



# The Patriot

The Ozark Mountain Chapter Newsletter

April 2024

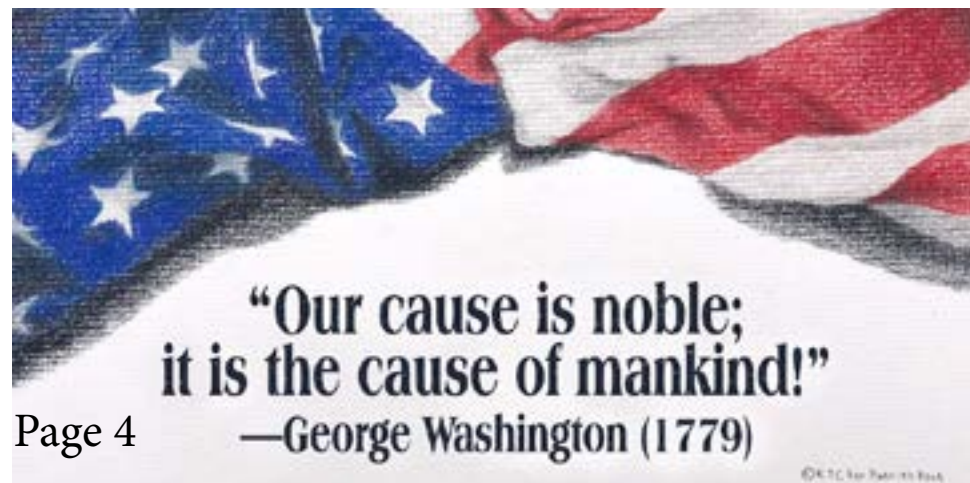
Issue 4





# Contents

VOLUME 43 ISSUE 12



- 1 The President's Message
- 1 Meeting Minutes
- 2 A Veteran Long Before the War for Independence, Sam Whittemore was America's Oldest, Bravest Soldier.
- 4 Important Dates in History
- 4 Patriots' Day
- 7 National Medal of Honor Day
- 8 Birthday's
- 9 Patriot Grave Marking Event's
- 12 Awards and Events
- 17 Upcoming Events



The Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR Challenge Coins are for sale. These coins are \$5.00 each from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk.



## IN EVERY ISSUE

- 1 Presidents Message
- 1 Meeting Minutes
- 4 Important Dates in History
- 8 Birthday's
- 12 Awards and Events
- 17 Upcoming Events

**On the Cover**  
Compatriot David Shaul handing over the gavel to incoming MOSSAR President Gene Henry



**Photographs provided by:** Daniel Piedlow, Margaret Swales,  
**Editor:** Daniel Piedlow



## The President's Message

By President Charles McMillan

*"Preserve History, Provide Youth Education and awareness of our patriot ancestors and founding fathers and inspire patriotism in our community."*

Compatriot Jim Robinette led the General Membership Meeting for April. I was on assignment....ha more on that next month. History was portrayed by the Cologuard in their involvement with the North Bridge event .... Lexington and Concord.

Several of us attended the MOSSAR conference in Columbia, Mo.

For our new to SAR members, this is a meeting that is held once a year. All of the Chapters from the State get together and have special programs and events... Doug Neff put on the Genealogy Roadshow, the Auxiliary had a large sale of items they made or just provided to earn money and donate it to the SAR programs.

There is a special speaker and sometimes a book author.

The Saturday night banquet is the Awards Banquet and the time to elect new officers for the next year. The 1st VP is Ken Lawrence, the State Historian is Gary Gift, the State Chaplain is Dan Philbrick, and the Sergeant-at-Arms is Dan Piedlow. We are well represented.

By doing events during the year that helps preserve history, provide youth education and awareness of our patriot ancestors and founding fathers and inspire patriotism in our community... in other words our mission. We participate in the process of trying to win awards... in the form of a traveling plaque and a certificate. There is the Josiah Fogg award, the Yohee Award, the Americanism award and then the submission of our yearbook for judging.

There are three categories: Large, Middle, and Small sized chapters.

I am proud to say that thru the effort of all Compatriots that take a part in their chapter... Ozark Mountain Chapter took 1st place in every category. Thanks for your hard work.

When I went up to the front to accept the last award I made the comment that "This is a good time to be

President of the Ozark Mountain Chapter"... it drew some laughter. Don't forget to look at our website to keep up on our schedule of events.

