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National Color Guard Events - 2020
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Fifer’s Corner

Chaplain General, Meeting Minutes
Compatriots,

Fellow SAR Colorguardsmen,

As we come to the end of another year I wish to thank Commander Fosdyk for his outstanding leadership and friendship. Although Jim’s year was cut short with the impact of our global pandemic, he fulfilled all of the duties and responsibilities of his office. During Congress last year in Costa Mesa he and his lovely wife Un Hui were perfect hosts, transporting many of our guardsmen around town as we fulfilled our duties.

Although we will not start the new year as we have traditionally done so, we will recognize Robert Sapp (GA) as our color guardsman of the year and have a formal changing of the commander ceremony at the fall leadership meeting on Friday in Louisville.

As your new commander I will strive to fulfill my duties as best I can. Of course the global pandemic is far from over and still impacts our movement and events that we may hold. At this time I am still under international and domestic travel restrictions by my employer, causing delays in engineering projects that I have supported in the U.S., Europe and Asia. As these restrictions are eased, I hope to support events in a wider range. Until that time most of my effort will be confined east of the Mississippi.

Since this pandemic outbreak has started to impact our events, I have received numerous requests for credit for virtual events. The first of these was a Patriot Day celebration that was very well planned and orchestrated by President Bill Schwetke and the Virginia Society. Along with PG Manning, I also participated and support these alternative National Events efforts. My “official” response is that each event should be coordinated as closely as possible as a live event, well documented and attended. The final decision on what events will be credited will be made by a consensus of the committee at the fall leadership meeting.

In regard to supporting live events I encourage all of our guardsmen to practice social distancing and take all precautions that the CDC recommends. To that end I would also suggest to our State and chapter guards to consider adding a “surgeon” position to their ranks to look after the health and welfare of our guardsmen. At this time this is just as vital as our “safety officer’s responsibilities in regard to the proper condition and handling of weapons. Many of our members fall in the high risk category and we need to be vigilant in watching out for them.

On Flag Day, In an effort to support our Society’s mission, I went to our Main street and Courthouse in Bel Air and handed out American Flags reminding our fellow citizens of our Patriot Ancestors, to Honor our flag, and to celebrate the anniversary of the U.S. Army founding in 1775. I stopped at a little craft fair and gave out about a hundred flags to kids and adults. The next weekend, I was happy to support New Jersey President Rob Meyers, our second Adjutant, and members of the New Jersey Color Guard to present the Colors and wreaths at the Von Steuben Monument at Monmouth Battlefield Museum [At right]. Everyone wore masks and spread out as best they could. Although we were the only ones in the area, it was a good start to better days to come.

We shall get through this. Be alert of your surroundings, keep your distance, Stay safe.

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

Stay safe, stay healthy, and may God bless us all and may God bless the United States of America

In Patriotism,
James C. Fosdyck
Commander, 2019-2020

As your outgoing commander this is my final Colorguardsman message to you. Although cancellation of the Richmond Congress negated a formal Change of Command ceremony President General Manning named Compatriot Louis Raborg the new Color Guard Committee Chairman / Commander. A Change of Command ceremony may take place at fall Leadership. Compatriot Brooks Lyles is your Vice Commander, Scott Collins is First Adjutant and Robert Meyer of the New Jersey Society is Second Adjutant. I am confident Lou and the entire Color Guard staff will continue to do a stellar job as leaders of the SAR Color Guard.

Standing watch as a sentinel at the Tomb of George and Martha Washington and joining President Manning in a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery were personal highpoints during my time as Commander of the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard. They will remain cherished memories.

I think we can all agree that being in quarantine during the coronavirus pandemic has not been enjoyable. It has been important to follow the stay-at-home rules because we could put others in danger. I know how boring it has been to be stuck inside week after week with no sure answer when this all will be over.

As events have evolved over the last few months, it has been difficult on most of us to be in isolation. Our normal daily routines have been disrupted in many ways. Certainly, color guard activities have been impacted with cancellation of numerous events. But I believe brighter and better days are ahead for all of us.

Notwithstanding the pandemic it was my pleasure to approve applications for 47 Silver Color Guard Medals, 11 Von Steuben Medals for Sustained Achievement and 8 Molly Pitcher Medals.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and may God bless us all and may God bless the United States of America

In Patriotism,
James C. Fosdyck
Commander, 2019-2020
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Approximate 2020 Date</th>
<th>Color Guard Event</th>
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<td>January 18</td>
<td>Battle of Cowpens</td>
<td>Chesnee, SC</td>
<td>Daniel Morgan SAR</td>
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<td>February 16</td>
<td>Battle of Cowans Ford</td>
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<td>Mecklenburg SAR</td>
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<td>Battle of Kettle Creek</td>
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<td>February 15</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 22</td>
<td>Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge</td>
<td>Currie, NC</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>February 28-30</td>
<td>NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting</td>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
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<td>March 7</td>
<td>Last Naval Battle of the Revolution</td>
<td>Merritt Island, FL</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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<td>March 14</td>
<td>Battle of Guilford Courthouse</td>
<td>Greensboro, NC</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>April 18</td>
<td>Halifax Resolves</td>
<td>Halifax, NC</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>Patriot's Day</td>
<td>Nationally</td>
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<td>April 30</td>
<td>Kentucky Derby Pegasus Parade</td>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
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<td>Battle of Pensacola</td>
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<td>May 9</td>
<td>Raid on Martin's Station</td>
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<td>Armed Forces Day</td>
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<td>May 23, 2021</td>
<td>Battle of Fort San Carlos</td>
<td>St Louis, MO</td>
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<td>May 22-24</td>
<td>Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous</td>
<td>Vincennes, IN</td>
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<td>May 25</td>
<td>National Memorial Day Parade</td>
<td>Washington DC</td>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
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<td>May 25</td>
<td>Memorial Day events *</td>
<td>Various locations</td>
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<td>June 6</td>
<td>Action at Machias</td>
<td>Machias, ME</td>
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<td>June 13</td>
<td>Battle of Ramsour's Mill</td>
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<td>June 15</td>
<td>Battle of Bunker Hill</td>
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<td>June 27</td>
<td>Battle of Monmouth</td>
<td>Monmouth City, NJ</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>July 9-15</td>
<td>NSSAR National Congress</td>
<td>Richmond VA</td>
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<td>July 25</td>
<td>Siege of Fort Laurens</td>
<td>Bolivar, OH</td>
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<td>August 15</td>
<td>Battle of Blue Licks</td>
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<td>August 28 - Sept 3</td>
<td>National American Legion Parade</td>
<td>Various</td>
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<td>August 29</td>
<td>Battle of Groton Heights</td>
<td>Groton, CT</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
<td>Battle of Saratoga</td>
<td>Stillwater, NY</td>
<td>Empire State</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
<td>Gathering at Sycamore Shoals</td>
<td>Elizabethton, TN</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
<td>Vigil at George Washington's Tomb</td>
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<td>September 24-26</td>
<td>NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting</td>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
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<td>October 2-4</td>
<td>Point Pleasant Battle Days</td>
<td>Point Pleasant, WV</td>
<td>West Virginia</td>
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<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 19</td>
<td>Yorktown Days</td>
<td>Yorktown, VA</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<td>November 11</td>
<td>Veterans Day Events *</td>
<td>Nationally</td>
<td>Various</td>
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<td>December 5</td>
<td>Battle of Great Bridge</td>
<td>Norfolk, VA</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 12</td>
<td>Wreaths Across America</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Events that can occur on random dates throughout the year:
- Massing of the Colors
- Fields of Honor / Healing Field
- Honor Flight

* SAR color guardsmen who participate in a local event on the actual day or the weekend closest to July 4th, Memorial Day or Veterans Day can count that event toward the Silver Color Guard Medal and the V on Steuben Medal for Sustained Color Guard Service. This is limited to a single event. Multiple events on these days cannot be counted multiple times.

** Date Added refers to first appearance in Color Guard Handbook after approval by National Color Guard Committee. Those national events that do not have a date, were listed in the first edition dated 9/24/2000 thus signifying approval prior to that date. Events with Date Added next to them cannot be counted for Color Guard Medals prior to the earlier of the date added or the actual date the event would have occurred after it was added.

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

Send event updates to sarwilliamssa(at)gmail.com

The calendar dates are mostly approximate in nature. Please verify any date with the host state/chapter. Also, there may be one or two events that are not included that should be. If there are any exclusions, they are unintentional. Any events that should be included should be brought to the attention of the commander for later addition.
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

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.

- Bethlehem Trading Post
- Smiling Fox Forge
- Avalon Forge
- Barkertown Sutlers
- 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 Quartermaster General
  - Townsends
  - Track of the Wolf
  - Turkey Foot Trading Company
  - Clearwater Hats
  - Ye Armes Shoppe

