

The Park Mountain Chapter Newsletter



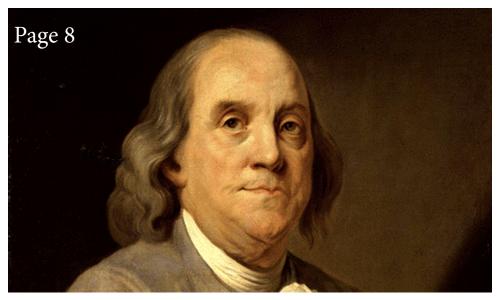
November 2025

Volumn 45 Issue 11



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MEMBERS

Please notify chapter registrar Steve Perkins Patriotmarcher @ fastmail .com of any recent or anticipated change to contact information: address, phone, e-mail



The Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR Challenge Coins are for sale. These coins are \$5.00 each from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk. On the Cover
The headstone for
Patriot Grand-Son
Thomas Crouch.



Photographs provided by: Daniel Piedlow,

Margaret Swales, Editor: Daniel Piedlow



The President's Message

By President J. Howard Fisk

Good day Compatriots,

New program for the Ozark Mountain Chapter and community partners, PBS, and BSA. The Ozark Mountain Chapter joined PBS to create a program that would highlight the PBS documentary series by Ken Burns, The Revolutionary War. I collaborated with the PBS staff to determine what kind of program would best engage an appropriate group of school-age children to help PBS identify a method of activities that will bring these young people in the same space as the PBS The American Revolution documentary by Ken Burns. I contacted friends at Scouting of America to share this concept of working with the SAR and PBS to help bring the story of the American Revolution to Scouts across Southern Missouri. The Ozark Trails Council promoted this concept to Scouts from across Southwest Missouri, which brought out 143 Scouts and Scout leaders to the rally, which was hosted in Glass Hall by Missouri State University on Monday, November 10, 2025.

Members of the Ozark Mountain Chapter, Steve Perkions, Gary Gift, and I made presentations, along with Dan Piedlow, Joe Walker, Jeff Hicks, and Keith Jones were also present in proper uniform for the occasion.

Many Scout Troops with Scouts in uniform were represented, and the room was filled with energetic and attentive Scouts who were enticed by the 3 brief film clips of The American Revolution Documentary, and heard remarks from an MSU History professor about how consequential the war for independence was for the colonies and the founding of America. Remarks were also given by Steve Perkins, who spoke about Scouts pursuing genealogy research in hopes of finding their patriot ancestor. Gary introduced the American Heritage Scout merit badge workshops offered by OMC and the way Scouts can qualify for this merit badge. Gary Gift spoke about the scouting connections that links Scouts to the opportunity to earn 250th Anniversary Medals, and finally, Gary presented flag streamers to the Senior Patrol Leader for each of the attending troops.

The kick-off rally was intended to encourage Scouts to view one or more of the American Revolution presentations. Several of the Scouts did record interviews that will be used by PBS for future broadcasts. Additional recorded interviews will be conducted as we visit with Scouts to determine their interest in the American Revolution as a result of our program. The recorded programs will also include members of the Ozark Mountain Chapter who have an interest in supporting this program through June 2026.

The Ozark Trails Council will also have a Lexington and Concord Scout Camporee in May of 2026, utilizing SAR information that was made available to outline activities which will relate to the historic first skirmish of the Revolutionary War, which we have the opportunity to participate in.



Editor Request:

Please help me. When you submit an article for the newsletter, please make sure it is a Word document. This makes it better to insert them into the newsletter. PDF documents are a lot harder to convert. Also, Pictures should be in the original format, not cropped or reduced in size (megabytes). If pictures are included in the Word document, include them as an attachment also. I can convert almost all picture formats, but the best one for me is a .jpeg, .png or RAW.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Daniel Piedlow OMCSAR Editor

Profiles of Valor: SFC Christopher Celiz (USA)



"He was selflessly body blocking that litter team and that helicopter crew as they were loading the casualty on the bird under a tremendous amount of fire."

Mark Alexander

Army Sergeant First Class Christopher Celiz was a native of Summerville, South Carolina. He was Junior ROTC at Summerville High School, where his leadership skills became apparent. While his future wife Katie was also a Summerville High student, they met while working in a local grocery store.

After graduation, Chris entered the Military College of South Carolina (The Citadel). Determined to serve our nation sooner rather than later, he enlisted in 2007 before graduation. He and Katie were married a year later, and they became parents to a daughter, Shannon, in 2010.

SFC Celiz was first assigned to Company E, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, where he would then become team leader of Company C, Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division. He was tapped for the 75th Ranger Regiment in 2013, and he served as the battalion master breacher and engineer until 2017 when he became the Company D mortar platoon sergeant.

He deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and then twice in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. It was on his fifth deployment, July 12, 2018, that he distinguished himself in battle near Paktia, Afghanistan, earning a Medal of Honor for placing himself between enemy forces fire and a MEDEVAC helicopter under fire as it loaded his wounded men.

Of SFC Celiz's actions, his Medal of Honor citation notes in part:

"As the leader of a special purpose unit comprised of partnered forces and members of the 1st Battalion,

75th Ranger Regiment [SFC Celiz] led an operation to clear an area of enemy forces and thereby disrupt future attacks against the government of Afghanistan and allied forces. Shortly after his team reached their final objectives, a large enemy force attacked, placed effective fire on him and his team, preventing them from maneuvering to counterattack. Realizing the danger the attack posed to his team and the operation, Sergeant First Class Celiz voluntarily exposed himself to intense enemy machine-gun and small-arms fire to retrieve and employ a heavy weapon system, thereby allowing U.S. and partnered forces to regain the initiative, maneuver to a secure location, and begin treatment of a critically wounded partnered force member."

"As a medical evacuation helicopter arrived, it was immediately engaged by accurate and sustained enemy fire. Knowing how critical it was to quickly load the casualty, [SFC Celiz] willingly exposed himself to heavy enemy fire to direct and lead the evacuation. As the casualty moved from a position of cover and out into intense enemy fire, [he] made a conscious effort to ensure his body acted as a physical shield to his team carrying the casualty and the crew of the aircraft. As the casualty was loaded and Sergeant First Class Celiz's team returned to cover, he alone remained at the aircraft, returning a high volume of fire and constantly repositioning himself to act as a physical shield to the aircraft and its crew."

