



THE YOUNGEST COLORGUARDSMEN

This issue includes articles from the new NSSAR Safety Officer, Bob Cunningham (INSSAR).

Two articles feature information on two ladies that have supported their husbands as they honor their ancestors in the NSSAR Color Guard.

Remember, this is your newsletter. Reports from all state societies are requested and encouraged.



28 September 2012
By: Lou Raborg Jr
President, Maryland Society SAR

I had the great honor to march with over 100 fellow guardsmen in Philadelphia for the 225th anniversary of the signing of The Unites States Constitution. The honor was even greater for me as all three of my sons joined in the march. During our Color guard meeting at Trustees I brought this forward and asked our members to not only encourage and support the young men that march with us, but to also let us know of them.

Photo (L to R): Louis Raborg (15), Chris Raborg (19), Louis Raborg Jr, Samuel Raborg (17)

Jonathan (L) and Benjamin Gonzales, grandsons of John Thornhill (NC Society) at Moore's Creek



Rick Smurdon, Trevor Smurdon (14), Brendan Smurdon (9) of the Jacob Leer Chapter CAR, Shippshewana, IN



Asael W Horne (12), left, and Joseph F Horne (15) sons of Benjamin D Horne, Alternate Trustee of the Utah Society prior to marching in a parade in Logan, UT

All photos provided by the respective guardsmen.

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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

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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

With the fifth issue, I would like to say thank you to all who contributed articles and pictures to make this newsletter a success. Please continue to submit information that you would like to share with other guardsmen.

The vigil at the Tomb of George and Martha Washington was held on the 8 September 2012. PG Leishman and First Lady Janet joined about 18 guardsmen from around the country. As the President General and I led the guardsmen down to the tomb, there was stillness about the grounds. As the guardsmen posted for the first shift, calm came over us. A volunteer opened the tomb for the President and First Lady. Pictures were taken of the guardsmen with the President General and First

Lady. As the guard stood vigil, visitors began to arrive and inquired who and why were we there. The vigil started at 9:00 am and about 4:30 pm, storms blew in with tornadoes in the area and the guard was evacuated. Needless to say, we could not fulfill our full 12 hour vigil. However, the people who came thanked all us for being there and the staff stated that we added a lot to honor our Commander in Chief and the First President of the United States.

During the vigil others left to take part in a wreath ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington. The ceremony was delayed as the storms that hit Mount Vernon hit Arlington. The storm let up and the President General, Bill Broadus, Paul Briggs and I then proceeded down the steps to the plaza for the PG to lay the wreath.

Next, the Color Guard participated in the 225th Anniversary of the Signing of the Constitution in Philadelphia. Prior to the parade, folks were stopping us for pictures and to inquire as to who we were. We lined up in ranks of 4 abreast and counted a total of 109 guardsmen and 40 ladies in various uniforms and colonial attire.

The combined color guard represented each of the 13 original states and 6 other states. I would like to thank Jim Willis of the Philadelphia-Continental Chapter and Historian General Bob Bowen for their hard work on this event.

Coming up in October, we have several events: Kings Mountain, Point Pleasant, the Siege of Savannah, and Yorktown. In December we have the Battle of Great Bridge (Norfolk, VA) followed by Cowpens in January and Kettle Creek in February.

Be sure to look at the SAR home page for additional events that may not be listed in this newsletter.

Finally, remember to send in data on those eligible for the Silver Color Guard and Von Steuben Medals. Each of you put in the hard work to achieve these medals and it is an honor to personally present them to you.

Yours in Patriotism, J. Michael Tomme, Sr. J. Michael "Mike" Tomme, Sr. NSSAR, National Color Guard Commander

From the Editor



EDITOR MARK C ANTHONY

I am just going to take a moment of personal privilege and include a picture of my son, Miles, from 2004 when he was 9 years old participating in the grave marking of John Funderburk in Rome, GA.

Mark C Anthony, Editor





New Positions Appointed within NSSAR Color Guard

By: Mark C Anthony, Adjutant

At the 28 September 2012 Fall Leadership Meeting in Louisville, NSSAR Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme announced the appointment of three positions. These include an NSSAR Color Guard Safety Officer, a Commander of Artillery and a Quartermaster.

