



NSSAR and Virginia Society Color Guards Honor Patriots at Great Bridge



NSSAR Massed Color Guard on the march at the Battle of Great Bridge ceremonies in Norfolk, VA on 3 December 2011.

Photo by: Compatriot Matt Hogendobler (VA)

Additional photographs of the Color Guard at the Battle of Great Bridge can be found on the Norfolk Chapter's Facebook and website.

27 December 2011

By: Dr J Thomas Whetstone
VP, Norfolk Chapter SAR

Norfolk, VA—The National Society Color Guard, commanded by J Michael Tomme Sr, joined Lawrence E McKinley, Vice President General of the Mid-Atlantic District in four significant ceremonies on 3 December 2011 at two sites in Virginia honoring Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Patriots. These ceremonies were in the morning with the fourth in the afternoon.

At 10:00 am at Battlefield Historic Park, Chesapeake, VA, the National Color Guard paraded the colors at the inaugural ceremony recognizing the 9 December 1775 American Victory in the Battle of Great Bridge. The Culpeper Minutemen and Norfolk Chapters, the Virginia Society and NSSAR sponsored the ceremony hosted by the Norfolk Chapter.

Next, the Color Guard led the partici-

pants and spectators to the Marshall Monument unveiled by Mrs Jean Rouke Hillegass, widow of President General Reon Hillegass (1996-1997) and member of the Great Bridge Chapter NSDAR. The monument was dedicated in honor of Major Thomas Marshall and his son Lt John Marshall (the 4th Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court) who fought at the battle as members of the Culpeper Minuteman Battalion.

The third event was the 58th annual wreath laying commemorating the battle at the DAR monument in Battlefield Historic Park. The Honor Guard was the 7th Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line.

At 2:30 pm, Commander Christopher A Melhuish led a combined SAR and Society of the War of 1812 Color Guard in a plaque dedication and wreath laying ceremony at historic Saint Paul's

(see "Great Bridge" on page 4)

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THE PURPOSE OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS TO PROVIDE INTERESTING ARTICLES ABOUT THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND INFORMATION REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF YOUR CHAPTER AND/OR STATE COLOR GUARDS

THE SAR COLORGUARDSMAN

The SAR Colorguardsman is published four times a year by the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard Committee © 2011.

Subscriptions are sent automatically to all state society color guard commanders.

Commander: J Michael Tomme (GA)

Vice-Commander: Michael Radcliff (TX)

Adjutants: Dave Hoover (MD) Mark C Anthony (SC)

Submission Deadlines

- January Issue: December 31st
April Issue: March 31st
July Issue: June 30th
October Issue: September 30th

Commander's Dispatch



NSSAR COLOR GUARD COMMANDER J MICHAEL TOMME

I would like to say thank you to all who have told me personally that they very truly enjoyed the first web based newsletter. Editor Mark Anthony advised me that he also received a number of positive comments. I would like to thank Mark for taking on this assignment to create an informative and quality newsletter. I would also like to thank all who contributed articles and pictures to make this newsletter a success. Please continue to share information that would help other guardsmen.

I have had the pleasure of attending the 231st anniversary of the Gathering at Sycamore Shoals in Elizabethton, TN. President General Larry Magerkurth, Secretary General Steve Leishman and Southern District VPG Jim Maples (AL) and other SAR members attended. The first

event was the marking of the graves of Colonel John Carter and Captain Landon Carter on September 16th. On the 17th, the SAR honored our forefathers who gathered at Sycamore Shoals to begin their fateful journey to Kings Mountain. I would like to thank the members of the TNSSAR who made this event possible especially President John McCutchen, John Eckerd, Tim Massey and Ronnie Lail.

On October 7th, President General Magerkurth and First Lady Barbara attended the Battle of Kings Mountain ceremony. What a sight to see the massing of the National Color Guard as they paraded in with the colors and militia units, who also served as escorts for the wreath presenters. Also attending were Secretary General Leishman, Registrar General Lindsey Brock, South Atlantic District VPG Charlie Newcomer and International District VPG Robert Towns.

