discomfort. Three canopies were set up for shade, and a picnic potluck lunch provided a nice relaxing atmosphere when off-duty. The broasted chicken purchased at a local Giant Eagle was excellent at a very fair price. The ceremony concluded with a march around the tomb with hats off, a prayer, and three volley musket salute.



The following day, on Saturday, July 26th was the Siege at Fort Laurens Memorial Service, immediately following the Ohio Society BOM meeting that morning. Still hot and humid, but tolerable as the well-attended ceremony included a mass posting of the colors around the Tomb of the Unknown Patriot led by State Color Guard Commander Bob Hill, speeches by Central District VPG Brown and State Society President Lupien, presentations of 62 wreaths, and a musket salute led by Adjutant Tom Hankins.



On Sunday, July 27th, three SAR compatriots participated in a DAR Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony in Dalton, Ohio (Wayne County). The Wooster Wayne Chapter DAR hosted the event and had asked for assistance in their very first Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony. The SAR compatriots provided a color guard and recruited two DAR sisters to help as well. Commander Hill provided a quick class on facing movements and presenting the colors. The DAR ladies were great. Most of the ceremony was held indoors because of the heat and threat of rain. But the rain held off and a short graveside ceremony with a musket presentation and three volley salute was provided by compatriot Hill. L to R: Steve Hinson of the Northeast Ohio Chapter, Scott Humphrey of the Benjamin Franklin Chapter, and Bob Hill of the Hocking Valley Chapter.

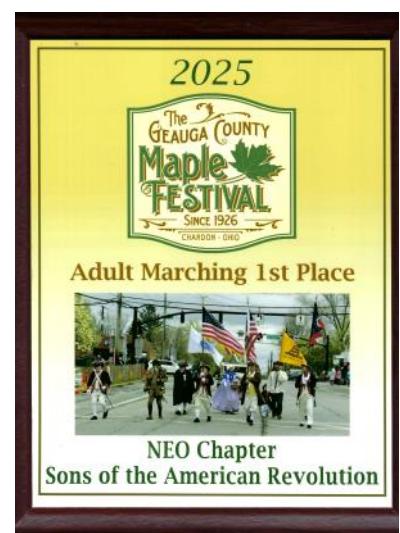


The Benjamin Franklin Chapter hosted a Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony at Berkshire Cemetery in Sunbury, Ohio on Saturday, August 2nd. The temperature was much nicer than the previous week and the ceremony was well-attended by several chapters of the Ohio Society SAR including Benjamin Franklin Chapter, Richard Montgomery Chapter, Camp Charlotte Chapter, Hocking Valley Chapter, Cincinnati Chapter, Marietta Chapter, Northwest Territory Chapter, Centennial Chapter, and Rufus Putnam Chapter. State Society President David Lupien rendered greetings and presented a wreath. The color guard and musket salute was led by State Color Guard Commander Bob Hill.



Left: Richard Montgomery Chapter Color Guard members have some fun with local girl admirers (newly recruited camp followers) before boarding their flag decorated parade wagon for the local Labor Day Parade in Kettering, Ohio on September 1st.

Right: The Northeast Ohio Chapter Color Guard was recently awarded First Place in the Adult Marching Category of the annual Geauga County Maple Festival Parade held every last full weekend in April.





On Saturday, September 13th, Hocking Valley Chapter President Bob Hill and Chapter Vice President Steve Conrad traveled together from Columbus, Ohio to Augusta, Kentucky to attend a Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony hosted by the Simon Kenton Chapter of the Kentucky Society SAR, the Captain Phillip Buckner Chapter DAR, and Bracken County Historical Society. The compatriots were very impressed with how well-organized the event was, and the friendliness of their hosts and everyone attending. Each of the Ohio compatriots presented a wreath and assisted the color guard. Bob also led the musket salute for the ceremony.



Morris Chapel Cemetery, about four miles distant. The first Pomeroy Foundation signs in Ohio were also dedicated at each cemetery. The day was warm with no humidity and partly sunny. There was a good turnout of compatriots and lady auxiliary members from several SAR chapters around the state, and ladies from the local Pickaway Plains Chapter DAR. Ohio Society President David Lupien rendered greetings. After the 3-volley musket salute at each ceremony, an 8th grade band member from the local Logan Elm Middle School played Taps.



On Sunday, September 21st, members of the Richard Montgomery Chapter and Cincinnati Chapter provided a color guard for an Honor Flight arriving in Dayton, Ohio. L to R: Mike Gunn of the Cincinnati Chapter, Rob Pruitt, Alan See, Lee Emrick, and Steve Kaplan of the Richard Montgomery Chapter, and Scott Freeman of the Cincinnati Chapter.



On September 27th, the Camp Charlotte Chapter hosted two Patriot Grave Marking Ceremonies in Circleville, OH. The first ceremony was at the Hitler-Ludwig Cemetery and the second ceremony at the



The Marietta Chapter Color Guard and the Fort Harmar Fife & Drum Corps lead the Marietta 4th of July Parade, led by Color Guard Commander Bobby Fitzgerald and Drum Major Seth White.



On July 9th the Marietta Chapter SAR sponsored the 238th Anniversary Celebration of the Northwest Territory Ordinance of 1787. Marietta was the first permanent settlement in the Ohio country of the Northwest Territory, settled by New England Continental Army officers and their families in 1788. The Marietta Color Guard posted the colors at the beginning of the program which included Ohio Governor Mike Dewine and his wife, Frances,



Compatriots fire a musket salute at the Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony hosted by the Mahoning Valley Chapter at Longs Run Cemetery in East Liverpool, Ohio on Saturday, October 25th. It was a beautiful fall day and the ceremony well-attended by several SAR and DAR Chapters.



The Northeast Ohio Chapter Color Guard marched in the 60th Annual Grape Jamboree in Geneva, Ohio on Saturday, September 27th. Pictured are compatriots Duane McDowell, John Wooding, Troy Bailey, Mark Tyler, Kirk Bacon, Dennis and Kara Gadley.



A Veterans Day Commemoration was combined with a Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony at Washington Park in Cincinnati on Saturday, November 8th, and hosted by the Cincinnati Chapter. Assisting their Cincinnati compatriots were members from the Hocking Valley and Highlander Chapters, and the Kentucky Society. The Color Guard was under the command of Cincinnati Chapter Color Guard Commander Jason Bourgeois.



Several chapters of the Ohio Society hosted or participated in Wreaths Across America Ceremonies throughout the state on Saturday, December 13th. The weather was cold and overcast, but thankfully no wind. But halfway through the wreath laying at veteran's graves, it began to snow heavily. At the Circleville WAA, compatriot Tony Robinson took a bad fall prior to the ceremony, and an ambulance had to be called. Tony was taken to the local Berger Hospital where he was sedated, x-rayed for broken bones, and examined. Thankfully, after several hours he was released and sent home to recuperate.



Commander Alan See followed by Fifer Robert Pruitt leads the Richard Montgomery Chapter Color Guard carrying wreaths for the WAA Ceremony held at Dayton National Cemetery in Dayton, Ohio.



Clay Crandall, Michael Gunn, Gregg Ballman, Scott Freeman, Stephen McClanahan & Ed Bonniwell in uniform & Ken Burck (Civ.) Participated in the Wreaths Across America Ceremony as Color Guard and Flag Posting at the Spring Grove Cemetery, Civil War Memorial Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH. More than 700 Wreaths were laid at both the Grave sites of Civil War Soldiers and at the Revolutionary War Patriots Monument. Musket Salute prohibited by heavy Snow falling



The NEO Chapter participated in the 2025 Wreaths Across America at the Evergreen Cemetery in North Kingsville, OH. The program was coordinated with the Stanley, Redmond, Harper chapter of the DAR and the Ashtabula County Blue Stars Mothers.

Oklahoma



In the three-month period from July through September 2025, Tulsa Chapter Color Guardsman Ron Shoaf has welcomed 93 new US citizens at local naturalization ceremonies. Compatriot Shoaf describes the ceremonies as very moving, heartwarming and joyous!

L to R: Tulsa Chapter Color Guardsman Ron Shoaf, Judge Terrence Michael and Liz Wilson, Assistant Court Clerk who organizes the ceremonies.

Tulsa Chapter SAR Color Guardsmen Ron Shoaf was awarded the NSSAR Silver Color Guard Medal and the NSSAR Gold 250th Anniversary Medal. Both medals were presented on October 11, 2025 by Oklahoma SAR State President Henry Baer.



Members of the Tulsa Chapter SAR Color Guard joined guardsmen from AR, KS, MO, OK and TX to celebrate the annual meeting of the SAR South Central District held on August 22-23 at the Folds of Honor headquarters in Owasso, OK. Newly elected VPG of the South Central District Phil Hunt presided and the guest of honor was President General Michael J. Elston, Esq. of the Virginia Society.





