# A Veterans Recognition Committee Newsletter April 2019



# The VRC Committee will not meet at Congress













Compatriots,

It is with a heavy heart that I announce Victor McMurry resigned for personal reasons as the Vice Chairman and also the printer and keeper of the Certificate records working with NSSAR. Vic helped revive the committee when we lost Col Sweeney. He pulled together the records off Col Sweeney's computers, restored the files of the past awarded certificates by corp. He rebuilt the certificate program from scratch. He helped me get the files loaded to the NSSAR Share server.

Committee members I need someone (a volunteer) to carry on the certificate program. Keeping the list of corps and sharing them quarterly with Michael Scroggins. Printing the certificates and submitting them to NSSAR monthly to Michael Scroggins so he can submit them to the State Secretaries for distribution at state level cascaded to chapter then to the member. Please send

an email to me if you are interested in or like more information about the position.

Vic has served the committee diligently and done more than I could have asked. I want Vic and Debbie to know they can call on me anytime. I wish them and their family the very best. Respectfully,

Walter J Timoschuk, III Lt Col USAF / CAP VRC Chairman



Victor G. McMurry

"I would want you to know that I will do my best to help anyone that takes over for me in the printing of Certificates of Patriotism." Vic McMurry



### Now

We need a Chairman and Vice Chairman. These are very important roles. Keep the VRC alive. Contact Walter Timoschuk at

majortimo@comcast.net

# In This Bugle

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Share your Chapters Veterans information with the editor. He would like to put articles in your Bugle for the Veterans across the nation. Email him at smonez1@ gmail.com



Walt Timoschuk Flying a B25 bomber

It has been a pleasure serving as committee chairman, but I must step down at NSSAR Congress due to obligations to my health, family and job assignments.

We are looking for replacements as Chairman to help guide and direct the committee.

We are looking for a Vice Chairman that would have the time help maintain the certificate program and keep the corps updated.

We need an immediate replacement for Vice Chairman and the program.

The funding for the certificate program has been approved for \$1500.00 if it takes more, they will have to reapply to the George Washington Endowment Fund.

The person that takes over for committee chairman, I would be available to guide and mentor them if they needed help.

Please send me your name and I will forward it to the officers selecting the replacement for Veterans Recognition Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman positions.

Respectfully, Walter J. Timoschuk, III Lt Col USAF / CAP VRC Chairman The VRC Chairman and the Vice Chairman have not been replaced. Ideas for restructuring the VRC Committee have been submitted.

- 1. Send the responsibilities to the Chapters. (The Chapters and the State Society already have that authority. See page 3 &4)
- 2. The State VPG's could handle this in the Districts.
- 3. Assign the certificate printing to a vendor.
- 4. Combine the VRC and the Veterans committee. Perhaps someone from that committee would be willing to take on the responsibility.

The real issue is for the corps'. Follow the link below.

https://members.sar.org/media/uplo ads/pages/266/40JWu4eTkLXM.pdf

The chapter and the State Society have the authorization to award the medals and the certificates. The three items missing are the certificate VRC, from the recognition on the national website and added to the list in the corp. The concern as to the authenticity of these awards as no review will be taken at VRC. If no one on the VRC committee is willing to take on this responsibility then this is all that is left.

SAR Handbook Medals Volume V dated September 2018, page 37 and 38.

Follow in the next column



Volume V Medals Handbook Effective: September 28, 2018page 37-

MEDALS AWARDED BY THE NATIONAL SOCIETY,A STATE SOCIETY OR A CHAPTER FOR MILITARY SERVICE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS

#### **War Service Medal**

Precedence: 4 Year Authorized: 1899 Presented

By:National Society, Society, Chapter (or purchased by a Compatriot)Approved By:NSSAR Veterans Recognition Committee, State Society or Chapter Description: The medal is bronze in color. The medal is available in miniature. A War Service Medal certificate is available. Bronze Service Bars or Oak Leaf Clusters may be attached to the ribbon drape as described below. Summary: The War Service Medal was first authorized in 1899 for members who served in the Spanish-American War. It was subsequently authorized for members who served in World War I and World War II. Following World War II, the NSSAR authorized a generic War Service Medal with specific service periods indicated by bronze bars. Proof of Service: Proof of service, in the form of a copy of the member's discharge (or other U.S. or Allied Government proof in the case of a member in active service), must be presented to the NSSAR Veterans Recognition State Committee, Society Secretary or Chapter secretary (depending presenting on authority) Continued on Page 3 before the medal can be purchased and/or worn. Such

proof must show that the Compatriot:

- 1. served, or is serving, honorably in:
- a. the armed forces of the United States,
- b. the military forces of a country allied with United States, or
- c.. United Nations Peace Keeping Force; and
- 2. served against a common enemy in a war or action recognized by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States; and
- 3. Received a campaign medal, combat ribbon or badge as shown on the DD-214 form (or equivalent).

