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Reports from the field

State society color guard activities from the last three months

Fifer's Corner

National Color Guard Events - 2020

Wreaths Across America

Dates and times are subject to change and interested parties should refer to the respective state society web sites closer to the actual event.

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Compatriots,

Fellow SAR Colorguardsmen,

I hope all of our guardsmen have had a productive fall. Much of my fall included participation in virtual events and meetings as well as administrative duties. The combination of all of these meetings, modified events schedule and an extremely busy fourth quarter at work has left me drained. Like many of you, I certainly wish that this plague upon us will abate with the distribution of these new vaccines and that next year is much better for everyone.

I am very happy to say that through the generosity of many of our color guardsmen, we met our financial goal and collected the funds to purchase the original 1760 Halberd for the SAR Education Center and Museum collection. Arrangements were made in early December and the piece is scheduled for delivery to Louisville sometime in January. I wish to thank everyone for their generous donations and support of this worthy project.

In the field

The fall calendar presents many opportunities to participate in numerous commemorations. Unfortunately, since many of these are new being adapted to merging of both pre recorded and virtual ceremonies, this has created a higher percentage of conflicts in overlapping schedules.

The command staff has done their best to try and participate in as many events as possible. Along with these scheduling conflicts there also continues to be restrictions in many states on group sizes even on large open battlefields and cemeteries. I backed out of attending several of these to allow vice commander Brooks and 1st adjutant Collins attend several of these in the south. I worked with 2nd adjutant Meyers and attended the commemoration of Chestnut Neck in Port Republic, NJ on Oct. 10th. On Sat. Oct. 17th I attended the wreath laying ceremony of Virginia Gov. Thomas Nelson at Grace Episcopal Church in Yorktown. PG Manning gave virtual greetings to all that attended and Secretary General Davis Wright presented a wreath in person. Vice Commander Brooks Lyles, 1st Adjutant K. Scott Collins and Virginia Color Guard commander Ken Bonner joined me in leading guardsmen from a half dozen states to present the colors and honors during the ceremony. Sadly, the annual parade was cancelled. On Sunday October 25th I was back in New Jersey celebrating the battle of Red Bank.

Chestnut Neck
This is the New Jersey Color Guard at the Battle of Chestnut Neck commemoration.


Bank. This was the first celebration of the event since becoming a national event for the color guard. On Sat. Nov. 8th I joined members of the Col. Aquila Hall color guard and several boy scout troops honoring veterans at Belair Memorial cemetery. On Dec. 19th I participated in a Wreaths Across America ceremony at Belair Memorial Cemetery. The Aquila Hall color guard was joined by color guards from the local American Legion Post #39 and the Knights of Columbus as well as members of the DAR, CAR and a hundred and twenty five other participants. As my family does continue to gather and celebrate on the 26th of December, I was unable to attend the 244th anniversary of Washington’s crossing and the Battle of Trenton in person, but Brooks, Scott and I attended with color guardsmen from twenty states via Zoom. New Jersey President and second adjutant Rob Meyers, joined NJ Color Guard commander Richard Serfass, Roger Williams, Sam Davis and members of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania color guards to perform live at the Trenton Battle Monument.

The new year will start with the Battle of Princeton, Cowpens and Kettle Creek. Organizers are currently planning a combination of both live and virtual formats. These however are subject to change so if you are planning to attend, make sure you keep in contact with the organizers to make sure of the final plan.

As many of you now know our live spring leadership meeting in Louisville has been cancelled. I have requested a virtual meeting to be set up for Saturday, Feb. 6, 2021 at 1pm. The annual item on the agenda for the meeting is the choosing of the color guardsmen of the year. Since we cannot do this in person, we will have to set this process up electronically as well. Per the rules governing the voting process, I therefore request that each state decide who will be voting on it’s behalf and send their name, office and e-mail address to myself and 1st adjutant Scott Collins so that it can be logged into the database to account for your states vote. Along with the states vote, all past Color guardsmen of the year also get a vote, so please let us know that you are planning to vote. More information on the meeting and the voting will be out later in January.

As this has been a very hectic quarter, I ask that anyone having color guard business they wish addressed please send me a note, so that I can add it to the agenda. Please let me know who will be speaking on behalf of the color guardsmen of the year candidates. I will do my best to organize our speakers and keep this to an hour meeting. Far too many of these meetings drag on for hours with little accomplished. Also, on the agenda, I will be addressing Zoom meetings and Medal applications.

Let us hope that this new year, we may look to brighter days where we can once again march together and share the fellowship of all our members.

Yours in Patriotism,
C. Louis Raborg Jr.,
NSSAR, National Color Guard Commander

Red Bank

Front Row L-R: Susan Novalsky (Regent, Ann Whitall Chapter DAR), Rich Serfass (Pres. So Jersey Chapter SAR and Adjudant, NJSSAR), Lou Raborg (National SAR Color Guard Cmdr), DAR member; 2nd Row L-R: Gary Beauregard (Monmouth Chapter), Jim Howard (So Jersey Chapter Historian), Robert Meyer, American Flag holder (President NJSSAR SAR, Color Guard Cmdr), Tim Ogline, SAR Flag holder (SICSAR 2nd VP), Hidden: Larry Nelson (SICSAR 1st VP), Ed Glidden (Monmouth Chapter, NJSSAR Treasurer), 3rd Row: Erick Yerkes (SICSAR Chaplain).
So you are hosting a National SAR Event

My wife asked me after we attended a SAR event—"So that was a National Event?" This was not what I wanted to hear as her first comments on the way back home but she definitely let her feeling be known.

Over the last four or five years a large number of National Society Sons of the American Revolution National Events have been approved by the National Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee (HS&CC). The National Color Guard Committee has voted to following the listing of the HS&CC for the Color Guard National Event listing.

While these new events are exciting and compatriots look forward to attending and participating in these ceremonies several concerns have been noted over the last several years.

Hosting a state event and hosting a National event is not the same. While both types of commemorations follow the same general protocol there are differences and the communication requirements are vastly different.


The biggest item for everyone to look at is you do not just do what you did last year and change the date. Always question what was done in a prior year and compare it to the National Handbook. Also, if this is a new National the order and ranking of state and national officers will be different and also the Greeting order will change. If this had been a state event previously the state president would have gone first in a National event the current President General or his official designee goes first.

Make sure to look over the your list of individuals bringing greetings and those doing wreath presentations.

Communication is also another big item. Once an event is designated as a National SAR event the communication reach should be greater. As a state event you were probably only concerned about inviting compatriots from your state or possibly from you District. As a National SAR event an announcement should go out over the email list serve “SAR-Officer” in addition to any state announcement systems that you have previously used. In addition a separate email invitation should go our to the National Color Guard Commander, Vice-Commander, First Adjutant and Second Adjutant. All of these email addresses are in the SAR Color Guardsman magazine.

Announcements would also normally be sent to the President General and other general officers of the National Society SAR as shown on the website along with the District Regional Vice President General for your District. Depending on your location you may want to extend to nearby Regional VGPs.

Also, don not forget to invite the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Calendars are hosted by most state SAR societies and also the National Society but that are normally incomplete. If you are hosting a SAR National event or co-sponsoring a National Society DAR event please try to get it on these SAR calendars. No matter how well you communicate there will always be someone to say that they were not notified but please let us make sure that you have used the basic communication strategies to get the word out for a National SAR event.

Order of service is also something to be looked at. The normal SAR meeting and events it should be Invocation and Benediction along with the Pledge of Allegiance and other pledges.

The easiest way to remember this is “God, Country and SAR”. Normally the Invocation is given before the Colors are Advanced. Make sure the script and program are aligned in the order that this is happening and that the Master of Ceremonies and the Color Guard Commander are on the same page.

Virtual Events is a new item that is having to be dealt with this year. The Temporary Virtual Participation Policy for the National Color Guard has been approved and was discussed in the last issue of this magazine. Many event organizers are working the requirements of this policy into their commemoration programs. The National Color Guard Command Staff is grateful to all who have done so.

If you are doing all of part of the event virtually then please consider a tripod for filming, multiple “ZOOM” administrators with specific assigned duties, the issue of speakers for the onsite participants if someone is bringing greetings from an offsite location, and the quality of microphone(s) being used at the site to provide sound to the Zoom participants. Also, in may cases the quality of the Wi-Fi signal will be a major issue due to the remoteness of some of the battle sites. Don’t forget to send out programs by email to all of the “Zoom” participants.

Please try to participate on site or virtually in as many of these National Events as you can. Many compatriots put in much work annually to make sure these events happen and the these patriots are recognized for their patriotic service and serving with the Continental Army and the various Militias to bring about the founding and development of this United States of America.

Scott Collins
First Adjutant

The Resounding Echo of a Small Voice

by Stu Hoyt

Each year at over 120 cemeteries across this great nation wreaths are place at the graves of veterans, in December. The event, which started at Arlington National Cemetery has spread across the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave, is called Wreaths Across America.

The Patrick Henry SAR Chapter of Austin, TX in conjunction with the local DAR Chapters started a remembrance ceremony, a number of years ago, to remember our fallen heroes on Memorial Day. Part of that ceremony included reading the names of those departed followed by the ringing of a bell. The performance of the service was cut short this year due to the limitations of social distancing put forth to contain the spreading Covid19 virus. A thirty-minute video was created to replace that ceremony.

Here it is almost nine month later and the ceremony to honor those heroes is still being hampered by those same restrictions cause by that pandemic. This year, in addition, it has affected the amount of money raised to pay for those wreaths. If sufficient funds cannot be obtained to set a wreath at every grave, flags will be used in their place. The flags used to honor over 3200 graves at the Texas Cemetery, in Austin, on Memorial Day and Veterans Day will be place at each grave on the day set aside, 18 Dec, for Wreaths Across America Day.

Doing his part to meet the goal for purchasing the wreaths is nine-year old Remmer Machamer and this is not his first year at this worthy task. His personal goal is $6000 and he is well on his way to meeting that goal. To stay within the guidelines and was discussed in the last issue of this magazine. Many event organizers are working the requirements of this policy into their commemoration programs. The National Color Guard Command Staff is grateful to all who have done so.

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The filming of this segment of the video took place at the entrance to the Texas State Cemetery on Navarro Street in Austin. From left to right are: Harry Tooke, eight years old and youngest member of the Patrick Henry Chapter; Wayne Courreges; Remmer Machamer, nine years old and reading the list, also a new applicant to the SAR; Ken Tooke, President, Patrick Henry Chapter, Jim Clements, Secretary, TX Society (ringing the bell); and Stu Hoyt of the William Hightower Chapter. Not shown is the narrator Robert Hites of the Patrick Henry Chapter.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HISTORIC Date</th>
<th>Color Guard Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Host</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 3</td>
<td>Princeton, the Ten Crucial Days</td>
<td>Princeton, NJ</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Battle of Cowpens</td>
<td>Chesnee, SC</td>
<td>Daniel Morgan SAR</td>
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<td>February 1</td>
<td>Battle of Cowans Ford</td>
<td>Huntersville, NC</td>
<td>Mecklenburg SAR</td>
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<td>February 14</td>
<td>Battle of Kettle Creek</td>
<td>Washington, GA</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>Crossing of the Dan</td>
<td>South Boston, VA</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<td>February 22</td>
<td>Washington Birthday Parade</td>
<td>Laredo, TX</td>
<td>Texas</td>
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<td>February 27</td>
<td>Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge</td>
<td>Currie, NC</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>March 10</td>
<td>Last Naval Battle of the Revolution</td>
<td>Merritt Island, FL</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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<td>March 15</td>
<td>Battle of Guilford Courthouse</td>
<td>Greensboro, NC</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>April 12</td>
<td>Halifax Resolves</td>
<td>Halifax, NC</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>April 18</td>
<td>Patriot's Day</td>
<td>Nationally</td>
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<td>May 8</td>
<td>Battle of Pensacola</td>
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<td>Florida</td>
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<td>May 11</td>
<td>Raid on Martin's Station</td>
<td>Elbing, VA</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Armed Forces Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>Battle of Thomas Creek</td>
<td>Jacksonville, FL</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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<td>May 25</td>
<td>Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous</td>
<td>Vincennes, IN</td>
<td>Indiana</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>Memorial Day events *</td>
<td>Various locations</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>Battle of Fort San Carlos</td>
<td>St Louis, MO</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
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<td>May 29</td>
<td>Buford's Massacre</td>
<td>Lancaster, SC</td>
<td>General Francis Marion SAR</td>
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<td>June 11</td>
<td>Action at Machias</td>
<td>Machias, ME</td>
<td>Maine</td>
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<td>June 17</td>
<td>Battle of Bunker Hill</td>
<td>Charlestown, MA</td>
<td>Massachusetts SAR</td>
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<td>June 20</td>
<td>Battle of Ramsour's Mill</td>
<td>Lincolnton, NC</td>
<td>Catawba Valley SAR</td>
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<td>June 28</td>
<td>Battle of Monmouth</td>
<td>Monmouth Cty, NJ</td>
<td>New Jersey SAR</td>
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<td>July 4 every year</td>
<td>Let Freedom Ring / July 4th Events *</td>
<td>Various locations</td>
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<td>August 2</td>
<td>Siege at Fort Laurens</td>
<td>Bolivar, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 19</td>
<td>Battle of Blue Licks</td>
<td>Carlisle, KY</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>Battle of Groton Heights</td>
<td>Groton, CT</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>Battle of Eutaw Springs</td>
<td>Eutawville, SC</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 25</td>
<td>Gathering at Sycamore Shoals</td>
<td>Elizabethtown, TN</td>
<td>Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 17</td>
<td>Vigil at George Washington's Tomb</td>
<td>Mt Vernon, VA</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 17</td>
<td>Vigil at George Washington's Tomb</td>
<td>Mt Vernon, VA</td>
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<td>October 4-6</td>
<td>Point Pleasant Battlefield</td>
<td>Point Pleasant, WV</td>
<td>West Virginia</td>
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<td>October 6</td>
<td>Chestnut Neck</td>
<td>Port Republic, NJ</td>
<td>NJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>Battle of Kings Mountain</td>
<td>Blacksburg, SC</td>
<td>Kings Mountain SAR (NC) / Daniel Morgan SAR (SC)</td>
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<td>October 17</td>
<td>Battle of Saratoga</td>
<td>Stillwater, NY</td>
<td>Empire State</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>Yorktown Days</td>
<td>Yorktown, VA</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>Red Bank Battlefield</td>
<td>National Park, NJ</td>
<td>NJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 11</td>
<td>Veterans Day Events *</td>
<td>Nationally</td>
<td>Various</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 9</td>
<td>Battle of Great Bridge</td>
<td>Norfolk, VA</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>December TBD</td>
<td>Wreaths Across America</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 26</td>
<td>Battle of Trenton</td>
<td>Trenton, NJ</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Events that can occur on random dates throughout the year

- Massing of the Colors
- Fields of Honor / Healing Field
- Honor Flight
- Liberty Tree Planting / Dedication

The following National Meetings are considered National events by Color Guard Policy due to the attendance of the President General:

- NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting
- Annual NSSAR Congress
- NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting

The National Events listed above count toward earning the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal and National Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement (See the NSSAR Color Guard Medals section). Dates published above are of the actual battle / commemoration date. Guardsmen should confirm the actual date of the event listed below with published event invitations on the National Society SAR website or with the host state society.

* A local event celebrating Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day may be counted as a National Color Guard event for the purposes of applying for a Color Guard Medal. Only a single event on each day may be counted. Multiple events on the same day cannot be counted multiple times. If the event is on a weekend nearest the actual holiday, that can be counted with respect to the single event limitation. For example, if a Veterans Day Parade occurs on a Saturday such as the 8th, then an event on the 11th does not count.

Note: As of the 2020 Spring SAR Leadership Meeting, a policy was adopted by both the National Color Guard and National Historic Sites & Celebrations Committees formally establishing that only the National Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee may designate National Historic Events based on that committee’s established criteria. The only exception being that established Color Guard policy of recognizing President General, or his designated SAR General Officer representative, attendance at an otherwise unrecognized event will make that event a National Event. actual event.

