

THE SAR



COLOR GUARDSMAN

Volume 12 Number 4 January 2024

The National Society Sons of the American Revolution



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National Color Guard Events - 2024

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



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Commander's Report

Fellow color guardsmen,

Another Color Guard year is close to the halfway point. The Fall Battle Commemoration season is finished, and we look forward to our Spring events. It is the local guardsmen on a chapter and state level that makes this work.

Without the participation of our compatriots and the time and effort that goes into attending commemorations, grave markings, patriotic events, and other programs we would not have the level of visibility in our communities that we currently enjoy in our Chapter, State, District, and National events.

The SAR Color Guard certainly lives the Mission Statement of the National Society SAR. For those that do not have the Mission Statement memorized I have included it below:

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and education and inspiring future generation about the founding principles of our Country.

As we start moving down the list of National SAR events, please realize that if your event has been granted "National" status then that comes with certain expectations and responsibilities. These have been detailed in several articles over the last year but some of the key ones are:

- 1) Advance publicity – let every know the details. Events are not secret please use every source at your disposal to gather up the public, other lineage societies along with the SAR, DAR, and C.A.R.
- 2) Sending invitations to National SAR officers and National SAR Color Guard staff.
- 3) Following protocol on proper listing of individuals in the programs and order of wreath presentation
- 4) Following protocol when members of the National Society SAR Color Guard Command staff are in attendance.
- 5) Making sure the event is covered by insurance that names the National Society SAR as an additional insured.
- 6) Making sure that the upcoming 250th anniversary of this nation is mentioned.
- 7) Making sure that guardsmen that interact with youth have completed their youth protection training.
- 8) Making sure that an After-Action Report is filed with the National Historic Sites Committee and with the National Color Guard Committee.

While not an all-encompassing list these items certainly need to be dealt with.

The insurance item has been getting much attention over the last several years. I have heard many compatriots say we are not firing black powder, so I don't need insurance. Wrong. The SAR has liability exposure in many areas, and I can give you a list of actual issues that I have seen at events that have nothing to do with black powder. If your state has a liability policy, please make sure that national is listed as an additional insured. If you are hosting a national event and your state does not have insurance, you need to contact the national headquarters and have your event added to the national policy. Do not wait until a problem occurs to try to see if you are covered. Advance notification is needed, you must complete the required insured paperwork, and be advised that this needs to be done multiple weeks, if not months, in advance.

Please complete and file the After-Action reports. On the Historic Sites and Celebration Committee web page there is an Event Reporting Template for you to use. A couple of states have their own template that was developed before this template was posted. I am happy to provide you with some sample reports that have been previously filled. We strongly encourage you to file these reports. We want to know what went great and what some issues are. Several events have gone for several years without letting anyone know about the health of the event. We more national events coming online there is talk of looking at existing events to see if they should continue. Please help yourself by completing the After-Action Report.

It has been my honor to serve as your National Commander while participating at the

- 1) Battle of Blue Licks in Kentucky,
- 2) Gathering at Sycamore Shoals in Tennessee,
- 3) Vigil and George and Martha Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon, Virginia,
- 4) Fall Leadership meeting in Kentucky,
- 5) South Atlantic District meeting with the President General in South Carolina,



- 6) Kings Mountain on the South Carolina/North Carolina border,
- 7) Gov. Nelson, Jr. Grave ceremony and Yorktown Celebration in Yorktown, Virginia,
- 8) Siege of Fort Morris in Sunbury, GA,
- 9) Battle of Great Bridge in Chesapeake, VA
- 10) 250th Anniversary of the Boston, Tea Party in Boston, MA
- 11) Ten Crucial Days – Battle of Princeton in Princeton, NJ

Later this week I will be leaving for my 170th National Society SAR Color Guard event.

Before closing, it is time for the Color Guardsman of the Year nominations. This position will be voted on at the National Society SAR Color Guard Committee meeting held at Spring Leadership in Lexington, Kentucky. You must be present to vote. Each state only gets one vote so please decide in advance who will cast the vote for your state. In addition to those votes prior recipients of the National Society SAR Gold Color Guard Medal (National Color Guardsmen of the Year and National Color Guard Commanders) also vote.

Please note that while a guardsman may be very active at the chapter and state level the National Color Guardsman of the Year looks at their service on the national level and at events classified as national events no matter where held.

We are looking for the guardsman that best exemplifies both the spirit of the Sons of the American Revolution and the use of Color Guards to display that spirit. Please see the Handbook for other requirements and for expectations if your nominee is selected.

We on the National Color Guard Staff are here to help you with growing and expanding your Color Guards, and we are never more than an email or telephone call away.

Please continue your service as the Face of the SAR and furthering the Mission of the SAR.

Yours in Patriotism

K. Scott Collins,
National Society SAR Color Guard Commander

Upcoming 2024 Events

Upcoming National SAR events per state society calendars:

17 Jan 2024	Wednesday	Battle of Cowpens	South Carolina
27 Jan 2024	Saturday	Battle of Cowpens Ford	North Carolina
10 Feb 2024	Saturday	Battle of Kettle Creek	Georgia
17 Feb 2024	Saturday	Crossing the Dan	Virginia
17 Feb 2024	Saturday	George Washington Parade	Texas
24 Feb 2024	Saturday	Battle of Moore's Creek	North Carolina
15 Mar 2024	Friday	Battle of Guilford Courthouse	North Carolina
16 Mar 2024	Saturday	Last Naval Battle	Florida
12 Apr 2024	Friday	Halifax Resolves	North Carolina
23 Mar 2024	Saturday	Battle of Thomas Creek	Florida
15 Apr 2024	Monday	Patriot's Day Celebration	Massachusetts
20 Apr 2024	Saturday	Frederica Naval Actions	Georgia
08 May 2024	Wednesday	Battle of Pensacola	Florida
25 May 2024	Saturday	Fort San Carlos	Missouri



Vice-Commander's Report

Compatriots,

Sons of the American Revolution.

The New Jersey society was very busy in December & January conducting the battle of Trenton the Battle of Princeton. We were honored to have our national commander, Scott Collins, join us. Who let our color guard at Princeton. We were very fortunate to have General Secretary, Daryl Addington & his wife, Mary join us for the Trenton event in December.

On February 17th, 2024 The Empire State Society Will join our meeting with the New Jersey Society.

This is very exciting. As it is the first time I can remember two societies getting together to celebrate George Washington's Birthday.

Special Guests: President General John L. Dodd and General Vincent de Kytspotter, SAR France.

Gen. Vincent de Kytspotter will be our guest speaker.

And then we are on to spring leadership in Louisville, Kentucky at the end of the month.

I have received very little applications for the Von Steuben award.

Please send me any applications so that I can go through them and submit them to our commander for approval.

My email address.
robert.meyer 29@gmail.com

Is where you can send those applications.

We really need to review them at spring leadership.

Respectfully submitted.
Robert Meyer.

Vice Commander, National Color Guard



Editorial

I am very happy to note that **28** states have submitted content for this issue.

Let me say that for the next issue, PLAN HEAD and get your report started well before the deadline. This issue was seriously delayed due to a LATE submission.

I am aware that the deadlines for issues especially January, July and October involve a time crunch for the state commanders/submitters and for me. I can't start compiling the issue (putting articles on pages) until I get all of the state contents since I list the state articles alphabetically. It takes at least two whole days to compile and recheck the placement of text and photos.

To hopefully make it easier on you, the state submitters and me, I will extend the delivery deadline to an extra 7 days into the issue month, e.g., January 7th. The time frame for the activities/events is till the preceding 3 months. For the January 2024 issue, color guard activities from October 1st to December 31st should be what's submitted.

PLEASE NOTE:

I would ask all submitters to help me in processing those submissions. Items to note are:

- Some submissions had photos that were time consuming in getting them ready to include. They were (1) small in resolution and thus had to be placed as tiny graphics, (2) too blurry/DARK and had to be manipulated to sharpen the photos to be easily viewed. SO - PLEASE send photos in largest resolution possible and make sure that the submissions are not blurry.
- **DO NOT SUBMIT HEIC** graphics
- **DO NOT** embed photos in documents or messages. Send them separately as attachments
- **DO NOT** send in content that does not have Color Guard involvement.
- **DO NOT** send graphics/pictures from within IDrive/Google-Drive or other cloud based storage
- Identify which photo goes with which event

This issue took **5** days longer to format because submissions did not follow the guidelines listed above. Next issue's submissions will be reviewed upon receipt and if necessary I will send the submission back for correction.

Yours in Patriotism

Steve



In Memoriam

DWIGHT DAVID ELAM

Named after General Dwight David Eisenhower who became the 34th President of the United States. Born Sept 12, 1951 in Lexington, KY

STORYTELLER

Former Teacher K-College
Minister for 40 years
B.S. Milligan College

Masters in Education from Morehead University Doctoral work at University of Kentucky.

Pastor, First Christian Church of Punta Gorda
Owner, Elam Electrical Contracting Company
Member of the Ft. Myers Tamiami Tale Tellers Calusa Harbor Tellers
Florida State Storytelling Association

Sons of the American Revolution

- **Chaplain General** 2021-2022, 2023-2024 NSSAR
- State Chaplain, FLSSAR
- Caloosa Chapter Chaplain, FLSSAR
- Color Guard Member – awarded Silver Color Guard Medal

Society of the War of 1812 in the State of Florida

- State Chaplain

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

- Camp #2 Chaplain

Obituary for Dwight Donald Elam

From Fort Myers Memorial Gardens

Dwight Donald Elam, 72, of Lexington, KY, and Fort Myers, FL, passed away on December 19, 2023. He was born September 12, 1951, to James and JoAnn (Stokley) Elam in Lexington, KY.

While Dwight and Becky have called Fort Myers their home for over twenty years, their journey with the Lord has taken them on many adventures.

Dwight was proud of being a Timothy of Broadway Christian Church, where he had many great Biblical mentors. Dwight and Becky met through a Christian Church rally and went to Bryan Station High School, graduating in 1969. They married on June 12, 1970, and Dwight graduated from Milligan College (TN) in 1973 with degrees in Education and Ministry. While at Milligan, they welcomed their first child, Christina Kelly.

Moving back to Lexington, Dwight and Becky served in ministry at Berea Christian Church, where they welcomed their second child, Andrew Scott, in 1977. Soon after Scott's birth, they moved to Griffith, IN, where they served in ministry at Griffith First Christian Church.



From that ministry, they went to the mountains of Eastern Kentucky, where Dwight was a professor at Kentucky Christian College. He served as a coach on several ball teams as well. He served as a minister at Lower Grassy Church of Christ.

They arrived in Versailles, KY, in 1982 and called Woodford County home for over a decade. Dwight and Becky served in ministry at Peyton's Lick Christian Church for several years and then stepped out of "paid" ministry while Scott and Christi were of youth group age. He owned an Elam Electric in KY and FL and would be proud to say he drove himself to the hospital from work.

The Elams were active members of Broadway Christian Church, where they made many special friends and shared many special memories. These include countless shared meals, Behold the Lamb Easter Musical Productions, Christmas productions that include live sheep and donkeys, and Dwight's beloved Broadway Christian Church Softball team, where he played and coached for many years.

Once Scott and Christi were out of the house, he returned to full-time ministry, moving to serve at Port Charlotte (FL) First Christian Church. After a stint in FL, they moved to Georgetown, KY, to serve at Northside Christian Church. Once the grandchildren were born, he felt called to come back to Florida to see the kids grow up, and he was fortunate enough to see the boys grow up next door. He served as the minister at First Christian Church Punta Gorda until his passing.

While those are the facts, there are countless stories of lives changed eternally through the ministry of Dwight and Becky. There are hundreds of baptisms, weddings, and funerals. Thousands of phone calls and hospital visits. Their ministry has and will continue to impact the lives of generations. He was a youth minister, minister, coach, rev, and mentor to many who are now in the ministry. Many generations are raising their children in the love of the Lord because of their ministry. The Lord called him at a young age to be his disciple and a tent-maker. He was so grateful for that opportunity and for being a humble servant of the Lord.

Dwight and Becky didn't retire to Florida. They were busy working but also found time to be active community members. Dwight was proud of his service to the Sons of the American Revolution, the Masons, the Shriners, the Jamestown Society, the Sons of the Union, the 1812 Descendents Society, and the Descendents of American Farmers. He served in various capacities locally, statewide, and nationally for The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). He proudly served as the Chaplain General of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Dwight is preceded in passing by many friends and family, including parents JoAnn and James Elam, his son-in-law, and co-worker Ed Cerwinsky.

Dwight leaves his loving memory behind with his immediate family, Becky, wife of 53 years, Christi Elam Cerwinsky (daughter), Scott and Katie Elam (son and daughter-in-law), and his beloved grandchildren, Trey and Trier Cerwinsky, Jackson Cerwinsky, Madelyn, and Olivia Elam.

The French Connection - Part II

If you read the excellent article in October 2023 by our Virginia Society SAR Color Guard Commander Chris Mehulish. French Military Participation in SAR Color Guard, you will note the great progress that has been made with building a relationship with the French Military as the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution is approaching.

I share how at NSSAR Chapter level; one can get engaged in working these great relationships. At the 2019 Spring Leadership meeting in Louisville, KY, I learned from a Connecticut Society SAR Color Guard member that there were French Soldiers graves there from Marshal Jean-Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, comte de Rochambeau's army prior to the French marching to Yorktown, VA. At the time, I thought this would be a great opportunity to work with the French military for a grave marking event.

I participated in the Yorktown Victory Celebration and Parade on 19 October 2019. After the parade I met a French Army Officer and his family. They wanted their picture taken with me and my Continental uniform. I mentioned the idea of a grave marking event like what I'd heard at the Spring Leadership. The French Officer seemed to like the idea and his daughters gave me a small French tricolor flag.

The next event I attended in Yorktown in October 2021, was the dedication of General Comte de Rochambeau's statue. It was there I met two French Army Officers and exchanged business cards and information. Both were NATO officers assigned to Norfolk, VA. They were also airborne qualified like me, so that was a good introduction. The senior French Officer was Colonel Aymeric Tardieu De Maleissye who



was a French Marine which is part of the French Army with the Airborne units, the other was Lieutenant Colonel Alain Abad an Engineer Officer.

I was able to contact these officers after I developed a grave marking ceremony on 2 April 2022, for Patriot John Holker. He was born in Manchester, England, but his father was a Catholic Jacobite that fought in the Scottish Rising of 1745, was captured, then escaped with his family to France. Both father and son became prominent in French Textile manufacturing. They became involved in 1777 in helping American Commissioners in Paris to obtain military clothing & other supplies.

In 1778, John Holker, with Benjamin Franklin's support, came to America as a diplomatic representative. By 1780 Holker had become consul general for Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, and New York. So as a French citizen and Consul, my chapter organized a grave marking for John Holker in Boyce, Virginia.

We had the two French Army Officers previously mentioned and their wives invited to attend the grave marking event on 2 April 2022. They were joined by another French Air Force Officer Lieutenant Colonel Marc Gilles and his wife. Also attending this event was our NSSAR Surgeon General Ernest Sutton.

We did find that Patriot Holker has two 9th generation descendants that are SAR members living in France. We contacted them and sent photographs of the event. The VASSAR had 27 Color Guardsmen attend the Hoker Grave Marking event. Before we started the ceremony, Colonel Aymeric Tardieu De Maleissye trooped the line of VASSAR Color Guardsmen.

So, opportunities are out there for all NSSAR Chapters to think about working events in with our Revolutionary allies. Don't forget the Spanish! Captain Mehulish and I both got to meet and speak with the Spanish Ambassador this October at Yorktown events. Both France and Spain have Consulates around the country. There are opportunities with the 250th Anniversary to share our gratitude for the support these two nations provided to help us win our independence. Many Americans have no knowledge of this.

Brett Osborn
NSSAR Color Guard Safety Officer

One event for 2024, while Memorial Day is a National Event all over the USA, this topic came up with President General Dodd and Secretary General Mike Elston in Boston. PG Dodd will be attending the Memorial Day event in DC and they wanted more state CG to attend. This had always been open, many states send CG to Mount Vernon for the Tomb Ceremony, but that's a Revolutionary War and Historical site of prominence. The DC parade is patriotic. Here is the notice we posted on the Virginia Color Guard 2024 Calendar.

May 27th, 2024, Monday (2:00 pm) - National Memorial Day Parade - District of Columbia

Event Level: National

Host/POC: George Washington Chapter VASSAR / Mike Elston.

Location: National Mall, Washington, DC.

Firing Event: No

Event Color Guard Commander: TBA.

Heat Index:

Details: NSSAR P-G Dodd will participate. Muster no later than 1:00 pm on the Mall, 7th St., between Madison Dr., and Jefferson Dr. The parade length is approximately 1.5 miles. Participants will also need to factor in the distance to and from parking sites to determine the total miles walked in this event (perhaps 3 miles total). The George Washington Chapter, VASSAR, continues with its tradition of organizing SAR parade participation in the District of Columbia in support of the DC Society SAR.

Brett Osborn
NSSAR Color Guard Safety Officer



SAFETY

New Safety Officer - Brett Osborn

Winter Safety Tips: Preventing Falls

PREVENTING FALLS

It's time to get ready for winter. Usually there are less NSSAR Color Guard events, but we all get out and by taking some safety considerations, I consider preventing falls a priority. I've taken some backward falls on snow and ice with army jump boots, cowboy boots and leather soled shoes. I was younger then, but I can't pretend those were good learning experiences.

Some points to consider for Prevention:

- Wear proper foot gear with good traction, 18th century footwear isn't good unless it has hobnails. Try rubber soles.
- Take smaller steps when walking.
- Walk slowly and don't run on icy ground.
- Keep both hands free for balance rather than in your pockets.
- Use handrails if available.
- Test potential icy spots by tapping the area with your foot.
- Don't jump out of vehicles, step out carefully.
- Keep walkways clear.
- Avoid carrying large loads that obstruct your line of vision.



- If walkways are icy, travel along grassy areas for traction.
- When entering buildings, remove snow and water from shoes.

Icy Precautions

- Take short steps or shuffle.
- Bend slightly, with your center of gravity over your feet.
- Be prepared to fall.
- If falling, don't use your arms to protect against breaks.
- Drop any load you're carrying unless it's your grandchild. Safety first!

I'd add a good walking stick or cane is probably a good idea to assist with outdoor walking in winter weather. Enjoy your holidays.

Brett Osborn
NSSAR Color Guard Safety Officer

Safety While Walking

- Plan your route and allow sufficient time.
- Walk in designated walkways.

HUZZAH, GOEX

Black powder is back!

After a two-year absence, we now have some GOEX black powder back on the shelves. The original company went under and was purchased by new owners. Getting back into manufacturing black powder their priority was to fill some government contracts. Not sure if many former chains like Bass Pro/Cabela's will be carrying this again.

The local vendor I bought GOEX from today only had IIF or cannon grade available, more is on order. This vendor Back Creek Gun Shop is on a rural farm next to the gun ranges of the North South Skirmish Association west of Winchester, VA.

The price today was one pound of IIF GOEX was \$25 cash. One pound of Swiss IIF black powder was \$32. One pound of Schuetzen black powder was being sold for \$25.

This vendor said they got their first GOEX in October. They have orders pending from Williamsburg and other Virginia Historic groups. For shipping there is a \$48 Hazmat fee and freight varies depending on location. They have a minimum order requirement of five pounds.

This is good news with the 250th events coming up soon. Check and see if your local gun or sporting goods stores are selling GOEX.

Brett Osborn

NSSAR Color Guard Safety Officer

Your NSSAR Safety Officer attended a New England Militia Soft-Style Cartridge Pouch workshop with Mr. Roy Nanjecki on 4 November 2023, which was done at the Major John Buttrick House at the National Park Service (NPS) North Bridge Visitor Center, Concord, Massachusetts. Roy provided leather, pre-drilled blocks, and tools for this workshop.

His sutler website is: <https://www.najecki.com/repro/reproindex.html>

As a reenactor for a Massachusetts unit that participated in the annual Battle Road event (Lexington-Concord); the NPS has elevated authenticity standards for participants to meet for the 250th anniversary on clothing, equipment, and appearances. This was an opportunity to upgrade my kit.



I am not a leather craftsman and struggle to thread a needle to sew on buttons. I thought from a living history standpoint this would be something new to learn about. The class size was set at ten participants. Mr. Roy Nanjecki has been reenacting for decades and lives in Rhode Island. He has made so many items, including shoes, he is a master craftsman and does excellent research on period items. The NPS has several workshops throughout the year by craftsmen including hats and garments that are period correct.

Mr. Nanjecki said he has documentation that over 12,000 New England cartridge pouches or boxes were constructed in small workshop settings prior to and during the first years of the American Revolution. One contractor fulfilled an order for 300 cartridge pouches

used moose hide for the straps. For our workshop we were provided moose hide leather straps with buckles. Even more impressive is that years ago Mr. Nanjecki purchased chestnut lumber that was taken from an 1830 house being torn down, which made the wood we used for blocks, in the 18th century.