Compatriot Bob Cunningham (INSSAR) was appointed as Safety Officer. His duties include inspecting all weapons to insure safe operation at national events and to answer any questions about safety issues. He has authored an article (page 4) on firearm safety for this issue. For future issues, please submit any questions you might have to the editor and a response will be included in the next issue.

Compatriot Rudy Byrd (AXSSAR) was appointed as Commander of Artillery. His duties include training for and firing of any cannon at national events.

Compatriot Charlie Scott (KYSSAR) was appointed as Quartermaster. His duties include the maintenance of all color guard equipment stored at the National Office.



NSSAR Color Guard Safety Officer Bob Cunningham



NSSAR Commander of Artillery Dr Rudy Byrd

Helpful Hints

By: George Lipphardt, AZ Society SAR

This website could come in handy for those guys looking for white gloves:

<http://www.paradestore.com/>

I can recommend the gloves with Sure-Grip. Those “dots” really make it easy to hold on to flag poles, muskets, swords or anything else.

From the Editor: Please remember that guardsmen in Continental are expected to wear white gloves at national events, so this is a timely reminder.

This space is available for other helpful hints. Please submit suggestions or hints on various topics.

One suggested topic is for guardsmen to submit their best practices on how to pack their tricorns / helmets for travel. The issue is how to protect these expensive parts of our uniforms from damage while travelling.



So you're going to fire a flintlock

By: Robert Cunningham, NSSAR Color Guard Safety Officer

It is an honor to be selected the Safety Officer for the Color Guard. I will try my best to help all Compatriots who want to fire their flintlocks.

In this article I would like to discuss two important safety rules.

FIRST RULE: The flintlock is always loaded. Treat it that way. Your flintlock should always be carried pointing either at the sky or at the ground. Do not carry it in a horizontal position. Make sure it is always vertical. Do not place your hands over the muzzle. I have seen many compatriots doing this. The flintlock is just the right height to lean on with your hands over the muzzle. Not only should we not do this for our own wellbeing, but when we are in a public arena and especially with children watching, it is not a good idea to set an example of a very dangerous habit.

SECOND RULE: Your firelock should have safety equipment. This means it should have a flash guard and a frizzen cover. See the accompanying picture for an example of this safety equipment. The



flash guard is brass and is sold by muzzle loading equipment companies. The frizzen cover is leather and also can be purchased, although most owners choose to make their own. The frizzen cover needs to be tethered to your flintlock. The third safety item is built into your flintlock. You have all heard the term “going off halfcocked”. Well here it is. Half cock your flintlock with your barrel down, holding the weight by the trigger. If it does not stay halfcocked, you will need a trip to a gunsmith to have your flintlock repaired.

If you have any questions about loading, firing and cleaning your flintlock, please send them to our newsletter editor, Mark Anthony. I will answer them to the best of my ability in the next newsletter. In the next issue I will write about black powder, handling and loading. Most of all, we do this for fun and I am here to help keep it safe.

I look forward to hearing your questions.

Georgia Fellows Fund promotes and supports color guard participation

By: Ed Rigel, Sr
Commander, GA Society SAR Color Guard

Several years ago, the Georgia Society SAR established the “Georgia Fellows Fund”, a fund modeled after the NSSAR George Washington Endowment Fund. Monies from the Georgia Fellows Fund after designation from the Fund Board are used to support unfunded or underfunded activities and initiatives of the GA Society. Designation as a Georgia Fellow requires a contribution of \$200 to the fund and is not limited to SAR members, but open to spouses and friends as well. The Fund has also been the recipient of memorial gifts in honor of GA Society members or spouses. Examples of use of funds includes the purchase of a digital projector for the Society, support for Chapters that purchase a portable sound system, purchase of Flag Day brochures and historic flag book markers for Chapters, and subsidizing the purchase of “Traveling Trunks” for Chapter Education Committees.