Note: The National Defense Service Medal is not considered a campaign medal for purposes of qualifying for the War Service Medal Devices & Medal. The following Attachments: attachments are authorized for wear with the full-sized War Service Medal: Bronze Service Bars indicate that a Compatriot received an authorized campaign medal during a specific qualifying period. Available bronze bars include: WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Southwest Asia, Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Global War Terrorism (for on service associated with the Global War on Terrorism **Expeditionary** Medal). Oak Leaf Clusters may be worn (1) to recognize participation in a war or action for which a specific Bronze Service Bar is not available, or (2) in lieu of a Bronze Service Bar or multiple Bronze Service Bars(at the Compatriot's discretion).•A Purple Heart Pin may be worn by a Compatriot who received the Purple Heart from one of the United States Armed Forces.

# Effective: September 28, 2018-page 38-Cloth Ribbon:

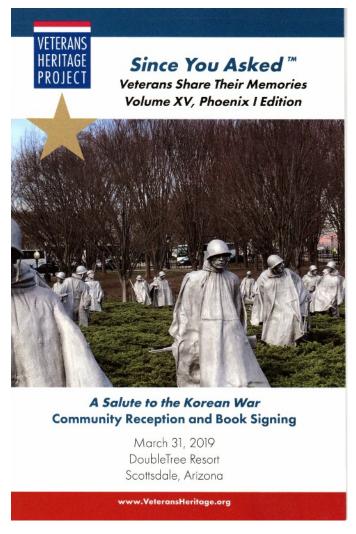
A ribbon bar in the colors of the medal drape with a "W" device may be worn by a Compatriot whose uniformed organization permits wear of such ribbons. Subsequent Presentation Authorized: Compatriot may receive additional Bronze Service Bars or Oak Leaf Clusters for subsequent qualifying war service. Special Note on Precedence: The War Service Medal and Military Service Medal equivalent precedence. However, Compatriots who qualify for the War Service Medal should wear the War Service Medal. A Compatriot may not wear both the Military Service Medal and the War Service Medal. Military Service Medal Precedence: for Year Authorized: 2006 Presented By: National Society, State Society, Chapter(or purchased Compatriot)Approved By:NSSAR Veterans Recognition Committee, Society or Chapter Description: The medal is available in miniature.

#### A Military Service Medal

Certificate is available. Summary: The Military Service Medal, authorized in 2006, may presented to a Compatriot in recognition of military service which does not otherwise qualify for the War Service Medal. Proof of Service: Proof of service, in the form of a copy of the member's discharge (or other U.S. or Allied Government proof in the case of a member in active service), must be provided to the NSSAR Veterans Recognition Committee, State Society Secretary or Chapter secretary(depending on presenting authority) before the medal can be purchased and/or worn. Such proof must show that the Compatriot

served, or is serving, honorably in:(1) the armed forces of the United States, (2) the military forces of a country allied with the United States, or (3) a United Nations Peace Keeping Force. Medal Devices & Attachments: A Purple Heart Pin may be worn on the full-sized Military Service Medal by a Compatriot who received the Purple Heart from one of the United States' Armed Forces, Cloth Ribbon: A ribbon bar in the colors of the medal drape with an"M"device may be worn by a Compatriot whose uniformed organization permits of such ribbons. wear Subsequent Presentation NOT Authorized: A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.





# The Bedford Flag Legend

The **Bedford Flag** was allegedly carried into the first battle of the American Revolution at Concord on April 19, 1775 by minuteman Nathaniel Page of Bedford, Massachusetts. Page was the Bedford Minutemen's elected cornet. The cornet in colonial militia carried the flag for the unit. This was an important position because the cornet would signal the captain's directions to the rest of the unit who might not be able to hear his commands during the heat of a battle. The cornet would stand next to the captain at all times so he could accurately convey the captain's messages to the troops. Because of the importance of the cornet's role, he was often targeted in battle and many cornets were shot down from underneath their flags.