The New England cartridge pouch workshop had us using traditional 18th century techniques, which included handmade thread soak in pine tar, and each of us making stitching holes with special awl tools. The stitching included the whip stitch which I was familiar with, but the saddle stitch had two large needles on a handmade thread going opposite directions through the holes we punched. I was the slowest, but I didn't sew the cartridge pouch straps on backwards as several participants did.

I mentioned to Roy that this workshop on cartridge box/pouch is an

excellent opportunity for reenactors and living history participants to see the correct way such items were made. Mr. Nanjecki agreed with me, there is great educational value in sharing a craftsman's knowledge to get more involved in the 250th Anniversary.



134TH ANNUAL CONGRESS - 2024

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

July 10–July 16, 2024

IMPORTANT THE SCHEDULE HAS SHIFTED SO PLEASE PAY ATTENTION:

Wednesday, Jul 10 Excom/SARF

Thursday, Jul 11 Tours and Host Reception

Friday, Jul 12 CG Breakfast, Trustees Meeting, Memorial Service, First Lady's Tea, Rumbaugh Finals

Saturday, Jul 13 CoSP Breakfast, Opening Session, Youth Luncheon, Minuteman/Awards Session

Sunday, Jul 14 District Breakfasts, 2d Session, GWEF/VPs Luncheon, Ladies Luncheon, Balloting, PGs Banquet

Monday, Jul 15 Donors Recognition, Final Session of Congress, Short Tours, Installation Banquet

Tuesday, Jul 16 Excom/SARF Add on Tours to Philadelphia or the Philadelphia Campaign are being offered but must have a minimum of interested parties or they will be cancelled.

Hotel Registration Link

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1694032062042&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

The hotel is the Lancaster Marriott, Penn Square, 25 S. Queen St., Lancaster PA. Ph. 717-239-1600

Give them the GROUP CODE of NSSAR

Rooms are \$149 plus tax per night with a 48 hour cancellation policy. These rates are good for the dates July 8 – 17, 2024

Room options are either a king or double. All suites have been allocated already.

If you have problems please contact the NSSAR Congress Planning Chair, Paul Callanan, 704-756-0363 or LTCMRSC@aol.com.

Look forward to seeing you there.

The Fife And Drumm Corps

The Music in the Field

10/7 - 243rd Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle of Kings Mountain



10/8 - Scott Giltner the grave marking of Patriot William Bond conducted on 8 October in Lawrenceburg, KY.



10/11 - The KS and MO SAR Color Guard and DAR Flag Line who welcomed home the 90 Veterans on the Heartland Honor Flight from DC last night at KC International Airport. Roy Hutchinson plays a few tunes



10/13 - Fifer Program by Roy Hutchinson at the Warrensburg DAR Chapter



10/15 - Marking of Private William Kindred Red Lick Cemetery, Berea KY – Scott Giltner with double duty as Fifer and Bugler



10/21 - Central District Meeting and Patriot Grave Marking Service with Drummer Chris Canine and fifers Scott Giltner and Rob Pruitt pic





10/22 - Yes, you can still be music in a Blue Regimental as David Embrey fifes for this MD/VA Six Patriot Marking

10/19 - Yorktown Day as Charles Mc Millan leads the way



10/28 - Marking of Christopher Windsor/Winsor Union KY with Scott Giltner, Leonard Brookes and Steve McCain (pic Left) and bugler Dave Gilbert (Right)



November

11/1 - Wreaths Across America kickoff event in Louisville, KY as two camera crews covered the event. The SAR color guard posted colors as Chris Caniane and Scott Giltner played Road to Boston while marching in and played Amazing Grace as a musical tribute.



11/4 - Gunston Hall - Another fine day at Founding Father George Mason's home with David Embrey (pic13.1)



11/7 - Veterans Day flag pole dedication in Prospect, KY with Scott Giltner (Left) and Chris Canine ((Right)



12/26 Washington Crossing F&D at the Crossing



BWags Photography

12/30 - Washington Crossing F&D with Micah Goldsberry of PA and Drummer Noah of MD.



Thank you so much to everyone who came out for the Battles of Trenton reenactments today from reenactors to spectators and everyone in between. We ap... See more

Color Guard Event Flyers

The following section's pages contain submitted notices from various state color guards. Make every effort to attend these events to support these events and Forward this information to your fellow color guardsmen.

The Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution, the City of Callahan,
and the West Nassau Historical Society celebrate the
Anniversary of the American Revolutionary War
Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge 30 June 1778

11:00 a.m. Saturday June 29, 2024

at the West Nassau Historical Society

45383 Dixie Ave, Callahan, FL 32011
RSVP to Darryl.jaxsar.sec@att.net



AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR BATTLE OF Alligator Creek Bridge

The 3rd Florida invasion took place on June 30th, 1778, led by Col. Elijah Clark. It is known as the Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge. Col. Clark led his mounted Georgia Militia against British Major Prevost's forces who were defending Alligator Creek Bridge.

As with the prior two expeditions, there was a serious leadership disagreement between the two leaders: Governor Houstoun and General William Howe. Even though there were 2,600 Continental and militia forces under the two leaders, they did not agree on how to proceed with the invasion into Florida.

General Howe (with one half of the forces) opted to stay and occupy Fort Tonyn located about 14 miles north of the Alligator Creek Battle site on the St. Mary's River, even though it had been burned by British Loyalists.

Governor Houstoun opted to attack the 500 British Regulars, 200 South Carolina Royalists and Seminoles at Alligator Creek Bridge. As Houstoun's forces under General Screven chased the Loyalist forces back to the bridge, the British Regulars thought Screven's forces were also Loyalist forces retreating from the burned Fort Tonyn.

Col. Elijah Clarke led his mounted militia against the British bridge entrenchments during the skirmish and Clarke was wounded. General Screven's main reserve force, seeing that Clarke was injured and being barely able to escape capture, ordered a retreat. This was the third failed expedition. It was primarily due to a lack of coordination that had also doomed the two previous assaults on the Florida-Georgia borderlands.

The third invasion into Florida swamp land was a disaster. Although American battle casualties were only 13, over 500 Patriots died of disease before they could be withdrawn from East Florida.



Last Naval Battle Reservation Form



BREVARD COUNTY'S SONS, DAUGHTERS AND CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION INVITE YOUR GROUP TO MARCH WITH US AT OUR ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE LAST NAVAL BATTLE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION THAT WAS FOUGHT OFF THE COAST OF CAPE CANAVERAL

**March 16, 2024, at 10:00 AM at the Veteran's Memorial Center
400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island**

Event will be held inside if it rains

We once again expect a Color Guard of 200+ marchers along a very short parade route - ALL Color Guard units will receive a **FREE 18" LAST NAVAL BATTLE FLAG STREAMER**. There will a "Wreath laying Ceremony" for any group that wishes to honor our American Heroes. Water and chairs will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own. **Speeches will be kept short!** **Reservations for Color Guard/group participation and Wreath presentations must be received by February 18, 2024.** Parade position is based on completion and receipt of this form.

RESERVATION FOR COLOR GUARD UNIT OR GROUP MARCHING IN THE PROCESSION:

Group/Unit name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail: _____

Number in group attending: _____

How does the group want to be announced? _____

Wreath presentation:

If you will be laying a wreath to honor our AMERICAN HEROES, please list your Group/Individual name presenting the wreath _____

Please send your completed form to: emailbrevardsar@yahoo.com

or mail to:

Brevard SAR
3040 Refuge Ct, Melbourne FL, 32940



The Pensacola Chapter, Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution
Invites your group to the



2024 Battle of Pensacola Commemoration and Galvez Day Celebration
Wednesday, May 8, 2024

On May 8, the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard will once again present the opening procession for the Galvez Day Celebration sponsored by the Pensacola Heritage Foundation. The Color Guard will muster at 09:30 AM (Central) at Fort George (501 N. Palafox Street) and march down Palafox Street to one of the largest monuments in the United States to General Bernardo de Galvez as the opening ceremony of Pensacola's Galvez Day celebration.

Additionally, this year, the Pensacola Chapter SAR will be hosting a wreath laying ceremony in the afternoon at the Minuteman Monument located in Veterans Memorial Park on Bayfront Parkway in Pensacola.

All participating Color Guard Units will receive a BATTLE OF PENSACOLA FLAG STREAMER. Additional information can be found at: <http://pensacolasar.org/chapter-programs/battle-of-pensacola-commemoration/>

Please use the form below to register your participation in the events. Color guard unit position will be based on the order in which reservations are received. For questions email: battle@pensacolasar.org

RESERVATION FORM

Society Name:

Chapter or Organization Name:

Contact Name:

Contact Phone Number:

Email Address:

How does the group wish to be announced?

Number attending each event:

☐ Color Guard Procession (May 8th 10:30 Central – Muster at 09:30)

☐ Wreath Laying Ceremony (May 8th at 2:00 pm Central)

Please send your completed form to battle@pensacolasar.org or mail to:

Pensacola SAR
c/o Chris Washler
3400 Connell Drive, Pensacola FL 32503

247th Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek
Saturday 10:00 AM, March 23, 2024 in Jacksonville, Florida

The Florida Society SAR commemorates the 247th anniversary for the Battle of Thomas Creek (the Southernmost Battle of the American Revolutionary War). The ceremony will be held at Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park at 10:00 AM. If placing a wreath and/or participating in the color guard, please arrive no later than 9:30AM to register your wreath. The park is located off I-95 at Exit 366 then head west 2.5 miles on Pecan Park Rd. to 2145 Gold Star Family Parkway / Arnold Rd.). This new 3.4 mile road accesses the Jacksonville National Cemetery that connects with to the Lem Turner Road (US#1).



We will have a social and orientation meeting Friday evening at 5:30PM on March 22th at the Long Horn Steak House, 1366 Airport Rd, Jacksonville, FL, 32218 Both the Hampton Inn and the Marriott, SpringHill Suites are in this same complex, as well as a number of other hotels in the area. Organizations and participants will be announced during the ceremony. We are again honored to have our intriguing Compatriotic speaker Dr. Roger Smith of Colonial Research Associates, Inc. and our Patriotic Choral Group “Let Freedom Sing” plus various Patriotic and Civic Organizations. We are especially honored this year to have our South Atlantic District, Vice President General from SC, James Wyrosdick, bringing greetings from the NSSAR. We are also honored to have our FLSSAR President Steve Fields bringing greeting and Florida DAR Vice Regent Kim Zeman will be bringing greeting from State Regent Cindy Addison from our Florida Daughters . To assure your organization’s recognition and to receive a flag streamer, please complete the following by February 15, 2024 and forward to:

David H. Ramseur (FLSSAR President 2011-12)
3733 River Hall Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32217
(904)-502-4819; Davidramseur12@gmail.com

Society Name: _____

Chapter or Organization Name: _____

Will present Wreath: Yes No

Wreath Dedicated to: _____

Presenter (s) Name (s): _____

Title (s) (if applicable) _____

Will bring SAR flag for the Color Guard? Yes No

Number of members from your group: _____ : In Uniform /Militia/ Colonial Dress

Email: _____ Cell phone# _____

National Color Guard Events - 2024

HISTORIC Date	Color Guard Event	Location	Host
January 3	Princeton, the Ten Crucial Days	Priceton, NJ	New Jersey
January 1?	Battle of Cowpens	Chesnee, SC	Daniel Morgan SAR
February 1	Battle of Cowans Ford	Huntersville, NC	Mecklenburg SAR
February 14	Battle of Kettle Creek	Washington, GA	Georgia
February 14	Crossing of the Dan	South Boston, VA	Virginia
February 22	Washington Birthday Parade	Laredo, TX	Texas
February 27	Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge	Currie, NC	North Carolina
March 10	Last Naval Battle of the Revolution	Merritt Island, FL	Florida
March 15	Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Greensboro, NC	North Carolina
April 12	Halifax Resolves	Halifax, NC	North Carolina
April 18	Patriot's Day	Nationally	
April	Frederica Naval Action -close 4/19	St. Simons Island, Georgia	
May 8	Battle of Pensacola	Pensacola, FL	Florida
May 11	Raid on Martin's Station	Ewing, VA	Virginia
May 16	Armed Forces Day		
May 17	Battle of Thomas Creek	Jacksonville, FL	Florida
May 28	Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous	Vincennes, IN	Indiana
May 30	Memorial Day events *	Various locations	
May 29	Battle of Fort San Carlos	Ste. Genevieve,	Missouri
May 29	Buford's Massacre	Lancaster, SC	General Francis Marion SAR
June 5	Battle of Ramsour's Mill	Lincolnton, NC	Catawba Valley SAR
June 11	Action at Machias	Machias, ME	Maine
June 17	Battle of Bunker Hill	Charlestown, MA	Massachusetts SAR
June 26	Battle of Springfield	Springfield, NJ	New Jersey SAR
June 28	Battle of Monmouth	Manalapan NJ	New Jersey SAR
July 4 every year	Let Freedom Ring / July 4th Events *	Various locations	
August 2	Siege at Fort Laurens	Bolivar, OH	
August 19	Battle of Blue Licks	Carlisle, KY	Kentucky
August 27	Battle of Long Island	Brooklyn	New York
September 6	Battle of Groton Heights	Groton, CT	Connecticut
September 8	Battle of Eutaw Springs	Eutawville, SC	South Carolina
September 25	Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN	Tennessee
September 18	Vigil at George Washington's Tomb	Mt Vernon, VA	
October 4-6	Point Pleasant Battle Days	Point Pleasant, WV	West Virginia
October 6	Chestnut Neck	Port Republic, NJ	NJ
October 7	Battle of Kings Mountain	Blacksburg, SC	Kings Mountain SAR (NC) / Daniel Morgan SAR (SC)
October 17	Battle of Saratoga	Stillwater, NY	Empire State
October 19	Yorktown Days	Yorktown, VA	Virginia
October 22	Red Bank Battlefield	National Park, NJ	NJ
November 11	Veterans Day Events *	Nationally	Various
November -	Siege of Fort Morris - 3rd Saturday	Sudbury, Georgia	
December 9	Battle of Great Bridge	Norfolk, VA	Virginia
December TBD	Wreaths Across America	Various Locations	
December 26	Battle of Trenton	Trenton, NJ	New Jersey
Events that can occur on random dates throughout the year			
	Massing of the Colors		
	Fields of Honor / Healing Field		
	Honor Flight		
	Liberty Tree Planting / Dedication		
	Washington's Birthday - February		
The following National Meetings are considered National events by Color Guard Policy due to the attendance of the President General:			
	NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting		
	Annual NSSAR Congress		
	NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting		

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

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

Send event updates to Color Guard Commander & [sarwilliamssa\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:sarwilliamssa(at)gmail.com) **and** [Color Guard Commander](#)

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

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 society. Any questions about the distribution of the new issue should be directed to the respective state commander.

Changes are noted in RED text

State	Color Guard Commander	Primary Phone	Cell Number	Email Address	City
Alabama	Joseph D. Barker, Jr	334-221-3641		Jbark151(at)yahoo.com	Wetumpka, AL
Arizona	Brad Hopkins	401-211-6456		azssarcg@gmail.com	
California	Brandon Villardi		310-938-8916	bvillardi(at)gmail.com	Torrance, CA
Colorado	Tom Wellborn	303-810-3100		wellborns(at)mindspring.com	Littleton
Connecticut	David Perkins	203-797-1967	203-948-7974	dperkinssr8(at)gmail.com	Bethel
Florida	Scott Breckenridge	904-226-9420		sbreck61@gmail.com	Jacksonville , FL
Georgia	K. Scott Collins	706-207-1663		scottcollins1775(at)gmail.com	Snellville, GA
Hawaii	Elwin Spray	937-426-1086		Elwinspray(at)Gmail.com	Dayton, OH
Idaho	Terry Patterson	208-286-8169		terrypatterson1876(at)outlook.com	Twin Falls
Illinois	Jon Fixmer		630-639-2213	jfixmer73(at)yahoo.com	North Aurora, IL
Indiana	Randy Helderman	812-678-2685		rhelderman69@gmail.com	Dubois, N
Iowa	Mike Rowley	515-975-0498		mjr1825(at)gmail.com	Clive, IA
Kansas	Dewey Fry	913-897-9502		deweyf(at)kc.rr.com	Stillwell
Kentucky	Scott G Giltner	502-649-4534		stgilt(at)earthlink.net	Louisville, KY
Louisiana	Ted Brode	318-325-6519		tbrode(at)comcast.net	West Monroe
Maine	Wayne Howard Mallar	207-942-9586		Essex103(at)aol.com	Bangor
Maryland	OPEN				
Massachusetts	Robert Bossart	617-483-3603		2bobboss(at)comcast.net	Weymouth, MA
Michigan	Norman Palmer	(810) 687-2147		middleage55(at)aol.com	Clio, MI
Minnesota	Aaron Printup & Steve Hyde	612-619-9219		hydesteve(at)yahoo.com	Lonsdale, MN
Mississippi	Dr. Bryant R. Boswell	(601)966-0670		mtcreeklodge(at)aol.com	Star, MS
Missouri	Steven G. Perkins	417-319-7676		patriotmarcher(at)fastmail.com	Springfield, MO
Nebraska	Paul Burright	402-880-7350		pburright72(at)gmail.com	Elkhorn,, NE
Nevada	Roger Linscott	775-972-4628		rogerLinsar@gmail.com	Reno, NV
New Hampshire	Curtis Herman	(603) 305-1307		cwh_ancestry@outlook.com	Amherst, NH
New Jersey	Jay Hershey	908-295-0489		julian.hershey@verizon.net	Westfield, NJ
New Mexico	Robert E. Vance	(575)336-1840	575 808-1844	revance58@gmail.com	Alto, NM
New York	Michael Companion	518-774-9740	518-885-5445	mikecompsar@gmail.com	Ballston Spa, NY
North Carolina	Steve McKee		704-682-7150	yankeedoodlesteve@gmail.com	Denver, NC
Ohio	William Robert Hill	614-237-5149		Leeslegiondragoon(at)gmail.com	Columbus, OH
Oklahoma	Scott Bruton	918 341-1636`	918 520 3039	ssgbruton@gmail.com	City Claremore. OK
Oregon	Eric Salbeda	503-351-4407		ericosal360(at)gmail.com	Tigard, OR
Pennsylvania	Fred Fonseca	(610) 547-7660		fredfons@msn.com	West Chester, PA
South Carolina	Pete Widell	(252)955-4841		PKWidell@hotmail.com	Johnston SC
Tennessee	Doug Evans	(815) 202-5799		douglasjamesevans@gmail.com	Springfield, TN
Texas	Shiidon Hawley	512-919-6188		Shiidon@gmail.com	Lakeway TX
Utah	Jesse Black	801-201-7731		utsarcolorguard(at)gmail.com	Holladay, UT
Virginia	Christopher Allan Melhuish		757-286-8316	camelhuish(at)aol.com	Norfolk, VA
Washington	Neil Vernon	206-949 - 6767		trdba(at)yahoo.com	Everett, WA
West Virginia	Ed Cromley	304-593-6613		ed_cromley(at)hotmail.com	Point Pleasant
Wisconsin	Brian S. Barrett	262 542 0683		brianbarrett1(at)yahoo.com	

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 (10):** Alaska, Arkansas, Dakotas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, 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.

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.

Type the listed name of the vendor into your browser tab

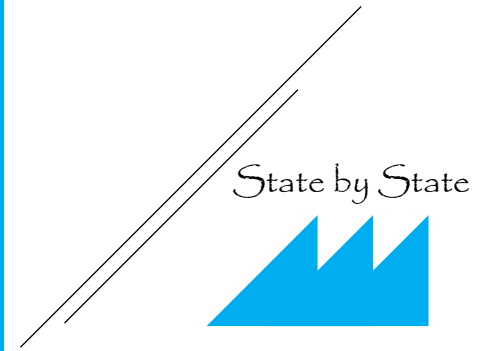
- Bethlehem Trading Post,
- Smiling Fox Forge
- Avalon Forge
- Barkertown Sutlers
- Burnley & Trowbridge Co.
- C & D Jarnagin Company,
- Cobb Creek - Fine Clothing
- Custom Wig Company
- Flintlocks, etc
- MyFlintlocks, LLC
- Ft. Downing Trading Co.
- Fort Vause Outfitters
- Fugawee
- G. Gedney Godwin 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
- Tennessee Valley Muzzleloading
- Townsend’s
- Track of the Wolf
- Turkey Foot Trading Company
- VA Flintlocks
- Clearwater Hats
- Ye Armes Shoppe

Contact US

Officer	Name	Email Prefix	at	Suffix
Commander	Kenneth S Collins	scottcollins1775	at	gmail.com
Vice Commander	Robert Meyer	robert.meyer29	at	gmail.com
Adjutant	Ken Goodson	kgoodson1952	at	gmail.com
Adjutant	Patrick Wesolosky	65moots	at	gmail.com
Safety Officer	Brett Osborne	bwosborn	at	verizon.net

Asst Safety Officer	Jacob Vink	vinkjacob	at	gmail.com
Quartermaster	Patrick Wesolosky	65moots	at	gmail.com
Asst Quartermaster	Christopher Canine	Chris.canine	at	icloud.com
Fife Major	David Embrey	Fiferdave	at	comcast.net
Drum Major	Viren Lemmer	lemmerz99	at	Yahoo.com
Artillery Commander	Dr. Rudy Byrd	arbyrd	at	comcast.net
Magazine Editor	Steve Williams	sarwilliamssa	at	gmail.com

Reports from The Field



*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!

