

Summer 2015  
Vol. 110, No. 1

THE

**SAR**

MAGAZINE

*Sons of the American Revolution*



Complete Coverage of the  
**125th Annual  
Congress**



President General and Mrs. Thomas E. Lawrence  
with Granddaughters Gracie, left, and Lizzie

# THE SAR MAGAZINE

Sons of the American Revolution



Above, James C. Fosdyck, vice president of the South California Society, submitted the winning photo for the Thomas Jefferson Bond Jr. Memorial Photographic contest; left, a jovial Larry Guzy displayed the Kentucky long rifle he won in a drawing sponsored by the Kentucky Society to raise money to host this year's Congress.

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**PUBLISHER:**  
President General Thomas E. Lawrence  
23 Post Shadow Estate Drive  
Spring, TX 77389  
Ph: (832) 717-6816  
Email: tlawrence01@sbcglobal.net

**EDITOR:** Stephen M. Vest  
**ASSOCIATE EDITOR:** Patricia Ranft  
P.O. Box 559  
Frankfort, KY 40602  
Ph: (502) 227-0053  
Fax: (502) 227-5009  
Email: sarmag@sar.org

**HEADQUARTERS STAFF ADDRESS:**  
National Society Sons  
of the American Revolution  
809 West Main Street  
Louisville, KY 40202  
Ph: (502) 589-1776  
Fax: (502) 589-1671  
Email: nssar@sar.org  
Website: www.sar.org

**STAFF DIRECTORY**  
As indicated below, staff members have an email address and an extension number of the automated telephone system to simplify reaching them.

**Executive Director:**  
Don Shaw, ext. 6128,  
dshaw@sar.org

**Administrative Assistant to  
President (SAR Foundation):**  
Linda Dunn, (502) 315-1777, ext. 1777,  
ldunn@sar.org

**Director of Finance:**  
Mary Butts, ext. 6120,  
mbutts@sar.org

**Director of Operations:**  
Michael Scroggins, ext. 6125,  
mscroggi@sar.org

**Special Events Coordinator:**  
Debbie Smalley, ext. 6123,  
dsmalley@sar.org

**Acting Director of The Center/  
Director of Education:**  
Colleen Wilson, ext. 6129,  
cwilson@sar.org

**Librarian:** Michael Christian,  
ext. 6131, library@sar.org

**Assistant Librarian/Archivist:**  
Rae Ann Sauer, ext. 6132,  
rsauer@sar.org

**Librarian Assistant/Receptionist:**  
Robin Christian, ext. 6138, library@sar.org

**Registrar:** Jon Toon,  
ext. 6142, jtoon@sar.org

**Merchandise Director:** Susan Griffin,  
ext. 6141, sgriffin@sar.org

## The President General's Message

# Finding Our Common Path

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Thank you for your confidence by electing me President General. Let me introduce you to my family. Our daughter, Bridgett Harsgaard, is a consultant living in New York City with our grandchildren, Lizzie and Gracie. Gracie is 7 and plays baseball—not T-ball or softball. She is a catcher and shortstop and a good hitter with her own Louisville Slugger bat. Lizzie is 12 and a ballerina. She has danced with the American School of Ballet and the New York City Ballet at Lincoln Center. She is going to study with the Paris Opera Ballet.

Many friends and compatriots have worked hard to make this society one of the strongest lineage and patriotic organizations.

Organizations that want to make a difference, to be great, must have dreams and set lofty goals. There has been much discussion about the Solid Light proposal for the main-floor education center, our need to move forward aggressively with outreach education, to finish construction on our building, and the need for new software and a new website.

While raising money and renovating the Library and Headquarters building, we were all pretty much on the same page, but when we completed enough of the building to move in, it became clear there were differing opinions about what to do next. This is like when our Patriot ancestors were united to achieve independence but then became divided over the course to follow after we won the war. And like our founding fathers, we will come together, and here is how I think we can do it.

To make the best decision possible I will appoint a SAR Implementation Committee to look at our options and make recommendations at the Spring Leadership Meeting. The committee should have the final Solid Light plan by then; they already have the University of Louisville business plan, a better plan for outreach education and updated IT plans. The committee will be chaired by PG Nathan White and will include principal stakeholders, including the SAR Foundation; the IT Committee; representatives from Education, Budget and Strategic Planning committees; the museum board; and our new Governance and Organization Committee. They will review our existing plans and suggest options for consideration. We have to make decisions about what type of exhibit space we will have, how to proceed with completing construction, how to develop and make

our outreach education programs national in scope, and how to complete our IT systems.

Another focus will be to bolster our SAR legacy. We all hope to leave a legacy to be remembered. We have legacies with our family, our jobs and our church, but another important legacy is our SAR legacy. How many lives will we touch? How many seeds of patriotism will we plant? It is through young people that we build our SAR legacy, and we do it with our youth programs. I am not minimizing the importance of our color guard or public service awards or any other programs, but if we want to preserve the vision of our founding fathers, we must reach our youth. When we go to a school and put on a program or sponsor a poster or oration contest, or when Tom Green from Texas puts on a flag program, we touch students' lives and give them an opportunity to learn about Paul Revere's ride, the Battle of Yorktown or a brave young wife named Molly Pitcher. Going to the trouble to help them leaves a lasting impression that the American Revolution is important enough for you to take the time to come out and talk about it. It is hard work to set up these programs, but it is incredibly rewarding, and we know that by doing this we make this country stronger and ensure that our descendants will continue to enjoy the freedoms Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Paine wrote about so eloquently, and Patrick Henry and Samuel Adams spoke about so passionately.

Our youth programs are strong and led by dedicated compatriots, but not all states fully participate. Committee members have always talked informally, but I think we would benefit from a structured exchange. I will form a Council of Youth Programs that will include the chairmen of the eight youth programs—the poster contest, middle school brochure contest, C.A.R. award, Eagle Scout award, essay, oration, JROTC and the American History Teacher award. Dr. Rudy Byrd will chair the council, and its members will help one another's programs. I ask that they design a brochure featuring all eight programs that can be handed out in schools. This brochure can be put on our website so chapters and states can download it, add their contact information and print it themselves. As encouragement, any state society that submits at least four

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President General Thomas E. Lawrence with his wife, Mickey Jo, and granddaughters Lizzie and Gracie.

# GENERAL OFFICERS, NATIONAL SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

**PRESIDENT GENERAL Judge Thomas E. Lawrence**,  
23 Post Shadow Estate Drive, Spring, TX 77389,  
(832) 717-6816, [tlawrence01@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tlawrence01@sbcglobal.net)

**SECRETARY GENERAL J. Michael Tomme Sr.**,  
3830 Chardonnay Drive, Rockledge, FL 32955,  
(321) 806-3564, [mtomme@bellsouth.net](mailto:mtomme@bellsouth.net)

**TREASURER GENERAL Larry T. Guzy**, 4531 Paper Mill Road,  
S.E., Marietta GA 30067-4025, [LarryGuzy47@gmail.com](mailto:LarryGuzy47@gmail.com)

**CHANCELLOR GENERAL Davis Lee Wright**, P.O. Box 8096,  
Wilmington, DE 19803, (302) 584-1686,  
[davis.wright@verison.net](mailto:davis.wright@verison.net)

**GENEALOGIST GENERAL John Douglas Sinks**, 4649 South  
34th Street, Arlington, VA 22206-1701, (703) 931-2660,  
[jsinks@comcast.net](mailto:jsinks@comcast.net)

**REGISTRAR GENERAL Russell F. DeVenney Jr.**, 5026 South  
Hunter Court, Columbia, MO 65203-9227,  
[rfdjr1@centurytel.net](mailto:rfdjr1@centurytel.net)

**HISTORIAN GENERAL John T. "Jack" Manning**, 10 Old Colony  
Way, Scituate, MA 02066-4711, [Jack@Manning.net](mailto:Jack@Manning.net)

**LIBRARIAN GENERAL C. Bruce Pickette**, 7801 Wynlakes  
Blvd., Montgomery, AL 36117, (334) 273-4680,  
[pickette@att.net](mailto:pickette@att.net)

**SURGEON GENERAL Dr. Larry M. Leslie**, 682 North Central  
Avenue, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, (606) 226-2256,  
[larrymleslie@hotmail.com](mailto:larrymleslie@hotmail.com)

**CHAPLAIN GENERAL Rev. James C. Taylor**, 102 Cherokee Lane,  
San Antonio, TX 78232, (210) 494-2300,  
[jamestaylor22@gmail.com](mailto:jamestaylor22@gmail.com)

**INSPECTOR GENERAL Warren M. Alter**, 6743 East Rosewood  
Place, Tucson, AZ 85710-1217, (520) 886-1980,  
[warrenalter@cox.net](mailto:warrenalter@cox.net)

## Executive Committee

**James T. Jones Jr.**, 5305 Cascades Court, College Station, TX  
77845-4641, (979) 690-8631, [jtjones36@verizon.net](mailto:jtjones36@verizon.net)

**William Oliver Stone**, 1131 Felder Avenue, Montgomery, AL  
36106, (334) 264-7157, [bstonealsar@gmail.com](mailto:bstonealsar@gmail.com)

**Douglas T. Collins**, 3703 River Bluff Road, Prospect, KY  
40059, (502) 292-0719, [alliedoug@twc.com](mailto:alliedoug@twc.com)

## Vice Presidents General

**NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT, Lt. Col. Douglas MacDonald Wood**,  
USA (Ret.), 3 Douglas Drive, Salem, NH 03079-3251,  
(603) 893-2637, [doug.wood@comcast.net](mailto:doug.wood@comcast.net)

**NORTH ATLANTIC DISTRICT, Col. Peter K. Goebel**,  
96 Old Mill Pond Road, Nassau, NY 12123-2633,  
[GoebelPK@yahoo.com](mailto:GoebelPK@yahoo.com)

**MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT, George A. Jones**, 90 October Glory  
Avenue, Ocean View, DE 19970, (302) 537-0524,  
[gajones@verison.net](mailto:gajones@verison.net)

**SOUTH ATLANTIC DISTRICT, Dr. Edward Paul Rigel Sr.**,  
1504 Berkeley Court, Gainesville, GA 30501-1260,  
(770) 534-7043, [compatriotrigel@charter.net](mailto:compatriotrigel@charter.net)

**SOUTHERN DISTRICT, Michael C. Wells**, 3332 Wisteria Drive,  
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216-4260, (205) 979-2979,  
[mcwells1944@yahoo.com](mailto:mcwells1944@yahoo.com)

**CENTRAL DISTRICT, LCdr. Robert Dale Howell Sr., USN  
(ret.)**, 419 Boyd Lane, Bedford, IN 47421-9028,  
(812) 278-7007, [howell1938@hpcrisp.com](mailto:howell1938@hpcrisp.com)

**GREAT LAKES DISTRICT, Richard E. Chamblin**, 825 Buccaneer  
Point, Decatur, IL 62521, (217) 428-8856,  
[rhamblin1931@comcast.net](mailto:rhamblin1931@comcast.net)

**NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT, John Thomas Parsons**, 1512  
Beechwood Avenue, Papillion, NE 68133-2506,  
(402) 339-7565, [parsonil@q.com](mailto:parsonil@q.com)

**SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT, Stephen W. Rohrbough**,  
15123 Elkton Road, San Antonio, TX 78232-3909,  
(210) 496-9429, [srohrbough@sbcglobal.net](mailto:srohrbough@sbcglobal.net)

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT, Michael E. Barger**, 1942 Western  
Hill Drive SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124-8902,  
(505) 892-3076, [mebarger@cablone.net](mailto:mebarger@cablone.net)

**INTERMOUNTAIN DISTRICT, John Jay Robinson**, 614 McLeod  
Street, Big Timber, MT 59011, (505) 369-0422,  
[barjoh39@gmail.com](mailto:barjoh39@gmail.com)

**WESTERN DISTRICT, John L. Dodd**, 10072 Highcliff Drive,  
Santa Ana, CA 92705-1545, (714) 602-2132,  
[JohnLDodd@earthlink.net](mailto:JohnLDodd@earthlink.net)

**PACIFIC DISTRICT, Col. Jay Crispin Bisgard**, USAF, 10700 NE  
4th Street, Unit 2914, Bellevue, WA 98006, (425) 442-7912,  
[cris.bisgard@gmail.com](mailto:cris.bisgard@gmail.com)

**EUROPEAN DISTRICT, Comte Jacques de Trentinian**,  
43 Rue de Sevres, F-92100 Boulogne, France 92100,  
(014) 603-0231, [trentinian@free.fr](mailto:trentinian@free.fr)

**INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT, Michael J. Elston**, 316094 Olmstead  
Lane, Woodbridge, VA 22191, (703) 680-0866,  
[elston.sar@gmail.com](mailto:elston.sar@gmail.com)

## Presidents General

**1995-1996 William C. Gist Jr., DMD**, "Springfield," Zachary  
Taylor House, 5608 Apache Road, Louisville, KY 40207-  
1770, (502) 897-9990, [gistwgc897@aol.com](mailto:gistwgc897@aol.com)

**1997-1998 Prof. Carl K. Hoffmann**, P.O. Box 4332, Anna Maria,  
FL 34216-4332, (904) 679-5882, [hoffmaria@yahoo.com](mailto:hoffmaria@yahoo.com)

**1999-2000 Howard Franklyn Horne Jr.**, 4031 Kennett Pike,  
No. 23, Greenville, DE 19807, (302) 427-3957,  
[hhorne04@hotmail.com](mailto:hhorne04@hotmail.com)

**2001-2002 Larry Duncan McClanahan**, 121 Rustic Lane,  
Gallatin, TN 37066, (615) 461-8335, [ldmcc@comcast.net](mailto:ldmcc@comcast.net)

**2003-2004 Raymond Gerald Musgrave, Esq.**,  
548 Fairview Drive, Point Pleasant, WV 25550,  
(304) 675-5350, [musgrave@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:musgrave@suddenlinkmail.com)

**2004-2005 Henry N. McCarl, Ph.D.**, 28 Old Nugent Farm  
Road, Gloucester, MA 01930-3167, (978) 281-5269,  
[w4rig@arrl.net](mailto:w4rig@arrl.net)

**2005-2006 Roland Granville Downing, Ph.D.**,  
2118 Fleet Landing Blvd., Atlantic Beach, FL 32233,  
(904) 853-6128, [roland.downing@comcast.net](mailto:roland.downing@comcast.net)

**2006-07 Nathan Emmett White Jr., (Executive Committee)**  
P.O. Box 808, McKinney, TX 75070-8144, (972) 562-6445,  
[whiten@prodigy.net](mailto:whiten@prodigy.net)

**2007-2008 Bruce A. Wilcox**, 3900 Windsor Hall Drive,  
Williamsburg, VA 23188, (757) 345-5878, [baw58@aol.com](mailto:baw58@aol.com)

**2008-2009 Col. David Nels Appleby**, P.O. Box 158, Ozark, MO  
65721-0158, (417) 581-2411, [applebylaw@aol.com](mailto:applebylaw@aol.com)

**2009-2010 Hon. Edward Franklyn Butler Sr.**,  
8830 Cross Mountain Trail, San Antonio, TX  
78255-2014, (210) 698-8964, [sarpg0910@aol.com](mailto:sarpg0910@aol.com)

**2010-2011 J. David Sympson**, 5414 Pawnee Trail, Louisville,  
KY 40207-1260, (502) 893-3517, [dsympson@aol.com](mailto:dsympson@aol.com)

**2011-2012 Larry J. Magerkurth**, 77151 Iroquois Drive,  
Indian Wells, CA 92210-9026, (760) 200-9554,  
[lmagerkurt@aol.com](mailto:lmagerkurt@aol.com)

**2012-2013 Stephen A. Leishman**, 2603 Tonbridge Drive,  
Wilmington, DE 19810-1216, (302) 475-4841,  
[steveleishman@msn.com](mailto:steveleishman@msn.com)

**2013-2014 Joseph W. Dooley**, 3105 Faber Drive, Falls Church,  
VA 22044-1712, (703) 534-3053, [joexyz@verizon.net](mailto:joexyz@verizon.net)

**2014-2015 Lindsey Cook Brock**, (Executive Committee)  
6532 Heckscher Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32226-3226,  
(904) 251-9226, [lindsey.brock@comcast.net](mailto:lindsey.brock@comcast.net)

## The President General's Message

Continued from page 3

candidates for a youth program national contest will receive a streamer. For any state societies that submit an entry for all eight contests I will personally write a check for \$250 to that society's youth program budget. For states that submit candidates for all eight programs I will write another check for \$250 if any of their candidates win. Don't worry about the money; it is coming out of Mickey Jo's shoe budget.

I ask this council to post the winning essays and speeches on the website as well as information about current and past winners. The committee chairmen should record videos so chapters and states can access them on our website and see the benefits and learn how to set up a youth program.

I would like to mention three other ideas before I close—education, the way our committees function, and our basic governance and organizational structure.

One of the first things the new regime does when it takes over the government is to change what the kids are taught in school. They now learn that the old government was bad and the new leaders are heroes. Textbooks are rewritten, teachers re-educated, and new pictures put up in the schoolhouses. If you teach history in a certain way long enough, school children begin to believe it, so our fight is over how the history of the American Revolution is taught. Not only do we need to make sure it is adequately covered, but we need to see it is accurately portrayed. I am asking the Education Committee to add a subcommittee to map out a strategy to exert influence on how textbooks and web-based learning programs are written and selected. Tom Jackson from Texas is to chair this subcommittee. He is an elected school board member from one of the largest suburban school districts in the country, with more than 112,000 students. Anyone interested in this project should contact Education Committee Chairman Larry Stevens or Tom Jackson.

Next, it clearly impossible to get all of our committee work done on a Friday at Leadership Meetings. Every new PG tries to improve efficiency by dissolving some committees and creating new ones, but I think we need to change the corporate culture. To help the committees, I am appointing Mike Elston of Virginia as a committee coordinator. He will work with the committee chairmen to set and meet goals, submit budgets, assist them in holding meetings with teleconferences and [gotomeeting.com](http://gotomeeting.com) and introduce them to working with Sharefile for document access. He will make sure committee concerns needing immediate attention are brought to the Excom and PG. To allow our members to attend all the necessary committee meetings and allow sufficient time for the trustee meetings, we will start on Thursday with a social activity on Thursday night.

Lastly, I want to look at our governance and organizational structure. As you know, we have a Congressional Charter, which is prestigious but limiting. We have the SAR Foundation, which is chartered in Kentucky, and we have the right to use the CAAH name, so we have laws and rules we must follow. Questions have come up about our corporate structures in regard to liability, accepting donations from charitable entities,

whether we have the exclusive right to use all of the potential operating names we need, and whether our system of governance still makes sense. I am appointing three of our best lawyers—John Dodd, Davis Wright and PG David Appleby—to seek answers and report to us by the Spring Leadership Meeting with suggestions or proposed changes.

I often find myself reading the obituaries. I love to see where people were born and what they did. I look for their military service. I notice their work history, sometimes being impressed if they were a doctor, a partner in a big law firm or the president of a corporation. I increasingly search for what they did to help their community. When you read an obituary, you see the year a person was born, a dash, and then the year that person died. The dash represents the individual's life. My wife, Mickey Jo, told me about a poem titled "Dash Between the Years," from which I quote:

*"For it matters not how much we own...the cars...the house...the cash  
What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash"*

How do you want to spend the rest of your dash? The fact that you are an SAR member indicates you love this country, you care about its future, and you respect the ideals of our founding fathers and mothers. If we want this country to continue to look like Washington and Adams and Jefferson envisioned it, then we must ensure that our young people understand their vision and love our country as we do. The best way for us to do this is through our youth programs. You will agree that instilling in our young people the philosophy of the Declaration of Independence and a love of the freedoms in our Constitution is worth some of your dash.

I close with a final thought about what makes an organization great. It is not how many members you have, although people join organizations that do worthwhile things. It is not how much money you have, although people tend to vote with their pocketbook and give when they think their money will be used for beneficial purposes. Organizations are great when they help people or influence positive and fundamental change. Our chance for the SAR to be great is to inspire this great country to continue to follow the patriotic vision of our founding fathers. Those of us who have contributed money and valuable time to preserve the principles of the American Revolution recognize our country's future is dependent on those principles remaining the cornerstone of our government and national vision. We must dream the same dream that George Washington, John Adams and our Patriot ancestors dreamed, and work to make their sacrifices count and ensure that today's youth understand those dreams.

It is a humbling honor to be elected President General, and Mickey Jo and I look forward to this year and hope to see many of you in your home states soon. God bless you.

*Thomas E. Lawrence*

President General Thomas E. Lawrence

# Louisville Welcomes the SAR

The 125th Annual National Congress  
June 27 – July 1, 2015

The 125th Congress, hosted by the Kentucky Society, June 27-July 1, drew 543 compatriots and guests to the Galt House, the modern incarnation of the hotel that hosted the first SAR Congress. Louisville, home to the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Headquarters, is a familiar destination for many compatriots. Louisville is best known for the Kentucky Derby, Kentucky Fried Chicken and the Louisville Slugger baseball bat.

Friday afternoon and evening included a trip to Churchill Downs, site of the Kentucky Derby, and the first running of the Patriots Cup. The NSSAR sponsored the race and many compatriots attended in Derby finery, which included flashy sports coats and women's hats.

On Saturday, many compatriots embarked on a George Rogers Clark Tour, which included stops in southern Indiana just across the Ohio River from Louisville, and Locust Grove east of downtown, where Clark lived his final years. The welcome reception was hosted by the Kentucky Society and held in the new headquarters building on Main Street. There was food and

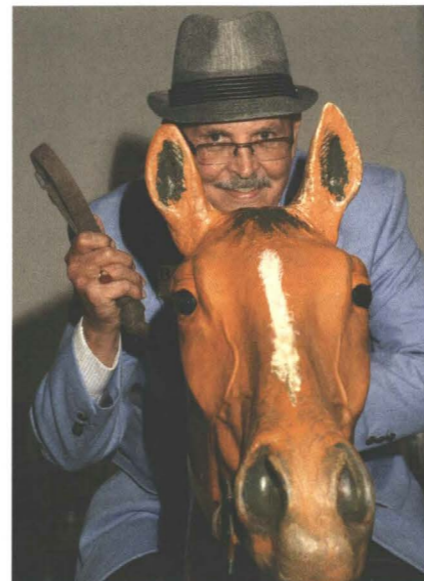


A Day at the Races: The SAR sponsored the first running of the Patriots Cup at Churchill Downs prior to the SAR Congress in Louisville. President General Lindsey C. Brock, above right, and Secretary General Thomas E. Lawrence presented the trophy to the connections of winner Thatcher Street.