Tulsa Chapter SAR Color Guard member John Thompson poses in front of the DAR and SAR banner on the Tulsa Chapter DAR float in the Tulsa Veterans Day Parade. Oklahoma SAR State President Henry Baer rode in the lead car ahead of the float.



Tulsa Chapter Color guardsmen John Thompson, Ron Painter, Steve King, Phil Hunt and Clint Anderson presented memorial wreaths during the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at Floral Haven Cemetery. The memorial wreaths are placed in recognition of the sacrifices made by past and present members of the United States Armed Forces and those missing in action. As part of the ceremony, the Tulsa Chapter SAR guardsmen placed wreaths to honor the Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and the Missing in Action.

Pacific District



President General Michael J. Elston, Esq., represented the National Society Sons of the American Revolution at a wreath-laying ceremony honoring Revolutionary War Patriot Pvt. William Cannon of the 4th Pennsylvania Artillery. Held at the Old Saint Paul Roman Catholic Mission Cemetery, the event paid tribute to the only documented Revolutionary War patriot buried in the Pacific Northwest. In his remarks, President General Elston reflected on Cannon's service and pioneering legacy in Oregon's early governance. The ceremony, hosted by Oregon Society SAR President Russell Erickson, featured national and state SAR leadership, members of the DAR and C.A.R., and local dignitaries.

The Oregon-Washington Color Guard presented the Colors, followed by a musket- volley salute in Cannon's honor. This commemoration celebrated a man whose patriotism and civic spirit helped shape both a nation and a frontier community.





Pennsylvania



Philadelphia Continental Chapter participated with colors at Monmouth Battlefield National Color Guard Event.

Left to right: Fred Fonseca, Shane Moyer, Spencer Snyder and Chris Snyder.



Harris Ferry Chapter hosted a Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony for Patriot Timothy Green on September 20, 2025 at Dauphin Cemetery. Color Guard consisted of: Jacob R. Lemon of Harris Ferry as Commander, and Steve Troutman, Ray Mowery, Dennis Dyckman, and Dale Leppard all of Washingtonburg as Flag Carriers.



On October 12th the Phila. Continental Chapter held its annual Battle of Germantown Commemoration at Upper Burial Ground in Germantown and Pennypacker Mills. The events, held one after another, were elevated to a National event by the attendance of PG Michael J. Elston with Ken Goodson commanding the color guard.



On October 18th, Phila. Continental Chapter members SGT Richard Lind, CPT Fred Fonseca and 1st VP Larry Magdy presented colors for the Harvest Festival at the 1696 Thomas Massey House.





On October 26th, the Washingtonburg Chapter color guard was invited by the Society of Descendants of Signers of the Declaration of Independence to a grave marking dedication for Ann Marshall Witherspoon Dill Walker, wife of signer Rev. John Witherspoon of New Jersey. From the left chapter Pres. Dale Leppard, Steve Troutman, Steve Messner, Dale Beaver, Ray Mowery, and Jacob Lemon joining from the Harris Ferry Chapter.

South Carolina



A combined Color Guard led by former National Color Guard Commander Scott Collins posted and retired colors at a Saturday morning Patriotic Program at the Historic Church of the Epiphany in Eutawville during the 244th Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle of Eutaw Springs Aug. 30, and then participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at the battle site.



The South Carolina Color Guard concluded the 245th anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Musgrove Mill, Aug. 23, with a three-volley musket salute. The General James Williams Chapter hosted the event along with the Battle of Musgrove Mill State Historic Site.



The 245th Battle of Kings Mountain Commemoration Ceremony was held Oct. 7 at Jolley Park in Gaffney, South Carolina, with the quick change of venue due to the National Park shutdown. The ceremony began with the drum and fifer leading the National Color guard for the posting of the colors. Major General Julian Burns, Ret. delivered the keynote speech, which provided a patriotic tribute on the importance of the Battle of Kings Mountain and how it was a turning point in the American Revolution. The event ended with a musket salute and the playing of taps.



A South Carolina Color Guard led by State Commander Scott Bruton participated in the 245th Anniversary of the Battle of Camden and a wreath-laying ceremony for the Unknown Soldiers at Quaker Cemetery, known as the Camden 12, Aug. 16, the Camden community gathered to honor history and remembrance through two meaningful events: The events were jointly sponsored by the Hobkirk Hill Chapter NSDAR, Joseph Kershaw Chapter NSDAR, the Historic Camden Foundation, and the Col. Joseph Kershaw Chapter SCSAR, reflecting the shared commitment of these organizations to preserve and honor the legacy of our nation's past.

The Charles Hammond House owners, Edgefield Historical Society, Martintown Chapter, NSDAR, Henry Laurens Chapter, SCSSAR, Wiregrass, Brier Creek, and Little River Chapters, GASSAR, Skunk Brigade, William



Stroud Society Children of the American Revolution and many others participated in a 250th celebration at the Charles Hammond House Nov. 15. Beth Francis, President, Edgefield Historical Society / Regent Martintown, NSDAR led ceremonies. The Skunk Brigade/SCSSAR/GASSAR members posted colors, conducted a six cannon three round artillery salute and provided living history displays.



State Color Guard Commander Scott Bruton oversaw the posting and retiring of the colors at the 250th anniversary of the Battle of the Great Cane Brake, the only Revolutionary War battle that took place in what is now Greenville County, on property now known as the Historic Hopkins Farm. The engagement, which occurred December 22, 1775, in what was then the Ninety-Six District of South Carolina, in the backcountry near the Reedy River, about seven miles southwest of present-day Simpsonville. The commemoration took place on property now known as the Historic Hopkins Farm.

Cane Brake was part of the early "Snow Campaign," where Patriot militia struck Loyalist forces in the South Carolina backcountry to weaken Loyalist organization and recover seized munitions. Patriot forces under Major William "Danger" Thomson surprised a Loyalist camp in a canebrake along the river at dawn and won a quick victory.



Tennessee



The members of the Tennessee Society Color Guard were active in supporting some twenty events during the third quarter of 2025.

Congratulations to the following color guard members for earning the Bronze Color Guard Medal: Scott Pryor and Chuck Green. Six of our members received their National Von Stueben Medals: Dave Carr, Ben Stonecypher, Don Hills, Rick Longton, Jerry Hjellum and Tim Massey. One of our ladies, Mrs. Jackie Young, received the Molly Pitcher Medal.

National Von Stueben Medals award presentation at the National event at Sycamore Shoals Saturday, 20 SEP 25. Compatriots (left to right) Cliff Kent TN State Cdr announcing awards, Doug Dickerson 4th Region Cdr assisting, Paul Bergeron Southern District

Color Guard Cdr, John Fulwider Southern District VPG, Awardees.. Jim Massey, Don Hills, Rick Longton, Jerry Hjellum, Dave Carr and Ben Stonecypher and PZ Horton TNSSAR President



TNSSAR color guard members supported four long running regional events on Independence Day: The celebration at James White Fort in Knoxville, The reading of the Declaration of Independence in Franklin & Clarksville and the Rutherford County celebration at the county's courthouse. A short ceremony was conducted at the grave site of John Sevier post ceremony at James White Fort. The Jame Madison Chapter conducted a Patriot Grave marking ceremony in honor of Patriot Daniel Agee on Saturday, 12 July.



TNSSAR Color Guard members supporting the funeral of Compatriot Danny Black. On the bottom row (l-r) is Wes Wood, Elyon Davis, Nico von Kannon, David Von Kannon, Dan Botkin, Steve Millhollin (LT Andrew Crockett Chapter), Johnny Head, Rick Longton and Color Guard Commander Robert Nichols. On the top row (l-r) is Doug Evans (Thomas Kilgore Chapter), Mark Young (Stones River Chapter), Mike Ash, Mike Carrigan, and Jeff Taylor.



TNSSAR Conducted a x5 Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony honoring Patriots Jeremiah Jack, John Alexander, Reynolds Ramsey, Jessie Perry and Robert Wyatt Patton at the Historic Ramsey House in Knoxville Saturday, 16 AUG 25. Color Guard Compatriots (LtoR) Cliff Kent Cdr, Paul Bobenhausen, Bryan Beck, Chuck Green, Joel Davenport, Jim Cabage, Shawn Pritchett, Zeke Pritchett, Scott Pryor, Jim Pemberton, Brian Frye, Steve Anderson, Hughston Burnheimer and Steve Kirby.



TNSSAR Color Guardsmen Allen Bell (L) and Rob Richmond (R) represented TNSSAR during the National event at the Battle of Blue Licks 16th August 25.



Constitution Day celebration on 13 SEP 25 at Rutherford County, TN court house supported by members of the Stones River Color (l to R) Compatriots Doug Dickerson, WD Woodward, Gary Baggett, and Robert Bolyard.