### State Society 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. Any questions about the distribution of the new issue should be directed to the respective state commander. Changes are noted in **RED** text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Color Guard Commander</th>
<th>Primary Phone</th>
<th>Cell Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>City</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Joseph D. Barker, Jr.</td>
<td>334-221-3641</td>
<td>334-221-3641</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jdbark151@att.com">jdbark151@att.com</a></td>
<td>Wetumpka, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>David Bonnett</td>
<td>602-321-1372</td>
<td>602-321-1372</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dbonnett@cox.net">dbonnett@cox.net</a></td>
<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Mark Kramer</td>
<td>714 336-9040</td>
<td>714 336-9040</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ocfmarktt@att.com">ocfmarktt@att.com</a></td>
<td>Temecula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>Tom Wellborn</td>
<td>303-810-3100</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:wellborn@minidspring.com">wellborn@minidspring.com</a></td>
<td>Littleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>David Perkins</td>
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<td>203-948-7974</td>
<td><a href="mailto:DPerkins29@att.net">DPerkins29@att.net</a></td>
<td>Bethel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>W Richard Young</td>
<td>352-556-3226</td>
<td>714 336-9040</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dyoun22@att.com">dyoun22@att.com</a></td>
<td>Spring Hill, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Bill Palmer</td>
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<td>770-985-2744</td>
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<td>Snellville, GA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>Terry Patterson</td>
<td>208-286-8169</td>
<td>208-286-8169</td>
<td>terry@<a href="mailto:1876@outlook.com">1876@outlook.com</a></td>
<td>Twin Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Jon Fixmer</td>
<td>630-639-2211</td>
<td>630-639-2211</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jfixmer7@verizon.net">jfixmer7@verizon.net</a></td>
<td>North Aurora, IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>Jeff Stratton</td>
<td>317-721-8859</td>
<td>317-721-8859</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jstratton@att.com">jstratton@att.com</a></td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>Mike Rowley</td>
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<td>515-975-0498</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjri1825@att.com">mjri1825@att.com</a></td>
<td>Clive, IA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>Dewey Fry</td>
<td>913-897-9502</td>
<td>913-897-9502</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deweyfl@kncr.com">deweyfl@kncr.com</a></td>
<td>Stillwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>Scott G Gilmer</td>
<td>502-649-4554</td>
<td>502-649-4554</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sgilg@earthlink.net">sgilg@earthlink.net</a></td>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>Ted Brode</td>
<td>318-232-3961</td>
<td>318-232-3961</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tbrode@comcast.net">tbrode@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>West Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Wayne Howard Mallar</td>
<td>207-942-9586</td>
<td>207-942-9586</td>
<td><a href="mailto:essex103@at.com">essex103@at.com</a></td>
<td>Bangor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>David H. Embrey</td>
<td>301-776-0235</td>
<td>301-776-0235</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dembrey@comcast.net">dembrey@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Savage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Robert Bossart</td>
<td>617-483-3603</td>
<td>617-483-3603</td>
<td><a href="mailto:2bobboss@comcast.net">2bobboss@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Weymouth, MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Gerald Burkland</td>
<td>509-871-9569</td>
<td>509-871-9569</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gb@comcast.net">gb@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Millington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Hon. Paul Kent Thiessen</td>
<td>320-351-6221</td>
<td>320-351-6221</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pkthiessen@mainstreetcom.com">pkthiessen@mainstreetcom.com</a></td>
<td>Sauk Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>William J. &quot;Bill&quot; Horne</td>
<td>662-896-6460</td>
<td>662-896-6460</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wjhorne05@verizon.net">wjhorne05@verizon.net</a></td>
<td>Olive Branch, MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Steven G. Perkins</td>
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<td>508-654-4340</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cg@innosar.org">cg@innosar.org</a></td>
<td>Springfield, MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>Chad Sherritt</td>
<td>402-210-9287</td>
<td>402-210-9287</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cs@alabascolorguard.org">cs@alabascolorguard.org</a></td>
<td>Omaha, NE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>Paul O Humm</td>
<td>775-384-1190</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Phumm@at.com">Phumm@at.com</a></td>
<td>Sparks, NV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>John Edward Glover</td>
<td>603-753-6234</td>
<td>603-753-6234</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeglover@chironoums.net">jeglover@chironoums.net</a></td>
<td>Penacook, NH</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>Robert C. Meyer</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:robert.meyer29@verizon.net">robert.meyer29@verizon.net</a></td>
<td>Clifford Beach, NJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>George Garcia</td>
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<td>garcia59®@gmail.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
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<td>Millington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Steven E. Franck</td>
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<td>Roseville, OH</td>
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<td>Oklahoma</td>
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<td>405-650-8717</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:heberbf@atcloud.com">heberbf@atcloud.com</a></td>
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<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Mark S Robertson</td>
<td>503-610-6220</td>
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<td>Banks, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>610-687-8111</td>
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<td>South Carolina</td>
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<td>864-847-6134</td>
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<td>Cleveland, SC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
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<td>Cleveland, TN</td>
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<td>Texas</td>
<td>Ted Wilson</td>
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<td>Point Pleasant</td>
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If you have a vendor that makes/sews era regalia, send the name (or URL/contact information) to the editor for inclusion in the next issue.

The listed name of the vendor into your browser tab:
- Bethlehem Trading Post
- Smiling Fox Forge
- Avalon Forge
- Barkertown Sutlers
- 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 Quartermaster General
- Townsends
- Track of the Wolf
- Turkey Foot Trading Company
- Clearwater Hats
- Ye Armes Shoppe

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.
Gentlemen and Brothers,

We are now seeing the earlier fears of some come to fruition. That nearly invisible nasty little virus is beginning to pop up once again in places where people thought they were safe. So many of us have grown tired of being cooped up, not being able to associate with people closer than 6 feet in public. We must stay out of restaurants again, theatres, and all public places. Even Churches are seeing a recurrence of the infection. That is a reminder of the Second of the 4 CORE VIRTUES of the SAR Cross. The first was Prudence that dealt with wisdom and care. Now we turn to the second of the Core Virtues, Temperance.

Have you noticed that we are not a well-disciplined people or nation? Look at our homes. We tend to accumulate those things that we like. Do you remember back in the ‘50s and early ‘60s? I am dating myself, but that is okay. It seemed with the cars that were produced, the more chrome the better! The ‘57 Buick was perhaps the most chrome decorated car of the era. By today’s standards, we might say it was ostentatious, way overdone. TVs and home appliances were improved with each new model and touted as “Bigger and Better”. But that was of little concern to us because we lived in a booming economy.

If you studied history, you learned about the “Dust Bowl” years and the financial crash in 1929 after the post-WWI economic growth. The only thing that you probably did not hear about was that our Great God reminds us to practice Self-control, Temperance in all things. General George Washington talks of this often in his journals as he bemoans what he perceives as his loss of self-control in some situations. If you read his “Rules for Civility and Decent Behavior”, you will see many about self-control. As he writes, these get the picture that these are a sign of respect, respect for self, and respect for others. That is the necessary part of the Core Virtue, “Temperance”. And it is a crucial root of Freedom, the Freedom that we so lovingly enjoy in this country.

Temperance for us is easily connected with the Women’s Temperance Movement that concerns drinking alcohol. Do not make the mistake of thinking that Alcohol is the only application of Temperance. The Apostle Paul in the New Testament shows us very clearly that Self-control or ‘all things in moderation’ is what we need to show to the world as God’s beloved children, especially in the SAR. Temperance [self-control, self-respect, and respect for others] is at the core of the SAR. That Core Virtue will not only get us through this horrendous virus growth again but will help us grow and become more the SAR Gentleman that is necessary to represent our God and to present to each other, to family, friends, and the World! Temperance may necessitate us to reign in what we are doing and how we do it. But never fear, our Sovereign and loving God and Father is not asleep, He is in control always, forever working His purpose out in us and in our lives.

God Bless you each one.

Dave
Rev David J Felts Chaplain General, NSSAR

Color Guard Committee Meeting
28 February 2020
The Brown Hotel, Louisville, KY

1. Meeting Called to Order by Commander Jim Fosdyk (CA)
   a. Invocation: Roger Coursey (GA)
   b. Pledge of Allegiance: PG Joe Dooley (VA)
   c. Pledge to the SAR: COL(R) Peter Goebel (NY)

2. Introduction of Staff and Former Color Guard Commanders:
   a. VC: Lou Raborg (MD)
   b. 1st Adj Brooks Lyles (KS)
   c. 2nd Adj Scott Collins (GA)
   d. Artillery Commander Dr Rudy Byrd (AZ)
   e. Safety/Training Officer Mark Kramer (CA)
   f. Quarter Master Charlie Scott (KY)
   g. SAR Magazine Editor Steve Williams (FL)

3. Recognize former Color Guardsmen of the Year:

4. New Business:
   a. Approve Minutes from the 2019 Fall Leadership Meeting. Moved Callanan and seconded from the floor. Minutes approved.
   b. National Color Guard Von Steuben Medals presented:
      i. Dr Rudy Byrd (AZ)
      ii. David Perkins (CT)
      iii. Alan Greenly (GA)
      iv. David Martin (GA)
      v. Lou Raborg (MD)
   c. National Color Guard Molly Pitcher Medals Presented:
      i. Nancy Alter (MI/AZ)
      ii. Barbara Collins (AZ) Mailed
      iii. Brenda Torres (CA)
      iv. Wanda Lou Franx (OH) Mailed
      v. Cathy Bacon (OH) Mailed
      vi. Connie Beebe (OH) Mailed
   d. Silver Color Guard Medals: Twenty-four (24) from ten state societies, AL-3, AZ-1, CA-3, CT-1, GA-2, KY-1, MA-1, MI-1, NJ-9, OH-1 and VA-1
   e. Artillery Commander Rudy Byrd (AZ) discussed the Artillery Training Session from Thursday afternoon at NSSAR Headquarters and presented Certificates of Achievement to those who successfully completed the training.
   f. Awards of Streamers: Let Freedom Ring Streamers were presented to AZ, FL Popham, GA Collins, OH Bailey, MD Raborg, MI Callanan, MO Perkins and NC Strunk.
   g. Voting was held for the 2020 National Color Guardsmans of the Year. The nominees were: Paul Callanan (MI), Kent Gregory (CA), Dan Woodruff (SC), Brett Osborn (VA), Bob Sapp (GA) and Stephen Sullins (MO). Thirty-two Ballots were cast (one CG representative from each state society present, former National Color Guard Commanders, and former National Color Guardsmans of the Year were eligible to vote). Bob Sapp (GA) was the winner.
   h. Selection of Second Adjutant for the upcoming year was announced and it is Rob Meyers of New Jersey.

5. Old Business:
   a. Safety Training Officer Mark Kramer (CA) led a discussion on the revised Color Guard Safety Policy and Procedures.
   b. Mark Kramer (CA), Chancellor General Peter Davenport (VA) and Dan Woodruff discussed Black Powder Insurance
   c. Color Guard Handbook: Mark Anthony led a discussion on the National Color Guard Handbook and the Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee’s roles. Two Motions were made and passed:
      i. Mark Anthony (GA) moved that: The American Legion Convention Parade be eliminated from the list of Historic Sites List. Seconded by Greg Ohanesian (SC). Motion Passed.
      ii. Mark Anthony (GA) moved that: The Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee is the sole source of approved events and that they maintain the calendar of events. Seconded by Lou Raborg (MD). Motion Passed.
   d. Quartermaster Charlie Scott (KY) led a discussion on the status of the damaged flag cases. Several of the Long Gun Cases, both metal and wooden, that the National Color Guard uses were damaged in shipment back from the California Congress. They are working on special ordering new cases made of hardened plastic and long enough to leave the finials on the flag when shipping. Because the insurance claim is going to take a while to complete, the George Washington Endowment Fund, Chaired by Russ DeVenney (MO), provided a short term loan of $1,500.00 towards the replacement of two cases and four flag stands.