CHURCHILL DOWNS		Sons of the American Revolution Patriots Cup	
26-Jun-15			
Allowance \$50,000 (Includes \$8,800 from KTDF) For Three Year Olds and Upward Which Have Never Won A Race Other Than Never Won Two Races, Three Year Olds, 118 Lbs; Older, 125 Lbs Non-winners Of \$24,600 Over A Mile On The Turf And One Sixteenth Mile.) One Mile And One-Sixteenth (Turf)			
Best Record: Wise River(6), 120 lbs; 1:39.83 (4-26-09)			
Post	Outs	Speed Weight	Jockey
1	9-2	116	Robby Albarado
Owner: James and Yeochetta Driver Silks: White, blue 'D', white band on blue sleeves, white cap Trainer: Chris A. Hartman (61-11-8-10) 47.54%			
B.C.3 Scott Dandy - Bella Bliss by Jump Start - Bred in Kentucky by Joe Mulholland Sr. (Mar 30, 2012)			
14 May 15 CD @ 1F	1:16.88d 1/2	7 May 15 CD @ 1F	1:09d 2/3
1 May 15 CD @ 1F	1:13.66d 1/1	21 Apr 15 CD @ 1F	

music, and just up the street a multimedia presentation of "The Kentucky Story" for those interested in seeing it.

The Sunday Memorial Service (see story on page 9) was held at the Cathedral of the Assumption, less than a mile south of the hotel and the home church of President General (1995-



Above, PG Lindsey C. Brock rode a winner in the Kentucky Derby Museum. Right, volunteers gathered for a pre-conference meal at the The Old Spaghetti Factory in Louisville.



1996) William C. Gist, who offered greetings. The Ladies Tea and Open House also was held at the Cathedral of the Assumption following the service. Sunday night's highlight, once again drawing a near-capacity crowd, was the finals of the Joseph Rumbaugh Orations Contest.

Paul R. Callanan, chairman of the NSSAR Congress Planning Committee, and Charles R. "Chuck" Scott, chairman of the Kentucky Planning Committee, directed the event, which included numerous special breakfasts, high-level committee meetings and interaction with the many youth contest participants.

Prior to the opening session on Monday, a World War II-style singing group, The Ladies of Liberty, entertained those in attendance. Highlights of the opening session included a short speech by U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, who talked about the history of his Revolutionary ancestor, James McConnell, and the fight to keep Alexander Hamilton represented on the \$10 bill. The national anthem was sung by Miss America 2000 Heather French Henry, who currently is the commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs and the great-great-granddaughter of Kentucky Gov. Simon Bolivar Buckner, who is credited with establishing the Kentucky Society in 1889. Buckner (1823-1914), a veteran of the Mexican War and a Confederate general in the Civil War, attended the first SAR Congress in Louisville in 1890 and also attended the SAR Congress in Louisville in 1911.

Numerous groups extended greetings, including representatives of the mayor and governor, the DAR and the C.A.R. Robin Towns made a gift presentation on behalf of the WOSAR, which has donated more than \$100,000 to the SAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage. Others bringing greetings included American Legion National Commander Michael D. Helm; Curtis P. Cheyney III, General President of the General Society Sons of the Revolution; and President General Thomas Jacks of the General Society of the War of 1812.

Also part of the opening session was a special recognition of the Donahue Family of California. Anne Donahue Lampman, the wife of California Compatriot Chuck Lampman, left a gift of more than \$500,000 to the NASSAR after her death in 2012. Making the presentation was her son, David B. Donahue Jr., his wife, Susan, and their son, Davey.

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

In the only contested elections of the Congress, John T. Manning of Massachusetts was elected Historian General, and Michael J. Elston of Virginia and Rick D. Hollis of Tennessee were elected to the SAR Foundation Board. Elected by acclamation were President General Judge Thomas E. Lawrence (Texas), Secretary General J. Michael Tomme Sr. (Fla.), Treasurer General Larry T. Guzy (Ga.), Chancellor General Davis Lee Wright (Del.), Genealogist General John D. Sinks (Va.), Registrar General Russell F. DeVenney Jr. (Mo.), Librarian General C. Bruce Pickette (Ala.), Surgeon General Dr. Larry M. Leslie (Ky.) and Chaplain General Rev. James C. Taylor (Texas). Named to the 2015-2016 Executive Committee were President General (2006-2007) Nathan E. White of Texas, President General (2014-2015) Lindsey C. Brock of Florida, James T. Jones Jr. of Texas, Douglas T. Collins of Kentucky and William O. Stone of Alabama.



Miss America 2000 Heather French Henry, a Kentuckian representing the governor, presented PG Lindsey C. Brock with a proclamation in honor of the Congress being held in Louisville.

**BUSINESS SESSIONS CONDUCTED**

Following the posting of colors by the combined SAR Color Guard and an invocation by Chaplain General Randy D. Moody, Secretary General Thomas E. Lawrence led the Pledge of Allegiance and Treasurer General J. Michael Tomme led the Pledge to the SAR. The eight Presidents General in attendance presented comments, led by Roland G. Downing (2005-

2006). Other PGs attending were White, Bruce A. Wilcox (2007-2008), David N. Appleby (2008-2009), Judge Edward F. Butler Sr. (2009-2010), J. David Sympson (2010-2011), Stephen A. Leishman (2012-2013) and Joseph W. Dooley (2013-2014).

During the business session, the Congress approved a \$5 increase in national dues, effective Jan. 1, 2016. All other fees will remain unchanged.

During the Wednesday session, SAR

Foundation President Dr. Samuel C. Powell announced that more than \$230,000 had been raised in donations and pledges during the Congress. "That is a record [for a Congress] by a wide stretch," he said.

**OTHER HIGHLIGHTS**

In addition to the early Congress tours, Wednesday included trips to either the Kentucky Horse Park near Lexington or to Fort Knox, south of Louisville.

Above left, the Donahue Family with PG Lindsey C. Brock and SAR Foundation President Sam Powell (right); left, PG Lindsey C. Brock with his wife, Billie, and Mickey Jo and President General Thomas E. Lawrence; below left, Brock honored photographer Penny Rogo, who was working her 30th SAR Congress; center, Brock received a check from Robin Towns; Brock placed the George Washington ring on the finger of newly installed PG Thomas E. Lawrence.



# SAR Memorial Service

The 125th Annual Congress Memorial Service was held Sunday, June 28, at the historic Cathedral of the Assumption, dedicated in 1852, in downtown Louisville.

Led by Chaplain General Rev. Randy D. Moody, it included an invocation by the Rev. James O. Fast and a welcome by President General (1995-1996) William C. Gist, a parishioner of the Cathedral, the cathedral mother church of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Louisville. "This is a special day for me, combining two important parts of my life—the SAR and the church," said Gist.

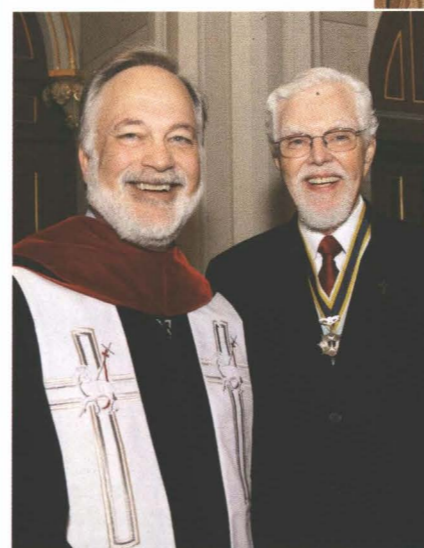
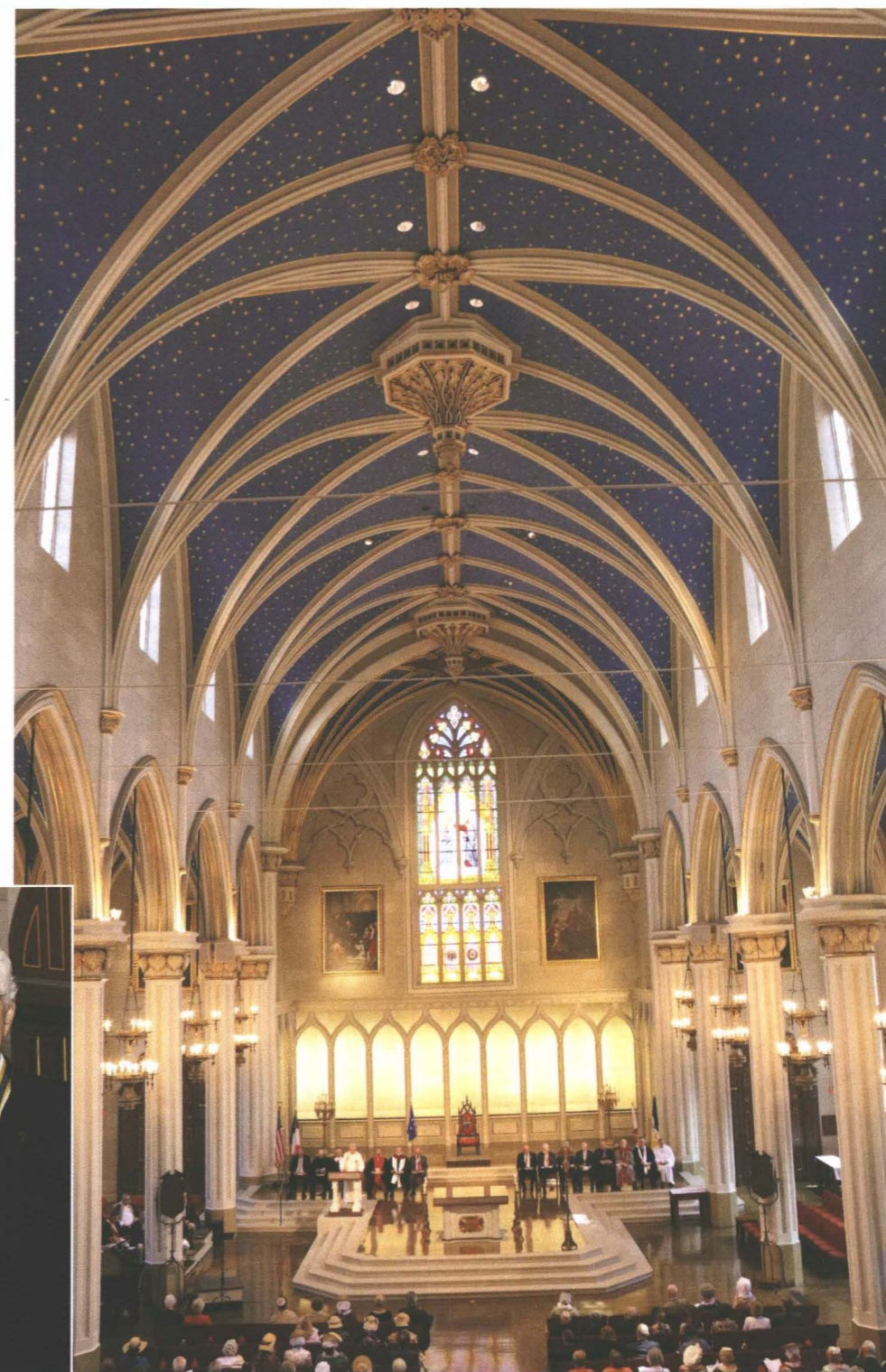
The Rev. James C. Taylor led a memorial to fallen compatriots, who totaled 614 in 2014, including members of 45 of SAR's 58 societies. Among those memorialized were Historian General Robert F. Towns and Pendleton Woods of the OKSSAR.

President General (2010-2011) J. David Sympson offered the Old Testament reading, followed by a psalm by President General (2009-2010)

The SAR Memorial Service was held in Louisville's Cathedral of the Assumption, the home church of President General (1995-1996) William C. Gist, pictured below with Chaplain General Randy Moody.

Edward F. Butler Sr. and a New Testament reading by President General (2012-2013) Stephen A. Leishman. Following a hymn, President General (2013-2014) Joseph W. Dooley

delivered the Gospel reading. Moody's sermon was titled "Well done" and was a tribute to the fallen compatriots and other supporters of public and civic service.





Front row, from left, Gerald P. Brent, co-chairman of the Rumbaugh Orations Contest; Sophia Noelle Zupanc (winner), Ohio; Jill Elizabeth Koval, Indiana; Larry McKinley; President General Lindsey C. Brock; Jack London; Talia Fradkin, Florida; Breana Mobley, Texas; Cayla Cassell Carter, Delaware; second row, John Philbeck, North Carolina; Brendan Sturgeon, Louisiana; Calli Bellinger (finalist), Virginia; Jennifer London; Joe Cozzi (second place), Illinois; Jefferson Richard DeMont (finalist), Georgia; John H. Franklin, co-chairman; back row, Bennett Auwaerter, Maryland; Bhavish Dinakar, Kansas; Peter Daniel Poythress (third place), Alabama; Robert Alan Walters, South Carolina; Caleb Salers (finalist), Mississippi; Parker Pritchett, Kentucky; Harrison W. Middleton, California; and Ashley Cook, Tennessee.

## America: The Land of Failure?

BY SOPHIA NOELLE ZUPANC

America: the land of the free and the home of the brave. America: the land of opportunity and prosperity. America: the land of failure. Even though failure is often viewed in a negative light, it's been our ability to admit our missteps that makes this country so great. From the Embargo Act of 1807 to The Kansas-Nebraska Act, and perhaps the most striking presidential failure in American history—President William Howard Taft unsuccessfully trying to exit a bathtub—we as a country have grown stronger because we are not afraid to admit our shortcomings and learn from them. The perfect example of this idea is the Articles of Confederation. Many people may dismiss the Articles as our first haphazard attempt at government, but really, they reveal so much more than that. Fundamentally, the Articles showed us when the government isn't meeting our needs, we can change it and make it better.

Following the Declaration of Independence, members of the Continental Congress realized that it would be necessary to set up a national government. After months of disagreements, and the British capture of Philadelphia, the delegates finally formulated the Articles of Confederation. When the Articles were first drafted, they were far from perfect. They left the issue of state claims to western lands completely unresolved, the national government couldn't coin money, and they didn't provide a national court system to protect the rights of U.S. citizens. The weaknesses within the Articles caused states to have frequent arguments between themselves, and eventually refuse to financially support the national government. In short, the

Articles were doomed to fail. In fact, as George Washington articulated in a letter to Rev. William Gordon written on July 8, 1783, "It now rests with the Confederated Powers by the line of conduct they mean to adopt, to make this Country great, happy, and respectable, or to sink it into littleness—worse perhaps, into Anarchy and Confusion—for certain I am that unless adequate Powers are given to Congress for the general purposes of the Federal Union that we shall soon molder into dust and become contemptible in the Eyes of Europe."

After it was clear that the Articles were going to fail, the states sent 55 delegates to Philadelphia to revise them, but when the delegates convened at the Federal Convention on May 25, 1787, they quickly rejected the idea of revising the Articles of Confederation and instead constructed a new framework for our government. But the idea to create a new country didn't start in that stuffy Philadelphia statehouse; instead, the movement for a new national government actually began in September 1786 at the Annapolis convention. Representatives of Maryland and Virginia invited delegates from all the States to Annapolis to discuss the issues regarding commercial affairs under the Articles. Even though only delegates from five states were able to make it, at the meeting the group realized that the country might be better off without the articles. To everyone's surprise, when the delegates exited that Federal Convention at the end of the summer of 1787, something amazing had occurred: they drafted the Constitution of the United States of America.

To me and many other Americans, that's the most important thing that came out of the Revolutionary War period: the idea that our government was truly



Sophia Noelle Zupanc, a senior at Gilmour Academy in Ohio, was the winner of the Rumbaugh Orations Contest.

made by the people for the people. It showed us that we as a nation not only can, but should use our ability to control our state to discuss and fix the problems within it. In the instance of the Articles of Confederation the delegates thought that the best way to fix it was by drafting a new government, and they were right. More than 220 years later we are still standing here united by the Constitution. In most other nations, that would have been impossible because it's the leaders who solely decide how the nation will grow, not the people. Take 18th-century Britain as an example: the Kings ruled and when the people tried to change certain policies they were forced to start a new nation on the other side of the Atlantic. Even in contemporary nations this notion of a government controlled by the people is foreign. Look at Middle Eastern countries; wars are raging over this very issue.

After looking at other nations, it's easy to see how lucky we truly are to live in a country where it is okay to admit and correct our mistakes. With our government seemingly in a perpetual gridlock, it's easy to lose sight of those basic principles that built our nation, but we can't forget the lessons that we learned while getting here. We need to remember that our mistakes have allowed us to become who we are today: the United States of America—impossibly strong, illogically optimistic, eternally hopeful. We are the people who shouted and died for an opportunity to live freely. And because of our ability as citizens to change our nation for the better, we can be whoever we want to be, dare to be, and dream of being.

## Youth Awards Luncheon

One of the most popular events of any Congress is Monday's Youth Awards Luncheon, and this year was no exception. Emcee T. "Rex" Legler entertained as the winners were honored before a packed house and Catherine Horne, the granddaughter of President General (1999-2000) Howard Horne, played the piano.

The Americanism Poster Contest was won by Ryan Yi of California. Also placing from the 14 states participating were Sam Jabaley of Georgia and Isabel Maldonado of Alabama.

Robby Griffin of Georgia won the The Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest. In all, 11 states participated. Laura Walters of Georgia was second and Kennedy House of Alabama was third.

AFJROTC Cadet/Major Roslayn Carlisi of the Utah Military Academy in Riverdale, Utah, was the winner of the Outstanding JROTC Cadet Award and a \$2,000 scholarship.

Matthew Penza of Connecticut won the Knight Essay Contest and a \$2,000 scholarship. Second was Justin Kim of Massachusetts, and third was Clayton E. Mars of Ohio.

Padraic G. Hennessee, a four-time state winner from Missouri, won the \$8,000 Eagle Scout Scholarship. An AP Scholar, Hennessee is a competitive Irish folk dancer. Second was Kaleb B. Michel of Iowa, and third was Caleb A. Sedam of Indiana.

Derrick Lindow, a U.S. history and social studies teacher at Daviess County Middle School in Owensboro, Ky., was the winner of the Dr. Tom and Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award.

Lindow has brought the Revolutionary War era to life for his students through in-class re-enactments of the Second Continental Congress and the siege of Yorktown. He has students create an Early Republic-era social media project, in which students set up and interact with each other via social media using the personas and perspectives of the American founding patriots. Lindow already has plans to take a group of his students to Washington, D.C., and the Gettysburg battlefield this summer to supplement his social studies curriculum.



At left, Jackson, Jayson and Jonathan London, sons of Compatriot Jack and Jennifer London, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Above, the Londons were honored by President General Lindsey Brock and Larry McKinley for their generous support of the Rumbaugh Orations Contest.



With President General Lindsey Brock is the Minuteman Class of 2015; from left, seated, Peter O. Grassl and Rev. Dr. Randy D. Moody; standing, Davis L. Wright, Joseph E. Harris and Mark Anthony. Not pictured, Raymond A. Clapsadle.

## New Minutemen Inducted

Established in 1951, The Minuteman Award is NSSAR's most prestigious award. Only those Compatriots who have made distinguished and exceptional contributions of service to the National Society may be recognized. The recipient may receive the award only once.

First presented at the 1952 National Congress, the first honoree was former President General Benjamin H. Powell of Texas. The award is given to a maximum of six recipients each year. Prior to the 2015 class, 383 compatriots were recognized.

To receive this prestigious award, the Compatriot must attend the National Congress. A Compatriot Minuteman escorts each new honoree.

The senior Minuteman attending the Louisville Congress was William T. Algood of the South Carolina Society, representing the Class of 1995.

Prior to the induction, a moment of silence was observed to honor the Minutemen who had passed away during the past year: Marshall E. Lignian, PASSAR, 1998; Frederick O. Jeffries Jr., WYSSAR, 1996; Charles W. Britton, OKSSAR, 1999; and Robert F. Towns, GASSAR, 2013.

### NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

★ **Mark Anthony** of South Carolina was escorted by George E. Thurman (Minuteman Class

of 2008). Compatriot Anthony has served the National Society as a Vice President General of the South Atlantic District. He also has been a National Trustee and an Alternate Trustee for the SCSSAR. He was appointed as the recording secretary for the NSSAR Executive Committee. Compatriot Anthony has served on the following committees: the Americanism Committee for eight years, four of those years as vice-chairman and two as chairman; the Color Guard Committee for eight years, four as the Adjutant and as editor of the *SAR Colorguardsman* newsletter; the Historic Sites, Celebrations & Reenactments Committee for eight years, three as the chairman; the Flag Committee for eight years; the Congress Planning Committee for six years; the Registration Education & Reporting Committee for five years, serving as the committee secretary each year; the Reinstatement & Retention Committee for four years, serving as chairman all four; the Young Members Committee for four years; the Reinstatement Task Force and as an Aide de Camp for two years each; as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee and Nominating Committee. Compatriot Anthony is the first-line sponsor for 54 new members. He has attended seven Congresses and 15 National Leadership Meetings. He is a Friend of the Library and is a George Washington

Fellow and a contributor to The SAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage.

★ **Raymond A. Clapsadle** of Tennessee was escorted by O. Lee Swart (Minuteman Class of 2001). Compatriot Clapsadle has served the National Society as a Vice President General of the Southern District. He has also been a National Trustee and an Alternate Trustee for the Tennessee Society. Compatriot Clapsadle has served on the following committees: the Information Technology Committee for 16 years, four of those years as chairman and overseeing the creation of the national database system; the JROTC/ROTC Committee for 15 years; the Patriotic Outreach Committee for nine years, serving as chairman for two of those years; the Strategic Planning Committee for five years; the Eagle Scout Committee for four years; as a member of the Rumbaugh Orations Contest Committee and Council of State Presidents for three years each; as vice-chairman of the Information Technology Website sub-committee; and as a member of the Council of Vice Presidents General. Compatriot Clapsadle is the first-line sponsor for six new members. He has attended 11 Congresses and 28 National Leadership Meetings. He is a contributor to the ROTC Endowment Fund and to The SAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage; and is a George Washington Fellow.