<https://ozarkmountainsar.com>

## OMC/SAR Meeting Minutes 20 April 2024

1. Regular Business Meeting. Irregular locations due to Patriots Day program
2. Ozark Mountain Chapter
3. 20 April 2024, Phelps Grove Park Pavilion
4. 1 st VP Jim Robinette presided. President Charles McMillan was with Honoring France tour with NSSAR PG John Dodd and others. The position of Secretary is still vacant.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
6. The meeting started at 09:32 and ended at 9:47
7. There were 24 members present and 11 guests.

Our next meeting will be held on May 18, 2024 at 9:30 A.M. at the Ozark Technical College.



New Medal now available! A medal for the Battle of Fort San Carlos is now available from Compatriot J Howard Fisk. They cost \$35.00 and you must participate in the events in Ste. Genevieve.

## MEMBERS

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



# A Veteran Long Before the War for Independence, Sam Whittemore was America's Oldest, Bravest Soldier.

By Patrick J. Leonard

On April 19, 1775, approximately 1,800 British troops marched from Boston to Concord to capture a reported store of Colonial munitions and hopefully to bag such advocates of rebellion as John Hancock and Sam Adams. At Lexington Green,



they were confronted by about 50 haphazardly garbed militiamen carrying a variety of weapons, some decades old, some manufactured by village blacksmiths and gunsmiths, some as modern as the guns carried by the Redcoats, but all in working order and capable of killing. When ordered to disperse, the Minutemen did not obey, and firing began that

resulted in eight Americans killed; the rest hastily left the scene as ordered by their officers. The British then reformed their ranks and continued marching to Concord.

On their arrival in Concord, where alerted citizens watched their every move, the British troops searched for but did not locate any of the munitions, which were cleverly concealed in a variety of ingenious hiding places. Hancock and Adams were miles away, fully aware of the British column, thanks to Paul Revere and his assistants.

Learning that the Minutemen were swarming toward them from as far away as Worcester, and realizing that the munitions were too well secreted to be found without a lengthy search, the British began an orderly retreat toward Boston. Soon, guerrilla bands were firing from the woods and stone walls at the beleaguered marching troops. As British casualties increased, their ranks became somewhat disorganized. The Americans then struck even harder at their hated red-coated foes.

While all that excitement was going on, 80-year-old farmer Sam Whittemore was placidly working in his fields at Menotomy (now Arlington), Mass. He knew nothing of the British invasion and the deaths at Lexington. In younger days, Whittemore had been a soldier, and a good one. He became a captain in His

Majesty's Dragoons stationed in America and fought against the French, the Indians, and renegades of all types. He even spent a brief period on board a ship that was hunting for a pirate. He was always ready to drop his farming tools, pick up his weapons and march off to battle.

Most men below the rank of general have had their fill of war by the time they reach their 50th year. Not Whittemore! In 1745, he was among the forces that stormed the French fortress at Louisburg, Nova Scotia, where he captured a fine, albeit gaudy and overdecorated, French saber that he would treasure the rest of his long life. As legend has it, taciturn Sam said that the former owner of the saber had "died suddenly," but furnished no further details.

For some inexplicable reason, Britain returned Louisburg to the French, who diligently spent years and a fortune rebuilding and rearming the fortifications. Then, in 1758, the British decided to retake and forever demolish Louisburg. Whittemore, now a hearty 64, buckled on his French saber and, as peppy as ever, joined the expedition. The fort was conquered again, and he remained with the wrecking crew until Louisburg was leveled. A year later, Sam marched away again, this time winding up in Quebec, where he fought for General James Wolfe against the French General Louis-Joseph, Marquis de Montcalm. In 1763, Ottawa Chief Pontiac led an uprising in the wild, distant lands that would one day become Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Whittemore was then 68 and still looking for action.

The sons and grandchildren were ordered to stay home and work on the farm. With his saber and other weapons, Whittemore rode creakingly away on a rickety horse. He returned in triumph months later, astride one of the best stallions ever seen in Menotomy, and carrying a matched pair of ornate dueling pistols. The former owner of the dueling pistols, an enemy officer, had "died suddenly" according to Laconic Sam.

Throughout his lengthy life, "Captain Sam" was as active in civilian life as he was in his military career. He served on important town committees as an assessor, a selectman, and in other capacities.

As a young married man, Sam built his own home, which he and his wife Elizabeth (Spring) soon filled with three sons and five daughters. The Whittemore home still exists, on Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington.