6. There were 77 Color Guardsmen in attendance, including the National Color Guard Staff. I have the sign in roster.

7. SAR Recessional: Mark Anthony (GA)

8. Meeting Adjourned by Commander Jim Fosdyk (CA).
The Fifer’s Corner

The next Duty Tunes will be Roast Beef – The Dinner Call, Pioneers or Fatigue March, Rouge’s March – (This tune was used during ceremonies of punishment or degradation and appears in most fifer tutors from 1756) BAR, MMAR p.106 – The Marching or Stand Tunes for this issue will be White Cockade, Rose Tree and Moon and Seven Stars

Please email me at (fiferdave@comcast.net) or like (Fifer Dave) on FaceBook 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
State Society’s color guard activities in the previous three months as reported by the State Society’s Color Guard Commander

Color Guard Units’ Highlights!

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 compatriot 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 his 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.

Departing from the usual editor’s note I will separate the submission guidelines (at left) from any comments I might want to add to this issue.

COVID19 rules, mandates, guidelines etc vary from city, county, and state so any color guard activities will be of varying complexities. Some will be Virtual and others may be in small groups as permitted by their localities.

Thus, what will be found in this issue and likely the October issue as well will be different types of activity reporting.

For the October issue we can hope that this will have passed enough for us to be able to have a more normal level of color guard participations in national and local events. We should all understand that the rules/guidelines are created and developed to protect our compatriots’ health while also safeguarding the health of the public. So please follow those rules/guidelines. It will be for a brief time during the event. We can all afford a momentary inconvenience.

For this issue I have accepted submissions that show a single compatriot dressed in Revolutionary or Colonial clothes as representing a color guard unit. Normally, I would only use activities that are explicitly those of a color guard unit (several color guardsmen). Presentations that are done by chapter officers and not a color guard unit would not be normally included in the magazine but would be appropriate for the **SAR Magazine** ($ Vest, Editor). You might note that there will be screen shots of the Virtual meeting/presentation in this issue to give the reader an idea of who participated in that particular event.

Steve
On Friday June 4, 2020 the Orange County Chapter gathered to help celebrate the 100th birthday of WWII veteran 1st Lt. Sheldon Ross (US Army Air Corps retired). Sheldon participated in the pre-invasion bombing of Iwo Jima.

Color Guard left to right: Dan McKelvie, Larry Hansen, Mark Torres, Dan McMillan, John Blake, Spencer Torres. Wearing Period Clothing but not in photos: Brenda Torres.

Ladies of the Quilt Reaction Force presented quilts to Mr. Ross and to Ronald W. Jawor (Captain US Air Force, retired). Mr. Ross’s quilt has a gold star in the center. Mr. Jawor is in front of the Color Guard in the photo of his quilt.

An OC Chapter Color Guard presented the Colors at the birthday party.

In the attached group photo the gentleman on the left is John Reynolds, Commander of American Legion Post 291. Continuing from left to right: Charmella Secrest (Director of Quilt Reaction Force and wife of OC Chapter Compatriot Gene Secrest), Hammond Salley (OC Chapter Veterans’ Affairs Chairman), Paul Garcia (OC Chapter VP), Matt Noell (OC Chapter Color Guard fifer), Larry Hansen (OC Chapter Color Guardsmen and CASSAR Color Guardsmen of the year), John Ferris, Mark Torres, Dan McElviek, Phil Mitchell (OC Chapter President) and Un Hui Yi (member of Quilt Reaction Force). Not in the group photo is Brenda Torres dressed in Revolutionary Era attire (camera shy?).

From Un Hui Yi

The Richard Nixon Foundation Independence Day 2020 celebration at the Pat Nixon Amphitheater, Yorba Linda, CA.

The Orange County Chapter Color Guard was joined by members of the Harbor Chapter Color Guard.

Left to right: Jim Fosdyck, Larry Hansen, Kevin Bidenkap (Harbor Chapter), John Ferris, Lucas Villardi (Harbor Chapter), Mark Torres, Spencer Torres, Jim Klingler, Brandon Villardi (Harbor Chapter) and Matt Noell (fifer). The house in the background is where President Nixon was born.

Left to right: Jim Fosdyck, Larry Hansen, Kevin Bidenkap (Harbor Chapter), John Ferris, Lucas Villardi (Harbor Chapter), Mark Torres, Spencer Torres, Jim Klingler, Brandon Villardi (Harbor Chapter) and Matt Noell (fifer). The house in the background is where President Nixon was born.
Eagle Scout Presentations and Grave Marking Ceremony for Major General Joseph Spencer at the Nathan Hale Schoolhouse in East Haddam by the Captain Nathan Hale Branch No. 6 - Saturday June 06, 2020

On Saturday the Captain Nathan Hale Branch No. 6 hosted two Eagle Scout Presentations and performed a Patriot Grave Marking ceremony honoring Major General Joseph Spencer who is buried on the Nathan Hale Schoolhouse property owned by the Connecticut SAR that is overlooking the Connecticut River in East Haddam. The Eagle Scout presentations were arranged by State Eagle Scout Chairman, Tim Wilkins and Branch President Stephen Taylor. Leading the grave marking ceremony was Major Tyler Smith, along with Jim Rothgeb and Real Property Steward, Dave Packard. The Connecticut Line under the Command of Col. Dave Perkins provided a 3-volley musket salute. Following the Eagle Scout presentations and the Patriot Grave Marking, 2nd VP Tim Wilkins was awarded his Patriot Grave Marking medal for his involvement in state grave markings over the past four years. Following the event, Past State President Ethan Stewart showed off the newest state challenge coin for the 240th anniversary of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route 1780-1782. Photo Gallery was provided by Barbara Stewart, DAR: https://photos.app.goo.gl/2ve6AHYwvDydpvL39

Connecticut

Fly over by the Tiger Squadron from Torrance, CA

Left to right: Brandon Villardi (CASSAR Color Guard Adjutant South) Larry Hansen (receiving a SAR Silver Color Guard Medal, a CASSAR Silver Von Steuben Color Guard Medal, a CASSAR Gold Von Steuben Color Guard Medal and for being the CASSAR Colorguardsman of the year a statuette of General George Washington), Mark Torres (receiving a SAR Silver Color Guard Medal and a CAASAR Silver Von Steuben Color Guard Medal), Matt Noell (also receiving a SAR Silver Color Guard Medal and a CAASAR Silver Von Steuben Color Guard Medal) and Jim Fosdyck. In the background - Marine One (used during the presidential term of President Nixon).

Photos by Un Hui Yi

The attendees social distancing.
LITCHFIELD – A new gravestone honoring an 18th century patriot and statesman who lived in Litchfield was dedicated Saturday at West Cemetery. Andrew Adams, a Connecticut delegate to the 2nd Continental Congress in 1777 and a signer of the Articles of Confederation, was buried in the cemetery in 1797 but had largely been forgotten until the Gov. Oliver Wolcott Sr. Branch of the Sons of the American Revolution marked his burial site in 2008. “It was overgrown and in deplorable condition,” Peter Stothart, president of the SAR branch, told a crowd of about 50 at the dedication. “We cleaned it up and had our ceremony.” But it wasn’t until the Litchfield Patriots began planning the town’s 300th anniversary last year that Adams’ weathered tabletop gravestone finally was given the attention it deserved. Adams’ contributions to the formation of the country during the Revolutionary War and the history of his life as a Litchfield resident were featured during the tercentennial alongside those of other prominent Litchfield residents of the era. Giving Adams his due inspired the Litchfield Patriots and Seherr-Thoss Foundation of Litchfield to donate money for a gravestone that would list some of Adams’ accomplishments and be placed next to his existing gravestone. The new stone was installed last week to set the stage for a dedication ceremony that included representatives of the Gov. Oliver Wolcott Sr. Branch of the SAR, Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter of the DAR, St. Paul’s Masonic Lodge, and American Legion Posts 27 & 44. Philip Birkett of Morris, representing St. Paul’s Masonic Lodge, read Adams’ 1797 epitaph. Adams was a member of St. Paul’s and a deacon at First Congregational Church of Litchfield. The church’s pastor, the Rabbi Peter Oliveira, delivered the benediction.

A lawyer by trade, Adams was the King’s Attorney for Litchfield County before becoming a state representative and member of the governor’s committee of safety that oversaw the state’s war effort. Adams saw active service as a colonel in the Connecticut Militia and after the war became a state Superior Court judge. He later was appointed chief justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court. Andrew Adams was a true patriot who dedicated his life to the pursuit of justice and played a prominent role in our great state and in the establishment of the United States of America. Adams has been overshadowed locally by Gov. Oliver Wolcott Sr., another delegate to the 2nd Continental Congress, signer of the Articles of Confederation – the country’s first constitution – and war officer. Wolcott also signed the Declaration of Independence. The two friends died three days apart in 1797, with Adams dying Nov. 27 and Wolcott passing Nov. 30.

Opportunities for Color Guard participation were rare in Florida during the stay-at-home order from the Governor. Fortunately, that order was lifted, and re-openings were permitted in time for the delayed Florida SAR Spring BOM and Annual Meeting on June 12-13 in Kissimmee. VPG Allen Greenly also held the delayed South Atlantic District meeting in Kissimmee that weekend and was kind enough to stay around for the Officer Installation Banquet and to install the newly officers. The Florida SAR Sons of Liberty presented the Colors at five different events over those two days, including the District meeting. Pictured below are all the Color Guardsmen present, just prior to the first event, with Benda Hayes Brown the Florida DAR SAR Co-Liaison. Brenda was later presented with one of the newly minted Florida SAR 2023 Congress Medals. Also pictured below are the Color Guardsmen getting their safe distancing as they prepare to march in for the presentation of the Colors, as well as VPG Greenly, in uniform, installing Florida SAR President David Bussone.