★ **Peter O. Grassl** of Kansas was escorted by I. Barnett Ellis (Minuteman Class of 2008). Compatriot Grassl has served the National Society as a Vice President General of the South Central District. He also has been a National Trustee and an Alternate Trustee for two years each for the KSSAR. Compatriot Grassl has served on the following committees: the Nominating Committee for two years; the Congress Planning Committee for five years, three of those years as chairman; as a member of the Finance Committee for four years; the Public Relations Task Force for two years, serving as chairman both years; as a member of the Council of State Presidents and the Master of Ceremonies Committee for two years each; the Solid Light AdHoc Committee as vice-chairman; the secretary of the Council of Vice Presidents General; and as a member of the New Chapter Development Task Force. Compatriot Grassl is the first-line sponsor for 15 new members and actively assisted in creating three chapters in the KSSAR. He has attended nine Congresses and 18 National Leadership Meetings. He is a George Washington Fellow and a contributor to The SAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage.

★ **Joe E. Harris Jr.** of North Carolina was escorted by Nathan E. White Jr. (Minuteman Class of 2006). Compatriot Harris has served the National Society as a Vice President General of the Intermountain District for two terms. He also has been a National Trustee for the Utah Society and an Alternate Trustee for the Idaho Society and the Utah Society for two years. Compatriot Harris has served on the following committees: the Nominating Committee as the 1st Alternate; the ROTC/JROTC/Service Academies Committee for three years, serving as chairman; the National Parks Liaison Committee as chairman; the Congress Planning Committee as vice-chairman; the Council of Vice Presidents General for two years, serving as vice-chairman one year; the Music and Hospitality Committee for two years; and as a member of the Americanism Committee, the Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee, the Boys State Committee, the Education Committee, the Merchandise Committee, the Library and Archives Committee and the Patriotic Outreach Committee. Compatriot Harris also served as executive

director of the NSSAR for four years. Compatriot Harris is the first-line sponsor for six new members and actively assisted in reorganizing the Le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter, along with organizing the Gen. George Washington Chapter, the Halifax Resolves Chapter and Yadkin Valley Chapter in the NCSSAR. He has attended 11 Congresses and 24 National Leadership Meetings. He is a George Washington Fellow and a contributor to The SAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage.

★ **Randy D. Moody** of the Florida Society was escorted by Lawrence E. McKinley (Minuteman Class of 2010). Compatriot Moody has served the National Society as a Vice President General of the South Atlantic District and as Chaplain General for two terms. He has been a National Trustee for the Florida Society for three years. Compatriot Moody has served on the following committees: the Chaplains Committee for seven years, one as vice-chairman and two as chairman; the Information Technology Committee and the Rumbaugh Orations Committee for four years each; as a member of the Congress Planning Committee for three years; as a member of the Insurance Committee and the Insurance and Risk Management Committee for two years each; and as a member of the Ethics Committee and the Membership Committee for two years each; serving as vice-chairman of the Council of Vice Presidents General. Compatriot Moody was instrumental in the creation of the *NSSAR Chaplains Manual*, currently available on the SAR website. He also served as editor and reviewer of the *Grave Marking Handbook*. Compatriot Moody is the first-line sponsor for 32 new members and assisted in the chartering of two chapters, the Highlands and the South Shore chapters. He has attended six Congresses and 12 National Leadership Meetings. He has contributed to the Rumbaugh Orations Fund and the SAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage. He is a Benjamin Franklin subscriber and is a George Washington Fellow.

★ **Davis L. Wright** of the Delaware Society was escorted by Stephen A. Leishman (Minuteman Class of 2008). Compatriot Wright has served the National Society as a Vice President General of the Mid-Atlantic District. Compatriot Wright has been a National Trustee for three years and an Alternate Trustee for three years for the Delaware Society. Compatriot Wright has served on the following committees: the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee for two years each; the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee for seven years, serving as vice-chairman for three years; the Legal Advisory Committee for seven years, serving as chairman for three of those years; the Council of State Presidents for seven years, serving as assistant secretary-treasurer and secretary-treasurer; the Handbook Committee for four years, serving as vice-chairman and chairman for two each of those years; the Eagle Scout Committee for three years; the Strategic Planning and Protocol Committees for three years each; the Master of Ceremonies and Young Members Committees for two years each; as a member of the Membership Committee and the Council of Vice Presidents General; and the Task Force on Foreign Society Charters, serving as chairman. Compatriot Wright is the first-line sponsor for 13 new members and actively assisted in organizing the Delaware Continentals Chapter. He has attended eight Congresses and 15 National Leadership Meetings. He has contributed to the Americanism Youth program, the Eagle Scout Fund, the JROTC/ROTC Fund, the Knight Essay Fund and the Rumbaugh Orations Fund. He is a George Washington Fellow and a contributor to The SAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage.

# Recognition Night

Awards to state societies, chapters and individuals

The following awards are presented to state societies, chapters and individuals for various categories listed in The SAR Handbook.

**C.A.R. ACTIVITY AWARD AND STREAMERS**—To the state society that has documented its work with the Children of the American Revolution over the past year and has completed the filing process.

Winners: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Empire State (New York), North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Washington.

Participation streamers were presented to those state societies who submitted candidates for the various youth contests.

**AMERICANISM POSTER CONTEST**—The following societies participated in the Americanism Poster Contest: Alabama, California, Georgia, Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, New Jersey and Wisconsin.

**SGT. MOSES ADAMS MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL BROCHURE CONTEST**—The following societies participated in the Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest: Alabama, California, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

**THE HAROLD L. PUTNAM AWARD**—To the state society chairman responsible for the winner of the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Orations Contest. Winner: Steve Kelley, Ohio Society.

**THE EDWIN B. GRAHAM PLAQUE**—To the state society sponsoring the first-place winner of the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Orations Contest. Winner: Ohio Society.

**JOHN C. HAUGHTON AWARD**—To the state society sponsoring the winner of the ROTC/JROTC Contest. Winner: Utah Society. The following societies participated in the ROTC/JROTC Contest and received a participation streamer: Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington.

**THE GEORGE S. & STELLA M. KNIGHT AWARD**—To the state society sponsoring the winner of the George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest. Winner: Connecticut Society.

The following societies participated in the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest and received a

participation streamer: Alabama, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, United Kingdom, West Virginia and Washington.

**THE MARIAN L. BROWN EAGLE SCOUT**

**AWARD**—To the state society sponsoring the winner of the Arthur M. King Eagle Scout Scholarship competition. Winner: Missouri Society.

The following societies participated in the Arthur M. King Eagle Scout Scholarship competition and received a participation streamer: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Dakotas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska,

Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

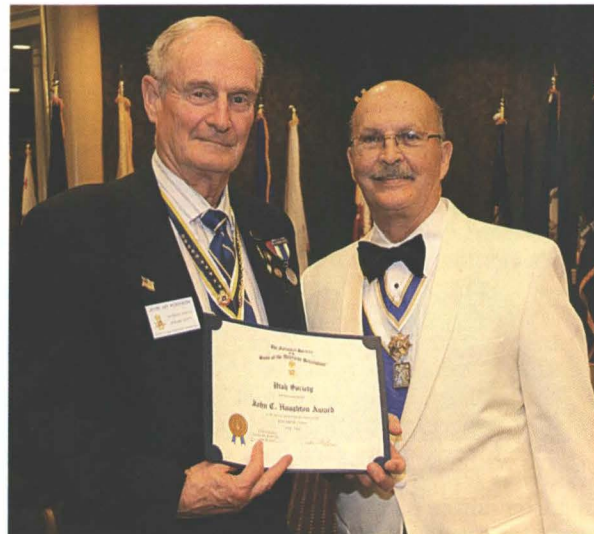
**THE THOMAS J. BOND JR. MEMORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD**—To the compatriot to present the best photograph depicting the spirit of patriotism. (Cash award) Winner: James C. Fosdyck of the California Society.

**THE WINSTON C. WILLIAMS SAR MAGAZINE AWARD**—To the compatriot or society that was the most co-operative in supplying usable magazine material. Winner: Stephen R. Renouf of the California Society.

**THE JENNINGS H. FLATHERS AWARD**—To the state society with fewer than 500 members with the best news publications. (Cash award) Winner: *The Colorado Patriot*, Wayne Snodgrass, editor. Runner-Up: *The Wyoming Patriot*, Edward Dutton and David Thompson, co-editors.

**THE ELEANOR SMALLWOOD NIEBELL AWARD**—To the state C.A.R. society and local C.A.R. society that have been judged to have the best newsletter by the guidelines set up by the N.S.C.A.R. (Cash award) State Winner: *The Orange Blossom Newsletter* of the Florida Society C.A.R. Local Chapter Winner: The Martha Stewart Bulloch Society, Georgia Society C.A.R.

**THE PAUL M. NIEBELL SR. AWARD**—To the state society of 500 or more members with the best news publications with fewer than 10 pages. (Cash award) Winner: SAR Alabama, Tim Gayle, editor



John C. Haughton of the Utah Society accepts one of several awards on behalf of his society.

**THE GRAHAME T. SMALLWOOD JR. AWARD**—To the state society of 500 or more members with the best news publications with more than 10 pages. (Cash award). Winner: *The California Patriot*, M. Kent Gregory and J. Stephen Hurst, co-editors. Runner Up: *The Kentucky Pioneer*, Charles E. Scott, editor.

**THE CARL F. BESSENT AWARD**—To the editor of the most outstanding chapter newsletter. Single sheet (Cash award): *The Marshal*, Robert Forsyth Chapter, Ga., Alan Greenly, editor. Runner-Up: *The General's News*, Gen. Joseph Bartholomew Chapter, Ill., Don Hyland and Kyle Hyland, co-editors. Multiple sheet (Cash award): *The Minuteman*, Thomas Jefferson Chapter, Calif., Stephen R. Renouf, editor. Runner-Up: *The Minuteman*, Central Florida Chapter, Fla., Jeffery Sizemore, editor.

**THE PERIODICAL AWARD**—To a periodical publication that is worthy of recognition by the Newsletter Committee. Winner: 2014 Kentucky Society Yearbook, Charles E. Scott, editor.

**COL. STEWART BOONE McCARTY AWARD**—To the compatriot who has best furthered the preservation of United States history and its traditional teachings in our schools. (Cash award) Winner: Brent W. Taylor of the Georgia Society.

**THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY STEPHEN TAYLOR AWARD**—To the compatriot, who by his research and writings, has made a distinguished contribution to the preservation of the history of the American Revolutionary era and its Patriots. Winner: William Muhlenberg Wagner Jr. of the Pennsylvania Society.

**THE ROBERT E. BURT BOY SCOUT VOLUNTEER AWARD**—To the compatriots who act as role models and provide outstanding dedicated service to the young men in the Boy Scouts of America. Winners: Edwin Michael Flagg, Texas; William Lee Popham, Florida; James William Forrester, South Carolina; John Arthur Schatzel, Kansas; Friedrich W. Kunzler, California; John D. Urbach II, Maryland; Merle Rudebusch, Nebraska; David D. Sparks, Arkansas; Kirk Richardson, Virginia.

**THE WILLIAM M. MELONE AWARD**—To the state society that has the largest number of new and approved supplemental memberships. Winner: Virginia with 147. 2nd Place: Florida with 145.

**THE MATTHEW SELLERS III AWARD**—To the Vice President General who makes the best percentage over quota, based on last year's membership results.

Winner: Intermountain District with 26 percent, Joe E. Harris Jr. 2nd Place: International District with 20 percent, Douglas T. Collins.

**THE RICHARD H. THOMPSON JR. AWARD**—To the society that, at year's end, has the smallest number of members dropped from the rolls for nonpayment of dues. All with zero drops. Winners: Germany, Mexico, Spain, Switzerland and Wyoming.

**THE KENTUCKY CUP**—To the membership chairman of the state society with the largest percentage of new members. Winner: Utah Society with 47 percent. 2nd Place: Idaho Society with 27 percent.

**THE EUGENE C. MCGUIRE AWARD**—To the state society enrolling the largest number of sons, grandsons and nephews of SARs and DARs. Winner: Florida Society with 130. 2nd Place: Georgia Society with 122.

**THE DAR/SAR MEMBERSHIP AWARD**—To the DAR state society with the highest percentage of recruiting SAR members. (Cash award) Winner: Wyoming Society with 100 percent; 2nd Place: Delaware Society with 58 percent; 3rd Place: Montana Society with 50 percent.

**THE ARTHUR J. TREMBLE AWARD-1776 TROPHY**—To the state society that reinstated the largest number of dropped and resigned members. Winner: Texas Society with 267. 2nd Place: Illinois Society with 146.

**THE WALTER G. STERLING AWARD**—To the state society that enrolled the largest number of new members transferred from the C.A.R. A three-way tie with three each: Empire State Society, Pennsylvania Society and Texas Society.

**THE LEN YOUNG SMITH AWARD**—To the state society that enrolled the largest number of new members under 40 years of age. Winner: Florida Society with

109. 2nd Place: California Society with 103.

**THE OHIO AWARD**—To the state society that enrolled the highest percentage of new members under 30 years of age. Winner: Wyoming Society with 58 percent; 2nd Place: New Hampshire Society with 50 percent.

**THE COLORADO AWARD**—To the state society with the highest percentage of increase in membership among states with more than 100 members. Winner: Wisconsin Society with 22 percent. 2nd Place: Illinois Society with 11 percent.

**THE TEXAS AWARD**—To the state society with the highest percentage of increase in membership among states with fewer than 100 members. Winner: Germany Society with 75 percent; 2nd Place: Utah Society with 36 percent.

**THE HOUSTON CHAPTER AWARD**—To the state society that enrolled the largest percentage of new members transferred from the C.A.R. Winner: Washington Society with 3.4 percent. 2nd Place: Colorado Society with 3.3 percent.

**THE ROBERT L. SONFIELD AWARD**—To the state society with the largest numerical increase of members at the end of the membership year. Winner: Florida Society with 101. 2nd Place: Illinois Society with 88.

**THE SENATOR ROBERT A. TAFT AWARD**—To the state society enrolling the largest number of new members. Winner: Florida Society with 307. 2nd Place: California Society with 269.

**THE LIBERTY MEDAL AWARDS**—The Liberty Medal is presented to those compatriots who have recruited 10 new



Robert P. Cunningham, left, of the Indiana Society was named Color Guardsman of the Year. He is joined by Presidents General Lindsey C. Brock and Joseph W. Dooley.



members over a period of time. Those receiving additional Liberty Medal will receive oak leaf cluster awards that are shown in parentheses.

David L. Allen (1), George G. Baggett, Carl B. Banks, Robert O. Bell III (1), William D. Carpenter, Steven F. Claggett, John A. Clines, David E. Cook, John A. Cunningham, Norman G. Dickey, Don N. Drewry, Dana F. Dunlap, Edward Dutton, Joshua C. Eells, Harry M. Fife Jr., Alan D. Fitch Jr., James C. Fosdyck, Steven E. Frash, Connie G. Funderburk, Halfred T. Grimes, Johnny R. Hamilton, James J. Hanlon, Russell N. Haynes, James T. Henderson, Dennis L. Hopper, Michael A. Huey, Bobbie A. Hulse, Charles M. James, Walter W. John, Raymond M. Kane Jr., Kermit B. Keeling Jr., Robert B. Kendall, James C. Lance, Edward Lary (1), David W. Lasser, William D. Leed, John T. Little, J. Phillip London, Charles E. Luna, David L. Manchester, Allen G. Manning, Lee W. Matson, Stephen H. Maxwell, Richard L. McReynolds, Eugene D. Melvin, Patrick M. Mesnard, Jim D. Moore, Fred A. Morris, Cecil C. Murdock Jr., William R. O'Neal, James E. Osbourn, Frank B. Ott (2), David W. Peters, Dennis C. Peterson, Curtis W. Posey Jr., John W. Reinert, John J. Robinson, Stephen W. Rohrbough, George R. Ruch, Jean-Michael Saint Girons, John A. Schatzel, Paul D. Schenck, De Saussure D. Smith III, Jerry L. Venable, Paul A. Walden, George H. Wheelless II, Rodney J. Wilson, Davis L. Wright, Ronald L. Zell.

Those who have received the Liberty Medal in a previous year and have recruited an additional 10 or more new members will receive oak leaf cluster awards.

Raymond L. Alexander, Warren M. Alter (2), John D. Anderson Jr., Mark C. Anthony, Thomas D. Ashby (2), William R. Baccus (2), Andrew L. Baffes, Troy C. Bailey, Duane P. Booth, Fred W. Boughton III, Dennis E. Boyer, James E. Brewer, Boyd C. Breyer, Thomas A. Brown, Kenneth A. Buckbee (2), Robert E. Burt, William E. Carr, Lance Carter, James G. Chandler (2), Newton W. Chewning, Thomas H. Chilton Jr., Christos Christou Jr. (4), James K. Claxton, Joseph C. Conger, Robert W. Coursey, William S. Creager, Ronald L. Darrah, Alvie L. Davidson, James A. DeGroff Jr. (3), Russell F. DeVeney Jr., Daniel W. Dockrey Jr., Walter C. Dorsey, Theodore M. Duay III, Thomas L. Dunne, David L. Eagan, Wesley D. Edgar, I. Barnett Ellis, John E. Ernest, Robert B. Fish Jr., Harold D. Ford, Raymond H. Ford (2), Charles F. Garrison (2), Charles A. Gentis, Kenneth E. Gilkey, Jonathan E. Goebel, William O. Graham (2), Thomas B. Green III (2), Franklin R. Grove Jr., Robert L. Grover, Garry A. Grugan, Donald H. Gurley (3), Jessie L. Hagan (2), Arthur H. Hall, Steven D. Hart, Stephen J. Hawko (2), David M. Hayball, Paul M. Hays, P. Thomas Higgins II, Edward E. Hitchcock, Terry L. Holden, Alfred P. Honeywell (2), Franklin N. Horton (2), Francis L. Huntley (2), Karl W. Jacobs (2), Timothy L. Jacobs, Keith T. Johnson, John H. Jones, James T. Jones Jr., Lonnie G. Jones, Ronald E. Jones (2), Michael L. Keen, Daniel W. Kraft (2), Larry M. Leslie, Ned A. Little (4), Ronald M. Losee, Richard K. Mahaffery (3), Milus B. Maney, John T. Manning, John L. Marker, Hall A. Martin, John C. Meredith, Kenneth P. Middleton, Stephen J. Miller, William L. Miller, Ted M. Minier (5), James M. Mobley, Randy D. Moody, Arthur G. Munford, Wayne L. Nash, Ralph D. Nelson Jr., Grant R. Noah (2), David



President General Lindsey C. Brock and Chuck T. Scott of the Kentucky Society present the Gen. William Westmorland Award to Darrell Joe Parish of the KYSSAR, left.

A. Noble (6), Clifford J. Normand Jr., Robert E. Northrup Jr., James D. Partin (2), William H. Raper, Raymond C. Riser (4), Richard C. Rezie, Eric D. Richhart (5), Edward P. Rigel Sr., Jean-Mathieu A. Robine, Robert H. Rodgers, Michael J. Rowley (2), Henry L. Ruf III, John E. Rush II, Bruce A. Ryno, John C. Sassaman, Bobby Joe Seales, Stephen P. Shaw, William C. Sizemore, James F. Smith (3), John T. Smith (2), EuGene C. Smith Jr., Leon L. Smith Jr., Christopher T. Smithson (5), David N. Spooner, Daniel B. Stauffer (2), Kenneth R. Stevens, Larry G. Stevens, Walter B. Stevenson, Jr., Owen R. Stiles, Robert J. Stone (2), Thomas M. Taimi (2), William G. Teter, Robert R. Thomas, J. Michael Tomme Sr., Eric H. Troutman (2), Joseph P. Vermaelen (3), Tony L. Vets, Robert A. Wagel (3), Timothy E. Ward, James L. Wardlaw, Joe L. Warne, Raymond F. Wess, Steven A. Williams (2), Thomas S. Wills, Jim L. Wilson, Russell W.B. Wirtalla, James H. Wood, John A. Woodard, William J. Woodworth (2).

**FLORENCE KENDALL AWARD**—To the top three compatriots who recruited the largest number of the new members. 1st place: David A. Noble of the Georgia Society, 55 new members. 2nd Place: Christopher T. Smithson of the Maryland Society, 47 new members. 3rd place: Eric D. Richhart of the Utah Society, 46 new members.

**COLOR GUARDSMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD**—To the compatriot who is the best representative of color guards and the best example of service to the ideals of the Sons of the American Revolution by his service as a color guardsman. Winner: Robert P. Cunningham of the Indiana Society.

**GENERAL WILLIAM C. WESTMORLAND AWARD**—To the outstanding SAR veterans volunteer for service to veterans. Winner: Darrell Joe Parish of the Kentucky Society.

**THE USS STARK MEMORIAL AWARD**—To the chapters and state society with the best record of service to veterans during the past year.

Chapters: 10-49 members Winner: Col. Stephen Trigg Chapter, KYSSAR; 50-99 members Winner: Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter, KYSSAR; 100-199 members Winner: Lt. Andrew Crockett Chapter, TNSSAR; 200 members & above Winner: San Antonio Chapter, TXSSAR

State Society: 15-999 members Winner: Louisiana Society; 1,000-plus members Winner: Georgia Society.

**THE SYRACUSE AWARD**—To the state society with the most new chapters. Winners: Arkansas

Society, Empire State Society, Kentucky Society, West Virginia Society, Maine Society and Wyoming Society.

**THE ROBERT B. VANCE AWARD**—To the state society and chapter that presents the best example of an SAR website during the year, based on established criteria.

State Society Winner: Tennessee Society. Chapter Winner: Saramana Chapter, FLSSAR. Honorable Mention: Piedmont Chapter, GASSAR.

**THE FRANKLIN FLYER AWARD & STREAMER**—To the state society, based upon membership, with the largest recruitment of Friends of the Library as a percentage increase compared with the state society's membership as of December 31 of each year. (Cash award).

Society 10-199 Winner: Wyoming Society; 200-499 Winner: Arizona Society; 500-999 Winner: Missouri Society; 1,000-plus Winner: Georgia Society.

**THE GENEALOGIST GENERAL'S AWARD**—This award is presented to the three state societies with the lowest percentages of pended applications for the year. Winner: Alabama Society. 2nd Place: Wisconsin Society. 3rd Place: Iowa Society. Honorable Mention: Nevada Society.