Send event updates to sarwilliamssa(at)gmail.com
State Color Guard Commanders

Welcome to the NSSAR Color Guard. Please note that any questions concerning potential color guard events or participation in events should be directed to the respective commander in the state where the event is taking place.

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

Changes are noted in RED text.

State | Color Guard Commander | Primary Phone | Cell Number | Email Address | City
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Alabama | Joseph D. Barker, Jr | 334-321-3641 | | jpark151@att.net | Wetumpka, AL
Arizona | David Bonnet | 602-321-1372 | 602-321-1372 | dbonnet@cox.net | Phoenix, AZ
California | Mark Kramer | 714 336-9040 | 714 336-9040 | ofcmarkr@atsiol.com | Temecula
Colorado | Tom Wellborn | 303-810-3100 | | wellbornat@mindspring.com | Littleton
Connecticut | David Perkins | 203-797-1967 | 203-948-7974 | DPerkins219att.net | Bethel, CT
Florida | Richard Young | 352-556-3226 | | dyoung22@at.atol.com | Spring Hill, FL
Georgia | Bill Palmer | 770-985-2744 | | bpalmer867@comcast.net | Snellville, GA
Idaho | Terry Patterson | 208-286-8169 | | terrypatterson1876@outlook.com | Twin Falls, ID
Illinois | Jon Fixmer | 630-639-2213 | | jfixmer17@att.net | North Aurora, IL
Indiana | Jeff Stratton | 317-721-8859 | | jjunstratton@gmail.com | Indianapolis, IN
Iowa | Mike Rowley | 515-975-0498 | | mjr1825@hotmail.com | Clive, IA
Kansas | Dewey Fry | 913-897-9502 | | deweyf@kc.rr.com | Stillwell, KS
Kentucky | Scott G Gilmer | 502-649-4554 | | scgil@earthlink.net | Louisville, KY
Louisiana | Ted Brode | 318-232-3961 | | brodet@comcast.net | West Monroe, LA
Maine | Wayne Howard Mallar | 207-942-9586 | | Essex103@aol.com | Bangor, ME
Maryland | David H. Embrey | 301-776-0235 | 617-483-3603 | dembreym@comcast.net | Savage, MD
Massachusetts | Robert Bossart | 617-483-3603 | | rbosbatt@comcast.net | Weymouth, MA
Michigan | Gerald Burkland | 989-871-9569 | | bftb@tds.net | Millington, MI
Minnesota | William J. “Bill” Horne | 662-896-6483 | | jrj@btf.com | Olive Branch, MS
Missouri | Steven G. Perkins | 417-319-7676 | | cperkins@moosar.org | Springfield, MO
Nebraska | Chad Sherrerts | 402-210-9287 | | Jbark151@yahoo.com | North Platte, NE
Nevada | Robert L. Stocklin | 702-354-4080 | | rstocklin@att.com | Carson City, NV
New Hampshire | John Edward Glover | 603-753-6234 | | jeglov5@comcast.net | Penacook, NH
New Jersey | Richard S Verlass | 267-257-3863 | | rverlass@comcast.net | Hainesport, NJ
New Mexico | George Garcia | 205-235-9422 | | garciasar30@gmail.com | Albuquerque, NM
New York | Peter K. Goebel | 607-774-9740 | | goebelh@att.net | Ticonderoga, NY
North Carolina | George K. Strunk | 919-778-8324 | 919-738-6428 | gkstrunk2@att.net | Goldsboro, NC
Ohio | William Robert Hill | 614-237-5149 | | Leesleigh/addison@gmail.com | Columbus, OH
Oklahoma | Henry Baer | 405-650-8717 | | hbaer@att.net | Oklahoma City, OK
Oregon | Eric Saffika | 503-371-6470 | | eckc@comcast.net | Tidewater, OR
Pennsylvania | George M. Clarke, Jr. | 610-687-8111 | | george.m.clarke@verizon.net | Wayne, PA
South Carolina | Dan Woodruft | 864-847-6134 | | dwoodruft@charter.net | Williamston, SC
Tennessee | John Allen Clines | 423-618-8969 | | clinee25@charter.net | Cleveland, TN
Texas | Blair Rudy | 214-305-1452 | | blairrudy@me.com | Blaine, TX
Utah | Jesse Black | 801-201-7731 | | jesseblack@at.net | Salt Lake City, UT
Virginia | Ken Bonner | 703-517-1715 | | kenb@comcast.com | Vienna, VA
Washington | Neil Vernon | 206-949-6767 | | nbirdy@yahoo.com | Everett, WA
West Virginia | Ed Crousy | 304-593-6613 | | ed_crousy@yahoo.com | Point Pleasant, WV
Wisconsin | Brian S. Barren | 262-542-0365 | | brianbarr@att.com | North Platte, NE

This is the current listing of state society color guard commanders with confirmed data. Those state societies that are not confirmed are asked to submit updated data to the editor. No Color Guards: Alaska, Arkansas, Dakotas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Indiana, Montana, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wyoming.

Vendor List

Welcome to the NSSAR Color Guard. Please note that any questions concerning potential color guard events or participation in events should be directed to the respective commander in the state where the event is taking place.

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

Changes are noted in RED text.

If you have a vendor that makes/sells era regalia, send the name (or URL/contact information) to the editor for inclusion in the next issue.

Type the listed name of the vendor into your browser tab:
- Bethlehem Trading Post
- Smiling Fox Forge
- Avalon Forge
- Barkertown Sutters
- Burnley & Trowbridge Co.
- C & D Jarnagin Company
- Cobb Creek - Fine Clothing
- Custom Wig Company
- Flintlocks, etc
- MyFlintlocks, LLC
- Ft. Downing Trading Co
- Fort Vause Outfitters
- Fugawee
- G. Gedney Godwin Online
- HB Forge
- Black Powder 411
- International Guns
- Joe’s Leather Works, LLC
- Livonia Smithery
- Loyalist Arms & Repairs
- Military Heritage
- Panther Primitives - Samson Historical
- Smoke&FireStore
- Spring Valley Lodges
- Sutlers of Fort Frederick Market Fair (2015 listing) - The Quarterly General
- Tennessee Valley Muzzleloading
- Townsends
- Track of the Wolf
- Turkey Foot Trading Company
- VA Flintlocks
- Clearwater Hats
- Ye Armes Shoppe

Visit our Website at:
- www.sar.org
- www.saratoga.org

This is a partial Vendor Listing by company name. Understand that these vendors are not being recommended - just listed. Before purchasing anything from these vendors check with your fellow color guardsmen for their recommendations/endorsements.

Contact US

Officer | Name | Email Prefix | at | Suffix
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For a partial Vendor Listing by company name. Understand that these vendors are not being recommended - just listed. Before purchasing anything from these vendors check with your fellow color guardsmen for their recommendations/endorsements.
Youth Protection Training: The What and Why of YPT and the SAR

Lyle Brooks, Vice Commander

A large part of the SAR’s mission involves interaction with young people, be it through our Youth Awards Programs, Patriot Chest/Traveling Trunk presentations, speaking engagements in schools, or through us, the Color Guard, as the public face of the organization. While the pandemic has put much of this in-person interaction on hold, we look forward to re-engaging when it is safe to do so.

I am sure that opportunities for outreach will only increase as we ramp up towards the 250th Anniversary of the founding of our nation. What do we need to do to ensure we are positioned to get back into the schools, to be welcome in various public forums, and to be invited to participate by civic groups and historical societies? What positive steps can we take to ensure youth service organizations that the Sons of the American Revolution and our members are part of the solution, an organization that is forward looking and in tune with their issues and concerns?

In general, we in the SAR are an older group, conservative by nature, steeped in tradition and wedded to “how we did it when I was growing up.” That is not going to gain you instant rapport with a classroom of 14 year olds. They think and act a lot differently than we did when we were teenagers. Many of the things your grandfathers said and did, as well as the things your teachers and coaches did, “back in the day” are not acceptable with kids today. It is not that they are “snowflakes”, it is simply that society and the world have changed. We need to accept that reality and adapt to it.

Organizations like the Boy Scouts, sports leagues, church-affiliated Youth Groups, as well as school systems, across the country have spent considerable time and effort putting together Youth Protection educational programs for the adults who work with their youth. Education and Certification are requirements for interaction with their kids.

Sorry, we also exist in a world where there are bad people who take advantage of their positions of trust and authority to exploit their fellow man. It is infinitely more despicable when they take advantage of the young and innocent. Several years ago, the SAR paid to send me to the National Youth Protection Symposium that was hosted by the Boy Scouts of America and the National Council for Youth Protection in Alexandria, VA. Some of the incidents cited by the FBI and Justice Department during the seminar simply cannot be unheard. Those incidents and, tragically many more, lead to the delineation of organizational responsibilities and the development of the education and certification programs.

The SAR Youth Protection Training Program (YPT) is the recognition by the NSSAR of our responsibility to take proactive steps to educate our membership on the things that keep parents awake at night. In 2016 we encouraged our members to take the Boy Scouts of America online YPT Training and to maintain their certificates which were good for 3 years. While a convenient starting point, the BSA program addressed a lot of issues and scenarios that do not apply specifically to the SAR or our members. We needed to structure the training to be more relevant to the SAR as well as develop a training compliance database. The National Staff, enabled by Chief Technology Officer Mick Pitzer and assisted by the YPT Sub-Committee of the Education Committee, put together several Youth Protection YouTube Videos and developed an SAR online YPT program. The program takes less than 30 minutes to complete and will raise your awareness of Youth Protection Issues and your individual responsibilities. Upon completion, you will receive a Certificate that you are YPT Compliant and your name and Society will be entered in the SAR YPT Database. You are encouraged to print the certificate and keep it as part of your individual resume.

At the 2020 Fall Leadership the Trustees voted to direct all General Officers, General Officer Candidates, Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman, as well as all the members of the Education and CAR Liaison Committees, complete the online NS-SAR Youth Protection Training program within three months of their election, appointment, or if they are currently serving, within three months of the adoption of the resolution. A list of those who do not complete the training shall be briefed in executive session to the EXCOM.

All the members of the National Color Guard Command Staff have completed the training per the Trustees’ resolution. Individual Color Guard members are not required to take the training, however, all National Color Guard Committee Members, all State Color Guard Commanders, and any Color Guardsmen who have regular contact with young people during the execution of your duties are strongly encouraged to take the training. We owe it to our young people to do everything we can to ensure their safety and if taking this training helps protect one child, then it is well worth the time and effort.

The training module is available on the eLearning Portal of the National Website, on the blue banner on the main page at: https://www.sar.org/courses/youth-protection-training/

Upcoming Color Guard Events

| Princeton, the Ten Crucial Days                  |
| Battle of Cowpens                                |
| Battle of Cowans Ford                            |
| Battle of Kettle Creek                           |
| Crossing of the Dan                              |
| Washington Birthday Parade                       |
| Battle of Moore’s Creek Bridge                   |
| Last Naval Battle of the Revolution              |
| Battle of Guilford Courthouse                    |

To confirm date and time of these events contact the state society
The Fifer's Corner

The Duty calls for this issue are Cease Fire and Tattoo/Taptoo.

**Cease Fire -**

Cease Fire
Washington Crossing Fifes and Drums

Taptoo/Tattoo - "Steuben 1779" - "The Tattoo is for the soldier to repair to their tents, were they must remain until reveille the next morning.

March or Stand tunes will be "Scotch Greys"

"Sweet Richard"

1. Sweet Richard

and "World Turned Upside Down"

Please email me at (fiferdave@comcast.net) or like (Fifer Dave) on fb and message me with any questions you may have, topics you would like covered and any feedback you have. HUZZAH, Fifer Dave aka David Embrey
As we begin 2021, we need to have optimism that this new year will not be a repeat of 2020. Regardless of geography we have all been impacted by Covid-19, some with the loss of family and friends or the loss of the freedom of movement; which has impacted our economy. It is hard not to reflect on the impact this virus has had on our ability to participate in patriotic events, school programs or the fraternity various chapter, state society’s or national meetings. This seems that every discussion is related to Covid-19. As we begin to see the light at the end of this tunnel, now is not the time to let down our defenses.

Although, I never thought that after retirement I would use the training, I received years ago as a Hazardous Materials Specialist. This past year I have been applying the concept of Time, Distance and Shielding to cope with this pandemic. I limit the time I expose myself to individuals outside of my family circle. When I cannot control the individuals in my environment, I keep a distance between us; think of the term “social distancing”. Yes, when in the company of those not in my family circle, I use a mask. We, actually I, could argue the effectiveness of a cloth mask or even the touted N95 mask with the Covid-19; however, the ability to stop even some of the virus is a benefit. I relate this shielding to a Haz-Mat exposure where being exposed a lethal material could be based on the parts per million or parts per billion of the substance that you were actually exposed, with the personal protective equipment on. Even when exposed, you want to be below the lethal dose. So any protection you could be using is better than nothing.

As we hear in the news of the new vaccines and areas where there has been a reduction of the cases of outbreaks or deaths, now is not the time for us to let down your guard. In the fire service we use the term of “situational awareness”, and I am sure other professions have the same or similar term. We use this concept as we enter an environment that we are unfamiliar, and probably more importantly, where the emergency is coming to a close and we tend to become comfortable in our environment. Don’t let the comfort of the reduction in deaths or the new vaccines stop you evaluating your environment, situational awareness and your ability to catch this virus. We are too close to the end to have another member, friend or family member contract this virus.

Now that you are considering your safety and the safety of others around you, let’s take this time to get our uniforms and equipment in shape for the beginning of a new patriotic season. I hope this will be the last time I feel the need to mention Covid-19.

Respectfully,
Mark Kramer
NSSAR Color Guard Safety Officer
On the morning of January 17th, 1781, Gen Daniel Morgan with a force of a thousand men soundly defeated British Col. Banastre Tarleton and his troops at the Battle of Cowpens. Morgan’s victory was not the result of fielding a superior force, training or greater arms, but was in fact knowing the capabilities of his men, the lay of the land, understanding his adversary and recognizing the force arrayed against him.

Whether commanding an army, a color guard or just being a leader, understanding the realities that you face is critical to your success. I have had the honor of serving with our color guard for over fifteen years now and have been our national leader for the last six months. Unfortunately, the reality of the current crisis we all now face has kept many of us, including myself from our Congress, Leadership meetings and a large majority of national events around the country. We have all had to find ways to adapt.

So what does Gen Morgan have to teach us about our current crisis and the realities our color guard faces today. Much.

Our assets our many. We have a knowledge base of historians, Re-enactors, veterans and authors of history and military protocol. We know the history, we know the drills. We have historical records and have created many helpful articles and manuals to help our guardsmen in their performance.

Unlike many soldiers on the battlefield we have a whole group of men that want to be there. Not only do they want to be there but they pay for the privilege to be there. Some of our guardsmen travel across the country for events spending time and a thousand dollars or more to attend a single hour long event. For myself, still trudging along with the work force, there are times when I not only spend a thousand dollars to attend an event I also loose a thousand dollars for being there.

What are our liabilities?

Unlike a modern army or the troops that fought under Morgan, our guard is not composed of young men. The majority of our members are middle to late aged gentlemen. Most of us suffer, in one way or another from the passage of time, Bad backs, week knees, sore feet, loss of strength and endurance, arthritis in our hands, joints, diminished eye sight and hearing, the list goes on and on. It’s not to say we’re all ready for the rocking chair in the old rest home. On the contrary many of our members join our color guard to get out and stay out of the rocking chair. I know some men in their mid eighties that walk or jog five miles before breakfast. Unfortunately, they are the exception not the rule.

We are not soldiers in the military. The majority of our members no longer even qualify for military service. We are for the most part a reflection of our patriot ancestors, citizen soldiers, craftsmen, shop keepers, farmers, book keepers, doctors, laborers, ministers, businessmen and more.

Sadly, At times, our greatest liability is ourselves, our own assets work against us. There are times when all those professionals, the military men, historians and re-enactors don’t always agree, and finding the “right way” is not so easy. Spirited debate is welcome but at times it becomes heated debate, and helpful hints become demands for absolute accuracy and precision. We wind up with a leader or member of the “my way or the highway” mindset and although that may work in the military it does not in an organization such as ours.