"With his final reposition, [SFC Celiz] placed himself directly between the cockpit and the enemy, ensuring the aircraft was able to depart. As the helicopter lifted off, [he] was hit by enemy fire. Fully aware of his own injury but understanding the peril to the aircraft from the intense enemy machine gun fire, [he] motioned to the aircraft to depart rather than remain behind to load him. ... Throughout the entire engagement, [he] significantly changed the course of battle by repeatedly placing himself in extreme danger to protect his team, defeat the enemy, and it ultimately cost him his life."

CPT Ben Krzeczowski, pilot in command of the MEDEVAC mission that day, observed, "Courage, to me, is putting your life on the line to save the life of another, as demonstrated by SFC Chris Celiz, who died protecting my crew."

Another member of the mission that day, 2LT Garrett White, noted: "He was selflessly body blocking that litter team and that helicopter crew as they were loading the casualty on the bird under a tremendous

amount of fire. He put himself last and everybody else first."

SFC Celiz was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on December 16, 2021, along with SFC Alwyn Cashe (Iraq, posthumous) and MSG Earl Plumlee (Afghanistan).

In 2022, Chris Celiz was awarded the second posthumous degree ever presented by The Citadel. Then-Citadel President Gen. Glenn Walters (USMC, Ret.) noted: "Chris was the guy who made everyone part of the team. His classmates wondered if he slept. All Citadel alumni knew 'go-to' guys in their company they could always count on. Chris was one of these in spades. He was, by all accounts, everything you wanted in a comrade and classmate."

SFC Christopher Andrew Celiz: Your example of valor — a humble American Patriot defending Liberty for all above and beyond the call of duty, and in disregard for the peril to your own life — is eternal. "Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one's life for his friends." (John 15:13)

Semper Vigilans Fortis Paratus et Fidelis

Pro Deo et Libertate — 1776

https://patriotpost.us/alexander/107251?mailing_id=8374&subscription_uuid=b6666ccb-7d37-4607-b40f-88d0603e9482&utm_medium=email&utm_source=pp.email.8374&utm_campaign=snapshot&utm_content=body

"In the Cause of American Liberty:" Catholic Contributions to Independence

by Raphael Corletta

Eighteenth-century America was predominantly Protestant, and the Thirteen Colonies suffered from a virulent strain of anti-Catholicism. Despite this, the mostly-Protestant Founding Fathers, while being greatly inspired by their Protestant English forebears, were greatly inspired by Catholic thinkers as well.

The United States was not established as a Christian country, with American diplomats asserting in 1797: "the government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the Christian Religion."[1] But while the separation of church and state remains an important tenet of the American republic to this

day, the Founding Fathers, while taking many of their philosophical ideas from the rationalist notions of the Enlightenment, believed that virtue was necessary to sustain a republic, with religion being the most common source for virtue. [2] While Christianity was not seen as the only faith that provided virtue, with Benjamin Rush remarking "I had rather see the opinions of Confucius or Mahomed inculcated upon our youth, than to see them grow up wholly devoid of a system of religious principles," [3] Christianity, particularly Protestant Christianity, was seen as the best source for virtue, with the notion best illustrated in Samuel Adams' idea of a "Christian Sparta" that combined the best aspects of classical political tradition and Protestantism. [4]

Virtue could be attained through Protestantism in the eyes of many eighteenth-century Americans, but not through Catholicism. Eighteenth-century British Protestants on both sides of the Atlantic were largely anti-Catholic, with this anti-Catholicism stemming from the bloody conflicts over religion in Europe. After Martin Luther started protesting against the abuses of the Catholic Church in the early sixteenth century, Europe split into Protestant and Catholic camps. Because the countries had state-sponsored churches in this time, the divisions caused by the Reformation were not only spiritual but political as well. England came to support the Protestant Church under Henry VIII in the 1530s, but in the following centuries England would occasionally revert to having a Catholic monarch, causing both religious and political turmoil in the American colonies. For instance, during the reigns of James II and Charles II, many northern colonial governments briefly lost their political charters as well as much of their autonomy. Because of these trends, the predominantly Protestant Anglo-Americans of the time associated their own faith with liberty, and Catholicism with tyranny. [5]

Nonetheless, British Catholics had played their part in the founding of the Thirteen Colonies, with the colony of Maryland, being led by the Catholic Cecil Calvert, being founded in the seventeenth-century. Calvert granted religious freedom to all Christians in the colony, though his interests in founding Maryland were more economic than religious. Unfortunately, this period of toleration did not last and by the end of the seventeenth-century Catholics had lost their protection, with Anglicanism becoming the colony's preferred religion. Nonetheless, Catholics in Maryland still had more rights than their

- Continued on Page 6, Catholic -

Patriotic Fervor Increased In South During Revolution

By Brig. Gen. John Brown

U.S. Army retired

he Battles of Lexington and Concord in April 1775 precipitated open warfare around Boston between American Patriot militia and British soldiers. The Second Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, took ownership of the struggle as a cause embraced by all 13 Colonies, but the British reasonably hoped to confine serious fighting to Massachusetts. In November 1775, 250 years ago, this hope unraveled with fighting around Kemp's Landing in Virginia and the town of Ninety Six in South Carolina. In both Colonies, Patriot militia, ancestral to our National Guard, recovered from initial defeats to eject British control. The Revolution had moved south.

As the American Revolution broke out, 15% to 20% or more of the free population of the colonies remained loyal to the British Crown. These Loyalists also were called Royalists, Tories or King's Men. Opposing them were somewhat more numerous Patriots, also called Whigs. Perhaps half or more of the population was "on the fence," mindful of grievances voiced by the Patriots but hopeful of resolution short of warfare or actual independence. For the British to retain control, they had to cow the Patriots, empower the Loyalists and win over the neutrals. For the Patriots to succeed, they needed to intimidate or drive out the Loyalists and British and convince the neutrals of the merits of their cause.

IMPLEMENTS OF WAR

Access to weapons and ammunition, understandably, became an early flash point in struggles for control. In April 1775, Earl of Dunmore and

Royal Governor of Virginia John Murray seized a Colonial stockpile of gunpowder and put it aboard a Royal Navy ship. Enraged Colonial leaders demanded the return of their gunpowder, but violence was momentarily averted by Dunmore committing to payment instead.