**THE ADMIRAL WILLIAM R. FURLONG MEMORIAL AWARD & STREAMERS**—To the state societies that have fulfilled the qualifications of awarding Flag Certificates during the previous year. Winners: Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and West Virginia.

Those societies that completed 100 percent involvement of its chapters in the Admiral William Furlong Memorial Award received a special recognition this year with an additional certificate. The recipients of this special award are: Alaska, Colorado, District of Columbia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nevada, Vermont, Washington and West Virginia.

**THE LIBERTY BELL AMERICANISM AWARD AND STREAMER**—To the chapter, based upon size, that presents evidence of best implementing SAR resolutions and principles.

10-49 members Winner: Col. Stephen Trigg Chapter, KYSSAR; 50-99 members Winner: Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter, KYSSAR; 100-199 members Winner: Cincinnati Chapter, OHSSAR; Honorable Mention: Plano Chapter, TXSSAR; 200 members & above Winner: Western Reserve Society, OHSSAR.

**THE ALLENE WILSON GROVES AWARD AND STREAMER**—To the state society, based upon size, that presents evidence of best implementing SAR resolutions and principles.

10-199 No entries; 200-499 Winner: Arizona Society; 500-999 Winner: Kentucky Society; 1,000-plus Winner: Texas Society; Honorable Mention: Georgia Society.

**OFFICERS' STREAMER AWARD**—To state societies whose president and national trustees have attended both preceding trustees meetings and the previous Annual Congress. Winners: Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Germany, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

**PRESIDENT GENERAL'S STATE SOCIETY AND CHAPTER ACTIVITIES COMPETITION AWARDS**—Chapters: 10-49 Winner: Col. Robert Anderson Chapter, SCSSAR; 50-99 Winner: le Marquis de Lafayette Chapter, NCSSAR; 100-199 Winner: Tennessee Valley Chapter, ALSSAR; 200-plus Winner: George Washington Chapter, VASSAR.

States: 10-199 No Entries; 200-499 Winner: Arizona Society; 500-999 Winner: North Carolina Society; 1,000-plus Winner: Pennsylvania Society. Honorable Mention: Texas Society.

**THE PRESIDENT GENERAL'S CUP**—To the chapter based upon size that presents evidence of the most complete program of activities.

Chapters: 10-49 Winner: Col. Stephen Trigg Chapter, KYSSAR; 50-99 Winner: Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter, KYSSAR; 100-199 Winner: Cincinnati Chapter, OHSSAR; Honorable Mention: Plano Chapter, TXSSAR; 200-plus Winner: Dallas Chapter, TXSSAR.



## Seersucker Sages Growing in Number

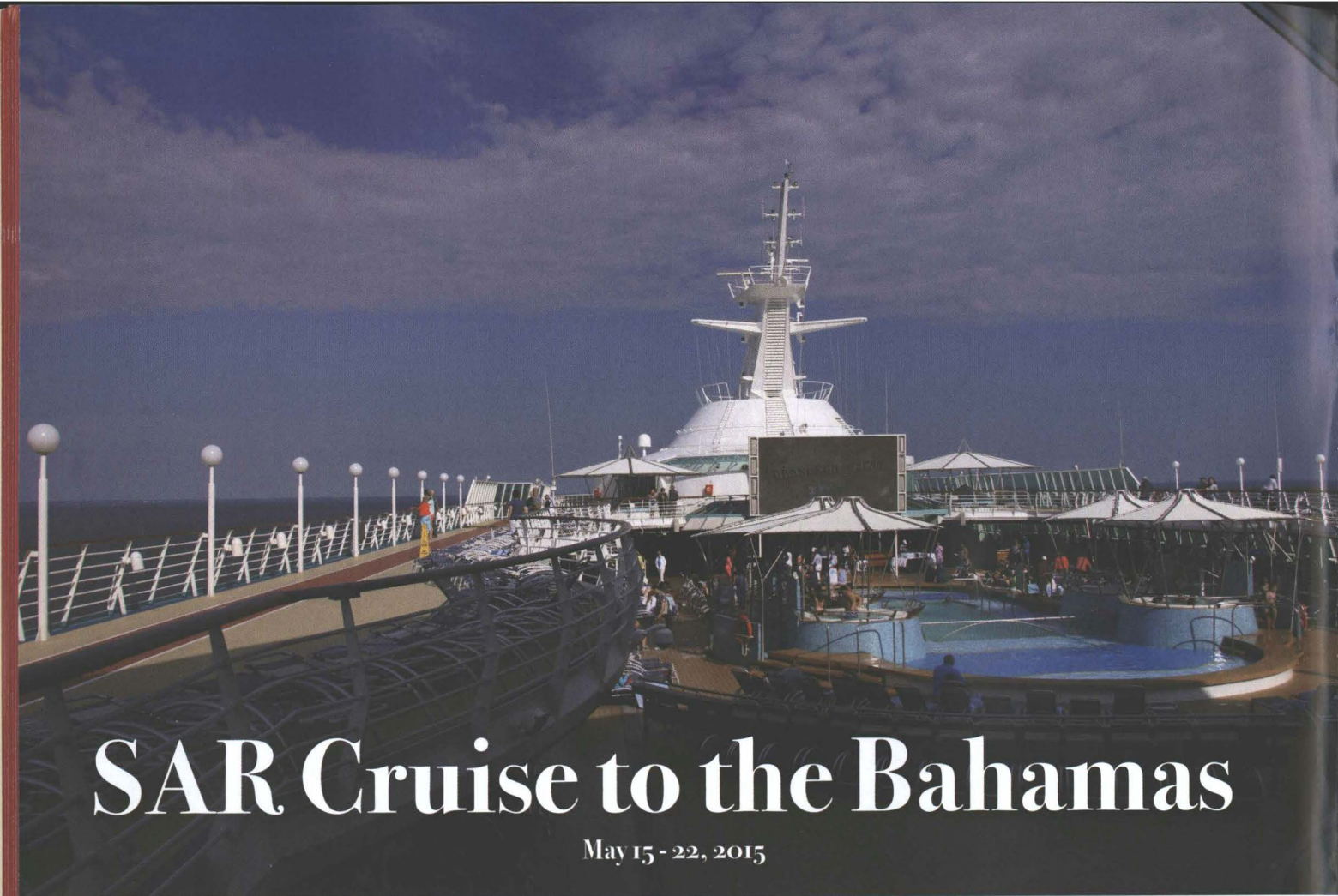
The SAR Seersucker Sages were organized several years ago by President General (2009-2010) Ed Butler. Trial lawyers in the South had to walk to the courthouse and back in the sticky heat. The seersucker suit was designed to allow the wearer to remain cool. Fifteen years ago, Judge Butler and President General (2006-2007) Nathan White were the only compatriots to wear seersucker to the SAR Congress. In fact, Butler was often referred to as Barnaby Jones, Atticus Finch, Matlock and other bygone characters who wore seersucker.

Butler started encouraging members to wear the cool seersucker. The SAR Seersucker Sages had its first meeting

in 2012 at the Phoenix Congress. Each year the number of members—and wives—wearing seersucker has grown.

The photo above reflects that the number has grown to 24, including four wives.

"This is not a serious organization. We have no charter, no bylaws, and no dues. We only gather at Congress in a good-natured and festive mood, to encourage other members to dress for comfort in 'Southern style,'" Butler said. "Members hail from California, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Illinois and sultry Vermont."



# SAR Cruise to the Bahamas

May 15 - 22, 2015

BY PRESIDENT GENERAL ED BUTLER, 2009-2010

It was a gorgeous day in Baltimore. President General Lindsey Brock and First Lady Billie arrived at the Baltimore port with Treasurer General Mike Tomme and his wife, Cilla. They got into line with me and my wife, Robin. We were to spend the next week on the MS *Grandeur of the Seas*, part of the Royal Caribbean fleet.

The *Grandeur of the Seas*, a majestic ship with a 2,446-guest capacity, is equipped with a full-service spa, six whirlpools, an outdoor jogging track and an endless choice of bars and restaurants. Her displacement is almost 75,000 tons.

Our lifeboat station number was printed on our key card. Mine, "007," gave me a license to kill.

More than 2,000 passengers lined the decks for our 4 p.m. "Sail Away Party." A rock band at the pool tried to blow out their speakers as the ship moved out of the beautiful Baltimore harbor. Waiters hawked pre-mixed tropical drinks. It was a festive event.

Two Coast Guard patrol boats, each with a 50-caliber machine gun up forward, escorted us until we cleared the Chesapeake Bay about 10 p.m.

Our SAR group was assigned to the 5:30 dinner, and we were given seven tables aft, on the starboard side. The wait staff was friendly and efficient. The food was excellent. By the time dinner was concluded, the shops opened. Many of our group attended a floorshow in the Palladium Theatre.

Saturday, May 16, our first full day at sea, began at 8:30 a.m., with a meeting of SAR members and their wives. PG Brock told us of his personal meetings with Queen Elizabeth and President Barack Obama. Billie Brock briefed us on the schedule for the next day in Port Canaveral, and told us some of the particulars about our events in Nassau, Bahamas.

Sam Powell presented an interesting program about some of the more significant events during the American Revolutionary War that occurred in North Carolina, including the "Edenton Tea Party" in 1774, where 51 women got together and decided not to purchase British goods; the April 12, 1776 Halifax Resolves; and the May 20, 1775 Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. Sam also talked about Thomas Burk, North Carolina's third patriotic governor, who was imprisoned. Also, in about 1765, North Carolina settlers had a problem in getting title to their lands. The landed gentry and aristocracy all lived near the coast, while poor settlers claimed land in the western foothills and mountains. The laws passed in the general assembly favored the rich along the coast, to the detriment of the settlers. These conditions led to the formation of "The Regulators," who attacked the royal administrators, tax collectors and judges. This led to the Battle of Alamance in 1771. More than 7,000 Patriots signed loyalty oaths. Finally, Sam talked about the Battle of Kings Mountain in October 1780, which was a turning point in beating the English.

President General (2010-2011) David Sympson talked about Kentucky in the American Revolution. Fort Nelson, at present-day Louisville, was headquarters for Gen. George Rogers Clark, from whence he successfully attacked Fort Sackville at Vincennes, Ind. He discussed Daniel Boone and his part in the Battle of Blue Licks.

Tom Owen, president of the GASSAR Society, spoke about the Battle of Kettle Creek near Washington, Ga.

John Moyer talked about the first U.S. Marines. His great-great-grandfather was one of the first Marine Corps majors commissioned by the U.S. Congress.

This was an informative meeting; the remainder of the day was at leisure. Some spent a bit of time in the casino.

The pool was crowded and loud, with bands playing, and the cruise director with his deafening loudspeaker telling us all about the scores of activities, including parlor games, rock climbing, cooking classes, art auctions or the day's exotic drinks. After a nice lunch, many of us returned to our cabins.

Sunday morning was at leisure. After a late breakfast, we lounged around the solarium pool. It was the quietest public place on the ship.

After the ship docked in Port Canaveral, our group boarded a bus bound for the Broward Memorial Center and Museum, the venue for our celebration of the last naval battle of the Revolutionary War. Many in our group wore their color guard uniforms, and Billie and Cilla wore Colonial dresses. We were met by a dozen or so members of the FLSSAR. We all enjoyed visiting with former Historian General and Vice President General Ralph Nelson, formerly of the DESSAR. Also participating were several members of the Florida DAR—Debbie Plaug, Jo Solley-Hansen and Constance Wetzel—a six-man uniformed American Legion color guard, and a group of West Point Military Academy graduates, who had just finished lunch there.

PG Brock conducted the ceremony. Following the pledges to the U.S. and SAR flags, his son, Lindsey Cook Brock III, gave a moving presentation on that battle. PG Brock laid a wreath at the nearest land site to the offshore battle, following which the American Legion bugler played Taps. We then visited a small but comprehensive World War II museum, which included uniforms, medals, ship and plane models, and weapons. We also visited the Memorial Garden and viewed the monument dedicated to the American Revolution Patriots erected by the Brevard SAR and DAR chapters.

On Monday morning, we docked at the pier in Nassau, Bahamas. We were divided into two groups for our smaller buses. Our driver was also a guide. He gave us a brief history of the islands: Columbus discovered the Bahamas in October 1492. Although the

Above, Revolutionary War monument in the Memorial Garden of the Broward Memorial Center and Museum; right, SAR cruise travelers paid tribute at the site of the last naval battle of the Revolutionary War.

Bahamas consists of about 700 islands, only 21 are inhabited. The Bahamas gained its independence from Great Britain in 1976, but still participates as a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations. There is no income tax in the Bahamas, and the first \$250,000 value in real estate is exempt from taxation. The budget is based on a valued-added tax, which is similar to sales tax, although usually a much higher rate.

During the American Revolution, Nassau was a British port guarded by several forts. Our tour took us all around the island. We drove around Fort Charlotte and Fort



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN RENOUF



From left, SAR Ambassador to the Bahamas Richard Bryant, PG Ed Butler, PG Lindsey Brock and Treasurer General Mike Tomme.

Fincastle, and ended up at Fort Montagu, the venue for our celebration. As we arrived at the large tent, the Royal Bahamas Defense Forces band (RBDF) entertained us. Alexander Flowers, secretary of the Antiquities, Monuments and Museums Corporation (AMMC), opened the meeting. The band played the national anthems of both countries. Greetings were brought by Courtney Strachan, chairman of AMMC; PG Brock for the SAR; and Vickie Thomas, regent of the Bahamas Chapter, DAR, a former Dallas resident.

We all were impressed with the band's marching prowess. It played three military songs while marching in several formations, including fancy changes in position. The three drummers wore leopard skins.

Dr. Keith Tinker, a director of AMMC, presented an overview of the significance of the Battle of Nassau, which occurred on March 3-4, 1776. The purpose of the attack by U.S. Marines was to secure the gunpowder stored there by Lord Dunsmore, Royal Governor of Virginia, to keep it out of rebel hands. He was followed by Harrison Thompson, permanent secretary of the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism.

Compatriot Richard Bryant, SAR ambassador to the Bahamas, introduced all the SAR officers and wives. Dick, who had recently served as SAR Congress chairman in Kansas City, planned the event and made a special trip down from Kansas City to participate. Great job, Dick!

PG Brock presented the SAR International Medal to Dr. Tinker and Thompson. He placed a wreath at the entrance of Ft. Montagu, immediately followed by cannon fire by three Bahamian military re-enactors dressed in Revolutionary War attire. Following the ceremony, our Bahamian hosts treated us to a buffet. We all loved the conch fritters, a local delicacy.

May 19 was our day on the beach. The rain from the

previous afternoon had stopped, affording us some relief from the tropical heat on Coco Cay, a small Bahamian island about 60 miles northwest of Nassau. Huge double-decker tenders carrying about 200 passengers each shuttled us to shore and back. This island was made for tourists, as there was a large crafts market, offering straw hats and bags, carved wooden objects, jewelry and T-shirts.

We anchored just off shore. Most of our group were ready to get on one of the tenders just after a late breakfast. We donned our snorkel gear and were soon seeing some beautiful colored tropical fish.

President General (2007-2008) Bruce A. Wilcox and Sam Powell snorkeled over an old airplane wreck in 22 feet of sparkling clear water. Just a few minutes after we took a rest, it started to sprinkle. We joined our travel companions to shop at the market. Unfortunately, the rain only intensified, so, lamentably, we all boarded the next tender back to the ship. Those who remained on Coco Cay were treated to a lovely barbecue lunch, which featured baby back pork ribs.

Our second shipboard meeting was Wednesday, May 20, at 9 a.m. Sympson talked about the role played by Gen. George Rogers Clark during the American Revolutionary War. He also told us the story about his attempt to acquire the original Congressional Commission of John Hancock.

Next, I talked about the second battle of the Bahamas during the American Revolutionary War. A Spanish Navy Task Group, under the Command of Gen. Don Bernardo de Galvez and led by Juan Manuel de Cagigal, the governor of Cuba, attacked and secured the Bahamas on May 6, 1782. This armada consisted of 64 troop ships, with 2,500 soldiers embarked, seven ships of the line and seven frigates. The Spaniards were joined by several war ships and troop transports from American privateers led by Alexander Gillon. Without a shot being fired, the Spanish troops secured 600 British prisoners, the three forts on the island of New Providence—upon which Nassau is located—and several ships, including a frigate.

For the remainder of the war, which still was not over for one and one-half years, the Bahamas was removed as a threat from both the British Navy and British privateers. It also served as a port where American and allied ships could



obtain repairs, supplies, and provisions. The following year, the British traded their interests in East Florida and West Florida to Spain for the return of the Bahamas.

I also outlined the battles along the Mississippi and along the Gulf of Mexico coast between Spain and England, which removed them as a threat. With the fall of the Bahamas, the American Colonists no longer had to fear a British attack from the south, west or the southeast Atlantic.

The final presentation was from Jim Becker of the NCSSAR. He spoke about his ancestor, Jacob Becker, and his role in the American Revolutionary War. Jim and his brother, along with their father before them, have made many attempts to obtain from the U.S. government copies of a secret treaty, allegedly signed in conjunction with the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. Jim and his family have alleged for years that Jacob Becker and nine other unnamed Patriots brought from France King Solomon's gold, which had been under the control of the Knights Templar for centuries. It was an interesting presentation, which elicited numerous questions.

This was the first of two days at sea. After lunch, our group spread out to participate in many of the activities. Some went to the art auction, while others took dance lessons, spent time in the casino, watched a movie on the huge outdoor screen by the main pool, or simply found a quiet spot to read a book. A few of us enjoyed an afternoon nap. That evening the menu included delicious lobster tails and baked Alaska.

Following breakfast on our last day, it was time to prepare for disembarking. Most of us started packing. After lunch, it was time for the obligatory nap. About 3:30 p.m. our ship was buzzed by a U.S. Marine F-14 fighter jet. Regulations forbid them to fly lower than 200 feet off the deck, but retired Marine Corps Col. Charles Sweeny stated that the jet was only about 50 feet off the water when it was abreast of the ship.

The Brocks arranged a wonderful SAR trip. With able assistance from Ambassador Bryant, we participated in an outstanding historical event in Nassau. Not only did we have an enjoyable trip, we learned a lot of history, and more importantly, we got to know several members we had not spent time with before.



## The SAR Founders Circle

The SAR Founders Circle honors those who have provided a lasting legacy by including the Sons of the American Revolution in their estate plans, as of July 10, 2015.

### THE SAR FOUNDERS CIRCLE MEMBERS

David Appleby  
Alvin Young Bethard  
Michael J. Elston  
John R. Ferris  
Robert F. Galer  
Larry T. Guzy  
Wayne H. Maller  
Lee W. Matson  
Peter K. Moller  
Fraser and Nancy Morian  
Randy Dwight Moody  
Lanny R. Patten  
John Jay Robinson  
Davis Lee Wright, Esq.

### BEQUESTS RECEIVED

Anne Deland Donahue-Lampman  
James E. Hess  
William C. Drinkard Jr.  
Charitable Foundation  
Fred Dumont Huyler  
Estate of Elizabeth Holiday  
Ramsey and Capt. Joseph Ramsey

*The SAR expresses deep gratitude to the members of the Founders Circle*

The SAR Founders Circle honors those who, through generous arrangements that name the SAR a beneficiary of an estate plan, achieve their own financial goals while providing SAR with needed support for new and continuing programs. To add your name to this distinguished list, please contact Linda Dunn at The SAR Foundation, Inc. office for information at her direct number 502-315-1777 or by email at ldunn@sar.org. *If your name does not appear on this list and you have remembered The SAR Foundation, Inc. in your bequest, please contact Linda Dunn at her direct line or by her email address, both listed in the body of this paragraph.*

The SAR Foundation is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

# Bahamas Commemoration

BY RICHARD BRYANT, SAR AMBASSADOR TO THE BAHAMAS

As President General Lindsey Brock assumed office, he announced a number of initiatives and goals for his term. One of those priorities was to recognize our military forces and specifically mentioned was the commemoration of the Continental Marines who landed in New Providence on March 3, 1776. With that, it was announced that the NSSAR would set sail on the *Grandeur of the Seas*, embarking on their journey from Baltimore May 15 with a scheduled arrival in Nassau, Bahamas, on May 18.

The Battle of Nassau is recognized as the first amphibious assault by American forces by the Continental Marines against the British port at New Providence during the early days of the American Revolutionary War. The Continental Marines were ultimately redesignated as the U.S. Marine Corps, and this battle is sometimes referred to as the Raid of Nassau.

The American fleet left Delaware on Feb. 17, 1776 with the objective of seizing gunpowder, munitions and other items, probably including rum, that were known to be stored in Nassau. When the American Revolutionary War broke out in 1775, Lord Dunmore, the British provincial governor for the Colony of Virginia, removed Virginia's store of arms and

gunpowder to New Providence to keep them from falling into the hands of the rebel militia. In August 1775, Gen. Thomas Gage learned that the pesky rebel colonists might attempt to seize those supplies and, accordingly, alerted Gov. Montfort Browne, the Bahamian governor.

Nearly simultaneous with the departure of the Continental Marines from Cape Henlopen, Browne received intelligence that the American fleet was assembling and presumed headed for New Providence. The harbor at New Providence had two primary defenses afforded through Fort Nassau and Fort Montagu, located in the East Bay. Fort Montagu, at the time of the raid, was fortified by 17 cannons. Neither fort was heavily manned.

As the fleet arrived in the region on March 1, 1776, they captured two sloops owned by the Loyalists and pressed the ship owners to serve as pilots. One of the ship's captains, George Dorsett, escaped and alerted Browne. According to Harrison Thompson, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Tourism, the Bahamians saw the Continental Marines anchored off their coast and began to make ready for an invasion. Browne ordered the firing of four cannons at Fort Nassau to alert the militia. When the Marines heard the guns at Fort Nassau, they realized the element of surprise was lost and again anchored in Hanover Sound,

East of Nassau, but in view of the militia at Fort Montagu.

There is some disagreement as to what occurred next. Historians report that a landing force led by Thomas Weaver made an unopposed landing around noon at a point south and east of Fort Montagu. Thompson suggested that the Bahamians, seeing the ships anchored, sent a detachment out from the fort to investigate. Because this group was so outnumbered, they carried a truce flag so they could determine the intentions of the Marines. They apparently also carried a large quantity of rum, which they shared with the invaders that evening and learned that the objective of the Marines was to seize the gunpowder and military stores. During this time, Browne arrived at Fort Montagu and directed the removal of gunpowder from the fort and its transport to the other side of the island, where it was loaded onto Loyalists' vessels, which then sailed out of Nassau Harbor. They were unseen by the Continental Marines because of Capt. Esek Hopkins' failure to post any ships to guard harbor entrance channels.