Isaac Shelby Chapter color guard supported a Liberty Tree ceremony Saturday, 30 August in Oakland, TN.



TNSSAR Compatriot Mark Young (Green regimental) on guard at Washington's tomb Saturday, 13 SEP 25.



TNSSAR conducted a Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony in honor of Patriots John McMahan and Thomas Steed Saturday, 13 SEP 25.

TNSSAR Color Guard members (l to r) Tim Dake, Scott Pryor, Bryan Beck, Cliff Kent, Robbie Nesbitt, Paul Bobenhausen, Tyler Bobenhausen, Greg Banther, Fred Underdown, Terry Beaty, Steve Anderson, Jim Cabage, George Krauss, Tony Underdown, Jim Pemberton (civ), Raymond Kyle, Ed Waldron, Jason Wright (behind Ed) and Kirk Cruze

Isaac Shelby Chapter Color Guard, TNSSAR post ceremony in support of the local area DAR luncheon celebration of Constitution Week Saturday, 13 SEP 25. Compatriots (l to r) PZ Horton TNSSAR President, Rick Treharne, Bradford Waters, Tom Powell and Mac Mckinney.



TNSSAR conducted a Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony in honor of Patriots Isaac and Samuel Tipton Friday, 19 SEP 25. Compatriots participating in the musket salute form in the shade near the end of the ceremony.



TNSSAR hosted the annual "Gathering" at Sycamore Shoals National Event Saturday, 20 SEP 25. Compatriots rallied at the Forts rear gate post ceremony. Included in the group is our Molly Pitcher awardee Mrs. Jackie Young.



Musket Safety inspection prior to the start of the ceremony at the annual Gathering at Sycamore Shoals Saturday, 20 SEP 25.

Lead Colors section of the color guard moving into position to present colors at the start of the ceremony of the annual Gathering at Sycamore Shoals Saturday, 20 SEP 25.





Vice President General SAR Southern District John Fulwider provides greetings and opening comments during the ceremony at the annual Gathering at Sycamore Shoals Saturday, 20 SEP 25.

TNSSAR Color Guard members (l to r) Cliff Kent, Jim Pemberton, Greg Banther, Scott Pryor and supported by Col. Edward Bradley Society C.A.R. member Miss Hannah Boyd prepare to present and post the color in support of a local DAR Patriot Grave Marking for newly discovered and restored grave of Patriot John Thompson in Rhea Co., TN Saturday, 27 SEP 25.



TNSSAR Compatriot Bradford Waters (with TN Flag far right) participated in the 1779 Battle of Baton Rouge commemoration on Saturday 27 SEP 25. The SAR President General Michael J. Elston was in attendance and with the SAR Color Guard.



Compatriot Jim Cabage (left of the US flag) participated in the National event Chestnut Neck Memorial, NJ Saturday, 04 OCT 25.



The Freedom Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution is honored to have been chosen to participate and present the nation's colors in a New Year's kick-off of the America 250 Anniversary Celebration hosted by The Heritage Society of Houston. The Freedom Chapter performed the Color Guard duties and had a great time working with some old friends, Los Granaderos y Damas de Galvez Houston and making new friends with The Houston Saengerbund, , and together with chapters of the DAR, Bernardo de Galvez Chapter SAR, General Philemon Thomas Chapter SAR of Baton Rouge, LA., the Shimmer Flute Choir, Boy's and Girl Scouts of America, we enjoyed good times with everyone that participated!



We filmed material for an episode of "The Today Show" on NBC, which aired on January 2, 2026! The Today Show highlighted their segment about how America is celebrating its 250th Anniversary of becoming a nation! We have been planning activities and are excited to share our Texas connection to the American Revolution!



The Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, attend the Wreaths Across America, wreath laying ceremony on Saturday December 14th at the

Lakeview Cemetery in Galveston, Texas. We were there to honor those who served and to remember the fallen.

The Color Guard consisted of Matthew Hewitt (Bernardo de Galvez

Chapter Color Guard Commander) on the U.S. Flag, Robert Hanegan on the Texas Flag, Aries Hewitt (Junior member and representing Cub Scout Pack 442) as the U.S. Flag Guard, and John Loper (Benardo de Galvez Chapter President) as the Texas Flag Guard. John Loper also played Taps after the 21-gun salute.



Virginia



DAR Patriots and Petticoats Ball held August 16th, 2025, at the Belmont Golf & Country Club, Ashburn, VA, co-organized and hosted by the Cameron Parish Chapter, Virginia DAR and other DAR Chapters. It was a colonial-era ball that honors the spirit of the American Revolution, emphasizing liberty and community. The event serves as a celebration of the America 250th Anniversary. This was a charity event, raising funds to support veteran support organizations including: the Gary Sinise Fund and the Veterans Moving Forward Foundation. Color Guard support was provided by the VA Society, including Barry Schwoerer (President SGM John Champe Chapter), Darrin Schmidt (1st Vice President VASSAR, Past VASSAR Color Guard Commander), Larry McKinley (past VASSAR Color Guard Commander), Fred Applequist (1st event with VASSAR CG), Paul McComb (VASSAR Assistant Chaplain). Photograph provided by Paul McComb.

Colonel James Wood II Chapter, Virginia Society SAR conducted a Compatriot Grave Marking on August 2nd, 2025, at the Mount Hebron Cemetery, Winchester, VA for Lewis M. Ewing. Lewis Ewing was a Korean War Veteran and served as a helicopter crew chief during this conflict. He became a senior bank officer and director for almost five decades. He served in many community organizations over the years including Former National Secretary and Director of the Korean War Veterans Association and Treasurer of the Colonel James Wood II Chapter, VASSAR. Attending the Compatriot Grave Marking service were members of the two VA DAR Chapters, three Virginia SAR Chapters and the Korean War Veterans Association Chapter 313. VASSAR Color Guard participants in this Compatriot Grave Marking include VASSAR Color Guard Commander Brett Osborn, Ken Bonnell, Ray Shirley (Chapter Member & KWVA member), Kelly Ford, Richard Tyler, Paul Christensen, Darrin Schmidt (1st VP VASSAR), Barry Schwoerer, Allan Phillips David Carpenter, Marc Robinson, Bryan Buck, Marshall DeHaven (Chapter Member & KWVA), Doug Hall, Dale Corey VASSAR CG Vice Commander/Adjutant, Chip Daniel, Jim Simmons.



On 26 July 2025, the Colonel James Wood II Chapter of the Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution conducted a 250th Anniversary Commemoration of Daniel Morgan's Beeline March. It was in June of 1775 that Congress approved the forming of the continental Army. This placed the militia fighting outside Boston under federal control and a request was sent to Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia for units of riflemen. Pennsylvania was asked to send eight companies, Maryland two and Virginia two. The two from Virginia were recruited from the colonial

frontier in Western Virginia. One was raised by Hugh Stephenson in Berkeley County and the other by Daniel Morgan from Frederick County. This was the foundation of the United States Army. The "Beeline March" refers to an extraordinary march by Morgan and his riflemen covering roughly 600 miles from Winchester, Virginia to Cambridge, Massachusetts where they were to join General George Washington. The company was formed in June and after training, left for Cambridge on 17 July and marched 25 days to arrive at Washington's camp on 11 August. Morgan was an exceptional frontiersman and leader of men. He was a veteran of the French and Indian War and had learned how to fight the war on the terms used by the Indians rather than the European style of fighting. In Europe the plan was to mass forces on both sides of the battlefield. The first to abandon the field lost the battle. Morgan's men would use frontier methods, firing from behind trees and other obstacles and depended on superior marksmanship of the riflemen. To become part of Morgan's unit, one had to hit a target three times at 100 yards. No mean feat when using the flintlock rifles used during the Revolutionary War. The commitment to the mission, the hardiness and strength of the men played an important role in the eventual outcome of the war. Daniel Morgan was a key figure in several battles, including the Battle of Quebec, was instrumental in the victory at Saratoga and his tactics and battlefield skills provided a crushing defeat of Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton's elite British unit at the Battle of Cowpens. This was a major victory that led to Yorktown and eventually the end to the Revolutionary War.