Sometimes there is too much brass and we are far too familiar with the military. The Air force does not like taking orders from the Navy, the Navy does not like taking orders from the Marines, the Marines don’t like taking orders from the Army…. The chapters don’t like taking orders from the state, the state does not like taking orders from national.

What is arrayed against us.

When we attend events at national battlefields then the Park service has the privilege to be there. Some of our guardsmen travel across the country for events spending time and a thousand dollars or more to attend an event I also loose a thousand dollars for being there.

Now it is a global pandemic that dictates our lives.

So we consider all these things, do how we perform an adapt to the realities we face ?.

We balance our objectives in History, Patriotism and Education with the realities of who we are, where we are, what we are, what we have and what we can do at the time. Priorities and pertinent questions to be asked are: ....

1. Safety- Number one priority. What is the weather ?, The ground ?, Weapons ? Crowd size ? Emergency Response ? Additional Resources ? At the end of the day we want all our members and guests to go home without injury. We want our guardsmen to be able to hug their wives, play with their children and grandchildren. Eyes and Mind on task. No one gets hurt.

2. Satisfying/Gratifying- Are our members glad to be there ? Are they having a good time ? Are they spending time with another group ? Are they sharing stories and fellowship ? Speaking about the event ? Have they been greeted ? Have they been thanked for being there ? Are they interacting with other guests ? Are they having fun ?

3. Appearance- What uniform is being worn ? Is it reasonably correct for the period or event ? Are there medals or modern insignia on it ? On sunny days, Has everyone remembered to remove their sun glasses before they perform or during photos ? Is someone wearing a baseball cap? Does someone have a cell phone on their waist ? A Wrist watch ? Is someone wearing earplugs listening to a sporting event ?

4. Execution- Are we moving in the same direction ? Are we in the correct order ? Flags?, Muskets? Are we in the right spot ? Have we communicated with the MC ? What is our part ? How do we retire ? Are we needed for photos ?

5. Accuracy- Are we at attention ? Are we presenting arms ? Are we at rest ?

Facing our realities and winning the battles we face can best be described by another of our great military leaders “It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.” Theodore Roosevelt.

Yours in Patriotism,
C. Louis Raborg Jr.
NSSAR National Color Guard Commander

Our Mission, Our Reality
242st Anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek
Revolutionary Days
A National Society SAR Historic Sites & Celebrations Event
Sponsored by the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution
www.GaSocietySAR.org

A National Society SAR Event
Friday - February 12, 2021 – VIRTUAL

Elijah Clark State Park – 2959 McCormick Highway, Lincolnton, GA 30817
1:30 PM – Virtual Ceremony on ZOOM

Heroes of the Hornets’ Nest Wreath Ceremony

Many of the events that happen as part of the commemoration will be done via video and inserted into the Virtual Zoom event to attempt to make the commemoration as realistic as possible. A virtual wreath ceremony will be part of the ceremony.

Wreath request forms will be emailed at a later date - This is separate from the Saturday wreath registration.

CANCELLED – The dinner hosted by the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc. (KCBA), Georgia Society SAR and Kettle Creek NSDAR that is normally on Friday night has been cancelled. KCBA’s website is – www.kettlecreekbattlefield.com (Do not use the .org site)

Saturday - February 13, 2021 - VIRTUAL

ALL EVENTS NORMALLY SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY WILL BE VIRTUAL

10:00 AM – VIRTUAL CEREMONY on ZOOM
Commemoration of the Battle of Kettle Creek

Many of the events that happen as part of the commemoration will be done via video and inserted into the Virtual Zoom event to attempt to make the commemoration as realistic as possible. A virtual wreath ceremony will be part of the ceremony. (The Parade is CANCELLED)

Wreath request forms will be emailed at a later date - This is separate from the Friday wreath registration.

Sunday - February 14, 2021 - CANCELLED

CANCELLED – The Colonial Memorial Service will not be held this year. When life returns to normal, please consider visiting Elijah Clarke State Park, downtown Washington, and War Hill to see where our Patriot Ancestors both lived and fought during the formation of our United States of America.

Filming Onsite - Sunday – January 31, 2021

COLOR GUARD and MILITIA Only – Registration Required
(Increment weather date is Saturday February 6, 2021)

Elijah Clarke State Park

9:00 A.M. – Elijah Clarke State Park – Registered participants are to arrive at the park.

9:30 A.M. – Elijah Clarke State Park - The Georgia Society SAR Color Guard and Elijah Clarke Militia be filmed while they present colors, post colors, retrieve colors, fire three round volley, and retire colors at the Elijah Clarke’s grave site.

10:15 A.M. – Elijah Clarke State Park – Depart park and go to Washington, GA

Washington, Georgia
11:00 A.M. – Location in Washington - TBD – Arrive and partake of lunch

12:00 PM. - Wilkes County Courthouse Flag pole - The Georgia Society SAR Color Guard with the Elijah Clarke Militia will be filmed when they raise the 1776 Colors of the Revolutionary War on the Wilkes County Courthouse Flag pole along with a three round salute.

12:15 P.M. - Wilkes County Courthouse Flag pole - The Georgia Society SAR Color Guard with the Elijah Clarke Militia will be filmed when they present arms and fire a three round salute as the Revolutionary War Colors are lowered and our Present day National Colors are raised on the Wilkes County Courthouse Flag pole.

12:30 P.M. - Washington City Square - The Georgia Society SAR Color Guard with the Elijah Clarke Militia will be filmed when they raise the 1776 Colors of the Revolutionary War on the Wilkes County Courthouse Flag pole along with a three round salute.

The parade in downtown Washington is CANCELLED and the reenactment will be done at War Hill.

1:00 P.M. – Depart for War Hill

Washington, Georgia – War Hill

1:30 P.M. – War Hill – Arrive at War Hill

2:00 P.M. – War Hill - The Georgia Society SAR Color Guard and Elijah Clarke Militia be filmed while they present colors, post colors, retrieve colors, fire three round volley, and retire colors on top of War Hill.

2:45 P.M. – War Hill - Georgia Society SAR Color Guard and Elijah Clarke Militia reenactors with black-powder muskets will present a dramatic portrayal of the Battle of Kettle Creek at War Hill.

Take Notice
The Heroes of the Hornets’ Nest Commemoration was held at Elijah Clark State Park in Lincoln County Georgia on 7 Feb. 2020. Living history demonstrations, a wonderful free chili luncheon presented by the Friends of the Park, a presentation by Dr. David Noble on archeological research into the location of Dooly’s Fort and finally the wreath-laying ceremony at Elijah Clarke’s grave, was sponsored by multiple chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the Sons of the Revolution, as well as the Friends of Elijah Clark State Park, and the Lincoln County Historical Society. There was also an impressive turnout of senior leadership of the various organizations, including representatives of US Senators David Perdue, Kelly Loeffler and US Congressman Jody Hice. Also attending were Lincoln County Commission Chairman Walker Norman, Lincolnton Mayor Henry Brown, National Society SAR (NSSAR) Secretary General Davis Wright, Georgia Society SAR President William Dobbs, III, Southern District NSSAR Vice President General Bobby Joe Seales, and Georgia State Society DAR First Vice Regent O.B. McCorkle. The Colonial Elijah Clarke Militia, Brier Creek Artillery and the Georgia Society SAR Combined Color Guard brought pomp and circumstance to the ceremony with canon and musket salutes and appropriate honors to the national colors. The 84 wreaths presented was a historic high for this event.

While not as windy as the day before at the Heroes event, the gathering on the Washington square was also quite a sight. This was probably the largest contingent of muskets assembled by the Elijah Clarke Militia. The Betsy Ross flag was raised to a tremendous salute. Then another reforming of the muster to salute the contributions of Black Americans to the cause of freedom.

The parade around the square saw many new faces marching to the drummer’s beat. Cold weather clothing was worn by many, and proved to be a good option as towards the end of the day a light rain began to fall. But not until after the reenactment behind the courthouse.

A few muskets began to have problems with the dampness of the powder, a situation often found on the battlefield. Luckily, the patriots again won the day as the Detested Colonel James Boyd (portrayed by past president Scott Collins) was slain, and the loyalist were driven from the field.

Because of the increasingly poor weather conditions (snow in the northern Georgia regions, the Commemoration Ceremony was held indoors. As always, the Georgia Society stepped up and adapted to the change with little difficulty.
Submission Guidelines

The previous high water mark was 27 state societies’ color guard reports. This issue has 19!

There are some things about submitting content, especially for state Color Guard Commanders or their designee, that need to be explained and understood in order to reduce any future controversy.

• The color guard events or activities must be from only the three months immediately prior to the issue’s publication date.
• Please do not send PDF files. Send the native document: WORD, Text, etc.

**NOTE** Submit events when *color guard units* participate in designated chapter *color guard events*, designated state *color guard events*, and/or designated District/National *color guard events*. A patriot dressed in colonial garb and presenting as a *chapter* member is **not** functioning as a Color Guard unit. State Color Guard Commanders should pass on these guidelines when communicating with their state’s color guard members.

• The deadline for submission of content is the end of the month prior to the issue date: December 31 for the January Issue, March 31 for the April issue, June 30 for the July Issue, and September 30 for the October issue.
• The state Color Guard Commanders should be sending that message to all of their state’s chapter color guard members/commanders.
• Please use the chain-of-command when submitting content. Chapter Color Guard Commanders should submit to their state’s Color Guard Commander who then uses his judgement to submit to this Editor.

**IMPORTANT** - When submitting photos, please do **NOT** embed them into any document (PDF or WORD) but send them in the original resolution.

**IMPORTANT** - When submitting photos, for any event please submit no more than two photos for any single event. When submitting text to explain the event using photos please accurately label which photo goes with what text. I get a photos titled IMG-12345, IMG-45678 and the text will say photo 1 and photo 2. Which is photo 1 and which is photo 2?

I look forward to the issue that has all state color guard units with something in the issue. Missing in this issue are: Alabama, Colorado, Georgia, Louisiana, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, & Washington.

Thank you, one and all, for making this section showcase and shine a light on your color guard units’ activities and community involvement.
Memorial Service for
Compatriot James “Jim” Freeman Blauer;
Oct. 10, 2020

Jim, along with President General Larry Magerkurth, the Right Reverend Louis V. Carlson, Jr., Karl Jacobs, Jim Shadwick, and Walter Davis, was one of the founding members of the Orange County Lee’s Legion Color Guard formed in 1999.

Jim was the Lee’s Legion Color Guard Activities Chairman for many years, was an original member of the California Society Color Guard formed in 1984, and Jim was also an original member of the National Society Color Guard founded in 1989.

James F. Blauer’s SAR Medals and Awards: SAR Member Badge, Patriot Medal, Chapter Distinguished Service Medal, Bronze Good Citizenship Medal, Chapter and state Meritorious Service Medals, Chapter and state Roger Sherman Medals, Bronze and silver Color Guard Medals, Von Steuben Medal Sustained Achievement in the Color Guard, Past Chapter President Pin, Outstanding Citizenship Award, Life Member Pin, 35 Years of Membership Award, SAR Eagle Scout Pin, George Washington Endowment Fund Fellow Pin.

Compatriots gather for photo after a NSSAR Gold Color Guard Medal is presented to former Color Guard Commander Jim Fosdyck; October 10, 2020

Left to right: Matt Noell, Kent Gregory, Lou Carlson, Jim Klingler, Dan McMillan, Bob Taylor, John Ferris, John Blake, Spencer Torres, Dan McKelvie, Mark Torres, Don Littlefield, Mark Kramer, Jim Fosdyck, Brandon Villardi, John Dodd, Hans Hunt, Derek Brown, Larry Hansen and Christopher Keene.

Photo by Un Hui Yi

NSSAR Safety and Training Officer Mark Kramer presents a NSSAR Color Guard Medal to former SAR Color Guard Commander Jim Fosdyck; 10 Oct 2020

Left to right: John Ferris, Jim Klingler, Phil Mitchell (in background), Jim Fosdyck, Dan McMillan, Mark Kramer, John Blake and Spencer Torres.

Left to right: Dr. Kent Gregory, Hans Hunt, John Ferris, Jim Klingler, Jim Fosdyck, Phil Mitchell (in background) and Don Littlefield.

Mark Kramer and CASSAR President Don Littlefield made the presentation on behalf of PG Jack Manning.

Pics by Un Hui Yi
310th Anniversary of the birthday of Gov. Jonathan Trumbull, the Rebel Governor

Saturday October 10, 2020 - The Gov. Jonathan Trumbull Branch #13 had its Annual Business Meeting at the War Office in Lebanon, CT. On the agenda for the day: Election of Officers, Status of branch dues for 2021, Flag Award, 250th America Pin distribution and celebrating the 310th Anniversary of the birth of Gov. Trumbull with a wreath laying event and the marking of two patriots graves (Patriots Nathaniel Raymond and Ichabod Fitch) at the Trumbull Cemetery.

Members of American Legion Post 180 of Lebanon were present to receive the SAR Flag Award certificate from Past SAR State President Robert Rivard. New England District President Bob Walsh was presented with the first NSSAR America 250th Anniversary Lapel Pin by State Color Guard Commander Dave Perkins. The Connecticut Society volunteered to sponsor the production and distribution of the pins in honor of Gov. Trumbull and the War Office and the place in history that they share in the support of General George Washington and the Continental Army during the American Revolution with provisions throughout the entire war period of 1775 to 1783.

Old Uptown Colonial Cemetery Plaque Dedication and Grave Marking Event

General David Humphreys Branch #1 convened a Grave Marking Ceremony Honoring 54 Revolutionary War Patriots at the Old Uptown Burial Ground in Derby, CT on Saturday October 17, 2020. 65 people attended on a sunny fall morning.

The program included a Posting of the Colors by the Connecticut Line/Living History Unit. Opening remarks were made by Ethan Stewart, Sr. Branch President. The CT Sons of the American Revolution 1st Vice President Steven Taylor provided greetings from the State Society. Although he could not attend, a Proclamation was read and received by the Mayor of Derby, CT Richard Dziekan. Greetings from the DAR were given by Connecticut State Regent Christy Hendrie. An overview of the History of the Old Uptown Colonial Cemetery was given by Dan Bosque, Executive Director of the Derby Historical Society. The Dedication of the Plaque was led by President Ethan Stewart along with all Humphreys Branch members in attendance.

Additionally, a reading of all 54 Names on the Plaque was provided by Steven Chapman - Branch Historian, Chris Bandecchi - Branch Vice President and Tim Wilkins - Past Branch President. Steven Chapman Branch Historian also read Five Patriot’s Biographies. We also had a wreath laying ceremony at the plaque by Tyler Smith accompanied by two Color Guard members.

We were honored to have Tom Callinan, past Connecticut State Troubadour and Honorary Branch Member provided songs and taps for the occasion. These included especially composed songs by Tom titled “David Humphreys’ Legacy” and “Some Gave All – All Gave Some.” Finally, a three volley Musket Salute was given by 18 members of the Connecticut Line/Living History Unit.

Two new members were inducted after the event by the Wolcott Branch SAR and the CT SAR State Society donated $2000 to the Derby Historical Society so they may continue their historical program: “A Day in 1762” which they have been presenting for 40 years. This program includes 13 towns for 1,350 - 5th graders to learn about life in 1762. This is done at the General David Humphreys House which they maintain and is approximately ½ mile from the Colonial Cemetery.

The plaque was sponsored by the General David Humphreys Branch #1 with thanks to the NSSAR George Washington Endowment Fund. After the ceremony, the Derby Historical Society held a reception & tour at the General David Humphreys House Museum.

Veterans Day 2020

On Veterans Day 2020, 5 members of the Captain Nathan Hale Branch honored the final resting place of Patriot David Dart in Waterford, CT. Private Dart enlisted in 1776 and served under Capt. Deshon’s Co. in Col. Seldan’s Connecticut Regiment at the battle of Turtle Bay. In uniform were Fred Rivard, James Rothgeb, and Tyler Smith with Stephen Taylor and David Jones of the Hale Branch also in attendance.

The Connecticut Line
Wreaths Across America 2020

On December 19th, The Connecticut Line Color Guard participated in three WAA events across the state.

In Bantam, CT – The Wolcott detachment provided a 3-volley musket salute following the seven ceremonial wreaths that were placed at the All Wars Memorial, to remember all soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served; honor their sacrifices; and teach our younger generations about the high cost of our freedoms. The Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution annually sponsors this event.