Whittemore proved to be just as aggressive in private

life as in war. During a heated election contest in January 1741, he loudly declared that one of the contestants for public office, the proud and haughty Colonel Roderick Shipley Vassal, was no more fit for the office than Sam's elderly horse, Nero, whose value he assessed at less than 5 pounds.

The infuriated colonel promptly but illegally had Whittemore jailed, and while Sam was fuming in his cell, Vassal sued him for defamation of character. The ensuing trial was a heated and well-attended one. Dauntless Whittemore, who made an admirable witness for himself, won his case. He then promptly sued the arrogant colonel for false arrest; after another sterling performance, the court awarded Whittemore the equivalent of \$6,000 to soothe his pride.

After Pontiac's War, Whittemore tended to his endless chores on the farm, but he also became interested in the prospect of the 13 Colonies gaining independence from Britain. He believed that his descendants should have their own country, be able to enact their own laws, and not be subject to the whims of a distant king and government.

Whittemore somehow learned about the British action at Lexington at midday on April 19 (the sound of distant gunfire may have alerted the aged warrior), and he immediately stopped working and hastened to his house. There, before the eyes of his astonished family, Sam methodically loaded his musket and both of his famed dueling pistols, put his powder and ball inside his worn and well-traveled military knapsack, strapped his French saber around his waist, squared his grizzled jaw and, as he strode briskly out the door, simply informed his worried family that he was "going to fight the British regulars" and told them to remain safely indoors until he returned.

Whittemore walked to a secluded position behind a stone wall on Mystic Street, near the corner of what is now Chestnut Street in Arlington, and calmly settled in. Some of the Minutemen pleaded with Whittemore to join them in their safer positions, but he ignored their admonitions. Soon the 47th Regiment of Foot, followed by the main body of British troops, appeared in view. On both sides of Whittemore, Minutemen were shooting at the approaching Redcoats and then sprinting away to where they could reload in safety. Waiting until the regiment was almost upon him, Whittemore stood up, aimed his musket carefully, and fired, killing a British soldier. He then fired both dueling pistols, hitting both of his targets, killing one

man outright and mortally wounding another. Not having time to reload his cumbersome weapons, he grabbed his French saber and flailed away at the cursing, enraged Redcoats who now surrounded him. Some of those infuriated soldiers were probably less than one-quarter of Sam's 80 years; few, if any, were even half his age.

One Englishman fired his Brown Bess almost point-blank into Whittemore's face, the heavy bullet tearing half his cheek away and knocking him flat on his back. Undaunted, Whittemore attempted to rise and continue the fight but received no less than 13 bayonet wounds from the vengeful Redcoats. They also mercilessly clubbed his bleeding head and drove their musket butts into his body as they ran by. When the last Britisher had left the scene and was far enough away for them to come out in safety, the villagers who had seen Whittemore's last stand walked slowly toward the body. To their astonishment, he was still alive and conscious--and still full of fight! Ignoring his wounds, he was feebly trying to load his musket for a parting shot at the retreating regiment.

A door was used as a makeshift stretcher and Whittemore was carried to the nearby Cooper Tavern. Doctor Nathaniel Tufts of Medford stripped away Sam's torn, bloody clothing and was aghast at his many gaping bayonet wounds, the other numerous bruises and lacerations, and his horrible facial injury. According to every medical text Tufts had ever studied and all of his years of experience treating injured people, the old man should have bled to death from internal injuries.

Tufts sadly remarked that it was useless to even dress so many wounds since Whittemore could not possibly survive for very long; the deep bayonet thrusts must have pierced many of his vital organs. The horrified bystanders, however, persuaded the reluctant doctor to do his best, and Tufts bandaged Whittemore. He did what he could with the frightful facial wound in an age when plastic surgery was unknown. When the bandaging was finally finished, old Sam was tenderly carried back to his home to die surrounded by his grieving family.

To the surprise of everyone but indomitable Captain Samuel Whittemore, he lived! And continued active for the next 18 years, dying on February 3, 1793, at age 98, proud that he had done his part and more in America's fight for independence. When asked if he

- Continued on Page 4, Oldest -

- From Page 3, Oldest -

ever regretted his heroic deed, which had left him disfigured and somewhat lame, Whittemore would proudly reply in ringing tones, "No! I would take the same chance again!"