Both the SAD meeting on Friday and the Florida BOM/Annual Meeting on Saturday were presented live on Go To Meeting. There were at least four members of the Florida SAR Color Guard who participated in the virtual Commemoration of the Battle of Ramsours Mill on June 20.
Watkinsville Memorial Day Event

The Georgia Society was hit with the COVID-19 crisis just as we were to swing into a very active season of the year. With events canceled left and right, the Georgia Society members looked to alternate means of conducting business, and ensuring the SAR was not idle. This was especially driven home as several members were lost due to the virus.

As the situation demanded distancing, a much smaller detachment of the Color Guard members were deployed to the Watkinsville Memorial Day Event, sponsored by the Oconee Veterans Memorial Foundation and the John Andrew NSDAR Chapter. With the parade canceled, and no large crowd allowed, they still represented us well as the ceremony was broadcast over Facebook Live. People from across not only Georgia, but the entire nation was able to view the honors rendered on that day. (L – R Members Jay Guest, Bill Palmer, SGM(Ret) Mark Saxon, Scott Collins, Bill Fuqua and Eldon Evans. Distance was maintained during the ceremony. There was another streamed Memorial Day ceremony in Snellville that afternoon as well. It also had four muskets participating. Bill Fuqua, Mike Watkins, Gordon Woodward, Bruce Maney and Commander Bill Palmer attending.

Coweta Fall Chapter determined that Memorial Day could not pass, and the American price paid by so many overlooked. President Danny Ginter and members organized an interesting observation of the fallen for the day. A small cadre was assembled for the presentation, and a “Drive-By” or “Drive-In” convoy was arranged. Participants drove to the Parkhill Cemetery in Columbus, Georgia, where, once in a line of vehicles, proceeded to the memorial site and parked. Staying inside their automobiles, they observed the presentation. If they desired to stand and salute, they could do so, but remain at their car, distancing from other observants. The event was well attended.
As the pandemic continued to linger, the Georgia Society determined the best way to conduct business was online. Our first ever Online Board of Managers meeting was held. Over 100 members met via home tablet, phones, and computers to take care of business. Many members dressed in their uniforms. Pictured are Alton McCloud, Sonny Pitman, both with grandson/junior members, and Bill Fuqua.

The Georgia Color Guard also participated in the combination in person/Virtual South Atlantic District NSSAR Meeting on June the 13th and in the virtual National Commemoration of the Battle of Ramsour’s Mill on June the 20th.

Memorial Day 2020

Taking a cue from past efforts of the Women’s Relief Corps of SUVCW, members of the Iowa SAR Color Guard scattered flower petals on Veteran’s graves in the GAR sections of Woodland and Glendale Cemetery in Des Moines, Iowa on Memorial Day 2020.

On another note, a veteran gravestone has just been delivered (thanks to research by Oregon SAR member George Baxter) to Iowa SAR Color Guard Commander Mike Rowley for his G-g-g-g-grandfather Daniel Robertson, patriot of the American Revolution and a member of Washington’s Army at Valley Forge. Robertson is buried in North Carolina and Commander Rowley will be making the 2000 mile round trip from Iowa to North Carolina install the 240 lbs upright granite marker.

On Wednesday June 24, 2020 members of the Iowa SAR Color Guard loaded a 240 lbs upright granite veterans grave stone into the back of a member’s RV for delivery from Iowa to Three Forks Baptist Church Cemetery in Taylorsville, North Carolina. The stone was for Daniel Robertson a 4th, 5th and 6th great-grandfather of Iowa SAR members Mike, Tim, David and Isaac Rowley respectively. Patriot Robertson was also with Washington’s Army at Valley Forge.

The grave was first rediscovered by Oregon SAR member George Baxter. After several months of research, documentation and application approval the stone was approved by the VA.

The 2000 mile round trip to install the stone was completed by Thursday morning and Iowa SAR Commander Mike Rowley was home by 6:45 AM on Friday.

A formal dedication will hopefully take place sometime in 2021.

At Left - Robertson Grave in middle back with flag NC June 25 2020
Kentucky Flag Day Ceremony

Flag Day was celebrated by the Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter Color Guard with a patriotic ceremony highlighting the Flag of the United States of America. The event was held on 14 June in Wetherby Park located in Middletown, Kentucky.

The ceremony opened with ten members of the Chapter’s color guard presenting the 50-Star U.S. flag and the first five American flags. A key component of the ceremony was a presentation on the history and development of the Flag of the United States of America. Each of the first five American flags were presented, individually, and described in their historical context in relation to the development of our nation. Changes in the flag design leading to the current 50-star flag were also noted.

In addition to the flag presentation, the Flag Resolution of 14 June 1777 was read along with the Presidential Proclamation establishing Flag Day in 1916, and 36 U.S. Code, 110 (Flag Day) which codified Flag Day.

The number of chapter members on site during the ceremony was limited due to local COVID-19 restrictions. Consequently, the entire ceremony was streamed live on the Chapter’s Facebook page so that those members not on site could still participate, albeit remotely, in the ceremony.

Above Right Photo: Compatriot Allen Rushing presents the Great Star flag during the ceremony.

At Right Photo: Gov. Isaac Shelby Color Guard members with the 50-Star and first five American flags.

Kansas Society Color Guard

The second quarter of 2020 came to a screeching halt for the Kansas Society Color Guard due to COVID-19. In April, the Patriots Day Parade was canceled. In May the Kansas Society Board of Governors was held via Zoom and the Colors Presented by Commander Dewey Fry. Also in May the Armed Forces Day activity by FISH was canceled, and in June the Old Shawnee Days Parade was canceled. The naturalization ceremonies for March, April and May were canceled. A series of naturalization ceremonies took place the first week of June. 30 petitioners took their Oath of Citizenship per session, four session per day for 5 days. Only the petitioners and Judge, necessary court personnel and USCIS were present, no family, friends or color guard were permitted to attend.

The Kansas Society has one photo for the July issue of the Colorguardsman e-magazine, that is presentation of the Kansas Colonial Soldier of the Year Award presented to Stephen French (left) by Commander Dewey Fry (right). The award was to have been presented at the March 28 Annual Meeting of the KSSSAR. However the COVID-19 caused the meeting to be canceled. The announcement of the awardee was announced during the Board of Governors May quarterly meeting and present to Stephen that afternoon at his home.

The Kansas Society Colonial Soldier of the year is based on a point system for activities during the calendar year at the chapter, state, district and national levels of SAR and activities at events of other organizations such as DAR, CAR, VFW, American Legion, FISH and schools. The Color Guardsman must file a record of his event participation to qualify. Stephen French accumulated enough points during his first full calendar year to be declared the awardee. The award is a traveling plaque with engraved plates, one for each awardee.

He has recently been named Color Guard Commander for the Delaware Crossing Chapter, he a great example for future Color Guardsmen to follow.
Memorial Ceremony

Despite all the local Memorial Day events being cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Central Kentucky Brigade Color Guard was determined that it would commemorate the holiday even if it had to conduct its own Memorial Day ceremony. Therefore, a ceremony at the Veterans Monument in Middletown, KY was quickly organized. Due to local restrictions, the color guard was limited to 10 SAR members. Despite this limited number, the John Hardin, Lafayette, Louisville Thruston, and Gov. Isaac Shelby SAR Chapters were represented in the color guard. Cindy Stonebraker, POW/MIA and Gold Star daughter, was the special guest of the ceremony and laid a wreath in honor of her father who was shot down in North Vietnam. In Flanders Fields was read as the Memorial Day reading which was followed a musical tribute, a minute of silence, and the traditional wreath laying ceremony. The ceremony ended with a gun salute followed by the sounding of Taps.

Photo Above Left: Rifleman John Doss performs ‘Mourn Arms’ while Fifer Charlie Scott plays a musical tribute. Photos Above: The Central Brigade Color Guard prepares to post the flags for the Memorial Day Ceremony.

Michigan

Memorial Day

Gerald Burkland, the MISSAR color guard commander united with his SAR brothers by honoring a fallen soldier. Memorial Day was celebrated as friends and SAR compatriots even though the world was in a pandemic.

“For Memorial Day, some of our BYF gentlemen planned a special BYF devotion at a local cemetery,. John Raya measured the appropriate six feet between participants, George Norkus came to take pictures, and Den prepared a talk focusing on the sacrifices of our military heroes. Things kind of escalated and became extra special when John invited some of his friends from the Sons of the American Revolution to come in uniform and display flags. Then, a local TV station came on board to video the devotion, since little was being done for Memorial Day this year. Pastor Nate decided to use a streamline version as an opener for Sunday’s service. AND there was even the threat of the police being called when two disgruntled citizens declared the meeting to be non-quarantine compliant. Such fun we have as seniors !!!!”

Location: Romeo Cemetery, MaComb Township, Mi.
Date: May 28, 2020
Pictured L/R
David Moore, Oaks Chapter chaplin, guard drummer. Larry Blackett, one of the founding members of the Missar color guard. Gerald Burkland, MISSAR Color Guard Commander. John Raya, celebration organizer.

Remembered soldier: PFC Mark A. Barbret (1981-2004). Pfc Mark Barbret and two other soldiers were killed when their Humvee, which was part of a convoy, hit a roadside bomb. He served in the 2nd Infantry Division in Iraq. Mark, who attended Eisenhower High School in Utica, joined the U.S. Army on January 30, 2003, being assigned to the 44th Engineering Battalion at Camp.
240th commemorative Ramsour's Mill battle

Event: Ramsour’s Mill Battle, North Carolina
Date: June 20, 2020   Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Location: internet zoom meeting.

“June 20, 1780 British loyalists and troops were set to attack a pivotal location in North Carolina. Local militia were there to defend. After the battle, American militia prevailed and defeated the enemy.”

The Catawba Valley Chapter NC SAR has been commemorating this battle for 240 years. Due to the corona virus, this celebration event was conducted via a ZOOM event by the organizer and host Jack Bowman. As the state secretary he and Bryan Trombly succeeded providing a wonderful exhibition. 17 states were represented and over 150 SAR, DAR, and CAR members joined the zoom meeting.