In Milford, CT – The Humphreys detachment provided a 3-volley musket salute following the placing of over 250 wreaths at the Kings Highways Cemetery. For 13-years the Frelove Baldwin Stow Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution has sponsored this event.

In Lebanon, CT - Members of the Nathan Hale Branch and the 7th CT Regiments of the Connecticut Line participated in Wreaths Across American hosted by Lebanon’s American Legion Post in which 3 volleys of musket fire were executed. Those in uniform included Bob Rivard, Fred Rivard, Dan Dudley, Jim Rothgeb, Dave Packard, and Tyler Smith. Also, in attendance were Stephen Taylor, Bradley Demmons, David Jones, and new member Francis Kunz. At the conclusion of this event, we presented the American Legion Post with a certificate of recognition for Flag Retirement ceremonies that they have been conducting for many years. Harold Nelson, who is the Post Commander, accepted the certificate with many other members in attendance.

Following WAA, the individuals mentioned above relocated to the War Office at which time Francis Kunz was inducted as our newest member. Stephen Taylor awarded a series of certificates and medals to the following individuals who were not in attendance at the previous BOM meeting at the Armory in Hartford. Both Bob Rivard and Jim Rothgeb received Lafayette Service medals for their 40+ hours of Patriot research. Dave Packard received the Patriot medal for his 8 years of service at the Property Steward. Josh Taylor was recognized with the Patriot Grave Marking medal and Stephen Taylor will be presenting him this at Christmas time. Tyler Smith was awarded the Roger Sherman medal. Lastly, the branch was presented a streamer for our flag in recognition of the President General’s Educational Outreach program.

Our final event of the day was to post 9 wreaths at the Trumbull Cemetery along the front wall and conduct a 3-volley musket salute to Revolutionary War Patriots buried there. Dave Packard and Bob Rivard will return once the snow melts significantly more and place 8 of the 9 wreaths on Patriot graves while keeping the 9th hanging on the cemetery’s sign. Since Dave Packard received 27 wreaths from WAA, we distributed them to those in attendance to take to their own towns and to place them on either cemeteries or veterans’ graves.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, AND THE MECKLENBURG CHAPTER, NORTH CAROLINA SAR, INVITE YOU TO ATTEND

THE 240TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF COWAN’S FORD

SAR, DAR, C.A.R. and other patriotic and lineage societies & chapters are invited to participate in a VIRTUAL commemoration and wreath presentation ceremony to be held on Zoom. All Participants (presenting a wreath, color guard, attendees) must RSVP via the form below no later than Sunday, January 24th.

Copy the link below to REGISTER AT THE NCSSAR WEBSITE


Questions about the event can be directed to Joe Culik, jc@dye culik.com.

Zoom Link for the Virtual Event:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85246573418?pwd=VklrV1NkVzZTXBpOE92WXFGUUU2Zz09

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Saturday, January 30th

9:30am Eastern – Zoom meeting will open for attendees to join

10:00am Eastern – Virtual Ceremony will commence
Sons of the American Revolution participate in Belleair Parade

Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter Color Guard participated in the 10th Annual Belleair Holiday Parade. Members of the Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter Color Guard and Ladies Auxiliary participated in the 10th Annual Belleair Holiday Parade on December 6th. The parade started at the Belleair Parks and Recreation Department, went west on Ponce De Leon Boulevard, turned and went northeast on Indian Rocks Road, then turned at Hunter Park and proceeded south on The Mall back to the Recreation Department. In years past, there was a holiday party with food vendors at the Recreation Department. However there was no party this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All groups in the parade practiced social distancing and wore face coverings.

The Clearwater Chapter’s Color Guard unit is specifically known as the Samuel Adams Camp in the Sons of Liberty Brigade of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution. The Camp is comprised of members of Clearwater Chapter who have uniforms of the Revolutionary War period. The Camp participates in flag presentation ceremonies and other patriotic events.

Clearwater Chapter and Ladies Auxiliary members that participated were (left to right in photograph) James Gibson, James Phillips, James Grayshaw, Charles Wetherbee, Margaret Harris, Patrick Niemann, Robbie Robinson, Susan Grayshaw, Robert Brotherton, Walter Arnold, Harry Fuller with Larry Patterson, Robert Anderson and Marjorie Wetherbee in the cart.

The Sons of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting patriotism and preserving American history. Members of the Sons of the American Revolution can trace their lineage to a patriot who supported the cause of American Independence. For more information about joining the Clearwater Chapter, visit www.clearwatersar.org or contact the chapter Registrar, Parks Honeywell at parkshoneywell@gmail.com or (315) 212-9077.

Wreaths Across America

The Lighthorse Harry Lee Camp #15, Caloosa Chapter Color Guard participated with the Caloosahatchee Chapter DAR and the COL Robert W. Barnard Camp #2 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in a joint event for Wreaths across America. It was held at the old Fort Myers Cemetery, off Michigan Avenue in Fort Myers on Saturday December 19, 2020.

Following the placing of wreaths on graves of American veterans of conflicts as early as the Spanish American War though recently deceased, Caloosa and FLSSAR Chaplain Rev. Dwight Elam presented a memorial service honoring the sacrifices and contributions of these veterans, and the color guard presented colors with SAR, DAR, and public members participating.

Tampa Chapter

The Tampa Chapter has sponsored Wreaths Across America at a small Veterans Cemetery owned and maintained by American Legion Post #5 USS Tampa in Tampa, Florida since 2013. We have also presented the Colors as part of the Ceremony every year. WAA in 2020 was an unusual year all over. In Tampa, the American Legion Post allowed interested people to visit their Veterans Cemetery to lay wreaths on one or more of the 700+ gravesites, over a two hour period, so long as masks were worn and social distancing was practiced. An abbreviated Ceremony was held for those on-site at Noon. This included the presentation of the Colors by the Tampa Chapter Color Guard. Due to misinformation on the nature of the Ceremony, a Chapter meeting conflicted with this Ceremony and only two Guardsmen were available. Of the two pictures provided, one shows those two Compatriots, Dick Young, Tampa Color Guard Commander and Terry Doan, who is also a member of Post #5. The other picture shows some of the other people who coordinated with the Tampa Chapter to be part of Wreaths Across America in 2020. Left to right, they are Mimi Leroy-Marler of Desoto Chapter DAR, Compatriots Doan and Young, Katherine Nicholson and Lisette Young of Winding Waters Chapter DAR. In front is Lulu Nicholson of Fort Brooke Society C.A.R. All three of the ladies are also Senior Members and Senior office holders of the Fort Brooke Society. The Ceremony was led by former Florida Society SAR President Pat Niemann.

Compatriots Doan and Young also placed a wreath and took a moment to remember and honor a Vietnam Veteran interred in the public cemetery adjacent to the Veterans Cemetery.
Small Shoes, Big Sound

by Stu Hoyt

As the saying goes, “Great oaks grow from small acorns”, so it is with SAR mAs the saying goes, “Great oaks grow from small acorns”, so it is with SAR members, they all come from small shoe. The TX SAR Color Guard has combined with the VFW Post 6441 of Wimberley, TX to honor our veterans on Memorial Day and Veterans Day and this year due to the Covid19 restrictions, we added the 4th of July. On the property just behind the local high school is the Emilyann Theater and Garden, a summer stock theater and about it stand a hill. A few years ago, the top of that hill was graded flat and a park was constructed and dedicated as a memorial to veterans. A set of flagpoles was installed around the park for each of the services with the American Flag in the center.

Because spacing restriction, this year, did not allow for a public event, the VFW Post 6441 members invited the Texas SAR Color Guard and a few friends to raise the American Flag and those of each of the services as its anthem was played. This year a new contingent was added to the Texas SAR Color Guard in the form of a little fife and drum corp. I say little because they were tiny, yet it did not stop them from producing a large sound.

Just prior to the commencement of the ceremony, we gathered together for some pictures. From left to right, rear row: Mark Minutaglio (Asst. drum leader), Blair Rudy (TX SAR CG Commander/ William Hightower), Jim Horton (Patrick Henry), Frank Rohrbough (San Antonio), John Knox, Wayne Courreges, Henry Schenfelt, and Jim Clements (all Patrick Henry), Stu Hoyt, William Hightower, and Robert Hites and Fred Duncan of the Patrick Henry Chapter. Front row: Gavin Carlisle (4), William Minutaglio (8), Finley Carlisle (8), Rowan Carlisle (12), Liam Carlisle (9), and Ron Moulton (Drum and Fife Commander/Patrick Henry).

Comments and Questions

Dear Editor,

Questions received will be directed to the leadership command structure for necessary answers. Questions should work their way through the local/state command structure - to ensure that the command structure would have the chance to provide the answer and thus be aware of any issues within their command.

Questions should be related to color guard procedures, obtaining vendor lists, any state’s content submissions, questions about submitting articles for publication in this magazine, or similar general Color Guard subject matter questions.

This is a magazine section similar to any magazine’s “Letters to the Editor” set aside for color guardsmen to ask a question or post a comment.
Iowa SAR

Iowa SAR members Mike Rowley and Alan Wenger and Robert Niffenegger on Veterans Day 11 Nov 2020 at Historic Woodland Cemetery in Des Moines, Iowa for the public ceremony and reading of the names of 1000 veterans from the War of 1812 through the Vietnam era that are buried there. The event was covered by the local newspaper and Television stations.

The attached link is from coverage by WOI TV 5.


Iowa SAR members l to R Past North Central VPG Mike Rowley Past Iowa President Alan Wenger and Bob Niffenegger Veterans Day 2020 Woodland Cemetery in Des Moines Iowa

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Great Bridge Ceremony

Now

Online

Compatriots,

The ceremony to mark the 245th Anniversary of the Battle of Great Bridge has been changed from a physical event to an online event hosted by the DAR. This is due to the governor’s recent restriction on indoor and outdoor events to 25 attendees. Information from the Virginia SAR project officer follows.

The 10th Annual National Observance by the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) and 120th Annual Commemoration by Great Bridge Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) will take place at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 5th via ZOOM. Those chapters interested in presenting a wreath virtually at this event should contact Kenneth Hawkins at drklhawkins@gmail.com with Chapter name, presenter’s name & title NLT 12:00 pm Dec 1st.

Don’t delay as there is limited capacity due to system capabilities. A planned rehearsal of this event will be held on December 1st.

We hope you will join us online, though note that the online system being used does not have unlimited capacity. Really looking forward to seeing many of you in person next year to celebrate our ancestors’ victory at Great Bridge.

Your Servant,

Bill Schwetke
President, Virginia SAR

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The Color Guard Committee

The Color Guard Committee is responsible for coordinating and providing guidance to district, state and chapter Color Guard units. All Color Guardsmen are members of this committee. This is a very large committee, and may be subdivided into geographic groups on the recommendation of the chairman. The members of this committee elect the committee’s leadership pursuant to the procedures set forth in the SAR Color Guard Handbook found in the Color Guard Committee web page on SAR.org.
COVID-19 Minimized Kansas Society Color Guard participation during last quarter of 2020. The November Board of Governors quarterly meeting was held virtually on Zoom. Commander Dewey Fry Presented the Colors. The Color Guard did march in the Leavenworth County Veterans Day Parade which celebrated its 100th anniversary. 100 years ago, there was also a pandemic in Kansas, the Spanish Flu. The Leavenworth parade is said to be the largest west of the Mississippi.

(The Photo Left) (Photo Below) The Color Guardsmen participating, from left to right in the photos, were Dewey Fry (Delaware Crossing Chapter), Alan Martin (Monticello Chapter), Michael Chychota (Henry Leavenworth Chapter), Kirk Rush (Delaware Crossing Chapter) and Robert Wandel (Charles Robinson Chapter).

The KSSSAR Color Guard participated in Wreaths Across America at two locations on December 19, 2020. Six Color Guardsmen Advanced and Presented the Colors during the Ceremony at Johnson County Memorial Gardens in Overland Park Kansas. (Photo Below).

Participants from left to right were Dewey Fry (Delaware Crossing), Alan Martin (Monticello), Ken Ludwig (Delaware Crossing), Gavin Kurtz (Delaware Crossing Jr. Member), Robert Wandel (Charles Robinson) and Steven French (Delaware Crossing).

A second Kansas Society Color Guard participated in Wreaths Across America at Maple Hill Cemetery in Wichita, Kansas. They were from front to back in the photo, John Schartz, Randy Colby, and Donald Lemen of the Washington Chapter and Bobbie Hulse of the Sons of the Plains Chapter. (Photo Left).

Immediately after the Retiring of the Colors at the end of the ceremony, the Color Guard ceremoniously laid the first wreaths at veteran’s graves as other participant observed. (Photo Above)
October 2020 - Grave Marking

Seven chapters of the Kentucky Society came together on 24 October to participate in a Patriot grave marking sponsored by the Capt. Virgil McCracken chapter. This was the first grave marking sponsored by the chapter which was chartered in the fall of 2018. In addition to the Kentucky Society chapters, the Long Knives chapter from the Illinois Society was also represented by several members. Chapter President Bradley Rankin led the ceremony to honor Patriot John Haynes which was well attended by the local community. Based on the support of the Kentucky Society and the local community, the Capt. Virgil McCracken chapter plans for many more grave markings in the future.

The color guard consisted of 14 riflemen, 10 flag bearers, a drummer, and a fifer. In addition to the gun salute at the end of the ceremony, an added feature was the firing of two cannon. The Kentucky SAR chapters participating in the grave marking were the Capt. Virgil McCracken, Col. Stephen Trigg, Lafayette, Gov. Isaac Shelby, Capt. William Prince, Col. Richard Butler, and Col. Benjamin Logan. Also participating were the Long Knives chapter of the Illinois Society, the Lexington DAR chapter, the Paducah DAR chapter, and the Jack Jouett CAR chapter from Kentucky.

Photo Above: Members of the color guard preparing for the ceremony.
Photo Left: Group photo of the SAR members attending the ceremony.

November 2020 - Veterans Day Parade – In Reverse

While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to curtail many of our regular events and celebrations, the Veterans Day Parade in Louisville, KY took an innovative approach by organizing the parade – in reverse. In the reverse parade the parade units were arranged as static displays in a large parking lot while the spectators drove through, thus maintaining social distancing guidelines for all parties. The venue for this event, held on 7 November, was the Southeast Christian Church in Middletown KY.

Participating in the parade – in reverse, was the Kentucky Central Brigade Color Guard which was overseen by Kentucky State President Pat Berry. The Kentucky State Color Guard consisted of 14 members representing the Simon Kenton, Col. Daniel Boone, Gov. Isaac Shelby, and Lafayette Chapters. The Kentucky Societies display consisted of 28 flags which included historic American flags, battle flags of the American Revolution & War of 1812, and flags representing each of the United States military branches.

The Kentucky Central Brigade Color Guard was honored to be placed prominently at the beginning of the drive-through displays. The parade lasted for two hours with a continuous stream of vehicles passing through. Many of the passengers in these vehicles waved American flags or displayed Patriotic posters. All the participants were very thankful that the annual Veterans Day Parade was able to be held despite the pandemic.

Photo Above - Society President Pat Berry participating in the color guard.
Photo Above right: Flag display provided by the Kentucky Society.
November 2020 - Patriot Veterans Day Ceremony

The Lexington Cemetery in Lexington, Kentucky was the setting for a Patriot Veterans Day ceremony sponsored by the Lafayette Chapter of the Kentucky Society. This was the first ceremony of this type conducted by the Lafayette Chapter in several years. The graves of 12 Patriots had previously been identified in the cemetery by chapter members. On 8 November the ceremony was held to honor these Patriots for their service. The guest speaker for the event was Major Dwayne Edwards, US Army (ret) who spoke on the history of Veterans Day.

The color guard consisted of 15 members from the Lafayette, Col. Daniel Boone, and Gov. Isaac Shelby SAR chapters along with the Bryan Station, Captain John McKinley, Captain John Waller, Lexington, Trabue, and Transylvania DAR chapters. The color guard carried 10 flags and was escorted by two riflemen and one fifer. Commanding the color guard was Past Kentucky State President Mike Sullivan.

