Inside This Issue

From the Commander
From the Vice-Commander
126th Congress:
Safety Report
Reports from the Field - 18 Societies
Mt. Vernon Vigil
Battle Cane Break and more
The purpose of this Magazine is to provide interesting articles about the Revolutionary War and information regarding the activities of your chapter and/or state color guards.

**THE SAR COLORGUARDSMAN**

The *SAR Colorguardsman* is published four times a year by the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard Committee © 2012.

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

**Commander:**
Dave Hoover (MD)

**Vice-Commander:**
Mark C Anthony (SC)

**Adjutants:**
Russell DeVenney (MO)
James Fosdyck (CA)

**Safety Officer**
Robert Cunningham (IN)

**Artillery Commander**
Dr Rudy Byrd (AZ)

**Quartermaster**
Charles Scott (KY)

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

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**Commander’s Report**

A year has passed. Time to look back on the year we had. The Color Guard had a good turnout in Boston for Congress in July and another good turnout for Fall Leadership in KY. My wish list of places to see this year and next is Yorktown on October 19th, the Battle of Great Bridge in Norfolk, VA, Cowpens in January 2017 and Guilford Courthouse in March. As time goes by, I hope to make other events near me such as the Crossing of the Dan in 2017. The next big event for the Color Guard is the Spring Leadership Meeting in KY. We will be voting for the next Gold Color Guardsman of the year. Nominations for the National Color Guardsman of the Year must be submitted to the National Commander by e-mail or U.S. mail no later than December 31. Please see the rules on page 19 of the Color Guard Handbook. We already have one new nominee to bring to you - Dr Rudy Byrd.

I look forward to Congress where Mark Anthony will take over as Color Guard Commander. It has been a long six years. My wife Susan and I have met many new people all over America. The Color Guard has put in place new events for the Guardsmen to earn the Silver Color Guard Medal. We have made inroads with the Ladies of Mount Vernon to come back next year. We hope to see the Color Guard get bigger at each event and more ladies to come out to help their men folk.

David Wayne Hoover, National Color Guard Commander, Maryland Society

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**Vice Commander's Dispatch**

The *SAR Color Guard Handbook* has been updated and should be posted to the National SAR web site in the near future. All guardsmen should take the opportunity to review the handbook which contains items on the history of the color guard, the protocol of the color guard and other useful information.

Mark C Anthony, Vice Commander

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**Frizzen Covers, Flash Guards and Safety Requirements**

This article will discuss the importance of having a frizzen cover and flash guard on your flintlock and safety requirements.

It has been brought to my attention that some of our Color Guardsmen still do not have frizzen covers and flash guards on their flintlocks. Color Guardsmen without this safety equipment should not be permitted to fire. It is our obligation and duty to provide a safe environment for all participants. Accidents do happen and that brings on litigation.

Your firelock should have safety equipment. This means it should have a flash guard and a frizzen cover. The flash guard is brass and is sold by muzzle loading equipment companies, although you can make your own. The frizzen cover is leather and also can be purchased, but most owners choose to make their own. The frizzen cover needs to be tethered to your flintlock.

I contacted Frank Doughman, Superintendent of the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park in Vincennes, IN and asked about the Park’s regulations regarding frizzen covers and flash guards. He wrote “Received your call, The NPS does require both Flash guards and Frizon [sic] Covers.”

The following information is from the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association’s Safety Manual.

- At no time is a shooting demonstrator to surrender control of their small arms to a member
Colorguardsman of the Year

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lowell Nichols (IN)</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgar E Grover (KS)</td>
<td>1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert L Grover (MO)</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernard G Lamp Sr (WV)</td>
<td>2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raymond Zimmerman (MD)</td>
<td>2002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Lampman (CA)</td>
<td>2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>James McCafferty (MD)</td>
<td>2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lester A Foster (MD)</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew M Johnson (VA)</td>
<td>2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Thurmond (GA)</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles F Bragg (IN)</td>
<td>2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlie A Newcomer (GA)</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>John H Franklin Jr (OH)</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Prescott (GA)</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td>Tom Green (TX)</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>Gerald McCoy (MO)</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel Powell (NC)</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Cunningham (IN)</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karl Jacobs (CA)</td>
<td>2016</td>
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NSSAR Color Guard Commanders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donald N Moran (CA)</td>
<td>1989-1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David J Gray (MA)</td>
<td>1990-2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrett Jackson (CA)</td>
<td>2000-2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgar Grover (KS)</td>
<td>2002-2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter K Goebel (NY)</td>
<td>2004-2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Lampman (CA)</td>
<td>2006-2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Perkins (OH)</td>
<td>2007-2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Dooley (VA)</td>
<td>2009-2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J Michael Tomme (GA)</td>
<td>2011-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Radcliff (TX)</td>
<td>2013-2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Hoover</td>
<td>2015-Present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Musket Inspection Checklist

Beginning inspection:
- The weapon is confirmed to be unloaded by springing the rammer.
- Your overall first impression is favorable.
- Weapon equipped with a hammer stall (frizzen cover) and a flash guard.

The Stock:
- No cracks or splits.
- Butt plate, trigger guard, etc. fit tightly.
- No burrs on butt plate or trigger guard screw heads that would snag clothing or hands.
- Barrel bands shall be secure.
- If pin-fastened, pins all there, tight, wood not splintered.
- No charring is evident around the top of the lock.
- Generally, no splinters or rough edges.
- Two-piece stocks have sections securely joined.

The Lock:
- Lock works smoothly.
- The hammer or cock fits tightly on the tumbler.
- All positions are firm and solid.
- The half-cock (safety) position works properly.
- When trigger pulled, it lets off smoothly without catching on half cock.
- Trigger pull is proper, not too heavy, not “hair” trigger.
- If a set trigger, it is adjusted properly and works smoothly.
- Lock fits properly into the stock and snugly against the barrel.
- The cock screw works smoothly, jaws use lead or leather to grip flint securely.
- The flint is in good condition and set at a proper angle.
- The steel (hammer, frizzen) is in good condition, not gouged and functions smoothly.
- The pan is clean and fits snugly against the barrel.

The Barrel:
- Barrel fits the stock properly.
- Free from visible dents or cracks.
- The flint is not striking the barrel.
- The muzzle is not dented or worn.
- The touchhole is clear and of an acceptable size.
- No signs of heavy corrosion around the touchhole.
- The sights are complete and operable.
- The barrel bands or pins hold the barrel securely.
- The ramrod is straight, fits the stock properly, and if equipped with threads at the lower end, threads are clean and free of burrs.
From the Editor

Welcome compatriots.

I want to thank all of the color guard Commanders and members who took the time to submit photos and content for this issue.

This issue has 18 state societies submitting color guard activity from the last 3 months. This is good to see. I’m sure that every state with a color guard, either at the state level or the chapter level, will have some Fall activities to report for the Winter issue. These could include Veterans Day parades, Wreaths Across America events, battle site commemorations, or any of the other 13 events listed elsewhere in this issue. I will look forward to having those state color guard commander absent from this issue submitting something for the Winter issue.

I was pleased to have content from some states submitting duplicate copies of the same content from different SAR members. This is a good thing in that members feel comfortable enough to send something in.

So that it will be easier for me to collect, compile, and format the issues in the future, let’s review the preferred steps:

- Chapter color guard commanders, or a chapter officer, should submit their content to the state color guard commander for him to review and forward to me. This ensures that the state color guard commander is kept informed of chapter activities - Chain of command issue.
- The preferred method of submissions is by e-mail with attachments.
- Please do not embed photos into any document (WORD, e-mail, or PDF) - submit photos separately from accompanying document. Embedding a photo reduces the resolution and limits the photo size that I can use in this publication.
- Pictures should have accompanying them a list of those in the picture and who took it. Ex: ‘Photo-img-1234 is of event X, with members X,Y, & Z. Photo by ABC’

When submitting content (photos and text) please consider this. The Colorguardsman is for spreading the news about color guard activities. Whenever your state or chapter color guard does something, that event information is what should be submitted. State or chapter presentations not involving the color guard are more appropriately submitted to the SAR Magazine. When compiling the issue, I look for and select those color guard activities over chapter non-color guard presentations.

Thank you for your help. Please forward this issue to your state’s chapter color guard commanders for dissemination amongst their color guard members.

Mount Vernon Vigil

On 17 September 2016, ten Compatriots from four states gathered at Mt. Vernon, Virginia to honor our first Commander in Chief. The National Color Guard Event, “Washington Vigil” as it has been known, takes place each year in mid September. Compatriots meet at the Administration building, march across the estate, and stand guard at General Washington’s Tomb, conducting a changing of the guard ceremony every 15 or 30 minutes depending on the weather. An opportunity to visit the estate and museum plus a Colonial Market, boat ride on the Potomac River make for a full day.