More recently, the Fund has offered to reimburse \$100 towards the cost of a uniform for a new Color Guard member. The requirements for reimbursement are submission of a purchase receipt and participation in a State or National Color Guard event. The uniform may be Continental or Militia and may be used. Initially limited to the first five participants, the program has been expanded to allow for additional participation.

Many members of the Georgia Society Color Guard have been participating for many years, some participating in well over 100 Chapter, State, and National events each year. It was brought to the attention of the Georgia Fellows Board that the britches of several members were showing their age and use. The Board has agreed to subsidize the purchase of replacement britches for any member so needing. Preliminary response has been very positive and final reimbursements will be established pending negotiations with a vendor.


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, Montana, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Wyoming

Alabama	George Thomas Smith III	tomsmith12 (at) charter.net	334-215-8432		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	Clarence "Chuck" Barrett	Cabarrett2 (at) verizon.net	941-922-5514		Sarasota, 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
Michigan	Gerald Burkland	bftb (at) tds.net	989-871-9569		Millington, MI
Minnesota	Paul K Theisen	psstheis36 (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	clonnadh (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		Vernonia, 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	James Stone	SAR1783@yahoo.com	423-339-3832		McDonald, TN
Texas	Peter Rowley	ewfarm87 (at) airmail.net	972-424-3954	214-533-9981	Plano, TX
Utah	Lyle Gingery	bltging (at) msn.com	801-487-6809		Salt Lake City, UT
Vermont	Geoffrey Colby	colbydrypowder (at) hotmail.com	617-669-8141		Waitsfield, VT
Virginia	Peter Davenport	Peter.davenport (at) dm.usda.gov	703-992-0230		Fairfax, 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



2013 National Color Guard Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 19	Battle of Cowpens	Chesnee, SC
February 9	Battle of Kettle Creek	Washington, GA
February 16	Crossing of the Dan	South Boston, VA
February 17	California Massing of Colors	Burbank, CA
February 23	Washington Birthday Parade	Laredo, TX
February 23	Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge	Currie, NC
March 1-2	NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting	Louisville, KY
March 9	Last Naval Battle of the Revolution	Cape Canaveral, FL
March 16	Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Greensboro, NC
April 6	Halifax Resolves	Halifax, NC
April 16-18	Patriot's Day	Concord, MA
May 2	Kentucky Derby Pegasus Parade	Louisville, KY
May 11	Battle of Pensacola	Pensacola, FL
May 18-19	Fields of Honor / Healing Field	Various
May 26	Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous	Vincennes, IN
May 27	National Memorial Day Parade	Washington DC
June 8	Battle of Ramseur's Mill	Lincolnton, NC
June 16	Battle of Bunker Hill	Bunker Hill, MA
July 6-11	NSSAR National Congress	Kansas City, MO
July 27	Battle of Fort Laurens	Bolivar, OH
September 7	Vigil at George Washington's Tomb	Mt Vernon, VA
September 14	Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN
September 27-28	NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting	Louisville, KY
October 4-6	Point Pleasant Battle Days	Point Pleasant, WV
October 7	Battle of Kings Mountain	Blacksburg, SC
October 19	Yorktown Days	Yorktown, VA
Nov 30 - Dec 1	Battle of Great Bridge	Norfolk, VA
December 7	Wreaths Across America	Various

Colorguardsman of the Year

The Gold Color Guard Medal was authorized in 1998 . It may only be worn by the National Color Guard Commander (usually presented at the end of his term as commander) and those guardsmen selected as Color Guardsman of the Year.

The Color Guardsman of the Year is elected by the Guardsmen present at the Spring Leadership Meeting.

The following is a listing of those guardsmen who have been honored by their compatriots as Color Guardsman of the Year.