Upcoming Color Guard Events

Cowans Ford	February	- Huntersville, NC	Mecklenburg SAR
Crossing of the Dan	February	- So. Boston, VA	VASSAR
Battle of Kettle Creek	February	- Washington GA	GASSAR
Washington's Birthday Parade	February	- Laredo TX	TXSSAR
Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge	February	- Currie NC	NCSSAR
Last Naval Battle	March	Merritt Isl. FL	FLSSAR
Battle of Guilford Court House	March	Greensboro NC	NCSSAR
Events listed are after publication date			

To confirm date and time of these events contact the Host society



Arizona

The Boston Tea Party

Companions of the AZSSAR Color Guard along with compatriots of the DAR/CAR of Arizona put on a production of the Boston Tea Party.



Wreaths Across America

AZSSAR Color Guard members Gerald Mead, Stan Marks, Stephen Miller and Lynne Marks/ DAR attend Wreaths Across America at the National Memorial Cemetery, Phoenix, Arizona



Wreaths Across America

Color Guardsmen of AZSSAR Chapters attended WAA in the Veteran Cemeteries of Prescott and Tucson, Arizona.





California -



Honor Flight

SAR Yosemite Chapter Color Guard presenting colors at the Central Valley Honor Flight, Sept 13, 2023. Left to right: Randy Dhindsa, Commander Scott Nichols, Jackson Dhindsa, Jim Riley



Big Fresno Fair

Left to Right, Jim Riley and Scott Nichols manning the Heritage Booth at the Big Fresno Fair, Oct 5-6, 2023

Flag Certificates

Jim Riley on left and Color guard Commander Scott Nichols on right, presenting Flag Certificates to Clovis, CA Police Dept, Clovis Fire Dept and Clovis Youth Services, Dec 11, 2023



Flag Certificates

Riley on Left and Commander Scott Nichols on right, presenting Flag Certificate to CEO Bill Smittcamp of Wawona Frozen Foods, Clovis, CA. Dec 5, 2023



Flag Certificates

Flag Certificate presented to Representative Jim Costa (D-Fresno) by Randy Dhindsa, VP North, CASSAR on Oct 18th, 2023

Flag Certificates

Flag Certificate presented to Clovis Veterans Memorial District executives by Commander Scott Nichols (left) and Jim Riley (rt) on Dec 5, 2023



The Kern Chapter has been busy since November 9th. The Color Guard was back in the classroom talking to fifth grade students about the American Revolution. The Left picture shows Bruce Wearda talking to a crowd of people about the 250th anniversary before the Veterans Day Parade started. On December 2nd the Kern Chapter of SAR along with the Bakersfield Chapter of DAR had their annual Christmas Luncheon (Middle). The Kern Chapter Color Guard posted the colors and made several awards during the luncheon. On December 16th at Wreaths Across America, Arnie Burr, a Kern Chapter Color Guard read a Proclamation to the crowd after placing a wreath at the base of the POW/MIA flag pole (Right). For 2024 we are all ready scheduling schools for presentations into May.



Submission Guidelines

As I continue to receive submissions that are not in conformance to the guidelines I will reiterate these in Large print. The most common submissions deal with photos - then text.

To Submit Photos:

- DO NOT embed in a text document - send as **file attachments** only.
- Send as JPG, GIF, PNG files. **Do NOT** send HEIC format.
- Send original resolution photo. A 33x39 pixel file is unusable.
- Name the files after the event, e.g., Parade1.jpg, Parade2.jpg and for multiple events ensure that you do not use the same file name twice!

To submit event text descriptions:

- Within the document use the proper photo file name(s) **for the specific event.**

- When listing the participants in the photo ***use this format only*** -
- “(Photo name)-(Event name) Color Guard members L-to R - John Jones, Sam Smith, David Daniels, Edward Evans, etc”

Do not do this - using tabs

(Event1) John Jones, Sam Smith, David Daniels, Edward Evans, Frank Fields
(Event2) John Jones, Sam Smith, David Daniels, Edward Evans, Frank . .

Remember, this is for Color Guard events - not chapter events wherein a chapter member makes a presentation that does NOT include color guard participation. Such Chapter presentations are suitable for the SAR Magazine. It must be an activity that the **Color Guard UNIT** is doing.

Florida

Veterans Day

Gainesville Chapter

Sean Tonnelier helped with a tradition started years ago at the Alachua County Veterans Memorial Park.

Each monument needed a soldier in period costume. Only two made it happen. There was a man in WWII costume and Sean Tonnelier (pictured).



Jacksonville Chapter

Veterans Day Commemoration at USS Orleck Museum, Jacksonville, FL
left to right: Paul Tucker, Darryl Ingle, Ike Thornton, Jim Gaskins, Gray Chandler, David Ramseur, Scott Breckenridge



City of Jacksonville FL Veterans Day Parade
left to right: Mills Ramseur, Darryl Ingle, Dick Cardell, Ike Thornton, Rick Sanders, unknown passerby,



Lake City Chapter

left to right: Lake City Chapter Secretary, David Chandler, Darla Carroll, Lake City Chapter President, Joseph Carroll



Panama City Chapter

the Callaway 29th Annual Veterans' Day Celebration, "Salute to Veterans" was held at the Callaway Recreational Complex. In the Right photo, from left to right: DeCody "Brad" Marble, James "Jim" Franklin Haynes, and Jerry "Benny" Raffield.

In "The Mayor Photo", left to right: Benny Ratfield, Brad Marble, City of Callaway Mayor Pam Henderson, and Jim Haynes.



Tampa and Clearwater Chapters

We started with a morning parade at the James A Haley VA Hospital in Tampa. Left to right - Bill Swain, David Bryant, Robbie Robinson, Tim Shaner, Matthew Balencie, Dick Young, Walter Arnold, Terry Doan.

At noon, one group went to the Grand Hampton Community of north Tampa. Robbie Robinson was invited to make a presentation at their Veterans Day Luncheon Ceremony. Pictured left to right are Bill Swain, Robbie Robinson, Matt Balencie and David Bryant.

We were also invited to join the Mission BBQ Restaurant noon-time Veterans Day Ceremony. Only two of us made it, as our third was too exhausted after the parade. It does not qualify as a Color Guard event, but we were proud to be there. Since we did not have enough to present Colors, we were asked to be the escort for the four WWII veterans being honored. Pictured on the left is Terry Doan, on the right is Dick Young.



Saramana Chapter
Veterans Day Parade, Sarasota FL
Color Guard left to right: Genealogist Steve Fields, Sergeant at Arms Jeff Robbins;
President S. Preston Adams, Governor John Fitzpatrick. - No Photo

[Below] William Dunaway Chapter
Clifford Chester Sims State Veterans' Nursing Home.
left to right: DeCody "Brad" Marble, Jerry "Benny" Raffield, James "Jim"
Haynes, Thomas Morgan Rankin, and Dale Warren Macumber.



Withlacoochee Chapter
Veterans Day Parade, Inverness FL
left to right: Compatriot and Chapter Color Guard commander Robert
Thomas, Chapter President David Hitchcock, Compatriot John Wilder,
Chapter Secretary Thomas Bowen, Chapter 1st VP Steve Hohman.



Wreaths Across America

Central Florida Chapter
Greenwood Cemetery,
Orlando, FL.
left to right: Robin Pres-
ton, Harry Rinker, Phil
Markoe



Ft Lauderdale Chapter
Forest Lawn North Memorial Gardens, Pompano Beach, FL
left to right: Steve DePaul, Paul Moore, Chuck Adams, Kevin Shurte &
Tim McLane



Tampa Chapter
American Legion Cemetery, Tampa, FL. The weather forced the WAA Ceremony
inside in Tampa. We have supported the American Legion Cemetery, a Veterans Cem-
etery with over 700 gravesites owned and maintained by the American Legion Post
#5 USS Tampa.
Pictured is the Tampa Chapter Color Guard prior to presenting the Colors with the Jef-
ferson HS JROTC. L_R Matthew Balencie, William Swain, Robbie Robinson (Presi-
dent), Dwight Hamborsky, David Bryant, Richard Young (Commander).



Jacksonville Chapter
Jacksonville National Cemetery, Jacksonville, FL
left to right: Ken Norwood, Scott Breckenridge, Paul Tucker, Patrick
Thomas, John Roberson, Mills Ramseur, Gray Chandler, Josh Jolly, Ike
Thornton, Ken Norwood.

Wreaths Across America

William Dunaway Chapter
Crestview Cemetery, Marianna, FL
Matt Mathews presented a wreath on behalf of the first veterans



St Augustine Colonial Night Watch Parade -

12/2/2023



Central Florida Chapter

left to right, back row:
Harry Rinker, Robin Pres-
ton, Phil Markoe.

front row: Lane and Luke
Cardinal.

FLSSAR Salute to Veterans

On Friday, 10 November 2023, the Callaway 29th Annual Veterans' Day Celebration, "Salute to Veterans" was held at the Callaway Recreational Complex. The traditional Veterans Day Parade Route, Cherry Street is undergoing a multi-million dollar reconstruction. Callaway is one of the many suburbs of Panama City, and is due North across East Bay from Tyndall AFB Flight Line, (the Air Force Base of the Future). The City of Callaway has the largest military population of active military and military veterans. The Mayor is Pam Henderson.

The first to arrive and set up at the events field, (beside the bandstand) was the FLSSAR Panama City Chapter Post #20 Color Guard. From 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, six hours, the SARPCFL Color Guard staffed the SAR display, walked the

grounds, mingled with the public, and took selfies.

In the display photo, from left to right: DeCody "Brad" Marble, James "Jim" Franklin Haynes and Jerry "Benny" Raffield. Unseen is the display table of two boxes of two different pamphlets, two photo album scrapbooks, a display board and a large wreath with SAR in the center.

In "The Mayor Photo", left to right: Benny, Brad, Pam Henderson and Jim. Oh.... The Mayor said the photo would be in the "Callaway Monthly Newsletter, next month..



THE GREATEST HONOR TO SALUTE THE BEST AT SIMS STATE VETERANS' NURSING HOME!



On Saturday, 11 November 2023, Veteran's Day, the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Panama City Chapter jointly with the William Dunaway Chapter of Marianna marched five Color Guardsmen to "Post the Colors" at the Clifford Chester Sims State Veterans' Nursing Home. The Sims Veterans Nursing Home is at 4419 Tram Road, Springfield (suburb of) Panama City, Florida.

The Ceremony was sponsored by the AMVETS Post 2298 and coordinated by 1st Vice Commander, Al Schmidt, the AMVETS Liaison to Sims State Veterans' Nursing Home. Under the large front entrance outdoor overhang, at least 40 Military Veterans were assisted out in wheelchairs and portable beds. Representing all the Military Branches, the elderly and disabled American Mil-

itary Service Veterans were from the Vietnam and Korea era and at least two from WWII.

The most impressive group of VIPs that I ever stood before!
"THE GREATEST HONOR" TO SALUTE THE BEST!"
"THE ANSWER IS YES, WE HAD A GREAT VETERANS DAY!"

The FLSSAR Panama City and William Dunaway Chapter Joint Five Color Guard participants were:

DeCody "Brad" Marble, Jerry "Benny" Raffield, James "Jim" Haynes, Thomas Morgan Rankin, and Dale Warren Macumber. (Marble, an AMVETS Post 2298 member and Macumber are Veterans).

Georgia -

First Methodist Church service, "God Bless America".



"Wiregrass Members Present Colors at FMC"

"The First Methodist Church of Swainsboro held its weekly Sunday Service on July 2, 2023, at 11:00 am. This week's service was "God Bless America, ...land that I love". The organist, Connie Terwilliger, opened our service with "America". Our Choir Director, Bobby Reeves, then asked everyone to stand for the "Presentation of the U.S. Flag, the Christain Flag and the Holy Bible". The Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard then marched in with Compatriot Dess Smith III carrying the U.S. Flag, Compatriot Gary Mason carrying the Christain Flag and Compatriot Wilder Smith, Jr. carrying the Holy Bible. The Color Guard stopped at the front of the church, turned to face the congregation and Bobby then led the congregation in the Pledge to the U.S. Flag, the Pledge to the Christain Flag and the Pledge to the Bible. After the pledges, Bobby asked the Color Guard to post the Colors. Counting the Color Guard, we had 14 members of our Wiregrass Chapter attending the service today. The opening Hymn for the service was America the Beautiful and during the Offertory, our organist played God Bless the USA on the piano. During the service, the Chancel Choir consisting of a full 14 members, sang a special arrangement of God Bless America by Joseph M. Martin. Pastor David Unkles sermon was on "Rewards?". A special note: The altar flowers are in memory of and in honor of CW4 John B. Derden, who served 26 years in the U.S. Army; William Ralph Graves, Sr., who served in World War II; and 1LT William Ralph Graves, Jr., who was killed in Vietnam; and in honor of James Derden, who served in the U.S. Army for three years. The flowers were given by John and Carolyn Derden."

"The Veterans at the Library Holds Event at the Park"

"Several members of the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution traveled to the "Veterans and 1st Responders Memorial Park in Swainsboro on Saturday, August 26, 2023, to participate in the event held by the "Veterans at the Library" to Honor the 13 service members that were killed on August 26, 2021, in Kabul, Afghanistan. On September 6, 2021, 13 flags were erected on the fence in front of the Memorial Park to honor these fallen service members. Also, 1 U.S. Flag was erected in the memory of the National Guard soldier that drowned on the Rio Grande in Texas saving 2 illegal aliens that were smuggling drugs. This year's event, held at 11:00 am was attended by more than 50 people. The event opened with a welcome from John Tapley, then the invocation was said by Rev. Emory Fennell. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States, remarks were made by John Tapley. Next the Remembering of the Service Members was held by Albert Hall saying each member's name and a bell was rung by Jim McCurdy after each. A banner with each service members name was carried to the fence for the "Hanging of the Banner" assisted by members of the "Glad Garden Club". Commander Steve Burke of the Sons of the American Revolution, then held the Flintlock and Cannon Salute with a 3-round volley, 12 flintlock shots by four militia and 18 cannon shots fired by 6 cannons of the Brier Creek Artillery and Militia. Veteran Robert Nobles then played taps on his bugle. Afterward, Rev. Emory Fennell said the benediction."



Skunk Brigade Attends Patriot Grave Marking



"On Sunday afternoon, October 8, 2023 at 2:30, the Skunk Brigade, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled to the Smyrna Baptist Church in Deepstep, GA to participate in the Patriot Grave Marking for Patriot Joseph Ransome Avant. The event was sponsored by the Governor Jared Irwin Chapter, NSDAR, May and Smith Funeral Directors, Strickland Family, and the Fall Line Chapter GASSAR. After the GASSAR Skunk Brigade Color Guard posted the colors, Regent Dorothy Price Reynolds welcomed everyone to the event. Then Sandra Dukes Avant gave a biography of Joseph Avant. The Marker was then unveiled. President of the Fall Line Chapter GASSAR Sandy Mercer then held the Laying of the Wreaths. At the end of the event, a 3-round volley by our flintlock rifles and 6-pounder cannons was held to honor Patriot Joseph Ransome Avant."



Skunk Brigade Attends Colby Smith Reunion

"On Saturday, October 7, 2023 at 11:00, members of the Colby Smith family met at the Bethany Baptist Church 4 miles outside of Harrison, GA for their 43rd reunion. In attendance were about 30 including 10 members of the Skunk Brigade, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution. The reunion President Dess Smith III welcomed everyone with Bernard Martin blessing the food and everyone enjoyed a great covered dish meal. President Dess then introduced Bernard Martin and Steve Burke who presented their program on "Christianity and Survival during the Revolutionary War". After a short business meeting everyone went outside for a 3- round volley by our flintlock rifles and four 6-pounder cannons."

"Skunk Brigade attends Siege of Savannah event"

"On Monday morning October 9, 2023, the Skunk Brigade traveled to Savannah, GA to participate in the annual Siege of Savannah event. The event started at 9:30 a.m. with a parade formation from the museum traveling the original route of the Patriots & French when they attacked the British on October 9, 1779. This major assault against the British siege works failed with the result of the British remaining in control of Savannah until July 1782. While we were marching to the event location, cannons fired at least 5 times. During the event, several speeches were given by dignitaries and then the laying of wreaths was held. After this, the Sons of the Revolution fired a 3 round volley with their flintlocks and one shot by their cannon."



"Wiregrass Members Present Colors at FMC"

"The First Methodist Church of Swainsboro held its weekly Sunday Service on July 2, 2023, at 11:00 am. This week's service was "God Bless America, ...land that I love". The organist, Connie Terwilliger, opened our service with "America". Our Choir Director, Bobby Reeves, then asked everyone to stand for the "Presentation of the U.S. Flag, the Christain Flag and the Holy Bible". The Wiregrass Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard then marched in with Compatriot Dess Smith III carrying the U.S. Flag, Compatriot Gary Mason carrying the Christain Flag and Compatriot Wilder Smith, Jr. carrying the Holy Bible. The Color Guard stopped at the front of the church, turned to face the congregation and Bobby then led the congregation in the Pledge to the U.S. Flag, the Pledge to the Christain Flag and the Pledge to the Bible. After the pledges, Bobby asked the Color Guard to post the Colors. Counting the Color Guard, we had 14 members of our Wiregrass Chapter attending the service today. The opening Hymn for the service was America the Beautiful and during the Offertory, our organist played God Bless the USA on the piano. During the service, the Chancel Choir consisting of a full 14 members, sang a special arrangement of God Bless America by Joseph M. Martin. Pastor David Unkles sermon was on "Rewards?". A special note: The altar flowers are in memory of and in honor of CW4 John B. Derden, who served 26 years in the U.S. Army; William Ralph Graves, Sr., who served in World War II; and 1LT William Ralph Graves, Jr., who was killed in Vietnam; and in honor of James Derden, who served in the U.S. Army for three years. The flowers were given by John and Carolyn Derden." Photo: They are L to R: Dess Smith III, Rev. David Unkles, Wilder Smith, Jr., Gary Mason.

SAR Attend Annual Ebenezer Heritage Event

"14 members of the Brier Creek, Wiregrass and Little River Chapters Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution and the President of the South Carolina Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled to Ebenezer, GA for the Annual Ebenezer Heritage Day Festival on Labor Day, Monday, September 4, 2023. This event is held year with food, crafts, exhibits, demonstrations, activities and all are welcome with free admission. The Event is proudly presented by the Georgia Salzburger Society and the Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rincon, GA. Starting at 10:00 and on each hour with the last being 1:00, our Brier Creek militia (14 members) fired a 1 round volley with our flintlocks and the Brier Creek Artillery (5 cannons) fired a 1-round volley followed by Compatriot Don Bazemore playing taps on his bugle.



Photo Right: L to R: Cam Quick, Steve Burke, Ted Walker, Gary Mason, Lee Herron, John Joyner, Bernard Martin, Alton McCloud, Don Bazemore, Emory Fennell, Dess Smith III, Walker Quick. Not in photo: Allen Mincey, Dennis Wiggins.. Photo Below Right: Brier Creek Militia firing their "Flintlock Rifles". Photo Below Compatriot John Joyner firing his 6-pounder Mortar



“SAR & DAR Celebrate Constitution Day”

“Members of the Georgia & South Carolina Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled to Augusta, GA on Saturday, September 16, 2023, to Celebrate Constitution Day at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church at 10:00 a.m. The Event this year was sponsored by the Augusta Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. After the Presentation of the Colors by the Combined Color Guard, The Pledge of Allegiance and the Star-Spangled Banner, the Color Guard Posted the Colors inside the church. Several Greetings were presented by different organizations and then the Biography of Patriot William Few was presented by Mr. Erick Montgomery. The Combined Color Guard then retrieved the Colors and posted them outside in the courtyard. The Presentation of the Chapter Wreaths were then presented by over 35 different chapters. After the Wreath presentation, over 35 SAR members from the Brier Creek Militia, Elijah Clarke Militia, East Fall Line Continentals and the Brier Creek Artillery fired a 3-round volley with their Flintlocks led by Commander Steve Burke. Compatriot Don Bazemore then played Taps with his bugle”



Photo Left: L to R: Commander of the GASSAR & SCSSAR Combined Color Guard Steve Burke, Dess Smith III.

Photo Right: Combined Color Guard firing a 3-round volley honoring those brave Revolutionary War soldiers who fought for our freedoms.