The ceremony began at the Old Stone Church in Winchester with a muster of riflemen at the statue of Daniel Morgan. At the direction of Captain Daniel Morgan (Paul Parish), the company performed a safety check and assembled for a march to Mount Hebron Cemetery and the grave site of Daniel Morgan. There they reported to General George Washington (Ken Bonner) who asked where they came from. Captain Morgan replied "From the right side of the Potomac, Sir!" Washington and

Morgan inspected the troops which was followed by wreath presentations and a firing of a three round musket salute to commemorate the occasion. National Society SAR President General Michael Elston participated and gave remarks honoring the occasion. Virginia SAR President Dr Michael Weyler followed along with Mayor Les Veach of Winchester and George Sember, resident of the home where Daniel Morgan's daughter lived. Warner Workman of the Sgt Maj John Champe Chapter, SAR rang a liberty bell 13 times in honor of the 13 colonies and the men of the Beeline March. Wreaths were presented by Elston, Weyler, Bonner, Veach, Sember and the France Society SAR. SAR Chapters presenting wreaths included Col

James Wood II, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason, George Washington, Williamsburg, Culpeper Minutemen, Fairfax Resolves, Fort Harrison, James Town Headquarters, Col Fielding Lewis and Sgt Lawrence Everhart (Maryland). The DAR had representatives from Fort Loudoun, Prince William Resolves, Ketocatin, Lanes Mill, Nelly Custis, Montpelier, and Providence Chapters as well as the National Society of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. Guardsmen participating were from 12 chapters, including Col James Wood II, Fairfax Resolves, Great Bridge, George Mason, Sgt Maj John Champe, Col William Grayson, Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Col Fielding Lewis, Williamsburg, General Daniel Morgan and Culpeper Minutemen.



Culpeper Minutemen Chapter, Virginia Society SAR conducted a Massing of Colors, Culpeper Remembers on September 11th, 2025, at the Culpeper Sports Complex, Culpeper, Virginia for 9-11-01 Program. On September 11th at 9:37 am American Airlines Flight 77 struck the Pentagon in Arlington, VA. This program remembers Culpeper resident Ken and Jennifer Lewis who were Flight Attendants aboard American Airline Flight 77.

Also, on September 11th at 10:03 am United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. This program remembers Culpeper citizen Jennifer Found, Director, Found and Sons Funeral Chapels and Cremation Services.

The Virginia Society SAR Color Guard provided thirteen Color Guardsmen from four VASSAR Chapters to participate in the Massing of Colors, with other Veterans Group, Law Enforcement, Firefighters, First Responder EMTs, and JROTC Color Guards to render honors.





The Nansemond Patriots Chapter Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution did color Guard support for the 37 th Annual Powwow on August 16 th , 2025, on tribal land at Suffolk, VA. The Virginia Society SAR Color Guard Commander Brett Osborn participated with Guardsman Tom Badamo and Past Virginia Society President Bruce Meyer in recruiting new members. Guardsman Tom Badamo carried National Colors for the opening ceremony. He also carried the Nansemond Tribe Colors at this year's NSSAR Congress at the Mohegan Sun Casino in Connecticut.



On September 13, Guardsmen from dozens of states stood vigil at the tomb of General George Washington, honoring the memory of our nation's first Commander-in-Chief with silent reflection and solemn respect. Each group of guardsmen stood watch over the Washingtons for fifteen minutes throughout the day, part of a moving tribute to duty and remembrance. An annual Sons of the American Revolution tradition, the Vigil occurs in the middle of September each year, drawing participants from across the country. See the event info on the last page of this issue. The afternoon was capped off by a visit from Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth (below), who offered remarks of gratitude and encouragement to those in attendance.





On September 19, the Sergeant Major John Champe Chapter of the Virginia Society conducted a five-patriot grave marking at the Ketocin Baptist Church in Purcellville, Virginia. The five patriots being honored were John Marks Sr., John Chew Sr. James Copeland, John C. Copeland and Thomas Humphrey. Participants from ten VASSAR Chapters participated in the Color Guard. They were joined by VASSAR President Weyler who presented greetings and CAR and DAR guests with more than 60 attendees.

Photograph by Tom Roth

(George Washington Chapter): includes left to right, VPG International Ken Bonner; carrying VA Flag, Great Bridge Chapter President Don Fergusson; emcee SGM John Champe Chapter Compatriot Richard Ryan, Color Guardsman with rifle Williamsburg Chapter, Gary Dunaway, VASSAR Color Guard Commander Brett Osborn



On September 20 the George Washington Chapter of the Virginia Society hosted a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington, Virginia with President General Michael J. Elston. This is an annual event, and this was attended by SAR members from three State Societies, Maryland, New Jersey and New York and VASSAR President Michael Weyler along with DAR members from the Virginia Society. Photograph provided by Tom Roth of the George Washington Chapter. Left to right: Lou Raborg, MDSSAR (Past NSSAR CG CDR); Commander NSSAR CG Robert Meyer, NJSSAR; Brett Osborn, VASSAR CG CDR; President General Elston; John Kuvakas, VASSAR Chaplain; Bill Schwetke, VASSAR (Past President & Past CG CDR), Culpeper Minutemen Chapter.



On a very hot June 21 st , 2025, there was a small but special 250 th Anniversary event held at Porto Bello. President General Addington and First Lady Addington were in attendance supported by the VASSAR Color Guard, VASSAR Past President Greaf and VASSAR Secretary Dioquino with DAR representatives. Porto Bello was the hunting lodge of the last Royal Governor of the British Colony of Virginia, John Murray, 4 th Earl of Dunmore. The name of this lodge commemorates the Battle of Porto Bello, a 1739 British naval victory in Panama. Lord Dunmore fled to Porto Bello to escape the early stages of the Revolution with the Gunpowder incident and Patrick Henry's calling out the militia in Williamsburg, Virginia. He later boarded His Britannic

Majesty's Ship Fowey lying at anchor near Porto Bello in the York River. President General Addington had ancestors in the 1600s that owned the land where Porto Bello is located which is near Williamsburg, Virginia. These VASSAR Color Guardsmen participated: Ron Adolphi, Ken Bonner, Michael Doucette, Gary Dunaway, Gary Hodges, Chris Melhuish, Ron Miller, Bill Schwetke. Anita Bonner participated by carrying the DAR 250 th Flag. Photograph provided by VASSAR East Region Color Guard Commander John Lynch

On 18 October 2025, the Col James Wood II Chapter of the Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution conducted a Revolutionary War Grave Marking Ceremony for patriot Colonel Meredith Helm. The event was held at the Milburn Cemetery, Stephenson, Frederick, Virginia. Col Helm was born in 1753 in Frederick County, the son of Meredith Helm and Elizabeth Neill. Prior to the Revolutionary War, he was a landowner in Kentucky and patriot who was active in the affairs of the community. About 1775, he married the widow Frances Sanford Fowler by which they had eight children and lived on his farm, Belleville located approximately four miles from Winchester Pike, from Winchester. His proved children were Margaret, Frances, Harriet, Selyna, Mari, Strother, Catherine and Helen Maria. During the Revolutionary War, Helm served with Daniel Morgan's Riflemen and furnished supplies to the cause. In 1778, Helm bought land on Opecquon Creek and in 1796 and 1798 land in Frederick County. He died 12 October 1804 and was buried in the graveyard at his home, Belleville.



The ceremony was emceed by compatriot Marc Robinson with the Presentation of colors by the Virginia Society Color Guard, which was represented by compatriots from four chapters, Col James Wood II, Fairfax Resolves, Col William Grayson and Sgt Maj John Champe. Virginia State Chaplain John Kuvakas of the Culpeper Minutemen provided chaplain duties and greetings from the Virginia State President and along with compatriot Thomas "Chip" Daniel dedicated the monument, which was unveiled by compatriots Eric and Clay Robinson. Wreath presentations included the Virginia Society, German Society, Col James Wood II Chapter, Culpeper Minutemen Chapter, Fairfax Resolves, from the Daughters of the American Revolution the John Alexander Chapter and Preservationists Jim Weinmann and David Branham. SAR participants kneeling l. to r. Clay Robinson, Allan Phillips, Thomas "Chip" Daniel, Sean Carrigan and Greg Hall. Standing l. to r. Dale Corey, Jim Cordes, David Cook, Marc Robinson, Will Reynolds, Bryan Buck, Ken Bonnell, Steve Van Deusen, Eric Robinson, John Kuvakas and Charles Hunter. (Photo courtesy of Deborah Corey)



Despite the challenges with the government shutdown and the impact on the National Park Service and other agencies, there were events at Yorktown on 18 and 19 October this year. The traditional Parade was cancelled, and sites had to be adjusted and it went well. We were fortunate to make use of the York Hall on Main Street which is very close to the church cemetery where we do the Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr. Memorial Ceremony Wreath Laying. This was to honor Thomas Nelson, Jr. who served in the Virginia House of Burgesses, the Second Continental Congress, third Governor of Virginia, commanded the Virginia Militia during the Yorktown Campaign, and one of seven Virginians who signed the Declaration of Independence. NSSAR President General Michael J. Elston and VASSAR President Dr. Michael E. Weyler provided greetings and remarks at this event. There were twelve VASSAR Chapters and one MDSSAR Chapters participating in the event. We also had guests from the PASSAR, SCSSAR and the French Society attending. From the DAR there were seven Virginia Society Chapters participating and one from the North Carolina Society. The CAR had representation from the Moore Society and the National President and Vice President. There were 23 VASSAR Color Guardsmen attending and one from the MDSSAR Color Guard (past NSSAR Color Guard Commander David Hoover).