In September in South Carolina, Patriots seized Fort Johnson, overlooking Charleston Harbor, but were caught wrong-footed in November when Loyalists captured a wagon train of gunpowder and ammunition en route to the Cherokees. Tensions reached the point that both royal governors, Lord Dunmore in Virginia and Lord William Campbell in South Carolina, took refuge aboard Royal Navy ships stationed offshore.

A period of quasi-war ensued in both Colonies. In Virginia, the Royal Navy looted Patriot plantations and arms caches. Dunmore, a slaveholder himself, cynically offered freedom to slaves and indentured servants of Patriots who ran away to join the British Army. This raised the specter of slave revolt, pushing theretofore neutral Virginia planters off the fence. In South Carolina, the Royal Navy ineffectually bombarded Patriot positions around Charleston. Meanwhile, Loyalists had considerable success recruiting in the South Carolina backcountry, where German and Scottish immigrants were suspicious of English-descent coastal elites who dominated the Patriot cause in the Colony.

KEMP'S LANDING

In Virginia, matters came to a head on Nov. 15 not far from the major British naval base at Norfolk. Reinforced by British regulars and learning of militia gathering at Kemp's Landing, Dunmore led a small force to preempt a Patriot concentration. The Patriot militia attempted an ambush but fired from

too far away to be effective. British regulars closed, returned fire and pressed forward with their bayonets. The militia broke and fled, leaving seven dead and 18 captured.

Elated, Dunmore prematurely assumed victory. He issued a proclamation declaring martial law, required those capable of bearing arms to serve the crown or be deemed traitors, offered freedom to Patriot-owned slaves and indentured servants (but not those of Loyalists) who joined the British Army and forbade paying taxes to anyone other than British officials.

NINETY SIX

In South Carolina, hostilities also began inauspiciously for the Patriots. About 600 Patriot militia encamped near the town of Ninety Six on Nov. 19, where they were ultimately surrounded by a Loyalist force some three times their size. A desultory siege ensued, with bouts of gunfire separated by periods of watchful waiting. After several days and considerable discomfort for both sides, a parlay allowed the Patriots to leave the encampment and make an inglorious retreat toward Charleston. A condition of release was that they surrender their couple of swivel guns, significant armament in that era, to the Loyalists as they departed.

In Virginia, Dunmore's triumph proved short-lived. Patriot militia continued to muster. Ably led by Col. William Woodford, the 2nd Virginia Regiment, with some auxiliaries, confronted British fortifications securing a causeway at Great Bridge, south of Norfolk. On Dec. 9, Dunmore launched his regulars in an assault to drive them off. This time the militia held fast until the British were close, then unleashed withering fire from behind prepared positions. The bloodied British retreated, bedeviled by long-range American ri-



flemen who disrupted efforts to reorganize. Their defeat proved decisive. Dunmore left Norfolk and within a few months abandoned Virginia.

The South Carolina Patriots similarly recovered from initial defeat. After recruiting heavily, they launched a large expedition into the backcountry led by Col. Richard Richardson. Additional militia units and reinforcements from North Carolina joined the march. With his numbers swelling to perhaps 5,000, Richardson heavily outnumbered local Loyalists. He scoured the backcountry, arresting some, forcing others to flee, and surprising and overwhelming a Loyalist contingent at the Reedy River in the Battle of Great Cane Brake in December 1775.

Dispirited, depleted by desertion, and with many leaders captured, the Loyalists ceased to be effective. Weather was more of a threat than combat as the campaign wound down, prompting veterans to call it the "Snow Campaign."

PATRIOT GAINS

As 1775 came to a close, Patriot militia dominated the Southern Colonies—Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland—and their colonial governments were solidly in the Patriot camp. The British attempted a comeback but failed with a Loyalist defeat at Moore's Creek Bridge, North Carolina, in February 1776 and an abortive attack on Charleston a few

months later. Patriot control in the South was essentially uncontested for the next three years. This gave the Patriots ample time to further deplete the Loyalists, win over the neutrals and solidify their grip.

When the British again invaded the South in late 1778, they found fewer local supporters than they had earlier. The Patriots could control every square mile not occupied by British soldiers. This proved critical to the ultimate American victory—and was a direct result of the events of 1775. *

Brig. Gen. John Brown, U.S. Army retired, served 33 years in the Army, with his last assignment as chief of military history at the U.S. Army Center of Military History. The author of *Kevlar Legions: The Transformation of the U.S. Army, 1989–2005*, he holds a doctorate in history from Indiana University.

Loyalist forces prepare an ill-advised attack against Colonial troops at Moore's Creek Bridge, North Carolina, in February 1776.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ADDITIONAL READING

Atkinson, Rick, *The British are Coming: The War for America, Lexington to Princeton, 1775-1777* (New York: Henry Holt, 2019)

Middlekauf, Robert, *The Glorious Cause: The American Revolution, 1763-1789*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1982)

Williams, Glenn and Bratten, Jonathan, *Opening Shots in the Colonies*, 1775-1776 (Washington, D.C.: Center of Military History, 2024)

- From Page 3, Catholic -

coreligionists in other colonies, with large numbers of Catholics existing in in St. Mary's and Charles counties during the eighteenth-century. Making up 10 percent of the colony's population, Maryland's Catholics greatly contributed to the colony's economy, with many being wealthy planters, while others served in trades such as blacksmithing and carpentry or worked on the Chesapeake Bay. Jesuit priests also contributed to Maryland's development as a colony, with many running manors on which they maintained chapels where the local Catholics would gather.[6] Maryland proved to be economically vital during the American Revolution, with the Chesapeake Bay and the Eastern Shore being particularly important, [7] but the colony's economic sufficiency would have been lacking if not for the vital contributions of Catholics throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