After Kings Mountain and through October 9th, I attended the Battle of Point Pleasant in West Virginia. This is such a great annual event. President General and First Lady Magerkurth and other current and former general officers also attended. The three most recent National Color

Guard Commanders—Chuck Lampman (CA), Larry Perkins (OH) and Joe Dooley (VA) - were present along with a large contingency of guardsmen from other states. I would like to thank Jack Coles and John Sauer for a job well done.

On December 3rd I attended our newest National event, the Battle of Great Bridge, in Norfolk, VA. This was a great event with guardsmen from Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky and North Carolina participating. There were also three state president (with two in uniform). Atlantic Middle States District VPG Larry McKinley was one of the speakers and SAR Foundation Board member Dr Sam Powell marched in uniform. I would like to thank Dr Matt Hogenobler, Norfolk Chapter President for coordinating this event as well as all the volunteers who assisted. Thanks are also extended to Chris Melhuish, VA Society Deputy Commander for his assistance.

It has been a pleasure to award numerous Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals during my travel at these various events. Each of you put in the hard work to achieve these medals. It is also an honor to personally present them to you.

From the Editor



EDITOR MARK C ANTHONY

The first issue of the SAR Colorguardsman has generated a lot of positive comments. Thank you to everyone who took the time to write in with comments.

Along with the comments, the number of articles and pictures submitted for this issue increased dramatically.

Submissions of stories and pictures of color guard activity from thirteen societies and one district. I have tried to include as many as I can within the extra four pages added to this issue.

What is missing are the "how to" and historical articles that are to be a part of the newsletter. If you would like to suggest a "how to"

topic or provide an article on some historical aspect of the color guard, please be sure to contact me at the earliest so we can discuss the publication parameters.

Please send all submissions to the following contact points:

12 Misty Oaks Dr Greer, SC 29651

manthony.psy90@gtalumni.org

Pictures should list those in the picture and who took it. Thank you again for your help.



Nominations for Colorguardsman of the Year

By: J Michael Tomme, NSSAR Color Guard Commander

This message has been sent to each of the three nominees for 2012 SAR Color Guardsman of the Year and one additional person from the state society that is the primary state society of each nominee. I have also copied the Vice Commander and Adjutants of the NSSAR Color Guard.

I invite each nominee or his representative to prepare a one-page flier describing the nominee's qualifications to be named the 2012 SAR Color Guardsman of the Year. These fliers may be distributed to the members of the Color Guard Committee at the beginning of the Committee's meeting.

Each nominee may speak for himself, or may designate someone to speak for him. Speeches may not exceed five minutes.

Please remember, as set forth in the NSSAR Color Guard Handbook, the SAR Color Guardsman of the Year should be that Guardsman who best exemplifies both the spirit of the Sons of the American Revolution and the use of Color Guards to display that spirit.

If you have any questions, please let me know. My home number is 678-432-1161 and my cell if I am traveling is 404-312-9649.

2012 National Color Guard Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 14	Battle of Cowpens	Chesnee, SC
February 11	Battle of Kettle Creek	Washington, GA
February 18	Crossing of the Dan	South Boston, VA
February 19	Washington's Birthday Parade	Laredo, TX
February 22	California Massing of Colors	Burbank, CA
February 25	Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge	Currie, NC
March 2-5	NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting	Louisville, KY
March 5	Last Naval Battle of the Revolution	Merritt Island, FL
March 17	Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Greensboro, NC
April 7	Halifax Resolves	Halifax, NC
April 16-18	Patriot's Day	Concord, MA
May 3	Kentucky Derby Pegasus Parade	Louisville, KY
May 12	Battle of Pensacola	Pensacola, FL
May 19-20	Fields of Honor / Healing Field	Various
May 28	Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous	Vincennes, IN
June 9	Battle of Ramseur's Mill	Lincolnton, NC
June 17	Battle of Bunker Hill	Bunker Hill, MA
July 7-12	NSSAR National Congress	Phoenix, AZ
July 28	Battle of Fort Laurens	Bolivar, OH
September 15	Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN
September 28-29	NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting	Louisville, KY
October 1	Point Pleasant Battle Days	Point Pleasant, WV
October 7	Battle of Kings Mountain	Blacksburg, SC
October 19	Yorktown Days	Yorktown, VA
December 3	Battle of Great Bridge	Norfolk, VA
December 10	Wreaths Across America	Various

The table to the left lists the events that have been designated as National events for the NSSAR Color Guard with respect to generating points for Color Guard Medal consideration.