Photo Caption: Left to right, Walter Chewning (GA), Jeff Walt (OH), John Elliot (NC), Bob Hill (OH), George Strunk (NC), Ron Bonham (NC), Dave and Evan Loose (PA), John Allen (NC). Matt Hardman (OH) not pictured.

Photo by Jo An Chewning
A photo showing a color guardsman wearing his medals at a public event has recently been brought to our attention via an e-mail message. From this instance it appears that Color Guardsmen may not be aware of the policy concerning the wearing of medals. In reading the salient portion of the Color Guard Handbook regarding the wearing of medals one will note that there is a distinction between indoor SAR events and public events.

The policy was established, in part, as a response to concerns raised that members that the public might become confused as to how soldiers looked during the Revolution. The concern was that no medals were ever worn by American soldiers during the Revolution and in fact the only prominent award was the Purple Heart which was only awarded to three individuals for gallantry. These were all issued by General George Washington himself. This was offset by the concerns raised by other members that the only time they get to wear their medals was when they wore their uniforms to meetings and events since that was the only outfit they wore to meetings and events.

The National Color Guard Committee discussed these issues and a sub-committee recommended the policy that was adopted. This policy allows for some latitude in the wearing of medals on uniforms at internal meetings and events on the chapter and state level. The expectation is that medals and neck ribbons should and would not be worn at public chapter and state level meetings and events. The caveat was that the local chapter or state color guard commander would have the discretion to make a final decision when it came to public meetings and events. With respect to national meetings and events, the bottom line was that no medals or neck ribbons would be worn at any time. This was seen as a reasonable compromise which has turned out to be the case.

So the take-away from this is that color guardsmen and their commanders should be aware of this information and conduct themselves accordingly. As taken from the Color Guard Handbook page 12:

COLOR GUARD BEHAVIOR AT EVENTS

Wearing Medals. If a Color Guardsman insists on wearing SAR medals on his uniform because he would not otherwise have an opportunity to wear them, then they may be worn only during SAR internal events such as chapter, state and national meetings where the general public is not present. In any case, the Color Guard Commander in charge makes the final decision on the permission to wear medals on the Color Guard uniform during SAR internal events. It is the policy of the National Color Guard Committee that no medals or other decorations will be worn at official National Society events.

All Color Guardsmen are encouraged to familiarize themselves with not only this policy but also the SAR Color Guard Handbook which provides salient information about the history, policies and procedures of the SAR Color Guard.

Deadline for January Issue December 30
126th Congress

2016 Congress - Color Guard Breakfast - Arnie Burr & Jim Fosdyck

2016 Congress - Ladies Auxiliary members on parade enroute to the Memorial Service at the Old South Church, Boston, MA


Col. Paul Callanan briefing members of the color guard about the Memorial Service
Keeping Hydrated

Heat Stress
This summer as we plan and prepare for outdoor events, don’t forget to think about heat stress since many of the factors that increase our risks to heat related emergencies may be present.

Environmental
- High Temperature and Humidity
- Direct Sun Exposure
- Limited Air Movement
- Heavy Clothing and Equipment
- Physical Exertion
- Physical Conditioning and Heat Tolerance
- Some Medications for Blood Pressure or Antihistamines
- Advanced Age and/or Health Problems

Heat stress can result in heat stroke, heat exhaustion, heat syncope, heat cramps, or heat rashes. Heat can also increase the risk of injuries as it may result in sweaty palms, fogged-up glasses, fatigue, lethargy, and dizziness.

Heat Stroke
Heat stroke is the most serious heat-related disorder. It occurs when the body becomes unable to control its temperature: the body’s temperature rises rapidly, the sweating mechanism fails, and the body is unable to cool down. When heat stroke occurs, the body temperature can rise rapidly within 10 to 15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.

Symptoms of heat stroke include:
- Hot, dry skin
- Chills
- Throbbing headache
- High body temperature
- Hallucinations/Confusion/Dizziness
- Slurred speech
- Seizures
- Loss of consciousness
- Rapid strong pulse

What you should do:
- Seek medical attention immediately
- Make sure someone stays with you
- Move to a cooler location
- Remove unnecessary clothing
- Lie down
- Reduce body temperature
- Apply cool, wet cloths to as much of the body as possible

Heat Exhaustion
Heat exhaustion is the body’s response to an excessive loss of the water and salt, usually through excessive sweating. The most prone to heat exhaustion are those that are elderly, have high blood pressure, and those working in a hot environment.

Symptoms of heat exhaustion include:
- Heavy sweating
- Cool, clammy, moist skin
- Pale or flushed complexion
- Extreme weakness or fatigue
• Muscle cramps
• Dizziness, confusion
• Nausea
• Slightly elevated body temperature
• Fast and shallow breathing
• Rapid weak pulse

What you should do:
• Tell someone
• Have someone stay with you
• Move to a cooler location
• Remove heavy clothing
• Sip cold water or sports drink
• Sit or lie down
• Apply cool, wet cloths to head and neck
• If you have vomited, or symptoms persist seek medical attention

Heat Syncope
Heat syncope is a fainting episode or dizziness that usually occurs with prolonged standing or sudden rising from a sitting or lying position in a heated environment.
Symptoms of heat syncope include: Light-headedness, dizziness, and/or fainting.
Many injuries are sustained due to falls after fainting. Do not lock your knees when standing, move frequently, drink lots of water, and immediately take a knee or sit down when you first begin to feel light headed. Keep an eye out on your buddy and assist them to a cooler area as soon as you see them start to wobble.
Factors that may contribute to heat syncope include dehyrdratation and lack of acclimatization.

Heat Cramps
Heat cramps are muscle pains usually caused by physical exertion in a hot environment. They are caused by the loss of body fluids and salts during sweating. Replace fluid loss by drinking water, sports drinks, and snacking. Seek medical attention if cramps do not subside within an hour, you are on a low sodium diet, or if you have heart problems.

Heat Rash
Heat rash is the most common problem in hot environments. It is caused by sweating and looks like a red cluster of pimples or small blisters. It appears on the neck, upper chest, arm pits, elbow creases, and in the groin. The rash area should be kept dry. Application of powder products may increase comfort. Ointments and creams or anything that makes the skin warm or moist may make the rash worse.

Prevention
In the words of Benjamin Franklin, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Prevention starts well before the event and includes the following:
• Exercise regularly.
• Gradually increase your heat tolerance exposure.
• Eat regular meals before and try to snack during the event.
• Get plenty of rest the night before.
• Don’t wait until you are thirsty to drink.
• Drink plenty of fluids, water, juice, and sports drinks before and during the event.
• Avoid alcohol, and drinks with large amounts of caffeine or sugar.
• Be aware that heavy clothing or equipment may increase the risk of heat stress.
• Wear and re-apply sunscreen
• Take frequent breaks – seek shade and remove heavy clothing for short periods.
• Monitor your physical condition and that of your compatriots.
• Don’t exceed your personal limitations.

Summary
Preparation is paramount to reducing the risks of heat stress. Begin hydration 24 hours before the event. Provide cool drinks and shade immediately before and during the event. Have a cooling area, along with first aid and medical treatment plans in place. Pre-plan the method you will use to call for help and be able to provide patient location and best access information to first responders.
Remember our goal is to have fun and be safe.
Cordially,
Brian Stephens, Color Guard Commander
Riverside Chapter, SAR
Arizona

Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony: (8/27): Bob Gilbert (CG member from Palo Verde Chapter) and his brother Joe Gilbert (a member of the Thousand Islands Chapter), met to conduct the ceremony for their 4th Great Grandfather, Jonathan Allen. Jonathan Allen was a member of the Green Mountain Boys of Vermont under Col. Ethan Allen which he joined in May 1775. At the Battle of St. Johns in Canada, he was shot in the leg and his cousin Ethan was captured. The unit was later converted to the Continental Line unit …The Green Mountain Rangers. He served as a private in the company commanded by Captain Bronson. Jonathan took part in the Battles of Hubbardton, Bennington, Saratoga and was later discharged in the fall of 1777. He died in March 1836.

Chino Valley Territorial Days: (9/3): On Saturday September 3rd, members of the Prescott SAR Color Guard marched in the Chino Valley Territorial Day Parade. The participants were Bill Smith, Ed Steinback, Wayne Hood and Michael Holmes. Boy Scout banner carriers were the very reliable Michael Morgan and Trevor Huber.

Payson Rodeo Days Parade (8/20): members of our Color Guard (Steve Monez, Ed Steinback, Ed Lipphardt, Jan Huber, Bill Hearter, Bill Baran and Matt Scott) joined with Payson Chapter members Stan Garner and Don Castleman.
The Arizona Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Partnered with the Children of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American revolution to present eight programs during Constitution Week at two schools. The first school was at the Heritage Academy Gateway Campus in Queen Creek AZ on September 12. The second was at the Canyon Ridge school in Surprise on September 16. Eight SAR members reenacted the program which covered the Declaration of the Independence, Battle of Yorktown, 1783 Treaty of Paris, Shays Rebellion, Annapolis Convention, Constitutional Convention, Federalists Papers, Anti Federalist Papers, Anti Federalism, and the United States Constitution. Those Reenactors were, Wayne Hood as Nathaniel Hood his ancestor, Matt Scott as Patrick Henry and Daniel Shay, Dr. Bill Baran as Samuel Adams, Ed Steinback III as George Claybourne his ancestor, Jan Huber speaking on the Constitutional Convention, Allen Nash as James Madison, Steve Miller as Philip Woodring his ancestor and Steve Monez as George Washington and Narrator. Over 500 students attended and Pocket Constitutions were available at the end.