While attending the 250 th Anniversary of the U.S. Navy and Marines in Philadelphia on October 13 th , I received a call from our past VASSAR Color Guard Commander in Norfolk, VA that the pending government shutdown was going to impact several events in Yorktown. The French Military with whom we share combined color guard events, had counted on the U.S. Coast Guard to provide a Color Guard for the Commemoration of the French Memorial at Yorktown on October 19 th . The French reached out to us for help. As this was only going to require two Guardsmen to support and the parade was

cancelled for Yorktown this year, I was in favor of supporting our oldest ally. Our past Color Guard Commander, Captain Chris Melhuish USN (Retired) carried a sword in Regimentals, and I carried the U.S. flag in Regimentals. We were joined by two French Officers Captain Lennie Roux Le Jalle (French Army) and Capitaine de Vaiseau Alban Leduc (French Navy), both in period French Army Regimentals, one carrying a sword, the other the French Tricolor. One part of the ceremony at the French Memorial included an awards ceremony for two French military personnel receiving the French Legion of Honor. French dignitaries presenting wreaths included descendants of General Rochambeau visiting Yorktown. As our color guard participation was well received by the French and we are planning on participating again next year. Photograph provided by Nicolas Koudinoff : VASSAR Color Guard l. to r. – Chris Melhuish and Brett Osborn.



On October 25 th , 2025, the VASSAR Color Guard participated in the 250 th Anniversary of the Culpeper Minute Battalion Muster at the Culpeper Minute Battalion Memorial, Yowell Meadow Park, Culpeper, Virginia. The founding of the Culpeper Minute Battalion was from the Virginia Convention, in response to Patrick Henry's plea to "...give me liberty or give me death" speech, divided Virginia into 16 Districts to raise military forces to resist the abuses of the King. In the district comprising Culpeper, Fauquier, and Orange Counties the Culpeper Minutemen Battalion was organized in September of 1775, under a large oak tree near the monument where this ceremony took place. The Culpeper Minutemen fought in the Revolutionary War battle of Great Bridge near Norfolk, Virginia, defeated the British, and secured Virginia for the Cause of Independence. The 2025 Culpeper Minute Battalion Honorees were Captains John Chilton and James Scott both of Fauquier County. There were 49 guests at the event and the following VASSAR Color Guardsmen participated: Culpeper Chapter President Jim Bish, VPG International District Ken Bonner, Jim Cordes, Mark Crain, Chip Daniel, Michael Dennis, Gary Dunaway, Tom Hamill, Charles Jameson, Patrick Henry Jolly, Pat Kelly, John Kuvalas, John Lynch, Ken Morris, VASSAR Color Guard Commander Brett Osborn, Allan Phillips, Mark Sink, Event Color Guard Commander Bill Schwetke, Doug Schetke, Barry Schwoerer, William Tugman. Also participating from the ALSSAR Color Guard was Preston "Buddy" Irving. There was a three-volley firelock Salute and VASSAR President Dr. Michael Weyler provided remarks for the participants, which



On November 11 th , 2025, the VASSAR Color Guard supported the Veterans Day Ceremony in Colonial Williamsburg, VA. There were strong winds of up to 25 + mph and some cold temperatures to endure. Adjustments were made with the wreath presentations and the color guardsmen carried and placed each wreath for the presenter. Color Guardsmen provided escorts for SAR, DAR, CAR and American Friends of Lafayette wreath presenters. There was an estimated attendance of 150-200 spectators at this event. A musket squad from Colonial Williamsburg, which was dressed as the Second Virginia Regiment participated in the ceremony.

The following Virginia Chapters provided Color Guardsmen for this event: Great Bridge Chapter, James Monroe Chapter, Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter, Williamsburg Chapter. Picture provided by East Region VASSAR Color Guard Commander John Lynch.

VASSAR Color Guardsmen that participated, from left to right: Stuart Whitehead, Ron Adophi, Eave Westenberger, Ron Miller, Gary Dunaway, Gary Hodges, Joe Segar, Andrew Packett.

On October 26 th , 2025, the VASSAR Color Guard supported the Commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the Battle of Hampton, at the Bethel Manor Recreation Park, Hampton, VA. This was a joint sponsored event by the Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter, VASSAR and the Hampton Chapter, NSDAR. The Battle of Hampton was the first military engagement



between Crown Naval Forces trying to secure the Chesapeake area around Norfolk, Virginia for the Governor Lord Dunmore and Patriot Forces including the Culpeper Minutemen and Second Virginia Regiment. There were approximately 120 attendees at this event, including several of the Culpeper Minute Battalion Muster Reunion. The guest speaker was Dr. Patrick H. Hannum, who is a member of the City of Virginia Beach VA 250 Committee. Our VASSAR President Dr. Micheal Weyler provided welcome remarks. There were 40 wreath presentations and the debut of the Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR Color Guard with their Plumb Bob hunting shirts (see attached photograph). The following VASSAR Color Guardsmen attended this event: Ron Adolphi, VPG International Ken Bonner, Stan Conner, Jim Cordes, Chip Daniel, Michael Dennis, Gary Dunaway, Event Honor Guard Commander Don Ferguson, Gary Hodges, Charles Jameson, Connor Jeanngret, Pat Kelly, Event Color Guard Commander John Lynch, Ron Miller, Ken Morris, VASSAR Color Guard Commander Brett Osborn, Allan Phillips, VASSAR 1 st Vice President Darrin Schmidt, Bill Schwetke, Doug Schwetke, William Tugman, David Welker, Stu Whitehead



Our last Chicago Honor Flight support by the VASSAR Color Guard was on October 15 th , 2025. The two principal organizers for the VASSAR Color Guard are Paul Christensen, President of the Colonel Jame Wood II Chapter, VASSAR and Barry Schwoerer, President Sergeant Major John Champe Chapter, VASSAR. Our VASSAR Color Guard gathered at Dulles Airport, Virginia to greet military veterans on Honor Flights from Chicago, IL flying in to see military monuments and Arlington National Cemetery. This last honor flight for 2025 had 113 Veterans and over 400 in attendance. Other organizations participating included the Loudoun County Sheriff Department, Fairfax County Sheriff Department, Fairfax County

Police Department, Leesburg, VA police Department, Arlington County Police Department and the USO. The following VASSAR Chapters participated, Colonel James Wood II, Fairfax Resolves, SMG John Champe, Culpeper Minutemen, and George Mason. Picture provided by Paul Christensen: VASSAR Color Guardsmen from left to right: Paul Christensen, Jim Cordes, Mark Sink, Rex Hancock, Steve VanDeusen, Ken Morris, Chip Daniel.

On November 2nd , 2025, the VASSAR Color Guard supported Five Patriot Grave Markings, at the New Jerusalem Lutheran Cemetery in Lovettsville, VA. This event was hosted by Fairfax Resolves and the SGM John Champe Chapters, VASSAR and the SGT Lawrence Everhart Chapter, MDSSAR. There were 80 in

attendance including the VASSAR President Dr. Michael Weyler, with representatives from the NSSAR German Society, the NSDAR Virginia Society Fairfax, Ketoctin and the Elizabeth McIntosh

Hamill Chapters. The following VASSAR Chapters participated: Colonel Jame Wood II, Colonel William Grayson, Fairfax Resolves, George Mason, George Washington, SGM John Champe. From the MDSSAR the SGT Lawrence Everhart Chapter participated. The following VASSAR Color Guardsmen participated in the grave marking event: VPG Internation District Ken Bonner, Bryan Buck, Sean Carrigan, Paul Christensen, Dave Cook, Event Color Guard Commander Jim Cordes, Dale Corey, Forrest Crain, Chip Daniel, Greg Hall, VASSAR Chaplain John Kuvakas, Ken Morris, VASSAR CG Commander Brett Osborn, VASSAR 1 st VP Darrin Schmidt, Bill Schwetke, Barry Schwoerer, Mark Sink, Steve VanDeusen, Dave Welker, Warner Workman.