Dates are mostly approximate. Guardsmen should consult the state society website for the most current information and contact points.

Also, any event where the President General is in attendance is automatically considered a national event.



NSSASR Color Guard at 2008 National Memorial Day Parade (Photo by Cindy Anthony)



Great Bridge
(cont'd from page 1)

Episcopal Church, Norfolk, VA. The combined color guard paraded and posted the colors in the church sanctuary before retiring the colors to the cemetery for the unveiling of the plaque listing the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 veterans buried in the cemetery. After concluding remarks, a musket salute and a bagpipe musical tribute were rendered.

The color guards in both Revolutionary War and War of 1812 uniforms contributed significantly to the resounding success of the day's ceremonies.



Photo above left: Members of the Combined NSSAR Color Guard at Great Bridge. Front row (l-r): Christopher A Melhuish (VA), Alan Brahin (NC), unknown, Sam Powell (NC), John N Dickie - Quartermaster General, General Society of the War of 1812, Rev Forest Bond Chilton (KY). Second row (l-r): J Michael Tomme (GA), Vic Diehl (VA), John Test (KY)

Photo above right: Sam Powell (NC) and John Dickie participate in the posting of colors in the sanctuary of St Paul Episcopal Church in Norfolk, VA

Photos above provided by Tom Whetstone (VA)

Photo below: VPG Larry McKinley speaking at Great Bridge with the Color Guard

Photo below provided by: Larry McKinley (VA)





State Society Color Guard Commander Contact Information

The following is the current listing of state society color guard commanders. Those that are confirmed are in **BOLD TEXT**.

Those state societies that are not confirmed are asked to send updated information to the editor.

No Color Guards: Alaska, Dakotas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Wyoming