Edgar E Grover (KS)	1999
Robert L Grover (MO)	2000
Bernard G Lamp Sr (WV)	2001
Raymond Zimmerman (MD)	2002
Charles Lampman (CA))	2003
James McCafferty (MD)	2004
Lester A Foster (MD)	2005
Andrew M Johnson (VA)	2006
George Thurmond (GA)	2007
Charles F Bragg (IN)	2008
Charlie A Newcomer (GA)	2009
John H Franklin Jr (OH)	2010
Paul Prescott (GA)	2011
Tom Green (TX)	2012

NSSAR Color Guard Commanders

Donald N Moran (CA)	1989-1990
David J Gray (MA)	1990-2000
Garrett Jackson (CA)	2000-2002
Edgar Grover (KS)	2002-2004
Peter K Goebel (NY)	2004-2006
Charles Lampman (CA)	2006-2007
Larry Perkins (OH)	2007-2009
Joseph Dooley (VA)	2009-2011
J Michael Tomme (GA)	2011-present

The table above lists the events that have been designated as National events for the NSSAR Color Guard. Per the Color Guard Handbook, these events generate twenty (20) points each for Color Guard Medal consideration.

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

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



REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

122nd Annual NSSAR Congress

By: Mark C Anthony, Adjutant

The massed NSSAR Color Guard was very conspicuous at the 122nd Annual Congress in Phoenix, AZ. There were approximately 75 uniformed guardsmen out of the approximately 400 attendees. Activities began on Sunday, 8 July 2012 with the annual Color Guard Breakfast in the Gold Room. Later that day, the Color Guard assembled for inspection by President General Larry Magerkurth prior to the presentation of colors for the Annual Memorial Service in the Gold Room at the Biltmore.

On Monday, the Color Guard presented colors for the Opening Business Session as well as at the Tuesday Banquet. The colors were retired at the end of the Wednesday Night Inaugural Banquet.



During the Monday evening Awards Program, Compatriot Tom Green of the Texas Society was presented the Gold Color Guard Medal in recognition of his designation as Colorguardsman of the Year. In addition to the medal, Compatriot Green will carry the National SAR Flag at all national meetings and events for the next year.

In the picture to the left, Compatriot Green receives the Gold Color Guard Medal from President General Magerkurth as Colorguardsman James Jones of Texas, and Compatriot Green's escort, looks on.

Photos by: Penny Rogo Bailes of MamaRazzi Foto Inc



REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

South Carolina Society

By: Mark C Anthony, Past President, SC Society

Members of the South Carolina and North Carolina Society color guard convened at the Church of the Epiphany in Eutawville, SC to celebrate the 231st Anniversary of the Battle of Eutaw Springs.

The day began with a memorial service. After the service, the attendees moved to the site of the battle located a few miles from the church along the shore of Lake Moultrie for a wreath laying.

Lunch was partaken at the award winning Sweatman's Barbeque.

The day ended with the attendees traveling to the gravesite of General Francis Marion—The Swamp Fox—to pay their respects to this hero of the American Revolution.



Photo to Right: Back Row (l to r) - John Thonrnhill, Will Flint (age 13), Will Ouvry, Gene Funderburk. Front Row - Dan Woodruff

Photo by: Jo Thornhill

Virginia Society



The Virginia Society annually participates in the Naturalization Ceremony at Mount Vernon on the 4th of July.

This ceremony includes a wreath laying a the Tomb of General and Mrs Washington.

Pictured to the left is the Virginia Society Color Guard advancing the colors prior to the Naturalization Ceremony.

Photo provided by: Mike Tomme

Guardsmen Bo Hill (GA) and Pat Kelly (VA) completed the WW II Airborne Demonstration Team Jump training in Fredrick, OK held from 21-29 July. Jumps were from WW II C-47 aircraft. After five jumps, Compatriot Hill made a 6th—or Cherry Jump. Both men were pinned with jump wings Airborne Veterans of Normandy and Market Garden. Sixteen of the class of nineteen were pinned. By the way, Compatriot Kelly, at age 51, was the oldest member with Compatriot Hill being the second oldest. The average temperature was 102 degrees with a maximum of 109 degrees.



REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

California Society



By: James Fosdyck, Commander, California Society Color Guard

Twelve members of the Orange County Chapter participated in the 108th Huntington Beach 4th of July parade. Participants included members of the Le's Legion Color Guard, the CASSAR Ladies Auxiliary and chapter treasurer Arthur Koehler. This was the 25th year in which the Orange County Chapter participated in what is considered the largest 4th of July Parade west of the Mississippi (the crowd was estimated at 250,000).