While the reenactment was taking place Lezlee Alexander ASDAR and CAR Honorary State President accompanied by Barbara Cook ASDAR American History Chair and Elizabeth Wiegelt DAR White Tank Mountain member held seminars in the classrooms sharing the many programs offered by SAR, DAR, and CAR. They handed out brochures and answered questions so students could get a good understanding of the opportunities available to them.

The Chapters received many thank you cards from the students. Christopher Raso the History teacher responsible for setting up the program at Canyon Ridge said his students were still talking about the reenactment on September 20, 2016.

Kami Tietjen, the parent teacher who arranged the program at Heritage Academy said the children in the classroom really appreciated the information they received from Ms. Alexander and Barbara Cook.

Submitted by Steve Monez
The parade tradition began on July 4, 1904, when Huntington Beach commemorated the arrival of the first electric passenger train linking the area with Long Beach and Los Angeles.

The Orange County and Harbor Chapter Color Guard members joined forces once again marching in the parade. This was the 28th year the compatriots of the Orange County and Harbor Chapters participated in the parade, having first appeared in the 1988 parade. This year’s lineup included (L to R) Brian Merrell (Harbor Chapter), Jim Blauer (Orange County Chapter), Kent Gregory (OC), Jim Klingler (OC), and Luke Merrell (Harbor).

The 4th of July Let Freedom Ring Celebration went very well. There were 14 CASSAR Color Guardsmen in attendance; 4 flag bearers, 9 musketeers, and fifer Matthew Noel and drummer Leo Carlin. Matt and Leo are members of the Los Angeles Fife and Drums. Dan Henry commanded the Color Guard during the presentation of Colors and Charlie Gentis commanded the Firing Team. A bell was rang 13 times for the original 13 colonies/states. OC Chapter President John Ferris and his lady Elizabeth took the stage and rang the 13th toll.

In the evening of July 4th many color guardsmen from around the Southland joined the Orange County Chapter in the Let Freedom Ring Ceremony at Cerritos City Hall. Besides Orange County there were members from the Harbor and Riverside Chapters. The Color Guard was joined by two members of the Los Angeles Fife and Drums; Matt Noell (fifer, kneeling) and Leo Carlin (drummer, standing next to Matt). Matt is a member of the Orange County Chapter.

Over Memorial Day Weekend, the sparkling lake at The Park at River Walk, Bakersfield was surrounded by a sea of red, white and blue as 1,000 American flags were flown in tribute to all who have sacrificed – and continue to sacrifice – to make the United States the greatest country in the world.

Kern County Chapter Color Guard. Guardsman Stephen Corbin in the foreground.

July 4th Parade - David Beach, Ernie Garcia, Jim Faulkinbury, unknown, Donna Spradling, Alan Brooking, Russ Kaiser. Sacramento Chapter, SAR
Tuesday evening, the President General Banquet was held. The Colors were presented and posted by the SAR Color Guard. Fifty color guardsmen from twenty-five states, under the direction of Color Guard Commander Hoover, participated in the program. David Hoover and Sam Powell on the left with friends including Karl Jacobs on the right. Front and center Kern County Chapter Color Guard Commander Arnie Burr with the California and Tennessee flags.

PG Lawrence presents the Gold Color Guardsman of the Year Award to Karl Jacobs with Charles Lampman.

Karl Jacobs and his grandson Jacob Levy

Congratulations President General J. Michael ‘Mike’ Tomme’ (former NSSAR Color Guard Commander) with Un Hui Yi and Jim Fosdyck (NNSAR Color Guard Adjutant. PG Tomme is a Orange County, California Society dual member.

Un Hui & Jim Fosdyck and Arnie & Emily Burr
Posed photo of Santa Barbara Color Guard left to right: Stuart Morse (Commander), Robert Niehaus, Gregg Garrison, Michael Hardwick, Gavin Garrison and Neil Crockett. Marching photo: Kern Chapter Color Guard left to right: Steve Corbin, Dave Johnson, Will Flickinger, and Greg Frazier. The Santa Barbara Chapter Color Guard participated in their local Independence Day celebrations by being selected as the lead color guard in the Santa Barbara Independence Day Parade. They were joined by their compatriot brothers from the Kern County Chapter Color Guard, making the largest SAR contingency to participate in the parade in many years. Additionally the Santa Barbara Color Guard joined with the US Air Force Color Guard for the presentation of the Colors at the “Concert at the Sunken Gardens” at the Santa Barbara Courthouse later that day.

The World’s Record for the Largest Muster

The record was set in 1976 and recorded by the Guinness Book of World Records. This folk tradition has brought fifers and drummers from across the world together every year since 1953. The Deep River Ancient Muster is the oldest and largest gathering of fife and drum participants and enthusiasts in the world and has been referred to as “The Granddaddy of All Musters”. The earliest recorded gathering in Deep River was for a Field Day on May 13, 1879, when musicians came together to honor the history of the fife and drum in America’s Revolutionary War militia service. The Muster is always the 3rd Saturday in July starting at 11:00 a.m. Photos: In staging area and in parade: Jim Fosdyck with 13-star US Flag, Arnie Burr with SAR Flag, fifers Matt Noell and Eveline Schoenau on Arnie’s left. Second photo - Jim, Arnie, Matt and Eveline, et. al. on parade with the LA Fifes and Drums. Jim, Arnie & Chris Mlynarczyk (Chris is a member of the Delaware Society, SAR)
Location of the event was Pierce Brothers Valley Oaks - Griffin Memorial Park, Westlake Village, CA. One of our General George Patton, Jr. Chapter members, Fred Dunn, LTC USAF (Ret), is part of the Park’s Memorial Day committee and arranged for our participation, which was a first-time event for color guard. Date was Monday, 30 May 2016. The photo of the color guard was taken by one of the members, Ken Lynch, chapter president, who participated in sport coat. From left to right, the members are Eric Stassforth, myself, Bill Hurley (who can’t wear a uniform due to a paralyzed right arm, and Dick McMullen. The order we filed on and off was Eric (US flag), Ken Lynch (13-star flag), Bill Hurley (CA flag) and Eric (SAR flag). Bob Taylor carried a sword. We were on a platform across the street from the Field of Valor.

Memorial Service at the Old South Church, Boston, Massachusetts 2016 Congress - Karl Jacobs carrying the SAR flag and Ray Raser carrying the Delaware flag

Memorial Service at the Old South Church, Boston, Massachusetts 2016 Congress - Kent Gregory carrying a Mississippi flag
Both President General Tom Lawrence and the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution made history in May of 2016 when PG Lawrence visited Connecticut, making him the first president general to visit the Nutmeg State in many decades, or as long as any living CTSSAR compatriot could remember.

What immediately struck PG Lawrence was that the Connecticut Society is unique among all 50 of the U.S. state societies in owning historic properties, much as the DAR typically does. Not only does the CTSSAR own property, but actually three historic properties. Two of those are 18th-century schoolhouses where Connecticut’s state hero, Captain Nathan Hale, taught just before the American Revolution - one in East Haddam and the other in downtown New London. The third is the Governor Jonathan Trumbull War Office in Lebanon. The East Haddam schoolhouse and the War Office are each in rural, scenic locations, whereas the Hale Schoolhouse in New London generates thousands of visitors each year and is located near the three ferries to Block Island, Fishers Island and Montauk, Long Island. This location is also across the street from the future home of the U.S. Coast Guard Museum of History.

It was U.S. Coast Guard history that brought PG Lawrence to Connecticut. An OCS graduate who served in the USCG in Houston, he created the Alexander Hamilton Award about nine years ago. This was designed to pay homage to Hamilton as the founder of the Revenue Cutter Service in 1790, which later became the U.S. Coast Guard. The award is presented each year to a graduating cadet who composes the best senior thesis.

This year, that cadet was Caroline Miller, who majored in government studies and who wrote her thesis on the Coast Guard’s role in counterintelligence, and whose mother qualifies for and is interested in joining the DAR, so perhaps there is a prospective compatriot in the family. A New Jersey native, newly commissioned Ensign Miller will begin her career serving in San Diego and hopes to pursue a career focused on intelligence.