Alabama	Larry Cronwell	lacornwell (at) aol.com	334-277-4654	334-538-2954	Montgomery, AL
Arizona	Richard T Perry, MD	boset (at) aol.com	602-212-0030		Phoenix, AZ
Arkansas	Danny Honnoll	danny (at) honnoll.com	870-935-9830	870-926-2985	
California	James C Fosdyck	colorguard (at) californiasar.org	714-530-0767	714-932-4097	Garden Grove, CA
Colorado	Dave Mann	dtmann (at) q.com	719-547-8780	719-235-3985	Pueblo West, CO
Connecticut	Todd Gerlander	eleventh.ct.reg.t.sar (at) snet.net	860-872-0438		Tolland, CT
Florida	Philip Tarpley	mp18pht (at) verizon.net	941-497-2704		Venice, FL
Georgia	Dr Ed Rigel Sr	compatriotrigel (at) charter.net	770-534-7043	678-617-4331	Gainesville, GA
Idaho	John Freeman	johnfreeman2 (at) msn.com	208-383-0394		
Illinois	Thomas D Ashby	dashby (at) me.com	309-897-8483	309-202-4067	Bradford, IL
Indiana	Stuart Hart	sar.stuart (at) gmail.com	317-849-0882		Indianapolis, IN
Iowa	Mike Rowley	mjr1825 (at) gmail.com	515-225-6349	515-975-0498	Clive, IA
Kansas	Robert Capps	bobcapps (at) msn.com	816-838-5500		Lee's Summit, MO
Kentucky	Dennis Scott	garand_guy (at) junio.com	502-349-0308		Bardstown, KY
Maine	Paul Salisbury	paul (at) mainecreations.com	207-942-9586		Bangor, ME
Maryland	David Hoover	toky (at) aol.com	410-893-0856		Forest Hill, MD
Massachusetts	Steven G Perkins	patriotmarcher (at) gmail.com	508-877-0073	781-891-0230	Framingham, MA
Minnesota	Paul K Theisen	pstheis36 (at) mainstreet.com	320-351-6221		Sauk Centre, MN
Mississippi	John R Taylor Jr	taylorj1947 (at) yahoo.com	601-733-9475	601-941-2977	Mize, MS
Missouri	Robert L Grover	GroverSAR (at) aol.com	816-373-5309	816-803-5215	Independence, MO
Nevada	Rev Anthony A Perry	clonnadgh (at) embarqmail.com	702-228-1438	702-810-3291	Las Vegas, NV
New Hampshire	Hans E Jackson	hansejack (at) comcast.net	603-548-5746		Derry, NH
New Jersey	Richard Blundin	richardswb (at) msn.com	908-755-1589		
New Mexico	George Garcia	garciasar30 (at) gmail.com	205-235-9422		Albuquerque, NM
New York	Peter K Goebel	goebelpk (at) gmail.com	518-774-9740		
North Carolina	Richard Bishop	decadel (at) embarqmail.com	910-864-1279		Fayetteville, NC
Ohio	Tony Robinson	wrobinson3 (at) columbus.rr.com	740-474-6463	740-412-1929	Circleville, OH
Oklahoma	Glenn K Fast	glennandpaula (at) suddenlink.net	580-234-1480		Enid, OK
Oregon	Mark S Robertson	robertson19 (at) yahoo.com	503-429-2090		Veronia, OR
Pennsylvania	MG Donald J Tressler	djt2 (at) psu.edu	814-466-7143		State College, PA
South Carolina	Robert (Bob) Krause	b_krause (at) bellsouth.net	864-878-1379	864-430-3055	Pickens, SC
Tennessee	Ronnie L Lail	rllblail (at) comcast.net	423-743-6623		Unicoi, TN
Texas	Marvin B Morgan	marvin (at) mbmcpa.com	972-985-7644	214-729-5432	Austin, TX
Utah	Lyle Gingery	bltging (at) msn.com	801-487-6809		Salt Lake City, UT
Vermont	Geoffrey Gunther	colbydrypowder (at) hotmail.com	617-669-8141		Waitsfield, VT
Virginia	Robert B Andrews	rbais (at) rbais.com	540-465-8809		Strasburg, VA
Washington	Bob O'Neal	wroneal (at) aol.com	253-752-8242		Tacoma, WA
West Virginia	John H Sauer	sweetsauer (at) suddenlink.net	304-675-2703		Point Pleasant, WV
Wisconsin	Aaron Krebs	lmkack (at) charter.net	608-663-1652		Madison, WI



REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Arizona Society



For the second year in a row, the Arizona Society Color Guard marched in the annual Casa Grande Veterans Day Parade held on November 5th this year. Participating were Color Guard Commander Dick Perry, Steve Miller, Dr Rudy Byrd, Al & John Niemeyer, Christopher Francis and George Lipphardt. The Color Guard won the award for the Best Marching Unit for the second year in a row.

The picture on the right is of the Color Guard participating in the Naturalization Ceremony held in conjunction with Tucson's 236th Birthday Gala. The Color Guard is pictured with the Donas who also participate in the ceremony. Naturalization ceremonies are conducted four times each year.

- John W Lyons, President, Tucson Chapter and George Lipphardt. Photos provided by Al Niemeyer.

North Carolina Society



The North Carolina Society had the honor of participating in multiple Veterans Day parades in Raleigh, Fayetteville and Roanoke Rapids. Among the Colorguardsmen who participated were Color Guard Commander Dick Bishop, Dr Samuel Powell, Rev Clark Wiser, Steve Pittard, Steve Avent, Ken Wilson, Chuck Yard, Dan Hopping, Scott Kennedy, Adam Bridges, Mike Taylor, Paul Conway, and John France.