### **Veterans Heritage Project**

Connecting Students with Veterans

We are a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to connecting students with veterans in order to honor veterans, preserve America's heritage and develop future leaders. VHP offers students an opportunity to learn history from primary sources and skills in communication, writing, technology and project management. It enables them to achieve a new sense of purpose, whether in their daily school activities, pursuit of higher education and choices in careers.

It is the aim of the Veterans Heritage Project to continue expanding this unique educational experience into more schools around the country, to preserve as many veterans' stories and to impact as many students as possible.

This year the focus was on the Korean War sometimes referred to as the Forgotten War.

Veterans from WWII to current wars were represented this year. Books were published with their stories interviewed, edited and written by the students.

April 19, 1775 The Battler of Lexington and Concord. The Shots heard round the World. **The Bedford Flag,** A mail covered arm sticks out of a cloud holding a sword, while a banner with the Latin words "Vince aut Morire" (Conquer or Die) furls down the other side. Three cannon balls float in the air by the arm.



# NATIONAL SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

### Minutes of the Veterans Recognition Committee National Meeting

Brown Hotel, Louisville. 2019 Spring Leadership — Friday, March 1, 2019

Pursuant to notice, the meeting for the Veterans Recognition Committee (VRC) was called to order by Chairman Walter J. Timoschuk, Ill (TN) at 7:00 a.m. Eastern Time. Present for all or part of the meeting:

- General Officers. C. Bruce Pickette, Registrar General (REG GEN Ex-Officio).
- Members: P. R. Callanan (Ml), S. J. Miller (AZ), S. C. Monez (AZ), K. D. Roach (CT), D. R. Shaul (MO), H. C. Brown (VT), P. M. Davenport (VA), D. G. Jessel (GA), D. B. Stuart (MD); representing a quorum.
- Guests: P. M. Anders (PA), P. J. Niemann (FL), W. T. Aligood (SC), B. Austin (WI),
- W. L. Barm (AZ), K. E. Morris (VA), M. S. C. Sullivan (KY), M. T. C. Bailey (OH), J. H. Skaggs (AZ),
- G. O. Green (NC), M. T. Aycock (NC), J. L. DeLoache (NC),
- M. B. Gunn (OH), J. Barker (AL), J. A. Adkins (MD), S. D. Sullins (MO).

Chairman Timoschuk emailed the Minutes of the 2018 Fall Leadership VRC Meeting, recently revised VRC documents, Military Service Medal Proposal documents from

Compatriot Baran, AZ Society, and the Spring Leadership VRC agenda to members for their review prior to the 2019 VRC Meeting.

#### **Old Business**

VRC Fall Leadership Minutes. Chairman Timoschuk called for an approval of the Sep 28, 2018 VRC Fall Leadership Minutes. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

#### **New Business**

1. VRC Certificate of Patriotism Program. Chairman Timoschuk advised that the

VRC Certificate of Patriotism Program has gone well, due to the outstanding efforts of Vice Chairman Vic McMurry. Chairman Timoschuk asked Vice-Chairman McMurry to compile the number of certificates he has distributed to the State Society Secretaries. This compilation effort is underway; an update will be provided to Chairman Timoschuk.

- 2. VRC Program Appropriations Request. Chairman Timoschuk contacted GWEF Distribution Committee Chairman DeVenney to formally request \$1,500 in funds to support the VRC program (certificates, printing, mailing). This request is based on the review of the costs associated with the VRC program the past year. Chairman Timoschuk thanked the
- GWEF Distribution Committee for their support of the VRC's mission to recognize veterans.
- 3. Veterans Bugle. Chairman Timoschuk thanked Compatriot Steve Monez of the Arizona Society for stepping forward to serve as editor of the Veterans Bugle; two issues have been developed and published. VRC attendees expressed their appreciation to Compatriot Monez. The Bugle is an important communication tool of the committee, and VRC members are encouraged to provide Compatriot Monez with updates of certificate presentations at the State and Chapter level for future Bugle publications.
- 4. Review of VRC Documents and the Veterans Multi-Corps Recognition Form. Chairman Timoschuk thanked Registrar General Pickette for his review of the VRC documents. Based on his recommendations, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman revised the documents to correct grammatical errors and improve readability. During the coordination of these revisions, Compatriot Callanan advised that the revised document(s) need to be brought forth for formal review and vote by the VRC; Chairman Timoschuk emailed these revisions to the members for review prior to Spring Leadership.