One might question Captain Whittemore's tactical military skill and his judgment in his last battle, but certainly not his sheer courage and bravery. \*

## Important Dates in History

Apr 1: Marines Disbanded 1783

Apr 5: Sugar Act 1764

Apr 13: Thomas Jefferson's Birthday 1743

Apr 18: Paul Revere and William Dawes Ride 1775

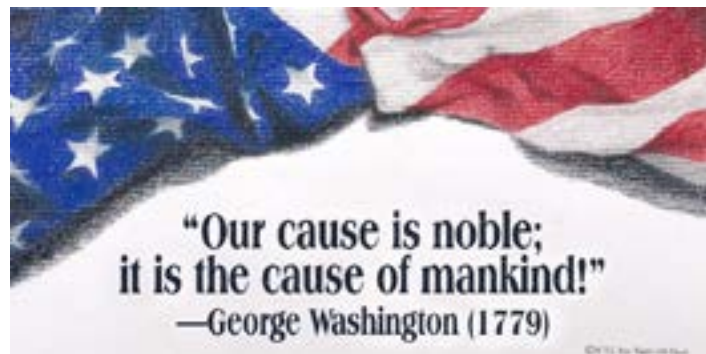
Apr 19: Battles of Lexington and Concord 1775

Apr 19: Congress ratifies preliminary peace treaty 1783

Apr 25: Greene defeated at Hobkirk's Hill, SC 1781

Apr 27: Benedict Arnold's troops force a British retreat at Ridgefield, Connecticut. 1777

## Patriots' Day



### The Roots of the First American Revolution

"The ultimate authority ... resides in the people alone. ... The advantage of being armed, which the Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation ... forms a barrier against the enterprises of ambition, more insurmountable than any..." — James Madison (Federalist No. 46)

On April 19th, we honor the anniversary of Patriots' Day, the dawn of American Liberty, marking the

opening salvo of the American Revolution in 1775. That day's battles were the first steps toward establishing an irrevocable declaration of the unalienable Rights of Man, the rights of all people, subordinating the rule of men to our Creator-inspired Rule of Law, which is the basis for our Republic's Constitution.

### April 19, 1775 — The Sons of Liberty and the first Patriots' Day

On December 16, 1773, "radicals" from Boston, members of a secret organization of American Patriots called the Sons of Liberty, boarded three East India Company ships and threw 342 chests of tea into Boston Harbor. This iconic event, in protest of oppressive British taxation and tyrannical rule, became known as the Boston Tea Party.

Resistance to the British Crown had been mounting since King George imposed the Writs of Assistance, giving British authorities the power to arrest and detain colonists for any reason. He also imposed oppressive bills of attainder and authorized troops to "quarter" in the homes of his colonial subjects. Protests intensified over the enactment of heavy taxes, including the 1764 Sugar Act, 1765 Stamp Act, and 1767 Townshend Acts.

The growing unrest came to bloodshed in March 1770, when British troops fired on civilians in Boston, killing five colonists. This event, which became known as the Boston Massacre, gave credence to the slogan, "No taxation without representation."

But it was the 1773 Tea Act, under which the Crown collected a three-pence tax on each pound of tea imported to the colonies, that instigated many Tea Party protests and seeded the American Revolution. Indeed, as James Madison reflected in 1823, "The people of the U.S. owe their Independence and their Liberty, to the wisdom of descrying in the minute tax of 3 pence on tea, the magnitude of the evil comprised in the precedent."

News of the Tea Party protest in Boston galvanized the colonial movement opposing onerous British parliamentary acts that were a violation of the natural, charter, and constitutional rights of the British colonists.

In response to the rebellion, the British enacted additional punitive measures, labeled the "Intolerable Acts," in hopes of suppressing the burgeoning insurrection. The first was the 1774 Boston Port Bill, which blockaded the harbor in an effort to starve Bostonians into submission.

Among the Patriots who broke the blockade to supply food to the people of Boston was William Prescott, who would later prove himself a heroic military leader at Bunker Hill and Saratoga. To his fellow Patriots in Boston, Prescott wrote, "We heartily sympathize with you, and are always ready to do all in our power for your support, comfort and relief; knowing that Providence has placed you where you must stand the first shock. ... Our forefathers passed the vast Atlantic, spent their blood and treasure, that they might enjoy their liberties, both civil and religious, and transmit them to their posterity. ... Now if we should give them up, can our children rise up and call us blessed?" The Boston blockade was followed by the Massachusetts Government Act, the Administration of Justice Act, and the Quartering Act. But far from accomplishing their desired outcome, the Crown's oppressive countermeasures hardened colonial resistance and led to the convention of the First Continental Congress on September 5, 1774, in Philadelphia.