“2nd Siege of Augusta Held Sep. 16, 2023”

“SAR, DAR and CAR members traveled to Augusta, GA at 1:00 p.m. to participate in the 2nd Siege of Augusta event and 242nd Anniversary Celebration that happened during the American Revolution in September 1781. The event this year, sponsored by the Colonel William Few Chapter, GASSAR and the Henry Laurens Chapter, SCSSAR, was held at the Kroc Center in Augusta, GA at 1:00 p.m. Compatriot Sonny Pittman, Senior Vice President, SCSSAR and the Event Coordinator & Master of Ceremony, welcomed everyone to the event. Commander Bill Palmer of the Combined Color Guard advanced the Colors and after the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge, the Color Guard posted the Colors. Greetings were brought by both the GA and SC SAR, DAR and CAR organizations. Steven Rauch, Military Historian, then presented his program on the “Second Siege of Augusta” during the Revolutionary War. After Steven’s presentation, the Presentation of the Wreaths were held by over

50 organizations. Commander Bill Palmer of the Combined Color Guard then ordered Retrieve the Colors. Taps was played and then he ordered “Mourn Muskets” to honor those brave Revolutionary War Patriots. After the benediction, everyone moved outside for the battle re-enactment in the field behind the Kroc Center by the Brier Creek Militia, Elijah Clarke Militia, East Fall Line Continentals and the Brier Creek Artillery. The British Force was commanded by LTC Brown (Steve Burke) with 15 infantry men and 2 six-pounder Cannons while the Patriot Force was commanded by General Andrew Pickens (Alton Reynolds) and Colonel Henry “Light Horse Harry” Lee (Alton McCloud) with 20 infantry men, 2 six-pounder Cannons and 1 eight-pounder Cannon. AND the Patriots WON again.”

Photo Below: The Patriot Militia and Artillery ready for battle against the British

Photo Right: LTC Brown and his officers saluting the Patriots after the British defeat.



“SAR pays Tribute to Henry Wilder Smith, Jr”

“On Saturday, September 23, 2023, Henry Wilder Smith, Jr.’s funeral was held at 10:00 am at the First Methodist Church in Swainsboro, GA. Following the church service, Chapman’s Funeral Home’s Hearse brought Wilder into the cemetery with the street lined by his Sons of the American Revolution compatriots at present arms. The U.S. Army Honor Guard from Fort Stewart was there to fold the U.S. Flag and play taps after the 3-round volley by the SAR Brier Creek Militia & Artillery Honor Guard. Most of the time, the military has 7 riflemen that fire 3 rounds each which make a 21-gun salute, but the SAR had 15 riflemen and 5 cannons firing a 3-round volley which totaled a 60-gun salute. This was fitting because of what Henry Wilder Smith, Jr. meant to all of us in the SAR, DAR, Veterans at the Library (red shirts), Exchange Club, First Methodist Church, Sunshine House, Emanuel Medical Center, BCRWBA, Inc., friends and his family. His SAR Skunk Brigade members came from many miles away to participate and pay tribute to Wilder for not only the service to the SAR, but to

his country during the Vietnam War. They are: Steve Burke (Millen), Don Bazemore (Sylvania), Cam Quick (Waynesboro), Walker Quick (Waynesboro), South Carolina SAR President Ted Walker (Graniteville, SC), Alton McCloud (Dearing), John Joyner (Waynesboro), Lee Herron (Sardis), Ruskin Powell (Gillis Springs), Bernard Martin (Waynesboro), Bernard Martin II (Waynesboro), Benjamin Martin (Waynesboro), Bill Carmichael (Swainsboro), Gary Mason (Swainsboro), William Woodard (Lincolnton), Thomas Miller (Grovetown), Al Smith (Gillis Springs), Dan McMichael (Pine Mountain Valley), Allen Mincey (Sylvania), Jerry Lawson (Swainsboro), Alton Reynolds (Swainsboro) and Dess Smith III (brother to Wilder). Rest in peace our brother in arms and we will see you again with the Lord.”

Photo Left SAR Honor Guard at present arms as the hearse carries Wilder to the cemetery

Photo Right: The SAR Brier Creek Militia & Artillery “Skunk Brigade” 20 of 22 attendees.



“Skunk Brigade attends the 3rd quarter BOM”

“Skunk Brigade Attends BOM”

“Members of the Skunk Brigade, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution traveled to Barnesville, GA to attend the 3rd Quarter GASSAR meeting on Saturday, October 28, 2023, at the Garden Patch Restaurant at 10:00. Those members are Steve Burke Wiregrass Chapter, Don Bazemore Brier Creek Chapter, Lee Herron Brier Creek Chapter, Bernard Martin Brier Creek Chapter, Alton McCloud Little River Chapter and Dess Smith III Wiregrass Chapter (by zoom). With President David Ludley presiding, we had about 150 in attendance in person and zoom. After the Skunk Brigade participated with the Georgia Society Award Winning Color Guard, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the SAR was said, and then President Ludley called for the Posting of the Colors. Much business was held including speeches by SAR members running for National Office and Past President General Mike Tomme presenting the Georgia Society nominating committee’s nominations for 2024 officers. Representing at the BOM for the East Fall Line Region Chapters were Steve Burke Four Rivers, Dess Smith Patrick Carr, Don Bazemore Brier Creek, Lee Herron Wiregrass, and Bernard Martin Mill Creek. At the end of the “new business” session, Compatriot Lee Herron of the Brier Creek Chapter came forward with his proposal for the Georgia Society to support the State of Georgia in developing a 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Georgia State License plate. This vehicle tag will not cost the Society any funds and will be used by all Georgia vehicles from 2025 - 2030. Senator Max Burns from Screven County is working with Lee to make this a reality. After hearing that the United States and all 50 states are organizing with the 250th campaign, Lee got the tag idea from South Carolina and said to himself, why not? Thank you, Lee Herron, for developing this idea to help remind our state how we got our freedoms and for honoring those Patriots with a vehicle tag for Georgia.”



Skunk Brigade members, Steve Burke, Don Bazemore, Lee Herron, Bernard Martin.

Fort Morris, “Come and Take It” event

“Skunk Brigade Attends Fort Morris Event”

“The Brier Creek Artillery and the Skunk Brigade traveled to the Fort Morris, “Come and Take It” event on Saturday morning, November 18, 2023, at Sunbury, GA at 10:00. This was the 245th Anniversary Commemoration of the Siege of Fort Morris that occurred on November 25, 1778. The Skunk Brigade brought 2 of their 6-pounder Field Guns to fire a 3 round volley along with the Fort Morris 6-pounder cannon. The Skunk Brigade also participated with the Award-Winning Georgia Society Color Guard led by the National Color Guard Commander Scott Collins. This event is a National Event. The annual “Come and Take It” play was performed by Jason Baker Fort Morris ranger who played Col. Lewis Valentine Fuser and Dr. Peter Martin, Marshes of Glynn Chapter who played Col John McIntosh. After this part of the event over 49 organizations presented their Wreaths to honor those soldiers who fought here. The event was closed out by a Flintlock and Cannon Salute by the Brier Creek and Colonel Elijah Clarke Militia’s and the Brier Creek Artillery. Then Taps was played and the benediction.”



Photo Above Right L to R: Dess Smith III, Johnny Tapley, Lee Herron, Steve Burke, Alton McCloud, Cam Quick and Don Bazemore not pictured.

Photo Right: Wiregrass Chapter President Steve Burke presenting the Chapters wreath

Yaarab Shrine Masonic Veterans Day Event

Dedication of Patriot Grave Marker for Patriot Jacob Higginbotham



Photo Above Right On 11-04-23 the Georgia Color Guard performed a Patriot Grave marker ceremony for Patriot Jacob Higginbotham .

Photo Above Left: On 11-11 -23 the Georgia Color Guard performed at the Yaarab Shrine Masonic Veterans Day Event near Atlanta

Iowa -

GRAVE MARKING CEREMONY



On Sunday October 22, 2023 members of Iowa , Nebraska, and Minnesota joined with several DAR chapters & Societies, Boy Scouts, veterans organizations as well as the public in a ceremony to honor a Past Nebraska Society President Thomas A Creigh with a grave marking ceremony in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Omaha NE. From left to right: Dan Davis, Andrew Sullivan, Richard Hulse, Chris Moberg, Mike Rowley, John Braisted, Ron Stites, Chad Sherrets, and Paul Burright.

Iowa SAR Color Guard Activity October 2023

On Sunday October 22, 2023 members of Iowa , Nebraska, and Minnesota joined with several DAR chapters & Societies as well as the public in a ceremony to honor a Past Nebraska Society President Thomas A Creigh with a grave marking ceremony in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Omaha NE.

Left to right are, Chris Moberg the North Central District VPG, Victoria & David Ensign, a NE SAR member and Mike Rowley Iowa SAR Color Guard Commander



Illinois -

A Tribute to Our Veterans

Anna, Illinois is a small town located in Union County, Illinois. It would seem that a town of a population of about 5,000 people would not have a lot to offer. To some that may be true, but to the Veterans of southern Illinois, they know otherwise. The Carol Foster Post of the Anna VFW has for years hosted the largest Veterans' Day Parade in southern Illinois. This year was no exception. The Parade took over an hour and fifteen minutes to pass the reviewing stand. The Long Knives Chapter of Southern Illinois has had a long history of helping "kick-off" the Parade with its Color Guard unit. This year, the Color Guard consisted of marching soldiers in Continental Uniform and also a float with the Chapter's cannon and cannon crew attending. The look on parade spectators' faces when they saw the period cannon and crew was priceless.

After the Parade, the Long Knives held their monthly meeting at an area restaurant, presenting awards, planning for Liberty Tree plantings, and Wreaths Across America. At the conclusion of the Meeting, the Compatriots traveled to the Anna Veterans' Home to visit with the Veterans that reside there on a permanent basis. The Long Knives presented the S.A.R. Opening Ceremonies for the residents, and then visited individually with the men and women for the remaining time allowed. The visit was exciting, and very much appreciated by the Veterans' Home Staff and homebound Veterans.





Hill Climb on October 1st, 2023

John Martin Chapter Color Guard at Newport, IN. Hill Climb on October 1st, 2023. Picture left to right, William E Behnke Sr, Patrick Mills, and Norton Newcomb III.

Naturalization & Citizenship Ceremony

Naturalization and Citizenship Ceremony on Thursday September 28th, in Indianapolis, IN.
Pictured from L to R. Doug Gallant, Ben Fallant, Kenneth Michael, Unknown, Scott Adams, Wayne Eells, and William E. Behnke Sr.

Indiana Society Grave Marking

Left photo SAR Color Guard. 1 to r kneeling Patrick Wesolosky, Chri Canine, Jim Arnold. Standing Ed Hitchcock, Chris Clements, Kent Salitros, Tom Whiteman, William E Behnke Sr. Scott Adams Jacob Vink, and Wayne Eells. Photos by Joyce Behnke. Right photo SAR Members.





KANSAS SOCIETY COLOR GUARD

The Kansas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (KSSSAR) Color Guard was kept busy with all the things going on at the end of the year. What a great last quarter for the KSSSAR. It began with Dan Dryer, Dewey Fry, Larry Tatum, and Dennis Nelson welcoming a group of new citizens to America on October 7th. (Photos Left & Right)



With a few days off, on October 11th Dewey Fry, Alan Martin, Jeffrey Winters, and Larry Tatum welcomed home a deserving group of veterans from an Honor flight made possible by the Heartland Honor Flight group. It is always heartwarming to see the smiles, along with a lot of tears, when the veterans are welcomed home like this. (Photo Left)

Newly elected South-Central District Vice President Bobbie Hulse started the 4th quarter off with a long trip to Michigan and Ohio. On October 21st Bobbie was in Goshen, OH helping with a grave marking for six Patriots. (Photo Right)



Only six days later Bobbie was assisting the Central District again in Michigan with grave marking of a patriot. (Photo Left)

The next day, 900 miles away, KSSSAR Color guard commander Bill Marshall, Steve Hamlin, and Dean Bruns presented the Colors for the Kansas Honor Flight in Hutchinson, KS. The Honor Flight organization provided a dinner for veterans while the public was invited too, (for a very low cost of only seven dollars) which is one of the ways of raising funds to help pay for veteran's flights.

On a somber note, a hundred miles west in St. John KS, Compatriots John Schwartz, Michael Halfman, and Tim Baxter of the Washington Chapter, attended the funeral for Compatriot Frank Appl. They honored Frank by standing vigil and was asked to be Pallbearers. (Photo Right)





The KSSSAR held their 4th quarter BOG meeting at the Emporia State University on November 4th. The color guard presented the colors for the meeting and was asked to present them for ESU Veterans Day appreciation event honoring all veterans. Representing the KSSSAR Color guard was CGC Bill Marshall, Jeffrey Winters, Brian Vazquez, Rick Gardner, and Doug Brabb. (Photo Left)

As the KSSSAR was taking care of business in Kansas, VP Bobbie Hulse, was very busy in Arkansas. Bobbie assisted with the grave marking of several Compatriots as did many guardsmen from Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. VP Bobbie had traveled well over 2500 miles in the last month. Way to go VP Bobbie. (Photo Right)



Just a few days later November 7th, Compatriots Alan Martin, Jeffrey Winters, Dennis Nelson, Larry Tatum, and Dewey Fry honored veterans returning home from a well-deserved Honor Flight at the Kansas City airport. (Photos Below)



On a very special day for the US Marines, November 10th, the Konza Prairie Chapter marched in the Manhattan Veterans Day Parade. The Chapter paid tribute to the late Konza Prairie Chapter President, Mark Naughton. He was a true friend, and leader. Compatriots of Konza Prairie Chapter joining Bill Marshall were Doug Brabb, Rick Gardner, Mike Tully, Eric Anderson, Stan Hambright, Gunnar Naughton, Tim McCall, Troy Phillips, Charles Robinson Chapter, Patrick Crawford, Bennington Chapter, Dennis Nelson, Delaware Chapter, and Bit Roberts and Bobbie Hulse with the Sons of the Plains Chapter. (Photo Below)



Known as the oldest and largest Veterans Day celebration west of the Mississippi, (depending on who you ask) Leavenworth held its parade on November 11th. The parade was well attended by several of the KSSSAR color guard. Members paying tribute to veterans was Alan Martin, Jeffrey Winters, Brian Vazquez, Robert Wandel, Dewey Fry, Dennis Nelson, and Dan Dryer. (Photos Below)



Tricorns off to Dewey Fry, Dan Dryer, Steven French, and Jerry Vest who led a group, that became American citizens. in the Pledge of Allegiance. On November 16th the Robert J. Dole Court house in Kansas City performed two (2) ceremonies granting citizenship to some well deserving recipients. Dewey Fry who is with Delaware Crossing Chapter has led nearly seventy-five hundred new citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance. Great job Dewey. (Photo Right)



Bill Marshall visited the 5th graders at St. Andrew Catholic School in Abilene and explained the rules of the SAR poster contest. Last year there were thirteen students, but this year only ten. The teacher, Kristy Anquino, a veteran, has been instrumental in keeping her students interested in American Revolution and the SAR. The lights were shining on Compatriots Bobbie Hulse, Bit Roberts, Dave Love, and Greg Fraizer of the Sons of the Plains Chapter and they marched in the Hutchinson Parade of Lights. Bobbie's wife also marched representing the Smoky Hill DAR chapter.



Pearl Harbor Day was a great day to be at Bergman Elementary School in Manhattan talking to students about the SAR poster contest. Accompanying Bill Marshall was Mike Tully and Tim Baxter with the Konza Prairie Chapter. In addition to explaining the rules of the contest, Bill quizzed the students about the different flags that was used by different colonies. Tim Baxter talked about the drum that he made and explained what drums were used for during the American Revolution. (Photo Left)



The Henry Leavenworth Chapter held its annual muster on December 12th at the Heritage Center. The muster was attended by over one-hundred members, spouses, and citizens receiving awards. It began with a prayer and the presentation of the colors by the KSSSAR Color Guard commanded by Bill Marshall, compatriots Alan Martin, Dewey Fry, Kirk Rush, Dennis Nelson, and Troy Phillips. (Photo Left)



The 2023 Patriot Muster is the chapters seventh annual muster inspired by the inscription on the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier: "Freedom is the light for which many men have died in darkness." As many did in America, the Konza Prairie Chapter presented the Colors for the Wreaths Across America (WAA) at the Kansas Veteran's Cemetery, (with DAR Chapters, Polly Ogden, and Abilene). (Photo Left) (Photo Right) The WAA event was attended by KSSSAR President Bryan Wampler and wife Jennifer.

As the NSAR was commemorating the Boston Tea Party, KSSSAR members Bobbie Hulse, Bit Roberts, Smoky Hill DAR Regent Deb Hulse, along with many citizens, commemoration of the event in McPherson.

The Johnson County Memorial Gardens was the cite of WAA where the KSSSAR Color guard presented the colors, and laid wreaths on Veteran graves. Compatriots Kirk Rush, Gavin Jurtz, Dewey Fry, Dennis Nelson, Steven French Ken Ludwig, John Forbes, Alan Martin, Jeffrey Winters, and Robert Wandel from the eastern side of Kansas pay tribute to Veterans. (Photos Below



Kentucky

POW/MIA Reinterment

A reinterment ceremony for Private First Class Thomas F. Brooks was conducted on 1 October at the Hill Grove Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery near Brownsville, KY. PFC Brooks was a POW/MIA in World War II whose remains had been identified earlier in the year. The Kentucky Society Color Guard was honored to have been granted permission to provide its services for the re-burial ceremony for PFC Brooks.

PFC Brooks joined the U.S. Army in Kentucky and served with the 192nd Tank Battalion in the Philippines during World War II. He was captured in Bataan following the American surrender and died of beriberi on December 10, 1942, at the Cabanatuan Prison Camp in Nueva Ecija Province. He was buried in a communal grave in the camp cemetery along with other deceased American POWs; however, his remains could not be associated with any remains recovered from Cabanatuan after the war. In June 2023 PFC Brook’s remains were finally identified and subsequently returned to Kentucky for re-burial at the end of September.

The 13 member color guard consisted of flagbearers and riflemen. Participating in the color guard were compatriots from the following eight Kentucky chapters; Gov. Isaac Shelby, Lafayette, Louisville Thruston, General Richard Butler, Capt. Virgil McCracken, Col. Stephen Trigg, Col. James Harrod, and Lt. Robert Moseley.

The ceremony was well attended by the local community with several hundred in attendance. The last few miles of the route to the cemetery were lined with 600 large American flags provided by The Flagman’s Mission Continues.



Veterans Day / Flagpole Dedication

The City of Prospect, KY held its first Veterans Day ceremony on 7 November at the Little Hunting Creek Park. In conjunction with the ceremony was the dedication of a new flagpole in the park. The planning committee for this event included members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby chapter who provided guidance on flag protocols and elements for the Veterans Day ceremony. The guest speakers at the ceremony were Rear Admiral Stewart O’Brien, U.S. Navy (retired) and Major General Rick Huck, U.S. Marine Corps (retired).

Members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby chapter and Louisville Thruston chapter formed the color guard for the Veterans Day ceremony. The color guard was led by a drummer and fifer which also included a flag raising detail and eight flag bearers carrying the POW/MIA flag with all the military branch flag.

During the ceremony the flag raising detail from the Gov. Isaac Shelby chapter posted the American flag on the new pole while a soloist sang the National Anthem as the flag was raised. Upon completion of the flag raising the color guard commander led a brief dedication ceremony for the flag and pole. Upon completion of the ceremony, the drummer and fifer provided an impromptu concert of tunes from the American Revolution. Photo Below. The flag raising detail formed up in front of the color guard. Photo Right. Member of the Gov Isaac Shelby chapter raise the American flag on the new flagpole.



Wreaths Across America Ceremony

The Zachary Taylor National Cemetery was the site of a Wreaths Across America ceremony held on 16 December. The members of the Kentucky Society were on hand to participate in the color guard for this event to honor our Veterans.

The Zachary Taylor National Cemetery contains 11,100 Veteran interments and is also the final resting place for our 12th president, Zachary Taylor, and members of his family. The burials in the cemetery include members of the Taylor family who served in the American Revolution, War of 1812, and the American Civil War along with Veterans who served in the Spanish-America War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf War.

Members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby and Louisville Thruston Chapters from the Kentucky Society participated in the color guard for the Wreaths Across America ceremony. Also participating in the color guard was the Corn Island Chapter DAR. The remainder of the color guard consisted of Vietnam Veterans, JROTC cadets (Lee Corps and Civil Air Patrol), Colonial Dames, American Heritage Girls, Trail Life USA, and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. There was a total of 66 color guard members which included four SAR riflemen carrying flintlock firearms and four Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War carrying percussion cap muzzle loaders. The gun salute was provided by the VFW Post 1170 Honor Guard. The color guard for the ceremony was organized and supervised by the Kentucky State Color Guard Commander.



The speaker for the ceremony was Col. Fred Johnson – U.S. Army retired. In his keynote address Col. Johnson spoke of the need for basic education on civics and American history. He also thanked all those who were not in the military for their support of Veterans.

A special moment for the day was the laying of a wreath at the tomb of President Zachary Taylor. The honor guard for this presentation were members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby and Louisville Thruston Chapters.