The Color Guard was also honored to be the lead unit in the Roanoke Rapids Christmas Parade on 4 December.

- Dick Bishop, Commander

Photo above from the Raleigh Parade by David Mann.

Photo to right provided by Dick Bishop of the Color Guard in Roanoke Rapids.



Washington Society



WASSAR Color Guard ((l-r): President Stan Wills, Lt Col Bob O'Neal, Captain Lee Thomasson, President Doug Nelson, and Lt Gale Palmer in the Auburn Veterans Day Parade. Compatriots Richard Land (WWII) and Dick Seiber (Korea) ride in the limousine following the Color Guard.
Photo by: Dick Heinmiller



WASSAR Color Guard and DAC VIPs at the Bigelow House dedication. (l-r): Lt Col Bob O'Neal, Capt Doug Nelson, VP Carole Holt, President Darrell Holt, Regent Maralyn Ricketts and Captain Lee Thomasson.
Photo provided by: Darrell Holt

On Sunday, 16 October, the Washington Society Color Guard posted the colors and served as greeters at the unveiling and dedication of a plaque commemorating the 140th Anniversary of the Visit by Susan B Anthony to the Washington Territorial Legislature in support of Women's Suffrage. The marker was erected by the Washington State Society Daughters of American Colonists in front of the Bigelow House in Olympia.

The house was the residence of Daniel Richardson and his wife Ann Elizabeth White Bigelow. Mr Richardson was one of the earliest settlers to call for the separation of Oregon and Washington.

Among the dignitaries present were Washington Secretary of State Sam Reed, Olympia Mayor Doug Mah and Susan Rohrer, Director of the State Capital Museum who portrayed Susan B Anthony.

On Saturday, 5 November, the Washington Society Color Guard marched for the first time in decades in the Auburn Veterans Day Parade. The parade is billed as the largest military parade west of the Rockies. A crowd of 20,000 watched 5,500 participants in 189 units march along the 1.3 mile route on Main Street.

This parade was only one of fifty events that the Washington Society Color Guard participated in in 2011. These events included parades, Honor Flights, school presentations, flag programs, wreath layings, memorials, dedications, Boy Scout, JROTC/ROTC award ceremonies, genealogy conferences and sportsman shows.

In 2011, the Color Guard doubled in size to twelve members.

- Lt Col Bob O'Neal, Commander

South Carolina Society

The South Carolina Society Color Guard led units of the Greenville County Fire, Police and other color guards at Veteran's Day ceremonies at Woodlawn Cemetery in Greenville, SC on November 6th.

The guest speaker was Col Bud Alley who led the Second Battalion, Seventh Cavalry, First Cavalry Airmobile Division during the battles of the Ia Drang Valley in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam. These battles were featured in the book *We Were Soldiers Once...And Young* by Lt General Hal Moore and Joe Galloway.

Besides leading the parade, the Color Guard provided a musket salute at the conclusion of the ceremonies.

- Mark C Anthony, President, SC Society

Photo to right: Mark Anthony leads the SC Color Guard followed by Tom Weidner carrying the State Wreath. SC Color Guard (l-r): Hal Johnson, Bob Krause - Commander, J D Norris, Dan Woodruff and Will Ouvry.

Photo by: Tom Hanson, SC Society





Oklahoma Society

The Tulsa Chapter Color Guard began in 1975 and is very active including three generations ranging in age from 14 to 97. The unit was founded by John Haws and Fred Faulkerson IV.

The Color Guard consists of eleven members who enjoy the fellowship and community activities.

Front row (l-r): John Haws (97), William O Graham, Stuart O Denslow.

Back row: Commander Richasrd Bewley, Loyd Means, Lee Belmonte, Gary Denslow, Robert & Cole (14) Bewley. Not Pictured: Mile Bewley and Steve Terhune

- Stuart O Denslow, President, OK Society

Photo by: Dr Orriene First Denslow



West Virginia Society

National Commander J Michael Tomme was joined by his three predecessors at the 2011 Point Pleasant Battle Days in Point Pleasant, WV over the 7 October weekend.