Compatriot Callanan addressed the VRC, pointing out that committees which have oversight to issue awards cannot make changes to requirements (source documents) without the approval of the Medals and Awards Committee and the Executive Committee.

Compatriot Callanan clarified that the VRC issues a certificate, which is an award, and that the form used by the VRC must be formally approved. He does not believe that the VRC has ever voted on its set criteria, nor has there been a formal definition of the term "Veteran" in past minutes. The VRC hasn't done the administrative paperwork to follow through; the VRC has a requirement which it hasn't fulfilled. Until this takes place, the VRC is obligated to accept the original form that was developed when the VRC was established. The VRC can set the criteria, but it must be looked at and approved by these other committees. This is a point of education for the VRC to ensure the VRC is meeting its obligations. Compatriot Callanan thinks the new form, as recently revised, possibly changes the criteria.

Registrar General Pickette asked Compatriot Callanan if he was addressing the revision to the Veterans Recognition Form or the Veterans issue. Compatriot Callanan responded that the VRC has never voted on the Veterans Recognition Form that is used for the Corps; Registrar General Pickette stated that it appears the VRC never voted on the form. Registrar General Pickette suggested that someone make a motion to accept the form and present it to the Executive Committee (going first through Medals and Awards). Compatriot Callanan then made a motion to approve the Veterans Multi-Corps Recognition Form for submission to Medals and Awards for review. Compatriot Roach seconded the motion and discussion of the form took place.

Compatriot Callanan provided a detailed explanation of the coordination and review process. The VRC must submit the form to and/or brief the Medals and Awards Committee (meets only three times each year). If voted on and approved, the Medals and Awards Committee Chairman briefs the Executive Committee led by the President General. If the Executive Committee votes to approve the form, the approval is officially recorded in the minutes of the Executive Committee. The Chairman of the Medals and Awards Committee provides this formal approval to the Handbook Committee, which makes the changes, and the VRC is then authorized to use the form. This process ensures full coordination and review. At this point, the current form (or previous versions) may be used until the form is officially reviewed and approved. Chairman Timoschuk asked for a vote on the motion by committee members only. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Timoschuk will advise the Medals and Awards Committee Chairman.

5. Veterans Recognition Committee Definition of "Veteran." Compatriot Sullins recommended that the VRC define "Veteran." Chairman Timoschuk stated that the VRC had been reviewing this. Discussion then took place among the members and guests, with considerable differences in perspective (e.g., anyone who wore a uniform; possession of a DD Form 214; active duty service versus service in the Guard and Reserve) as to what constitutes a "Veteran." Chairman Timoschuk asked Compatriot Baran to address the attendees, and he handed out copies of his documentation. He highlighted page 4, and the definition of Veteran in the Federal Register and U.S. Code, as used by the Veterans Administration to determine benefits for Veterans. Continued discussion took place regarding this definition, with varying viewpoints presented. Compatriot Brown then made a motion that the VRC define the term Veteran as it is defined by U.S.C. Title 10. Compatriot Miller seconded the motion and discussion took place. Compatriot Callanan spoke in opposition to the motion in that it takes the National Guard and Reserve components out of consideration for the Veterans Recognition Certificate. There were additional comments made by members in opposition to the motion. Compatriot Miller proposed an amendment to the motion to include National Guard and Reservists who served. The amendment to the motion was seconded and further discussion took place.

Compatriot Brown withdrew his original motion, which in turn terminated the amendment made to that motion. Compatriot Brown then made a motion that the VRC define the term Veteran as any person who has honorably served in the uniformed services. Compatriot Miller seconded the motion; discussion took place. Two members spoke in opposition to the motion. Compatriot Brown then proposed an amendment to his motion, changing the word "uniformed" to "military" services. Comments were made by members in support of the amendment with additional questions and discussion. The Chairman called for a vote by committee members only, and Compatriot Brown's amended motion (as referenced in this paragraph) carried. Chairman Timoschuk will advise the pertinent committees.

6. Military Service Medal--Proposal to the VRC by Compatriot Baran. This proposal was presented to the committee at 2018 Spring Leadership by Compatriot Baran, Arizona Society Secretary, discussed during the August 2018 teleconference, emailed to

VRC members for review prior to 2018 Fall Leadership and discussed formally at the 2018 Fall Leadership VRC (all covered in the minutes for these meetings). The proposal recommends adding the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (USPHS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps (NOAA) to the qualification for the SAR Military Service Medal (not the War Service Medal). Chairman Timoschuk asked Compatriot Baran to brief the committee on his proposal.