Upon completion of the ceremony, a contingent from the SAR and DAR visited each Patriot grave and placed an American flag next to the headstone.

Photo Below Left: SAR and DAR members in attendance at the ceremony. Photo Below Right: Compatriots Patrick Wesolosky and John Doss execute the Mourn Arms drill during the ceremony.

November 2020 - Frankfort Patriot Veterans Day Ceremony

The Col. Daniel Boone chapter of the Kentucky Society sponsored a Patriot Veterans Day event at the Frankfort Cemetery in Frankfort, Kentucky. Within the cemetery rests 29 Patriots including Daniel Boone.

This was the first such ceremony for the Col. Daniel Boone chapter which was chartered in August of 2018. On hand in support of this event were the Gov. Isaac Shelby and Lafayette SAR chapters as well as the Frankfort and Big Spring DAR chapters. Past Kentucky Society State president Mike Sullivan along with DAR Kentucky State Regent Carol Rogow and DAR State Curator Virginia Helvey were in attendance. The color guard consisted of 11 flag bearers and 2 riflemen.

American flags had been placed on each Patriot grave prior to the ceremony. In addition to the ceremony the Col. Daniel Boone chapter dedicated a solar spotlight for the flagpole in the cemetery.

Photo Right: National Honor Society students from the Frankfort Christian Academy conduct the Roll Call of Patriots.
Maryland SAR Color Guard

Oct – Color Guard members from the Aquila Hall chapter posted Colors for the 2019 Maryland DAR Outstanding Veteran Volunteer Award Ceremony at Rockfield Manor Pavilion in Bel Air, Maryland. The 2019 recipient was radio personality James V McMahan Jr from the Town of Bel Air.

HUZZAH - Past National Commander David Hoover, William Smithson and Don Eberhardt prepare to Advance and Post the Colors (pic Left) Maryland MSSDAR Service for Veterans Committee Chairman Kathy Arth presented the Outstanding Veteran Volunteer award to James (Capt'n Jim) McMahan.

Oct 3 – It was a great day to be in wool as the MDSSAR Color Guard participated in the Westminster Chapter Grave Marking Celebration for Patriot John Fowler by Presenting / Posting Colors with Musket Salute – Color Guard members included State President Gene Moyer, William Smithson, Ron Habaugh, and Don Eberhardt (pic Above and Left) Photos by Cindy Harbaugh

Nov 6 – We had the honor of providing a Musket Salute for the dedication of the new historical marker honoring The Marquis de Lafayette’s Farewell Tour of the United States at The City of Havre de Grace. (The Lafayette Trail) Guest speakers included Lt. Governor Rutherford, the Consul General of France in Washington, D.C. François Penguilly and the President of The Lafayette Trail Inc Julien Icher, (pic Below Right) - l to r – David Embrey, Vicki Embrey, Julien Icher, Lt. Governor Rutherford, Consul General François Penguilly, Don Eberhardt and Kevin Carr (pic Below Left) Fire- David Embrey, Kevin Carr, and Don Eberhardt.
Nov 8 - It’s always a honor to participate in Veterans Day events and this year was no different as the Charles Carroll of Carrollton Chapter fell-in with American Legion Post 156 for the annual Veterans Day Ceremony at Columbia Maryland with a Musket Salute. Present Colors (pic Right) Legion Post 156, Musket Salute (pic Below) w/David Embrey also in Attendance - Chapter President Paul Turlington and Commander David Embrey

Follow the program a Flag retirement certificate was presented to Ed Hall commander of American Legion Post 156 by Eugene Moyer our state president. (l to r) David Embrey, Ed Hall, State President Gen Moyer and chapter President Paul Turlington. (pic Below)

And following the Flag retirement certificate we were off to Historic Ellicott City for a Flag Recognition certificate presentation to Paula Dwyer owner of the Georgia Grace cafe on Historic Main Street - (pic Left - l to r) Commander Embrey, State President Gen Moyer, Paula Dwyer and Chapter President Paul Turlington.

Dec 19 - Wreaths Across America in Bel Air - Thanks to the American Legion Post 39, DAR Gov. Wm Paca chapter and many other volunteers, and all who attended. Great to see so many young people laying wreaths. Color Guard participants included NSSAR Commander Lou Raborg, William and Chris Smithson and Don Eberhardt Fire - (pic Below Right) Color Guard – l to r – Bel Air American Legion Post 39, MDS-SAR Color Guard, Knights of Columbus Color Corp with bugler Samuel Barry (pic Below)
Grave Dedication for Revolutionary War Patriot Brittain Skinner.

On October 17th the Michigan Color Guard supported the Sisters of the Michigan’s NSDAR Chapter Sarah Ann Coochrane, with their Grave Dedication for Revolutionary War Patriot Brittain Skinner. Michigan Society 1st VP Mickey McGuire placed a wreath on the Grave while the Color Guard saluted the Ladies of the DAR who then performed a Sword Salute to honor Patriot Skinner. At the end of the ceremony Drummer David Moore was presented his Silver Color Guard Medal by Commander Gerald Burkland and VPG James Petres.

The picture was taken by DAR member-Dawn Moulthrop-Brady

From Left to Right the Color Guard members present-Vice Commander Ken Goodson, Drummer David Moore, Vice Commander Norm Palmer, Guardsman Tim Dickenson, Commander Gerald Burkland, VPG James Petres and Guardsman Aaron Wiles.

Veterans Day Ceremony

On Monday, November 9, 2020 members of the Michigan Color Guard honored our veterans. Paul Emery Chapter Chapter members Ron Barnard, and Gerald Burkland were present.

The Sons of the American Revolution group was among those participating in a Veteran’s Day remembrance ceremony honoring veterans from Shelby Township and surrounding areas that was held at the Veteran’s memorial park in Shelby Township.

The press recalls, “The poignant ceremony included an honor guard from the Sons of the American Revolution group.” Participating as MISSAR Color Guard, they remembered all veterans of all wars from the American Revolution to the current active military service war deployments.

President Eisenhower signed into law in 1954 Veterans Day as a national holiday. Before that it was called Armistice Day. This was marked as a special proclamation.

On Veterans Day, a reminder of what the day once meant and what it should still mean. That was the moment at which World War I – then called THE GREAT WAR- largely came to end in 1918, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.
Grave Marking Ceremony for Patriot George Cathey

On October 3, 2020 the Martin Warren SAR Chapter (MWC) and the Henry County DAR Chapter jointly sponsored a grave marking for Patriot Captain George Cathey who served with the Continental Line. The grave marking took place in the Union William Cemetery, Highway F, Cole Camp, Benton County, Missouri. Captain Cathey was born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina in 1755. In the fall of 1776, he volunteered to serve as a private. He served for three months as a private and was discharged. He later volunteered again and served as a Lieutenant with a 95 light horsemen company. He served six months as a Lieutenant and 15 months as Captain. He served a total of 24 months between 1776 and 1782. He was discharged at the end of the war. Colorguardsmen from the Martin Warren Chapter, Ozark Mountain Chapter, Independence Patriots Chapter, Ozark Patriots Chapter, and M. Graham Clark Chapter participated in the grave marking ceremony.

Independence Patriots Chapter was proud to induct new member, Peter Hahn

On October 17, 2020 the Independence Patriots Chapter was proud to induct new member, Peter Hahn during the virtual Chapter meeting, accompanied by proud mom and dad, Michael Hahn and Twyla Olson-Hahn. His Patriot is Samuel Fitz Randolph.

Fernando de Leyba Chapter Colorguardsmen photographed at the Daniel Boone Home for NSDAR National Oil Painting Contest

Megan Atchley of the Saint Charles DAR Chapter requested uniformed members of the Fernando de Leyba Chapter Color Guard to go to the Daniel Boone Home in Defiance, Missouri to be photographed so she can enter the DAR National Oil Painting Contest sponsored each year by the NSDAR. Ms. Atchley will be taking a photograph and transform it into an oil painting for submission in the National DAR Oil Painting Contest.

On Saturday, October 10, 2020 Fernando de Leyba Chapter Compatriots Charles Lilly and Marvin Koechig responded to Ms. Atchley’s request and posed for photographs at the Daniel Boone Home. Photos taken by Megan Atchley – Saint Charles DAR Chapter (Missouri)
Five-Year SAR Membership Pin and Certificate presented to Compatriot/Junior Member William David

On October 12, 2020 at the Fernando de Leyba Chapter monthly meeting a five-year SAR membership pin and certificate were presented to Compatriot/Junior Member William David by Chapter President Mike Wood. On looking is grandpa Charles Lilly. Both grandpa and William are members of the Chapter Color Guard. Photos taken and provided by Compatriot Greg Landrum (FDL).

President Mike Wood presenting 5 year pin and certificate to William David. - Left to right: Compatriot Charles Lilly Marvin Koechig, and Chapter President Mike Wood.

Heroism Medal Award - Swift Water Rescue Saves Life

During October, 2020 the Fernando de Leyba Chapter presented the SAR Heroism Medal and Certificate for a life-saving water rescue to O’Fallon Fire Protection District members Matt Chapman and Douglas Ellis and O’Fallon Police Officer Jordan Wilmes. In early January, rain was pouring down and temperatures were frigid when a car slid off the road into a swift-moving, quickly rising creek. The driver escaped. But his father was trapped inside the vehicle, which was filling with water. The father had suffered a head injury, and hypothermia was setting in. Police Officer Jordan Wilmes was first to arrive. When the call came for help, first responders from the O’Fallon Fire Protection District (O’Fallon, Missouri) arrived on the scene. Recognizing the severity of the situation, Officer Wilmes jumped into the frigid creek and kept the victim’s head above water. Moments later the firefighters arrived. Officer Wilmes and firefighters Doug Ellis and Matt Chapman worked together in chest-deep water to safely get the victim out of the car. St. Charles County Ambulance District paramedics stabilized the victim and transferred him to the hospital. Moments after the rescue, the rising water overwhelmed the car, flipped it over and submerging it under water.

Grave marking of Patriot James Smith Talbot

On October 24, 2020 the William C. Corum Chapter with the St. Joseph Chapter of the DAR held a joint grave marking ceremony for Patriot Private James Smith Talbot on a farm east of St. Joseph, Missouri and near Easton, Missouri in Buchanan County on State Highway 6. Colorguardsman that participated were Michael Schmidt, Robert Corum, and Michael Robertson of the William C. Corum Chapter and Stephen Sullins of the Independence Patriots Chapter.

Patriot Talbot was born in 1763 in Bedford County Virginia and died in 1853 in Buchanan County, Missouri. He was drafted in August, 1780 into the State Troops of Virginia (Militia) as a private. After the siege at Yorktown he was honorably discharged in October, 1781.

Photo provided by Compatriot Michael Robertson (WCC)

Left to right: Stephen Sullins (IPC), Michael Schmidt (WCC), Michael Robertson (WCC), and Robert Corum (WCC)
Grave marking of Patriot James Carnachan Dunlap, Sr.

On October 24, 2020 the William C. Corum Chapter with the St. Joseph Chapter of the DAR held a joint grave marking ceremony for Patriot Private James Carnachan Dunlap, Sr. at the Dunlap Family Cemetery south of DeKalb, Buchanan County, Missouri. Colorguardsmen that participated were Michael Schmidt, Robert Corum, and Michael Robertson of the William C. Corum Chapter and Stephen Sullins of the Independence Patriots Chapter. Jane Randolph DAR Chapter participants were Tina Sellner (Regent) and Page Logan Cusick. Also, in attendance was Linda Dunbar (MSSDAR Central District Director).

Patriot Dunlap was born in 1740 in Northern Ireland and died in 1844 in DeKalb, Buchanan County, Missouri. He enlisted on February 3, 1776 in Abraham Smith’s Company, 6th Pennsylvania Battalion Pennsylvania Line under the command of Colonel William Irvine. He served as a private and lost an eye while a soldier, and received a discharge 15 months after enlistment in 1777.

Photos provided by Compatriot Michael Robertson (WCC) and Compatriot Stephen Sullins (IPC).

Left to right: Michael Robertson (WCC), Linda Dunbar MSSDAR Central District Director), Tina Sellner (Regent, SJDAR), Stephen Sullins (IPC), Mike Schmidt (WCC), and Page Logan Cusick (SJDAR).

Grave marking ceremony for the wife of Patriot James Owens, Elizabeth Marrs Owen, and their three daughters, Nancy Owens Cloud Chastain Campbell, Avy Owens Hulse Rice, and Rebecca Owens Sone.

On a crisp November 1, 2020 day, members of the MOSSAR Color Guard assisted the Jane Randolph Jefferson Chapter NSDAR in a grave marking ceremony for the wife of Patriot James Owens, Elizabeth Marrs Owen, and their three daughters, Nancy Owens Cloud Chastain Campbell, Avy Owens Hulse Rice, and Rebecca Owens Sone. The ceremony was conducted before a large group gathered at the Rice-Sone Cemetery, Jefferson City, Cole County, Missouri. During the ceremony the Color Guard provided a three-volley gun salute and the presentation of a wreath. MOSSAR Colorguardsmen were J. Wayne Merrill and Russell F. DeVenney, Jr. of the M. Graham Clark Chapter; James L. Baker, Jr. of Christopher Casey Chapter; Donald G. Turner and Francis C. Furman of the Ozark Patriots Chapter; and Gregory J. Watkins of the Spirit of St. Louis Chapter.

James Owens was born Oct. 19, 1763. Some accounts say in Belfast, Ireland, and others say in Virginia. At the age of 14, he enlisted in the Revolutionary War, first as a drummer boy for five months, then as a regular soldier for a year and a half during the latter part of the revolution. He married Elizabeth Marrs in 1784, and they had eight children in Virginia. They moved to Kentucky around 1796, and four more children were born there in Jessamine County. Their children married and had families of their own, some began moving westward, leaving their siblings and parents behind. Around 1819, before Cole County, Missouri was organized, Avy Owens and her husband, Andrew Rice, with Rebecca Owens and her husband, Michael Sone, came there to make their new home. After James Owens died around 1825 in Kentucky, other members of his family began relocating westward. In 1829, his son John immigrated to Springfield, Illinois, then in the spring of 1837 came to Missouri, establishing a farm about 3 miles west of Jefferson City. Their daughter Elizabeth, wife of Zephaniah Walden, made her home in Randolph County; daughter Mary Polly with her husband, George Miller, chose Springfield, Illinois. Another daughter, Nancy Anne and second husband, Aaron Campbell, lived in Lafayette County. An oft-repeated family story tells that Elizabeth Owens, who was more than 60 years old, rode alone on horseback from Kentucky to see her two daughters in Jefferson City. When Elizabeth Owens died March 17, 1836, she was buried on son-in-law Andrew Rice’s farm; this was the beginning of the Rice-Sone Cemetery. In following years, she was joined in the cemetery by three daughters, Nancy Campbell, Avy Rice and Rebecca Sone.

Photos provided by Compatriots J. Wayne Merrill (MGC), Greg Watkins (SSL), and Lora Watkins.
St. Louis-Jefferson DAR Chapter Veterans Day event at Bellefontaine Cemetery on November 8, 2020

On November 8, 2020 the St. Louis-Jefferson DAR Chapter held a Veterans Day event at the Hotchkiss Chapel in Bellefontaine Cemetery, St. Louis, Missouri. The Hotchkiss Chapel was designed by the architectural firm Eames and Young and constructed in 1909. It is named for the first Superintendent of Bellefontaine Cemetery, Almerin Hotchkiss. He served as Superintendent for 46 years. The Chapel is available for memorials services and other events, and can seat 50 people.

Participating in the Veterans event were Missouri Society, SAR Colorguardsmen and the Lewis & Clark Fife and Drum Corp of St. Charles, Missouri. The Colorguardsmen were Don Turner of the Ozark Patriots Chapter, Marvin Koechig of the Fernando de Leyba Chapter, and John Bedell, Terry Grogan and Greg Watkins of the Spirit of St. Louis Chapter. Walter Busch, past State Commander, Sons of Union, Veterans spoke about two Union generals buried in the cemetery; Major General Frank Blair and Brevet Brigadier General Thomas C. Fletcher. Milly Neff of the DAR spoke about Louisa Volker Macklin who is buried in the cemetery. She was a member of the U.S. Military Telegraph Corps, later learned stenography, and then at age 58 graduated from the Women’s Medical College in St. Louis, Missouri. She was listed in the State Board of Health’s Register of Physicians; and most of her practice was devoted to charity cases.