The Missar color guard had three color guard members participating as color guard in this national event. Missar color guard Vice Commander Norman Palmer and Bob Hawcroft, Paul emery Chapter President. Missar member and national trustee Paul Callahan also represented Michigan and presented a wreath as an embody to Michigan.

Photo Above Right: zoom meeting screenshot of the Missar color guard that participated. We would like to have our state represented in this national event.

Photo Right: Paul Callahan pic, giving his honors and wreath presentation to the remembrance celebration.

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Missouri

Memorial Day Wreath Ceremony at the Central Missouri Veterans Memorial Park in Rolla, Missouri

On May 25, 2020, even though Rolla, Missouri cancelled the Annual Memorial Day Ceremony this year, members of the Ozark Patriots SAR Chapter (OPC) went to Central Missouri Veterans Memorial Park and placed wreaths at the Revolutionary War Marker and the War of 1812 Marker. At the Revolutionary War Marker a United States flag and the SAR flag were displayed. At the War of 1812 Marker a United States flag that had flown over Fort McHenry was displayed. Ozark Patriots SAR Chapter participants were Compatriot Darrell Ownby, OPC Chapter President Kelvin Erickson, Color Guardsman Don Turner, and Colorguardsman Frank Furman. General Daniel Bissell Chapter participants were Darrell Ownby and Colorguardsman Frank Furman.

Left to right: Ozark Patriot Chapter Compatriots Frank Furman, Darrell Ownby, and Don Turner are shown at the Revolutionary War Marker.

Photos provided by Compatriot Dr. Kelvin T. Erickson

Memorial Day Wreath Ceremony at the Lee’s Summit Historical Cemetery in Lee’s Summit, Missouri

On May 25, 2020 the Independence Patriots Chapter (IPC) Color Guard performed a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Lee’s Summit Historical Cemetery, WWII Monument, which lists the local men killed in action.

Left to right: Stephen Sullins, Ron Paris, and Michael Hahn.

Photos provided by Loretta Paris, member of the Adam Yager DAR Chapter
Presentation of Silver Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate

The William C. Corum Chapter (WCC) presented to Compatriot Jay Patrick Jackson the Missouri Society Silver Good Citizenship Medal for his outstanding work for the students of Missouri City School and Historic preservation in Liberty and Clay County, Missouri. All the ladies pictured are members of the William C. Corum Chapter Auxiliary, and also are members of the Alexander Doniphan Chapter of the Missouri Society DAR.

Front row, left to right: Dr Chris Sizemore, Anne Sizemore, Jerre Robertson, Michael Robertson, Bob Corum, Jay Jackson, John Bugg and Sharon Bugg.
Back row: Shaun Symmonds, Drew Kingrey, and Jeance Corum

Photos provided by Compatriot Michael Robertson.

Nebraska -

2020 Nebraska Memorial Day Observance
Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, almost all main Memorial Day events were cancelled around the State, including the two main events that the Nebraska SAR Color Guard participates in; the Memorial Day Ceremony at Omaha National Cemetery in Omaha, and wreath laying at Wyuka Cemetery in Lincoln. In light of this, a special event was held at the State Capitol Building in Lincoln, that allowed us to still participate as a Society in a Memorial Day ceremony.

A Gold Star family from Gretna, NE, lit a candle in the rotunda of the State Capitol to honor all of our veterans. Every half hour, different veterans and patriot service organizations rotated out from guard duty over the candle. This lasted from 8AM—8PM, with units changing out every 30 minutes throughout the day.

Lincoln SAR Color Guard members Shawn Stoner and John Braisted represented the Nebraska SAR, and all of our Patriot ancestors, for this solemn duty. The Veterans Administration ran a 12-hour livestream of the event allowing the public to view this event safely online.

Thank you Compatriots for representing the Nebraska SAR so well! Huzzah!!

New Jersey -


Middletown Fairview Cemetery - A combined American Revolution/Civil War Memorial Day service was conducted at the Middletown Fairview Cemetery. Attending were members of the New Jersey Society SAR Color Guard. Pictured LEFT L/R were Gary Walling (Monmouth Chapter), Rob Meyer (President NJSSAR in Civil War Officer uniform), Billy Locke (Monmouth Chapter in Civil War Navy uniform) and Clark McCullough (Monmouth Chapter).


A Memorial Day Service was held at the Peacock Cemetery in Medford, NJ. The Patriot Ancestor honored was Adonijah Peacock, 5th grandfather of Larry Godfrey. Adonijah was born Aug 5, 1724 and killed in 1777 by an explosion while making gunpowder for Gen Washington. Presiding were NJSSAR Color Guard members from the South Jersey Chapter and family members. Pictured RIGHT L/R are Larry Nelson, Larry Godfrey, Larry’s son Michael, Jim Howard, 3 grandchildren, Sean, Clair and Luke.
Monmouth Battlefield, Elizabeth NJ. Annually, the New Jersey Society SAR Color Guard honors the service of Brigadier General Friedrich Wilhelm August Heinrich Ferdinand Baron von Steuben for his part at Valley Forge, the Battle of Monmouth and throughout the Revolutionary War. In the face of desperate conditions, including frost, disease, inadequate shelter and lack of supplies, von Steuben gave military training and discipline to the citizen soldiers fighting for American Independence. On June 28, 1778, at the Battle of Monmouth, the benefits of von Steuben’s training were evidenced by the American troops opposing the British Army with a heroic American performance that turned the tide of the war. Colonel Alexander Hamilton, an eyewitness, declared that von Steuben’s system of drilling, reviews and inspection moved the officers and soldiers with the confidence that from now on, they were on equal ground with the armies of the enemy.

The ceremony was led members of the New Jersey Society Color Guard under the command of National SAR Color Guard Vice-Commander Lou Raborg and NJSSAR President Robert Meyer. Pictured L/R are Billy Locke (Monmouth Chapter), Joe Hankins (Pinelands Chapter), Gary Walling (Monmouth Chapter), Jake Rue (Monmouth Chapter), NJSSAR Color Guard Adjutant Rich Serfass (South Jersey Chapter), National Sar Color Guard Vice-Commander Lou Raborg, Jay Hersey (West Field Chapter), Clark McCullough (Monmouth Chapter), Jim Howard (South Jersey Chapter), and Gary Beauregard (Monmouth Chapter).

While struggling with the unprecedented restrictions placed on us by the Covid-19 pandemic we count our blessings that we have had no reports of illness among our compatriots. Nor have we neglected our mission. On Flag Day, Sunday, June 14, we proudly presented the colors at the Northern Nevada VA Hospital. VA patients have been in lockdown since it was announced on March 13, and in that entire time none of them have seen any friends or family.

Through our fellow compatriot, Dr. Don McGee, M.D., we were invited to present the colors and stand guard as the friends and family of the VA patients drove by in a parade. The parade was a huge success and as the cars drove by each one was decorated with flags, crepe paper and signs bringing wishes of love to the patients. It was an honor to take part of the event.

Battle Born Patriots Chapter, Nevada Society SAR

Parade of cars passing through the Color Guard

Battle Born Chapter members participating included: (from left to right: Kurt Dietrich, Brian Worcester, Marcia Baldwin (DAR), David Hess, Paul Hicks, Michael Fitzpatrick, Jay Dickey, Robert Stoecsklin and Roger Linscott
The Nevada State Society, DAR partnered with members of the Nevada State Society, CAR and Nevada State Society, SAR to create this video featuring the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Each of 6 parts were video recorded from individual homes and then edited into a single 1 minute video that was uploaded to YouTube for general public viewing. Covid-19 restrictions on Social gatherings couldn’t stop this unique display of Patriotism that included an accompanying Sign Language interpretation as the Pledge was recited. Congratulations to the DAR for adapting to challenging conditions with this innovative presentation. (use the QR code link to the YouTube hosted video of the Virtual Pledge of Allegiance to view the presentation and see a list of all the participants)

Lakes Memorial Day Ceremony – Las Vegas, Nevada 25 May 2020

American Legion Post 76 conducted its 18th Annual Memorial day Ceremony to a small gathering because of State imposed restrictions on Social gatherings still in place. Still a very moving Ceremony and a lovely way to remember and honor our fallen Veterans. This years Ceremony included; Tony Mascari, Post 76 Commander, Mike Percival, American Legion Post 76 Chaplain and PPC, Walter Cheatham 2nd Vice Commander and Color Guard Captain, Jack Ford WWII Navy Veteran, Victoria Seaman City of Las Vegas Ward 2 Councilwoman, Juanpablo Macias, Band Director - Greenspun Middle School, Roger Henning, Events Chairman

"Many thanks to the Lakes Association Board of Directors for their use of the Lake, the West Sahara Community Association for all the facilities in this beautiful park, and to The City of Las Vegas - Ward 2 for providing the wreath. Thanks to Retired USAF Thunder-bird member and Lakes resident Fred Simione for the use of his boat. Thanks also to resident Beth Ann Barrett for arranging all the facilities for our use today." (Quoted from the Memorial Day Ceremony guide). Compatriot Gary Parriott participated in the presentation of Colors during the ceremony and had his photo taken with Councilwoman Victoria Seaman, another way to be the “Face” of the Sons of the American Revolution

NV State Society DAR Virtual Flag Day Celebration – 14 June 2020

With Covid-19 restrictions on Social gatherings still in effect and traditional Flag Day events canceled, Katie E. Henzel, Nevada State Society and Southwest Division Chair for the Flag of the United States of America Committee, National Society DAR organized a virtual Flag Day Ceremony to be held on the traditional Holiday date, using the Zoom meeting application. The Zoom production team Director, Lori Bagwell, Nevada State Society Vice-Regent & State Regent-Elect and Sarah Calletti, Red Rock Canyon Chapter Corresponding Secretary, who hosted this event are to be commended for producing a first class event that included many participants, slides and a video.