Pictured (l-r):

Larry Perkins (OH) who served as commander from 2007 to 2009.

Joe Dooley (VA) who served as commander from 2009 to 2011

J Michael Tomme (GA) the current commander

Charles Lampman (CA) who served as commander from 2005 to 2007

- Steve Kelley

Photo by: Steve Kelley



Great Lakes District

The Great Lakes District meeting took place on October 28th and 29th at the Edgewater Hotel in Madison. Members from Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin were in attendance as Secretary General Steve Leishman spoke on his activities and goals.

Following the business meeting and luncheon on October 29th, those in attendance were entertained by the Janesville Fife and Drum Corps.

Selections played were Jaybird and Fireman's, Buttered Pease, Brandywine, Jefferson and Liberty and Chester.

- Aaron C Krebs, Secretary, Wisconsin Society

Photo at right of Color Guard with Janesville Fife & Drum Corps

Photo by: Barbara Cochran





Maryland Society

Members of the Thomas Stone Chapter Color Guard participate in the annual July 4th event honoring Declaration of Independence signer Thomas Stone at his gravesite.

The Color Guard presents colors and provides a musket salute.

The event occurs at the Thomas Stone National Historic Site in Port Tobacco, MD.

- David Langford, President

Photo by: David Langford



Wisconsin Society

The Wisconsin Society Color Guard participated in the welcome home ceremony of the November 12th Badger Honor Flight at the Dane County Regional Airport in Madison, WI.

This marked the 5th time the WISSAR Color Guard unit was present to welcome home members of the "Greatest Generation."

Uncle Sam, Bucky Badger, Maynard the Mallard and the musical group Ladies Must Swing were on hand

- Aaron C Krebs, Secretary, WISSAR

Photo (l-r): Mark Nelson, Mike Nelson and Aaron Krebs

Photo provided by: Aaron Krebs



National Society



The NSSAR Color Guard presents colors at the Winston-Salem Dash baseball game on July 7th prior to the 120th NSSAR Congress.

Chaplain General, Rev. Clark Wisner leads the unit onto the field.

Pictured (l-r): Dick Bishop, NC Society Commander, Dr Sam Powell (NC), Joe Dooley (VA), Jim Wood (NC), Steve Pittard (NC), Steve Perkins (MA) and J Michael Tomme, NSSAR Commander



California Society

The California Society Color Guard presented colors at the 103rd State Conference of the California DAR on March 18th.

The DAR presented the CASSAR with a \$100.00 honorarium and an acknowledgement was published in *The NSDAR California Clarion* magazine. The money was used to purchase two magnetic car signs to be used in parades.

- Jim Fosdyck, Commander

Photo: Members of Lee’s Legion (Orange County Chapter) Color Guard with Ladies Auxiliary members at a local parade with the new magnetic signs.

Photo by: Un Hui Yi



On November 11th, the South Coast Chapter’s Continental Marine Color Guard participated in the El Toro Memorial Park Veterans Day observance. This was the 15th year that the Color Guard participated in this event which includes wreath presentations by Orange County governmental officials and other local politicians.

The keynote address was by World War II veteran Howard Beach Jr whose combat experience began on Omaha Beach as part of the Normandy Invasion and concluded with his unit meeting the Russians at the Elbe River. Mr Beach recounted his small unit’s firefight with approximately 200 German SS Troops that left him as the only survivor of the unit. He was awarded the Silver Star for his actions.

- Jerry Hereford, Secretary, South Coast Chapter

Pictured at the left are Ryan Blakely (left), Curtis Porter, Leon Smith, Jerry Hereford and Richard Bent - members of the South Coast Chapter’s Continental Marine Color Guard

Photo by: Bunny Smith



The San Diego Chapter Color Guard and its Ladies Auxiliary were very busy over the summer months with activities throughout the San Diego area.