On 10 November 2025, the Col James Wood II Chapter of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution as they began the commemoration of veterans with a presentation of the colors at the Legacy Christian Academy in Stephens City, Virginia. The event was a Veterans Appreciation Breakfast sponsored by the Academy to honor the family members of the students who had served the country. There were 130 guests with 31 veterans honored at the ceremony. The ceremony began with the CJWII Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard presenting the colors with the Pledge of Allegiance and the National

Anthem led by the Legacy 2nd grade students. After breakfast, a tribute was presented by Lt Col Edythe McGoff, USAF (Retd) on the Missing Man Table. Upon completion, 2nd grade class sang patriotic songs and recited the poem "Our Country's Flag". All veterans were asked to stand and were presented with a mail call. Maj David Jones, USA (Ret), the history teacher at the Academy, gave a presentation on the trials and tribulations he went through during his career and the need to honor and remember our veterans. The 2nd grade class paid tribute to the six military services and sang the military theme songs for each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. The veterans of each service were asked to stand as the songs were played. These included "The Army Goes Rolling Along" for the Army, "Anchors Aweigh" for the Navy, "The Marines"



Hymn" for the Marines, "The U.S. Air Force" for the Air Force, and "Semper Paratus" for the Coast Guard, and "Semper Supra" for the Space Force. Lt Col McGoff assisted by her husband, HM1 George Donovan (Ret), US Navy gave a final salute and prayer to the veterans in attendance, presenting each with a challenge coin to recognize their service to the country. The ceremony was closed with Taps played by SAR compatriot Charles Hunter. Participating for the chapter were Ken Bonnell, Bryan Buck, Dale Corey, Thomas "Chip" Daniel, Charles Hunter, Allan Phillips and Richard Tyler. All members are certified with Youth Protection Training. After this ceremony, color guardsmen from the chapter braved cold, windy weather to conduct a short ceremony and place 310 flags on veterans graves at Mt Hebron Cemetery, Winchester, Virginia. These included Betsy Ross Flags on the graves of Revolutionary War patriots and 50 Star Flags on veterans from all services. Participating for the chapter were Ken Bonnell, Bryan Buck, Dale Corey, Thomas "Chip" Daniel and Allan Phillips.

On 11 November 2025, the Col James Wood II Chapter, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution co-sponsored with the American Red Cross a commemoration on Veterans Day at Mt Hebron Cemetery to honor all members of the US Armed Forces who served the country. Veterans are defined as "a person who served in the active military, naval or air service and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable". Today, there are six U.S. military



branches, the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard. On 11 November, communities and organizations hold ceremonies to honor all veterans who served throughout the past 250 years.

Veterans Day was originally founded as Armistice Day to honor those men and women who served in World War I. It occurred between 1914 and 1918, basically fought in Europe and included more countries and people than any previous conflict. The United States entered the war in 1917. Over 5 million Americans served during the time with over 2 million overseas. Of those, we suffered over 320,000 casualties. On 11 November 1918, at 11:00, the guns fell silent with a signed armistice to stop the fighting. After the war ended, people wanted to honor those who served in this war that was considered the war to end all wars. In 1919, countries began observing 18 November as a commemoration to the veterans. After the war ended, it was



determined we needed to honor those who died, but whose bodies were not found or could not be identified. In 1938, Congress declared Armistice Day an official U.S. holiday. After WWII, it was felt that all veterans should be honored and not just those who served in WWI. In 1954, the name was changed to Veterans to expand the meaning of holiday to honor the sacrifices of all military veterans.



Veterans Day is observed by countries throughout the world. The British Commonwealth began using red poppies in Remembrance Day ceremonies. During the war British Surgeon Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae wrote the poem "In Flanders Fields" after the Second Battle of Ypres, which was fought in 1915. McCrae's friend was killed during the battle, and he went back to visit the site where soldiers were buried. Poppies were growing throughout the field in between the rows of crosses. He was inspired to put into words how he felt and it became a symbol for the losses sustained. It is used today as a symbol of remembrance for all those who have died in a conflict.

The ceremony was held in the chapel at Mt Hebron Cemetery due to weather. The service was attended by 60 participants and opened with a welcome and salute to veterans by compatriot Dale Corey. The guest speaker was Willis Nelson, US Army Veteran from American Legion Post 41 and a retired Air Traffic Controller. The Virginia SAR Color Guard presented arms for the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem. After honors and recognition of the military services and the American Red Cross, the VA Color Guard Musket squad fired a three-round salute in honor of all veterans. It was followed by compatriot Charles Hunter playing "Taps" to close out the ceremony. ARC provided coffee and refreshments to the 60 individuals who braved the cold and wind to honor our veterans. Participating for the SAR were compatriots from the Col James Wood II, George Mason, General Daniel Morgan and Fairfax Resolves Chapters. They were joined by the American Red Cross, Fort Loudoun DAR, Korean War Veterans Association, VFW Post 2123, VFW Post 1860 and the Civil Air Patrol.

The Col James Wood II Chapter of the Virginia Society, SAR presented colors and provided a musket salute for three Wreaths Across America ceremonies with the Ketocin DAR. The first ceremony was held at North Hill Cemetery, Clarke County, Virginia. The ceremony was emceed by Lori Fallace, Regent of the Ketocin Chapter. The Virginia Society SAR Color Guard was commanded by compatriot Dale Corey who led a presentation of the National Colors and a three round musket salute to honor those buried at the cemetery. Among those patriot graves is Elizabeth "Betsy" Lewis-Carter, daughter of Colonel Fielding Lewis and niece of George Washington. Members of the VASSAR were compatriots from the CJWII, Sgt Maj John Champe, Culpeper Minutemen and Fairfax Resolves of the society. The second



ceremony was conducted at Ketocin Baptist Church, Purcellville, VA. This cemetery contains the remains of 81 veterans of the wars in the 18th and 19th century, to include 15 Revolutionary War Veterans. The ceremony was emceed by Lori Fallace, with wreaths dedicated to the seven services and the MIA/POWs from the various wars. Wreaths honored the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines. After the placement of the wreaths of the service wreaths, participants placed wreaths on veterans' graves throughout the ceremony. As a wreath was placed, the individual took a step back and rendered honors to the fallen veteran. This was followed by a three round musket volley fired by the Virginia State Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard. This included compatriots from CJWII, SMJC and FR chapters of the Virginia Society. After the ceremony, participants went to the North Fork Regular Baptist Church in Purcellville to place wreaths on 47 veteran's graves, to include six from the Revolutionary War. Participating in the ceremony were compatriots from the Ketocin DAR, the Virginia SAR, the Rev. John Marks Society, CAR and Scouting America. The SAR compatriots who participated in one or more of the various events included Ken Bonnell, Ken Bonner, Bryan Buck, Sean Carrington, Paul Christensen, Jim Cordes, Dale Corey, Thomas "Chip" Daniel, Kelly Ford, Doug Hall, Charles Hunter, Allan Phillips, John Phillips, Will Reynolds, Bill Schwetke, Barry Schwoerer, Mark Sink and Steve Van Deusen.



Washington



On September 15, 2025, members of the Washington State Color Guard gathered at SeaTac Airport to welcome home the deserving veterans. On this date we had the pleasure to welcome SAR member and USCG Veteran Dennis Case. Dennis had been waiting 2 years for this trip.

L to R: Art Dolan, Lawrence Bowman, Timothy Smith, Eric Olsen (CG Commander), Viren Lemmer (State President), Gregory Emerson, Michael Moore (AH), and Neil Vernon



On Sept 1, 2025 color guard members from the Alexander Hamilton, George Rogers Clark and Seattle chapters, the WASSAR Fife and Drum Corps and the Mary Fell Chapter NSDAR participated in the annual Black Diamond Days Parade taking 2nd place in the parade judging contest.



On July 13, 2025 members of the Fort Vancouver CG joined forces with the Fort Vancouver Chapter DAR, Department of the Columbia Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and AMVETS Post 16 to honor Civil War veterans William Graves & Aaron Allen and WW I veteran Harold Marsh at the Brush Prairie Cemetery in Vancouver, WA.

L to R: Richard Lovell, Kent Grossman, Larry Heckethorne, Garry Carpenter



On March 4th GRC members Dick Moody and Eric Olsen along with Perry Taylor the Pacific District VP from the John Paul Jones Chapter and local high school student Tyler Jones posted colors in the Washington State Senate in Olympia. Several of our state leaders who were there commented on how great the CG looked.

L to R: Eric Olsen, Perry Taylor, Dick Moody, and Tyler Jones



On Aug 2, 2025 Members of the George Washington Chapters Color Guard once again presented colors for the annual Vietnam Veterans picnic in Sedro Wooley, WA.

Lt to Rt: Marshall Anderson, Ken Carlson, Brian Bayley, Rod Jenny, Bill Bentler

On August 21, 2025 the Pacific Northwest Naval Air Museum officially opened its doors to the public in Oak Harbor, Washington. 525 attended the opening ceremony. A dedication of the new museum home opening began with the presentation ceremony of the US Colors to the Chairman of the Museum Board Charles W Criser by Washington SAR President and NSSAR Drum Major Viren Lemmer.



Between Aug 15 – 17, 2025, the George Rogers Clark Chapter, WASSAR participated in the 2025 Early American Heritage Festival with a booth and the WASSAR CG trailer. This event is hosted by the “Spirit of 76 Group”. Joining the event for 2 days was JPJ chapter member Mich Jersey. While participation was light in chapter participation those that were there talked to many citizens about their ancestry, the American Revolution and the SAR. The weather was a bit of a challenge at times with rain & wind gusts near 30 MPH at times but those SAR members that were there persevered and stayed the course.