Honored guests and speakers for this event included the following: Denise Doring VanBuren, President General, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Terry Rubenstein, Regent, NV State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, Kiernan J McManus, Boulder City Mayor, John Jay Lee, North Las Vegas Mayor, Isaac Barron, North Las Vegas Councilman, Joan Dimmit, Past Vice-President General, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Marguerite Fritsch, The Flag of the United States of America Committee Chair, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Laura Cline-Weber, Chaplain, NV State Society, DAR, Gary Parriott, Past NV Society Color Guard Commander, Sons of the American Revolution, Charles Smith, President, Signers Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, Dana Surwell, President, John Ashley Society, Children of the American Revolution, Bethany Blakely, American Sign Language Interpreter, Laura Cline-Weber, Nevada State Society Chaplain

Photo collage of Virtual Flag Day participants
Blue Ridge Chapter NCSSAR Color Guard Recognizes Patriots at Memorial Day Events

The Blue Ridge Chapter Color Guard of the North Carolina SAR made this Memorial Day Weekend one to remember with three observations on Saturday, May 23rd. Shaking off the threat of the Covid 19 virus, the Color Guard recognized Patriots of the American Revolution at events in Hendersonville, Brevard, and Pisgah Forest, North Carolina.

Photo Left: Pisgah Gardens Cemetery (NC) Event-Larry Chapman, Craig Isaacson, Lance Dickinson.
Photo Above: Memorial Day Ceremony in Brevard, NC-Tom Long, Craig Isaacson, & Lance Dickinson. Speaker is Brevard Mayor Jimmy Harris.
Photo Right: Tom Long & Craig Isaacson at Henderson County, NC Memorial Day Recognition (American Revolution Monument/Memorial)

Compatriot Larry Chapman presenting SAR JROTC Leadership Award to Alexis Leonard from Rosman, NC High School. Col. Blankenship looks on.

NCSSAR State's first “virtual”, National Color Guard event on June 20th

Catawba Valley Chapter, NC Sons of the American Revolution, hosted the State’s first “virtual”, National Color Guard event on June 20th. It was a great success, though we regretted the absence of our President General. South Atlantic District, Vice President General, Allen Greenly represented National. A total of 97 participants pre-registered through the State Web Site, and 139 participants were registered on the Zoom platform. There were 93 Color Guard present from 12 states and 63 wreaths were presented from SAR, DAR and CAR Societies and Chapters. In addition to Zoom, the event was live-streamed on Facebook (over 1500 views as of this writing). Chapter President Ben Setser, kept the program moving and with the input of our good friends of “Thunder Over Carolina”, a local play about the Battle of Ramsour’s Mill, a special insight into the lives and times of the period was achieved. The Facebook video can be found here: https://www.facebook.com/catawba-valley-ncssar/videos/289469132241274/UzpISTeBMDAwMDEiMzYyNDg4MDozNzQwMzU0MTU5MzEzMDAx/

We want to acknowledge the participation of our fellow Compatriots in Virginia who initiated “virtual activity in our area and provided support of our planning and follow through. We held several training sessions to familiarize Compatriots and guest participants with Zoom. The tireless efforts of Jack Bowman, NC State Society Secretary and Past Chapter President and Ben Setser and others to assemble video and a superb program schedule made this a great success and enabled many to participate in a favorite commemoration of this outstanding event.

Posting of the Colors for the event

Gallery of sign ins for the Zoom event
The Catawba Valley Chapter & the North Carolina SAR sponsored the 240th Commemoration of the Battle of Ramsour’s Mill on 20 June 2020. Participants included National, State, & Chapter Officers and Color Guardsmen from each participating state. SAR President General John T. Manning along with several SAR, DAR and CAR dignitaries streamed in “live” during the commemoration to give greetings and present wreaths. This was labeled as a “hallmark” event as the very first SAR National Virtual Battle Commemoration held by Zoom video conferencing due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Mr. Darrell Harkey, founder of the Battle of the Ramsour’s Mill Event presented “A Special Retrospect of the Battle” from the actual locations of the battle.


Wreaths were presented by approximately 100 SAR, DAR and CAR chapters. Representing the state of Texas were: Ted Wilson, Edmund Terrill Chapter President/Texas Color Guard Commander; T. L. Holden, Edmund Terrill Chapter Registrar/Color Guard; Gary Barker, Edmund Terrill Chapter 1st Vice President/Color Guard; David Kinsey, McKinney Chapter President/Color Guard.

A recording of the event is available for replay: https://www.facebook.com/catawbavalleyncsar/


Ohio

May 21, 2020: The Marietta Chapter of the Ohio Society’s Sons of the American Revolution held their annual memorial service for Revolutionary War patriots of the Northwest Territory Thursday morning. Like always, it was the Thursday before Memorial Day, but due to poor weather and the coronavirus pandemic, the SAR held a small, limited service at the Meigs House in Marietta. It’s normally open to the public at Mound Cemetery.

This year, Past Marietta Chapter President Jean Yost spoke on the many Revolutionary War heroes buried in Washington County.

He said around 60 percent of southeast Ohio residents can trace their family line back to someone who served in the American Revolution. Some well-known names have traced their lineage to Washington County and the Revolutionary War.

“The Battelle Family, that gave, one of the solutions to cleaning the masks for the virus that’s going around, they traced their great grandfather back to a Mr. Battelle who lived in Newport and served in the American Revolution,” said Yost.

Yost is a Vietnam War Veteran who wants to involve more young people in groups like the SAR. He said not being able to have a ceremony for the public was hard on him.

One of the colorguards at the event said he was disappointed the public couldn’t attend, but educating the public isn’t the only reason they do what they do.

“You know it’s sad the public aren’t able to participate, but we are here for the American veterans who have gone before us and for our Revolutionary War Patriots who established the foundations of our country,” said Bob Hadfield.

Photo (L – R) Robert Hadfield, Anthony (Tony) Durm, Larry Butcher

Photo and write-up by Zach Shriver of wtap news
A Virtual Memorial Day Celebration

Each year the combined Austin SAR and DAR Chapter gather together to perform a memorial Service for our fallen Veterans reaching all the way back to the American Revolution. This year, due to the social distancing restriction it was performed virtual style. The DAR agreed to do the filming and editing and asked the SAR to schedule the difference functions for videoing. The event was to include the reading of names of those who pasted away in 2019 followed by the ringing of the bell, A eulogy of a few Patriots buried at this cemetery, a message by some chapter presidents, a musket salute and a benediction. We met on May 11th at different times to do the video. Pictured below are Tom Jones, President of the William Hightower Chapter preparing to perform the benediction and Jim Clements, current Secretary of the TX SAR and former President of the Patrick Henry Chapter, standing behind with the Betsy Ross Flag. The prayer, in addition to honoring all our military veterans who died in numerous battles, especially mentioned the Revolutionary War Patriots that died in the prison boats in the Hudson River, New York City. Approximately over 8,000 Patriots died on those boats as a result of mistreatment, malnutrition and sickness. The British did not consider our Patriots as soldiers but as traitors, so they did not apply the “rules of war” to our Patriots. This video will be made available to all chapters

By Tom Jones

Texas

As is the case across the Society, the past several months have been ‘interesting’ in Virginia. Despite the challenge of - or in spite of - COVID-19, our State Society has risen to the challenge and adapted new ways to continue the SAR mission. Photos of events held to date, illustrate how we as Compatriots continue to engage among both membership and the community.

On 14 May 2020, The Colonel James Wood II Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and Hidden Springs Senior Living Facility combined for a virtual commemoration ceremony for World War II veterans living at the facility. This event was coinciding with the Victory in Europe in May 1945. The State of Virginia has minted coins to honor the 75th Anniversary of Victory in World War II and the 100th Anniversary of World War I. Due to restrictions caused by the pandemic, a virtual ceremony was developed by the Veterans Affairs Committee of the Colonel James Wood II Chapter and Hidden Springs. The SAR portion was made via zoom with physical presentation made by facility staff members complying with designated safety guidelines. There are nine WWII veterans living at the facility. They are Dick Bentley, Frank Brandon, Sydney Garner, Bill Griffith, Ben Lacy, Don LaFever, Al Lawrence, Jeanne Montgomery and Ross Montgomery. To facilitate the needs of these individuals, the ceremony was conducted in three locations within the facility. The event was led by a short welcome from Dale Corey, Veterans Affairs; an invocation by Reverend Jim Simmons and the Pledge of Allegiance by Paul Christensen. This was followed by a welcome and greetings from Bill Schwetke, President, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution (VASSAR) and Marc Robinson, President, Colonel James Wood II Chapter. This was followed by a presentation by Brett Osborn, National Society Sons of the American Revolution, Veterans Affairs Committee. Compatriot Osborn briefly described events surrounding the surrender of the Axis powers. The instrument was signed 7 May 1945 with all hostilities ceasing on 8 May, an hour before midnight. The event coincided with President Harry Truman’s 61st birthday, who dedicated the victory to the memory of President Franklin D. Roosevelt who had died 12 April 1945 after leading the country through the majority of the war. It was noted that 70 million people fought in WWII. Major players in the Allied powers saw massive casualties. The Soviet Union lost 7.5 million soldiers, China 2.2 million, the United States 400,000 and Great Britain 330,000. For the Axis, Germany had 3.5 million and Italy 77,000 casualties. After the presentation, Daryl Davison owner of Hidden Springs presented Certificates of Appreciation and the Virginia Coins to the veterans. The event was attended via zoom were Jeff Thomas, 1st VP, VASSAR: Ken Bonner, Color Guard Commander, VASSAR; Mike Weyler, President Colonel William Grayson Chapter SAR; Charles James, President Culpeper Minute Men Chapter; and CJWII members Chip Daniel, Lew Ewing, Don Dusenbury, Rob Fagan & Ralph Pierce. Pictured are Daryl Davison presenting the awards to Sydney Garner, Ross Montgomery, Jeanne Montgomery, Al Lawrence and Frank Brandon.
On 17 May 2020, the Colonel James Wood II Chapter, Virginia Society, Winchester, Virginia had a musket workshop for members and potential members of the organization. The attendees were taught safety, commands, proper positioning, firing sequence & etiquette when participating as a member of a Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard and Musket Squad. Instructors were Marc Robinson, Commander, Colonel James Wood II Chapter Color Guard and Brett Osborn, Virginia State 2019 Color Guardman of the Year. The program began with a lesson in safety. Next appropriate commands and firing sequence were discussed. Then individuals were given the opportunity to go through the commands and firing sequence to fire. The next step was to divide into 2 sections for individual instruction. After an hour of working through the processes required, the individuals were brought together as a squad and performed a musket firing of three rounds as if in a formal ceremony. This workshop allowed two of the individuals to gain certification to participate in official ceremonies. Attending the workshop were Marc Robinson, Brett Osborn, Dale Corey, Eric Robinson, Sean Carrigan, Clay Robinson, Chip Daniel and Erick Moore.