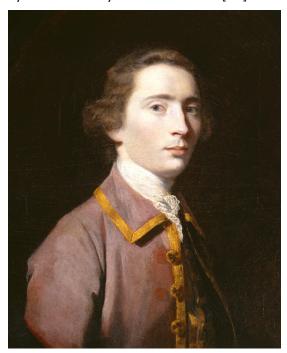
Even with the contributions Catholics in Maryland and elsewhere, anti-Catholicism remained dominant in eighteenth-century-America, as shown in the reaction to The Quebec Act of 1774. The Quebec Act was one of many British decisions that led to the American Revolution. After capturing the region from the French in the Seven Years War, the British needed to make clear the legal status of this new addition to the empire. To pacify their new subjects, the act reinstated the principles of the French legal system and allowed French Canadian Catholics to practice their faith freely. Furthermore, the act also moved Quebec's border down to the Ohio River, encroaching on territories claimed by Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Virginia. Colonists saw the act as a gross violation of English law, mainly because it encroached on their previous claims to lands on the frontier. But some saw a darker conspiracy afoot. A popular conspiracy in Massachusetts told of an unholy alliance between Rome and London, with England adopting Catholicism as its state religion and the pope mobilizing an army of French Catholics to destroy Boston. Equating tyranny with the practice of the Catholic faith, conspiracy theories involving the Quebec Act were common among Protestant colonists. [8] Alexander Hamilton predicted that "an inquisition" would be set up in Canada, with Catholic tyranny spreading across the English colonies in America, writing that "priestly tyranny may hereafter find as propitious a soil, in America as it ever has in Spain or Portugal."[9]

Despite the strong anti-Catholicism of the time,

the Founders owed some of their philosophical underpinnings to Catholic thinkers, including a document that was drafted by the thirteenth-century archbishop of Canterbury, Stephen Langton. Langton served as Archbishop at a time when the barons of England were in a dispute with the tyrannical King John. Langton urged the barons to fight for their liberties, but advised against bloodshed. In order to accomplish this difficult task, Langton served as an intermediary between the barons and King John at Runnymede in 1215, where he helped draft the Magna Carta Libertatum (the Great Charter of Liberties). The Magna Carta put into writing the notion that the king and his government were not above the law, and laid the basis for trial by jury and due process. The Magna Carta became an official part of English law by the end of the thirteenth century and greatly influenced the American founding, serving as an inspiration for the colonial charters of Maryland, Virginia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Carolina, and Connecticut. Furthermore, the Magna Carta was repeatedly referenced by the American founders themselves, with statesmen such as Samuel Adams comparing the colonists' grievances against King George with the barons' grievances against King John. But while the Magna Carta was championed as a justification for American rights, the Catholic cardinal that helped instigate and draft it remained unsung.[10]

The Founders were also strongly inspired by Algernon Sidney, a seventeenth century English political theorist, who fought on the side of Parliament during the English Civil War and was later executed for plotting against King Charles. Although he was an Anglican, Sidney was greatly influenced by the sixteenth-century Italian Jesuit Robert Bellarmine. While living in different time periods, and practicing different denominations of the Christian faith, both men were equally opposed to the notion of Divine Right, which held that kingship was the result of God's will, freeing monarchs of constitutional limitations.[11] The influence of the Italian Jesuit on Sidney is well illustrated in his renowned political treatise Discourses on Government. In this political treatise, Sidney advocated equality as a virtue above all others, a notion he borrowed from Bellarmine: "I take Bellarmine's first argument ['because by nature all men are equal: therefore, he hath given power to the people or multitude'] to be strong."[12] Algernon Sidney was thought of very highly by the Founding Fathers, with his works being advocated by James Madison as useful references for Congress. Thus, in

their direct reliance on Sidney, the Founders were indirectly influenced by an Italian Jesuit.[13]



Charles Carroll of Carrollton by Sir Joshua Reynolds, c. 1763. (Yale Center for British Art)

The Founders were also influenced by a Catholic from their own ranks: Charles Carroll. Hailing from Maryland, Carroll was educated at the College of St. Omer's in France, where he received a Jesuit education in political philosophy, with the institution not only promoting the political notions of Bellarmine, but also Francisco Suarez and Juan de Mariana, opponents of the divine right of kings.[14]Carroll was the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence and signed the document mainly to promote religious toleration in America.[15] Carroll was a unique asset to the American cause and was sent by the Continental Congress to Canada in early 1776 (along with his cousin, a Catholic priest), in order to assuage the fears of Catholic Canadians who feared that the American invaders would deprive them of their religious liberties.[16] A letter from Congress described Carroll's qualifications: "The third member was Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a prominent and wealthy Maryland Roman Catholic who had been educated in France; and he was asked to persuade John Carroll, his cousin and a priest, to accompany the mission."[17]

The efforts of Carroll and his fellow patriots to gain the support of Canadians failed, but the Jesuit-educated gentleman secured another victory: respect from his fellow delegates, and in a broader sense respect for Catholics involved in the patriot cause.[18] For

instance, John Adams, who described the Catholic mass as an extravagant display intended to "bewitch the simple and ignorant," nonetheless thought very highly of his Catholic compatriot.[19] He wrote:

In the Cause of American Liberty, his Zeal Fortitude and Perseverance have been So conspicuous that he is Said to be marked out for peculiar Vengeance by the Friends of Administration: But he continues to hazard his all: his immense Fortune, the largest in America, and his Life. This Gentlemans Character, If I foresee aright, will hereafter make a greater Figure in America. His Abilities are very good, his Knowledge and Learning extensive, I have seen Writings of his which would convince you of this. You may perhaps hear before long more about them.[20]

The efforts of Catholics like Carroll, and the more pragmatic concerns of gaining the support of American Catholics and gaining an alliance with the Catholic French, decreased expressions of anti-Catholicism in the patriot cause. George Washington took the lead in this trend, quashing the observation of Pope's Day, an anti-Catholic celebration practiced in England and America, which involved burning the pope in effigy. [21] According to Washington, "At such a juncture, and in such Circumstances, to be insulting their Religion, is so monstrous, as not to be suffered, or excused."[22] While anti-Catholicism would return to America in the nineteenth century,[23] the Catholic contributions to the American Revolution (and the ability of non-Catholic founders such as Washington and Adams to transcend the prejudices of their day) helped lay the groundwork for a republic committed to the free practice of all religions.

- [1] David Humphreys, "Treaty of Peace and Friendship between the United States of America and the Bey and Subjects of Tripoli of Barbary," November 4, 1796, Yale Law School.
- [2] Thomas S Kidd, God of Liberty: A Religious History of the American Revolution (Basic Books, 2010), 249.
- [3] Benjamin Rush, "On the Mode of Education Proper in a Republic" (Philadelphia, 1798).
- [4] Kidd, God of Liberty, 98.
- [5] Ibid., 19.