Before attending the USCGA’s Convocation on May 17th, PG Lawrence arrived at Hartford’s Bradley International, and was driven by VP General, New England District Doug Wood to historic and bucolic Lebanon, Connecticut, which served as one of the nerve centers of Connecticut’s contributions to the Revolutionary War effort, as it was home to Governor Jonathan Trumbull and was a large town at the time. To this day, Lebanon possesses a rich collection of 18th-century homes and other historic buildings. It also happens to be the town of one of the patriots of the author of this article, Sgt. Richard Lyman, who was an orderly sergeant to Major General Israel Putnam.

PG Lawrence was welcomed by a large contingent of CTSSAR’s Color Guard led by Col. Dave Perkins. Lawrence was given a tour of CTSSAR’s Trumbull War Office, which was recently restored to its 19th-century interior layout and boasts an amazing array of accurate reproductions of wooden barrels, muskets, shoes and other supplies for soldiers. It was in this building that many American and French generals met over the course of the Revolution to discuss provisions and conduct meetings of Connecticut’s Committee of Safety.

The tour of the War Office was followed by tours of the adjacent properties owned by the CTDAR - Gov. Jonathan Trumbull’s house as well as the horse stables built for Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth (namesake for a CTSSAR branch) and relocated to the Trumbull property in the 1950s. Numerous interesting items are in the Trumbull collection, including the Bible owned by Trumbull’s daughter, Faith, and her accomplished husband, Brig. General Jedediah Huntington. The Wadsworth Stable includes a rare Federal-era sleigh used by Colonel and Mrs. Wadsworth. One of the darlings of the CTDAR includes Jennie Rhenberg, who served the past three years as curator for the NSDAR’s museum near the White House in Washington, D.C.

That evening PG Lawrence was welcomed to the home of CTSSAR VP Damien Cregeau and his wife, Pamela (CTDAR), which was the home of BG Jedediah Huntington and built in 1765 in historic Norwich. (insert picture of leaders by front door?) The visit included a quick tour of the cemetery across the street, where Gen. Huntington and his wives, as well as his brother, Maj. Gen. Ebenezer Huntington (namesake for a one-time CTSCAR chapter), Signer Samuel Huntington and Col. John Durkee (one of the three Connecticut leaders of the Sons of Liberty) are all buried. A dinner for 20 CTSSAR leaders and color guardsmen as well as several wives included candlelight with chicken and side dishes reminiscent of colonial cooking, followed by a lively performance by neighbor and Connecticut State Troubadour Tom Callinan. During the Revolution, visitors to General Huntington’s house included General Washington, the Marquis de Lafayette and the famous painter John Trumbull. CTSSAR President Ethan Stewart and Trustee Dave Perkins presented PG Lawrence with a check for $3,035.00 towards his annual Alexander Hamilton Award presented at the USCGA.

Following the USCGA presentation, PG Lawrence was taken down the road to downtown New London to see the charming schoolhouse where Captain Nathan Hale taught when war broke out in 1775. Given Hale’s spy mission and status as Connecticut’s
state war hero, numerous informational panels on the first and second floor detail both Hale’s life as well as the those he knew such as Major Benjamin Tallmadge, who was the case officer for the famous Culper Spy Ring of Long Island and New York. The Hale Schoolhouse is currently undergoing window renovations and receives the most visitors of the three CTSSAR-owned properties, given its proximity to the busy harbor of New London and the Amtrak and Metro North Train Station across the street.

Just across the Thames River from New London, PG Lawrence was able to enjoy the panoramic water view and rare, original 18th-century earthworks of Fort Griswold and the site where British forces detached from General Benedict Arnold’s command in New London massacred dozens of Groton-area militia, most famously their leader, Col. William Ledyard, for whom the nearby town of Ledyard is named.

Hopefully, PG Lawrence’s visit will encourage increased appreciation for Connecticut’s important role in the American Revolution and will result in future President General visits in the years leading up to the 250th of the Revolutionary War beginning in 2025.


The Mary Floyd Tallmadge [Litchfield] Chapter of the DAR holds this ceremony annually. The Charles Merri man Society of the Children of the American Revolution, and the First Litchfield Artillery Regiment also participated in the event.

Oliver Wolcott, Sr. was the 19th Governor of Connecticut and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was the second of three generations of Wolcotts to serve as Governor of Connecticut.

Benjamin Tallmadge was a senior intelligence officer under Gen. Washington and the leader of the Culper Spy Ring. Upon learning that Maj. John André had been arrested with a pass for getting through the American lines and a set of papers detailing West Point’s defenses hidden in his stocking, Tallmadge suspected Benedict Arnold to be André’s accomplice. Tallmadge’s actions led to the exposure of Benedict Arnold’s treason. Maj. John André was found guilty of being a spy and he was sentenced to hang.

On Independence Day, Connecticut SAR (CTSSAR) Color Guard members presented the flag of each of the original 13 states at the Let Freedom Ring ceremony on the Green in historic Litchfield, Connecticut. Prior to the ringing of the bells of four churches that surround the Green, the First Litchfield Artillery Regiment performed a ceremony during which, using two cannons, they fired salutes to each of the original 13 states in the order that they ratified the Constitution of the United States of America. SAR Color Guard members carried and presented each of the state flags of the thirteen original states as the cannons saluted each state. At 2:00 PM, just as the smoke cleared from the last cannon salute, the church bells began to ring - 13 times in honor of the thirteen original states. The ringing of bells celebrating Independence Day was foreseen by John Adams in July of 1776, when he wrote to his wife saying: “I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End.
of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more.”

In 1963, two Connecticut men, Eric Hatch and Eric Sloane, proposed the idea that bells across the nation, including the Liberty Bell, ring out at the same moment on Independence Day each year. Hatch and Sloane’s idea was featured in an article entitled “Make Freedom Really Ring” which appeared in the February 17, 1963 issue of This Week magazine. The two Erics obtained the endorsement of Connecticut Governor John N. Dempsey and Abraham Ribicoff, a U.S. Senator from Connecticut. Senator Ribicoff took their idea to Congress and the nationwide ringing of bells, now known as Let Freedom Ring, was adopted by Congress on June 26, 1963 and recorded as Senate Concurrent Resolution 25 [S. Con. Res. 25].

Eric Hatch was a resident of Litchfield and one of the co-founders of the First Litchfield Artillery Regiment. This year, the regiment celebrates its 52nd anniversary. It was chartered as a Private Military Force of horse drawn artillery under Connecticut Statute Chapter 505, Section 27-102 in July of 1964. Coincidentally, in 1973, Eric Hatch died on Independence Day (as did John Adams and Thomas Jefferson), but not until after the regiment had finished his ceremony that day. The current commander of the First Litchfield Artillery Regiment and two more of its members are also members of the SAR.

Eric Hatch - best known for his books 1101 Park Avenue, (which became a hit film under the title My Man Godfrey) and The Year of the Horse (which was adapted as a Disney comedy with the title, The Horse in the Gray Flannel Suit). He was a veteran of both WWI and WWII.

For more info on Eric Hatch see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eric_S._Hatch

Eric Sloane - a prolific artist, author and illustrator of over 30 books, a meteorologist, and avid collector of Americana. He was an expert on early American barns, covered bridges and tools.

For more info on Eric Sloane see: http://www.ct.gov/cct/cwp/view.asp?a=2127&q=302262

Photos courtesy of SAR member, Dan Dudley.
Florida -

**Tampa Chapter Meets Honor Flights**

On June 7 and again on September 20, the Hillsborough River Camp met the return flight of the Honor Flight of West Central Florida Missions # 26 and 27 at the St. Petersburg/Clearwater Airport. Attending both events, in uniform, were the following members: Alan Bell (Commander), David Bryant, David Chestnut (St. Petersburg) and Dick Young. They joined the Clearwater Chapter DAR and Clearwater Harbor Society C.A.R. in welcoming home 75 or so veterans from WWII, Korea and Vietnam from their all day trip to Washington DC.

To quote the Honor Flight website:

Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created solely to honor America’s veterans for all their sacrifices. We transport our heroes to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials. Top priority is given to the senior veterans – World War II survivors, along with those other veterans who may be terminally ill.

There are more than 130 Honor Flight hubs in the US (nine in Florida) that took over 20,000 veterans to Washington DC in 2015.

Florida Brigade members Bob McGuire, Ralph Nelson, Dick Young and Dwight Elam supporting the DAR Liaison Table at the recent Florida State Daughters of the American evolution Fall Forum in Orlando.
Patriot Abner Powers Grave Marking Ceremony

The members of the Fox Valley Chapter, Illinois Society, Sons of the American Revolution dedicated a plaque for Patriot Abner Powers on July 30, 2016 at the Lily Lake Cemetery in rural Kane County. The dedication was well attended by SAR and DAR Chapters, American Legion, VFW and SUVCW. There were 7 guest speakers, bagpiper, rifle and cannon volleys with refreshments and cake provided by the DAR.