The Colonel James Wood II Chapter of the Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution participated with the James Wood High School, in Winchester, VA, in a virtual graduation ceremony for the class of 2020. Due to current restrictions, a virtual ceremony was held on the football field and with the exception of having an audience, they ran the ceremony as close to the real thing as was possible. The colors were presented by the Colonel James Wood II Chapter by a limited Color Guard and with social distancing in effect. The ceremony was closed out as has been traditional at this school with cannon fire. Pictured (left to right) are Chapter Compatriots Chip Daniel and Brett Osborn.

On 25 May 2020, Middletown, VA conducted a commemoration ceremony for Memorial Day at the Veterans Memorial Park in Middletown, VA. The ceremony was held to honor the members of the US Military who lost their lives in service to their country. Participating in the event with the town were the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2123 and the Colonel James Wood II Chapter of the Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution. Because of the restrictions due to the Corona Virus, the event was live streamed via the town’s Facebook page. Ray Steele acted as emcee and welcomed all to the event. The Colonel James Wood II Color Guard presented the colors and remained in place for an invocation by Danny Hesse, a rendition of the National Anthem by Melissa Legge-Mauck, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a presentation by Middletown Sheriff Lenny Millholland. Middletown Mayor Charles Harbaugh and Sheriff Millholland presented a wreath to honor all those who served and died in all of our wars. This was followed with a moment of silence. Taps was played by Andrew Paul which was followed by a rifle salute fired by VFW Post 2123 Honor Guard with support from the Colonel James Wood II Musket Squad. The ceremony concluded with a benediction from Danny Hesse to close out the event. In the first picture, Ms. Melissa Legge-Mauck is performing the National Anthem in front of the Colonel James Wood II Color Guard. The second picture is the Colonel James Wood II Musket Squad - Sean Carrigan, Brett Osborn, Paul Christensen, Clay Robinson and Marc Robinson.
On 25 May 2020, The Colonel James Wood II Chapter, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution partnered with Hidden Springs Senior Living Facility to hold a commemoration ceremony in honor of Memorial Day. Due to the restrictions placed by the Corona Virus, several safeguards were instituted to protect participants, residents and staff. Face masks were worn except when giving presentations and social distancing was in place. The residents were kept a minimum of 40 feet from the participants at all times. The ceremony began with the presentation of the colors. Reverend Jim Simmons led with an invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. After the colors were posted, Dale Corey gave a presentation on the history of Memorial Day and its significance. He was followed by presentations from Companions Marc Robinson, Paul Christensen and Charles Jameson. A moment of silence was observed followed by a three-round musket salute fired in honor of the fallen military from all wars. Participating from the Colonel James Wood II Chapter were President Marc Robinson, VASSAR Color Guard Safety Officer Paul Christensen, Vice President Chip Daniel, Nathan Poe, Aron Davison, Jim Simmons, Sean Carrigan, Clary Robinson, Dale Corey and dual members Charles Jameson (President Culpeper Minute Men) and Mike Dennis (Color Guard Commander Culpeper Minute Men).

On 15 June 2020, the Colonel James Wood II Chapter Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution partnered with Hidden Springs Senior Living Facility to conduct a Flag Day Commemoration Ceremony for the residents. Dale Corey emceee’d the ceremony which began with a chapter presentation of the colors. The Rt Rev Larry Johnson provided an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Rev Jim Simmons. Dale Corey began the program with a presentation on the history of Flag Day. When the American Revolution broke out in 1775, the colonists weren’t fighting united under a single flag. Most regiments participating in the War for Independence fought under their own flags. In June of 1775, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia to create the Continental Army -- a unified colonial fighting force. With a 14 June 1775 date of an authorization to enlist expert riflemen to serve the United Colonies, the US Army was born. This led to the creation of what was essentially the first “American” Flag, the Continental Colors. It had alternating red and white stripes with the British Union Jack in a field in the upper left hand corner. It was determined that having the Union Jack represented on the American Flag was detrimental to the cause. Two years later, 14 June 1777, the Continental Congress passed a resolution stating that the flag of the United States be 13 stripes, alternate red and white and the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation. Bernard Cegrand, a small town Wisconsin teacher, originated the idea for an annual flag day to be celebrated across the country every June 14. In 1885, he led his school in the first formal observance of the holiday. It was 30 May 1916 when President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation establishing a national Flag Day on June 14. This was followed by presentations by Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution President Bill Schwetke and Daughters of the American Revolution Fauquier Courthouse Chapter Honored Regent Cat Schwetke telling what the American Flag means to them and how it has affected their lives. This was followed by a double wreath presentation by Rev Jim Simmons and his wife Anne Simmons denoting unity. The group sang God Bless America and then the color guard fired a musket salute to honor the flag. Participating in the Colonel James Wood II Color Guard were Marc Robinson, Bill Schwetke, Brett Osborn, Eric Robinson, Don Dusenbury, Sean Carrigan, Nathan Poe and Aron Davison.
The COVID-19 pandemic has had a dramatic effect on the events and schedules of the Washington State SAR Color Guard. As across the nation isolation and social distancing has taken its toll on SAR members and the community interaction. To date most of the counties are in the phase II of the approach for restoring things back to normal. Due to other recent activities there are other counties that remain in a modified phase I situation with COVID-19 cases increasing in their communities. Many of the Washington State Color Guard are in advanced age groups, underlying health issues, or deficient immune systems that place them at risk of the pandemic. All activities in the Seattle area are cancelled as far in advance as Labor Day.

We support the members and the SAR Society in maintaining our distancing until the environment becomes more secure and sociable. We are in hopes that by Veterans Day and Wreaths Across America that we will be able to join together and honor our veterans.

**John Paul Jones Chapter**

The COVID-19 sheltering has brought forth new challenges on how to conduct meetings and offer presentations. For example, on May 13 Color Guard Captain Fred Gilbert of the John Paul Jones chapter conducted a 40 minute virtual presentation to the 5th Grade class of the Poulsbo Elementary School in full uniform with musket and period articles. Kudos to Compatriot Gilbert for the creativity and ability to reach out to students still in school sessions.
Wisconsin -

Members of the Ames Chapter Color Guard (Bill Muether, Mike Nelson, Mark Nelson and Bill Austin) participated in Memorial Day ceremonies at the Forest Hill Cemetery in Madison WI. They were also on hand at Veterans Rest, Union Rest and Confederate Rest as well as attending the grave of former VPG, State President and Chapter President Roger Boeker. They finished the day at the grave of former State President and Chapter President Harold Klubertanz. Photo by Aaron Krebs

George Washington Chapter

Through much planning and creativity the George Washington Chapter participating in filming a Memorial Day presentation in Oak Harbor that was aired in social media for 1 ½ hours on Memorial day. The link to still see this video is located at – https://www.facebook.com/GWC.WashingtonSAR/videos/1107188079654159/

Ft Vancouver Chapter

Members of the Ft Vancouver Chapter have developed having virtual meeting. This has resulted in additional attendance of members not normally capable of attending chapter meetings. Color Guard Captain Larry Peck along with compatriot Carl Gray presented and posted the colors and led in the pledge of allegiance during their May meeting.

Wisconsin –

Members of the Ames Chapter Color Guard (Bill Muether, Mike Nelson, Mark Nelson and Bill Austin) participated in Memorial Day ceremonies at the Forest Hill Cemetery in Madison WI. They were also on hand at Veterans Rest, Union Rest and Confederate Rest as well as attending the grave of former VPG, State President and Chapter President Roger Boeker. They finished the day at the grave of former State President and Chapter President Harold Klubertanz. Photo by Aaron Krebs

The M-K Chapter attended the graves of several Revolutionary War veterans, The Wisconsin War Memorial and Statutes of Generals Washington, Koschuscio, and Pulaski.

Pictured at LEFT (I to r) are Shane Barrett, Commander Brian Barrett, Mike Meador and Ben Meador at the Pulaski Monument in Cudahy, WI. At the statues of Generals Washington, Koschuscio and Pulaski Mike Meador presented an informative and interesting summary of the lives and services of each man.

Photo by Karen Meador
With extra time on our hands of late, I’ve gone back to reading Living History documents.

As I get into the topic of linen, some might be wondering about the use of cotton fabric in the Revolutionary War period. Here is some background information on cotton that later had huge impacts on our nation’s economic development and history.

During the latter half of the 17th century, the East India Company was bringing in large quantities of cotton goods to the United Kingdom. Affordable to the more affluent, it did impact on local wool and linen producers. The weavers, spinners, dyers, shepherds and farmers went to Parliament to ban importation and sale of woven cotton goods. This was the 1700 and 1721 Calico Acts. It did permit the exemption of raw cotton. New mechanized cotton mills started expanding in England and by the 1770’s, 7,000 bales of cotton were imported annually.

The raw cotton had to be cleaned before it could be used by the new cotton mills equipment, it was taking a full day for one person to remove the seeds from one pound of cotton. The big change came in America where Eli Whitney, a New Englander, began working as a tutor on the Mulberry Grove Plantation near Savannah, Georgia. He was employed by Catharine Greene, the widow of General Nathaniel Greene. Mr. Whitney developed the idea of the cotton gin with help from Catharine Greene in 1793. On March 14, 1794, young inventor Eli Whitney had his U.S. patent for the cotton gin approved. This changed our nation’s economy and history.