All photographs provided by Un Hui Yi



Lee's Legion also participated in the 39th Annual "Let Freedom Ring" event in Cerritos, CA on July 4th. The following was sent to the Color Guard from Connie Hinger, Event Coordinator.

*Wow, am I impressed.
I am so thankful for your participation yesterday at the Cerritos Let Freedom Ring Celebration. You all did such a beautiful job and really added to the feel of the Ceremony. We have received SO many positive comments about your group. As soon as I have some photographs to share, I will. Also, I would like to send a note to George Washington, can you provide a mailing address for him.
Again, thank you so much.*



Color Guard and Ladies prior to Parade



General Washington inspecting Lee's Legion



REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Missouri Society

By: Robert L. Grover
Commander, MO Society Color Guard

The Missouri Society Color Guard participated in a Revolutionary War Patriot Grave Marker Dedication on Saturday, 24 March.

The patriot was James Paris (1755-1821) of the North Carolina Militia. Patriot Paris rests in the Crawford-Sims Cemetery in Hannibal Missouri.

Color Guard members in attendance included Russell DeVenny, Wayne Merrill, Jesse Lybarger, Alvin Paris (descendant), Bryan Bradford, Charles Lilly, James L. Scott, Earnie Mowry and William Groth.

Photo to the right is of the family and color guard at the gravesite and was provided by Robert Grover.



The Missouri Color Guard, along with other hereditary groups including the Captain Daniel Morgan Boone Chapter, Society of the War of 1812; Westport Camp #63, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and VFW Post 1738 from Independence, MO participated in the 2nd Annual National Medal of Honor Day Ceremony on Sunday, 25 March. The group gathered to honor Medal of Honor Recipient Major M.R. William Grebe of the 4th Missouri Calvary who is buried in Mount St. Mary's Cemetery in Kansas City, MO. A Proclamation signed by Kansas City Mayor Sly James was read as part of the event.

Photograph above by Carolyn S Grover



REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Arizona Society

By: Al Niemeyer

Dr. Rudy Byrd, together with James Williamson and Albert Niemeyer taught classes on the Constitution and Colonial Life to Students at Brown Mackie College, Tucson, AZ. Honorary Color Guard member, Theresa Williamson, in her best Colonial Dress, instructed a class on the women of the Revolution and their vast contribution to the war's success. The Constitution Day classes were held Thursday, 13 September. This is the straight 3rd year that the Tucson Chapter has participated in the Brown Mackie Constitution Day classes. Brown Mackie staff are very enthusiastic about the classes and the positive impact that it has had on the students.



Photo at right: Dr Byrd speaks to students during lunch break. Photograph supplied by All Niemeyer

Maryland Society

By: David H Embrey, MD Society Color Guard Commander

The Maryland Society Color Guard had the honor of presenting the Colors at the Maryland Daughters of the American Revolution 107th Annual State Conference and a photo with President General: Merry Ann T. Wright and Maryland Regent: Ruann Newcomer George. This event is always one of the highlights of our year.

Kneeling: David Embrey, Commander and Bob Ayers, Drum Major
 Standing (l-r): Chris Raborg, David Hoover, President General Merry Ann T. Wright, Maryland Regent Ruann Newcomer George, C. Louis Raborg Jr, Louis PM Raborg, Sam Raborg

Photo to left by Guill Photo



The Maryland Society Color Guard presented Colors and a musket salute at the MSDAR Mary Carroll Caton Chapter Grave Marking for their namesake at Green Mount Cemetery in Baltimore.

Mary Carroll Caton was the daughter of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, signer of the Declaration of Independence.
 Photos to right by Sandy Wallis



Front Row: Vicki Lynn Embrey, Chapter Regent; Back Row (l-r): Chris Smithson, Bill Smithson, David Hoover, David Embrey and Robert Ayers



REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

South Central District

By: Robert Grover, Commander MO Society Color Guard

The South Central District Color Guard poses at the South Central District Annual Meeting held 24-25 August at the Grand Plaza Hotel in Branson Missouri.