L to R Mick Hersey, Lew Maudsley, Kevin Saville, Eric Olsen



Mid-Columbia Chapter Members provided a presentation to the Columbia River Chapter of the DAR at their September 13th Meeting at the Richland Library. Compatriots Richard Roddy, Randal Roach, Larry Flint and Kelly Schultz, in uniform participated. Compatriot Conn Clark was also in attendance. We talked about the programs that we present to local schools, on, “A Day in the Life of Colonial America”. Columbia River, DAR Chapter Reagent, Kimberly Ruisi presented Richard Roddy with a certificate of appreciation.

L to R: Randal Roach, Larry Flint, Kelly Schultz

On September 16, Richard Roddy, Randal Roach, Kelly Schultz and Larry Flint attended the Naturalization Ceremony at the Richland Federal Building, overseen by U.S. District Court Judge, Marry Demke. Twenty-five new citizens from 6 countries (China, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Ukraine and the United Kingdom, were sworn-in. The Mid-Columbia Chapter gave out Flag pins with crossed Betsy Ross and current U.S. flag pins. Several new citizens chose to take their pictures with representatives of America's First veterans.





On September 25, 26 and 27th September, Richard Roddy, Jan Huges, her dog Niles, Randal Roach, Kelly Schults, Brian McReynolds, Arthur Broady and Larry Flint attended the three-day long Heritage Days at Sacajawea Park in Pasco. We had an information table and talked to a multitude of School Kids on Thursday and Friday, and many passengers from three cruise ships, traversing the Columbia and Snake Rivers. Kelly Schultz and Brian McReynolds camped out in our old wall tent.



On Saturday, July 26th, Spokane #1 members from L-R Dale Ryan, Wes Corder, Bob Korn, Rob Hill, Doug Jonas, Stan Wills, Tracey Prock, and prospective member Chris Pedersen, with support from DAR member Joyce Corder, participated in the Hayden Days Parade in Hayden, Idaho. It was a great day, marked by many compliments and interest in the SAR. We also visited with the local George Farragut Chapter of the DAR and discussed joint participation in next year's event.



On August 9th members of the WASSAR Color Guard met up in Woodinville, WA to help support the WASSAR Fife and Drum at their main parade for the year. They were joined by members of the Susan Woodin Chapter, NSDAR.



DAR and SAR

On September 15th SAR members Will Palmer, Bob Korn, Wes Corder, Rob Scott, and Doug Jonas Joined DAR Washington State President Jackie Riddell and all four Spokane DAR chapters for the unveiling of the Pomeroy Marker commemorating the joining of two transcontinental railroads near the Monroe Street Bridge in Spokane Washington.



Doug, Lavonne, Mayor Pam Haley, Rae Anna, Will, Jennie, and City Communications Manager Jill Smith

On September 16th SAR and DAR members Doug Jonas, LaVonne Whitaker, Rae Anna Victor, and Will Palmer joined Spokane Valley Mayor Pam Haley and staff members Jennie and Jill for the reading of the city's proclamation kicking off Constitution Week.



On Oct 13, 2025 members of the WASSAR CG traveled to the SeaTac Airport to welcome the 4th and last Puget Sound Honor Flight home for the 2025. The smiles from the returning veterans say a million words.



On September 17th, the Central Valley High School's student body along with SAR members Dale Ryan, Doug Jonas, and prospective member Chris Pederson joined members of the four Spokane DAR Chapters to welcome 54 New Citizens at Central Valley High School Football Field.



On September 19th, Spokane #1 members Rob Scott, Dale Ryan, Stan Wills, Will Palmer, Tracey Prock, Doug Jonas with Shannon Harper and Jannelle Braithwait of the DAR/May Hutton chapter and Will Palmers grandchildren, Koa and Hemi marched in Spokane Valley's "Valleyfest" Parade.



On Oct 19, 2025 members of the WASSAR Color Guard and Fife and Drum Corp met up in Enumclaw, WA to support the Mary Fell Stevenson DAR chapter for their Historical Monument dedication for their chapter's namesake after a \$28,000 restoration project. Mary and her husband Frank were considered the father and mother of Enumclaw. Even with the wind and rain spirits remained high and it was a wonderful event.

Pictured Left to rt: William Bentler, Melonie Liening, Alonde Droege, Charley Frisk, Viren Lemmer, Eric Olsen

On Nov 8, 2025 members of the Washington State Color Guard along with the Fife and Drum Corp and the Washington state C.A.R President Danika (front center). This marked the 60th year for this parade with the SAR group #130 out of 147 entries and was led by the WASSAR Color Guard Commander Eric Olsen.

Pictured Members of the WASSAR CG and the Washington state C.A.R President Danika Bendickson (front Center)



On December 13, 2025 members of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter met at the Washington Soldiers Cemetery in Orting, WA to post colors and participate in the annual Wreaths Across America event held at this cemetery.

Pictured Left to Right: Thomas Barham, Michael Moore, Ralph Liening, Jerry Bordelon, John W. Herr, Charles Frisk



On Nov 2, 2025 members of the George Rogers Clark Chapters color guard met up at Brighton Park Grange #163 for the 3rd annual Thurston County Pomona Grange Veterans Appreciation Day. This was the 2nd year that the chapter posted colors for this event. Many of the attendees said how much they appreciated the posting of colors and what a great job they had done. Past chapter president Art Dolan gave a presentation on the evolution of the U.S. flag that was very well received.

Lt to rt: Dick Moody, Lew Maudsley, Eric Olsen (kneeling), Lawrence Bowman, Art Dolan

On Nov 11th members of the George Rogers Clark Chapter once again joined forces with the Sacajawea Chapter to honor Vietnam Veterans at the Vietnam Memorial in Olympia, WA. With the sunny but cold weather turnout was better than the last few years.

Left to right: Art Dolan, Kevin Saville (GRC), Eric Olsen, Jesai Bancroft-Conners (DAR), Dick Moody



On Dec 13, 2025 members of the George Rogers Clark Color Guard gathered at the Masonic Cemetery in Tumwater, WA in support of the Sacajawea Chapter WADAR for Wreaths across America. After a week of heavy rain, and record floods the weather was sunny and pleasant making for a great event.

Left to right: Eric Olsen, Kevin Saville, Lew Maudsley, Franida Maudsley (DAR), Lawrence Bowman

The John Paul Jones Education Team spent the day with the eighth-grade classes at Fairview Middle School, Bremerton, WA, 27 October, 2025. The presentation team presenters were; Fred Gilbert, Bob Smalser and Washington State SAR President Viren Lemmer. Viren started the presentation explaining what the SAR is and talked about the differences between the uniforms the presenters are using. Fred introduced the speakers and talked about some of the causes of the revolution, the start of the revolution with Lexington 19 April, 1775 to the time General Washington departs Valley Forge



with a new trailed Continental Army. This was followed by Bob Smalser who spoke on the involvement of the Western Pennsylvania frontier militia, the evolution of the long rifle one of General Washington's secret weapons, the PA sharp shooters along with their tactical use as well as the day-to-day life of the frontier farming family. All presenter were in their period attire with a copy of the Declaration of Independence, a newspaper from 1781 with the stamp act stamp and our 250th flag.

Pictured left to right: Fred Gilbert, Viren Lemmer



The John Paul Jones Education Team spent the day with the eighth-grade classes at John Sedwich Middle School, Port Orchard, WA, 10 November, 2025. The presentation team presenters were; Fred Gilbert and Conrad Plyler. Fred introduced the speakers and talked about some of the causes of the revolution, the start of the revolution with Lexington 19 April, 1775 to the time General Washington departs Valley Forge with a new trailed Continental Army. This was followed by Conrad Plyler who discussed the militia of the south and why the focus revolution moved the resource rich South. All presenter were in their period attire with a copy

of the Declaration of Independence, a newspaper from 1781 with the stamp act stamp and our 250th flag.



Veterans Day, 11 Nov was celebrated by the John Paul Jones Chapter by recognizing and honoring our veterans with a display booth at the Veteran's Recognition Day at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. The event was celebrated by various veteran support organizations. Several thousand veterans and attendee supported this event. Veterans from WW-II, Korean, Vietnam and War on Terror were all recognized.

JPJvetsDay.jpg

Left to right: Fred Gilbert, Mick Hersey, Pat Burch



Compatriot Larry Flint, along with associate Compatriots Brandon Moore and Cody Huls presented to approx. 125 people at the Harmon Senior Center in Yakima on 10/7/25. They were assisted by Susan Maiza of the Yakima DAR Chapter. Artifacts, Colonial history, and period correct clothing were shared with those in attendance. It was a very eventful night, enjoyed by all that attended.