A total of 8,784 wreaths were placed on the graves of the Veterans after the ceremony, a 48% increase in the number of wreaths from previous years. Although this represents only 79% of the total graves, the event continues to grow each year. Approximately 1,621 people attended the ceremony and placed wreaths on the graves in the cemetery.

Photo Above Right: Members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby and Louisville Thruston chapters before the ceremony.

Photo Left Kentucky Society color guard members lead the Color Guard.



Photo Right Members of the Gov. Isaac Shelby and Louisville Thruston chapters present a wreath at the tomb of President Zachary Taylor.



Commemoration of the Battle of Baton Rouge

Members of the General Philemon Thomas Chapter and the Louisiana Society of the Sons of the American Revolution participated in a commemoration of the American Revolution’s Battle of Baton Rouge on Saturday, September 16th, 2023. The event was held at the Capitol Park Museum in downtown Baton Rouge. After several historical presentations were given in the museum, the assembly paraded to the fort’s historical plaque for a memorial service and wreath-laying ceremony.

Spain declared war on the British on June 21, 1779. Spanish Louisiana Governor Bernardo de Gálvez amassed an army of 1427 troops marching from New Orleans to Baton Rouge. These soldiers included Spanish regulars in addition to French, German and Spanish settlers, freed slaves and native Americans. Gálvez and his troops initially captured Fort Bute at Bayou Manchac on September 7th. They subsequently captured the British fort at Baton Rouge on September 21st. Upon surrender, Gálvez also convinced Colonel Alexander Dickson to relinquish Fort Panmure at Natchez. These victories spoiled British plans to capture New Orleans and to control the lower Mississippi River.

Many Louisiana citizens are descended from these Revolutionary War Patriots. Almost 25% of the current members in the Louisiana Society of the SAR are proven to descend from at least one Gálvez Patriot.



Photo at Left: Color Guard Members from the General Philemon Thomas Chapter and the SAR Southern District march after posting the colors



Photo Below Left Color Guard Members from the General Philemon Thomas Chapter and the SAR Southern District march after the wreath-laying ceremony

Photo Below Right Color Guard Members from the General Philemon Thomas Chapter and the SAR Southern District at the wreath-laying ceremony



Maryland -

October



Oct 7 -- 200th Anniversary Westminster Fire Co. Parade – It was a wet Celebration as the Color Guard rode in the wagon for this one – Color Guard included Gene Moyer and District Commander Gerry Harris on the driver's seat with Westminster Chapter members in back.



Oct 15 - Joint Maryland & Virginia Marking of Robert Hanson Harrison, Aide-De-Camp to George Washington - Christ Church Durham Parish, Nanjemoy, MD. Support: - The Line Lt to Rt – Brett Osborne, Jason Posey, David Nelson, ?, Ken Bonner, David Hoover, Jason Posey, Tom Belote, Nils Olson, Lawrence Price, Chip Daniel, Barry Schwoerer, James Cordes, Dave Cook and Ken Bonner -- Abbott, Nietmann



Oct. 22 – Combine Maryland and Virginia Six Patriot Grave Marking –at Grace Rocky Hill Lutheran Church, Woodsboro, MD - Nothing better than falling in with our brothers from across the Potomac to provide Colors and a Musket Salute. The Line included – Ken Bonner, David Embrey, Glen Moss, Mark Skin, Chip Daniel, Allan Phillips and Rick Abbott (Left Advance the Colors (Right)



November

Nov 3 – Partners in Care Maryland Bull and Oyster Roast - - John Davidson, Dave Embrey, Rick Abbott and Glenn Moss (Left) presenting and posting colors for Partners in Care 30th Anniversary Celebration. Fifer Dave provided the tunes as guests rose to greet us as we entered the facility. As we exited the stage Fifer Dave played a rendition of Yankee Doodle to a rousing applause from the audience Present Arms (Right)



Nov 5 - Brunswick Parade – It was a great Day to be in Wool as Color Guard member Gerry Harris (Left) of The Sgt. Lawrence Everhart Chapter along with the Frederick and the Carrollton Manor DAR Chapters participated in the 91st Annual Brunswick Veterans Day Parade (Right)



Nov 5 - Patriot Grave Marking of Col. William Richardson Commander of the 5th MD Regiment in Preston, MD by the General Perry Benson DAR Chapter with the Color Guard providing Colors and Musket Salute. David Embrey preparing to Advance the Colors (Left) - Fire (Right)



Nov 11 – Veterans Day Parade Leonardtown- Thomas Stone Chapter - SAR Maryland Color guard at 2023 Leonardtown, MD - This was our first year participating in this Annual Veterans Day Parade. Guardsmen included District Commander Glenn Moss, Kevin Nietmann, Michael Morthland, Drummer Noah and State Safety Officer, Jason Posey. To all veterans past and present, we thank you for your service.



Nov 12 - Veterans Day Celebration, Columbia - It's always an honor to participate in Veterans Day events and again this year the Charles Carroll of Carrollton Chapter fell-in with American Legion Post 156 for the annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the Lake Front in Columbia Maryland. Guardsmen David Embrey, Town Crier, Gerald Harris and Glenn Moss , Take Aim ,Fire .



December

Dec 2 - John Paul Jones Chapter Wreath Laying It s a fine day on the grounds of the US Navy Academy as the Color Guard formed to support the Annual John Paul Jones Chapter's Wreath Laying at the Crypt of John Paul Jones - Naval Academy Chapel - Annapolis. Maryland - Color Guard included - David Embrey, Glenn Moss, Kevin Nietmann, Rick Abbott and Charles Carroll Chapter member Jim Pierce.)



Dec 16 - Sat noon - Wreaths Across America

Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery - It's always an honor to participate in any Veteran Ceremony, and Wreaths Across America is the highlight of the year as we have been participating here for over 10 years and we were able to represent both the SAR and the 1812 Society. The Line included Thomas Stone Chapter members Jason Posey and Kevin Nietmann and David Nelson



Good Shepherd Cemetery, Ellicott City – This was the first year of SAR Color Guard participation at Good Shepherd and it certainly will not be the last as past CG Commander David Embrey rendered Honors with a Musket Salute (Left) Taps ,David and Ivan (Right)



Dec 16 - Sat 250th Boston Tea Party - District Commander Gerry Harris crossed the Potomac to participate with The Sgt Maj John Champe Chapter of the VASSAR's commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party at the Loudoun County Courthouse with CG members Chip Daniel, Warner Workman, Gerald Harris, Paul Christensen and Dale Corey (11-1)

Dec 17 – Washington’s Farewell at Fraunces Tavern - Another SAR ‘Old Line’ Color Guard 250th event in the books - With so few 250th events that occurred in Maryland to commemorate, the Color Guard decided to developed a ‘Washington’s Farewell at Fraunces Tavern’ Commemoration and having it as part of our Annual Color Guard Holiday Gaithering a long with this complementing our Annual George Washington’s Military Resignation’ program we do in the Maryland State House. Those in attendance this year were William Smithson, John Davidson, Glenn Moss, David Embrey, Rick Abbott, David Hoover and Gary Neal- (12-1) with Gerry Harris and Michael Fryar not pictured HUZAZH!



Dec 23 – Noon - His Excellency George Washington’s Military Resignation’ –

The 240th Anniversary of ‘His Excellency George Washington’s Military Resignation’ was commemorated - On the Date, At the Time, In the Room Where it Happened – December 23, 1783, Noon, in the ‘Old Senate Chamber’ Annapolis, Maryland. This year we had three in uniform, The General and his two Aides with the rest of us as part of the Congress or civilian. l to r) John Davidson, Gen Smallwood, Glenn Moss, Mark Deeds, Ken Bonner (VA), Jim Adkins, USA Retired, Geoff Wood, Rick Abbott, David Embrey, J.D Urbach, Vicki Embrey along with other members of the SAR Old Line Ladies Auxiliary.

Dec 30 - 247th Battle of Trenton - Safety Officer Jason Posey and Drummer Noah made the trip to New Jersey for this all day event as ‘The Old Barracks’ ramps up for the 250th. Drummer Noah and Jason Posey (Left Noah with the Washington Crossing F&D (Right)



Michigan -



Independence Day in Fenton

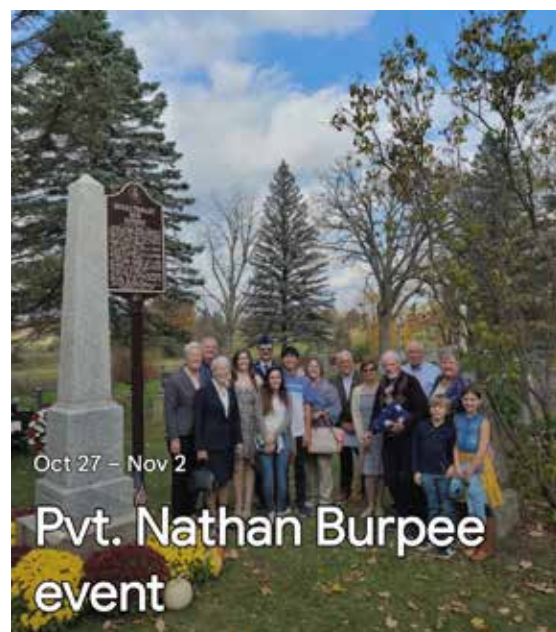
On Independence Day in Fenton, Mi. the Michigan Color Guard marched with the NSDAR ,Genesee County Chapter both home based in Flint, MI. The feeling of independence rang through the applause and cheers they gave us. As we road toward the finish ABC 12 news reporter filmed us along with others in the parade.

Most of all was the fabulous welcome we received from the more than 10,000 people that lined the streets from start to finish.

..

Left - Decendants of Revolutionary War Patriot Pvt. Nathan Burpee

Right - Missar Color Guard gave full military honors by performing “The Michigan Color Guard Sword Salute”.



Veterans Day Parade

The West Michigan Chapter members of the Michigan SAR Color Guard marched proudly in the Veterans Day parade. Assembled in Grand Rapids, Mi. the troops stepped off parading to the Veterans Memorial Park for the official ceremony. November 11, 2023 was a visually special day in this city by all those who participated.



Left: Preparing for the parade. L/R Missar Color Guard Vice Commander John Lepisto, Eric Winters, Harry Rinker.

Right
On the parade route; VC John Lepisto, Mark Chamberlain, Harry Rinker



Wreaths Across America

Right to left Vice Commander John Lepisto, Guardsman Mark Chamberlain, US Congresswoman Hillary J. Scholten and 1st National Color Guard Adjutant Ken Goodson. The Grand Rapids Veterans home celebrated Wreaths Across American and West Michigan Chapter Guard members posted and retired the Colors. They were joined by Congresswoman Hilary J. Scholten who represents the District and with 300 volunteers helped place 3500 wreaths.

Wreaths Across America

A special remembrance wreath was laid at the grave of revolutionary war patriot Pvt. Joseph Van Etten within the Great Lakes National Cemetery. The Paul Emery chapter, through hard work and diligence sequestered a headstone in the memory section of this national cemetery. With the signature of his Canadian descendant, the National Veterans Affairs supplied a headstone for his grave. He is buried somewhere in Michigan but his body does not have an interment here. He is recognized in memory only here.

This is believed to be the "first" of it's kind in the nation and also first to be recognized by the Sons of the American Revolution



Mississippi -

Wreaths Across America



Missouri -

NATURALIZATION CEREMONY

Members of the Ozark Mountain Chapter Missouri SAR welcomed new American citizens who were sworn in by Federal Judge Douglas Harpool on Thursday, October 19, 2023. Eighty-six new citizens from 38 countries stated their oath, and after the ceremony they visited the OMC Color Guard full of smiles. Standing with Guardsmen before the US Flag and Minuteman banner they and family members were photographed. OMC has participated in Naturalization ceremonies for at least 6 years, usually twice yearly. It is truly a delight to see new citizens become Americans according to law.

A number of other organizations set up booths that welcome and assist new citizens including representation of three area DAR chapters, League of Women Voters, and US Postal Service which provides information for obtaining a US Passport for visits to the country from which they came. The ceremony was held at the Juanita K. Hammons Performing Arts Center on the campus of Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri.



Photo at Left: New citizens with family members

Photo Right US Judge Douglas Harpool with Gary Gift Norm Knowlton, Steven Perkins



“Veterans Day Events”

Color Guard in the Missouri Society honored Veteran’s in a variety of ways on November 11, 2023. The Northwest District participated in a Liberty Tree planting at the cemetery in Peculiar, Missouri. In uniform were Robert Grover(HST), Ivan Stull(HST), Mark Parks(MWC), Mary Diane Scherer Lippe(Prairie Chapter DAR), Stephen Sullins(IPC). Photo by Steve Sullins



The Ozark Patriots Chapter held a vigil at the Revolutionary War Memorial Monument located at Veteran’s Park, Rolla, Missouri. In uniform were Dr. Brad Frazier, Keith Chester, and Don Turner, along with chapter member Mike Hill. Photo by Brad Frazier.

The Ozark Mountain Chapter marched in the 36th annual American Legion Veteran’s Day Parade in Joplin, Missouri. Pictured are guardsmen (L/R) Kavan Stull, Ken Lawrence, our young guest marcher who carried the Betsy Ross flag, Steve Perkins, Don Higgerson, Dan Piedlow, and Charles McMillan. The weather was pleasant and the crowd large along this 8/10th mile route right down Main Street



On 11/13/23 the Ozark Mountain chapter presented a Student Veteran of the Year with a Certificate of Recognition. This annual event recognizes an outstanding student at Ozark Technical College who also served in the Armed Services. Color guard were Charles McMillan, Ken Lawrence, Cris Brayman, Don Higgerson, J Howard Fisk, and photographer Dan Piedlow. The 2023 Outstanding Student Veteran was awarded to Daniel Bowles. Bowles is now on a military recruiting assignment in Springfield and was among the inaugural class of students in OTC’s Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy program. He plans to finish the degree program in May of 2024, making him among the first to graduate from OTC with a bachelor’s degree in this program.

Missouri Society, Eastern District Color Guard.

The area of St. Charles County, Missouri is rich in history. Unfortunately, for many years the true extent of the Spanish history in eastern Missouri was not studied. As the history of the Spanish became known, especially with Spain learning more about Fernando de Leyba and the Battle of Fort San Carlos in St. Louis, the Spanish came to appreciate that we wanted to know more about this history.

Fernando de Leyba served as the third governor of Upper Louisiana from 1778 until his death in June 1780. On March 13, 2019 Fernando de Leyba was remembered by the Spanish Army and his native town of Ceuta at “Castillo del Desnarigado” by placing a plaque at “Castillo del Desnarigado”, which has a military history museum.

With the help of a Spanish historian and Iberdrola, a Spanish utility company, funds were provided to place a marker in the City of St. Charles Historical District. This marker, which was dedicated on October 29, 2023, located on South Main Street at Perry Street, explains this history in a clear and concise manner. The sign identifies the City of St. Charles and the St. Charles County Historical Society as partners in the placement of this marker. The Fernando de Leyba SAR Chapter, the Spirit of St. Louis SAR Chapter, and the Milicia de San Carlos provided a Color Guard for the ceremony.



Above Photo - L-R: Beginning with the man in the American Revolution uniform: Casey Brizendine, Marty Aubuchon, Jose Manuel Guerrero Acosta, Joan Koechig, St. Charles Mayor Dan Borgmeyer, Bill Brecht, Don Wallace, and Terry Grogan.

Photo Right - “St. Louis, St. Charles and Spain during the American Revolution”. The Spanish Panel was provided by Iberdrola, a Spanish utility company, a Spanish multinational (Including the USA) electric utility company based in Bilbao, Spain. Iberdrola has a workforce of around 34,000 employees serving around 30 million customers.

Nebraska -
Nebraska SAR

On October 8, the Nebraska SAR Color Guard presented the colors for the Nebraska DAR, for a rededication ceremony for a Real Daughter of the DAR, Sarah Fletcher Whitcomb. This event took place in Red Oak, Iowa. Sarah Whitcomb was a member of the Deborah Avery Chapter of the Nebraska DAR.

Photos Below On October 22, the Nebraska SAR hosted a Compatriot Grave Marking ceremony for Thomas Alfred Creigh. Compatriot Creigh was a founding member of the Nebraska SAR and the 2nd State President of the Nebraska Society. The Nebraska SAR Color Guard was joined by Compatriot Mike Rowley of the Iowa SAR, and VPG Chris Moberg of the Minnesota SAR, making this a North Central District Color Guard event. We were also joined by the Sons of Veterans Reserves from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, to fire a musket volley in honor of Compatriot Creigh’s Civil War service. He served with Company G, 126th PA Infantry. Numerous wreaths were laid by various Chapters, Camps, and Tents from the Nebraska SAR, Nebraska DAR, Sons of Union Veterans, and Daughters of Union Veterans.

Photo Bottom Right - On November 12, the Color Guard marched in the Veteran’s Day Parade in Lincoln, NE. This is the 4th year that the Nebraska SAR has marched in this parade.





Nevada -

Reno Veterans Day Parade

On a warm and sunny Veterans Day, Nov 11, 2023, nine members of the NVSSAR Battle Born Patriot (BBP) Color Guard marched in the city of Reno Veterans Day parade



Wreaths Across America

The Battle Born Patriots (BBP) Chapter Color Guard participated in two ceremonies for Wreaths Across America on Saturday Dec. 16th, 2023.

The first WAA ceremony was held at 9:00 a.m. at the Northern Nevada Veterans Coalition Cemetery, located in Fernley, Nevada. The SAR was represented there by uniformed Compatriots Art Salt, David Hess, and Roger Linscott. Among others, these members reverently placed a wreath for their past BBP color guard member, Compatriot Brian Worcester, at his columbarium site.

The second WAA event for the BBP color guard was held at the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Cemetery in Reno, Nevada, which contains the gravesites of 115 deceased Union Veterans of the Civil War.

This ceremony was hosted by the SAR BBP Chapter in conjunction with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Camp 25, and the American Legion Post 1, of Reno, Nevada. BBP Compatriot Rob Stoecklin was the organizer and Master of Ceremonies, who spoke of the importance of the WAA goal to remember, honor, and teach, upholding the memory of the service and sacrifices of present and past men and women of our great nation's military services.

A ceremonial wreath was laid for each of the services, including the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine. The Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1 performed the Flag Raising ceremony, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The National Anthem followed.

Then a combined color guard composed of 3 members of the SAR BBP CG, and 3 dual members of the SUVCW Camp 25 CG, fired a three volley musket salute. This was followed by Taps performed by Bugler Mary Sedgwick of the Northern Nevada Veterans Coalition Honor Guard.

PHOTO Right: SAR BBP CG Members at WAA ceremonies, No. Nev. Veterans Coalition Cemetery, Fernley NV.

L to R: Art Salt, David Hess, Roger Linscott. Photo by Sharal Linscott.



PHOTO Below Left: SAR BBP CG and SUVCW Camp 25 CG, at WAA, G.A.R. Cemetery, Reno, NV. Combined CG Lineup, L-R: CG Cmdr Roger Linscott, Art Salt, David Hess, Jim Linscott, joined alongside by Dual Members of SUVCW Camp 25 CG: David Perdue, Cody Ehlers, Donn Dalton. Photo by Jay Dickey.

PHOTO Below Right: SAR BBP CG, at WAA, G.A.R. Cemetery, Reno, NV.

BBC CG Lineup, L to R: CG Cmdr Roger Linscott, Art Salt, David Hess, Jim Linscott. Photo by Jay Dickey.



New Hampshire -

The Boston Tea Party 250th Commemoration

Compatriots of the NHSAR and the Molly Stark Chapter NHDAR were at the 250th Commemoration of the Boston Tea Party and participated in the march to Griffin's Wharf.

Photos: Boston Tea Party with Dodd. Bottom Right- L-R: Curtis Hermann, NHSAR, TG Mike Elston, NASAR, Sean Walsh, NHSAR, PG John Dodd, NASAR and Hans Jackson, NHSAR.

Boston Tea Party Bottom Left NHSAR CG L-R: Sean Smith, Hans Jackson and Curtis Hermann



GRAVE MARKING OF BOSTON TEA PARTY PARTICIPANT

The NHSAR concluded ceremony to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party with a grave marking to honor Ebenezer McIntosh, a known Tea Party participant and six other Revolutionary War Patriots. In addition to McIntosh, the following Patriots graves were marked during the ceremony; Timothy Barron, Daniel Whitman, Joshua Howard, Steven Morse and the grave where two unknown Revolutionary War Soldiers are interred.

The ceremony took place on 18 November 2023 at the Horse Meadow Cemetery in North Haverhill, NH. Joining us in the ceremony were representatives from the American Legion Ross Wood Post #20 who added a special touch to the Color Guard and Musket Salute along with a drummer and TAPS Bugler. Also participating were dignitaries from the NH State DAR, the VT State DAR, and the Oxbow Chapter of the VT DAR.