- Continued on Page 8, Catholic -

- From Page 7, Catholic -

[6] Chester Gillis, Roman Catholicism in America (New York: Columbia University Press, 1999), 53-56.

[7] Barry Paige Neville, "For God, King, And Country: Loyalism on the Eastern Shore of Maryland During the American Revolution," International Social Science Review 84, no. 3/4 (2009): 135–56.

[8] Kidd, God of Liberty, 67-68.

[9] Remarks on the Quebec Bill: Part One, June 15, 1775], Founders Online, National Archives, <u>founders.archives.gov/documents/Hamilton/01-01-02-0058</u>.

[10] Robert R. Reilly, America on Trial: A Defense of the Founding (Ignatius Press, 2020), 75-79.

[11] Ibid., 196-197.

[12] Algernon Sidney, "Discourses Concerning Government" (1698), constitutioncenter.org/the-constitution/historic-document-library/detail/algernon-sidneydiscourses-concerning-government-1698.

[13] "Report on Books for Congress, [January 23] 1783," Founders Online, National Archives, <u>founders.archives</u>. gov/documents/Madison/01-06-02-0031.

[14] Bradley J. Birzer, American Cicero: The Life of Charles Carroll (ISI Books, 2010), 11.

[15] Ibid., 173

[16] Ibid., 105

[17] "Instructions and Commission from Congress to Franklin, Charles Carroll, and Samuel Chase for the Canadian Mission, 20 March 1776," Founders Online, National Archives, founders.archives.gov/documents/Franklin/01-22-02-0228.

[18] Birzer, American Cicero, 107-108.

[19] John Adams to Abigail Adams, October 9, 1774, Adams Family Papers: An Electronic Archive, Massachusetts Historical Society, www.masshist.org/digitaladams/archive/doc?id=L17741016aa.

[20] John Adams to James Warren, February 18, 1776, Founders Online, National Archives, <u>founders.archives</u>. gov/documents/Adams/06-04-02-0008.

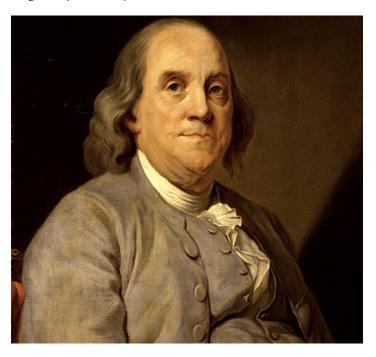
[21] Kidd, God of Liberty, 73

[22] General orders, November 5, 1775, Founders Online, National Archives, <u>founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/03-02-02-0279</u>.

[23] Kidd, God of Liberty, 74

https://allthingsliberty.com/2025/07/in-the-cause-of-american-liberty-catholic-contributions-to-independence/

People Who Made America Great



Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin (1706–1790) – A genius of the American Enlightenment, Franklin was an inventor, writer, diplomat, and Founding Father whose influence spanned politics, science, and culture. He helped draft the Declaration of Independence and played a critical diplomatic role in securing French support during the Revolution. Franklin also helped frame the Constitution and promoted civic institutions like libraries, fire departments, and universities. His wit, wisdom, and tireless service made him one of the most beloved figures of early America. He embodied the self-made American ideal.

One of the most iconic achievements of Benjamin Franklin's life happened in 1752 when he flew a kite during a thunderstorm to prove that lightning was a form of electricity. Tying a metal key to the kite string and standing under a shelter to stay dry, Franklin observed sparks jumping from the key when lightning struck nearby—confirming his theory. Though many believe he was struck by lightning, Franklin was careful enough to avoid direct danger, using a dry silk string to stay insulated. This bold experiment revolutionized science and led to his invention of the lightning rod, which saved countless buildings from fire. His fearless curiosity and hands-on approach made him a symbol of Enlightenment thinking. Franklin later wrote,

"I never was before engaged in any study that so totally engrossed my attention and my time." The kite experiment wasn't just brilliant—it was audacious.

Birthday's	
Donald Cosper	11-2
Oliver Sappington	11-3
Edward Gwin	11-6
David Bacher	11-7
John Crandell	11-8
Jon Lorenzino	11-8
Chrisman Brayman	11-14
Caleb Jones	11-14
Justin Baty	11-15
Brian Felt	11-15
James Robinette	11-19
Eric Griessel	11-20
Kenton Miller	11-27
Donald Lucietta	11-28
Kavin Stull	11-28
Joshua Crocker	11-29

This Day in History

November 1, 1800

John Adams becomes the first U.S. president to move into the White House. Although the building was still under construction, Adams took residence, marking an important moment in U.S. history.

November 6, 1860

Abraham Lincoln is elected as the 16th president of the United States. His election led to the secession of Southern states and the eventual outbreak of the Civil War. Lincoln's leadership during this tumultuous time preserved the Union and led to the abolition of slavery.

November 9, 1620

The Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower sight land at Cape Cod, Massachusetts, after a long and treacherous journey from England. This marked the beginning of European settlement in New England.

November 10, 1775

The United States Marine Corps is founded in Philadelphia by the Second Continental Congress. Originally established to serve as infantry on naval ships, the Marine Corps has since become one of the most elite fighting forces in the world.

November 11, 1918

The armistice ending World War I is signed, leading to

the celebration of Armistice Day, which later became Veterans Day in the U.S. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the day as a time for honoring the sacrifices of those who served in the war.

November 12, 1954

Ellis Island, the U.S.'s main immigration processing center, officially closes. Over 12 million immigrants passed through its gates between 1892 and 1954. Today, Ellis Island is a museum that honors the history of American immigration.

November 13, 1982

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C. The black granite wall lists the names of more than 58,000 service members who died in or were missing during the Vietnam War.

November 14, 1969

Apollo 12, the second manned mission to the Moon, is launched from Kennedy Space Center. Commanded by Charles "Pete" Conrad, the crew successfully lands on the lunar surface, conducting several experiments.

November 15, 1777

The Continental Congress approves the Articles of Confederation, the first constitution of the United States. While the Articles provided a framework for governance during the Revolutionary War, they were ultimately deemed ineffective. They were later replaced by the U.S. Constitution in 1789.