Abner Powers began his military service in 1776 at age fifteen. He served as drummer in the Battle of Bennington and the Battle of Saratoga and shivered through the long, cold, miserable winter of 1777-1778 with General George Washington’s army at Valley Forge. Abner was promoted to corporal and fought in the Battle of Yorktown. Abner Powers died in Kane County, Illinois on September 25, 1852 at the age of 91 years, 9 months and 10 days. He is buried here in Lily Lake Cemetery.

On September 10, 2016 the Fox Valley Chapter participated and spent the whole day at Revolutionary War Day’s in Cantigny Park in Winfield, IL. The Fox Valley Chapter has been to this event for 6 years. We set up a table with our banner and SAR information handouts and pass them to potential recruits and answer questions about SAR. We set up our table by the re-enactor battlefield to get the best traffic at our table. We have had new members come out of this event. There are also many students that attend this event and ask questions about our organization for their homework assignments. This is a great opportunity to talk to these students about the Knight Essay and Rumbaugh Oration programs. This year we had the CAR come out to share our table.
Grave Marking Ceremony held for Compatriot Hank Curtis’ Patriot Ancestor Josiah Sparrow on Saturday May 21, 2016. In attendance were members from the Cape Cod Chapter, Robert Treat Paine Chapter and Knox Color Guard Units (Including the Patriot Pastor Garrett Lear). Following the Ceremony in Orleans down the Cape, a Joint Chapter Meeting between the Cape Cod and Robert Treat Paine Chapters was held at the 400 East Restaurant in Harwich.
A graveside ceremony for Capt. Elihu Adams will be held at 9 a.m. May 30 in Union Cemetery, Holbrook. Adams was a younger brother of President John Adams, who died at the Siege of Boston during the Revolution. The Event was attended by Members of the Boston Chapter, Robert Treat Paine Chapter and Henry Knox Color Guards of the SAR. This event was sponsored by the Holbrook Historical Society. A wreath will be placed on the grave of Adams.

Old North Bridge, Patriots Day, Concord, Ma 2016
This is the 4th of July Parade in Ada Michigan
From Left to Right Commander Ken Goodson, Compatriots Jason Gideon and James Perkins.

August 8th in Big Rapids Michigan - A park Dedication “Holland Park Veterans & Home Front Heroes Memorial”. This Memorial honored all six branches of the Service, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Army, Merchant Marines and Coast Guard.

Those pictured from Left to Right: Susan Huey, Compatriots Jason Gideon and Mike Huey, Commander Ken Goodson, Compatriots Richard Santer and James Perkins. Members of MISSAR

From Left to Right: Compatriots Glenn Gohr, Kenneth Lawrence, Color Guard Commander Gerald McCoy, Dan McMurray, and J. Howard Fisk prepare for the Annual July 4th Parade in Springfield, Missouri.

Chapter Color Guard Led the Independence Day Parade
From Left to Right: J. Howard Fisk, Dan McMurray, Color Guard Commander Gerald McCoy, Ken Lawrence, and Glenn Gohr.

(Left) The DAR John Sappington Commemoration Ceremony held on September 25, 2016.

On September 25, 2016 members of the Missouri Society, SAR Color Guard participated in the Webster Groves Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter John Sappington Commemoration Ceremony.

From Left to Right: Compatriots Don Turner (Spirit of St. Louis Chapter); Greg Watkins (Spirit of St. Louis Chapter); Bill Grote (Fernando de Leyba Chapter); Doug Neff (Spirit of St. Louis and Fernando de Leyba Chapters).
AMVETS Post 106 in St. Peters, Missouri conducted a Flag Retirement Ceremony on September 17, 2016. The Fernando de Leyba Chapter Color Guard participated in the Ceremony. Compatriot Charles Lilly is on the far right in the photo.

The South Central District meeting was held on August 27, 2016 at the Overland Park Convention Center, Overland Park, Kansas.

From Left to Right: Harry S Truman (HST) Chapter Compatriots Roy Hutchinson, Dirk Stapleton, and Robert Grover

Missouri Society, SAR Color Guard Members participated in the Flag Raising at the South Central District meeting held on August 27, 2016 at the Overland Park Convention Center, Overland Park, Kansas.
Montana

The Montana Color Guard
The Montana Color Guard has been very active this year. In January the Guard took part in the induction of former Doolittle Raider, David Thatcher. David was the first charter member of the new Liberty Tree Chapter in Missoula. Unfortunately we lost David in June.

Above we have the Color Guard giving a flag posting and presentation at the Montana State Capital in Helena on Constitution Day. Pictured are: James Lindley, Francis Weigand, Larry Mylnechuk, and Steve Armstrong.

North Carolina

Summer is a time for relaxation and vacation for most people. The North Carolina Color Guard however has been busy. Five members from North Carolina traveled to Boston and participated in the National Color Guard for the 2016 Congress. Back home, Colorguardsmen fanned out across the State taking part in ceremonies from the middle of the State to the Tennessee border.

The Tryon Resolves were written in 1775. They were one of the first declarations vowing resistance against the British and calling for independence.

Three events during the summer were celebration of battles fought in 1780 during the American march to Virginia following the Battle at Kings Mountain. American forces, low on supplies after the Battle at Kings Mountain, moved North to Virginia where they could resupply and get reinforcements. During the entire march, British forces under the overall command of General Charles Cornwallis, attempted to cut off the Americans. During the march, battles were fought at Colson’s Mill, Ramsour’s Mill and Sycamore Shoals.

In 1781, a battle between Loyalist and American Militias was fought at the Alston House, known as the House in the Horseshoe.
Northern Nevada Chapter

On Flag Day, June 14th, the Northern Nevada SAR Chapter Color Guard, led by its commander Paul Hicks, participated in festivities at the Nevada Veterans Memorial in Carson City, hosted by the Nevada National Guard. This was an observance and celebration of Flag Day and the birthday anniversary of the US Army. At the event, there was an exhibit of Nevada’s first US Flag, a handcrafted artifact made in 1864, on loan from the Nevada Museum for the occasion.

During the ceremonies, color guard member David Hess displayed this flag, in its presentation case, for the audience. Color Guard members present for this occasion were Paul Hicks, Rob Stoecklin, David Hess, and Roger Linscott.

Later, the color guard attended another Flag Day ceremony in Reno at the Idlewild Park, hosted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Truckee Meadows Post 3819. The color guard posted armed forces service flags for the event, representing the various services as their respective service songs were played. Afterwards, refreshments and meals were offered to the attendees without charge. Color Guard members present for this event were Rob Stoecklin, David Hess, and Roger Linscott.

On July 4, the Northern Nevada SAR Chapter again hosted its annual bell ringing event at the Nevada State Museum, introduced by music of the Fifes & Drums of Nevada, followed by a reading of the Declaration of Independence by members of the chapter’s color guard. This was followed by tolling Nevada’s Liberty Bell for each of the original 13 colonies, and the opportunity for attendees to toll the bell for their favorite state or colony. The N. Nevada Chapter then traveled the Virginia City, Nevada, to participate in its annual 4th of July parade, where hand held American flags were distributed along the parade route to spectators.

During the weekend of Sept 10 and 11, the N. Nevada SAR Chapter participated in the Nevada City, California’s 50th annual “Constitution Weekend”. The N. Nevada SAR Chapter, and its Fifes & Drums of Nevada, were hosted at the event by the reenactors of the Haslet’s Delaware Regiment and the California Consolidated Drum Band, at the venue for Revolutionary War Living History at Pioneer Park.
At the event, David Hess and Marcia Baldwin, fifers of the Fifes & Drums of Nevada, practiced their music with members of the California Consolidated Drum Band; members of the N. Nevada SAR Chapter’s color guard Paul Hicks, Brian Worcester, John Ryland, Rob Stoecklin, and Roger Linscott were drilled by the Haslet’s Delaware Regiment in musket usage and firing demonstrations, which later included several reenactment skirmishes.

On the afternoon of the second day, members of the N. Nevada SAR Chapter’s color guard were invited to march in the annual parade with the Nevada SAR Gold Country Chapter, and fifers David Hess and Marcia Baldwin, representing the Fifes & Drums of Nevada, marched in the parade with the California Consolidated Drum Band.

Historic downtown Nevada City was the site of the parade, which opens with a symbolic reenactment of the signing of the US Constitution, presented by the Nevada Lodge No. 13, F&AM. Thanks to Haslet’s Delaware Regiment, and the California Consolidate Drum Band for making this such an enjoyable and educational event.

Signers Chapter

On July 4, the Signers Chapter hosted a bell ringing ceremony at Centennial Park in downtown Las Vegas. After some brief comments by NV Society Color Guard Commander Gary Parriott attendees took turns tolling the bell for their favorite state or colony.

On Sept. 17, the Signers SAR Chapter again hosted its annual Constitution Day Dinner at the Las Vegas National Golf Club, this year co-hosted with the Silver State DAR Chapter, NVSDAR. The event this year celebrated not only the signing of the US Constitution (Sept 17, 1787), but also included the 25th Anniversary celebration of the Silver State DAR Chapter’s founding.