Compatriot Baran handed out his fact sheet to the attendees and provided a detailed explanation of the paperwork. After his briefing, the Chairman called for formal discussion. Compatriot Baran addressed several questions from those in attendance. Compatriot Green asked if the USPHS and NOAA are officer corps; Compatriot Baran responded that his proposal only pertains to those serving in the USPHS and NOAA who are in the commissioned officer corps. Registrar General Pickette asked if a part of the NOAA form is similar to the USPHS form in that it says "periods of active military service." Compatriot Callanan responded that it does not, and also referenced the form the Public Health Service issues upon discharge, form 1807. It's the Public Health Service's version of the DD Form 214, used to obtain VA benefits. After further questions and discussion, Compatriot

Callanan reminded the attendees that Compatriot Baran's proposal and briefing pertains only to the Military Service Medal, not the Certificate of Patriotism. The proposal is about changing the Military Service Medal criteria to include the two additional uniformed services, which would require the VRC to then modify the definition of "Veteran" which the VRC just approved. Compatriot Baran responded in agreement with Compatriot Callanan's clarification.

Compatriot Miller made a motion to consider changing the criteria for the Military Service Medal to include all uniformed services, opening it up to the USPHS and NOAA. Compatriot Jessel seconded the motion and considerable discussion took place. Two compatriots spoke specifically in opposition to the motion; one emphasized that the VRC is not the right committee to manage this--the Public Service and Heroism Committee is the one who should come up with an award that is fitting for all public service. Additional discussion took place. Chairman Timoschuk called for a vote on the motion by committee members only. The motion failed to pass.

Chairman Timoschuk advised the attendees that this would be his last meeting as chairman. He thanked the members for their assistance the past year and adjourned the meeting.

Accordingly, the 2019 Spring Leadership meeting of the Veterans Recognition Committee stood adjourned at 7:53 a.m. Eastern Time.

(These minutes were transcribed from voice recorder and coordinated with VRC leadership).

Respectfully Submitted,

David E. Thompson.

David E. Thompson

Colonel, USAF (retired)

Secretary

<u>The SAR Veterans Recognition</u> Committee provides recognition to living SAR veterans by awarding the SAR Certificates of Patriotism. It ensures that the work of the committee not only has a legacy dimension but is also visionary and administratively sound so that the incumbent SAR President General can expand the Veterans Corps to include service to country during periods of peace, war, and/or armed conflict.

Award of Certificates of Patriotism was expanded in 2016-2017 to past, current, and future conflicts in the United States Central Command (CENTCOM) Area of Responsibility (AOR). This AOR consists of eighteen countries in the Middle East and East Africa (these countries include Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, and Yemen.

Follow these links to the various areas on our website.

The Veterans Multi-Corps Recognition Form

A Committee History

Veterans Recognition Charter

Veterans Recognition President General's Guidance

SAR Medals and Certificates for Military Service

Descriptions of the Six Veterans Corps

Veteran Corps Compatriots

SAR Veterans Bugle

If you know a veteran that has not been recognized please notify your chapter president and make sure they are recognized. This can be done at the chapter level.

#### Veterans return home on their Honor Flight April 18 2019

Lauren Kobley, AZ State President of the Children of the American Revolution had a special project this last year. She set a goal to raise money to send veterans to see their Memorials in Washington DC. Through her leadership She raised over \$20,000. On the 18<sup>th</sup> of April she welcomed 2 WWII and 26 Korean Veterans home at the Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix Arizona. The Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution took part in the ceremony. As the Veterans came up the exit each SAR member Saluted them. Songs were sung. Spectators Sang too. Applause and cheering from the crowds. After they were all back in the terminal the Arizona Society color Guard Joined by Celeste Cates a Daughter of the American Revolution led them out to the area for a final ceremony.



Lauren Kobley in green with the AZ CG



Each Veteran is Saluted



AZ CG leads them out.



Freedom is not free.



Two WWI and 26 Korean Veterans returned to Sky harbor. We can never thank them enough for their Sacrifices. Our ancestors fought for our liberty and these veterans have fought to keep us free. God Bless all our Veterans and God Bless America.