November 16, 1907

Oklahoma is admitted as the 46th state of the United States. Previously known as Indian Territory, Oklahoma's statehood was part of the westward expansion of the U.S. Its capital, Oklahoma City, would later become a major oil and energy center.

November 17, 1800

The United States Congress holds its first session in Washington, D.C. after moving from Philadelphia. Washington, D.C. was selected as the nation's capital in 1790 and has remained the political heart of the country since.

November 18, 1883

Standard time zones are adopted in the United States and Canada by the railroads. Before this, time was set locally, leading to confusion and scheduling conflicts. The establishment of time zones revolutionized transportation and commerce, improving efficiency and coordination across the country.

- Continued on Page 11, This Day -



National Guard to Celebrate 389th Birthday on December 13, 2025

COL John D. Hathcock, U.S. Army (Ret.)

The founding of our current day National Guard was established on December 13, 1636, by the Massachusetts General Court in Salem, where all able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60 were required to join the militia and would be called on to fight when needed for the protection of the colonies. The colony's militia was organized into three permanent regiments to defend the colony. Several units of the Massachusetts Militia have maintained continuous service and are the lineal descendants for the current National Guard. They are the 101st Field Artillery, the101st Engineer Battalion, the 181st Infantry Regiment and the 182nd Infantry Regiment. These are the oldest units of the U.S. military.

The 101st Engineers carries the lineage of the East Regiment, which was organized in 1636 from militia companies in Salem, Saugus, Ipswich and Newbury. The 101st Field Artillery carries the lineage of the South Regiment.

The 181st and 182nd Infantry Regiments carry the lineage of the North Regiment, which was organized in 1636 from militia companies in Charlestown, Cambridge, Watertown, Medford and Concord.

Today, these four units of the Massachusetts Army National Guard, trace their continuous active military service and lineage to those militia units.

On April 19, 1775, the "shot heard 'round the world" rang out, initiating hostilities in the war for American independence. Units of the Massachusetts militia were at Lexington Green and Concord Bridge that fateful day. The 101st Engineer Battalion, the 181st Infantry Regiment and the 182nd Infantry Regiment are the only three units in the U.S. Army who can display the Lexington battle streamer. Although the 101st Field Artillery participated in several Revolutionary War campaigns, they did not participate in the Lexington Campaign.

This date, December 13, 1636, in history designates the beginning of the organized militia, and the birth of the National Guard's oldest organized units, symbolic of the founding of all the state, commonwealth, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and Guam militias that collectively make up today's National Guard."

Under state law, the National Guard provides "First Responder" capability and protection of life and property, and preserves peace, order and public safety. The National Guard's federal mission is to maintain well-trained, well-equipped units available for prompt mobilization and deployment during war and provide assistance during national emergencies.

With its dual state and federal mission, the National Guard is a fully integrated operational force of the U.S. military capabilities. Each soldier and airman hold membership in both the National Guard of his or her state and in the U.S. Army or the U.S. Air Force.

The National Guard is a local community cornerstone, with more than 2,500 Army Guard readiness centers (armories) and facilities along with 433,000 National Guard members living and serving in nearly every zip code.

Always Ready, Always There - Your National Guard

Reference:

How We Began - About the Guard - The National Guard 2024 NGEF Commemorative Ornament - NGEF

(continued next page)

Colonel John D. Hathcock, U.S. Army retired, served 23 years in the Army and Army National Guard when he was retired after reaching 20 years active federal service. He was commissioned through the Arkansas National Guard OCS program and assigned to the 39th Infantry Brigade. Soon after, he transferred back to the Missouri Army National Guard where he was called to an AGR tour. He served as an Infantry officer focusing on plans, policy, training, legislative and budgetary initiatives, force structure, operational planning and strategic planning. His postings include the National Guard Bureau, Pentagon; Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G1; Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G3; ARNG Plans, Policy and Training Advisor (DRCM) with 1st Infantry Division and the Army Forces Command. He then was assigned Chief, National Guard and Reserve Components Division, VII Corps, Stuttgart, Germany. He deployed to Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm with VII Corps. After Desert Storm, he returned to NGB and served on the NGB Desert Storm After Action Review. He also served as a principal member of the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Army, Desert Storm Special Study Group, which published CERTAIN VICTORY - THE U.S. ARMY IN THE GULF WAR, 1993. He is a graduate of the Naval War College, College of Naval Command and Staff and the NATO Defense College, Rome, Italy. After retirement, he served as a consultant to the Defense Advanced Research Agency (DARPA) and served as a consultant, senior systems analyst and project manager on several defense initiatives, including development and fielding of the Predator UAV. He and his wife now reside in his home state of Missouri. (contact: *Ihathcock06(@gmail.com)*

- From Page 9, This Day -November 19, 1863

President Abraham Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address at the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. In just 272 words, Lincoln reaffirmed the nation's commitment to liberty and equality while honoring those who had fought in the Civil War.

Important Dates in History

Nov 9, 1620: Pilgrams find land at Cape Cod, MA

Nov 10, 1775: U.S. Marine Corps founded

Nov 13, 1775: Americans take Montreal, Canada

Nov 16, 1776: The Hessians capture Fort Washington,

Nov 16, 1777: British capture Fort Mifflin,

Pennsylvania

Nov 19-21, 1775: First Siege of Ninety Six, SC

Nov 20, 1776: Lord Cornwallis captures Fort Lee from

Nathanael Greene

Nov 21, 1620: Mayflower Compact Signed

Nov 25, 1783: British Evacuate New York City

Nov 30, 1782: British and Americans sign preliminary

Articles of Peace

November 20, 1945

The Nuremberg Trials begin, with 24 high-ranking Nazi officials being prosecuted for war crimes following World War II. Although the trials were held in Germany, the United States played a leading role in their organization and execution.

November 21, 1789

North Carolina becomes the 12th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. The state initially hesitated to approve the document, primarily due to concerns over the lack of a bill of rights. However, North Carolina eventually joined the Union after the promise of amendments addressing individual liberties.

November 26, 1789

President George Washington declares the first official national Thanksgiving Day. He issued the proclamation to give thanks for the successful end of the Revolutionary War and the ratification of the U.S. Constitution.

November 28, 1943

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin meet in Tehran during World War II. The Tehran Conference was the first of the "Big Three" meetings, where they discussed the post-war world and strategies to defeat Nazi Germany.