The St. Louis-Jefferson Chapter DAR was chartered in 1895. The Chapter is the oldest and largest DAR chapter in the St. Louis area.

Photos provided by Compatriot Doug Neff and Saint Charles, Missouri DAR Chapter Member Joan Koechig

Marking of the Grave of Patriot Captain Peter Seitz

On November 9, 2020 the Captain Henry Whitener DAR Chapter held a grave marking dedication ceremony commemorating the service of Patriot Captain Peter Seitz at the Moore’s Chapel Cemetery in Marquand, Missouri. The ceremony drew a large crowd to Moore’s Chapel Cemetery where a new grave marker was dedicated and a descendant of Peter, Clara Seitz, talked about their family history. As part of ceremony, the Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard members Don Turner and Frank Furman of the Ozark Patriots (Rolla) Chapter and Greg Watkins of the Spirit of St. Louis Chapter presented the Betsy Ross Flag and SAR Flag. The Fredericktown High School JROTC Black Cat Battalion participated in the Color Guard presenting the Colors.

Peter Seitz was born in western North Carolina around 1750-1755. He married Elizabeth, believed to be Seitz, his cousin. They had 10 children. Records show Peter and Adam Sides signed the Tyron County Association Protest of the action of British troops at Boston on April 19 and May 20, 1773. Peter Sr. lived with his son David at the time of his death, sometime after 1830. The Captain Henry Whitener DAR chapter is home to daughters in Iron, Madison, St. Francois and Wayne Counties, Missouri.

Photos provided by Compatriot Greg Watkins (SSL) and Lora Watkins

In foreground Compatriots Greg Watkins (SSL) and Don Turner (OPC).

Members of the Captain Henry Whitener DAR Chapter
Honoring Sergeant Caleb Stone on Veterans Day – November 11, 2020

On November 11, 2020 the Independence Patriots SAR Chapter and the Adam Yager DAR Chapter of Lee’s Summit, Missouri, honored Sergeant Caleb Stone, Co F, 5 Prov. En. Mo. Mil., on Veterans Day at the Lee’s Summit Cemetery, Lee’s Summit, Jackson County, Missouri. Participating were Compatriot Stephen Sullins of the Independence Patriots SAR Chapter and Adam Yage of the Adam Yager DAR Chapter.

Photo provided by Compatriot Sullins (IPC)

Left to right: Loretta Paris (DAR) and Compatriot Stephen Sullins (SAR)

Cemetery stone for Veteran Sergeant Caleb Stone 14 August 1829 – 25 May 1912

Independence Patriots Chapter SAR Color Guard participated in presenting the Colors at the November Meeting of the Blue Springs DAR Chapter

On November 17, 2020 the Independence Patriots Chapter SAR Color Guard participated in presenting the Colors at the November Meeting of the Blue Springs DAR Chapter meeting held at Sinclair’s Restaurant, Blue Springs, Missouri.

Photo provided by Compatriot Sullins (IPC)

Left to right: Compatriot Stephen Sullins, Jull Frasier, and Marge Caffey

Ozark Mountain Chapter Color Guard assisted the Branson High School JROTC with a Black Flag Rally (BFR)

On November 17th the Ozark Mountain Chapter (OMC) assisted the Branson High School JROTC with a Black Flag Rally (BFR) on their football field. A BFR is an event at the school that is to help promote patriotism and school spirit. The event was attended by Compatriots Charles McMillan, Steven Perkins and Daniel Piedlow (photographer). Compatriot Charles McMillan and MOSSAR Color Guard Commander Steven Perkins fired muskets at the event.

Photo provided by Compatriot Daniel Piedlow (OMC)

Compatriots firing muskets on the left and right are Charles McMillan and MOSSAR Color Guard Commander Steven Perkins.
On December 5, 2020 Missouri Society Color Guard members from four chapters joined together to participate in the annual Missouri DAR Lights of Love Memorial. The Lights of Love Christmas Tree was turned on, and featured thousands of red, white and blue lights to signify the patriotic tune of the organization. Their event pays tribute to all veterans of all wars, all branches of service, and to first responders. Lights are donated by DAR chapters from across the State. The SAR Missouri Color guard spectacularly brought forth the colors to a drum cadence with decorum to meet the occasion. The weather the evening of December 5th could not have been more pleasant at the State DAR Headquarters known as Roslyn Heights, in Booneville. Virtually no wind to cause a chill to temperatures in the mid-40’s at sundown. Near 50 persons attended properly donning masks.

Wreaths for Heroes Dedication at the Jefferson City National Cemetery

Two of the Colorguardsmen held a Betsy Ross 13-Star Flag and the SAR Flag. Immediately following the ceremony, the SAR and DAR members proceeded to the grave of Patriot Christopher Casey for whom the Jefferson City SAR Chapter is named. There a wreath-laying ceremony was conducted honoring Patriot Christopher Casey including reading a history of his life as well as that of Patriot John Gordon buried nearby.

Patriot Christopher Casey was born in 1755. Beginning his military career at the age of 18, Christopher Casey was a soldier of two wars. He served in the American Revolutionary War in the South Carolina Militia, entering the American Revolution War in 1773. He served three tours of duty and participated in several battles and campaigns. Casey also served in the War of 1812. Following the War of 1812, Casey, his wife Sarah Smith, and six children traveled west to Kentucky and Missouri and eventually settled in Jefferson City. He served many years as the Cole County, Missouri Coroner. Christopher Casey died August 2, 1840 at the age of 86.

Patriot John Gordon was born in 1761 in Augusta County, Virginia, was a Revolutionary War Patriot who fought in Virginia. He was in the 1st, 10th and 14th Regiments of Virginia during the Revolution. Gordon married Penelope Pope and traveled to Missouri with his wife and daughter Lucy to follow his son Alexander, a founder of Jefferson City. County seat moved from Marion to the City of Jefferson and the Circuit Court moved from Marion to the home of John Gordon in Jefferson City.

Photos provided by Compatriot Terry Sontag (CCC).
Independence Patriots Chapter presented the Chapter Knight Essay Award to Alivia Calvert at the December meeting of the William Boydston DAR Chapter

On Tuesday December 15, 2020, Independence Patriots Chapter President Stephen Sullins presented the Chapter Knight Essay Award and a scholarship check to the Chapter Knight Essay recipient, Alivia Calvert, at the monthly meeting of the William Boydston DAR Chapter. Ms. Calvert was inducted into the William Boydston DAR Chapter, after which she read her essay to the membership. Compatriot Sullins participated in presenting the Colors and was the guest speaker. He spoke about “Christmas at Valley Forge”.

Independence Patriots Chapter presented the Colors at the December Blue Springs DAR Chapter Meeting

On December 15, 2020 the Independence Patriots Chapter presented the Colors at the December meeting of the Blue Springs DAR Chapter. Compatriot Sullins was the guest speaker. He spoke about “Christmas at Valley Forge”.

Presentation of Award to Naval Sea Cadet by Fernando de Leyba Chapter Battleship Missouri Division of the Naval Sea Cadets

On Saturday, December 19, 2020 Colorguardsmen Compatriot Marvin Koechig, Vice President of the Fernando de Leyba Chapter, and Compatriot Charles Lilly, Honorary Vice President of the Missouri Society, SAR, presented the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate to Cadet Chief Raph Rowles at the Annual Awards Luncheon of the Battleship Missouri Division of the Naval Sea Cadets. Cadet Rowles was also presented a check for $200.00 from the Fernando de Leyba Chapter. Cadet Rowles was selected as the Outstanding Cadet based upon Academic achievement as well as Leadership qualities.

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps is a leadership development nonprofit for young people, ages 10 through 17. This is a year-round program, not a school, sponsored by the Navy League of the United States and supported by both the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard. The passionate all-volunteer force leads all of Naval Sea Cadet Corps divisions and squadrons. Every year cadets participate in training opportunities such as scuba, field and medical training, photojournalism, military police science, and sailing. When cadets join the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, they embark upon a path of lifelong leadership. The program will teach them how to lead groups of their peers successfully and will also inspire them to become leaders in their schools and communities.

Photo was provided by Compatriot Charles Lilly (FDL).
On December 19, 2020, members from the Spirit of St. Louis (SSL) and Fernando de Leyba (FDL) Chapters participated in Wreaths Across America at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis. Wreaths were laid at the graves of four (4) Patriots, nine (9) Fernando de Leyba Chapter Compatriots, and five (5) Spirit of St. Louis Chapter Compatriots. In addition, wreaths were laid at graves of eight (8) Congressional Medal of Honor recipients buried at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

Photos provided by Compatriot Steve White (FDL), Compatriot Keith Morris (FDL), Milly Neff (DAR/FDL), and Becky Osbourn (DAR/SSL).

Colorguardsmen participated in the graveside ceremony held on December 23, 2020 for SAR Compatriot Alvin Lee Paris

Alvin Lee Paris, 81, passed away December 19, 2020 at Lee’s Summit Hospital in Lee’s Summit MO. Alvin was born on December 11, 1939 in Corder, Missouri (east of Kansas City). Alvin went into the Navy at age 17 and later married Loretta J. Corbin on June 24, 1960 in Independence, Missouri. After serving in the Navy, he went to work at Western Electric which later became AT&T where he worked for 38 years. He was involved in 4H with kids in Harrisonville, Missouri, the Optimist Club, and the Japanese American Society. Alvin joined the SAR and spent 25 years with the Missouri Society, SAR Color Guard. He was a member of the Independence Patriots Chapter in Independence, Missouri. He was preceded in death by his mother, father and 6 brothers. Survivors include his wife Loretta, of 60 ½ years; son, Ronald; daughters, Susan Paris Held, Connie Stewart; Grandchildren, Taylor, Megan and Aley; Sister, Iris Kalenburger & husband Gene, Clayton Paris & Compatriot Alvin Lee Paris 1939-2020 wife Pat. A graveside service was held at 10:00 AM on December 23, 2020 at Lee’s Summit Cemetery, 806 SE 3rd Street, Lee’s Summit, Missouri 64063. Friends called at 9:30 AM before the service at the cemetery. MOSSAR Colorguardsmen from Independence Patriots, Fernando de Leyba, Harry S. Truman, and M. Graham Clark Chapters participated in an Honor Guard

Photo provided by Stephen Sullins (IPC).
Life Saving Medal and Certificate presented to Eagle Scout Eagle Dustin Waterhouse


Dustin was vacationing with his family on a houseboat on a river near Scottsboro, Alabama when his aunt injured her arm while jumping into the river. Because of her injuries she was unable to swim in the powerful current. Dustin seeing the danger grabbed a life jacket and kayak and paddled out to his aunt. He helped her get into her life jacket while his other family members tried to launch the houseboats raft which would not start leaving Dustin and his aunt on their own.

Undaunted Dustin paddled against the current to bring his aunt to the houseboat and helped her aboard. Dustin then improvised a sling using a towel until his aunt could get medical attention. For his heroic lifesaving actions Dustin was awarded the Heroism Award by the Boy Scouts of America. The actions Dustin took were all things that a young person is required to know to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. The valuable life skills he learned as a Scout enabled Dustin to know how to react automatically and in doing so saved his aunts life.

Photo provided by Compatriot Daniel Piedlow (OMC).

New Jersey –

Commemorate the 1778 Battle of Chestnut Neck memorial service

On Saturday October 10, 2000, the New Jersey SAR Color Guard was part of the event led by the Col. Richard Somers Chapter SAR to honor the Battle of Chestnut Neck. This day in history, October 15, 1778, was the Affair at Little Egg Harbor, the only British attack on the shore of New Jersey south of the New York area during the American Revolution. Little Egg Harbor was a focal point of American privateering during the war.

The small village of Chestnut Neck on the Little Egg Harbor River handled confiscated ships. When captured ships were brought to these towns, the goods were shipped overland to George Washington at Valley Forge and the ships were added to the privateering fleet.

British General Henry Clinton was continually frustrated. Between June and September of 1778 alone, 18 ships were captured by the privateers. Clinton decided to launch an expedition to “clean out that nest of Rebel Pirates.”

When the attack came on October 7, led by British Captain Patrick Ferguson, the British burned homes, destroyed 10 captured ships in the river and destroyed whatever confiscated goods they could not carry off. Early on the morning of October 15, 400 British soldiers stormed the beach and came across an outpost of 50 men. Ferguson’s men attacked the outpost as they slept, killing nearly everyone with bayonets before withdrawing. The affair was called the Little Egg Harbor Massacre by the Americans because of the British brutality. The British then left, having failed to stop the privateering. The residents of Chestnut Neck never rebuilt most moving to nearby Port Republic.

Pictured L-R: Lou Raborg (Nat’l SAR Color Guard Commander), Rich Serfass (So. Jersey Ch President), Jim Howard (So Jersey Ch), Rob Meyer (NJSSAR president -US Flag), Clark McCullough (Monmouth Ch & NJSSAR Past Pres), Gary Beauregard (Monmouth), Sam Davis (Princeton-Cranbury CH), and Ed Glidden (Monmouth Ch and NJSSAR Secretary)

Robert Meyer, New Jersey Society President and NJ Color Guard Commander honors the 34 soldier memorialized at the Battle of Chestnut Neck at the plaque “In honor of the “PRI-VATEERS” who sailed and fought for American independence 1776-1783.
Battle of Red Bank – fought on October 22, 1777 (243rd year) – Special Memorial Service

We did it!!!!! The FIRST South Jersey Chapter SAR recognition of the Battle of Red Bank AND our honoring the 14 Rhode Island soldiers who gave their lives during the battle, was completed on Sunday, October 25, 2020. This came after last year’s event was cancelled because of the weather, the first postponement in over 30 years.

Here National Color Guard Commander Raborg salutes the Fort Mercer Monument, one of the four wreaths laid for the fallen soldiers, 7 of the 14 flags honoring the fallen soldier, and the South Jersey Chapter plaque placed in the park describing the battle and naming those American soldiers killed. The plaque describes the battle as such: “As the battle for Fort Mercer was concluding on October 22, 1777, the sun was setting and the wind was blowing so hard from the north, it held out the Tidewater of the Delaware river. Hessian Lieutenant Colonel Wurmb ordered the Jager Corp to the edge of the woods to cover the retreat. these Jagers were marksman with rifle guns took aim to shoot any American that showed himself.

Two American sergeants, George Babcock and John Gould, saw that the battle had been a great victory. They prematurely mounted the rampart to celebrate and were mortally wounded by the enemy/discharge. They were two of only 14 killed and 21 wounded Americans reported to George Washington on 23 October. The Hessian casualties were 151 killed and 200 wounded at battle time, which increased to 400 as time passed.

A second WAA ceremony was conducted in the Beverly National Cemetery in Beverly, NJ. This was a combined effort of the South Jersey Chapter SAR, the Moorestown Chapter DAR, two other DAR chapters, and the Jack Schweiker Composite Civil Air Patrol Squadron. Two thousand wreaths were laid by this group of 25 volunteers. Pictured (picture 2) are 18 of those volunteers. Several other groups of 25 entered the cemetery throughout the early afternoon.

Members of the South Jersey Chapter SAR participating are namely L-R, Mark Balliet (nephew of Dave), Dave Balliet, Jim Howard, Rich Serfass, Scott Meltzer and Larry Nelson.
Battle of Trenton Monument Wreath-Laying Ceremony

The George Washington Monument in Trenton, NJ commemorates the first Battle of Trenton after Washington Crossed the Delaware in 1776. Here the New Jersey Society Color Guard annually lays a wreath. This year the monument was under construction, the temperature was 15 degrees, and the pandemic was upon us. Additionally, NJSSAR conducted its first National SAR Color Guard event both on site and virtually. Over 100 SAR members participated virtually. This ceremony was hosted by the Princeton-Cranbury Chapter SAR. Chapter President Roger Williams conducted the on site event including the virtual ZOOM connection.