Back Row (l-r): Mike Tomme (GA), Bob Capps (KS), Jesse Lybarger (MO), Oliver Hinds (AR), Dennis Nelson (KS), Edgar Grover (KS) stuart Denslow (OK) and Bill Groth (MO)

Front Row (l-r): J Wayne Merrill (MO) Martin Klotzback (KS), Robert Grover (MO), Glenn Fast (OK) and Russell DeVenney (MO)

Photo provided by: Robert Grover



Washington Society

By: Bob Neal

Commander, WA Society Color Guard

The Washington Society Color Guard appeared at the Gene Lobe Ballpark at the Kitsap Fairgrounds on Tuesday, 22 August to present colors for the championship game of the 2012 Babe Ruth League World Series.

Also present was hometown Olympic Gold Medalist Nathan Adrian to the delight of the 1,800 fans on hand.

This event marked the first time that Compatriot John Herr marched in uniform. He took advantage of the new "Color Guard Loaner Uniform Program" and suited up as a Militiaman in a hunting frock and tricorne. These loaner uniforms are available to anyone wishing to march with no further obligation beyond the initial usage.

Commander O'Neal carried the Betsy Ross Flag while Doug Nelson carried the Washington Territorial Colors. The four man unit was filled out by Lee Thomasson carrying a rifled firelock.

Many beautiful young ladies asked to have their pictures taken with the Color Guard. As an example, our newest recruiting poster is provided - "Those Pretty Girls just Love to see a Man in Uniform—Join the WASSAR Color Guard!"



Photos provided by: Bob O'Neal



REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Washington Society

By: Bob O'Neal, Commander, WA Society Color Guard

Doug Nelson & Bob O'Neal traveled by road & ferry to Friday Harbor to meet and greet the ladies of the San Juan Islands DAR for their Annual Picnic. We slept in a cabin at the home of Compatriot Dave Vandaveer and his Lady, Dorothy, amongst the tall Timber of this wild Island, and awoke to rabbits, deer, peacock & turkeys meandering here and there.

On the next day we were pleased to escort the DAR Regent, and Vice Regent, in to a meeting of the local City Council, where a Proclamation was voted and read by the Mayor to recognize September 17-24 as Constitution Week. The Signing was greeted by the attending public with a loud "Huzzah!". (Rendered I'm afraid, by yours truly.)

The delegation then repaired to the Island Historic Museum for the DAR Annual Picnic, where we performed our Living History presentations for more than 50 approving Guests of all Ages.

Among those attending were several interested descendants of Patriots for both the SAR and DAR. The anticipation is that several of these prospects will join as they have already been working on their papers.

Two Flag Certificates, one to our hosts, Dave & Dot, and one to his neighbors, Dan & Kitty Sorgen, whose daughter sang our National Anthem to start the Proceedings. The best result of the day was the news that the DAR there is going to present the Constitution to their local elementary school students.



Photo above: WASSAR Color Guard Members Bob O'Neal (Commander) and Doug Nelson (right) present their living history program at the San Juan Islands DAR Chapter Annual Picnic



Photo to right: WASSAR Color Guard Commander Bob O'Neal accepts the Constitution Week Proclamation from Mayor Virginia Majewski

Photographs provided by Bob O'Neal



NATIONAL EVENTS

Kings Mountain



By: Mark C Anthony, Adjutant

Sunday morning 7 October saw guardsmen from South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Virginia and Maryland gather to commemorate the 232nd Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain.

The NSSAR was represented by Treasurer General Lindsey Brock. Other general officers in attendance were Genealogist General Larry Cornwell, Librarian General Mike Wells and Registrar General (and Color Guard Commander) Mike Tomme.