The NHSAR was represented by 13 members, from both the Color Guard and our General Membership. Color Guardsmen Curtis Hermann, Hans Jackson, Doug Wood, Russell Cumbee, Berry Lewis, Paul Ford, Denis Walsh, Sean Walsh, Elwin Spray and Albert Lamson were joined by Compatriots Andrew Akers, James Veach, Phil Jamieson and Dan Rinden. Also in attendance was Junior Member Brad Akers making this one of the most well attended public facing events for the NHSAR in recent history.



Left Haverhill March On - NH Color Guard Commander Curtis Hermann and Ross Wood American Legion Post 20 drummer Wayne Mitchell lead the presentation of the Colors to start the ceremony

Right Haverhill McIntosh - The headstone of Ebenezer McIntosh, Boston Tea Party Participant with SAR, DAR and Boston Tea Party grave markers unveiled.

Below Haverhill NHSAR Compatriots - L-R: Wayne Mitchell (carrying drum), James Veach, Andrew Akers, Douglas Wood, Barry Lewis, Hans Jackson, Sean Walsh, Dan Rinden (behind), Dennis Walsh, Russell Cumbee, Elwind Spray and Curtis Hermann. Not shown Phil Jamieson.



Wreaths Across America

WREATHS ACROSS DUNBARTON

For the 7th straight year, members of the NHSAR provided a musket salute to conclude the opening ceremony and then helped place wreaths at graves of Veterans interred in Dunbarton, NH cemeteries.

Photos: Right NHSAR Compatriots - L-R: Curtis Hermann, Richard Wright, Russell Cumbee, Albert Lamson, Barry Lewis, Dennis Walsh, Sean Walsh, Dan Rinden and James Veach

Left CG Formation at statue of Caleb Stark - L-R: Richard Wright, portraying Gen John Stark; Curtis Hermann, CG Commander; Color Guard Members Dennis Walsh, Barry Lewis, Albert Lamson, Sean Walsh and Russell Cumbee.



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Members of the New Hampshire, Sons of the American Revolution supported the Molly Stark Chapter, DAR Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Manchester, New Hampshire. The NHSAR Color Guard presented the Colors to open the ceremony and provided an escort for carriers placing a wreath in remembrance of each branch of the service. A three volley musket salute was provided to close the ceremony..

Photos: Left Presentation of Colors - L-R: Douglas Wood, Russell Cumbee, Albert Lamson, James Veach, Sean Walsh, Hans Jackson, Lois Hermann (DAR), Barry Lewis and Dennis Walsh (partially obstructed).

Right Musket Salute NHSAR Color Guard Members



Left Salute L-R: NHSAR Compatriots Richard Wright and Douglas Wood presenting a salute to the wreath in honor to the Merchant Marines.

Right Wreath L-R: NHSAR Guardsman Sean Walsh and unknown Legionnaire presenting a salute to the wreath in honor of the POW/MIA.



Littleton Christmas Parade

The Compatriots of the NHSAR and the Molly Stark Chapter DAR participated in the Littleton, NH Christmas Parade.

Photos

Littleton Christmas Parade - L-R: Paul Ford, James Veach, Russell Cumbee, Ronald White, Kirsten White, Kevin Stewart, Barry Lewis, Susan Baynes, Dennis Walsh and Albert Lamson.



Veterans Day Events

Dunbarton Veterans Day Ceremony

Members of the NHSAR Color Guard provided a musket salute for the Dunbarton American Legion Post #116 Veterans Day Ceremony honoring all those who served.

Photos

Far Right L-R: Barry Lewis, Albert Lamson and Dennis Walsh.

Below - Musket Salute - Front to Back: Albert Lamson, back to camera, Barry Lewis and Dennis Walsh, obstructed.



Veterans Appreciation Luncheon

Members of the New Hampshire Society, Sons of the American Revolution, the Molly Stark Chapter, NHDAR and John Stark Society CAR cosponsored a Veterans Appreciation luncheon to honor Veterans and Active-duty service men and women. The event was highlighted by the presentation of Quilts of Valor to three veterans touched by the war.

Photos: Bottom Left Veterans Luncheon Presentation of Colors L-R: Curtis Hermann, Douglas Wood, Richard Baynes, Deb Unger, Patricia Jackson (partially obstructed), Lois Hermann (partially obstructed), Elwin Spray, and Joan Page

Bottom Right Veterans Luncheon NHSAR Compatriots Back Row L-R: Sean Walsh, Elwin Spray, Stephen Lowther, Curtis Hermann, Douglas Wood, David Getchel, Russell Cumbee, Richard Bynes, Barry Lewis, Dennis Walsh and Hans Jackson. Front Row L-R: Richard Wright, James Veach, Bradley Akers, Andrew Akers, Tom Gay and John Moore.



Manchester Marathon

Members of the NHSAR Color Guard provided the “starting shot” for the Annual Manchester Marathon.
Photos: Left Manchester Marathon - L-R: Russell Cumbee, Barry Lewis, Curtis Hermann, Dennis Walsh, Elwin Spray.
Right Manchester Marathon Start - L-R: Firing muskets, Curtis Hermann, Russell Cumbee, Barry Lewis and Dennis Walsh. Far Right: Elwin Spray, Safety Officer.



New Jersey -

THE BATTLE OF CHESTNUT NECK

On Saturday, Oct. 14, the Color Guard of the New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution helped commemorate the 245th anniversary of the Battle of Chestnut Neck in 1778. This is a National SAR Color Guard event. Chestnut Neck was a settlement on the Little Egg Harbor River (now known as the Mullica River) near the present-day city of Port Republic. The village was a base for privateers. When captured ships were brought in, the goods went overland to George Washington at Valley Forge and the ships joined the privateering fleet. British General Henry Clinton decided to launch an expedition to “clean out that nest of Rebel Pirates.” An attack on Oct. 6, led by British Capt. Patrick Ferguson, burned homes, destroyed 10 captured ships and destroyed whatever confiscated goods they could not carry off. Tim Hart of the local Richard Somers NJSSAR Chapter explained that despite the loss in patriot ships and materials, the port was back in business as soon as the British withdrew. Several weeks later, 400 British soldiers attacked the outpost again, killing 50 men before withdrawing. The memorial service is hosted by the Richard Somers Chapter. In attendance were Port Republic Mayor Nikki Giberson, Chapter President Mike Mangum, NJSSAR Color Guard Adjutant Richard Serfass, Lieutenant James Howard, Carl Hausman, Clark McCullough, Charlie Morgan, Ken McGill and Larry Nelson.

PHOTO INFO for CHESTNUT NECK: From left to right, Carl Hausman, Clark McCullough, James Howard, Charlie Morgan, Ken McGill, Larry Nelson and Richard Serfass.



THE BATTLE OF RED BANK

On Sunday Oct. 22, the Color Guard of the NJSSAR performed a ceremony commemorating the 246th anniversary of the Battle of Red Bank. This is a national level SAR Color Guard event commemorating the battle fought Oct. 22, 1777, at Fort Mercer, a strategic post on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River south of Philadelphia. After the British captured that city in September, Hessian forces were used to attack the fort which was there to prevent British supplies from reaching Philadelphia. An estimated force of 1,500 Hessians attacked the fort's 400 defenders from the 1st and 2nd Rhode Island, made up largely of enslaved African-American soldiers. The Hessians suffered over 500 casualties, the Continentals suffered 14 killed. The ceremony, held in Red Bank Battlefield National Park, Gloucester County, on the banks of the Delaware River, included a Memorial service for the Continental and the Hessian Soldiers who gave their lives that day, including roughly 17 Hessians whose remains were only recently discovered in a common grave on the battlefield site. This is purported to be the largest find of Hessian soldier remains from the Revolutionary War. Those attending from the NJSSAR included NJSSAR State President Robert Meyer, president of the South Jersey Chapter and host of the event Richard Serfass, NJSSAR Color Guard Commander Jay Hershey, Lt. James Howard and color guardsmen Gary Beauregard, Earl Grondyke, Larry Nelson, Carl Hausman, Dave Tinker, Peter Moller, and former NJSSAR President Charles Morgan. And from Pennsylvania, the PASSAR Color Guard Commander Fred Fonseca.

REDBANK PHOTO INFO: From left to right, Charlie Morgan, Carl Hausman, Dave Tinker, Peter Moeller, Gary Beauregard, Earl Grondyke, Fred Fonseca, Robert Meyer, Larry Nelson, James Howard, Jay Hershey.



tion, such as the privateers of Chestnut Neck and the Little Egg Harbor Massacre. Ocean County is also home to the Cedar Bridge Tavern, in Barnegat Township, considered by some to be the location of the last skirmish of the American Revolution.



Countdown to Independence
On Wednesday, Nov. 8, at Ocean County Courthouse in Tom's River, NJ, the NJSSAR Color Guard helped Ocean County celebrate the Countdown to Independence. Ocean County joins the national movement to commemorate the approach of many 250th anniversaries, including the American Revolution and the birth of our nation in 2026. Guests included the Joshua Huddy National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. In addition, Ocean County Historian Timothy Hart and Michael T. Mangum, an NJSSAR Color Guardsman and Director of the Ocean County Department of Parks and Recreation, explained the historical significance of Ocean County during the Revolution.

The Abandonment of Fort Lee
On Saturday, Nov. 18, the NJSSAR Color Guard performed a wreath presentation commemorating the abandonment of Fort Lee on Nov. 20, 1776. This is a state level SAR ceremony. The wreath presentation in Monument Park at noon was well attended and included the participation of the Brigade of the American Revolution and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Fort Lee stood on the crest of the Hudson Palisades across the Hudson River from Fort Washington, which sat at the north end of Manhattan. Fort Lee's abandonment to the British shortly after the surrender of Fort Washington marked the end of a disastrous New York theater of operations for the Americans. But it also marked the beginning of a proverbial turning of the tide: Washington's strategic retreat across New Jersey and the stunning U.S. victories at Trenton and Princeton. Attending the ceremony for NJSSAR were Color Guard Commander Jay Hershey, State Secretary Edward Glidden and Quartermaster Gary Beauregard.

FORT LEE PHOTO INFO: From left, Gary Beauregard, Edward Glidden, Jay Hershey

Wreath Layings for Washington's Crossing and the Battle of Trenton
The rehearsal for Washington's Crossing takes place each year on a Sunday in early December. In recent years, the NJSSAR has held wreath presentations on that day for both the crossing and the Battle of Trenton, performed earlier at a ceremony in the morning. The Crossing itself occurred on the night of December 25, 1776, in a nor'easter that prevented other parts of the Continental Army from completing their mission that night. But not Washington or the troops directly led by him. Their famous feat, followed by a nine-mile march in the dark through snow hauling cannons to Trenton, led to the defeat and capture of an entire garrison of Hessian soldiers. The Crossing and Battle of Trenton were only the beginning, however, of the so-called Ten Crucial Days in which Washington and his Army reversed the course of the until-then disastrous Revolutionary War. Attending the wreath presentations on Dec. 10 this year were SAR Secretary General Darryl Addington and his wife Mary Addington, chief organizer Roger S. Williams, who is NJSSAR State Historian and President of the Princeton-Cranbury Chapter, Ben Strong, president of the New Jersey Sons of the Revolution, and the NJSSAR Color Guard led by Commander Jay Hershey. Those attending from the PASSAR included Color Guard Commander Fred Fonseca, Chris Snyder and his son Spencer Snyder.

New Mexico -

On 11 November 2023 Color Guard members of the Gadsden Chapter - New Mexico SAR marched to honor our Veterans in the Veterans Day Parade – Las Cruces, New Mexico. The New Mexico Color Guard is re-energized with several younger members joining the group this year.

In the Below picture are: Front row (L-R): CG Commander Robert E. Vance, Tanner Guskey. Back row (L-R): TJ Vallejos, William “Bill” Kinsella, Harry Murray

Driving the chase vehicle is past Chapter President Don E. Williams, accompanied by DAR members Becca Williams and Cheryl Vance



Wreaths Across America

On December 16, 2023, Fort Bayard, New Mexico - Color Guard members of the Gadsden Chapter posted with the colors at the entrance to Fort Bayard National Cemetery and participated in the Remembrance Ceremony, for the 2023 Wreaths Across America event.

Left photo pictured at entrance L-R are: Robert E. Vance, TJ Vallejos, Tanner Guskey and William “Bill” Kinsella.
Right photo: Color Guard Commander Robert E. Vance presents a wreath to a service branch representative for laying at the Remembrance Ceremony.





GRAVESITE MARKER

On December 8th, 2023 the Saratoga Battle Chapter Color Guard participated in a graveside marker dedication for Revolutionary war veterans Ambrose Cole and Isaac Ormsbee in Greenfield NY.

Color Guard members included Saratoga Battle Chapter Vice President Michael Skelly, Registrar Michael Golden, Compatriot Tim Mabee, Compatriot Brian Companion, David Wren, and Dwight McGee. Also participating in the ceremony were Saratoga Battle Chapter president Edward Munger, Regent of Saratoga Chapter DAR Heather Mabee, Saratoga County Historian Lauren Roberts, and two descendants of the patriots recognized.



Ohio



YORKTOWN DAYS PARADE

It was a beautiful autumn day at the Yorktown Days Parade on October 19th as Ohio's State Color Guard Commander Bob Hill on far right marches beside Virginia Color Guard Commanders Ken Bonner, center front, and Brett Osborn on far left. Behind Bob's right shoulder is Ohio compatriot Ed Bonniwell of Cincinnati.



GOSHEN GRAVE MARKING .

Two days later on October 21st, the Ohio Society hosted the Central District Meeting in Milford, Ohio. A patriot grave marking ceremony organized by the Cincinnati Chapter was included in the district events at Myers Cemetery in Goshen, Ohio. At far left, Ohio Society / District Color Guard Commander Bob Hill leads the combined color guard in posting the colors, followed by fifers Scott Giltner of the Kentucky Society, Robert Pruitt of the Richard Montgomery Chapter Ohio Society, and drummer Chris Canine of the Kentucky Society.

Photo # Goshen Grave Marking - Color Guard Musket Firing: The combined Musket Detail commanded by Cincinnati DrillMaster Brad Jarard fires a three volley salute at the District Patriot Grave Marking at Myers Cemetery.



LIVING HISTORY

On September 16, 2023 the New York State Color Guard participated in the marker dedication at the Stanford Town Hall, Stanford NY.

The marker reads in part “The Sons of the American Revolution salute the Revolutionary War Veterans from the Town of Stanford”

The Color Guard was lead by New York State Color Guard Commander Michael Companion. Also attending in uniform were Compatriots Andrew Pierce, Michael Golden, Michael Skelly; Mary Skelly, Bill Wierecke, and Rob Buccheri.



ITALIAN FESTIVAL PARADE

On October 8th, the Ohio Society SAR was represented for the first time at the Italian Festival Parade in Columbus. L to R: Commander Bob Hill, and three (3) members of the Camp Charlotte Chapter: Max Talley, Kevin Driesbach, Rich Minshall.



Veterans Day Program

The Western Reserve Society Archibald Willard Color Guard at a Veterans Day Program at Cleveland City Hall on Friday, November 10th. L to R: Zachary Hoon, Galen Swab, Lee McBride.



Veterans Day Program

Members of a combined Ohio Society color guard attended a Veterans Day program at Licking Heights South Elementary School in Pataskala, Ohio on Friday, November 10th. Members participating represented the Hocking Valley Chapter, Benjamin Franklin Chapter, and Camp Charlotte Chapter, and one member from the Children of the American Revolution. The colors were posted at two (2) separate assemblies and the compatriots visited two (2) fourth grade classes to speak about the American Revolution. L to R: Rick Hartinger, Bob Shetrone, Larry Potter, Elaina Potter, Tom Hankins, Joseph Potter, Ohio Society President Don Miller, Ohio Society Color Guard Commander Bob Hill, Max Talley, Rich Minshall, Al Gummere, Steve Conrad.

Veterans Day Program

On Sunday, November 12th, members of the Cincinnati Chapter Nolan Carson Memorial Color Guard march to post the colors at a Veterans Day service and Patriot Grave Marking in Washington Park in Cincinnati. 50 people were in attendance as well as 11 Cincinnati Chapter members.



Col. Jonathan Bayard Chapter DAR 120th Anniversary Luncheon

The Richard Montgomery Chapter Color Guard led by Commander Alan See posted the colors at the Col. Jonathan Bayard Chapter DAR 120th Anniversary Luncheon in Middletown, Ohio on Tuesday, December 5th.



Wreaths Across America

The various Ohio Society Chapter Color Guards were busy on Saturday, December 16th with Wreaths Across America ceremonies throughout the state. It was a day of beautiful weather, sunny and mildly cool. Richard Montgomery Chapter Color Guard members gather with the ceremonial bugler at the Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Dayton (Ohio) National Cemetery.



Wreaths Across America

Centennial Chapter Color Guard members participated with the Findlay Chapter DAR in a WAA ceremony at Benton Ridge Cemetery in Hancock County, Ohio. L to R: Dressed as George Washington is prospective member Al Beggs, in Continental uniform is Jim Cooper, and in militia attire is Bob May

SAR/DAR Regional Holiday Luncheon

An SAR/DAR Regional Holiday Luncheon at the Parkersburg Country Club was held on Sunday, December 3rd. Doug Pettit of the Marietta Chapter (second from right) served in the combined color guard with members of the Captain James Neal Chapter of the West Virginia Society. Also in attendance were Ohio compatriots Steve Hinson, current Central District VPG and Ohio Society President Don Miller. A reenactor portraying Benjamin Franklin was the guest speaker.



Pearl Harbor Day:

Members of the Cincinnati Chapter Color Guard participated in the Annual Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance Ceremony at Anderson Ferry on the Ohio River in Cincinnati on Sunday, December 3rd. In photo, L to R: Tim Madden, Gary Duffield, Mike Gunn, Bob Bowers.



Wreaths Across America

Western Reserve Society Color Guard members participated in a WAA ceremony at Stow Cemetery in Stow, Ohio. L to R: Lee MacBride, Galen Swab, Zackary Hoon



Wreaths Across America

The Northeast Ohio Chapter Color Guard in a patriotic silhouette at a WAA ceremony at Greenlawn Memory Gardens in North Kingsville, Ohio.



Wreaths Across America

After posting colors, a combined Ohio Society Color Guard stands ready behind wreaths to place a small American flag on each wreath, then render a salute as the founding history of each military branch is read. There was also a wreath for MIA's and KIA's. The WAA ceremony was hosted by the Camp Charlotte Chapter and took place at Forest Cemetery in Circleville, emceed by Chapter President Rick Hartinger. Represented in the color guard were members of the Camp Charlotte Chapter, Benjamin Franklin Chapter, and Hocking Valley Chapter. Bottom Picture L-R Steve Conrad, Kevin, Driesbach, Bob Hill, Tony Holbrook, Chuck Julien, Rich Minshall, Al Gummere, and Max Demp



Wreaths Across America

Right - Cincinnati Chapter Color Guard members participated in a WAA ceremony at Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati and also Greenwood Cemetery in Hamilton, Ohio. Of note as well, the Cincinnati compatriots have participated in two (2) Honor Flights this year, greeting returning veterans at the Cincinnati / Northern Kentucky CVG Airport. Pictured L to R: Bob Bowers, George Stewart (Chapter President), Tim Madden, Michael Blum, Gerry Knight.





Pennsylvania -

Washington's Crossing Pa. Dec. 12th

The Philadelphia Continental Chapter guardsmen in regimentals are (l to r) Pres. Steve Kopsick, Commander Fred Fonseca, Chris Snyder, Spencer Snyder, and Glenn Tyson along with Calvin Hunzinger in hunting frock of the Gov. Joseph Heister Chapter at 10 Crucial Days National Color Guard event. Steve, Chris, Spencer, Fred and Calvin also participated in the crossing reenactment.



Trenton Battle Monument

Trenton Battle Monument Dec. 12th
In blue regimentals (l to r) Chris Snyder, Spencer Snyder and Fred Fonseca represented Pennsylvania in the Nat Color Guard event in Trenton



Wreaths Across America

The Philadelphia Continental Chapter participated in a SAR/DAR event at Historic Boehm's Church in Whitpain Twp. Pa. (l to r) Spencer Snyder, Chris Snyder, Steve Kopsick and PCC Color Guard Commander Fred Fonseca.



Veterans Day

Governor Joseph Heister Chapter Color Guard laid a wreath at Veterans Grove City Park in Reading honoring Veterans Grove City Park, honoring Revolutionary War Veterans from Berks County.

(l to R) PASSAR President Eric Troutman, Leon Adam, David Loose, and chapter president Peter Reinhart.





Tennessee -

The members of the Tennessee state color guard supported twenty-nine noteworthy events within the state during the last quarter of 2023. The events included our state societies' quarterly meeting, The Col. Benjamin Cleveland Chapter's 20th Anniversary, eight Veterans Day related events, four Patriot grave marking ceremonies, three Compatriot grave marking ceremonies, support to a America 250th DAR ceremony, a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony ICW Veteran's groups and the DAR, a Christmas parade, six Wreaths Across America events at National and Local cemeteries, three Boston Tea Party America 250th Celebrations.