Pictured left to right Larry Flint, Brandon Moore, & Cody Hulls



The Mid-Columbia Chapter manned a table at the Yakima Veteran's Stand Down once again, held at the Yakima County Fairgrounds, Sun Dome. It was held on 10/18/25. Several Compatriots showed up to interact with the Veterans that attended the event, with the popularity growing every year. This was evident by the numerous people in attendance. We were honored to have WASSAR Color Guard Commander, Eric Olsen, join us for the day. He was a member of our cohort, interacting with attendees throughout the day.

Pictured left to right: Conn Clark, Richard Roddy, Randal Roach, Brian McReynolds, Eric Olsen, Aux Member Jan Hughes, Cody Huls, Brandon Moore & Larry Flint



Compatriots Cody Huls (membership pending), Larry Flint, Steve Winmill and Randal Roach joined the Yakima West Valley High School Army JROTC on November 7 to honor our Veterans at a school assembly.



Mid-Columbia Chapter Compatriots, along with the Kennewick and the Columbia River DAR marched and rode in the November 08, Veterans Day Parade in West Richland.



On November 14th Mid-Columbia compatriots attended and supported the Veteran's Resource Expo and Stand Down event at the Southridge Sports Pavilion, Kennewick, WA. Chapter members greeted and shared SAR information throughout the day. Numerous individuals signed up to start the ball rolling on their potential



On December 13th the Mid Columbia Chapter participated in wreath laying for the National Wreaths Across America Program. This was a joint effort with the Columbia River DAR and Civil Air Patrol at the Sunset Memorial Gardens in Richland, WA. It was followed by a small ceremony at the grave of Civil War Veteran, William Johnston at the Resthaven Cemetery in Richland, WA.



On December 13 at noon, 9 members of Spokane #1—partnering with the Spokane DAR and C.A.R.—laid 385 wreaths on the graves of veterans at South Pines Cemetery in Spokane Valley, Washington. It was unusually warm for December, and the sunshine drew many community volunteers who came out to honor and remember our veterans.

Mid-Columbia, Compatriot Arthur Broady was featured in the VA250 in a PBS Video entitled "Resolved to Live and Die. And talked about his ancestor, John Brody/Brodie. He was also featured in the recent Washington State University/NWPB (TC Branch) program titled "The American Revolution: A Screening & Community Conversation."



On December 13, 2025, Wreaths Across America was hosted by the Seattle Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution at Lake View Cemetery. The event was in partnership with the Washington State and National Colonial Dames, the Seattle N.J.R.O.T.C. Blue Angel Squadron, DAR Rainier Chapter, and UW Medicine IT Services, among others. With the support and sponsorship of the Wreaths Across America program, all 550 Veterans, honored Colonial Dames family members, several Seattle Pioneers, and 7 Washington State SAR Presidents were given honors of a wreath.

Seattle SAR President Timothy Zenk conducted the ceremony. The Seattle Chapter Color Guard along with NJROTC cadets posted the Colors and Military Flags. This was followed by the keynote speaker, Washington State Lt Governor Denny Heck, who presented the first wreath to honor those who have served and are now serving in the Army Service following his remarks. Lt Governor Heck also laid a wreath at the Bronze Star recipient Colonel Lawrence Stetson.

News media was present, filming the event and the segment aired on Fox 13 news at 6 pm and 11 pm broadcast on Saturday, December 13, 2025.

SAR members in attendance – President Timothy Zenk, George Hanson, Chris Grabowski, Kenneth Marshall, prospective member Michael Browne, Neil Vernon, Stephen Clayton, Christopher Clayton, Richard Seeder, Grant Rauzi, and Kenneth Beck.



The WV Society Color Guard presented Colors and the Honor Guard provided a Firing Salute at the Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony of Patrick Board (Second Rifle Regiment of the Virginia Line) at the Mt. Olive Cemetery, Spence, WV on Saturday 27 September 2025. The ceremony was co-hosted by the Captain James Neal & Daniel Boone chapters of WV. A Total of 15 uniformed Colorguardsman participating in the ceremony.





On September 13, 2025 The WV Society conducted its third and final Musket & Black Powder Safety Training for the Year at Fort Randolph, Point Pleasant, WV. The two previous classes were held at Prickett's Fort, Fairmont (April) and the Ware Farm outside Charles Town, WV (June) with a total of 38 WV compatriots completing the new WV Society Musket & Black Powder Safety Training. Compatriots did not just learn loading and Firing. This was a one day, 8 hour course of instruction covering black powder safe handling, making cartridges, firelock safety, manual of arms, even cleaning and maintenance. This program was developed specifically for SAR Compatriots to fit their mission of historical education to use safe as well as historical methods during firing salutes and Demonstrations.

WISCONSIN



On a cold and blustery November 9, 2025, the Morgan-Kosciuszko chapter WISSAR, the Annis Avery Hill chapter WSDAR, and the Ladies Auxiliary WISSAR dedicated a Liberty Tree in Germantown, WI.

The Liberty Tree was Dedicated to Germantown Veterans Memorial Founders, Mel Ewert, Jim Heimann and Ken Puls. Also participating in the dedication was the Germantown American Legion Post No. 1 and VFW Post 9202.

A SAR Flag Certificate of Commendation was also presented to the Germantown Area Veterans Association. The ceremony was led by American Legion Post Commander Kristi Bonnell, followed by a gun salute.

On September 20, 2025 at the New Berlin Public Library, the Morgan-Kosciuszko Chapter WISSAR and the Mary Warrell Knight Chapter DAR collaborated for Constitution Week, handing out pocket Constitutions, Mini Flags and Flag pins.





On December 6, 2025, the Wisconsin Society of the Sons of the American Revolution co-hosted a Holiday Luncheon in Waukesha, WI.

After singing the National Anthem and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, each of the Hosting Societies toasted one of the 6 branches of the military.

6 new Members to WISSAR were inducted by WISSAR State President Don Skarda. The new members were drummed into the room under a Sword Tunnel provided by the Color Guard. The left picture shows Cameron Hausch walking through the Sword Tunnel.





WISSAR Color Guard co-hosted an educational booth with the DAR Annis Avery Hill chapter, the DAR Mary Warrell Knight chapter, and the CAR John Woodson of Carters Ferry chapter at the Milwaukee Holiday Folk Fair, November 21-23, 2025.

An estimated 50,000 attendees were expected. Over 25 Vietnam Veterans were pinned with the 50-year Vietnam War anniversary pin, given a certificate, bumper stickers, and campaign buttons and welcomed them home.

Over 140 teacher packets were distributed. Information on the Fort Winnebago Surgeons Quarters, the Indian Agency House in Portage, WI.

The WISSAR Color Guard was involved in the opening night ceremony.



On December 13, 2025, the WISSAR Color Guard attended Wreaths Across America at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial in Union Grove, WI on a frigid 7 degree day with below zero windchills.

Due to the cold the ceremony was held indoors at the recently built Commitment Center at the back of the cemetery. However, it only had room for the WISSAR State Color Guard, speakers and veterans representing the different branches of the military. The remaining attendees were asked to remain in their cars until taps was played, or you heard the 21-gun salute.

The WISSAR Color Guard attended the Veteran's Day Ceremony held at Fireman's Park in Germantown, WI on a windy, chilly 35 degree day.

The Color Guard dedicated a Liberty Tree and presented a Flag Certificate.

The Germantown American Legion Post #1 added 10 more names to the Germantown Veteran's Memorial.

Photo: Don Skarda, Ben Meador, James Greer, Matt Sonnenburg, Karen Greer, Bob Plastine.

COMMEMORATION OF THE
Crossing of the Dan



10:00 AM Saturday

February 14, 2026

at The Prizery

FIND OUT MORE AT:

WWW.CROSSINGOFTHE DAN.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.**

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

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

**www.mossar.org/battle-
of-fort-san-carlos/**

SCAN ME



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 Will be Released in March.





VIGIL AT WASHINGTON'S TOMB

Stand guard at the tomb of General George Washington with Guardsmen from across the country.

Sep. 19, 2026 - Mount Vernon, VA

Sign up details will be available after Congress.

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
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#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.
FIFE MAJOR VACANT	#213898 (KY) Stephen Austin Gahafer	#220709 (NM) Robert E. Vance
#216827 (KY) QUARTERMASTER Christopher Allen Canine	#170854 (KY) Scott George Giltner	#204537 (CA) Brandon Alexander Villardi
#223244 (KY) ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER Patrick McMurchie	#168757 (NC) GENEALOGIST GENERAL Gary Owen Green	#207598 (NJ) Roger Sidney Williams
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#206108 (IN) COLOR GUARD MAGAZINE/ASSISTANT SAFETY TRAINING OFFICER Jacob Aaron Vink	#214823 (TX) David Hamaker	
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