By March 1775, civil discontent was at its tipping point, and American Patriots in Massachusetts and other colonies were preparing to cast off their masters. The spirit of the coming Revolution was captured in Patrick Henry's impassioned "Give me Liberty or give me death" speech.

That month, Dr. Joseph Warren delivered a fiery oration in Boston, warning of complacency and instilling courage among his fellow Patriots: "The man who meanly will submit to wear a shackle, contemns the noblest gift of heaven, and impiously affronts the God that made him free. ... Ease and prosperity (though pleasing for a day) have often sunk a people into effeminacy and sloth. ... Our country is in danger, but not to be despaired of. Our enemies are numerous and powerful; but we have many friends, determining to be free, and heaven and earth will aid the resolution. On you depend the fortunes of America. You are to decide the important question, on which rest the happiness and liberty of millions yet unborn. Act worthy of yourselves."

On the evening of April 18, 1775, General Thomas Gage, acting as the Crown's military governor of Massachusetts, dispatched a force of 700 British Army regulars with secret orders. These troops, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Francis Smith, were to arrest 53-year-old Boston Tea Party leader Samuel Adams, Massachusetts Provincial Congress President John Hancock, and merchant fleet owner Jeremiah

Lee.

But what directly tied Gage's orders to the later enumeration in our Constitution's Second Amendment assurance of the innate "right to keep and bear arms" was the primary mission of his Redcoat brigades. They were charged with undertaking a preemptive raid to confiscate arms and ammunition stored by Massachusetts Patriots in the town of Concord.

Patriot militia and minutemen, under the leadership of the "radical" Sons of Liberty, anticipated this raid and the confrontations with British regulars at Lexington and Concord proved to be the fuse that ignited the American Revolution.



Near midnight on April 18th, 41-year-old Paul Revere, who had arranged for

advance warning of British movements, departed Charlestown (near Boston) for Lexington and Concord in order to warn John Hancock, Samuel Adams, and other Sons of Liberty that the British Army was marching to arrest them and seize their weapons caches. After meeting with Hancock and Adams in Lexington, Revere was captured, but his Patriot ally, Samuel Prescott, continued to Concord and warned militiamen along the way.

Revere's Ride was memorably captured by poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:

Listen, my children, and you shall hear

Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,

On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-Five:

Hardly a man is now alive

Who remembers that famous day and year. ...

One if by land, and two if by sea;

And I on the opposite shore will be,

Ready to ride and spread the alarm

Through every Middlesex village and farm,

For the country-folk to be up and to arm.

The Patriots in Lexington and Concord, with other citizen militias in New England, were bound by

"minute man" oaths to "stand at a minute's warning with arms and ammunition." The oath of the

Lexington militia read thus: "We trust in God that, should the state of our affairs require it, we shall be

ready to sacrifice our estates and everything dear

- Continued on Page 6, Patriot's -



## - From Page 5, Patriot's -

in life, yea, and life itself, in support of the common cause.”

In the early dawn of April 19, their oaths would be tested with blood. Under the command of 46-year-old farmer and militia Captain John Parker, 77 militiamen assembled on the town green at Lexington, where they soon faced Smith’s overwhelming force of seasoned British regulars. Parker did not expect shots to be exchanged, but his orders were: “Stand your



ground. Don’t fire unless fired upon, but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here.”

Within close musket range from the Patriots’ column, British Major John Pitcairn swung his sword and ordered, “Lay

down your arms, you damned rebels!”

Not willing to sacrifice his small band of Patriots on the green, as Parker later wrote in a sworn deposition, “I immediately ordered our Militia to disperse, and not to fire.” But his Patriots did not lay down their arms. Then, under Pitcairn’s orders, as Parker testified, “Immediately said Troops made their appearance and rushed furiously, fired upon, and killed eight of our Party without receiving any Provocation therefor from us.” Ten other Patriots were wounded.

As the American militia retreated toward Concord with the British in pursuit, their ranks grew to more than 400.

In Concord, the British divided in order to search for armament stores. Before noon, the second confrontation between regulars and militiamen occurred as 100 British light infantry from three companies faced the ranks of militia and minutemen at Concord’s Old North Bridge. From depositions on both sides, we know that the British fired first, killing two and wounding four.