The Marines occupied Nassau without resistance the following morning, and as they traveled inland, they were met by a

committee of the town's leaders who welcomed the invaders to the island, with the Marines remaining on Nassau for two weeks. Thompson jovially referred to this as the two weeks in which Nassau and New Providence were an American Colony.

Browne was taken into custody but ultimately exchanged for an American general. He is reported to have complained that rebel officers consumed most of his liquor during their two-week occupation. No shots were fired, and there were no casualties during the course of the occupation.

To commemorate the occasion and to recognize the Patriot ancestors of both forces, PG Brock asked Missouri National Trustee Richard Bryant, whom he designated as the SAR Ambassador to the Caribbean Region, to seek permission from the Bahamian government to lay a wreath at Fort Montagu with assistance from Chargé d'Affaires Lisa Johnson at the U.S. Embassy in Nassau; Obediah Wilchcombe, minister of tourism and a member of Parliament; FBI Legal Attaché Bill Nicholson; Vicki Thomas, regent of the Bahamas' Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution; and United States Consul General Jim Moore in Curacao. The approval was secured from the Antiquities Monument and Museums Corporation (AMMC) for a reception and wreath laying by United States Marines, PG Brock, AMMC Chairman Courtney Strachan, and Harrison Thompson, permanent of secretary of the Ministry of Tourism.

Working with Craig Mortimer of the Bahamas' Ministry of Tourism allowed for the creation of a truly historic event. After being provided with a suggested program by Compatriot Bryant, Mortimer seized upon the opportunity to make this occasion truly memorable. Arrangements were made for our arriving compatriots to be met dockside by tour buses, which provided the SAR

President General Lindsey Brock with Compatriot Richard Bryant.

travelers with an opportunity to see the island in preparation for their arrival scheduled later in the afternoon, May 18, at Fort Montagu.

Upon daybreak, the skies were crystal clear and the seas were calm, but as the morning progressed, heavy rain showers developed and the arrival of the cruise ship at its pier was delayed due to weather. The SAR members, many wearing their Revolutionary War attire, were allowed to disembark the cruise ship at the request of the Bahamian government, and were met by Bryant, who explained the afternoon activities that were planned. As the buses were

boarded, rain showers broke out once again. The tour brought the travelers to Fort Montagu, arriving at 3:30 for a scheduled program of events and almost on cue, the clouds parted, the sun came out and the Royal Bahamas Defence Forces (RBDF) Band struck up spirited music to welcome the SAR travelers.

After a Call to Order by Alexander Flowers, secretary of the AMMC, and an invocation by Rev. Prince Bodie, chaplain of the Royal Bahamas Defence Forces, the national anthems of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas were played by the band. A warm welcome was extended by Strachan, followed by an overview of the historical significance of the Battle of Nassau by Dr. Keith Tinker, AMMC director.

Next was a performance by the RBDF Band, which included invitations to dance extended to First Lady Billie Brock and other SAR spouses. Greetings next came from Vicki Thomas of the DAR and Bryant, who introduced PG Brock, who spoke and presented the SAR International Medal to Thompson and Strachan. This is the highest award afforded foreign nationals or organizations for service to the SAR. David Hazarian, the regional security officer from the American Embassy, and Thompson offered additional remarks prior to the laying of the wreath and its presentation at the base of the fort. Marines under the command of Gunnery Sgt. Emmanuel Manning honored the Marine Patriot ancestors as well as the ancestors of the Loyalists.

Bahamian re-enactors, dressed in Colonial attire, fired a cannon to commemorate this historical occasion to the delight of the guests, as well as many tourists and local citizens, who had gathered to view the event. Following additional introductions and the exchange of thanks, our hosts served up wonderful island refreshments, Marines and SAR members exchanged challenge coins with attendees, and at the end of a beautiful afternoon, our SAR travelers returned to the *Grandeur of the Seas* for an evening in Nassau.



# Lafayette and Our European Supporters:

## Introducing Friends, Old and New

The 2015 SAR Annual Conference on the American Revolution took place at Mount Vernon, Va., June 12-14. The topic was "The Marquis de Lafayette and the European Friends of the American Revolution." There could be no more fitting location for a conference on George Washington's beloved French protégé than Washington's Mount Vernon.

Like previous SAR Annual Conferences on the American Revolution, this year's was dedicated to pioneering scholars in the conference's area of focus. The conference honored the careers of Robert R. Palmer (1909-2002) and Jacques Godechot (1907-1989). Professor Marie-Jeanne Rossignol (University of Paris Diderot) presented an after-dinner talk outlining the careers of Palmer (Princeton and Yale) and Godechot (University of Toulouse II), citing their pioneering efforts in the development of Atlantic history, the discipline that studies the interaction of historical currents on both sides of the Atlantic in the early-modern period.

The organizers of the conference were Past President General and SAR Conference Director Joseph W. Dooley and

Andrew Jackson O'Shaughnessy, SAR Distinguished Scholar and Saunders Director of the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies at the University of Virginia.

From left, Olivier Chaline, Jean-Marie Kowalski and Robert Crout.

Conference attendees included academic historians from England, France, the Netherlands, Spain and the United States, along with numerous SAR members.

Conference topics ranged from Lafayette and France to Spain and Portugal, to the Netherlands and the Russian-led First League of Armed Neutrality. Munro Price, University of Branford, and Patrick Villiers of Université du Littoral, Cote d'Opale, presented papers relating to Lafayette. Jean-Marie Kowalski and Olivier Chaline, both of the University of Paris IV, Sorbonne, presented complementary papers on the naval Battle of the Chesapeake, basing much of their work on logs from the ships participating in the battle. And Julia Osman, Mississippi State University, presented a paper on the mythical construction of "American Nationality" used by French friends of the American Revolution to enlist popular French support.

Sylvia Hilton, Complutense University, and Kathleen DuVal, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, both addressed Spanish support for the American Revolution. Hilton explored the larger perspective of Spanish leaders toward the Revolution, while DuVal focused particularly on Bernardo de Gálvez, commander of Spanish forces in Louisiana. Timothy Walker, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, addressed Portuguese reactions to and policies toward the American Revolution. Victor Enthoven, Free University of Amsterdam, presented a paper on the Dutch friendship toward John Paul Jones. And Paul Gilje of the

University of Oklahoma presented a paper on issues relating to free trade and Catherine the Great's leadership in forming the (First) League of Armed Neutrality.

The conference concluded with a roundtable discussion of the presentations, focused around summary analyses by Jonathan Dull of Yale University and Robert Crout, College of Charleston.

This conference was a feast for those of us who savor the history of the American Revolution. The story of the French involvement is a much-told story, but the story of Spain's support for the Revolution has been much less told. The additional stories about Portuguese and Dutch support, and the importance of the First League of Armed Neutrality are little known beyond the community of scholarly historians.

Those at the conference gained new insights about French involvement, both about the actual history of that involvement and about advances in the methods of scholarship relating to that history. The concluding roundtable provided the opportunity to raise the question of why the less-told stories have been less told and why they did not become part of the traditional narrative of the American Revolution. Surely part of the familiarity of the story of French support results from the fact that the French fought with American forces on the territory of the 13 Colonies. (Florida, of course, was not one of those 13.) It seems also that the engaging and romantic character of Lafayette and his intimacy with George Washington contributed to the familiarity of the story of French support. A few of the participants raised the possibility, whether rightly or wrongly, that the Spanish contribution has been less highlighted in the telling of American history due, in part, to a spirit of anti-Catholicism that prevailed in much of the American consciousness until the latter half of the 20th century. The secular character of the French Revolution left France as a much less culturally Catholic country than Spain.

While such speculations are interesting, I left the conference feeling proud of the Sons of the American Revolution. Sponsorship of the SAR Annual Conferences on the American Revolution contributes powerfully to fulfilling the SAR's mission as a historical, educational and patriotic society. Perhaps more importantly, the role the SAR has played over the past several years in highlighting some of the less-told stories of our Revolution contributes to a broader understanding and a broader sense of ownership of our revolutionary heritage. I conclude with a story told by former TXSSAR President Bob Cohen at the closing session of the conference. He told of making historical presentations as a member of the SAR in local Texas schools with large populations of Hispanic students. He said that when he told the students about the contributions of Gálvez, he frequently saw the eyes of many of the Hispanic students light up, as if they were saying to themselves, "This is our revolution, too." We should all be proud that we are telling these stories.

— DR. DAVID E. SCHRADER, CAPE COD CHAPTER, MASSAR, MNSSAR, NHSSAR

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Dr. David E. Schrader taught philosophy for more than 35 years and served as executive director of the American Philosophical Association from 2006 to 2012. He has served as president of the Edmund Terrill Chapter, TXSSAR; the George Washington Chapter, PASSAR; and the Major Robert Kirkwood Chapter, DESSAR; and is vice-president of the Cape Cod Chapter, MASSAR.

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1512 Steuben Road  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062 or

[www.founderspatriots.org](http://www.founderspatriots.org)



## OPERATION ANCESTOR SEARCH LOOKS AHEAD

By RICK KINCAID, OAS PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The Operation Ancestor Search program is embarking on a new chapter in its history as we approach the expiration of our three-year program grant from Ancestry.com. We now are actively seeking additional sources of funding to replace the annual grant from Ancestry.

We appreciate the support that Ancestry.com has given to the OAS program since its inception, both financially with its cash grant of \$180,000 over the past three years and in-kind by providing access to its online accounts for the program participants. Ancestry will continue to provide free access to its family of databases (including Fold3.com and Newspapers.com), Family Tree Maker software and related support materials.

Operation Ancestor Search seeks replacement funding for the program grant as it moves toward long-term financial self-sufficiency. The Ancestry.com grant has enabled the SAR to hire a full-time OAS program director at its national headquarters in Louisville and has supercharged

the expansion of the program. Since OAS Program Director Rick Kincaid started in April 2013, the number of program facilities has grown from four to the current 23 locations.

The OAS leadership is in the process of developing a strategic plan outlining the program's operations, finances, marketing, public relations and community outreach. This strategic plan builds on the program's growth, addresses the challenges it faces in the future, and strategically lays out the direction and plan of action for others to join with the SAR and ensure the OAS program's sustainability.

The changing nature of U.S. military combat action fortunately has resulted in a decline in the number of injured military service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. As a result, the population centers of wounded warriors are changing as injured service members and their families transition from major military medical centers to dispersed military, veterans and civilian medical facilities. When wounded warriors return to service, they are reassigned to Warrior Transition Brigade units, or they separate or retire from the

military. While their location and status change, there remains a long (and often permanent) process of medical treatment and recovery.

OAS will address this challenge by gradually shifting its primary target locations from the major treatment facilities (although these will remain a big part of the program) to other medical facilities that continue to treat veterans and wounded warriors.

In addition, OAS will look to engage other facilities that support injured or ill service members, e.g., VA medical facilities, Fisher Houses and retirement homes. OAS leaders at all levels also will work to maintain and develop relationships with other organizations that may provide additional resources, volunteers and support for the program.

OAS must ensure that it remains a priority program within the SAR. Continued support within the national, state and local leadership is necessary for continued success. Throughout the SAR, OAS is considered one of the most worthwhile and exciting programs that the organization offers to support veterans and advance our mission of patriotism. A continued presence at national, regional, state and local meetings and conferences will ensure that OAS remains a prominent part of the NSSAR's program offerings.

◆ ◆ ◆  
To learn more about OAS, contact Program Director Rick Kincaid, rkincaid@sar.org, (502) 588-6147, or Committee Chairman Carl Bedell, c\_bedell@yahoo.com, (210) 380-5282.

# THE BATTLE OF THOMAS CREEK

THE SOUTHERNMOST BATTLEFIELD OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR

MAY 17, 1777

By DAVID HARDY RAMSEUR,  
JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER, FLSSAR

The NSSAR and FLSSAR, along with the City of Jacksonville, dedicated a Florida Historical Marker in Seaton Creek Historic Park

two Patriot colonels and two British colonels.

In 1975, the Florida Society C.A.R. placed a highway marker 4 miles south of Callahan, Fla., off U.S. Highway 1 commemorating the Battle of Thomas Creek. At that time, the exact location

Georgia militia organized in Sunbury, Georgia, just north of the Florida border for an expedition into British East Florida in retaliation for raids by British Loyalists. Traveling by water, the Continentals encountered British troops at Amelia Island, which delayed their rendezvous with the Georgia militia who traveled by land. On May 17, a small force of 109 Georgia militia men was ambushed by a mixed force of British Army, Loyalist militia, and Native Americans near the mouth of Thomas Creek in Northeast Florida. Lieutenant Colonel John Baker of the Georgia forces and 41 of the Georgia militia men survived the battle. The encounter was the first major engagement and the second of three failed attempts by American forces to invade British East Florida. It is considered the southernmost battle of the American Revolutionary War.

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2015



Commemorating the 238th anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek. President General Lindsey C. Brock, a member of the Jacksonville Chapter, brought greetings to the nearly 100 SAR, DAR and C.A.R. members and others who attended the March 21 dedication ceremony. Greetings also were brought by the City of Jacksonville, the National Park Service, several SAR state presidents, representatives of the DAR and C.A.R., and Ralph Nelson from the National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association. Also attending the ceremony were President General (2005-2006) Roland Downing and his wife, Norma, and Dr. Sam Powell, SAR Foundation president.

There were 27 SAR color guardsmen commanded by Treasurer General Mike Tomme, past National Color Guard commander, and Mark Anthony, National Color Guard adjunct and South Atlantic District Vice President General. The invocation and benediction were given by chapter Chaplain Rev. Robert M. Hale, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Eagle Scout William Merkert. Compatriot Bill Ramsaur of the Marshes of Glynn Chapter of the GASSAR gave a presentation on "Four accounts of the Battle of Thomas Creek." The presentation gave the viewpoints from

of the battlefield was not known. In 2004-2005, an environmental services testing group was hired by the former owner of the property. They found Revolutionary War period artifacts in a location that was most probable for an encampment requiring fresh water for the horses.

In 1970, the late Congressman Charles E. Bennett, a member of the Jacksonville Chapter, published a book entitled *The Southernmost Battlefields of the Revolution*. Bennett stated in his book, "It seems proper in 1969 that we plan a wilderness type park at the most southerly battlefield of the Revolution, Thomas Creek—commemorating there all of the southern frontier fighting of the war and preserving the wildlife and beautiful subtropical hammock land of the area." And now, 46 years later, we are fulfilling his dream with a beautiful preservation park that contains the hallowed ground of those who fought and died for the freedom we now enjoy.

Below is the wording on the Florida Historical Marker at Seaton Creek Historical Park.

AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR  
BATTLE OF THOMAS CREEK  
May 17, 1777

In May of 1777, 400 soldiers from the Continental Army and 165 members of the

## United States Coast Guard Academy

Alexander Hamilton Award for 2015

Cadet Brittney Zimmerman was presented the 2015 NSSAR Alexander Hamilton Award at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy's Individual Proficiency Awards Ceremony on May 19 in New London, Conn. The award is a cash prize for the most outstanding senior thesis, capstone project, or directed study in public policy or government.

CTSSAR President Ethan Stewart and Past President Robert W. Rivard presented the award. They also presented Cadet Zimmerman with a certificate from the CTSSAR for being an outstanding cadet.

Cadet (now Ensign) Zimmerman comes from mid-state Pennsylvania and majored in government studies. As part of her capstone project, she performed studies in the Arctic. Following graduation, she planned to marry and travel with her husband to their first assignments in Seattle.

From left, Rear Admiral Sandra Stosz, USCGA superintendent; Cadet Brittney Zimmerman; and Compatriot Robert Rivard.



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## National Event Calendar in Development

The National Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee is in the process of establishing an ongoing calendar of national and prominent state society events. The calendar includes the known National Events (noted in red) and a number of State Society events garnered from the calendars as published on their respective websites.

Given the frequency with which local points of contact can change, all those interested in obtaining information on local contacts, hotel accommodations and the actual schedule of events must refer to the sponsoring State Society website.

The first National Event to be recognized was the Battle of Cowpens in 1996. Since that time, a total of 24 events have been officially recognized by the National Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee. In 2011, the committee established the following criteria for an event to be recognized as a National Event:

- A recognized battle or event of the Revolution must have occurred at or near the proposed location.
- Established history of an event being held by a NSSAR Chapter or State Society.
- Evidence of participation by multiple NSSAR State Societies or Chapters and other organizations at the event.
- The history of the event that indicates that it will continue into the future.
- A written packet of information prepared for distribution to the Committee in advance and to contain:
  - Information about the battle or event.
  - Evidence as to why it is important that the event be considered of national significance.
- In a state with no Revolutionary War battle or event sites, an explanation as to why the proposed event should be considered of national significance.

A State Society that is interested in submitting an event is encouraged to contact the chairman of the National Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee to discuss the submission of an information package for the committee to consider. Please note that the event does not have to be exclusively an American victory. In fact, the committee has recognized two battles where the primary protagonists were Spanish soldiers and a special exemption was granted for the recognition of Wreaths Across America.

Finally, a State Society wishing to have a State Event listed on this calendar should contact the National Historic Sites & Celebrations chairman with the date, name and location so that the calendar can be updated.

— MARK C. ANTHONY, CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES & CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE

2015 Date	Event	Location	Sponsoring Society(s)	National Event
Jan. 17	Battle of Cowpens	Chesnee, SC	South Carolina	YES
Jan. 31	Battle of Cowan's Ford	Huntersville, NC	North Carolina	
Feb. 14	Battle of Kettle Creek	Washington, GA	Georgia	YES
Feb. 21	Crossing of the Dan	South Boston, VA	Virginia	YES
Feb. 21	Massing of the Colors	Burbank, CA	California	YES
Feb. 21	Washington's Birthday Parade	Laredo, TX	Texas	YES
Feb. 21	Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge	Currie, NC	North Carolina	YES
Mar. 7	Last Naval Battle of the Revolution	Merritt Island, FL	Florida	YES
Mar. 14	Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Greensboro, NC	North Carolina	YES
Apr. 4	Halifax Resolves	Halifax, NC	North Carolina	YES
Apr. 11	Thomas Jefferson's Birthday	Washington, DC	District of Columbia	
Apr. 18	Patriots Day	Concord, MA	Massachusetts	YES
Apr. 18	Georgia Patriots Day	St. Simons Island, GA	Georgia	
May 16	Alamance Patriots Day	Alamance, NC	North Carolina	
May 24	Battle of Pensacola	Pensacola, FL	Florida	YES
May 24	Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous	Vincennes, IN	Indiana	YES
May 24	Fort St. Carlos	St. Louis, MO	Missouri	YES
May 24	Buford's Massacre	Lancaster, SC	South Carolina	
June 16	Bunker Hill	Boston, MA	Massachusetts	
June 20	Battle of Ramseur's Mill	Lincolnton, NC	North Carolina	YES
June 28	Carolina Day	Charleston, SC	South Carolina	
July 18	Battle of Colson's Mill	Norwood, NC	North Carolina	
July 25	Siege at Fort Laurens	Bolivar, OH	Ohio	YES
Aug. 8	Battle of Musgrove's Mill	Clinton, SC	South Carolina	
Aug. 15	Battle of Camden	Camden, SC	South Carolina	
Aug. 15	Blue Licks	Carlisle, KY	Kentucky	YES
Sept. 5	Battle of Eutaw Springs	Eutawville, SC	South Carolina	
Sept. 5	Battle of Groton Heights	Groton, CT	Connecticut	YES
Sept. 19	Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN	Tennessee	YES
Sept. 19	Battle of Saratoga	Stillwater, NY	New York	YES
Oct. 3	Point Pleasant Battle Days	Point Pleasant, WV	West Virginia	YES
Oct. 7	Battle of Kings Mountain	Blacksburg, SC	South Carolina/ North Carolina	YES
Oct. 9	Battle of Savannah	Savannah, GA	Georgia	
Oct. 19	Yorktown Days	Yorktown, VA	Virginia	YES
Dec. 5	Battle of Great Bridge	Norfolk, VA	Virginia	YES
Dec. 5	Battle of the Great Cane Break	Simpsonville, SC	South Carolina	
Dec. 5	Vann's Creek	Elberton, GA	Georgia	
Dec. 12	Wreaths Across America	Various	Various	YES

## PG Butler Pens Award-Winning Book

On May 10, 2010, then-President General Judge Ed Butler, during a private audience with then-Crown Prince Felipe de Borbon of Spain, was asked by the Prince to write a book about Spain's involvement during the American Revolution. The royal audience was part of a three-week tour of Spain, organized and led by Butler for members the NSSAR and their wives.

Since serving as president of the Mexico Society of the SAR in 2001, Butler had been interested in helping Hispanics prove their descent from American Revolutionary War heroes. He descends from King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain. It was because he had published several articles about Spain helping the U.S. during the Revolutionary War in the National Genealogy Society's *Newsmagazine* and *The SAR Magazine* that he had received letters of appreciation from Prince Felipe and his father, King Juan Carlos.

On the day of the audience, King Juan Carlos was in the hospital recovering from lung surgery, and Prince Felipe was the "acting king." Last year, Juan Carlos abdicated in favor of Felipe, who now serves as King of Spain. During that interview, King Felipe also asked Butler to write a screenplay and wanted him to get Hollywood to make a movie, "and I want Antonio Banderas to play the part of [Bernardo] Galvez," he said. Butler also has written the "swashbuckling" screenplay and contacted Banderas' agent, who declined until "the money for the production is in place."

For Hispanic family historians, the book is a treasure trove. It contains 360 pages with 214 footnotes, 22 pages of reference materials, and 38 pages of appendices, rich with the names of Spanish Patriots who may be the ancestors of

local Hispanics. These appendices include names of soldiers, citizens who donated pesos at the request of the king, and a list of Havana, Cuba, merchants who loaned money to France so it could pay its soldiers fighting in Virginia. This book gives a blow-by-blow description of how Spain systematically removed England as a threat for a second front from either the west or the south.

Interested Hispanics may find they are eligible for membership in the SAR and DAR, and Butler is attempting to recruit as many as can document their family trees.