Dr. Gene Butler, President of the Signers SAR Chapter, opened by introducing Debbie Carroll, Honorary Silver State DAR Chapter Regent, who gave the invocation and Constitution Day prayer. This was followed by the presentation of the colors, performed by the combined NVSSAR Color Guard consisting of members of both the Signers and N. Nevada chapters, under the direction of Nevada Color Guard Commander Gary Parriott. The fife & drum music for the color guard was provided by drummer Dr. Kent Gregory and fifer David Hess; members of the color guard were Leonard Becker, Steven Fields, and Joe Harris of the Signers Chapter, and Paul Hicks, Roger Linscott, and Brian Worcester of the N. Nevada Chapter.

Dr. Butler offered greetings from the Signers SAR Chapter and introduced Kathy Lowe, Regent of the Silver State DAR Chapter, and both welcomed the assemblage, expressing their organizations’ wish that in succeeding years the Constitution Day Dinner will be held as a joint event, to be hosted between both the Signers SAR Chapter and the Silver State DAR Chapter. Introduction of guests followed, which included DAR Honorary Vice President General and Honorary State Regent Joan Dimmitt, whose past term as Ne-
vada State Regent included the founding of the Silver State DAR Chapter, organized in 1989.

The evening’s keynote speaker was Dr. Kent Gregory, the immediate CASSAR past president, CA Trustee, and current Registrar for the Orange County SAR Chapter. His topic for the evening was Music During The Revolutionary War, and he was accompanied by his wife, Lisa Gregory, who is an accomplished violinist, as they both demonstrated various music from the period. David Hess, N. Nevada SAR’s Fife & Drums, played his fife to demonstrate several camp calls for Dr. Gregory’s presentation.

Dr. Gregory is an Assistant Professor of Education at the University of Southern California’s Master of Arts in Teaching program, and has been a California music educator for over 35 years. Kent’s wife, Lisa Gregory, is a professional violinist who has performed with the St. Matthew’s Chamber Orchestra, the Santa Monica Symphony, the Pacific Symphony, the Long Beach Ballet, and Fullerton Civic Light Opera. Between Kent’s accomplished fifing, drumming, and singing, and Lisa’s wonderful violin performances, the audience enjoyed a very special evening of entertainment.

The venue for this Constitution Day Dinner although spacious presented some challenges for bringing in a colorguard that was 3 Color guardsmen wide and the lower edge the roof’s supporting rafters was 7’4” above the floor. A flag pole 6’10” was used for the National Flag and the Guardsmen Carried their Arms rather than shouldering their Arms. A direct path to the Podium and flag stand was created by carefully placing the dining tables. Given the unique setting and the number of Guardsmen involved everyone needed to have a point of reference for where they would be standing for the presentation of colors. This was accomplished by providing additional flags to either side of the Podium. To the left, three flags were used: a Betsy Ross Flag, a Gadsden Flag and a Moultrie Flag. To the right of the SAR and DAR Banners were placed an Army and Navy flags. The maneuvers required to get everyone into position defied standard commands so several of the “steps” required autonomous movements in response to some “descriptive but general commands. Luckily we had an opportunity to practice before hand and the distribution of the “Cheat Sheets” by e-mail was beneficial. Everything considered, bringing in the Colors with a Fife and Drum plus 6 Muskets went relatively smooth.
New York / Empire State

The Thousand Islands Chapter,


On Saturday July 17, the chapter provided a color guard for a ceremony in Carpenter Cemetery, Henderson, NY. The event was organized by the Henderson Historical Society to honor the 9 Revolutionary War Veterans buried there. Parks Honeywell, TI President, Jim Evans, Rochester President and Western NY VP,

Bruce Coyne, Registrar. Steve Perkins and his wife appeared in colonial costume, with Steve providing the fire power.
Naturalization Oath Ceremony

On Friday, September 16, 2016 the Northeastern Ohio Chapter SAR Color Guard, and the Western Reserve Society SAR Archibald Willard Color Guard participated in a Naturalization Ceremony hosted at President James A. Garfield’s home, “Lawnfield”, in Mentor, Ohio.

The National Park Services and the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio sponsored the program, which took place on the back lawn of Garfield’s home where it was a beautiful warm and sunny day. Some of the wives of the SAR members were in colonial attire.

The program started with the posting of the colors by the Combined OHSSAR Color Guard. Erin Burke had a lovely voice and sang the National Anthem. There were greetings from a number of dignitaries and local groups.

Remarks were presented from the Honorable Thomas M. Parker, Magistrate Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, who then administered the oath to 27 new citizens from around the world. The citizens came forward to shake hands with the judge and placed a pin on the world map to mark their country of origin.
Troy Bailey distributed information on how to fly and when to display the American Flag. SAR participants included Claude Custer, John Franklin, Galen Swab, Hugh Harris and Lee MacBride of the Western Reserve Society Archibald Willard Color Guard, and Troy Bailey, Steve Hinson, Jim Gilbert, Don Taft and Dan Matheke of the Northeastern Ohio Chapter Color Guard. After retirement of the colors to close out the ceremony, everyone congratulated the new citizens and the guardsmen were available for pictures. There was a lovely reception with cookies and drinks.
On July 4th, 2016 the Stephen Holston Chapter hosted the event James White Fort Celebration in Knoxville at the Fort. Color Guard – Commander John Clines, Wayne Croley, Tracy Wilson, Randell Higgins, Jim McKinney, Lynn Fox, David Johnston, Claude Hardison and John Clines Jr.

On the 4th of July 2016 the Lt. William P. Quarles Chapter in Cookeville, TN marched in the Parade in downtown Cookeville.

(Left) On July 4th, 2016 the Kings Mountain Chapter participated in the local Parade. Color Guard – Darryl Addington, Jim Briddell, John Kubenka, Dave Carr and Larry Ball.

On September 4th, 2016 the Col. Anthony Bledsoe had a Patriot Grave Marking for Ensign John McMurtry at 3 pm at the Old Beech Cemetery in Hendersonville, TN. The event was held during the McMurtry Family Reunion during the Labor Day weekend. In 1775, John McMurtry enlisted in Capt. James Chambers Co. 1st Penn. Regiment Command by Col. Kemp. He marched to Boston, New York and Long Island. He fought in White Plains and York Island and was promoted to Sargent. Sargent McMurtry fought in the Battle of Trenton, Princeton and Germantown and was promoted to Sgt. Major and sent to recruit troops in Pennsylvania. In 1779 he went to sea on the Brig. Fair America under Capt. Decatur as a licensed pirate.

The TNSSAR Color Guard and a member of the KYSSAR Color Guard presented the Colors and fired a 3 Round Volley from the Muskets. Then there were 4 Cannons also that fired volleys. TNSSAR Color Guard in attendance.

Commander John Clines, Jim Johnson, Steve Gaines, James L. Hobbs, Fred Ryan, James F. Hobbs, Larry Pool, Bill Massey, Dennis Harris, Allen Poteete, Jim McKinney, Sanford Payton, Bob Hughes, George Miller, Bill Wendt, Clarence Watson, Johnny Head, Frank Schafer and Steve Mallory, KYSSAR

On Friday the 16th of September 2016 the Watauga Chapter had a Double Grave Marking for Revolutionary War Patriots Detrich “Teter” Nave & Leonard Bowers at the Nave-Hess Cemetery in Elizabethton, TN. Master of Ceremonies was Ronnie Lail and TNSSAR President David Eagan gave greetings. It was a wonderful ceremony and the TNSSAR Color Guard along with other States Color Guard Members presented the Colors and had a Musket Salute.
Saturday September the 17th of 2016 was a National Event “The Gathering at Sycamore Shoals” in Elizabethton, TN. This yearly event is always a Success. Master of Ceremonies was Ronnie Lail and TNSSAR David Eagan gave Greetings. The TNSAR Color Guard joined in with other State Color Guards to present the Colors.
NORTHERN COLOR GUARD EVENTS

• September 21, 2016 Wednesday – Post and retrieve Colors at Immigration Service Naturalization Ceremony at 10:00AM. Located at George Bush and HWY 114 in Irving. State Event
• October 1, 2016 Saturday – Present the Colors onstage at the International Festival at 11:00 AM at the band platform at Haggard Park in downtown Plano. There will be an Immigration Ceremony wherein 30 – 50 new citizens will be sworn in. State Event
• October 14 – 16, 2016 – BOM in Austin, TX at the Holiday Inn. State Event
• November 10, 2016 Thursday – Hand out flags and programs at the Regional VA Veterans program at 8:00 AM at the Bonham High School Football Stadium. Veterans Event
• November 10, 2016 Saturday – March in Dallas Veterans Day Parade at 9:00 AM. National Event
• November 11, 2016 Saturday – March in the Ft Worth Veterans Day Parade. National Event
• December 2 – 4, 2016 – 43rd. anniversary of Dickens on the Strand on Galveston Island, Texas. State Event
• December 17, 2016 Saturday – Help place wreaths on the graves at DFW National Cemetery at 12:00 noon. This is a Chapter event, rather than a Color Guard event, so uniforms need not be worn. Will take about a half hour. There will be a ceremony beginning at 11:00 AM that will precede the laying of the wreathes. Parking is at an extreme premium, so come early. National Event
• February 18, 2016 Saturday – George Washington Parade in Laredo, TX National Event

Naturalization Ceremony in Irving, Texas for a little over 120 New Citizens!