Sunday, November 2, Calton Cemetery, Rural Verona, Missouri



The Ozark Mountain Chapter MOSSAR joined its member Joe Walker to memorialize a patriot grandson, Thomas Crouch. Thomas's grandfather, Joseph Crouch (P-141703), and great-grandfather John Crouch (P-141701) both served in the American Revolution. Both patriots died in Tennessee, as did the next generation, William Crouch. Thomas got the urge to acquire homestead land in Missouri, and settled there in the 1840s in what is now Barry County.

The chapter placed a medallion on the Civil War gravestone, said

medallion identifying a descendant child or grandchild. Dozens of contemporary descendants and other interested persons witnessed the ceremony. Second great-grandson Royal Walker laid a wreath. Third great-grandson Eli Harris, junior member of the OMC, was among those advancing and retiring colors, and leading all



in the Pledge of Allegiance. A special treat was a large original photograph of Thomas Crouch, which was brought to the ceremony by one of the descendants. Aiding in the ceremony were members of the Elkhorn Prairie Chapter DAR, including Regent Kitty Crider. OMC Members advancing colors were Steve Perkins, Eli Harris, Joe Walker, Ken Lawrence, and Bruce Bacher. Photos by Dan Piedlow.





Manage Sale

Scouts and OMC Members at the PBS early viewing and speech on "The American Revolution" on November 10th.





Veteran's Day at OTC

This annual event was well attended by the OMC/SAR. Compatriots Jeff Hicks, Dan McMurray, Joe Walker, Charles McMillan, and Howard Fisk were in uniform and participated.

The Color guardsmen presented the colors, and Howard presented the OTC Veteran of the Year certificate to Jason Kpukowski.

The guest speaker, Rear Admiral Hank Molinengo, is shown with Jeff, Joe, and Charles before the event started.

He gave a speech that encouraged us to take care of each other, especially our veterans. Twenty-two Veterans kill themselves every day. Don't be afraid to ask someone how they are doing.

Rear Admiral Molinengo was stationed at the Pentagon when it was struck by American Airlines Flight 77 during the Sep 11, 2001, attacks.





This program, held on Nov 11, is the 37th Veterans program put on by Cassville School. They hold it as close to Nov 11th as possible. All local veterans are invited, and each is presented a certificate by the school honoring their service.

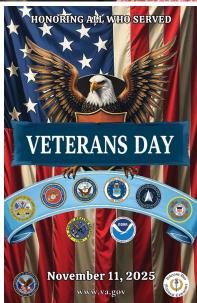
The program is presented by the music and speech departments, assisted by the JROTC. The student body is very appreciative and respectful. A veterans' reception is held after the program.

Compatriot Dan Philbrick has been privileged to attend almost all of them. Attached are 3 pix taken by the school, and here is a link to the page where there are a lot more:

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1452850026843379&set=d41d8cd9

KY3 also featured a spot on the Nov 11 evening news.











Ozark Mountain MOSSAR Color Guard participated in three events on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2025. Charles McMillan and Joe Walker assisted Greenwood Laboratory School at the MSU campus, to advance colors at the beginning of their assembly. Then later in the morning they as well as Howard Fisk and Dan McMurray were color bearers for the Veteran Student of the Year ceremony at the Ozark Technical College main campus in Springfield. These are recurring annual events for the chapter representing the SAR, as first veterans honoring contemporary veterans.

Dan Piedlow, Gary Gift, Ken Lawrence, and Steve Perkins traveled to Branson where they were in their annual Veteran's Day Parade. Five flags were carried in a modified trainer hitch, then two other battle flags were on the trailer in which we rode, bedecked with bunting. We were well received by the onlookers, some offering encouraging words of how well we looked for being 250 years old.



by OMC Past President Charles McMillan

This was an unusual event this year in that we were able to honor a veteran from World War II and the Korean War.



Guests of Honor at the Veteran's Luncheon. Al Gauteri (L), a Korean War Veteran, and Roy Steinestel (R), a World War II Veteran.

At the age of 17, Roy Steinestel's deep desire to serve his country led him to the draft board. Despite being told he could not enlist due to having flat feet, Roy's resolve did not falter. He adamantly insisted that there must be some way he could contribute. The examiner,





recognizing Roy's determination, asked, "Can you swim?" Roy answered in the affirmative, and with that, he was welcomed into the United States Navy.

Roy became a Storekeeper on an Aviation Supply Ship in the Philippines. In his civilian life, Roy retired from Northrup Aircraft in California.

We proudly presented the Silver Good Citizenship Award in recognition of his notable service and steadfast devotion to our country.

Sergeant Albert "Al" Gautieri, an Italian American, began his military service in January 1953. He enlisted in the Marine Corps, where he served as a trumpet player with the United States Marine Corps Band stationed in San Diego, California. He was subsequently requested to work in the Post Office during his time in service, and he accepted the position.

During his time in the military, Al served aboard the

- Continued on Page 16, Lunch -

- From Page 15, Lunch -

USS Okanogan, a Haskell-class attack transport with a distinguished history. With the outbreak of the Korean War, Okanogan was reassigned to the US Pacific Fleet. In August 1950, the ship loaded part of the 1st Marine Division in San Diego for transport to Japan. These Marines were urgently needed by General Douglas MacArthur for a counter-offensive in response to North Korean aggression.

Al embarked on the ship's journey to North Camp Fuji in Japan, which took 23 days en route and 9 days on the return trip. The voyage was challenging, with Al relying on crackers to help stave off seasickness. Many of his fellow shipmates were not as fortunate and experienced significant illness during the crossing.

Upon return to the States, Al joined his brother-in-law in a bowling alley venture in Raytown, Missouri.

We proudly presented the Silver Good Citizenship Award in recognition of his notable service and steadfast devotion to our country.

MOSSAR President, Steven Biggs, graciously signed both awards. It is the highest Citizenship Award that can be given by a State Society.

Our Keynote Speaker for the Luncheon was Dan McMurray, a Vietnam veteran with the US Army. Dan has been a member of the Sons of the American Revolution for over 25 years. He has served as President of the Ozark Mountain Chapter, the Missouri Society of the SAR, and Vice President General of the South-Central District SAR, which includes Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Arkansas.

He has also served as President of the Major Nathan Boone Chapter of the Society of the War of 1812, as well as the State President of the Missouri Society of the War of 1812.