Photo: Massed NSSAR Color Guard after the 232nd Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain

Photograph by: Jo Thornhill

Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns

By: Steve Leishman, NSSAR President General

My thoughts were all over the place when I came into Arlington National Cemetery. From the car we walked to the Tomb and met Sergeant Skywalker, Sergeant of the Guard, who would be with us later that afternoon. He answered some of our questions. It was interesting to learn that it takes a soldier from six to nine months to become fully qualified for the Honor Guard. While standing at our assigned place at the top of the steps I thought of all the dignitaries, small and great, that had walked before me down the steps to the rubber mat in front of the Tomb. At the bottom of the steps I was surprised at how big the wreath really was. As we took the few steps towards the Tomb and we stood on the rubber mat I tried to look around the wreath and guard to see the Tomb. It came to me emotionally that I was standing on sacred ground. As a Vietnam veteran I know that that war's unknown had been exhumed and identified and wondered if there would be any more 'unknown' soldiers? As we turned around to walk up the steps my thoughts were interrupted with reality as I was being hit in the leg by a color guardsman's sword. At the top of the steps, Sgt. Skywalker thanked us, regained his composure, did an about face and descended the stairs. With that I felt a chill. I'm sure it wasn't from the weather or the damp suit I was wearing. I knew that I had done something that some most other people can only watch. It was an honor to represent all of our Compatriots in this solemn ceremony.



Participating in the wreath laying with the President General were Bill Broadus, Paul Briggs and Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme.

Photograph by: Michael Elston

I also knew that my next stop before leaving the cemetery was to visit the grave of my Vietnam roommate of one year who I never got to see when I returned three months later. I think that provided some closure after 42 years.



A Salute to our Ladies

By: Jim Fosdyck, Commander, California Society Color Guard

Editor's Note: Un Hui Yi has provided numerous photographs to this publication. I asked her husband, Jim Fosdyck, to provide a little biographical data to introduce her to the Color Guard at large.

Un Hui (in Colonial Era attire) has participated in dozens of color guard events and attend all the spring and fall CASSAR meetings since 2009. She attended the 2011 and 2012 Congresses as well as Leadership meetings in Louisville.

She is the Orange County Chapter's "Betsy Ross" sewing buttons, mending and altering the Lee's Legion Color Guard uniforms as requested / needed and mounting medals and ribbons for wearing on suit coats and tuxedo jackets.

She continues to be one of the foremost Orange County Chapter and CASSAR photographers. Her photographs of a variety of subjects (particularly color guard events) have been used in *The SAR Magazine*, *The California Patriot* and *The SAR Colorguardsman*. These photos also dominate the Orange County Chapter website and are a large portion of the CASSAR Facebook page.

Un Hui has been a member of the CASSAR Ladies Auxiliary since 2009. She has been awarded the Daughters of Liberty Medal (twice), the Martha Washington Medal (thrice) and the CASSAR Major General Baron von Steuben Medal for her work with the Color Guard.

Un Hui immigrated to the United States in 1985 and became a naturalized citizen in 1996. One of her goals has been to see and learn more about the United States. So, beginning in 2003, we have traveled to all 50 states and their capitals. She says she has learned more US history since I became a member of the SAR than she did studying for her citizenship exams.



Un Hui Yi at the 108th Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade

For once, photograph (not by) Un Hui Yi, instead photograph supplied by James Fosdyck

Molly Pitcher Medal

Many women who are the wives, daughters, sisters, girlfriends, and other female relatives and companions of SAR Color Guardsmen routinely and with great dedication support their Guardsman and the SAR Color Guard. The Molly Pitcher Medal may be awarded to women who have supported the SAR Color Guard at the State, District and National Levels. The Medal is silver in color, and depicts a likeness of Molly Pitcher. It is available only in miniature. Its precedence is higher than NSSAR Specialty Medals, but lower than the Charter Centennial Medal. The Molly Pitcher Medal may be awarded only once; oak leaf clusters are not permitted.

Earning the Molly Pitcher Medal

A woman must be present at, and support, the SAR Color Guard at qualifying SAR Color Guard events. The same events that count toward earning the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal shall also count toward earning the Molly Pitcher Medal. In addition, participation in, and support of, State events, such as a State Society Annual Meeting or a State Society Board of Managers/Governors Meeting, shall also count toward earning the Medal.