For historians, the book discusses many heretofore unknown battles involving Spanish soldiers and Spanish Militia who fought the British at Fort San Carlos in present-day St. Louis, and who attacked Fort St. Joseph and seized its large stockpile of weapons and food, ending a planned British sweep down the Mississippi River Valley to destroy Spanish and American outposts.

The Texas Connection with the American Revolution (TCARA) has given Butler an award for the "Best American Revolutionary War History Book in 2014." The book documents participation in the American Revolutionary War by hundreds of Spaniards, all of whom have descendants living and working in the Southwest and Gulf of Mexico areas of the United States. Hispanic children must no longer feel estranged from society, as the probabilities are that one of their ancestors helped the U.S. achieve its independence.

Butler is seeking speaking dates for other organizations. He can be reached at SARPG0910@aol.com. For additional information, visit [www.galvezbook.com](http://www.galvezbook.com). For more information about Butler, visit [judge-ed-butler.sarsat.org](http://judge-ed-butler.sarsat.org).

The book can be ordered for \$29 plus \$6.50 for postage and handling. There is also a digital CD that will allow readers to scan the book for the names of possible ancestors. The CD costs \$15, but when ordered with the book, it is \$10. Mail orders to: Southwest Historical Press, PO Box 170, 24165 IH-10 West Suite 217-170, San Antonio, TX 78257.

"Objects of the Most Stupendous Magnitude..."

- John Adams, June 9th, 1776

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## STATE SOCIETY & CHAPTER EVENTS

News stories about state and chapter events appearing here and elsewhere in the magazine are prepared from materials submitted through a variety of means, including press releases and newsletters (which should be directed to

the Editor at the address shown on page 2). Please note the deadlines below. Compatriots are encouraged to submit ideas for historical feature articles they would like to write. Each will be given careful consideration.

**DEADLINES:** WINTER (FEBRUARY) DEC. 15; SPRING (MAY) MARCH 15; SUMMER (AUGUST) JUNE 15; FALL (NOVEMBER) SEPT. 15.



### ALABAMA SOCIETY

The Gen. Galvez Chapter's May meeting was held at the Baldwin County Bicentennial Park near Stockton, Ala., honoring the Revolutionary War contributions of Gen. Bernardo de Galvez with a memorial service and a laying of wreaths by the SAR and DAR members and guests, above.

Special guests this year were representatives of the Galvez Chapter DAR from New Orleans and the Mobile Chapter, DAR.

Compatriots Price Legg in his Virginia Militia uniform and Bert Blackmon in his militia uniform fired their muskets in salute to Gen. Galvez.

### ARIZONA SOCIETY

#### Tucson Chapter

The Tucson Chapter Color Guard took first place and finished in a driving downpour at the annual Summerhaven 4th of July parade in the cool Catalina Mountains. Supported by the Chapter Ladies Auxiliary, the guard gave a snappy "eyes right" as they passed the review stand.

Participating were Bill Aurand, Rudy Byrd, Jeff Coleman, Rick Collins, Lance Dickinson, Dale Drew, Skip Harrington, Brett Kooistra, Albert Niemeyer, John Niemeyer, John Patla and Jim Williamson. Supporting the guard were Ladies Auxiliary members Marcia Aurand, Bette Dickinson and Theresa Williamson. It was a great—and wet—4th of July!

Compatriots Dickinson, George Lipphardt, John Lyons and Albert Niemeyer represented the color guard at the annual Flag Day Ceremony in SaddleBrooke, Ariz., on June 12. The guard participated with other members of the community in presenting different era U.S. flags to the



Guard flag presenters, from left, George Lipphardt, John Lyons, Albert Niemeyer and Lance Dickinson.

audience. Speakers for the event were Lt. Kara Riley of the Oro Valley Police Department and former Arizona State Sen. Al Melvin.

The color guard had the deep honor of serving as the honor guard at the May 25 Memorial Day Ceremony at Purple Heart Park, Tucson. Veteran and Purple Heart recipient Dickinson and veteran Lipphardt jointly placed the Purple Heart Wreath at the dais. The name of each veteran who had passed away during the past year was read aloud with a tolling of a bell for each. The event was sponsored by the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Fort Lowell Chapter. Attending were Byrd, Dickinson, Lipphardt, Albert Niemeyer, John Niemeyer and



From left, Ladies Auxiliary member Bette Dickinson, WWII Vet Marine Quartermaster Sgt. Shirley Crowell and Color Guard member Jim Williamson.

Williamson. Contributing much to the day's event were Ladies Auxiliary members. Also in attendance was WWII veteran Marine Quartermaster Sgt. Shirley Crowell. What an inspiration she, our own Lance Dickinson and other veterans are to our nation.



### CALIFORNIA SOCIETY

This is the sixth year the CASSAR Color Guard has participated in the Field of Honor in Newport Beach, Calif. The program is sponsored by the Exchange Club of Newport Beach. The Field of Honor is an SAR national color guard event. Sixteen compatriots, representing five CASSAR chapters, participated. Two members of the CASSAR Ladies Auxiliary, Un Hui Yi and Karen McKelvie of the Orange County Chapter, also participated in Colonial attire.

In addition to a color guard, the CASSAR provided a firing party.

President General Lindsey and First Lady Billie Brock, below right, attended the CASSAR 140th Annual Spring



Meeting national officers' dinner April 16 at La Brisas Restaurant, Laguna Beach. From left, CASSAR President Jim Faulkinbury, President General (2013-2014) Joseph Dooley, Un Hui Yi and Karen Faulkinbury.



PHOTO BY UN HUI YI

### Orange County Chapter

Although it may not be unusual for a large number of men from one family to join the SAR at the same time, it is remarkable to have seven of eight to be Eagle Scouts from BSA Troop 11 in Redlands, Calif. These men are new members of the Orange County Chapter: from left, Kristian, Andrew, Lawrence, George, David, Richard and John Paul Beall. Not pictured is John Beall.

### Sons of Liberty Chapter

Members of the Sons of Liberty Chapter represented the NSSAR and CASSAR at the 46th Annual Southern California Genealogical Jamboree. Hundreds of genealogical devotees attended instructional sessions and roamed the exhibit area during the June 5-7 conference in Burbank, Calif. Chapter Genealogist Gary Calvin, Chapter Registrar Steve Barnes and Past Registrar Dana Dunlap provided application advice and counsel to those stopping at the Sons of Liberty booth.

Compatriots Glenn Reasoner, Robert Boris and Timothy Marxer assisted during the three-day event. Chapter Secretary Dick Humphrey presented "Beginning Genealogy-First Steps" to 75 attendees at an opening session.

### CANADA SOCIETY

Three generations of compatriots in the John Druse Emory family received their membership certificates from

Jerry P. Hill, secretary of the Canada Society. Back row, from left, John Druse Emory Sr., Jerry P. Hill, John Druse Emory Jr.; front row, Junior members Tyler James Emory and Andrew Benjamin Gabrys. All are direct descendants of Arthur Emory IV.



### CONNECTICUT SOCIETY

#### Gen. Wolcott Color Guard

Gen. Wolcott's Sixth Militia Brigade Color Guard participated in the 10th annual Red, White and Blue Memorial Service sponsored by AMVETS Post 24 of Northwest Connecticut. This year's service was held at the Morris Congregational Church on Sunday, May 17. The color guard posted the SAR flag at the beginning of the service and fired a three-volley salute at the end.

The theme of this year's service was the War of the American Revolution, focusing on soldiers from the town





President General Lindsey Brock joined members of the CTSSAR Color Guard who marched in the 2015 Patriot's Day Parade on Monday, April 20, in Concord.

of Litchfield, and in particular, the South Farms section of Litchfield, which is now known as Morris. The focus was on Capt. James Morris and his life and service to his fellow Colonists, which provided a good sampling of the sacrifices our forefathers made in obtaining our freedom. Other organizations participating were the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter, DAR; the 2nd Company Governor's Foot Guard; the Marine Corps League #42 from Canaan; VFW Post 9086 from Torrington; Torrington Final Honors Squad; American Legion Post 38 from Torrington; American Legion Post 44 from Bantam; and American Legion Post 173 from Morris.

## DAKOTA SOCIETY

The Dakota Society participated in the Memorial Day wreath-laying ceremony at Memorial Park in Rapid City, South Dakota. Past DASSAR Secretary Dr. Keith Johnson laid the wreath. The color guard included Don Kellogg, Johnson and Paul Dustman.

The Dakota Society has been participating in this Memorial Service since 1998.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SOCIETY

The City Tavern Club, one of the oldest buildings in our nation's capital, has seen its share of history. George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and other founding fathers frequented the Tavern during the late 18th century, and President John Adams was honored at a banquet in the Club's Long Room. On May 2, the City Tavern Club experienced another historic event—the DCSSAR's 125th Anniversary Gala.

Noting a renewed emphasis on the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest and the Arthur M. and Berdena King Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest, the DCSSAR invited the

respective winners to attend the gala and present their essays. In addition, a local Junior ROTC Color Guard presented the colors in joint formation with the VASSAR Color Guard.

The highlight of the evening was guest Gen. Michael Hayden (USAF, ret.), former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, who captivated the attendees with a discussion on the current state of intelligence operations, its need for secrecy, and how to balance secrecy with Constitutional principles. Following his remarks, DCSSAR President Dick Patten, outgoing President Col. Rob Pollack (USAF, ret.), and Gala Chairman and DCSSAR 2nd Vice President Brock

Bierman presented Gen. Hayden with the Gold Good Citizenship Medal.

## FLORIDA SOCIETY

### Clearwater Chapter

The Clearwater Chapter has awarded many scholarships to local Eagle Scouts. Chapter Eagle Scout Director Art Hays contacts scouts and encourages them to compete for these scholarships. He volunteers his time and many weekends to motivate these young men and give them the confidence to compete and be successful.

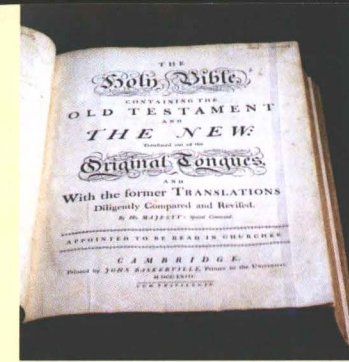
On Jan. 21, Eagle Scout Trevor Joseph Case of Troop 26 in Palm Harbor was recognized as the winner of the 2014 Eagle Scout scholarship contest sponsored by the Clearwater Chapter, for which he received a scholarship. Trevor's winning entry was forwarded to FLSSAR for the state-level competition, where he finished second and received a larger scholarship.

Trevor's entry included an essay on the Battle of Cowpens during the Revolutionary War from the view of his Patriot ancestor, James Abrams, a member of the South Carolina militia. The Battle of Cowpens occurred on Jan. 17, 1781, and was a decisive victory by the Continental Army forces in the Southern campaign over the British. It was a turning point in the subsequent removal of British Army control over South Carolina.

Second place was not good enough for Trevor and he asked how he could improve. Trevor had already demonstrated exceptional citizenship and leadership abilities through his ongoing active involvement in Scouting, school, church and community activities. He had earned more than 100 merit badges but was told he should work to get more awards. He took this as a challenge, and his efforts did not go unnoticed. Recently he received a call from the director of the National Eagle Scout Association notifying him he had received its top Eagle Scout scholarship of \$50,000. Trevor is the son of Richard and Pamela Case.



Trevor Case with SAR Eagle Scout Director Art Hays



## Franklin Bible

Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia has received another gift from Clare Duane Ellis and Wiley Ellis of South Carolina. The Franklin Family Bible, printed in 1763, has been on display in the park's Benjamin Franklin Museum since it opened in 2013. Thanks to the support of the Ellis family, the Bible, which was on a short-term loan, will now be on long-term display in the museum.

"We are grateful for the generosity of the Ellises,"

said Park Superintendent Cynthia MacLeod. "These gifts are just one more way that Independence National Historical Park benefits from having such an engaged constituency of visitors, neighbors and friends who support the National Park Service."

Benjamin Franklin purchased the Bible while in London. Franklin's records include a notation, "cash paid for Baskerville Bible" at the cost of 10 pounds. He gave the Bible as a marriage gift to his daughter, Sarah, who in turn gave it to her daughter, Deborah Franklin Bache. The Bible has been passed on to the present owner by descent. Franklin likely purchased the Bible as a work of art, as it is the second masterwork ever printed with the typeface invented by John Baskerville in 1757. A printer, Franklin collected well-printed works in a variety of typefaces.

## Jacksonville Chapter

On March 21, the Jacksonville Chapter hosted the dedication of a historical marker commemorating the May 17, 1777 Revolutionary War Battle of Thomas Creek. The encounter was the first major engagement and the second of three failed attempts by American forces to invade British East Florida. It is considered the southernmost battle of the American Revolutionary War (see also page 27). President General Lindsey Brock brought greetings. Representatives attended from the City of Jacksonville, National Park Service, FLSSAR, GASSAR, SCSSAR, NCSSAR, DAR, C.A.R., Sons of the Revolution, and Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association. In all, 26 wreath presentations were made. National Color Guard Adjutant Mark Anthony commanded a color guard of 27 compatriots.

## Tampa Chapter

The Tampa Chapter is a commemorative partner in the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration. As its first commemorative event in 2015, representatives of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 787 (Tampa) were invited to speak at the January meeting to explain what VVA is and what it does, especially at the local chapter level. The SAR recognized and honored all those present who served in the military during the Vietnam era, including Compatriots Paul Ergler, Paul Farley, Charles Bearss, Jack Spangler, William Floyd, Richard Young and Jerry Walters.

The Tampa Chapter also made a small donation to VVA 787. In February, Compatriot Floyd worked with VVA 787 on its Classic Car Show fundraising event. In March, Compatriot Young represented the Tampa Chapter at the Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Ceremony at the Hillsborough County Veterans Memorial Park. The next 2015 commemorative event will be in conjunction with Wreaths Across America at a veterans' cemetery in Tampa.

## GEORGIA SOCIETY

### 2014 Georgia Colonial Ball and Debutante Presentation

The Athens Chapter sponsored a successful 2014 Georgia Colonial Ball and Debutante Presentation, held at the Thompson House and Gardens, Bogart, Ga., on Dec. 29, 2014. Thirteen lovely young women were presented to the society, including Amberlee Anne Allmond, Savannah Carolyn Culver, Emily Anne Garnett, Regan Abigail Hardaway, Morgaine Justice Hatcher, Emma Brady

Hawthorne, Megan Ashley Herlihy, Callah Moreé McLeod, Katherine Clements Martin, Virginia Scarlet Elena Matsumoto, Erin Catherine Moore, Mary Elizabeth Neisler and Emily Shea Wagner.

The Georgia Colonial Ball was honored with the presence of numerous dignitaries. In attendance were Historian General Col. Robert F. Towns, Debutante Ball Chairman, and his wife, Robin, national president, SAR National Ladies Auxiliary and Debutante Presentation chairman; South Atlantic District Vice President General Mark C. Anthony; Capt.

Roger Coursey, president, GASSAR, and his wife, Teresa; Col. Joseph B. Neighbors III, past president, Athens Chapter SAR, and his wife, Lois; Maj. Gen. Donald Burdick, president, Athens Chapter SAR; Bea Fischer, state regent, Georgia State Society NSDAR; Erin Jackson, national first vice president, National Society Children of the American Revolution; JoAn Chewning, senior state president, Georgia Society C.A.R.; R. Walker Chewning Jr., state president, Georgia Society C.A.R.; Bonnell W. Lashley, national historian, National Society Southern Dames of America; and Patricia E. Gallagher, state president, Louisiana Society, U.S. Daughters of 1812. Also introduced were past debutantes in attendance: Kathryn Leverett Towns, Toni Guest, Chappell Claxton, Carter Moore, Sarah Moe, Lily Garnett and Lauren Hawthorne.

Col. Joseph B. Neighbors III served as master of ceremonies for the evening. Dr. Mark H. Pelton, associate vice president, Georgia College and State University, served as debutante herald. Peggy S. Gates was grand marshal, and serving as pages were Abby Garnett and Olivia Pelton. The Highland Color Guard, including Compatriots Jackson W. Guest, William R. Galt III, Capt. David A. Martin, Capt. Hall A. Martin, Virgil W. Palmer and Kirby M. Towns, in magnificent traditional Scottish dress, did a fine job of presenting the colors.

Numerous dedicated men and women served on the Colonial Ball Committee, including: music, Amelia Pelton; catering and band, Camille Baxter; decorations, Ashley Carter, Toni Guest, Robin Towns, and Compatriots Christopher Carter, Jackson Guest, and Kirby Towns; debutante gifts, Kathryn Towns; and bouquets and corsages, Lynne Yarbrough.

Following the early morning rehearsal, a Mother-Daughter Luncheon was given by Apalachee Chapter DAR, with Bonnell Lashley as chairman. Each debutante received an engraved silver picture frame as a remembrance of the occasion, and each mother received a corsage of white roses.

For the presentation, each debutante wore a beautiful white ball gown and long white gloves and carried a bouquet of one dozen white roses. After the formal Debutante Presentation, the debutantes danced with their presenters, and then with their escorts. A sumptuous buffet supper and dancing to the music of the Big Biscuit Band followed. A wonderful time was had by all, and even before the evening ended, plans were being discussed for the Georgia Colonial Ball and Debutante Presentation for 2016.



### Piedmont Chapter

The Piedmont Chapter participated in a grave-marking ceremony on April 11 for Compatriot Jack Ferguson in the Georgia National Cemetery near Canton, above.

Compatriot Ferguson was a World War II veteran. When he died on Jan. 17, 2014 at the age of 87, he had participated many times with the chapter and GASSAR Color Guards. He always insisted on carrying the SAR flag as a color guard member, since he was so proud of the ideals for which SAR stands. The more than 20 color guardsmen in attendance demonstrated the love and respect the GASSAR Color Guard held for Jack.

Jack's enthusiasm carried forth in the many presentations he made to school and senior citizens groups. Certainly, the number of people he impacted with his knowledge of historic and patriotic events was huge.

### HAWAII SOCIETY

The Hawaii Society, now in its 120th year, conducted the annual presentations of the Silver and Bronze Cadet Medals to the Senior and Junior ROTC programs throughout the state. The HISSAR closely collaborated with the Hawaii State Society of the NSDAR to ensure that all schools were covered and that either an SAR or DAR representative would be on hand to make the presentations for both organizations.

The HISSAR awards four Senior ROTC and 26 JROTC medals each year in April and May, and selects the Cadet Command Slate for their units, recognizes performance and sends off graduating seniors to their next endeavor.



HISSAR President Chris Tourtellot, a Kapolei High School Marine JROTC, presented the SAR medal to Cadet Gunnery Sgt. Richard A. Greve.



Springfield Chapter Color Guard members, from left, Richard Moldenhauer, Bob Dennison, Dan Hrenko, Jim DeGroff (General George Rogers Clark Chapter) and Dick Chamblin presented the colors at the grave marking of Jacob Henry Shutt.

### ILLINOIS SOCIETY

#### American Bicentennial Chapter

The chapter has added seven new members over the past several months.

In April, the ABC Chapter awarded an ROTC Medal to Mathew Hufano, and the ILLSSAR awarded the Bronze Good Citizenship medal to Illiana Mendoza during the District 214 NJROTC award ceremony at Wheeling High School.

The May chapter meeting began with a celebration of the agreement with France that acknowledged the United States as a free and sovereign nation, and France's pledge to begin hostilities with Great Britain and to support the new nation financially and militarily, which was integral to ending the war.

Ryan Peterson, president of the Aaron Miner C.A.R. Chapter, was awarded the Bronze C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation for his extensive service, and Senior President Holly Peterson was awarded the Silver C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation for her equally extensive work at the local and state society levels of C.A.R.

Guest speaker Terry Parke, senior district executive for the Blackhawk District of the Boy Scouts of America and a 20-year state representative, talked about Scouting and the positive effect it had on his leadership development. Parke noted that the Scouts are developing our future leaders and welcomed SAR support. Chapter President Larry Wade, a former Scoutmaster, presented Parke a \$250 donation to the BSA from the chapter.

#### Fox Valley Chapter

The Fox Valley Chapter participated with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in the April 4 memorial service for longtime Compatriot Carson W. Yeager. Carson was a "true" son of Union Veteran Peter Yeager.

The chapter participated in Revolutionary War Days at Cantigny Park in Winfield, Ill. The chapter has an SAR recruitment table set up every year at this event to answer questions and recruit new members.

#### Springfield Chapter

Springfield Chapter compatriots presented the colors at the DAR Captain William Penny Chapter (Chatham, Ill.) grave marking of Revolutionary War Patriot Jacob Henry Shutt in the Wimmer Historic Cemetery in Auburn, Ill. More than 80 family members and guests attended the marking.

### KENTUCKY SOCIETY

The Louisville Thruston, Simon Kenton and Gov. Isaac Shelby chapters came together to assist with a Naturalization Ceremony at the NSSAR Headquarters in Louisville. President General Lindsey Brock said of the group, "This is one of the best performances by a color guard that I have witnessed."



### MAINE SOCIETY

The Maine Society inducted eight of the 17 newest members of 2015 into the society at the April luncheon meeting in Portland. The inductees were eight members of the Vogel family, four adult brothers and four boys.

Before the luncheon, featured speaker Compatriot Clark Whelton, chief speechwriter for former New York City Mayors Ed Koch and Rudy Giuliani, shared accounts of the "close calls" and miracles that saved Washington's men and America. Later, we toured the Portland Observatory, a tower with 103 steps to the top, built by Lemuel Moody in 1807 for his business providing communications regarding the many merchant ships entering Portland harbor.

In June, we congratulated five more members whose approvals arrived from national headquarters.

Our first chapter, the Margaretta, was presented its charter at the April luncheon, and a second, the Southern Maine Chapter, will be chartered soon.

The Maine SAR Color Guard leads the Machias, Maine, parade every year in June as our way to honor the Patriots who captured the British ship *Margaretta* in the first naval battle of the Rebellion.

The guard, commanded by Paul Salisbury, assembles in Thomaston, Maine, each July on the Saturday closest to Gen. Henry Knox's birthday, July 25, 1750, for a large, wreath-laden event.

Many Maine Society members greeted the ship *L'Hermione* as it entered Castine harbor July 14 to recount the arrival of the flagship of Marquis de Lafayette and his fleet with 5,000 French troops and other aid to the American Revolution in 1780.