Dan presented the OMC Veteran of the Year award to Past OMC President Charles McMillan.

Greetings were given on behalf of the Rachel Donelson Daughters of the American Revolution by Margaret Swales. And Gary Gift presented greetings representing the Major Nathan Boon Chapter of the Society of 1812.

The benediction was given by State Chaplain, Army Vet Spec 5 Dan Philbrick.

Our Master of Ceremonies, OMC 1st VP Gerald McCoy,

ended the celebration with the Dismissal.







Gerhard Gerhart receiving his Rosette and Membership Certificate after being sworn into the chapter.



All the Veteran's who attended the Luncheon.



Roy Steinestel, a World War II Veteran, being presented with a Silver Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.



Al Gauteri, a Korean War Veteran, being presented with a Silver Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.



Compatriot Daniel Piedlow is talking to Greenwood Laboratory School's eighth-grade class about the NSSAR's Brochure Contest on November 14th.



Compatriot Charles McMillan being presented with the OMC Veteran of the Year Award by Compatriot Dan McMurray.



Compatriot Charles McMillan being presented with a set of beeds from Compatriot Dan Philbrick. The beeds can only be given to a Vietnam Veteran and presented by a Vietnam Veteran.



Surgeon's Report November 20, 2025 Listeria

Listeria monocytogenes is a diminutive, gram-positive, rod-shaped bacterium commonly found in soil, water, and decomposing organic material. They can be transmitted through foodborne contamination and may also spread in utero in neonates.

While the occurrence of Listeria contamination is infrequent, with approximately 1,600 reported cases annually, it's essential to note that severe instances can result in

a mortality rate ranging from 20% to 45%.

Intestinal Illness typically manifests within 24 hours after ingesting contaminated food and can persist for 1 to 3 days. Symptoms include diarrhea and vomiting. While mild cases usually resolve spontaneously, there is potential for progression to Invasive Illness. Diagnostic labs do not frequently test for Listeria.

Invasive Illness (Listeriosis) occurs when the bacteria disseminate beyond the intestines. Symptoms typically develop within 2 weeks of consuming contaminated food and may include fever, flu-like symptoms, headaches, body aches, fatigue, confusion, loss of balance, and seizures. If untreated, severe cases can lead to septicemia and meningitis, carrying a significant 20% mortality rate.

Foods that present the most significant risk of contamination include:

Any unheated Queso Fresco-type cheese

Any cheese produced with (raw) unpasteurized milk

Unheated deli meats, including cold cuts, hot dogs, or dry sausages, as well as premade deli salads such as coleslaw, potato, tuna, or chicken salad.

Refrigerated pate or meat spreads

Refrigerated smoked fish

Raw or lightly cooked sprouts

Cut the melon that has been left out for over 2 hours

Cut melon stored in the refrigerator for more than 1 week

Raw (unpasteurized) milk, yogurt, and ice cream

Uncooked mushrooms

The populations most vulnerable to Listeria infection include pregnant women, newborns, older adults, and individuals with compromised Immune systems.

Treatment for Intestinal Illness is generally unnecessary; however, for Invasive Illness, an intravenous antibiotic regimen with Ampicillin and Gentamicin may be required for a duration of 14 to 21 days.

Prevention can be effectively achieved through proper hygienic practices during food preparation. Remember, our actions in the kitchen can make a significant difference in preventing Listeria infection.

For more information, the Food and Drug Administration provides booklets on its website, and you can also visit Foodsafety.gov for additional resources.

Respectfully submitted,
Mel McNeal

Missouri State Surgeon

General Society War of 1812

Apcoming Events



December 8, at 12:00 noon, the Colorguard will advance Colors at a Distinguished Citizen Award with the Scouts. Muster is at 11:20 A.M. The event is at the Barley House at Moon Crossing, 3060 N. Kenwood, Springfield.



Thursday, December 11 at 6:30 PM, the Chapter Development Committee is meeting at Steve's home. All members are welcome to attend. If you need directions, contact Steve.



Saturday, December 13, at 8:45 A.M., the Colorguard will be placing wreaths at both veterans cemeteries. The National Cemetery, located at 1702 E. Seminole, and the Missouri Veterans Cemetery, located at 5201 S. Southwood Rd. Both cemeteries are in Springfield. If a colorguard member is able to attend one of the cemeteries, contact Commander Perkins.



Friday, December 19, at 5:30 P.M., the annual C.A.R. Dinner will be held at the Knights of Columbus, located at 2340 Grand St., Springfield. Reservations are required. Please see the last page for the registration.



Saturday, December 20, at 8:45 A.M., Wreaths Across America at the National Cemetery in Springfield. The address is: 1702 E. Seminole. All are invited to attend.



Saturday, December 20, at 9:30 A.M., The chapter meeting will be held at Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library, located at 2214 S. Brentwood Blvd., Springfield. The Missouri C.A.R. President will talk about their project. All are welcome to attend and help C.A.R. with their project.

Gark Mountain Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Annual CAR Dinner

Knights of Columbus 2340 W. Grand St.

Springfield, MO December 19, 2025

Welcome 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Speaker: Steve Biggs, State MOSSAR President Teddie Moll, Missouri CAR President

Honored Guests: State President Steve Biggs and First Lady Vickie Attire: Suits, evening dress.

_____Cut here and send with check._____

Knights of Columbus C.A.R. Dinner

- House salad: field greens, chopped romaine, shredded parmesan, cucumber, cherry tomatoes, shredded carrot, ranch or Italian dressing.
- Tuscan Chicken Parmesan crusted chicken with garlic cream sauce, sun dried tomatoes, green onions, and balsamic reduction
- Aged White Cheddar Mashed Potato Creamy mashed potatoes infused with white cheddar cheese.
- Smothered Green Beans Green beans and bacon baked in a sweet and savory sauce
- Hawaiian Dinner Roll with butter pat
- Chefs Choice Holiday Themed mini desserts
- Water, Unsweetened Tea and Coffee for drinks. Sweetener is available

\$35.00 per person if received by December16th / \$39.00 after 16th - no promise of late seating. Make check payable to: OMCSAR, and mail: OMC SAR, PO Box 11014, Springfield, MO 65808.

Name:	Guest:	
Address:		
Phone:	Email:	