Members of the NJ and PA Society SAR participated on site. Pictured at right L-R are Roger Williams (Princeton-Cranbury Chapter and event host), Jake Rue (Monmouth Ch), Fred Fonseca, Captain of the Color Guard, Philadelphia Continental Chapter SAR, Sam Adams (Portraying General Washington, Monmouth Ch), Charlie Morgan (Somers CH, and Pres-Elect NJSSAR), Robert Meyer (NJSSAR President), Jim Howard (So Jersey CH Historian and State Registrar) and Rich Serfass (So Jersey CH president and NJSSAR Color Guard Commander)

Memorial Service for Leonard Becker – SNVMC Boulder City 10 Dec 2020

Compatriot Leonard Becker, Major, US Army retired, a long standing member of the Sons of the American Revolution Signers Chapter passed away on 18 November 2020. Len served in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. After retirement, his service to his country continued as a volunteer at the Nellis Air Force Base Pharmacy for many years. For his countless hours of service he not only received recognition from then Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval as a Nevada Veteran Supporter of the Month, but the Veterans Administration and Sons of the American Revolution. He was a Past President of the Nevada Society SAR. Len was a charter member of the William B. Keith Camp No. 12, Sons of Union Veterans, where he served as Camp Commander, Camp Historian and Graves Registration Officer. The US Army provided a Full Military Honors Service at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery Chapel. Thanks extended to Honor Guard members that included members of the Sons of Union Veterans and Sons of the American Revolution. (Steve Fields, Gary Parriott, Kurt Dunphy and Al Peterson). Post photo processing by Bud Parriott.

Members of SAR and SUVCW formed a stationary Honor Guard during the Chapel Ceremony
General George Washington Chapter Colorguard participated in a DAR/CAR Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Goldsboro, NC Veterans Park on November 11th. (L-R Broughton Goodson, Ron Bonham, George Strunk, Kenny Smith).

Following the posting of the Colors, Broughton and Kenny escorted LaRose Daniels, Senior President of the Thomas Sutton Society of the CAR and Lisa Buchtman, Vice Regent of the David Williams Chapter, DAR as they presented the Wreath.

The NC Colorguard (General George Washington and New Bern Chapters and one descendant) post the Colors for the Patriot Benjamin Sutton, Sr. gravemarking in La Grange, NC on the 7th of November. (George Strunk, Broughton Goodson, Ed Perkins, Jay DeLoach, Bob Rigg, Ron Bonham, Scott Brick, Bruce Martin, Bob Ainsley, and descendant Dr. Mike Arnette). The event was hosted by the General George Washington Chapter, NC SAR.
OHSSAR Hocking Valley Chapter Participates In Wreaths Across America

On Saturday, December 19th, members of the Hocking Valley Chapter Color Guard participated in the Granville, Ohio Wreaths Across America at the Maple Grove Cemetery and hosted by the Granville DAR.

Earlier, Northeast Ohio Chapter Color Guardsmen posted and retired the Colors at The Women’s Club of Ashtabula County 100th Year Anniversary Celebration, welcoming their new drummer boy, Sean Howe to his first event. 1st Row, L to R: Troy Bailey (Commander), Sean Howe. 2nd Row, L to R: Dan Matheke, Jim Gilbert, Steve Hinson, Jim Pildner.

On Saturday, November 21st, members of the Northeastern Ohio Chapter recognized Robbin and Renee Blair for their display of American Patriotism by awarding the couple with the SAR Flag Certificate, L to R: Jim Pildner, Venie Hinson (DAR Regent), Robbin and Renee Blair, Steve Hinson, Bob Kenyon.
Cincinnati Chapter Participates in Two Wreaths Across America Ceremonies

The Cincinnati Chapter Color Guard participated in two separate Wreaths Across America ceremonies on December 19th. At the Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Chapter SAR partnered with the General William H. Lyde Camp Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Clough Valley Chapter DAR, and Cub Scout Pack #164. Pictured, the Cincinnati Chapter SAR raises the Colors and fires a musket salute. In the musket salute photo, L to R: Bob Bowers, Lee Wilkerson, Ed Bonniwell, Clay Crandall, Mike Gunn, Jack Bredenfoeder, Greg Ballman. In a separate ceremony at Greenwood Cemetery in Hamilton, Ohio, Cincinnati Chapter members participated with various veteran’s groups in placing wreaths on several hundred veteran graves. At this event were George Stewart, Michael Blum, Gary Duffield, Daniel Schmitz, and Douglas Blake. The Cincinnati Chapter has participated in WAA for over seven years.

Ohio Society Holds Vigil and Funeral Service for Fallen Compatriot

A dozen Ohio Society members came to north central Ohio and fulfilled a dying compatriot’s last wishes. Pastor Patrick Kelly, age 86 and a 30 year member of the SAR, was awarded the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal on August 28th by several compatriots at his Hospice Care Center in Mount Gilead. Patrick requested an SAR vigil and graveside service when the time came. He passed away on September 28th, and on Monday, October 5th, compatriots of the Cincinnati Chapter and Hocking Valley Chapter met at the Funeral Home in Cardington. Also present was Ohio Society President Lee Wilkerson, State Chaplain Ed Bonniwell, and State Color Guard Commander Bob Hill. The Colors were posted and two guards rotated every 10 minutes during the hour long visitation. At the cemetery in Lexington (OH), after words of prayer and eulogies, a seven musket three volley salute was fired. The SAR Honor Guard then came to “Present Arms” and rendered “Mourn Muskets” as a bugle played Taps and a bagpiper played Amazing Grace.

At the Funeral Home, Mike Gunn (L) and Dan Schmitz (R), both of the Cincinnati Chapter, guard the casket of compatriot Patrick Kelly, formerly a member of the Centennial and Henry Knox Chapters.

Compatriots fire a musket salute for Patrick. L to R: Al Gummere, Jack Bredenfoeder, Dan Schmitz, Mike Gunn, Bob Bowers, Ed Bonniwell, Bob Hill.
Ohio Compatriot Approved For Von Steuben Color Guard Medal

Compatriot Paul Alan Irwin of the Hocking Valley Chapter was approved for the Von Steuben Color Guard Medal on October 22nd by National Color Guard Commander Lou Raborg. Paul is a Charter member of the Hocking Valley Chapter and has been active in its Color Guard from the beginning in 2009. Paul received his Bronze Color Guard Medal in November, 2012 and his Silver CG Medal in April, 2013. His participation in the Color Guard has been exceptional since 2013, and he only started slowing down but never stopping, in 2019 due to his wife’s and his own health concerns. Paul has participated in 43 National and District events since 2013, far exceeding the minimum 25 National / District events needed over a five year period after earning the Silver CG Medal. Paul is the first to earn this award from the Hocking Valley Chapter. Congratulations to compatriot Paul Irwin for earning this distinction.

Cincinnati Chapter Patriot Grave Marking Event In Fairfield, OH

The Cincinnati Chapter hosted a Patriot Grave Marking event in Fairfield, Ohio just north of Cincinnati on Sunday, November 1st. Honored was patriot Joseph Catterline, a First Lieutenant in the 1st Regiment of Somerset County, New Jersey Militia, active before November, 1777. Joseph also served as a recruiting officer for the Continental Army in New Jersey. He was born in 1741 and died in 1822.

The weather was partly sunny, cool, and quite windy at times with gusts of 30 mph. It was a well-attended event by SAR compatriots of several Chapters and city officials, including the mayor of Fairfield, Steve Miller. Covid-19 recommendations were followed in the wearing of face masks and social distancing. Despite the wind, a colorful display of flags fluttered, a dozen muskets fired a 3 volley salute, and many wreaths were presented. Bradley Jarard of the Cincinnati Chapter was Color Guard Commander for the event, Michael Gunn the Program Emcee, and Ohio Society President Lee Wilkerson gave greetings and remarks.

On Sunday, November 8th, compatriots of the Hocking Valley Chapter attended a “Happy Birthday” procession in Logan to honor World War Two Navy veteran Charles Gasin, age 95. The usual Veterans Day Parade had been cancelled weeks earlier, so this was a nice substitute. The compatriots decorated Al Gummere’s pick-up truck with flags, patriotic bunting, and placed chairs in the bed of the truck to sit on. Their truck was third in line behind a police car and fire department EMT vehicle. Following behind were a dozen cars of well-wishers. The procession drove down residential streets to the Gasin’s home where the family had set up a canopy next to the street and were seated underneath to greet everyone. Compatriot Matt Hardman, President of the Hocking Valley Chapter, was selected by town officials to present Mr. Gasin with a gift from the city of Logan. As Matt presented the gift, his compatriots saluted Mr. Gasin, yelling “Happy Birthday” and “Thank you for your service, sir!” In the photo, L to R: Al Gummere, Bob Davis, Paul Irwin, Tom Harkins, Bob Hill, Matt Hardman.

John Opre, Color Guard Commander for the Mahoning Valley Chapter, organized a Uniform Exchange event at Ohio’s only Revolutionary War fort site, Fort Laurens in Bolivar, on Saturday, October 24th. John was there with his wife, Melanie in one of the picnic shelters not far from the museum. It was a bit chilly and overcast, but pleasant. The sale began at 10:00 AM and lasted until 2:30 PM. On the picnic tables and a coat rack were used and new - men and women’s - reproduction Revolutionary War coats, weskits, shirts, dresses, hats, and equipment for sale at a good price. Several visitors from the SAR, DAR, and general public browsed and purchased items. In the photo, John holds a blue woolen watch coat, normally priced above $300 and he sold for $90. Next year John will try and schedule another Uniform Exchange at a warmer time and in conjunction with an SAR event.
The Oklahoma City SAR color guard participated with DAR in the annual Wreaths across America ceremony which was held at the Oklahoma Veterans Memorial south of the state capitol. Color guard participants were (left to right) Jordan Bush in militia uniform representing his patriot ancestor Daniel Boone, Joe Sieber color guard commander, SAR chapter President Terry Handley and Bob Thomas color sergeant.

The main speaker for this program at the podium is Major General Rita Aragon. The wall behind the guardsmen is inscribed with the names of Oklahomans who have given their lives in service to their country some of the guardsman count the names of family and friends on the wall.

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MEDAL OF HONOR PARADE

Rally time: 9:15 am CT for a 10 am step off on Saturday April 10, 2021: Gainesville, Texas (North Texas) will again be the rally point for ranks of Texas, South Central District and National Guardsmen to participate in a unique parade to honor our Nations Medal of Honor recipients. The parade is the culmination of a celebration to recognize our national heroes. It is the only parade in the United States to solely express our highest esteem and gratitude to these warriors. Since the parade began in 2001 56 of the 74 living MoH honorees have participated.

We are registered as “Sons of the American Revolution: Texas Society Color Guard”. All guardsmen are welcome to yet again enjoy a leisurely well attended flat walk along the crowded main street. There are many patriotic entires complete with vintage fixed and rotary aircraft overhead. It is quite a spectacle.

Our National Color Guard Committee has taken the first step to authorize this as a national event. We await spring approval from the Historical Committee to finalize this as a full up National Color Guard event. Huzzah!

You are invited to fall in with the Texas SAR Guardsmen as we rally up.

So we may advise the organizers of our potential entry length kindly RSVP your attendance to our Texas SAR Northern Color Guard Commander Col. Bob Kubin at bob.kubin@leeslegion.org.

We look forward to seeing you this spring in Gainesville.

Huzzah!

Blair Rudy
Texas SAR Color Guard Commander
blairrudy@me.com

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George Washington Parade in Larado, Texas

The organizers of the George Washington Parade in Larado, Texas are undecided as to the status of the February parade. This is listed as one of our National Color Guard events.

Our Larado Chapter President and point of contact requested we not attempt to participate in February 2021 parade due to virus considerations in the Rio Grande River valley border region.

In order to protect our Guardsmen I have decided not to organize our participation for 2021. We look forward to once again stepping up for the 2022 event.
Mobilizing the Guard

by Ron Turner

This year was no different as the Major K M Van Zandt Chapter Color Guard prepared for the 101st Annual Veterans Day Parade in Fort Worth, TX. What was different was that no participating units could be on the ground. Since the horses were all out to pasture, they improvised with wagons or a trailer to be specific. Even the route was modified from downtown to Forest Park Blvd along the Trinity River. But when most cities gave up on the Veterans Day Parade due to the Covid19 restricts, Fort Worth declared that the parade must go on.

Aboard the wagon on this 11th day of Nov, 2020 are from left to right: Compatriot James Alderman, Color Guard Commander Bobby Gresham, Compatriots Gerry Gieger, Mark Parkison, Doug Schwetke, Kevin Shellman, and Ron Turner.

Colors at the DAR Constitution Luncheon

by Ron Turner

The week of September 17 to September 23 is Constitution Week. It was officially enacted on August 2, 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower from a congressional resolution petitioned by the Daughters of the American Revolution, but it was George W Bush who officially declared the inception of Constitution Week in September 2002.

Many of the DAR Chapters around the country celebrate this occasion with a special event. The DAR Chapters of the Fort Worth area gathered together this year at the Ridglea Country Club on Sept 19th to celebrate with a Constitution Luncheon. They invited the Texas SAR Color Guard of the K M Van Zandt Chapter of Fort Worth to post the colors. Filling that honored task was from left to right: Compatriots James Alderman, Mark Parkison, Ron Turner, and Color Guard Commander Bobby Gresham.

A Precious Smile to Veterans

by John Kenton Thompson

On Saturday, 6 November, 2020 members of the Independence and Freedom Chapters joined together at the Texas College Station Cemetery to honor veterans by the placing of flags at their place of rest. Joining those Texas SAR Color Guard members this years event were Jessica and Eleanor Nations, daughters of proud SAR member Mike Nations.

Escorting them in this photo from left to right are Compatriots’ Dave Hamaker, Bob Mennell, John Kenton Thompson, and Ed Sellards. Not shown are Bob Cohen, Ken Graalum and Mike Nations.

Wreaths Across America at the Texas Capito

by Sy Hoyt

Each year, in December, folks gather at the House Chamber at the Texas Capitol to participate in the Annual Wreaths Across America ceremony, which concludes with a parade of dignitaries lead by the Texas Department of Public Safety Color Guard (State Police) and the Texas SAR Color Guard out to the Veterans Memorial Monument on the Capitol grounds where a wreath is placed in honor of all departed veterans. This year, the Capitol is on “lock-down” due to the unrest this season thus the official ceremony was canceled. That didn’t slow us down. On 8 December, with the help of Senator Dr. Donna Campbell, we were escorted onto the Capitol grounds in limited numbers to place a wreath at the Veterans Memorial. After the ceremony, the wreath was given to Senator Campbell for her long and devoted support of the Wreaths Across America program. It will decorate her office at the Capitol during this festive season.

Some Texas Nation Guardsmen walking the grounds were invited to join the photo. They are the ghosts in the background. Left to right are: Jim Clements, TX SAR Secretary and Patrick Henry member, Senator and Doctor Donna Campbell, and Stu Hoyt, William Hightower Chapter.
Captain Ralph Frederick DeWalt, United States Navy (Retired) was honored with the National Society Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) Burial Ritual by six Compatriots representing three Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution (VASSAR) Chapters. His home chapter, Colonel William Grayson, organized honors and provided four Compatriots: President Michael Weyler, Secretary David Button, Past President Thad Hartman and Barry Schwoerer. George Mason Chapter President Ken Morris, and Colonel James Wood II member Paul Christensen rounded out the VASSAR team. The team saluted the casket as it was carried into and out of the Old Chapel at Ft Meyer, adjacent to Arlington National Cemetery. A Navy and Army Honor Guard marched with a horse-drawn Caisson as it wound through Arlington National Cemetery to Captain DeWalt’s final resting place. After a military gun salute and Taps, the VASSAR team moved forward and conducted the NSSAR Burial Ritual. Following the ceremony, the team presented a plaque to Mrs. Charlotte DeWalt, Captain DeWalt’s widow, and the DeWalt family. The plaque commemorated the link from Captain DeWalt to his Patriot Ancestor, Private Christian DeWalt, who served in the Northampton County, Pennsylvania Militia.