Taken as a screen shot by Will Tisch (see picture to the right), the San Diego Color Guard presented the colors at the San Diego Padres game on July 4th. In addition to the presentation of colors, the Ladies Auxiliary held a thirty foot Betsy Ross Flag as the Color Guard fired a musket salute at the conclusion of the National Anthem.

The presentation of colors occurred after the San Diego Color Guard had already marched in the 4th of July Parade earlier that day in Coronado, CA.

Earlier in the summer, the Color Guard had participated in Flag Day ceremonies aboard the USS Midway Museum in San Diego Harbor. The Color Guard were guests of Museum CEO Rear Admiral “Mac” McLaughlin who is also a member of the SAR.

- Will Tisch





California Society



Photo above: San Diego Color Guard members with Rear Admiral "Mac" McLaughlin

Photo provided by: Will Tisch

Photo above: San Diego Color Guard preparing to present the colors on July 4th.

Photo to right: Musket salute rendered on the deck of the USS Midway on Flag Day. The warning should provide for musket salutes as well.

Photos provided by: Will Tisch





Texas Society

The Plano Chapter Color Guard participated in a series of events honoring members of their community and celebrating related organizations.

On October 7th, the Color Guard led ceremonies at Taylor Elementary School in Plano. The primary focus was to honor Jesus Lara, a student at the school, with the SAR Medal for Heroism for saving a drowning child at a local apartment swimming pool. While at the school, the Color Guard also presented Principal Tanya Vargas with a Flag Certificate for the school.

The Color Guard next served as the Honor Guard at the Veterans Memorial Service at Robson Ranch Senior Living Community in Denton, TX on Veterans Day.

Finally, the Color Guard presented and posted colors at the Dedication of the new Preston Trail Chapter NSDAR in Pottsboro, TX on December 10th.

Members of the Plano Chapter who participated in these events were as follows:

Taylor Elementary: Don Babbs, Drake Peddie, Chuck Sprague, Dan Reed, Bill Neisel, Howard Roach and Harvey Vrooman.

Robson Ranch: Don Sielert, Harvey Vrooman, David Myers, Bill Neisel, Dan Reed and Bon Babbs.

Pottsboro: Dan Reed and Bill Marris (though Mike Radcliff and Peter Rowley were in attendance but not in uniform)

- Dan Reed, Secretary, Plano Chapter



Plano Chapter Color Guard leading Pledges at Taylor Elementary
Photo by: Dan Reed



Dan Reed (left) and Bill Marris stand with future members of the DAR and SAR at the Preston Trail Chapter DAR dedication.

Photo by: Silvia Marrs



Plano Color Guard stands at attention while US Army helicopter flies over the Robson Ranch Veterans Day Ceremony
Photo by: Linda Nord, DAR



Louisiana Society

Louisiana Society Militia Color Guard and 80 attendees gathered at St Paul's Roman Catholic Church cemetery at Mansura, LA on October 29th to officially dedicate and mark a bronze cenotaph inscribed with 37 names of Louisiana Militiamen who were documented as serving in the 1779 Galvez Expedition that defeated the British troops garrisoned at Natchez, Baton Rouge, and Pensacola.

These graves had been lost but a few years ago, the Rev Chad Partain arrived at the church and began efforts to research the church records. Along with Carlos Mayeux Jr and Randy DeCuir, they were able to secure a plaque in memory of these patriots.

The Louisiana Color Guard provided a fusillade salute to these French Revolutionary War allies. The descendants of these men who settled in Avoyelles Parish witnessed the event and marker dedication by Rev Partain.