One favorite historical topic I have appreciated was how long did it take to make a linen shirt in the Revolutionary War period? Missy Clark, a textile historian/interpreter and 18th Century Clothing Sutler did an experiment in western New York. She did use some more modern devices in using a broadcast seeder and the use of a tractor to plow a one-acre plot instead of hand sowing and using horses or oxen to plow. There are two types of flax seed (oil & fiber). She was told to use about 70 pounds of seed per acre or about 5 seeds per square inch. The farm supply she used provided 100 pounds of oil flax seed.

There is documentation she found that The Records of Plymouth Colony, XI, part 1, 32 “On June 4 1636, it was ordered that every householder sow one rodd of ground square with flax yearly”. (A rood is 5/12 linear yards).

Also, of note, at Mount Vernon there is documentation that George Washington planted and used flax in his operations of his plantation.

Here are the twelve basic steps in turning flax into linen thread:

1. **Plowing** – Originally done with horses/oxen, flax linen grows in well-drained fields. A deep plowing in the spring for planting.

2. **Sowing** – Done by hand, evenly dispersed and early in the morning on a windless day with the small size of seed.

3. **Linen Pulling** – Fairly simple task by pulling flax plant up roots and all and lay it down, keeping the seed heads in the same direction. Harvest is usually a month after flax begins blooming. Missy Clark said her flax crop was ready to harvest eleven weeks after planting.

4. **Stooking** – For flax to dry it is bundled together and tied. The bundles are left standing until evenly dried.

5. **Rippling** – This is to deseed the flax. Bundles of flax are pulled through nails in a board (like a comb) and the seeds are collected for future planting.

6. **Retting** – This is the process of rotting away the inner stalk of the flax plant leaving the outer fibers intact. At the Frontier Culture Museum in Staunton, Virginia the 1700’s Irish Cottage weaver says tossing the flax bundles in a stream is part of the retting process. Other sources have said leaving wet bundles lay in the field covered with a tarp (Dew Retting) is also used.

7. **Linen breaking** – After flax fibers are loosened by retting, breaking is used to break up the inner woody stalk into smaller pieces as it is separated from the flax. Handfuls of flax are places into the wooden breaking machine and the flax is beaten from the bottom to the top of stalk. The broken wood (chaff) fragments fall to the ground.

8. **Scutching** – The portions of the flax that don’t fall to the ground are scutched out. This is taking a wooden scutching blade down the flax against a wooden board and scrape away chaff flax fragments.

9. **Hackling** – This part of the process prepares the flax for spinning. Hackles look like a bed of nails. The flax is pulled though this several
times. More chaff is taken out and the flax begins to look like hair. The fibers left behind the first hackle are courser. This is used for rope or burlap sacking. The second smaller hackle is with nails more closely together. The remains of this hackle are called tow. It can be used as for fire starting or cleaning a musket. The flax is taken thru a third smaller hackle and the flax pulled thru is being combed to a pale-yellow ponytail. The ponytails are twisted into a knot for later use.

10. **Spinning** – The spinner may take the flax linen and spin from a distaff on the spinning wheel or lay the flax fibers on their lap. We have all seen spinning wheels.

11. **Weaving** – Weaving is the process where flax threads are interlaced to form linen fabric. On a loom, the length-wise threads known as the warp are put under tension while another thread is woven through the warp which is called the weft. The warp threads are separated and the weft is carried through them on a shuttle.

12. **Bleaching** – Linen is naturally a tan color until bleached white. After bleaching the linen fabric can be dyed other colors.

The textile historian/interpreter Missy Clark could spin one skein of flax per day https://www.nyhistory.org/exhibit/skein-flax-thread , which is 560 yards. To weave enough fabric to make one shirt would require 9,720 yards of thread. The spinning alone would take 18 days of doing nothing but spinning. Very labor intensive.

This process of making a shirt involved the entire family. In the homes of colonial Americans, they duplicated what skilled laborers in England were doing. Some of this done by the light of fireplaces or candlelight. Children of that period were definitely involved. If your grandchildren tell you about being bored with video devices or social media, there is an alternative!

Missy Clark’s answer on how long it would take to make a linen shirt? “As long as it took to get the job done.” There was a lot of labor and time into making each linen garment in the Revolutionary War period.

Some visual sources on the making of linen:
Mount Vernon, Flax demonstration - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Eec859dAhg

Frontier Culture Museum – On I-81 in Staunton, Virginia, this site has original 1700 Irish Cottage, 1700 German Farm House, and 1700 early American farm house. Many living history demonstrations on this site. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Qw6pVgw9UU

Sources:

**About the Author**
Brett Osborn is a charter member of the Colonel James Wood II Chapter, Virginia Society. He originally joined the SAR in the Marquis de Lafayette Chapter, Georgia Society. He is a retired from the United States Army and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. He is a Life Member of the NSSAR, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans and the Reserve Officer Association. He started Revolutionary War re-enacting in 2001 and has belonged to units associated with the Brigade of the American Revolution and the Continental Line. He is currently serving as the Chairman of the Reenactor/Living History Committee with the SAR.
SAFETY

By Mark Kramer

My last article was pertaining to the current Covid-19 pandemic with the hope we all would exercise safe practices to avoid being infected. As most of us are finding many of the events we have participated in the past cancelled now would be a good time to repair and maintain our uniforms, flags, banners and flintlocks.

Having a well-maintained flintlock will decrease the possibility of an accident. In the new safety policies and procedures, you will find the pre-event firearm inspection. This is a good start in insuring that your flintlock is safe to fire:

Firearm Inspection:

Pre-Event: The Color Guard Commander, or his designate, shall perform a musket safety check prior to any use of a weapon in a SAR Ceremony. Such safety check shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Weapons shall be confirmed to be in a safe and functional state with all parts being free of visible defects (including, but not limited to stock cracks or splits, secure bands and pins, etc.) and that all appropriate safety equipment is attached such as flash guards and frizzen covers / hammer stalls.

2. If the weapon will be fired, the lock must not fail in the half-cock position and the hammer not catch at half-cock when the trigger is pulled. If the lock fails, the weapon will not be allowed to fire.

3. During the safety check, weapons shall be confirmed to be unloaded by pinging the ramrod.

Some day in the future we will be able to begin participating in patriotic events. Most of us have experienced a Flash in the Pan or misfire. You know the scene, your standing in front of a hundred spectators after having just explained the nomenclature and workings of your Brown Bess, Charleville Musket or your flintlock rifle. You load your musket or rifle explaining each step as you go. You evaluate the area to ensure that the direction your about to fire remains safe and raise the musket to your shoulder. Your finger now enters the trigger guard and you pull the trigger – “snap” and your firearm doesn’t fire. You keep your firearm pointing in the safe direction and wait several seconds anticipating that it may have a delayed fire. Still nothing happens. What do you do?

Before the event the flintlock was:

- Verified as unloaded by pinging the barrel.
- A patch or swab was run down the barrel to remove any excess oil used during storage.
- Cleaned and the frizzen was wiped with a clean dry patch or cloth – removing any oil or debris.
- The flint was inspected to ensure it was secured between leather or lead in the jaws on the cock/hammer, straight sharp edge and would strike the frizzen squarely?
- The touch hole was clear using a pick.

Well we did all that prior to the demonstration and your musket passed the safety
inspection prior to entering the demonstration area. But Murphy was there and what could go wrong did. When a flash in the pan or misfire occurs the first thing, I do is open the frizzen and expose the pan and determine if I had a flash in the pan that didn’t ignite the charge in the barrel. Is there powder in the pan? If there is still powder in the pan, I had a problem with the flint striking the frizzen and not creating a spark. If the flint is not tight in the jaws, I might be able to re-tighten it and try to re-fire. Before trying to re-light the flint I need to:

1. Place the flintlock at half cock and place the hammer stall over the frizzen
2. Dump the powder in the pan
3. Retighten the top jaw screw
4. Reprime and attempt to fire

If I find the powder did ignite in the pan but did not communicated the spark to the barrel, I use my pick and clear touch hole, brush the pan and re-prime pan ensuring that my priming powder contacts the touch hole and attempt to fire again.

If the musket still didn’t fire, I probably have an issue that may require the musket to be temporarily removed from service and may take several minutes to correct the problem. Keeping the firearm pointing in a safe direction I notify the safety officer that I am having a problem. The safety officer is there to ensure the safe handling of the musket while my flintlock’s issue is being corrected. They will concentrate on keeping spectators at a safe distance and ensure that the barrel continues to be pointed in a safe direction. Note: I have seen very experienced compatriots, engaged fixing the muzzle lose the orientation of the muzzle and point the muzzle in an unsafe direction. The safety officer will remain until the firearm is rendered safe.

First thing is to clear the charge from the barrel. If you didn’t ram your paper cartridge down the barrel, simply point the barrel to the ground will dump the powder. Strike the barrel a couple of times with the palm of your hand to loosen any residual powder from the barrel. If you were demonstrating the Von Steuben method of loading and rammed the paper cartridge into the barrel you will need to remove the paper holding the powder in place. If that is the case you have two options, first use a worm to remove paper and then dump powder or use a CO2 discharger.

Using Worm to clear barrel

1. Place hammer to half-cock
2. Install Frizzen Cover
3. Attach worm to ram rod or cleaning rod
4. Insert worm into barrel and twist clockwise until worm grabs paper
5. Pull paper out and invert barrel and dump powder

Using a CO2 discharger

1. Place the hammer to half-cock
2. Ensure your firearm is pointed in safe direction (A CO2 discharger will remove a lead ball – therefore the contents of the barrel will discharge rapidly)
3. Insert nipple of discharger into touch hole
4. Pull trigger of CO2 discharger.

Once the powder has been removed by dumping, worm or CO2 discharger use a cleaning rod with swab and swab barrel to remove contaminants, this should also clean the area around the inside of the touch hole. After several firings it is possible for material to build up at the bottom of the barrel at the breach plug that may not be removed by the normal cleaning process. The best method of removing this material is to utilize a fouling scraper; this item is briefly mentioned in the Cincinnati Chapter SAR cleaning blog https://cincin-natisar.org/2017/12/28/cleaning-a-flintlock-musket/. You can find these fouling scrapers with a simple internet search. The two major issues that cause a flintlock from not firing are an occlusion between the tough hole and the powder in the barrel or no spark from the flint.