### MARYLAND SOCIETY

MDSSAR members enjoyed an invitation by the 1812 Society in Maryland to its annual Old Defenders' Day Celebration on May 23, above. The event featured a tour of the Brookeville home of Duane and Sandy Heiler, who own the Bentley house, also known as Madison House, which temporarily housed President James Madison when he fled Washington after the British burning of the Capitol.

Attendees included President General Lindsey Brock; Treasurer General J. Michael Tomme; President National Jacque-Lynne A. Schulman and Past President National Virginia Apyar of Daughters of 1812; President J. Patrick Warner of the War of 1812 Society in Maryland; Kayleigh Gott, president of Thomas Johnson Society Maryland, C.A.R.; and other VIPs from C.A.R., DAR, SAR and 1812. The tour was held exclusively for our members. The owners gave a tour while in period dress, explaining the role the home had in saving President Madison and his cabinet after the British attack on Washington in August 1814. The

couple's loving restoration of the home was apparent; they recently received an award as having one of Maryland's most beautiful historic homes.

### John Eager Howard Chapter

The annual memorial to Col. John Eager Howard of Baltimore was well attended by C.A.R., DAR and SAR members, a great testament to a man who did much for Baltimore and the nation. President Jean S. Fugett Jr. opened the ceremony with a presentation of flags by MDSSAR Color Guard troops—David Embrey, Bruce French, David Hoover, Robert Lyons and Bill Robertson. Among the many officials who attended the event was State President James F. Engler Sr., who presented an MDSSAR wreath during the memorial in honor of Howard. Past President Christos Christou Jr. served as master of ceremonies and Past Presidents Ivan V. Dooley Jr. and Edward A. Foreman Jr. were thanked for their contributions in getting the monument from an idea to reality. Maryland C.A.R. Officer Leah Paire spoke on behalf of the C.A.R., mentioning the upcoming state project around the George Washington Monument in Baltimore that, coincidentally, is on the land donated by Howard.

Senior Maryland C.A.R. President Holly Atherton and Lucille Rogers, the contact from the Grey Rock Community Association who helped get the monument placed in its prominent courtyard location, also attended. The event ended with several musket firings by the Maryland Color Guard, delighting attendees from the surrounding homes.

### Westminster Chapter

In an April 21 ceremony in the Baker Chapel of William McDaniel College, Westminster, Md., Westminster Chapter immediate Past President Dr. Cecil Massie presented the chapter's SAR ROTC award to Cadet Kyle Shaffer. Shaffer is a freshman studying English from New Freedom, Pa. The presentation was made during the Green Terror Battalion Army ROTC President's Review.

### MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY

#### Old Middlesex Chapter

On April 11, the Old Middlesex Chapter, together with the Col. Henry Knox Color Guard, visited the historic town of Weston, Mass. On a perfect spring day, compatriots led a procession with flags flying from the Town Hall down the historic Boston Post Road, stopping at two ancient burial grounds to commemorate a pair of Weston Patriots of the American Revolution. The first stop was the Farmers Burying Ground, where the chapter laid a wreath at the grave of Josiah Smith, the builder of the tavern that still

bears his name. Smith was an ardent Patriot who was devoted to the cause of American independence from the beginning. The march continued down the road to Weston's Central Cemetery, where compatriots honored Isaac Jones, the proprietor of the Golden Ball Tavern. Jones initially was loyal to the Crown, but in time came to see the virtue of the glorious cause and by the end of the war was a true Patriot.

A large group of residents came out in support, and to the delight of the patriotic men, women and children of Weston, our seven-man musket unit fired several volleys at both wreath-laying ceremonies. At the conclusion of the second ceremony, the group continued down Boston Post Road to the Golden Ball Tavern, where approximately 30 compatriots and guests enjoyed the chapter's quarterly business meeting and awards luncheon. The guest speaker was Rev. Garrett Lear, a.k.a. "the Patriot Pastor," who spoke on "The Black-Robed Regiment." Compatriot Clark Loth was presented a 50-year membership pin and certificate in recognition of his long and faithful service to the SAR. Weston Police Chief Michael Goulding was not only a great supporter of our event, but also personally manned the traffic detail as the chapter marched down Weston's main street. Huzzah!

## MICHIGAN SOCIETY

The Michigan Society held its 125th Annual Meeting in East Lansing on April 25. In addition to conducting business, the Society recognized young people with medals and scholarships for outstanding achievements.

Timothy Kneeshaw of Grand Rapids was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship as the Michigan winner for outstanding Eagle Scout, presented by Boy Scout Committee Chairman Gerald Burkland.

Also recognized was Knight Essay Award winner Anna Boettcher, who was presented her prize by Knight Essay Committee Chairman Compatriot William Vette.

ROTC Committee Chairman Paul Callanan awarded the MISSAR outstanding ROTC Award to Cadet Cory Miller.

## Northern Michigan Chapter

Representatives of both the Northern Michigan Chapter and the West Michigan Chapter met at Fremont, Mich., to swear in new Compatriot Richard Wayne Warren, below. Richard was born in Ravenna, Mich., and lived in California, Florida and Alabama before returning to Michigan. His daughter, Lynea, has been a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution since 2013, and was instrumental in helping her father with his SAR application. Richard's Patriot ancestor is Robert Harrison from Rhode Island.



## MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY

The University of Southern Mississippi's Air Force ROTC Detachment 432 held its "Dining Out" on March 21 at the Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg, Miss. The detachment uses this opportunity to recognize graduating seniors who will be commissioned in the U.S. Air Force as 2nd lieutenants upon graduation and to honor other cadets who have demonstrated the high standards expected of officers.

Bob Cox, president of the Jacob Horger Chapter, attended the event and presented the SAR Silver ROTC

Medal to Cadet Daniel Beck in honor of his outstanding performance.

During Bob's visit, he not only spent time with the cadets, but also spent significant time with Maj. Cory Lambert, the awards officer; and Col. Steven Reese, director of staff for the Air Force Surgeon General at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. The three discussed matters relating to the ROTC and its role in preparing young men and women to serve in the armed forces. The Air Force ROTC is selective in its entry process and currently has 24 cadets at the University of Southern Mississippi, who present a bright and positive outlook for the future of the U.S. military.



From right, MOSSAR President Charles Lilly, Compatriot Dick Bryant and President General (2013-2014) Joseph W. Dooley were on hand at Ball Park Village in St. Louis April 24 to dedicate the monument commemorating the Battle of Fort San Carlos and the plaque noting the 250th anniversary of the founding of St. Louis.

## MISSOURI SOCIETY

Commander David S. Cox took command of the USS Louisville on May 12. Commander Cox is also Compatriot David S. Cox, a member of the Fernando de Leyba Chapter in St. Charles, Mo. He is the son-in-law of National Trustee Charles E. Lilly, immediate past president of the Missouri Society.

## Ozark Mountain Chapter

### John Thomas Snelson Grave Marking

Dick Snelson and Glenn Gohr of the Ozark Mountain Chapter participated in a memorial and dedication service on Oct. 18, 2014, for Revolutionary War soldier John



From left, Glenn Gohr, Springfield (Ozark Mountain Chapter); Fred Snelson, Cody, WYSSAR; Frank Snelson (WYSSAR); Josh Snelson (8th-generation descendant); Wyatt Levi Snelson (9th-generation descendant); and Dick Snelson, Battlefield, Mo. (Ozark Mountain Chapter).

Thomas Snelson, buried in the Pine Hill Cemetery between Rolla and St. James, Mo. The Snelson family recently erected a new marker for Thomas Snelson, which includes an SAR emblem.

Dick Snelson, a direct descendant, asked Glenn Gohr to organize this event and serve as the master of ceremonies. The opening took place at Greentree Christian Church in Rolla. A color guard from Fort Leonard Wood posted the colors, followed by pledges. Other participants included Pastor Tim Cook; Francis Chandler Furman, president of the Ozark Patriots Chapter in Rolla; Patricia Hale, regent of the Noah Coleman Chapter, DAR, in Rolla; Frank Snelson of Rolla, who read the Patriot's biography; and Fred Snelson of Wyoming, who served as chaplain.

After the church service, a caravan of cars traveled about 12 miles to the cemetery. The Fort Leonard Wood Color Guard posted the colors again at the cemetery, and everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Five-year-old Wyatt Levi Snelson, a 9th-generation descendant of Thomas Snelson, unveiled the new tombstone and laid a wreath in



From left, MOSSAR members Dennis Hahn, Steve Baldwin, Earnie Mowry, John Rush, Robert Corum and Dale Schmidt attended the May 17 dedication of the Daniel Boone plaque at the welcome pavilion of The Historic Daniel Boone Home and Heritage Center in Defiance, Mo.

front of the marker, followed by a bugler playing Taps to close the ceremony. This service was reported in the *Waynesville Daily Guide* and the *Rolla Daily News*.

John Thomas Snelson (1759-1843) was born in what is now Buckingham County in an area of rolling hills known as the Virginia Piedmont. Later, he and his family moved to South Carolina. Thomas was 18 when he enlisted as a Colonial soldier on July 15, 1777 in York County, S.C. He served as a private in the Georgia Militia. After his first tour of duty, which was an expedition into Georgia and Florida, he became a resident of Edgefield, S.C. In 1779, he took another tour, which led him back into Georgia and to the first Siege of Savannah. His dedication to the cause motivated him to volunteer for service in 1780 and again in 1781, fighting in the first and last siege of Augusta, Ga. Thomas was a farmer and a minister and also lived in Tennessee and North Carolina. By 1821, he was the minister of the Baptist

church in Hopewell Township in Licking County, Ohio. In 1832, he was living in Crawford County, Mo., when he applied for a pension for his service in the Revolutionary War, which was approved (S17111). He was 73 and still active at that time. He helped establish the Little Piney Church in Phelps County, Mo. He and his wife, Deborah, are both buried in the Pine Hill Cemetery in Phelps County.

## NEBRASKA SOCIETY

The Spring Meeting of the Nebraska Society was held April 19 at Mahoney State Park Lodge. Eagle Scout Essay Award winner Loren Steinman of Dunbar, Neb., received a certificate and \$500 scholarship during an awards ceremony. The Eagle Scout, below, was accompanied by his parents, Daryl and Laura Steinman, and his maternal grandmother, Mary Barry. In the photograph are Eagle Scout



Loren Steinman, NESSAR President John Reinert and Past NESSAR President Merle Rudebusch, who is the Eagle Scout Awards chairman.

Each year, the Lincoln Chapter participates in Memorial Day services at Wyuka Cemetery, one of the oldest cemeteries in Lincoln, Neb. Numerous Civil War soldiers are buried there. There are no known Revolutionary Patriots buried in Nebraska. This year at the Memorial Day ceremonies, Merle Rudebusch spoke about the Civil War veterans buried at the cemetery.



The Reno Maytan Community Band provided patriotic music, and free refreshments and lunch were offered to the many people in attendance.

### NEW JERSEY SOCIETY

Taking part in the commemoration of the Battle of Monmouth were, below from left, Robert C. Meyer, Sam Davis, NJSSAR President David Christoffersen and NJSSAR Vice President Clark D. McCullough.



### EMPIRE STATE SOCIETY (NEW YORK)

#### Columbia-Mid Hudson Chapter

The Columbia-Mid Hudson Chapter participated in a Revolutionary War Veterans Marker Dedication Ceremony on May 24 in Rhinebeck, N.Y. Hosted by the Chancellor Livingston Chapter of the DAR, the ceremony culminated in the marking and placing of flags on the gravesites of 45

Revolutionary War soldiers who are buried in the Reformed Church Cemetery.

The American Legion, Montgomery Post 429, served as color guard.

On April 25, the chapter held a grave-marking ceremony the St. Paul's Church Cemetery in Red Hook, N.Y. The church, which recently celebrated 300 years, is the final resting place of 15 Revolutionary War soldiers who served in the 4th, 5th and 6th Regiments of the Dutchess County Militia, the 3rd Regiment of the Ulster County Militia, and the 3rd, 6th, 8th and 10th Regiments of the Albany County Militia.

Speakers included Chapter President Tim Middlebrook; Sarah Hermans, regent of Chancellor Livingston Chapter, DAR; Rev. William Starkweather of St. Paul's; and Chris Klose of Historic Red Hook. American Legion Post 184 of Hudson, N.Y., provided military salutes and honors for the ceremony.

### Syracuse Chapter

The Syracuse Chapter held the 111th annual Heritage Luncheon commemorating the 283rd birthday of George Washington at Drumlins Country Club on Feb. 21. More than 80 people from across the state attended. The guest speaker was Susan Greenhagen, who gave an entertaining talk, "The New York Connection in the Civil War." The Syracuse Chapter presented Darothy DeAngelo with the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship award for exemplary volunteer service to the community regarding the history of Syracuse.

Compatriot Don Mawhinney was presented a 45-year SAR Membership Certificate and pin, and Shawn Doyle was presented a 25-year SAR Membership Certificate and pin.

### NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY

#### Halifax Resolves Chapter

The Halifax Resolves Chapter held an April ceremony, below, celebrating the adoption of the Halifax Resolves by the Provincial Congress on April 12, 1776 in Halifax, N.C. This document was the first that was approved calling for



Robert Gang presented a Bronze Good Citizenship medal to Darothy DeAngelo, assisted by Darothy's sister, Susan Greenhagen.

independence from Great Britain, and in doing so, laid out a path to freedom with the following quote: "Resolved that the delegates for this Colony in the Continental Congress be empowered to concur with the other delegates of the other Colonies in declaring Independence, and forming foreign Alliances, resolving to this Colony the Sole, and Exclusive right of forming a Constitution and Laws for this Colony, and of appointing delegates from time to time (under the direction of a general Representation thereof) to meet the delegates of the other Colonies for such purposes as shall be hereafter pointed out." (The Halifax Resolves, April 12, 1776.) This document was unanimously approved by the Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia on May 15, 1776,

setting forth the groundwork for the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

Halifax Resolves Chapter President Geoff Pittard was the master of ceremonies. Rev. Duncan H. Jones, chaplain of the chapter, gave the invocation and benediction. The colors were posted by the Combined NCSSAR Color Guard under the command of NCSSAR Color Guard Commander Gary O. Green. Greetings were brought by NCSSAR President C. Kenith Wilson, NCSC.A.R. Sr. President Carolyn Coordes, NCSC.A.R. President-elect Camille Edwards and NCSDAR Historian Karen Powell. The reading of the Halifax Resolves was given by Past NSSAR South Atlantic VPG G. Steven Pittard. SAR Foundation President Dr. Samuel C. Powell was the keynote speaker. He emphasized the significance of the Halifax Resolves in founding this nation.

This was followed by a wreath-laying ceremony.

Earlier in the day, the chapter joined the Edwin Haynes Gregory American Legion Post 98 in conducting a flag retirement in which 62 flags were retired with honor and the ashes buried in an unmarked grave.

### Mecklenburg Chapter

Revolutionary War hero and 10th North Carolina Gov. William R. Davie was honored with a formal wreath-laying ceremony March 28 at William R. Davie Park in Charlotte.

"Patriot Davie was a military officer in the Revolutionary War, the 10th governor of North Carolina, and a founding



father of the University of North Carolina,” said Chapter President Jay Joyce. “As British General Charles, Lord Cornwallis, invaded North Carolina in the fall of 1780, Davie and his cavalry slowed their advance until the British Army stopped in Charlotte and retreated back into South Carolina. He was then appointed commissary for the American forces by General Greene.”

The ceremony featured speeches by William R. Davie and Captain “James” Jack, portrayed by local historians James Williams and Tony Zeiss, respectively. Local, state and national officers from the SAR, as well as Mecklenburg and Charlotte city officials, delivered remarks from their organizations.

“We had a large attendance of SAR and DAR chapters from across North Carolina,” added Joyce. “This was a new ceremony, and we believe that members from both organizations were interested in learning more about Patriot Davie, and his accomplishments toward our country’s independence.”

## OHIO SOCIETY

The Marietta Chapter, with the help of the Camp Charlotte, General Henry Knox, Ewings, Cincinnati and Hocking Valley Chapters of the OHSSAR, and the Capt. James Neil Chapter of the WVSSAR, conducted an SAR Patriot grave-marking ceremony for Revolutionary War Patriot John Paine at the Stanley Cemetery, below. The June



William R. Davie, portrayed by local Mecklenburg historian and author James Williams, left, and Captain “James” Jack, portrayed by Mecklenburg SAR chapter member Tony Zeiss, right, share the Declaration of Independence with student Cassidy Zollinger following the March 28 ceremony.

14 event in Waterford, Ohio, was well attended by more than 60 ancestors, guests and color guardsmen.

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Vice President General William Tony Robinson received the 2015 Scouter of the Year Award from the Simon Kenton Council Boy Scouts of America, the Pickaway County communities, and the boys of Troop 170 of Circleville. Circleville Mayor Don McIlroy presented the Scout Trophy to Scoutmaster Robinson at the Mayors Breakfast May 21 at Ohio Christian University.

A troop member, Flynn Shannon, spoke for the 30-member troop in thanking Robinson for his leadership and his inspiration. “Scoutmaster Robinson listens to me, and he always pushes me to do better. As a matter of fact, after our talks, I want to wrestle a bear and start 12 campfires at the same time!” Shannon said with a laugh.

Robinson is a lifelong Scout, becoming a Cub Scout in Lafayette, Ind., in 1957. He attended the 1964 National Scout Jamboree at Valley Forge and

became an Eagle Scout in 1967. He became active with Troop 170 of Circleville in 2011 and became Scoutmaster in 2013, even though he has no sons in the troop. He has seen seven Scouts achieve the rank of Eagle and is helping an additional five in the next year.

In addition to local scouting, Robinson has been the Eagle Scout chairman for the OHSSAR and has been the certificate secretary for the NSSAR.

At the close of the presentation, both the scouts and



Circleville Mayor Don McIlroy with VPG Central District William A. “Tony” Robinson.

cadets from Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine Corps units within Ohio.

State level judging for this year’s nominees was completed on April 15. Winning first place in the Ohio Society competition was Cadet 2nd Lt. Stephanie M. Durbin of the U.S. Army Instructor Group, Kenton High School, Kenton, Ohio. She was entered by the Centennial Chapter of Lima. Cadet Durbin received the SAR Enhanced JROTC State Silver Medallion and a \$300 cash award at the Ohio Society’s 126th State Conference in Dayton on May 2. She received a similar medal and a \$200 award from the Centennial Chapter on May 1.

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At its 126th Annual Conference in Dayton on May 2, the Ohio Society’s Arthur M. and Berdena King Eagle Scout Scholarship first-place award was given to Eagle Scout Matthew Louis Cecil, who was entered into the state’s competition by the Firelands Bicentennial Chapter.

The SAR Eagle Scout Recognition and Scholarship Program recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of the Boy Scouts of America in training America’s youth and promoting good citizenship. Each year, the program provides an opportunity for the SAR to recognize outstanding Eagle Scouts all across America. The program’s goal is to recognize every Eagle Scout’s achievement in attaining the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America and to invite each to compete for the recognition as the Outstanding Eagle Scout of an SAR chapter or state society and for \$14,000 in scholarships from our national society.

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The City of Mason, Ohio hosted a patriotic event May 16 honoring area veterans. The keynote speaker for the afternoon program was U.S. Navy Vice Adm. James P. Wisecup, a member of the OHSSAR. Other speakers included Col. Danny R. Bubp, U.S. Marine Corps, and Lt. Col. Brad Menstrup, U.S. Army Reserves. Since 2013, Menstrup has served as U.S. representative for Ohio’s 2nd Congressional District. The venue was the Mason Veterans’ Memorial at the city building.

Numerous organizations, military units, support groups and veterans attended. Compatriot Michael B. Gunn, president of the Cincinnati Chapter SAR, presented Revolutionary War relics, military weapons and stories of the American War of Independence throughout the day.

Mason, named after Revolutionary War veteran William Mason, who settled there in 1803, is located in southwestern Warren County, Ohio, about 22 miles from downtown Cincinnati.

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their Scoutmaster pointed to the other when asked who learns from whom. Congratulations to VPG Robinson and Troop 170.

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For the past 15 years, the OHSSAR has annually recognized an Outstanding JROTC Cadet from nominations by OHSSAR chapters. These male and female nominees are all outstanding JROTC

Col. (ret.) Donald C. McGraw Jr., OHSSAR secretary and Cincinnati Chapter member, was the keynote speaker at the May 25 Blue Ash, Ohio, Memorial Day Observance in this northeastern Hamilton County community.

Col. McGraw shared with the audience his personal thoughts on the true meaning of Memorial Day. His patriotic speech brought a standing ovation from the audience.

Throughout 2005 and 2006, McGraw was the director of operations, CJ-3, for Combined Forces Command – Afghanistan, and subsequently spent the remainder of his commissioned service as the director of the Afghanistan Policy Team in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He retired in 2009 with more than 30 years of military service.

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The OHSSAR held its 126th Annual Conference at the Hope Hotel at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, May 1-3. The event included executive committee, board of management, and annual meetings, as well as a Friday evening dinner, Saturday afternoon luncheon and a formal banquet.

The 2015-2016 Society leadership election was held during the annual meeting, with elected officers being installed on Sunday morning by President General (2013-2014) Joseph W. Dooley of the VASSAR. Dooley also served as the keynote speaker for the banquet.

A variety of youth awards was given to winners in the Eagle Scout, Essay, Oration, JROTC and Americanism Poster contests. Saturday’s events included judging of the D.G. High Oration contest, with four speeches delivered by entrants from OHSSAR chapters. Saturday’s banquet concluded with membership and appreciation awards numbering more than 60. The Samuel Hubbard Scott Laureate Award, the highest award given by the Ohio Society for service and leadership, went to Ohio Society Chaplain Rev. James O. Fast.

Clayton E. Marsh of Piqua, Ohio, was announced as the winner of the OHSSAR’s George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest.

Clayton previously had won at the local level for the George Rogers Clark Chapter competition in Springfield, Ohio. His essay was titled: “E Pluribus Unum: Understanding the Pledge, Purpose, and Promise of American Citizenship.”

## Western Reserve Society

The Western Reserve Society Archibald Willard Color Guard participated in the Lake View Cemetery Annual Memorial Day Event on May 25. The ceremony takes place in the shadow of the grand monument of the 20th U.S. President, James A. Garfield, who spoke at the first Decoration Day on May 30, 1863, which is now Memorial Day.