A woman may be said to 'support' the SAR Color Guard by participating in SAR Color Guard events wearing Revolutionary-era attire, or by bringing refreshments for participating SAR Color Guardsmen, or by providing some other tangible support for her SAR Color Guardsman. However, merely attending an SAR Color Guard event shall not be deemed as 'support' for the purposes of earning the Molly Pitcher Medal.

Before a woman may be awarded the Molly Pitcher Medal, her husband or other male companion must have been awarded the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal. Women who believe they qualify for the Molly Pitcher Medal must complete the appropriate form, setting forth their qualifications. This form is available on the SAR website, and must be submitted to the State or District Color Guard Commander for review and recommendation, and then to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the Molly Pitcher Medal.

More details will be outlined in the next edition of *The SAR Color Guard Handbook*.

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NSSAR Color Guard.**

A Salute to Our Ladies

By: Stan Wills, Washington Society Color Guard

Mount Washington is a 6,600 foot mountain on the Olympic Peninsula. The trail to the top is 4.2 miles with a 30-35% uphill grade most of the way, some places steeper. Troy and I departed to make the trip when we found out the trail was closed to due high fire hazard and roaming bands of mountain goats. One mountain goat had killed a hiker, early this summer, when he was gored and bleed to death. We had to change our plans and take a different route, longer and steeper. Here is our story.

On 18 Feb 2012 my beloved wife passed away, on the day of our 40th Wedding Anniversary. We have a saying in the military, "Behind every man stands a good woman". Mine was the Best. I am a retired Navy Veteran and my wife was with me for 17 years of my military service. In all that time I never had to worry about the home front. She took care of everything, never once adding any stress to my already stressful job. She also took care of other Navy wives when it was needed. She had two brothers who served in Viet Nam and two sisters that also married Navy men. Our home has always been open to the military men & women who served our country. The military was as much a part of her as it is with me. As with all military personnel you always prepare for death, but hope it never comes. In our case we had talked about what to do if one of us dies. She wanted to be cremated and have her ashes scattered in the mountains so she could look down on her friends, family and most of all the 4th of July Fireworks over Puget Sound. You see she loved the Red, White & Blue. From the time we first met she loved anything Red, White & Blue. The first item we bought as a newly married couple was a Red, White & Blue candle stick phone (I still have it). Over the course of 40 years of marriage we accumulated over 300 items in our home that are Red, White, & Blue. When she had her stroke's 20 years ago the first thing the Doctor asked me was: "What was her family history? Do heart problems run in the family?" I did not know anything about either of her grandparents families. So I started researching the family history. Heart problems did run in the family. As luck would have it, I found out she had a relative that served with George Washington in the Revolutionary War. Because of this, she was eligible to join the Daughters of the American Revolution. When she found this out she was overjoyed with pride. She now knew why she loved the Red, White & Blue so much. She was not just an American, because she was born in America, but she had an ancestor who served with George Washington. Her family had been in America for over 250 years. She was so proud of her heritage and in becoming a member of the DAR.

It is only fitting that since I am so proud of her military support and DAR heritage that I was honored to give her the Military Honors befitting a Military Veteran, both of the current military and the past military. She deserved it as much as any active /retired military person does, as does any spouse of a military service man or women.

I carried her ashes to the top of Mount Washington in Washington State. There I deposited her ashes so she could see her beloved Puget Sound, Family & Friends. I placed a DAR plaque at the spot. Wearing my Red, White & Blue Revolutionary War Uniform (same color as the her ancestor's uniform for whom she joined the DAR under), I sounded Taps, saluted her DAR Plaque & Flag and bid her farewell. My father taught me that us, as long as a person is remembered they live forever. Due to her love of the Red, White & Blue, every time I see a Flag I will remember her. The next time you see a flag remember my beloved "Beaver". As I departed, I said, "I will be back next year my love, when I bring your favorite flowers." You guessed it, Red, White and Blue.

P.S.: As we departed, an eagle started circling her spot on the mountain. We figured he approved of what we had done.