Howard Roach, Alan Roach, Don Babbs, Dan Reed, John Greer, Jerry Cope
Tom Whitelock and Bill Watts
On September 10th, 21 members of the Virginia Society, including Virginia SAR President Ed Truslow and his First Lady Laura, joined President General Mike Tomme and his first Lady Celia for the presentation of the SAR wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington National Cemetery. The weather was perfect, though warm, sunny and 94°. This is an annual event, hosted by the George Washington Chapter of the Virginia Society.

On September 10th, 21 members of the Virginia Society, including Virginia SAR President Ed Truslow and his First Lady Laura, joined President General Mike Tomme and his first Lady Celia for the presentation of the SAR wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington National Cemetery. The weather was perfect, though warm, sunny and 94°. This is an annual event, hosted by the George Washington Chapter of the Virginia Society.

PG Tomme greeting Honor Flight Veterans as we wait our time to present a wreath. Picture by Ernie Coggins

George Washington Chapter of the Virginia Society host President General Mike Tomme for Wreath Presentation at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington National Cemetery. President General Mike Tomme and his wife Celia place the SAR wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown. Picture by Tom Roth

Front row, left to right: Will Elston, President General Mike Tomme, Mike’s wife Celia, Virginia SAR President Ed Truslow, Ed’s wife, Laura. Second row: Ernie Coggins (behind Will Elston), Past Virginia President Don Reynolds, George Washington President Greg Bodge, Virginia SAR Secretary Wayne Rouse, Tom Roth, at far right, Edgar Bates. Third Row: Ron Kirby, Paul Walden, Virginia SAR Assistant Chaplain Gene Thomas, Richard Rogers, Jay Hen, Mike Elston. Back row: Dwight Whitney, Culpeper Minutemen President Bill Schwetke, past Virginia SAR President Larry McKinley, Col James Wood II President Brett Osborn, Peter Davenport, Paul Chase, Virginia SAR Color Guard Commander Darrin Schmidt.
Color Guard Arthur W. Dolan, Esq. is appointed as Deputy Color Guard Commander, SAR Washington, to serve in grade of Major, at the pleasure of Congress for the duration.

Art Dolan joined the color guard 2 July 2013. In the past three years, Art performed in 27 official State & Chapter uniformed events, including 16 living history presentations. He has marched with the Washington SAR Color Guard in eight major parades, several veterans memorials for the past three years and at Wreaths Across America and other important SAR and DAR ceremonies. Lt. Dolan put together his own Traveling Chest items to present to local elementary schools. He has earned the SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal. His duties will be to serve & support the Commander as needed, including commanding the Color Guard at some of our events. Congratulations, Art.


Despatch #4. SAR LIVING HISTORY: The John Paul Jones Chapter out of Bremerton, and other chapters of the Washington SAR make many living history presentations to schools, churches, and civic groups each year. Last year we made 65 presentations and over 50 so far this year. Subjects presented include, “A Day in Colonial Life”, “The Continental & Militia Soldier & his Kit”, “Flags of the American Revolution”, “A Few Myths About the Revolution”. Our Washington State Color Guard does most of these presentations.

“Hay Bale Theater” presentations at the Northwest Colonial Festival:

Our State President, Doug Nelson holds a “one-cut-star” to show how Betsy Ross helped to design our ‘first National Colors’. Doug folded a paper a certain way, then made ONE CUT and produced this perfect star. Always a hit with the kids!
Bob O’Neal presents “Flags of the American Revolution”. In the uniform of the Maryland State Troops, presents the dreaded “British Red Ensign”.

George Washington (Vern Frykholm) delivers an address to the visitors to Mount Vernon. The Potomac River (Straits of Juan de Fuca) can be seen at right. At left an expressive hand can be seen signing for the deaf visitors.

Fred Gilbert tells the young people “A Few Myths of the Revolutionary War”.

The Point Pleasant flag retirement ceremony was conducted at Fort Randolph, Point Pleasant, WV on June 14, 2016. Under a hot June sun 400 unserviceable American Flags were retired according to SAR policy guideline practices. Event attended by 40 public / US citizens.

- Color Guard - Compatriots WVSSAR
  - Bill Lester- President- WVSSAR
  - Ed Cromley- Pres Point Pleasant
  - Rick Greathouse - Pres Daniel Boone
  - Jack Coles- Past Pres
  - Cary Campbell - Past Tres.
  - Randy McGill, Robert K. Grumbling - Chaplain
  
WV color guard event to aid Richwood, WV destroyed by recent flooding.

Your WVSSAR Color Guard participated in the 75th Cherry River Parade at Richwood, WV on Aug. 6, 2016. Compatriots William “Bill” Lester -President, Steve Hart, Bob Grumbling and Rick Greathouse enjoyed a “Flood” of patriotic appreciation from the grateful Richwood, WV American audience while “Road Trippin’” with WCHS TV 8 Terry Burnhans, Mrs. Rita Helmick the spouse of Agriculture Commissioner and WV Senator Karnes.

Richwood was severely affected during the recent WV floods.

With our FATHER’S blessing, clouds cleared and blue skies appeared at Fort Laurens Memorial Service, Boliver, Ohio on July 30, 2016.

The Ohio Society and attending SAR compatriots honored 21 of our fallen patriots supreme sacrifice in 1779 with a solemn memorial service.

William “Bill” Lester presented the WVSSAR wreath during the ceremony. A hearty musket salute followed by the benediction concluded the blessed service.

WVSSAR CG Compatriots: (R to L) William “Bill” Lester WVSSAR -President, Robert Grumbling, Rick Greathouse, John Sauer, Gary Timmons, perfect star. Always a hit with the kids!

A large multitude of compatriots and loyal Americans were treated to patriotic songs from an angelic voice, violin solo and fife and drum corps. The music was supported with color guard color flags and wreaths posting and musket volley. Attendees honored three Patriots buried at the Carpenter-Koontz Cemetery. Veterans of the Civil War and War of 1812 honored.

Tu Endi Wei State Park, Point Pleasant, WV Color guard Oct. 9, 2016

Compatriot Larry Perkins, Color Guard Commander at Battle Days Memorial Service Oct. 9, 2016, prepares your enthusiastic combined squad for colors presentation at the “Magazine” wreath ceremony.

PHOTOS BY: ANN HARDER - SW Director - Pennsylvania- DAR

Guyandotte School, WV

School children, including Guyandotte 4th grade, enjoyed the Battle Days education stations at Tu Endi Wei State Park, Point Pleasant, WV on Oct. 7, 2016. A nutritious lunch was provided by school cooks. The combined SAR / DAR volunteers put on another successful event in honor of our Patriots.

Compatriot Bob Grumbling - NSSAR photo
The Battle of Great Cane Brake was a skirmish fought on December 22, 1775, during the American Revolutionary War in what was then Ninety-Six District, South Carolina, modern Greenville County.

With the coming of the American Revolution, the patriot government in Charles Town was opposed by a large concentration of “King’s men” in the upcountry. Both sides recognized the need to cultivate the friendship of the Cherokees in a nearly lawless area of the state; and both sides promised to provide the Indians with ammunition and powder for hunting.

In October 1775, the patriot Council of Safety in Charles Town sent 1,000 pounds of powder and 2,000 pounds of lead to the Indians, but a force of loyalists under the command of Patrick Cunningham intercepted the wagon train. Following an unsuccessful attempt to retake the munitions, the Charles Town leaders determined to break the strength of upcountry loyalism by raising an overwhelming force of militiamen under the command of Colonel Richard Richardson. Heavily outnumbered, the King’s men fell back toward the Piedmont. By late December, Richardson had perhaps as many as 5,000 troops under his command and had captured the major loyalist leaders.

On December 21, Richardson ordered 1,300 men under Major William “Danger” Thomson to pursue the loyalists into Indian territory. Thomson marched 25 miles through the night to a camp where loyalists had been sheltering from cold rain and snow flurries in a “Brake of Canes.” Because the ground was wet and the loyalists had been burning cane stalks that popped and crackled, Thomson’s men nearly managed to surround the camp before being discovered as they attacked at dawn. Cunningham escaped on an unsaddled horse and without his breeches, shouting for every man “to shift for himself.” The patriots recaptured the munitions intended for the Cherokees, and they took 130 prisoners, forcing them to sign a document promising not to take up arms again. Only five or six loyalists were killed, though Thomson had to restrain his men from harming the prisoners, some of whom were sent off to Charles Town in chains.