TNSSAR continues to locate and honor the Revolutionary War Patriots at rest in the state. It is estimated that over 3,500 Patriots including about one-third of the Kings Mountain veterans are buried in Tennessee. Thirteen Patriots were honored in this quarter. The Patriots included: Joseph Brittain (P-121414), William Bodenhamer (P-116985), John Brandon (P-120086), Lawson Hobson (P-182639), Thomas McKissack (P-246688), Reese Porter (P-272168), Alexander McCullar/McCuller (P-244356), Robert Rankin (P-275582), William Houston (P-185768), John Sexton (P-287377), Lewis Wills (P-321529), William Woosley (P-324622) and Zephaniah Woolsey (P-324623).

We honored six compatriots in ceremonies: Harry William Boyd, Sr., Edwards Abernathy, Garnett Andrews, Junius French, Frank Stoops, George Waterhouse, and George Dagley.

The state color guard members actively supported our communities across Tennessee with about 70 percent of all supported events done in coordination with Veterans Groups, the DAR chapters in the state or other civic organizations allowing us to raise awareness of the SAR.



The John Sevier Chapter, TNSSAR hosted a 2x5 Compatriot Grave Marking on Saturday, 21 OCT 23 honoring five early chapter members as part of the chapter's 98th Anniversary celebration. Compatriots honored included: Edwards Abernathy, Garnett Andrews, Junius French, Frank Stoops, George Waterhouse. The TNSSAR Color Guard members participating in the ceremony included from left to right: Front Guard Terry Beaty (Col. Benjamin Cleveland Chapter), US Colors State President Dr. David Chaffin (Col. Benjamin Cleveland Chapter), Besty Ross flag Paul Bobenhausen (John Sevier Chapter), TN State flag Tyler Bobenhausen (John Sevier Chapter), SAR Flag Brian Frye (John Sevier Chapter), TNSSAR flag Dennis Harris (Andrew Jackson Chapter), America 250 Celebration flag Jerry Hjellum (Col. Benjamin Cleveland Chapter), Rear Guard Scott Pryor (John Sevier Chapter) and Color Guard Commander Cliff Kent (John Sevier Chapter). Not pictured is State Chaplain Greg Banther..

Members of the TNSSAR Color Guard supported the TNDAR's America 250th Plaque dedication at the Hermitage in Nashville Friday, 20 OCT 23. Color Guard members from left to right are: Fred Rand (Andrew Jackson Chapter), Steve Millhollin (Lt. Andrew Crockett), Wayne Adams (Andrew Jackson Chapter), Rick Longton (Valentine Sevier Chapter), Sanford Payton (Andrew Jackson Chapter), Doug Dickerson (Stones River Chapter) and Doug Evans (Thomas Kilgore Chapter).



DAR and SAR members gather for a group photo after the Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony at Mount Moriah Cemetery, Pulaski, TN Saturday, 21 OCT 23. Patriots honored included: William Bodenhamer (P-116985), John Brandon (P-120086), Thomas McKissack (P-246688), Reese Porter (P-272168) and Lawson Hobson (P-182639).

Texas -

DNA identified WWII Veteran 2nd Lewis

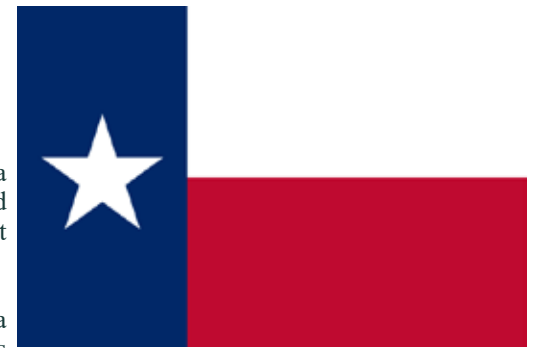


On the morning of 1st August 1943, 2nd lieutenant David Murrel Lewis of Texas was a co-pilot on one of the B-24 bombers involved in Operation Tidal Wave. A bombing raid against the oil refineries around Ploesti, Romania that supported Adolph Hitler's war against the Allies during World War II.

Encountering heavy flack Lewis was shot down. Romanian citizens buried his remains in a mass grave. After the war the American Graves Registration Command recovered dozens of unidentified remains to be identified. Those that could not be identified were buried in Belgium.

In 2017 a grant was given to identify the remains of those men who were not identified in Belgium. In May of 2022 DNA testing identified 2nd Lt David Lewis and his journey home began.

On a bright sunny day, 16 July 2023 2nd Lt Lewis was buried with full military honors. The Old Saltillo United Methodist Church was over flowing with Americans honoring the service of 2nd Lt Lewis. As the time came for his internment clouds formed over-head. As the final honors began, rain poured down. But those paying homage stayed until after Taps was over.



Those who participated were his cousin Vivian Monzingo, the wife of SAR member Montie Monzingo (deceased), the David Pendleton CAR, Dallas Chapter and East Fork Trinity Chapter of the Texas SAR.

This was the second DNA identified American Veteran that the North Texas Color Guard had the honor to participate.

Kara van Heyst, President David Pendleton represented the CAR. Jerry Pinkerton, JD Martin, Tom Van Fossen and Bill Watts represented the Dallas Chapter.

Randal van Heyst and Walt Thomas represented the East Fork Trinity Chapter.

Pictures: 2nd Lt Lewis, presenting the flag n pouring rain. "A grateful Nation, Honors for Lewis.



The Tunnel to Towers Foundation

Freedom Chapter, Texas SAR, was honored to join with The Tunnel to Towers (T2T) Foundation to celebrate the grand opening of its Houston Veterans Village on Nov. 9. The Houston Veterans Village is a fully converted 161-room hotel and is the newest location for T2T's Homeless Veterans Program. The facility will provide both permanent and transitional housing for hundreds of veterans in Houston and the surrounding areas.

Following an official ribbon-cutting ceremony and a dedication program that featured speeches and performances, Tunnel to Towers Chairman and CEO Frank Siller spoke to the crowd in attendance about why T2T is so committed to addressing the veteran homeless crisis in America. "At Tunnel to Towers, we have made it our mission to give back to those servicemen and women who have made incredible sacrifices to protect our homeland," said Siller. "Now it's our job to give them a dignified home that they can call their own. Our mission is not complete until we can ensure that no veteran is left behind." T2T spokesmen Actor Dennis Quaid and Baseball legend Andy Pettitte, both Texas natives, headlined the ceremony. Freedom Chapter Compatriots Art Byram, David Hamaker, Ed Sellards, Don Hayes, Bill Myers, Charles Lano, Don Kluth, and Matthew Hoffman, joined by Compatriot Ralph Reed of the Rankin Chapter, were proud to serve as the Honor Guard for the program.

Phase II of the Houston Veterans Village will be complemented next year with 15-20 comfort homes, serving as permanent housing for senior citizen veterans. T2T will provide housing assistance and services to more than 3,000 veterans this year. The nonprofit has also paid off the mortgages or is providing mortgage-free homes to 50 families across the country. The 50 homes are in 26 different states, stretching from coast to coast and will help catastrophically injured veterans, Gold Star families and fallen first responder families with prior military service.

"We honor those who risked their safety and gave up their lives so we may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace," said Siller.



USS Arizona Memorial in Granbury, Texas

On December 7, 2023, the city of Granbury, Texas, dedicated a treasured piece of a recovered relic from the sunken USS Arizona. The battleship was hit by bombs and sank at Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, killing 1,177 officers and crewmen. Since its sinking, the USS Arizona has lied at the bottom of Pearl Harbor in memory of the lost crew. While most of the ship remains underwater at Pearl Harbor, several pieces have been distributed across the United States. The city of Granbury was among the recipients fortunate to receive the important piece of Naval and American history. The relic of the USS Arizona will now remain in the permanent care of the Texas city. On the 82nd anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack, a commemorative monument and the battleship artifact were unveiled in a ceremony held at Memorial Lane, a plaza that serves as a living memorial to first responders and veterans lost in the line of duty and that honors those currently serving or those who have served. During the moving dedication ceremony, compatriots of the Brazos Valley Chapter posted Colors and paid tribute to the fallen by standing as an Honor Guard while the priceless remnant of fateful history was viewed by residents and visitors.

Below Right - - Brazos Valley Chapter Color Guard consisting of (l-r) Commander Jim Hanlon, Steve Teal, Ron Bonneau and Tom Rearden, with the relic of the USS Arizona. Photo by Wiley Clarkson.

Below - - Brazos Valley Chapter Color Guard 7 Dec 2023 2.jpg
(l-r): Tom Rearden, Ron Bonneau, Jim Hanlon, and Steve Teal.

Right - - Brazos Valley Chapter Color Guard 7 Dec 2023 3.jpg
(l-r): Phil Harris, Steve Teal, unknown, Wiley Clarkson



Wreaths Across America

The Freedom Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, hosted Wreaths Across America at The Montgomery New Cemetery on Saturday, December 16th. It was our honor to celebrate the mission of our veterans, to Remember the fallen, Honor those that serve and that are currently serving, and Teach the next generation the values of freedom. The Freedom Chapter color guard presented the colors and opened the ceremony with a prayer and pledges. The United States of America was founded on the ideals of Freedom, Justice and Equality. We thank those who gave their lives to keep us free, and we will not forget you.

It was a beautiful day, after the rain we had the day before. With our many volunteers, we placed 140 wreaths to remember and honor our veterans for Christmas. It was a great day! It was also the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea party!

We would like to thank the many people that attended the wreath laying, including Congressman Morgan Luttrell and Mayor Byron Sanford. Thank you to the local businesses for the sponsorship of the wreaths, the Lions Club for their sponsorship, as well as the refreshments. Thank you to the DAR Couthatti Trace, DAR Heritage Trace and DAR Margaret Montgomery chapters for their help and the many volunteers that assisted us in this endeavor.





Wreaths Across America

On December 16, 2023, the Patrick Henry chapter, along with support from neighboring chapters, participated in the Wreaths Across America in Austin, Texas. The event was held at the Texas State Cemetery. State Color Guard Commander Shiidon Hawley led the color guard in posting the colors for the event. The guest of honor was Governor Greg Abbott. The governor passed in review the color guard as he proceeded to his place of honor at the front of the event. Compatriots Wayne Courreges and John Knox (pictured behind the governor) served as an honor guard posted behind the governor and other guests. Well over 3000 wreaths were laid that day.

Wreaths Across America

Retired Lt Col, USMC San Antonio chapter member Frank Kebelman pay's respect in laying a wreath while Blair Rudy stands to reflect on the most recent addition to the San Antonio National Cemetery most honored resting places.



Virginia

SAR Presents the National Colors at the Fifteenth Army Air Force's 2030 Reunion

On 14 October, members of the Virginia and Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution were honored to present the Colors at the All-Groups Banquet held at the reunion of the Fifteen Army Air Force Bomber Group. Participating from the Fairfax Resolves Chapter were President Forrest Crain, Past President David Cook, and dual member (Col James Wood II Chapter) Dale Corey. The Group holds reunions at different locations annually. This year's three-day event was held in Herndon. Group activities included visits to Mt Vernon, the National US Army Museum, the Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum, the Air Force Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and the World War II Memorial.

The Fifteenth Air Force was constituted on 30 October 1943 in the Mediterranean Theater under the command of MG James H Doolittle. Its nine bombardment wings engaged targets in Italy, France, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary and the Balkans. Its combat personnel made 148,995 heavy bomber sorties and 87,732 fighter sorties. It lost 3,364 aircraft and 21,671 personnel killed, wounded, missing, and taken prisoner.

Attending the reunion were the veterans, their children, and grandchildren. They displayed their appreciation for the color guard by repeated requests for photographs, applause, and singing a rousing rendition of the national anthem. The Fairfax Resolves presented a Certificate of Appreciation (COA) and Virginia Society SAR challenge coin to Ed Clendenin, a member of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter Texas Society SAR and historian for the 376th HBG Veterans Association. A COA and challenge coin was also given to David Blake, 461st Bombardment Group Association Fifteenth Army Air Force Reunion Committee Chair.

Photo. Fifteenth Army Air Force Reunion Color Guard: Forrest Crain, Fairfax Resolves Chapter; Ed Clendenin, Alexander Hamilton Chapter; Dave Cook, Fairfax Resolves Chapter; and Dale Corey, Col. James Wood II Chapter.



SAR Honors Culpeper Minute Battalion

On 21 October 2023, the Colonel James Wood II Chapter (CJWII) Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) participated in the Culpeper Minutemen Muster held at Yowell Meadow Park, Culpeper, Virginia. The muster is held to commemorate the actions of the Culpeper Minutemen during the Revolutionary War.

Michael Weyler, 2nd Vice President of the Virginia Society SAR presented greetings for the society. He stated the beginnings of this unit can be traced to the results of the Boston Tea Party held 16 December 1773. On 25 March 1774, the Boston Port Act closed the port of Boston to commerce. Virginians saw this as foreshadowing an attack on all 13 colonies ability to engage in free commerce and the colonies' liberties. This resulted in the Virginia House of Burgesses declaring 26 May 1774 as a day of prayer and fasting to acknowledge the plight of Bostonians. The Royal Governor, Lord Dunmore dissolved the House of Burgesses. On 1 August 1774, the first Virginia Convention passed resolutions supporting the non-importation of British goods and the non-exportation of colonial goods to Britain. In March 1775, the second Virginia Convention introduced a program for defensive action. On 17 July 1775, the third Virginia Convention authorized the creation of military districts throughout Virginia, which led to the formation of the Culpeper Minute Battalion. Compatriot Bill Schwetke, Culpeper Minutemen, gave a presentation on the muster of the battalion. The structure included two full-time regular regiments consisting of 16 Minute Battalions and a militia of all able-bodied men between 16 and 50 years of age with limited exceptions. The Culpeper District quickly completed its battalions with a regular company of riflemen. The training required annually, two 12-day training periods as a battalion and each month (with the exception of the three winter months) a four day training period as a company. The battalion was led by Colonel Lawrence Taliaferro of Orange, Lieutenant Colonel Edward Stevens of Culpeper and Major Thomas Marshall of Fauquier. There were four companies from Culpeper led by Captains Abraham Buford, John Jamison, Reverend William McClanahan and John Williams. The Regular Company of Riflemen was commanded by Captain John Green, which eventually became part of Patrick Henry's 1st Virginia State Regiment. In September 1775, men from the district trained for 20 days and then marched to Williamsburg, arriving about 21 October. They arrived wearing hunting shirts dyed the color of leaves and emblazoned with "Liberty or Death". They were armed with muskets, rifles, large knives and tomahawks. They carried a flag emblazoned with a rattlesnake, the words "Don't Tread on Me" and Patrick Henry's words, "Liberty or Death". Their first call to duty was 25 October when Royal Navy ships attempted to bombard Hampton in punishment for the destruction of a ship that had run aground in the previous month's hurricane. Captain Abraham Buford brought a company sized group of the best marksmen armed with rifles who were stationed in a house at a breastwork to fire on the ships. At daybreak, six Royal Navy ships arrived to bombard Hampton. They were met with a withering and accurate fire. British sailors could not man their guns due to the deadly firing of the minutemen. Their efforts led to the ships fleeing to safety and included the capture of the British ship, the Hawk Tender. Hampton was spared. After returning to Williamsburg, the battalion joined Colonel Woodford's 2nd Virginia State Regiment and marched to barricade the south end of the Great Bridge south of Norfolk. At the break of dawn on 9 December, a company of British grenadiers led a large force in a charge down the bridge. The Culpeper Minutemen, included Billy Flora, a free black man from Princess Ann County was able to defeat the attack, causing a British retreat to Norfolk and the safety of their ships. In December 1776, the minute battalions were disbanded by the Virginia legislature. In existence for roughly 15 months, the Culpeper Minute Battalion was involved in engagements at Hampton, Great Bridge and Norfolk with garrison duty at Jamestown. Their efforts had a major impact on the war with the victory at the Battle of Great Bridge leading to Lord Dunmore's abandonment of Virginia. They proved the ability of the American colonies to stand up to the greatest military in the world at that time. Their support significantly impacted the outcome of the American victory in the Revolutionary War.

The ceremony was emceed by Charles Jameson with the Virginia Society Color Guard posting the colors. Greetings were given by Culpeper Mayor Frank Reaves, Jr, Supervisor Tom Underwood and Virginia Society 2nd Vice President Michael Weyler. A roll of honor was presented by Cat Schwetke, Katherine Slaughter, Martha Menton and Michael Dennis. Wreaths were presented by 2nd VP Weyler, Virginia Society; Mark Crain, Culpeper Minutemen (CMM); Ken Morris, George Mason (GM); Dave Cook, Fairfax Resolves (FR); Robert Bruce, Norfolk (NFK); Thomas "Chip" Daniel, Col James Wood II (CJW); and Ken Bonner, Sgt Major John Champe (SJC) from the SAR. DAR wreaths were Martha Menton, Culpeper Minute Men; Cat Schwetke, Fauquier Court House and Anita Bonner, Lanes Mill. After the wreath presentations a musket salute was fired to honor the men of the Culpeper Minute Battalion. Participating for the Col James Wood II Chapter were Dale Corey, Chip Daniel, Brett Osborn and dual members Ken Bonner (SJC), Dave Cook (FR), Jim Cordes (FR), Mark Crain (CMM), Mike Dennis (CMM), Charles Jameson (CMM), Ken Morris (GM),

Mark Sink (SJC), Bill Schwetke (CMM) and Mike Weyler (VASSAR). The color guard commander was compatriot Schwetke leading a musket squad of Bonner, Cook, Cordes, Daniel, Dennis and Sink. First photo are SAR participants at Culpeper Minute Battalion monument, l. to r. Mark Crain, Brett Osborn, Charles Jameson, Chip Daniel, Dave Cook, Mark Sink, Ken Morris, Ken Bonner, Bill Schwetke, Jim Cordes, Mike Dennis and Mike Weyler. Second photo is the color guard l. to r. Jim Cordes, Ken Morris, Ken Bonner, Dave Cook, Chip Daniel, Mike Dennis, Brett Osborn and Bill Schwetke. Third photo is the musket squad firing a salute l. to r. Bill Schwetke, Ken Bonner, Mike Dennis, Chip Daniel, Mark Sink, Dave Cook and Jim Cordes. (Photos courtesy of Dale Corey.)



VETERANS DAY

On 11 November 2023, the Colonel James Wood II Chapter (CJWII), Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) participated with the American Red Cross at National Cemetery, Winchester in a ceremony to commemorate Veterans. Ed Helphenstine, Regional Program Manager for Service to the Armed Forces in the Central Appalachia Region welcomed the audience followed by an invocation from Tom Reed, Chaplain of the CJWII SAR. The SAR color guard presented the colors and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Charles Hunter of VFW Post 2123. Keynote speaker John Winn, a retired US Army Judge Advocate General Officer and is a Professor of Business Law the Shenandoah University School of Business. He spoke of the role veterans played in maintaining the United States as a free and independent nation. A wreath was presented for all organizations present by Richard Agosta, COL, USA (Ret) and Charles Hunter, 1st Sgt, USA (Ret) followed by a three round musket salute fired by the SAR Musket Squad and Taps played by Hunter. Participating for the SAR

were Bryan Buck, Paul Christensen, Richard Collins, Dale Corey, Jim Cridge, Thomas "Chip" Daniel, Doug Hall, Erick Moore, Brett Osborn, Allan Phillips, Tom Reed, Eric Robinson, Marc Robinson, Jim Simmons and Richard Tyler as members of the color guard with compatriots David Cress and Marshall DeHaven in attendance. Dual members from Fairfax Resolves, Dave Cook and Jim Cordes were a part of the SAR Color Guard and Musket Squad.

Left photo is the SAR participants at National Cemetery, standing l. to r. Brett Osborn, Doug Hall, Dave Cook, Paul Christensen, Jim Cridge, Richard Tyler, Bryan Buck, Jim Cordes, Erick Moore, Richard Collins, Eric Robinson, Allan Phillips and Marc Robinson. Kneeling l. to r. Thomas "Chip" Daniel and Dale Corey. (Photo courtesy of Larry Clowser Webb.)) 3rd photo is the Musket Squad firing a salute to all veterans



VETERANS DAY MIDDLETOWN VETERANS PARK

On 11 November 2023, the Colonel James Wood II Chapter (CJWII), Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) participated with the town of Middletown to commemorate all veterans at Veterans Memorial Park, Middletown. The ceremony was emceed by Ray Steele with the Reverend Mary Lock of Grace United Methodist Church providing chaplain duties. The SAR color guard presented the colors for the National Anthem sung by Diane Newman. The Keynote Speaker was Brigadier General Lisa Doumont. BG Doumont served in the Regular Army and the US Army Reserves as a member of the Medical Service Corps. She currently supports area veterans through the Reserve Organization of America and the Veterans of Foreign

Wars. She spoke of the importance of our veterans and the sacrifices made to serve the country. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2123 Honor Squad fired a three round salute with a wreath presented by BG Doumont and Middletown Mayor Charles Harbaugh with Taps played by Andrew Paul. At the memorial, granite benches were dedicated to Korean War Veterans and Colonel James Wood II compatriots Marshall DeHaven and Gary Fletcher. Both have contributed significantly to the community and honoring local veterans. Participating for the SAR were Brian Bayliss, Bryan Buck, Dale Corey, Jim Cridge, Doug Hall, Erick Moore, Brett Osborn, Dennis Parmerter, Eric Robinson, Marc Robinson and Jim Simmons with dual members from Fairfax Resolves Dave Cook and Jim Cordes. Included in the audience were 44 veterans who came to be honored.