Captain DeWalt was given full military honors, fitting for a veteran with Vietnam War combat experience. He was a highly respected Naval Aviator who flew multiple type aircraft from several different aircraft carriers. He closed his aviation career as Commanding Officer of a Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron flying EA-6B “Prowler” aircraft. You could not find a more Patriotic Family than the DeWalt’s. Ralph, and wife Charlotte, had four sons. Three graduated from the Naval Academy and all four sons earned Navy pilot wings of gold. Rodney was selected for promotion to Rear Admiral in September 2017. Captain DeWalt had the honor, and pleasure of saluting newly promoted Rear Admiral Rodney DeWalt at a promotion ceremony at the Washington Navy Yard. Captain DeWalt later said saluting his son was the biggest honor he ever had. Five members of the DeWalt family became members of NSSAR: Ralph, Michael, Rodney, Lucas, and Nicholas. Lucas DeWalt is a 2nd LT in the USAF who entered Air Force Flight training in 2020, making him the third generation of DeWalt’s becoming military pilots.

On 14 November 2020, the Colonel James Wood II Chapter of the Virginia SAR combined with the Wayside Inn, Middletown to conduct a Flag Retirement Ceremony. These ceremonies honor the symbol of American freedom. When a flag is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it is to be destroyed in a dignified manner. Over 40 flags were gathered from the community that were no longer serviceable. These flags were burned with the proper respect due a symbol of all that was emblematic of a Nation of free men, devoted to the ideals and practice of freedom and democracy. They were replaced in a never ending cycle of new flags proudly displayed to reflect the qualities that make our nation great. The ceremony was conducted by Dale Corey with chaplain duties performed by Jim Simmons. A color guard presented the colors led by Brett Osborn. Included in the guard were Erick Moore, Marc Robinson, Chip Daniel, Marty Keeceker, Nathan Poe, Charles Harbaugh (Mayor of Middletown), Sean Carrigan, Clay Robinson, Allan Phillips, Eric Robinson and drummer Doug Hall. Pictures are provided courtesy of Allan Phillips. The first picture is the Color Guard consisting of Brett Osborn, Erick Moore, Marc Robinson, Chip Daniel, Marty Keeceker, Nathan Poe, Paul Christensen, Charles Harbaugh, Sean Carrigan, Clay Robinson, Allan Phillips and Eric Robinson. The second picture is Clay Robinson, Doug Hall and Flag Detail Chip Daniel, Marc Robinson and Erick Moore.
Veterans Day Event

During the week of Veterans Day, the Colonel James Wood II Chapter of the Virginia Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Color Guard participated in three (3) Veterans Day Ceremonies. Veterans Day was originally known as Armistice Day. It commemorated the veterans of World War I, for which an armistice ended the fighting at 11:00, 11 November 1918. In June of 1919, the Treaty of Versailles was signed to officially end the War to end all Wars. In 1919, President Wilson proclaimed 11 November to be the first commemoration of the victory. It was 4 June 1926 that Congress passed a concurrent resolution to officially recognize the end of the Great War. On 13 May 1936 an act was passed to officially recognize 11 November as a national holiday known as Armistice Day. In 1954, because of World War II and the Korean War, the name was changed to Veterans Day to honor veterans of all wars.

On 10 November 2020, in coordination with the American Red Cross, VFW and AM-Vets, a private ceremony to honor veterans was held at National Cemetery, Winchester. The SAR color bearers Marc Robinson, Allan Phillips and Sean Carrigan led veterans Ralph Hensley and Anthony Barns as they presented a wreath. Charles Hunter played Taps to honor veterans of all wars. On 11 November, the SAR Color Guard presented colors for Middletown during their 5th annual ceremony to honor veterans. Due to inclement weather, it was conducted indoors at the Middletown Fire Station. Ray Steele emcee’d with Rev. Clay Knick providing chaplain services. SgtMaj Richard Van Norton, Jr. USMC (Ret.) was the guest speaker. The Color Guard consisted of musket men Brett Osborn and Allan Phillips, flag bearers Marc Robinson, Erick Moore, Dennis Parmerter and Dale Corey with sentinels Paul Christensen, Eric Robinson and Sean Carrigan. A wreath was presented by Mayor Charles Harbaugh, IV and SgtMaj Van Norton, followed by a three volley rifle salute by VFW Post 2123. This was followed by Taps played by Andrew Paul. On 12 November 2020, the Color Guard presented a ceremony to the Commonwealth Senior Living Facility in Front Royal. Participating for the SAR were Dale Corey, Virginia SAR President Bill Schwetke, Marc Robinson, Dennis Parmerter, Doug Hall, Allan Phillips and Sean Carrigan. The first photo is the CJWII Color Guard at National Cemetery. Pictured from l. to r. Sean Carrigan, Allen Phillips, Kelly Ford, Dale Corey, Marc Robinson and Dennis Parmerter. The second photo is the CJWII Color Guard at Middletown Fire Station. Pictured from l. to r. Brett Osborn, Marc Robinson, Erick Moore, Dennis Parmerter, Dale Corey and Allan Phillips. The third photo is the CJWII Color Guard at Commonwealth Senior Living Facility. Pictured from l. to r. Bill Schwetke, Marc Robinson, Dennis Parmerter, Doug Hall, Allan Phillips and Sean Carrigan. Photos courtesy of Allan Phillips.

Grave Marking Clarke County

On 31 Oct 2020, the Colonel James Wood II Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) participated with the Ketoctin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in a grave marking ceremony for Charles and Elizabeth “Betty” Lewis Carter. The ceremony was held at the Carter Family Cemetery, North Hill Farm in Clarke County. Kecia Brown, Regent of the Ketoctin Chapter presided over the ceremony with the SAR presenting the colors, firing a musket salute and playing taps to commemorate Charles and Betty as a son and daughter of American Revolutionary War Patriots. Participating in the ceremony from the DAR were LeAnn Turbyfill, Virginia DAR State Regent, Margaret Stromberg, Virginia DAR District VIII Director, Sherryl Belinsky, Stonebridge Chapter Regent, Shawn Beyer, Cameron Parish Chapter and Sara Boppe, Fort Loudoun Chapter. Betty Lewis Carter was the daughter of Fielding Lewis and Elizabeth “Betty” Washington. Her Mother was the only sister of George Washington who lived to adulthood and married Fielding Lewis, a successful Fredericksburg merchant. He owned and leased ships that traded with British Caribbean colonies and operated a family store. Fielding and Betty Washington were successful merchants who provided material support to the colonists, including funding a gun manufactory in 1775. Betty Lewis was born in 1765 and married Charles Carter in 1781. Charles descended from a long line of Virginia gentry with roots back to the earliest settlements. He died and was buried at Deerwood Plantation in Culpeper in 1827. She died at her brother’s home, Audley Farm, just to the west of North Hill on 9 April 1830 and was interred at the North Hill Family Cemetery. Charles remains were moved to North Hill in the 1960s and is now buried next to his wife. The SAR color guard was led by Chapter President and Commander Marc Robinson. Participating were Virginia State SAR President William “Bill” Schwetke, Colonel William Grayson Chapter President Mike Weyler, and Culpeper Minutemen Chapter President Charles James. Other compatriots included Virginia State Color Guard Commander Ken Bonner, Sean Carrigan, Paul Christensen, Dale Corey, Chip Daniel, Mike Dennis, Leamon Duncan, Art LaFlam, Brett Osborn, Natasha Reynolds, Clay Robinson and Jim Simmons. There were six DAR and six SAR wreaths presented to commemorate the Carter’s descendancy from Revolutionary War Patriots. Left picture is the musket squad marching to fire a salute - Doug Hall, Chip Daniel, Clay Robinson, Barry Schwoerer, Paul Christensen, Mike Dennis, Sean Carrigan, Allen Phillips, Art LaFlam, Ken Bonner and Brett Osborn. This picture is courtesy of Cat Schwetke. Above left photo is a composite of the CJWII Color Guard, courtesy of Cat Schwetke.
On December 12 members of the WASSAR Color Guard performed a Flag retirement ceremony. The WA State Color Guard was specifically requested to participate in the flag retirement ceremony at the West Seattle Corporate Center. The building engineering, Jeff Hammond, made the request after seeing a former flag certificate hanging in his office. This was the first opportunity to perform this in Seattle.

The flags was about 30' by 50' made of cotton, damp and very heavy.

With a lot of pulling and tugging they finally got the flag under control and put away.

They then completed the retirement by raising the new flag in it’s place. What a sight to see.

It was a huge undertaking by the 6 members present, (l-r) Neil Vernon, Dick Motz, Christian Ferrin, Craig Lawson, Nick Reichert, Jerry Bordelon.

George Rogers Clark

On Saturday, October 17th, 2020, Lee Thomasson of the George Rogers Clark Chapter, SAR, provided a 12 lb cannonball for the inclusion in the Revolutionary War display at the Veteran’s Memorial Museum in Chehalis, Washington. The photo show Compatriot Thomasson presenting the donation to the George Rogers Clark to deliver to the Museum.

The cannonball was forged in Skene Foundry, Sekenesborough, NY and found aboard the wreck of General Benedict Arnold’s ship “Congress”, Lake Champlain, New York, in Ferris Bay, now called Arnold’s Bay. The cannonball was purchased as a piece from the Dunn Collection, of the Gallant Pelham Antiques, Gore Virginia.

Compatriot Thomasson also provided a 1799 half-penny coin with a worn relief of King George III on the front. Both items will be proudly displayed at the Veteran’s Memorial Museum in Chehalis, Washington.

The museum display also includes a Regimental Uniform donated by Susan Sterling in memory of her husband, Kent Sterling, a member of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter, SAR of Washington State.

Compatriot Thomasson represents the SAR’s highest commitment of History, Education, and Patriotism and is also the first Uniformed Color Guardsman of the State of Washington.
George Washington Chapter

Early in September the Navy League of Oak Harbor asked Kelly Davidson, director the well-received Memorial Day Video to coordinate a production for Veterans Day.

Kelly in turn asked the George Washington Chapter SAR Color Guard to participate since we had assisted her in the earlier video.

There were a number of twists and turns associated with having an indoor production that were not encountered with the outdoor Memorial effort. Initially, we announced the event via the WASSAR Color Guard Calendar, inviting participants expecting to have a sufficient turnout for a complete Color Guard unit. Due to Covid-19 restrictions and the limiting size of the stage we were restricted to six participants which we found out two weeks prior to the day of performing.

Weekly meetings started in September with various groups joining. The Navy League with Kelly’s assistance took the lead. Joining the effort were; Wallin Funeral Home, American Legion Post George Morris Post 129, VFW Whitehall-Mussall Post 7392, Oak Harbor Lions, Patriot Guard Riders, Oak Harbor High School NJROTC, Congressman Rick Larsen, Oak Harbor Mayor Bob Severns, Oak Harbor Chamber, and support from several local businesses.

Twenty-six (26) organizations aired the video at 11 AM, November 11. There were over ten thousand (10,000) viewers on November 11.

(l-r) Bruce Bock, Michael Moore, Mikey Bendictson, John Kraft, Mike Hutchins

Mid-Columbia Chapter

The Annual Veteran's Day Parade was conducted with the use of video developed by Ken Powe. This video featured a number of photos taken during the 2016 Veteran's Day Parade.

John Paul Jones

Patriot Fred Gilbert of the John Paul Jones Chapter, Bremerton, WA portraying his ancestor Sergeant John Gilbert of the 8th CT Line supported the Michael Trebert Chapter of the DAR recognizing the First Veterans. During the event General Washington presented Sgt. Gilbert a representative medal of thanks to all the first veterans. The day consisted of a parade with Fife and Drum and presentations to local Port Angles, WA students in grades 1 through 3. At the conclusion, George Washington and Sgt. John Gilbert handed out token event coins to all the students.
On November 7 and 12, 2020, Neil Vernon of the Seattle Chapter presented the History of the American Creed to the Cascade Centennial and Seattle chapters over Zoom for their Chapter Meeting presentation. Compatriot Vernon was in period costume for the event.

This was followed by Neil Vernon presenting “Old Glory Speaks” in full uniform on December 6 and 10, 2020, to Cascade Centennial and Seattle chapters over Zoom for their Chapter Meeting Presentation.

Alexander Hamilton Chapter

Alex was an outstanding cadet in the Navy JROTC at Stadium HS.

Today, our young compatriot Alex Lemmer, Petty Officer USN, is graduating from the US Navy Intelligence School at the prestigious Center for Information Warfare Training (CIWT), Virginia Beach, VA.

He completes this challenging course and his first year in service and is now a US Navy intelligence analyst. Alex went through 14 weeks of rigorous scholastic and mental training to go with his tough physical training at Great Lakes boot camp and at San Diego. He has a great start in his Navy career.

Point Pleasant WV color guard in support of DAR Wreath Across America

From left to right Ed Cromley, Randy McGill, Lyman Greenlee, and drummer Cary Campbell.
Wisconsin color guards met to commemorate the American Revolutionary War and its heroes on several notable occasions. At Bottom left Guardsman Robert Haglund and his DAR spouse, Gena, kneel at a grave on NSDAR Day of Service. Although several Flag Awardees were nominated only one was presented due to health concerns. Pictured at top left are guardsmen Shane Barrett, CEO Stacy Peterson, Brian Barrett and Don Skarda at Connoils LLC, in Big Bend, WI.

At another DAR event we gathered to dedicate a Patriot Grave Garden at the Surgeons Quarters in Portage, WI. Pictured in top right are Bill Austin in the uniform of General George Washington, DAR Gena Haglund, Color Guardsmen Don Skarda, Mike Nelson, Commander Brian Barrett, Mark Nelson and Bob Hagland. Many in this group presented solemn sword salutes to honor our ancestors.

On Veterans Day, USN Second Class Petty Officer, Jason Verhagen, color guardsmen Mike Meador and Brian Barrett honored veterans at the Delafield Memorial Walk. Not pictured are Ames Chapter guards who attended at cemeteries in Madison, WI.
“Can’t” and “Won’t” are not in the vocabulary of those who are persistent in accomplishing a task. Each year, in the recent past, the Austin area DAR and SAR Chapters, in conjunction with Wreaths Across America, have decorated all 3200 graves at the Texas State Cemetery at Navasota and 7th Sts. in Austin. This year it would have been no different except that a black cloud came over 2020 in the form of a pandemic better known as Covid-19. It seems that everything came to a halt. Back in the 50’s, we prepared for a nuclear attack where everyone was to stay inside until the “dust” (radiation) settled. When the level of deaths from the virus reached such levels this spring, we were all asked to “hunker down”. Little did we know that it would persist even to December, nine months later.

As we approached the season for Wreaths Across America things looked grim but we were hopeful. Donations for buying the wreaths were down and it was not going to be possible to order enough even to cover all the graves at the Texas State Cemetery. We were advised that if we could not place wreaths on all graves, we could not place wreaths on any. A nine-year-old named Remmer Machamer developed the passion, at the age of seven, to go door to door to raise money for wreaths Across America. The cut-off date was 3 Dec and his goal was $10,000. By Thanksgiving he had only reached the $6000 mark. We were planning on having to revert to the Memorial and Veterans Day plan of placing flags at each grave.

Covid cases were on an upturn in December. Word spread via media channels that even Arlington Nation Cemetery would have to cancel their Wreaths Ceremony. Protest came from all across the country and their program would go on. In Austin, as we did for the Memorial day Ceremony, we were planning to do only a virtual ceremony, then things started to happen. Remmer, in a last minute appeal, reached his goal and enough money was available to place a wreath at each of the 3200 graves. Wreaths Across America Day was scheduled for 19 December in 2020 but since the Texas State Cemetery would be closed that day we planned to do our wreaths on Friday 18 December. On Tuesday of that week we were advised that the cemetery would not be available on Friday due to a death and service of a state dignitary.

We had overcome hurdles this far but could we reschedule and get people to come on Thursday with one days notice. Word went out and then we went into “hope and pray” mode. The plan was to do shifts starting at 10am. We were there before eight to start unloading and stationing the wreaths at various locations across the cemetery. We managed to offload 384 boxes of compacted wreaths and have them in place as SAR, DAR and other organizations came in to honor each grave with the placing of the wreath at the grave and the stating of that name. Miraculously, maintaining social distance, we completed all 3200 graves by noon. Mission accomplished and who said that it couldn’t be done.

Here is a picture of some of the graves at “Confederate Field” and the other of Jim Clements of the Patrick Henry Chapter and Stu Hoyt of the William Hightower Chapter at the Veterans Memorial.