- Jim Mitchell, Louisiana Society



(l-r): LA Commander Jimmy Miller, Jim Mitchell, Bert Menge , Carter Campbell, Steve Ray, Bob Hess and James Taylor (MS Society)
Photo by: Lester Bordelon

SAR to participate in 225th Anniversary of the United States Constitution

By: Bob Bowen, Coordinator, National 225th Anniversary of the Constitution, NSSAR History Committee and J Michael Tomme, NSSAR National Color Guard Commander

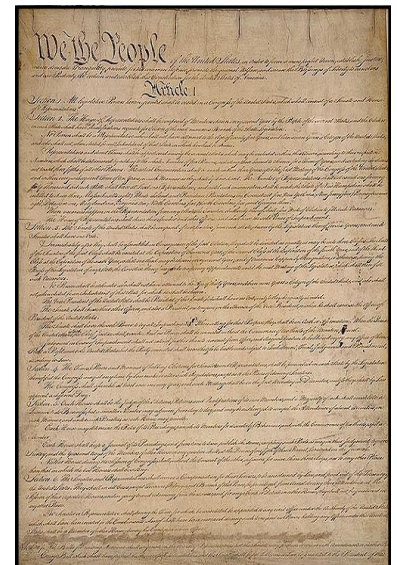
Philadelphia, PA - The SAR is indeed fortunate to have the Philadelphia Continental Chapter taking the lead in the SAR's national celebration of the 225th Anniversary of the signing of the Constitution. Mark your calendars now for September 14-15, 2012 and make plans to attend.

The NSSAR Color Guard will participate in a short parade down Chestnut Street to Independence Hall. The Color Guard has been challenged to have 100 men or more in uniform marching in this parade.

Lodging for the SAR will be at the Dolce Hotel (610-337-1200) in Valley Forge at a cost of \$109 plus tax per night. Busing will be provided to and from the hotel. There are also plans for a Friday buffet dinner including entertainment and a cash bar for \$40 and a Saturday night banquet including entertainment, program and a cash bar for \$50. The President General is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the Saturday banquet.

The SAR currently has 50 rooms reserved at the Dolce Hotel for Friday night and a dozen reserved for Saturday night. More rooms may be made available based on demand.

More details will be provided as the event date draws closer. Please watch both *The SAR Colorguardsman*, *The SAR Magazine* and the NSSAR website (sar.org) for details as they become available.



THE SAR COLORGUARDSMAN

Primary Business Address
12 Misty Oaks Drive
Greer, SC 29651

Phone: 864-255-7442
Fax: 864-255-7442
E-mail:
manthony.psy90@gtalumni.org

The SAR Colorguardsman

**The online magazine of the
NSSAR Color Guard.**



President General J David Sympson presents the National Society SAR Wreath on the plaza at the Tomb of the Unknowns

National SAR Color Guard at Arlington Cemetery

In the last issue of *The SAR Colorguardsman*, the article that occupied this page was about the SAR's participation at a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington Memorial Cemetery in Washington, DC.

Additional pictures have been provided and requested to be printed. Among these pictures is one of Robert D Maxwell, a WWII veteran from Oregon and a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Excerpts of Mr Maxwell's citation is once again provided.

- Mark C Anthony

Technician Fifth Grade, US Army, 7th Infantry, 3d Infantry Division
Near Besancon, France, 7 September 1944

Technician Maxwell and 3 other soldiers armed only with .45 caliber automatic pistols, defended the battalion observation post against an overwhelming onslaught by enemy infantrymen in approximately platoon strength, supported by 20mm flak and machinegun fire who had infiltrated through the battalion's forward companies and were attacking the observation post with machinegun, machine pistol and grenade fire at ranges as close as 10 yards. Despite a hail of fire from automatic weapons and grenade launchers, Technician Maxwell aggressively fought off advancing enemy elements and by his calmness, tenacity and fortitude, inspired his fellows to continue the unequal struggle. When an enemy hand grenade was thrown in the midst of his squad, he unhesitatingly hurled himself squarely upon it using his blanket and unprotected body to absorb the full force of the explosion. This act of heroism permanently maimed Technician Maxwell but saved the lives of his comrades and facilitated the maintenance of vital military communications during the temporary withdrawal of the battalion's forward headquarters.

Source: <http://www.history.army.mil/html/moh/wwII-m-s.html>

Photo to the right: Members of the NSSAR Color Guard with Robert D Maxwell (center) and President General J David Sympson at Arlington National Cemetery

Photos provided by J Michael Tomme