Despite the Patriot success, an unusual, heavy snowstorm occurred the following day, which caused considerable suffering among the militiamen, who had been called to duty on short notice with inadequate clothing and without tents. Some were permanently injured by exposure and frostbite. Thereafter the episode was known as the “Snow Campaign.” Richardson believed that his victory had pacified the upcountry, but the Cherokees soon joined the loyalists in what became a brutal civil war on the South Carolina frontier.

The exact location of the skirmish is unknown, although it took place near the Reedy River approximately 7 miles southwest of Simpsonville, South Carolina. There is a state historical marker on Fork Shoals Road south of Old Hundred Road (County Road 565).

The Snow Campaign was one of the first major military operations of the American Revolutionary War in the southern colonies. An army of up to 3,000 Patriot militia under Colonel Richard Richardson marched against Loyalist recruiting centers in South Carolina, flushing them out and frustrating attempts by the loyalists to organize. The Patriot expedition became known as the Snow Campaign due to heavy snowfall in the later stages of the campaign.
### National Color Guard Events - 2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Host</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>January 15-17</td>
<td>Battle of Cowpens</td>
<td>Chesnee, SC</td>
<td>Daniel Morgan SAR</td>
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<td>Battle of Cowan's Ford</td>
<td>Huntersville, NC</td>
<td>Mecklenburg SAR</td>
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<td>February 13</td>
<td>Battle of Kettle Creek</td>
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<td>Crossing of the Dan</td>
<td>South Boston, VA</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<td>February 20</td>
<td>California Massing of Colors</td>
<td>Burbank, CA</td>
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<td>February 21</td>
<td>Washington Birthday Parade</td>
<td>Laredo, TX</td>
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<td>February 21</td>
<td>Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge</td>
<td>Currie, NC</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>February 26-27</td>
<td>NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting</td>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
<td>Last Naval Battle of the Revolution</td>
<td>Merritt Island, FL</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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<td>March 12</td>
<td>Battle of Guilford Courthouse</td>
<td>Greensboro, NC</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>Battle of Thomas Creek</td>
<td>Jacksonville, FL</td>
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<td>April 9</td>
<td>Halifax Resolves</td>
<td>Halifax, NC</td>
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<td>April 11</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson's Birthday</td>
<td>Washington DC</td>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Georgia Patriots Day</td>
<td>St Simons Island, GA</td>
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<td>Patriot’s Day</td>
<td>Concord, MA</td>
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<td>Kentucky Derby Pegasus Parade</td>
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<td>May 7</td>
<td>Raid on Martin’s Station</td>
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<td>Battle of Pensacola</td>
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<td>Mecklenburg SAR / Catawba Valley SAR</td>
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<td>Battle of Maugrogue's Mill</td>
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<td>Gen James Williams SAR / Cambridge SAR</td>
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<td>Battle of Groton Heights</td>
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<td>Battle of Eutaw Springs</td>
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<td>Battle of Eutaw Springs SAR</td>
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<td>Wheeling, WV</td>
<td>Ebenezer Zane SAR</td>
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<td>September 17</td>
<td>Vigil at George Washington's Tomb</td>
<td>Mt Vernon, VA</td>
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<td>Battle of Saratoga</td>
<td>Stillwater, NY</td>
<td>Empire State</td>
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<td>September 17</td>
<td>Gathering at Sycamore Shoals</td>
<td>Elizabethon, TN</td>
<td>Tennessee</td>
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<td>September 29 - Oct 1</td>
<td>NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting</td>
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<td>October 7</td>
<td>Battle of Kings Mountain</td>
<td>Blackburn, SC</td>
<td>Kings Mountain SAR (NC) / Daniel Morgan SAR (SC)</td>
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<td>October 8</td>
<td>Battle of Savannah</td>
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<td>October 8-9</td>
<td>Point Pleasant Battle Days</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
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<td>Yorktown Days</td>
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<td>December 3</td>
<td>Battle of Great Bridge</td>
<td>Norfolk, VA</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 3</td>
<td>Battle of Vann's Creek</td>
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<td>Battle of Great Cane Break</td>
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<td>Col Robert Anderson SAR</td>
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<td>December 18</td>
<td>Wreaths Across America</td>
<td>Various Locations</td>
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</table>

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

**Items that are shaded are state or chapter events. All other events are considered national events by either the National Color Guard or National Historic Sites & Celebrations Committees.

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

Send event updates to swilliams16(at)cfl.rr.com.
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Color Guard Commander</th>
<th>Primary Phone</th>
<th>Cell Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Alabama</td>
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<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>Littleton</td>
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<td>Connecticut</td>
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<td>West Monroe</td>
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<td>Framingham, MA</td>
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<td>Minnesota</td>
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<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>Jack Manning</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
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<td>Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<td>Herndon</td>
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<td>Washington</td>
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<td>wroenel(at)aol.com</td>
<td>Tacoma</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>John H Sauer</td>
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<td>sweatsauer(at)suddenlink.net</td>
<td>Point Pleasant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Aaron Krebs</td>
<td>608-663-1652</td>
<td>linkack(at)charter.net</td>
<td>Madison</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

The Arlington Story

Morrill Worcester, owner of Worcester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine, was a 12 year old paper boy for the Bangor Daily News when he won a trip to Washington D.C. His first trip to our nation’s capital was one he would never forget, and Arlington National Cemetery made an especially indelible impression on him. This experience followed him throughout his life and successful career in business, reminding him that his good fortune was due, in large part, to the values of this nation and the Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their Country.

In 1992, Worcester Wreath found themselves with a surplus of wreaths nearing the end of the holiday season. Remembering his boyhood experience at Arlington, Worcester realized he had an opportunity to honor our country’s Veterans. With the help of Maine Senator Olympia Snowe, arrangements were made for the wreaths to be placed at Arlington in one of the older sections of the cemetery, a section which had been receiving fewer visitors with each passing year.

As plans were underway, a number of other individuals and organizations stepped up to help. James Prout, owner of local trucking company Blue Bird Ranch, Inc., generously provided transportation all the way to Virginia. Volunteers from the local American Legion and VFW Posts gathered with members of the community to decorate each wreath with traditional red, hand-tied bows. Members of the Maine State Society of Washington, D.C. helped to organize the wreath-laying, which included a special ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The annual tribute went on quietly for several years, until 2005, when a photo of the stones at Arlington, adorned with wreaths and covered in snow, circulated around the internet. Suddenly, the project received national attention. Thousands of requests poured in from all over the country from people wanting to help with Arlington, to emulate the Arlington project at their National and State cemeteries, or to simply share their stories and thank Morrill Worcester for honoring our nation’s heroes.

Unable to donate thousands of wreaths to each state, Worcester began sending seven wreaths to every state, one for each branch of the military, and for POW/MIs. In 2006, with the help of the Civil Air Patrol and other civic organizations, simultaneous wreath laying ceremonies were held at over 150 locations around the country. The Patriot Guard Riders volunteered as escort for the wreaths going to Arlington. This began the annual “Veterans Honor Parade” that travels the east coast in early December.

The annual trip to Arlington and the groups of volunteers eager to participate in Worcester’s simple wreath-laying event grew each year until it became clear the desire to remember and honor our country’s fallen heroes was bigger than Arlington, and bigger than this one company.

In 2007, the Worcester family, along with veterans, and other groups and individuals who had helped with their annual Christmas wreath ceremony in Arlington, formed Wreaths Across America, a non profit 501-c3 organization, to continue and expand this effort, and support other groups around the country who wanted to do the same. The mission of the group is simple:

Remember. Honor. Teach.

Wreaths Across America would not be successful without the help of volunteers, active organizations and the generosity of the trucking industry. We thank them for working with us to remember the men and women who served our country, honor our military and their families, and teach our children about our freedom and those who protect it.

Chapter fundraising and Wreaths Across America

This is a wonderful opportunity to help your chapter and do good at the same time. The wreaths purchased are placed on the gravesites in December of each year, of our country’s fallen heroes, from any war. When anyone donates to the chapter $15 earmarked to buy a wreath, the group receives $5 back for each wreath.

Wreaths Across America’s mission, Remember, Honor, Teach, is carried out in part by coordinating wreath laying ceremonies a specified Saturday in December at Arlington, as well as veterans’ cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond. They also organize a week of events including international veteran’s tributes, ceremonies at State Houses and a week-long “Veteran’s Parade” between Maine and Virginia where they stop along the way to spread the message about the importance of remembering our fallen heroes, honoring those who serve, and teaching our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms.

This week of events is made possible by thousands of volunteers who organize local ceremonies, raise funds to sponsor wreaths, and participate in the events. They receive no government funding. The cost of their programs is paid by individual wreaths sponsors, corporate donors and volunteer truckers.

They also coordinate veteran services and recognition through a variety of programs, and provide schools with teaching aides for projects throughout the year.