Left photo is the color guard assembling l. to r. Eric Robinson (hidden), Doug Hall, Erick Moore, Brian Bayliss, Jim Cordes, Dave Cook, Cale Corey, Jim Cridge, Brett Osborn, Marc Robinson, and Dennis Parmerter. (Photo courtesy of Larry Clowser Webb.) Right photo Brett Osborn leading the Color Guard past sentinel, Eric Robinson. (Photo courtesy of Larry Clowser Webb.)



BOSTON TEA PARTY

On 9 December 2023, the Colonel James Wood II (CJWII) Chapter of the Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution (VASSAR) combined with the Fort Loudoun and Ketocin Daughters of the American Revolution Chapters to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party. Compatriots from the Fairfax Resolves (FR) SAR and Williamsburg (WMB) SAR Chapters joined along with members of the Lawrence Augustus Washington Children of the American Revolution Society at North Hill Farm in Clarke County, Virginia.

It was 250 years ago in 1773 that the American colonies were in the stages of revolt against the policies enacted by King George III and Parliament to force the colonies to pay for the French and Indian War. They had passed tax act which gave a monopoly to the British India Tea Company. The patriots were concerned about Parliament's authority over the colonies without having elected representation. In December of 1773, there were three ships (all owned by American colonists) in the Boston Harbor that were preparing to off load shipments of tea from Great Britain. These ships, the Dartmouth, Eleanor and Beaver had a deadline to offload their cargo by 17 December. On 16 December 1773, there was a gathering of approximately 7,000 patriots in Boston, led by Dr



Joseph Warren, Samuel Adams, Dr Benjamin Church and John Hancock among others at the Old South Meeting House. These Sons of Liberty led the debate concerning the tea tax. A request was sent to Governor Hutchinson to have the ships return to England with their load of tea. That was denied and word was brought to the assembly. With that, it was shouted, "Who knows how tea will mingle with sea water?" Followed by "Boston Harbor, a teapot tonight," and "The Mohawks are coming." Sam Adams then proclaimed that nothing more could be done to save the country and several of the men disguised themselves as Mohawk Indians. This was to help keep their identities secret, yet symbolic in nature. They were letting the world know that they identified themselves as "American" rather than British. These men marched to the ships and proceeded to dump 342 chests weighing 92,000 pounds of tea into the harbor. Nothing else on the ships was damaged and the colonists ensured the decks were swept of debris with no harm to the crews. John Adams said "This destruction of the tea is so bold, so daring, so firm, intrepid and inflexible, and it must have so important consequences, and so lasting, that I can't but consider it as an epoch in history." The action resulted in 16 additional "Tea Parties" throughout the colonies, to included ladies in North Carolina who were led by Penelope Barker in the first public, organized women's protest in American History. Barker said "Maybe it has only been men who have protested the king up to now. That only means we women have taken too long to let our voices be heard. We are signing our names to a document, not hiding ourselves behind costumes like the men in Boston did at their tea party. The British will know who we are." The ladies proceeded to throw tea into a fire as a form of protest. As a result of these actions, the British Parliament passed the Intolerable Acts in April 1774 to punish Massachusetts for the tea party incident. These Acts closed Boston Harbor, took away home rule from Massachusetts, allowed British officials who committed a capital offense to be tried in another colony or Great Britain and forced all Americans to board British troops in unoccupied buildings. The Acts were meant to impose strict control over the colonies. However, this only further infuriated the patriots. Patriots in other colonies began siding with those in Massachusetts and which led to convening the First Continental Congress in September 1774. It was decided to boycott all British goods until the Intolerable Acts were repealed. The end result was rebellion and the War of Independence.



Marc Robinson opened the ceremony calling for a presentation of the colors by the Virginia State SAR Color Guard commanded by Darrin Schmidt and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Kara and Lucy Mazzoucolo from the Lawrence Augustus Washington C.A.R. Society. Greetings were given by VASSAR 3rd Vice President Darrin Schmidt followed by presentations given by Ketocin DAR Regent Stacey Bassett, Fort Loudoun DAR Regent Susan Lauer, Lawrence Augustus Washington C.A.R. President Alexandra Collins and CJWII compatriot Dale Corey. Participants were then given small chest of tea to dump into water or tea bags to burn in a fire pit, symbolic of the protest 250 years ago. Wreaths were presented and a firing of a musket salute to honor those patriots who turned Boston Harbor into a giant tea pot. Participating from the SAR were CJWII compatriots Sean Carrigan, Paul Christensen, Richard Collins, Dale Corey, Jim Cridge, Thomas "Chip" Daniel, Allan Phillips, Marc Robinson, Jim Simmons and Richard Tyler. They were joined by compatriots Jim Cordes, Darrin Schmidt and Larry McKinley from FR and Gary Dunaway from WBG chapters. Previous page photo is the participants from the Col James Wood II, Fairfax Resolves and Williamsburg SAR Chapters, Fort Loudoun and Ketocin DAR Chapters and Lawrence Augustus Washington C.A.R. Society. (Photo courtesy of Chip Daniel.) Above photo is the Musket Squad firing, l. to r. Dale Corey, Sean Carrigan, Chip Daniel, Allan Phillips, Gary Dunaway, Paul Christensen and Jim Cridge. (Photo courtesy of Chip Daniel.) Right photo is the color guard with the colors, l. to r. Darrin Schmidt, Paul Christensen, Allan Phillips, Richard Collins, Richard Tyler, Jim Cridge, Larry McKinley, Chip Daniel, Jim Cordes, Sean Carrigan and Gary Dunaway. (Photo courtesy of Dale Corey.)

Washington -



The Washington State Color continues to be very active in the community, participating in Parades, Memorial Services, New Citizen Ceremonies, Educational recruitment booth, and paying respects to the Veterans. As we move into the Fall much of our focus will continue to be towards Veterans, present and past, through Honor Flight participation, Veterans Day Parades, and Wreaths Across America.

Alexander Hamilton

WASHINGTON SAR & DAR PAY RESPECTS to DARRON NELSON
On October 9, 2023, officers of nine chapters of WASSAR and WASSDAR came together at a memorial to honor the life of Darron Nelson, compatriot of Alexander Hamilton Chapter, WASAR and husband of Susan Nelson, Mary Ball Chapter, DAR.

Compatriot Darron Nelson's grave was decorated by an bronze SAR Compatriot Lug set in granite. Among those Attending were SAR State President Greg Lucas and wife Cindy; DAR Mary Ball Chapter Regent Maureen Vanek; SAR John Paul Jones Chapter

President Perry Taylor. Presiding was John Herr, President Alexander Hamilton Chapter SAR. AH Chapter Chaplain Skip Stephan offered prayers. Dr. Dan Shaw gave memorial remarks. The WA SAR Color Guard posted the colors commanded by Color Guard Captains, Art Dolan, George Rogers Clark Chapter and Michael Moore, Alexander Hamilton Chapter. The honor guard was comprised of eleven uniformed color guardsmen representing the three chapters. L-R Dick Moody (GRC), Joe Coorough (GRC), Bruce Bock (GW), Jan Lemmer (AH), Bill Bentler (GW), Michael Moore (AH), Jerry Bordelon (AH), Skip Stephen (AH), Bob O'Neal (AH), Eric Olsen (GRC), Ken Roberts (AH), Art Dolan (GRC)



2023 Veterans Day Parade

The 58th annual Veterans Day Parade honors veterans and active military personnel. The thousands of participants included marching bands, Gold Star Mothers, and honor guards. This year's event opened with a C-17 Globemaster III flyover from McChord Air Force Base. The over mile-long parade is one of the largest events west of the Mississippi River and ran over 3 hours. Auburn is one of the few cities in Washington State designated by the Veterans Day National Committee and the Department of Veterans Affairs as a regional site for the celebration of Veterans Day.

The Washington State SAR parade participants were from the Seattle and Alexander Hamilton Chapters, and were led by the SAR Fife and Drum Corps.

Front Row; Keith Weissinger, Fife Corps; Alonda Droege, Danika Bendickson, Ralph Liening, Harold Steenberg. 2nd Row: Neil Vernon, WASSAR CG Commander, Fife Corps; Melanie Liening, Jan Lemmer, Viren Lemmer, Mike Moore, Skip Stephens, Jerry Bordelon, Jim Carpenter, Mike Bendickson, David Horsley, Matt Bendickson, Kate Bendickson, Diane Moore, and Dick Motz (WASSAR Deputy CG Commander) towing the flag trailer.



Ft Vancouver

Members of the Ft Vancouver joined up with the Lewis and Clark Chapter of the Oregon Society for the Portland, Or Veterans Day parade. Ft Vancouver compatriots included Paul Winter, Garry Carpenter, and Mike Fitzpatrick. Set-up of the float was wet but efficient thanks to Garry's plan and hard work. By parade time the rain had let up so every walked the route. Thanks to Dave Witter for allowing the participation in the march with such a fine group of compatriots. This demonstrates the value of cross Society collaboration!



George Rogers Clark

The George Rogers Clark Chapter, Olympia, Washington has been very busy supporting history, education, and patriotism. Along the way we gained new members too.

Dofflemyer Point Lighthouse, Boston Harbor, Washington. Saturday, September 30, 2023, the George Rogers Clark chapter posted colors for the Daughters of the American Colonists at the dedication of the Dofflemyer Point Lighthouse plaque, Boston Harbor, Washington. The lighthouse was the first navigational aids automated in the State of Washington.

(L-R) Joe Corrough, Art Dolan, Dick Moody, Jeanne Pettinger (DAR Flag), Eric Olsen



On October 16, 2023 Members of the WASSAR Color Guard attended the Honor Flight at SeaTac Airport. (L-R) Dennis Case (GRC) Michael Moore (AH), Neil Vernon (kneeling, SE), Dick Moody (GRC), Eric Olsen (GRC), Art Dolan (GRC).

At the wall in Olympia, Washington. Beginning in 2015, the Sacajawea Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), has held a welcome home ceremony on Veterans Day at the wall and by the reading of names, as etched; to remember both those still among us and those who died. Lieutenant Colonel James A. Collins, Washington Army National Guard, was the 2023 keynote speaker, telling the story of the Vietnam era and the plight of US service men and women. This year, eight Vietnam era veterans were pinned as were three blue star family members who received a blue star pin (immediate family members of those who serve during a time of conflict) to an audience of about 40. Serving at the event: a bagpiper, Beverly York, and a colonial Color Guard of the George Rogers Clark Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution with Sacajawea Chapter's Jeanne Pittenger.



Wreaths Across America

The George Rogers Clark Chapter SAR Color Guard along with the DAR Sacajawea Chapter posted colors and participated in Wreaths Across America at the Veteran's section of the Masonic Cemetery in Olympia, Washington. Members from the Trail Blazers CAR Chapter house also attended. The DAR Sacajawea Chapter arranged for 156 Wreaths and coordinated the ceremonies. Representatives of all services branches, active and retired, laid wreaths at the Washington State Monument In Memory of Her Valient Sons. SAR members in attendance were Lew Maudsley, Eric Olsen, Dick Moody, and Joe Corrough.



George Washington

The George Washington Chapter Color Guard presented the colors at The Anacortes City Library on 17 Sep 2023, at 1345 hours. This opened the start of Constitution Week, 17/23 Sep, an annual event observed by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Ann Washington Chapter. Constitution Week was begun by the national DAR in 1955. Congress ratified the Constitution at 1300 hours on 17 Sep 1787.

DAR Anne Washington and SAR George Washington chapter members commemorated the event at 1300 by a minute of bell ringing on the steps of the Skagit County Courthouse in Mt Vernon, WA. They traveled to Anacortes to open the event at 1345. The library meeting room was opened to the public. The visit of the USS Constitution, "Old Ironsides" to Anacortes in 1933, and the history and importance of the Constitution as the foundation of our federal government were the topics addressed by a local retired college academic.

Ken Carlson, Mike Hutchins with DAR Anne Washington members.

(L-R-) JohnMark Jenny, Rod Jenny, Bill Bentler, Marshall Anderson, Bruce Bock, Lee Shurman, Marshall Eberhart.



Skagit County Veterans Day Parade

The George Washington Chapter participated in the annual Skagit County Veterans Day Parade in Burlington, Washington. They were honored to be the lead group accompanied with the chapter's historic flag trailer. The SAR members were positioned right behind the Skagit Co. parade banner carriers.

(L-R) Ron Jenny, Mike Hutchins, JohnMark Jenny, John Kraft, Bruce Bock, Marshall Eberhart. Not in photo: Bill Bentler





Wreaths Across America

On December 16 at 0900 the George Washington Chapter SAR Color Guard supported the Civil Air Patrol Color Guard during ceremonies honoring and placing wreaths on more than 1200 veteran graves. SAR Guardsmen, R to L John Kraft, Bruce Bock, Terry Layton, Rod Jenny, Johnmark Jenny, Russ Oliver, Mike Hutchins, Ken Carlson, Bill Bentler, Marshall Anderson (fife), Chris Fridley (drum) not pictured Lee Shuriman (VFW Firing Squad participant)



John Paul Jones

The John Paul Jones Chapter Color Guard and Education team manned their booth at the 2023 Veterans Day Recognition event at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds, 11 Nov 2023. The team's focus was on the First Veterans, ancestry, and education in the community. The team was constantly busy discussing the values and sacrifices of the First Veterans who won our freedoms and securing a new nation.

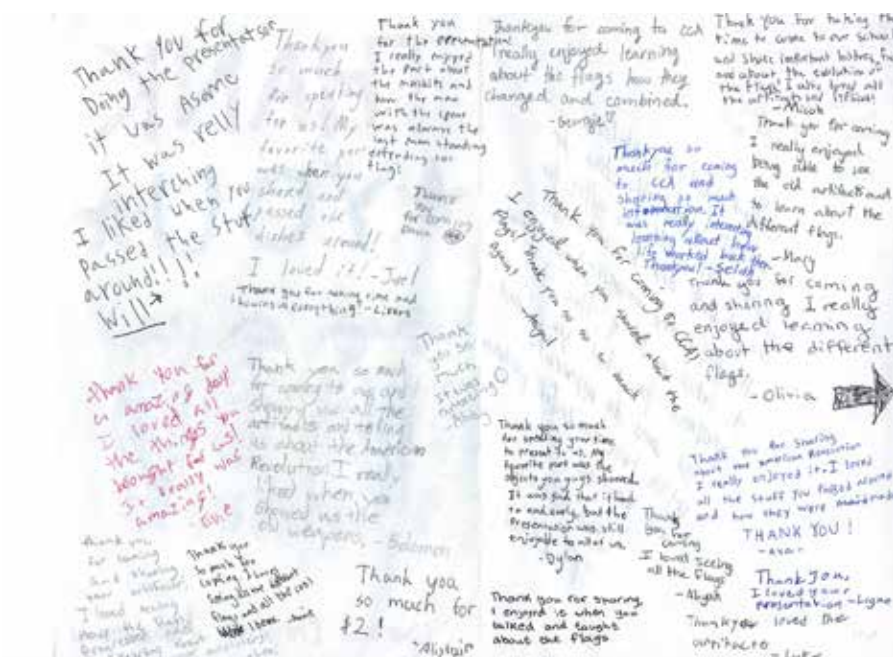


Seattle Chapter

Honor Flight

Once again the Honor Flight was a late arrival from Washington, D.C. The greeting of the returning Veterans was held in a different location away from baggage claim.

A display of the Betsy Ross, Washington State, SAR, and 250 flags lined the greeting area. Compatriots that attended to greet the 27 Korean War and 40 Vietnam War Veterans include (L-R) Stan Granberg (SE), Jim Carpenter (SE), Bill Bentler (GW), Neil Vernon (SE), John Herr (AH), Dick Moody (GRC), Art Dolan (GRC).



School Presentation

On October 31, four members of the Seattle Education Team presented to 24 students at the Classical Christian Academy in Monroe. The program included "A day in a life" and some historical flag history. We were invited by special request thanks to a mother of a student that had participated in a presentation in Bothell a few years ago. This was our first experience at this location and the students were very knowledgeable and engaged. Several parents also attended. We have already received an invitation to return in 2026 when the Charter School cycles back around to modern era history.

Color Guard members that presented were Stan Granberg, Neil Vernon, David Horsley, Stephen Clayton.

Wreaths Across America

In preparation of the wreath laying, 9 Seattle chapter members marked the veteran graves with American flags on December 15th.

Then on December 16, 14 Seattle Chapter and Color Guard members participated in the Wreaths Across America program at the Lakeview Cemetery in Seattle. This cemetery is the oldest cemetery in Seattle and the resting place of more than 500 veterans. With the sponsorships from the Ballard VFW, Colonial Dames, University of Medical Center IT Services, and others, enough Wreaths were on hand for the first time to honor each veteran grave in the cemetery, ranging from the Civil War to present day.

Following the posting of colors by the Color Guard and some local Navigators, the Seattle Chapter donated a new flag to the cemetery and the Color Guard conducted a flag replacement ceremony.

Seattle Chapter members included: Tim Zenk, George Hanson, Scott Laing, Richard Seeder, Jerry Strode, and Jon Newton.
Color Guard included: Chris Grabowski, Stan Granberg, Stephen Clayton, Christopher Clayton, Neil Vernon, Grant Rauzi, Jim Carpenter, and David Horsley.
Ranger Chapter: Tim Doughty.



Spokane Chapter

New Citizen Ceremonies

On September 15, 2023, members of the SAR Spokane #1 and local DAR chapters attended a new Citizen Ceremony at Central Valley High School in Spokane, Washington. 48 new citizens from 19 countries were sworn in. Over 1,000 people from the School District attended.

L-R Doug Jonas, Tracy Prock, Stan Wills, Dale Ryan



Memorial Dedication

On September 15, 2023, Members of the Washington State DAR Board of Management toured the Flag Museum. Following the tour, the ladies of the DAR dedicated a monument in the Pines Cemetery (home of the Flag Museum) to Buell Felts, a WWI Pilot, buried in the Cemetery. The Airport in Spokane is named after him. Included in the ceremony was a flyover of WWI planes. Dale Ryan and Stan Wills posted colors. Stan received the 250th medal from the State DAR Regent.



West Virginia -



The West Virginia SAR State Colorguard posted colors for the dedication of the Mason County West Virginia Veterans Memorial on Veterans Day 2023.





Wisconsin -

In the run-up to the 250th anniversary of the USA the WISSAR M-K Chapter conducted a seminar and planted a Liberty Tree on October 14 to honor Gov. Bernardo Galvez and Thaddeus Kosciuszko. The hard rain didn't deter over 100 participants that included members of the Katyn Rally Society, a Polish motorcycle club from Chicago. Members of the DAR and CAR, and others sat for a 2 hour presentation. James Mills beat call to order after which we posted the Colors. Pictured (l to r) are Bill Austin, James Mills, Matt Sonnenburg, Don Skarda, Prof. Don Pienkos, Dianne Buck, Ben Meador, Cmdr Brian Barrett, Terry Sater, Marcus Barrett, Bob Plastine and Karen and Jim Greer. Not shown is Mike Meador who presented a wreath on behalf of the Polish Center of Wisconsin.

On Veterans Day our guards attended events in Waukesha and Delafield. At Victory Park flag plaza in Delafield we presented the Colors and dedicated a Liberty Tree. Pictured in Waukesha are Greer, Plastine, and Barrett. In Delafield Cmdr Barrett



was accompanied by (l to r) Mike Meador, Greg Heal, Ben Meador, Greer and Plastine and WDAR State Regent Skarda Snow. Also in attendance were Mayor Kent Atwell and Rep Scott Allen and many spectators. Plastine performed several period tunes on his flute and Heal performed Taps.

The M-K Chapter's traditional holiday party was held on December 2 at the Womens Club in Milwaukee. LTC Thomas Curtis (ret) invited the guards to post the Colors. He gave a presentation about the "The Continental Dollar." Pictured at Right are Plastine, M-K Quartermaster Shane Barrett, Greer, Ben Meador, new member Henry Ghawi, Sonnenburg, Heal and Cmdr Barrett.



Our guards appeared at 3 cemeteries to distribute wreaths. Pictured at Wood Cemetery in Milwaukee are Heal, Cmdr Barrett and Shane Barrett, at Southern WI Veterans Cemetery in Union Grove are Plastine, Mike Meador and Greer. Shown at Ft Winnebago cemetery in Portage is Austin along with 8 DAR members. Not shown is Bob Haglund who also attended at Portage.