St. Martin De Porres High School Drumline and High Steppers, St. Ignatius Jugglers, and Pick-Up Stix Stilt Walkers started the expanded parade and program, followed by the Archibald M. Willard Color Guard. The Monroe Players portrayed George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Mary Todd Lincoln, Gen. James A. Garfield and Lucretia Garfield.

The Memorial address was given by Col. Dan Williams, U.S. Army (ret.), who served 30 years of active duty with two tours of duty in Iraq. Currently, he serves as the media relations director for the City of Cleveland. He spoke on members of the armed forces, from the American Revolution to the wars in Iraqi and Afghanistan, and the people who “gave their all so that we have our freedoms today.”

After the Memorial address wreaths were placed by 20 organizations, including the DAR, C.A.R., Order of



Founders and Patriots, American Legion and VFW units, 1st Vice President Bill Shanklin placed a wreath on behalf of the Western Reserve Society. This was followed by the Collinwood High School JROTC rifle salute. Taps was played by Cleveland Letter Carriers Band members Mike Mahoney, lead bugler, and Bill Carson, echo bugler, followed by the benediction. To close out the program, Tom Garfield, the third-great-grandson of President Garfield, played "Amazing Grace" on his bagpipes.

## OKLAHOMA SOCIETY

The 2015 Tulsa Medal of Honor Ceremony was held April 25 in Veterans' Park. Color Guardsmen from the Tulsa and Bartlesville chapters, along with members from the Tulsa Chapter, greeted the public and distributed information on SAR membership and activities.

Medal of Honor recipient and guest of honor was Command Sgt. Maj. Bennie Adkins from Waurika, Okla. Among other patriotic organizations there were the Marine



Oklahoma State Color Guard Commander Fred Morris, left, and OKSSAR 1st Vice President and Tulsa Chapter President Ron Painter.

Corps League, Oklahoma Honor Flights, the Oklahoma DAR, the Young Marines, Boy Scout Troop 26 of Tulsa and Blue Star Mothers of Oklahoma.

## PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY

### Somerset-Cambria Chapter

On June 19, the Somerset-Cambria Chapter was named the PASSAR's most active chapter for the first time. PASSAR President Ernest Sutton presented the award. Accepting the award were Chapter President Ronald Horner, Chapter Secretary Steward Saylor and Chapter Registrar William L. Lehman.

### George Washington Chapter

Eugene Gass Painter recently celebrated his 100th birthday, and to help mark the occasion at a meeting of the George Washington Chapter, Gene was presented with a certificate from PASSAR recognizing his 100th birthday and a 30-year member certificate and pin. Making the presentation and



representing the PASSAR was Past State President Ernest Sutton, MD, left. Also present was George Washington Chapter President Larry Ridgway, right. Painter is the great-grandson of Patrick Gass, who took part in the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and he still remembers stories his grandmother told him of his great-grandfather.

## SOUTH CAROLINA SOCIETY

### Gov. Paul Hamilton Chapter

In June, Compatriot Peter Dickerson and his sister, Alice Dickerson Hatt of Jamesville, N.Y., located their Patriot ancestor's gravesite at The Hopewell Cemetery in



Thompson Ridge, Orange County, N.Y. left. Patriot Benjamin Dickerson, 1758-1832 (their fifth-great-grandfather) fought in the American Revolution under the command of Capt. Caleb Brewster, transporting spy messages in the Culper Spy network. In 1782, he was severely wounded along with 16 other boatmen who were killed or wounded in a fight with the British in Long Island Sound.

While visiting the cemetery, the Dickersons placed an American flag alongside a flag marker placed by the American Legion during recent Memorial Day observances.

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During April and May, the chapter honored many JROTC cadets with SAR medals and certificates. Secretary Claude Dinkins presented Brisco Olsen of The Port Royal Sound Battalion, Sea Scouts, with the Good Citizenship Medal. Compatriot Billy Syfrett presented Colleton County High School Naval Cadet Chief Petty Officer Brandon McCubbins with the Bronze JROTC Medal; Chapter Military Awards Chairman Lt. Col. Perry Gesell, USMC (ret.) presented the Bronze

JROTC Medal to Cadet Col. Zachary Wilson of the Beaufort High School Air Force Unit; and Battery Creek High School Marine Cadet 1st Lt. Robert Bowles received the Bronze JROTC Medal as the unit's top senior from Lt. Col. Perry Gesell. Lt. Bowles will be attending The Citadel in the fall with a Marine Corps option.

Following the SCSSAR annual meeting in May, Chapter President Michael Keyserling presented Beaufort Academy fourth-grade teacher Susan Di Fabio with the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal for her continued support of the SAR Americanism Poster Contest and her energetic teaching of American history, just one of the subjects she teaches during the course of the year. All 18 members of her fourth-grade class participated in the 2015 Americanism Poster Contest. Each was presented an SAR Certificate of Appreciation, and Alex Compton, the chapter's poster winner, was presented \$300 by SCSSAR Education Chairman Wayne Cousar. Compton was the school's second state winner in three years, and it was the fourth consecutive year the chapter has taken state honors and sent a poster to the Annual Congress.

## TENNESSEE SOCIETY

The TNSSAR Color Guard presented the colors for the April 21 opening session of the Tennessee State Senate at the state Capitol in Nashville. Edward Phillips, vice president of the Andrew Crockett Chapter, gave greetings on behalf of the TNSSAR.

The first Patriot's Day was celebrated in Massachusetts on April 19, 121 years ago. In 2008, the Tennessee Senate established Patriot's Day in Tennessee to honor and recognize the Patriots of the American Revolution and the struggle our nation endured.

The Color Guard was commanded by State Commander David Miles Vaughn with guardsmen Dennis Harris, Steve Gaines, Sanford Payton, Maurice Kellogg, Clarence Watson and Larry Pool.

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On April 30, members of the TNSSAR participated in a 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Partnership event with the Samuel Doaks Chapter of the DAR in Morristown, Tenn.

Stan Evans, chairman of this committee for the TNSSAR and for the Southern District, was the co-organizer for SAR, with Katy Davidson from TNDAR.



Davidson made introductions, and Hamblen County Mayor Bill Britton read a portion of the Proclamation for the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, signed by President Barack Obama: "As we observe the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, we reflect with solemn reverence upon the valor of a generation that served with honor. We pay tribute to the more than 3 million servicemen and women who left their families to serve bravely, a world away from everything they knew and everyone they loved. From Ia Drang to Khe Sanh, from Hue to Saigon and countless villages in between, they pushed through jungles and rice paddies, heat and monsoon, fighting heroically to protect the ideals we hold dear as Americans. Through more than a decade of combat, over air, land and sea, these proud Americans upheld the highest traditions of our Armed Forces."

Evans, in period dress, spoke honoring all Vietnam veterans and their families. He also stated that when he received word initially from Katy Davidson about holding this event, he responded that the TNSSAR would give full support for this most honorable event. Evans then had all Vietnam veterans present to rise and be recognized, which was followed by hearty applause. Evans is a Vietnam War veteran.

The TNSSAR Color Guard, commanded by Compatriot John Clines, posted and later retrieved the colors for the ceremony. The invocation was offered, followed by remarks by local dignitaries, including a local historian and the Morristown mayor, who presented a proclamation. There was a wreath-laying ceremony, and a school choir performed several pieces. The ceremony ended with Taps.

### Hiwassee Chapter

From left, Cadet Capt. Daniel B. O'Connor, Cadet 2nd Lt. Chase D. Berry and Col. Don Edmands Jr. (USAF ret.), in award ceremonies at Bitburg High School, Germany. O'Connor was awarded the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal, and Berry was awarded the American Legion Military Excellence Medal. The cadets are military dependents attending a Department of Defense operated high school. Their fathers are in the USAF and stationed at Spangdahlem Air Force Base, Germany. The annual awards are sponsored by American Legion Post 256 Tellico Lake and the SAR Hiwassee Chapter, of which Edmands is a member.



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### Stones River Chapter

The Stones River Chapter and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Stones River Chapter, hosted an April 25 grave marking for Revolutionary War Patriot Maj. John Nash Read in Smyrna, Tenn., at the Templeton Grove Cemetery. Compatriot Glenn



Taylor, chapter president, gave greetings and a brief history of the Patriot. Charlotte Reynolds, DAR state vice regent, gave greetings from the DAR Tennessee Society. Many descendants and family members were in attendance, above.

The color guard was commanded by State Commander David Miles Vaughn. KYSSAR and ALSSAR Color Guard members joined in to present the colors, and a three-shot volley was fired to honor this Patriot.

### TEXAS SOCIETY

The Athens Chapter welcomed four new members following the March 12 presentation at the Holiday Inn Express by University of Texas-Tyler history professor James Newsom, Ph.D., who spoke on George Washington's leadership and integrity as commanding general of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Inducted were Mike Head and two of his sons, Chad and True. Also inducted was Jonathan Starr, son of Chapter President Clayton Starr and his wife, Ruenette.



Pictured is the Starr family, from left, Marcela, Jonathan Jr., Jonathan Sr., Clayton and Ruenette.

### Dallas Chapter

The North Texas Color Guard was invited by Marie-Laure Reed, assistant to the consul general of France, to appear for a May 8 ceremony of the Legion of Honor at the Adolphus Hotel in Dallas. Also attending were Alan Johnson (Plano Chapter), Dan Reed (Plano Chapter), Walt Thomas (Edmund Terrill Chapter), Bill Watts (Edmund Terrill Chapter), Tom Whitlock (Dallas Chapter), John Greer (Edmund Terrill Chapter), Robert Kittrell (Dallas Chapter) and George Ramphery (Dallas Chapter).

### Bernardo de Galvez Chapter

In May, the chapter held a grave-marking ceremony for Ambrose LeComte, a Revolutionary War soldier, Spanish Colonial Troops, Private "Louisiana Regiment," Natchitoches Post militia cavalry, 1780-82. LeComte served defending his military post during Gen. Bernardo de Galvez's assault against the British garrison at Baton Rouge.



TXSSAR Bernardo de Galvez Chapter members, above, with uniformed Louisiana Color Guard members of Col. Don Esteban Rodriguez Miro, Fijo de Louisiana Regiment: James Huey Chapter, West Monroe members Stephen Ray, Gerald Graves, Theodore "Ted" Brode, and James E. Mitchell, TXSSAR compatriots Mitchell and Larry D. Tidwell, (Continental Army uniform) president of the Galvez Chapter at Galveston, joined the Louisiana SAR and Natchitoches Chapter host to mark Pvt. LeComte's Catholic Cemetery grave. Approximately 45 people attended.

Natchitoches Chapter President Charles "Sandy" McNeely and Rachel Ross, regent of Saint Denis Chapter, Louisiana DAR, participated in two grave markings. Mayor Pro Tem Donald Mims presented a proclamation from the City of Natchitoches, and LASSAR State President Robert "Bob" Hess gave remarks prior to the retirement of the colors by a joint NSSAR Color Guard led by Compatriot Brode.

### Captain William Barron Chapter

The Captain Barron Chapter Color Guard had the honor of posting the colors and raising and lowering the flag to half-staff at the annual Memorial Day ceremony at the Tyler (Texas) Memorial Cemetery on May 23. Attending were 200 veterans, guests and public officials. Below from left, Stephen Lee, Michael Dunavant, Cliff Johnson, Dennis Brand, Britton Lee and Matthew Lee.



### VIRGINIA SOCIETY

The Virginia Society held its 8th Gold Good Citizenship Award Gala April 11. The formal affair was hosted by the

George Washington Chapter at the Belle Haven Country Club in Alexandria.

President Reverdy Wright presented this year's award to Gen. Earl E. Anderson (USMC ret.) for his noteworthy service to the Marine Corps and to the American Bar Association. Anderson was nominated for the award by the Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the VASSAR. Gen. Anderson, as well as his two sons and a nephew, are members of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter.

Gen. Anderson is a retired U.S. Marine Corps four-star general and was assistant commandant of the Marine Corps. He is a veteran of World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. At 53, he was the youngest active-duty Marine to be promoted to the rank of four-star general in the history of the Marine Corps.

He began his Marine career in 1940 aboard the USS *Yorktown*. With the outbreak of World War II, he and the *Yorktown* saw action in the Pacific in the Marshall-Gilbert Campaign, the Salamaua-Lae Raid, and the Battles of the



VASSAR President Reverdy Wright, second from right, presented Gen. Earl Edward Anderson, (USMC ret.) with the Gold Good Citizenship Medal, as Fairfax Resolves Chapter President Bill Price and George Washington Chapter President Dwight Whitney looked on.

Coral Sea and Midway. The *Yorktown* sank at the Battle of Midway; Anderson was burned during the attack and received the Purple Heart. Following his rescue, he returned to the U.S. and underwent flight training. He returned to the Pacific in 1944, where he assumed command of Marine Bomber Squadron 443. He flew bombing missions in B-25 Mitchells in the Pacific Campaign and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

During the Korean War, Anderson served as commanding officer, Marine Observation Squadron 6 and later became the assistant chief of staff, G-1, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. In Vietnam, he flew more than 40 combat missions during his first tour (1963-1964), and returned in 1967 as brigadier general and commander of Marine amphibious forces during the Battles of Khe Sanh, Hue City, and the Tet Offensive.

Anderson's decorations include the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Bronze Star. Following his retirement in 1975, he continued serving his country as a member of the American Bar Association. Of his many leadership positions with the ABA, one that holds special significance is his role as chair of the Standing Committee on Legal Assistance for Military Personnel. Under his leadership, the committee launched the Military Pro Bono Project, which matches junior-enlisted military members facing civil legal issues with pro-bono attorneys. This project has helped thousands of military personnel.



### Martin's Station Chapter

The Martin's Station and the Over Mountain Men chapters celebrated their 15th annual commemoration of the Raid at Martin's Station. President General Lindsey Brock was the main speaker at this SAR Historical Observance that began May 8 with the Martin's Station Dinner. President Tom Coker of the Martin's Station Chapter and chapter members presented gifts to President General Lindsey and First Lady Billie Brock in celebration of this joyful event. VASSAR President Reverdy Wright and VASSAR Secretary-Treasurer Wayne Rouse presented four ribbons, one being the best small chapter, to the Martin's Station Chapter and a Certificate of Appreciation to Wilderness Road Park Manager Scott Bowen. Don Philen, one of Martin's Station Chapter's organizers, presented Bowen with a check to help in the funding of the park. Several SAR and DAR Chapters participated in the Wreath Presentation Ceremony at Wilderness Road State Park, in Ewing, Va., on May 9. This event was part of "A Tribute to Pioneers and Patriots" and included compatriots from Tennessee and Kentucky.

Thanks go out to President General Brock, TNSSAR President Darryl Addington, and all who came out to celebrate with us.

On June 13, President Coker met with President General Lynn F. Young, NSDAR, and State Regent Ginnie Storage at the rededication of the DAR Monument marking the Daniel Boone Trail in the saddle of the gap on Cumberland Mountain. The DAR celebrated the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the original marker with about 100 women from various DAR chapters from North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky.

### Williamsburg Chapter

Members of the Williamsburg Chapter attended the 257th birthday celebration ceremony for James Monroe, the fifth president of the United States, held at his birthplace and park in Westmoreland County, Va. The James Monroe Memorial Foundation hosted the April 23 event.

On Memorial Day, the Williamsburg Chapter was invited to participate in the day set aside to honor our nation's military members and provide a visual reminder to our fellow citizens of the sacrifices that created our Republic 240 years ago.

The chapter presented a wreath at the Governor's Palace at Colonial Williamsburg, and then the SAR Color Guard

and Colonial Williamsburg drum and fifes marched to Bruton Parish Church and to the French cemetery.

### Yorktown Chapter

Yorktown, Va., was the first port of call for the 2015 visit of the *L'Hermione*. VASSAR 1st Vice President Ed Truslow and his wife, Laura, attended a dinner in honor of Capt. Yann Cariou during his stay in Yorktown.

### WASHINGTON SOCIETY

President General Lindsey Brock and Treasurer General

Mike Tomme and their spouses attended the Pacific District Conference in Redmond, Wash., April 24-25. The meeting was hosted by WASSAR.

The Pacific District Color Guard was made up of guardsmen from WASSAR and ORSSAR. At Saturday's gala, Washington Commander Bob O'Neal and Vice Commander Stan Wills arched crossed swords while Oregon Commander Mark Robertson headed a line of 12 guardsmen armed with muskets, as the ladies were escorted to dinner by Naval JROTC cadets from nearby Liberty High School. A spark of Revolutionary fervor was provided by Drum Major Viren Lemmer, who beat the dinner march and is organizing our new WASSAR Fife & Drum Corps.



From left, National President General Lindsey Brock, Ken Roberts, Drum Major Viren Lemmer (kneeling), Pacific District (WASSAR) Commander Lt. Col. Bob O'Neal, fifer David Irons (kneeling), ORSSAR Color Guard Commander Mark Robertson (kneeling) and Treasurer General Mike Tomme; back row, from left, rifleman Will Palmer, Lt. Paul Adan, Larry Flint, Barry Moravek, Fred Gilbert, WASSAR Vice Commander Major Stan Wills, Lt. Gale Palmer and Bennet Wight. Color guard member not shown: WASSAR President Col. Doug Nelson.

### WEST VIRGINIA SOCIETY

On March 21, after the WVSSAR Board of Management meeting in Point Pleasant, W.Va., Compatriots Steve Hart and Ray Kane visited Fort Randolph.

Fort Randolph, located at Krodel Park in Point Pleasant, is a replica of a fort that was built there in May 1776 as an outpost and to deter against Indian raids. The original fort



was built at the site where the Battle of Point Pleasant was fought on Oct. 10, 1774, between Virginia militia and the Shawnee and Mingo tribes, which were led by Shawnee Chief Cornstalk.

The replica Fort Randolph was built in 1973-1974 and was dedicated on Oct. 10, 1974, the 200th anniversary of the battle.

In the fall of 1777, Chief Cornstalk visited Fort Randolph to warn the garrison that some of the Indian tribes planned an attack on the fort. Chief Cornstalk, his son Elinipsico, Red Hawk and some other Shawnees were detained and held at Fort Randolph. When a Virginia soldier was killed outside the fort, an angry mob, led by a Capt. James Hall, murdered Chief Cornstalk and the other Shawnee.

On May 20, 1778, 200-300 Shawnee, Wyandotte and Mingo warriors laid siege to Fort Randolph. But Nonhelema, the sister of Chief Cornstalk, had warned the fort inhabitants, helping to save the fort.

Fort Randolph was abandoned in 1779, and the Indians promptly burned it down. The fort was rebuilt in 1785, but later, it too was abandoned.

The original Fort Randolph stood where the town of Point Pleasant is now, so the replica was built at Krodel Park, which is about a mile from the original location.

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Raymond M. Kane Jr., WVSSAR registrar and past president of the George Rogers Clark Chapter, presented the SAR Military Service Medal to Compatriot Arden Leo Swiger Sr. in a surprise ceremony at the North Central West Virginia Airport at 6 a.m. on May 2 as Compatriot Swiger was awaiting his Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C.

Compatriot Swiger served in the U.S. Army from Oct. 27, 1953 to Oct. 26, 1955 during the final days of the Korean War. He served in the 216th Field Artillery as headquarters battery clerk and the 55th Field Artillery as battalion dispatcher.

Unknown to him until recently, Swiger had been selected by Honor Flight to attend special ceremonies at the



Arden Swiger receiving the SAR Military Service Medal from Raymond Kane Jr.

various war memorials and activities in Washington, D.C., to honor the military service of veterans. Swiger proudly wore his SAR Military Service Medal as he awaited his Honor Flight.

On behalf of the chapter and the WVSSAR, we extend our gratitude and appreciation to Swiger for his military service to our great country and to the SAR!

### WYOMING SOCIETY

SAR, DAR and family members gathered for fellowship and recognition May 15 at the Wyoming Governor's Residence in Cheyenne. Cheyenne Mayor Richard Kaysen was guest of honor. Honoring Armed Forces Day, the WYSSAR presented Compatriot Edward Thompson Jr. with the NSSAR WWII Service Certificate signed by the President General. War veterans Kaysen, State Trustee Robert Allen and WYSSAR President Col. David Thompson led the presentation. Thompson served on the U.S. Army Air Corps B-17 bombers. DAR member Kathy Escobedo, Thompson's daughter, was recognized for her role in coordinating her father's participation in the May 2011 WWII Wyoming Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

During the event, Allen and Thompson signed the charter for The High Plains Chapter, which provides comradeship for WYSSAR members in Laramie, Albany, Goshen and Platte counties. This is WYSSAR's second chapter—the Big Horn Basin Chapter was established in September 2014, following Thompson's initiative to build Wyoming chapters.

Thompson conducted an induction ceremony for new member and military veteran William Loyer of Cheyenne, who was accompanied by his daughter, Laramie DAR Chapter member Anne Brande. Wyoming Society DAR First Vice Regent Donna Weaver was awarded the SAR Medal of Appreciation for her assistance to the WYSSAR with prospective members. Lt. Col. Patricia Thompson (USAF ret.) was awarded the SAR Lydia Darragh Medal for her behind-the-scenes work supporting WYSSAR events the past four years. Governor's Residence Executive Chef Becky Beavers, who catered the lunch, received the SAR Certificate of Appreciation. Allen and Thompson presented Kaysen with an Eagle statuette in recognition of his support. The mayor acknowledged the importance of the historical and patriotic goals of the SAR and DAR.



From left, Registrar William Teter, NSSAR and Wyoming Society Inductees Gary and Joseph Laughton, and Wyoming Society President David Thompson during the formal induction ceremony in Sheridan.

On May 29 in Sheridan, Thompson and State Registrar William Teter conducted an induction ceremony for new father and son members, Joseph and Gary Laughton. Past State President Charles Luxmoore and WYSSAR member Mark Kinner were in attendance. Gary and his wife, Sherry, traveled from Washington. Joseph, a longtime Sheridan resident, provided an account of the service of his Patriot ancestor, and Gary, a veteran, shared his professional history. During the 100th Wyoming State Society DAR Conference, Thompson and Teter were guests at the DAR's May 29 Formal Dinner, where Thompson provided a welcome on behalf of WYSSAR.











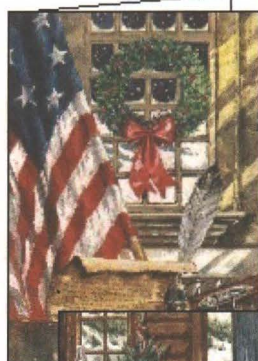
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