This time, however, the militia commander, Major John Buttrick, ordered, “Fire, for God’s sake, fellow soldiers, fire!”

And fire they did. The volley commenced with what poet Ralph Waldo Emerson later immortalized in his Concord Hymn as “The Shot Heard Round the World.” With that shot, farmers, laborers, landowners, and statesmen alike brought upon themselves the sentence of death for treason. In the ensuing firefight,

the British suffered heavy casualties. In discord, the Redcoats retreated to Concord proper and, after reinforcing their ranks, marched back toward Lexington.

During their Concord retreat, the British took additional casualties in sporadic firefights. The most notable of those was an ambush by the reassembled ranks of John Parker’s militia, which became known as “Parker’s Revenge.” Despite reinforcements when they returned to Lexington, the king’s men were no match for the Patriot ranks. The militia and minutemen inflicted heavy casualties upon the Redcoats along their 18-mile tactical retreat to Boston.

By day’s end, the Patriots suffered 49 killed, 39 wounded, and five missing. The British casualties totaled 73 killed, 174 wounded, and 26 missing. Upon hearing of those first shots fired in what would become an eight-year struggle for American Liberty, Samuel Adams declared to fellow Patriot John Hancock, “What a glorious morning this is!” Indeed it was, and it has remained so with every sunrise over our free nation since.

Thus began the American Revolution — a revolution not just for the people of Massachusetts but for the cause of Liberty for all mankind, such rights not being temporal but eternal.

“The People alone have an incontestable, unalienable, and indefeasible right to institute government and to reform, alter, or totally change the same when their protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness require it,” wrote Samuel Adams.

Two months after the Battles of Lexington and Concord, on June 12, 1775, the Continental Congress, under President John Hancock, declared: “Congress ... considering the present critical, alarming and calamitous state ... do earnestly recommend, that Thursday, the 12th of July next, be observed by the inhabitants of all the English Colonies on this



Continent, as a Day of Public Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, that we may with united hearts and voices, unfeignedly confess and deplore our many sins and offer up our joint supplications to the All-wise,

Omnipotent and merciful Disposer of all Events, humbly beseeching Him to forgive our iniquities. ... It is recommended to Christians of all denominations to assemble for public worship and to abstain from servile labor and recreations of said day.”

Why would the first generation of American Patriots forgo, in the inimitable words of Sam Adams, “the tranquility of servitude” for “the animating contest of freedom”?

The answer to that question — Liberty or Death — defined the spirit of American Patriotism then, just as it defines the spirit of American Patriots now. We, today, are the ideological descendants of those who once pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. Just as our forebearers were, we must be willing to “support and defend” Liberty as enumerated in our Declaration of Independence and enshrined in our Constitution.

In 1776, George Washington wrote in his General Orders, “The time is now near at hand which must determine whether Americans are to be freemen or slaves; whether they are to have any property they can call their own; whether their houses and farms are to be pillaged and destroyed, and themselves consigned to a state of wretchedness from which no human efforts will deliver them. The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage and conduct of this army. Our cruel and unrelenting enemy leaves us only the choice of brave resistance, or the most abject submission. We have, therefore, to resolve to conquer or die.”

Of that resolve, President Ronald Reagan observed two centuries later: “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it on to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day, we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what it was once like in the United States, where men were free.”

Indeed, the time is always at hand when American Patriots must reaffirm whether we are to be freemen or slaves.

Patriots, through the trials we face now, stand firm and fast, and remember who YOU are, brothers and sisters — and who WE are together.

“Honor, justice, and humanity, forbid us tamely to surrender that freedom which we received from our gallant ancestors, and which our innocent posterity have a right to receive from us.” —Thomas Jefferson

## National Medal of Honor Day



“Honor, justice, and humanity, forbid us tamely to surrender that freedom which we received from our gallant ancestors, and which our innocent posterity have a right to receive from us. We cannot endure the infamy and guilt of resigning succeeding generations to that wretchedness which inevitably awaits them if we basely entail hereditary bondage on them.” — Thomas Jefferson (1775)

In 1787, George Washington and the Constitutional Convention delegates composed this preamble: “We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

For all Americans, and especially those of us who have sworn “to support and defend” our Constitution, securing the “blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity” is more than just an aspiration. It is our sacred duty. And indeed, many have paid a great personal price in fulfillment of that duty.

March 25th is National Medal of Honor Day — the anniversary observance of the awarding of the first Medals of Honor. It’s an opportunity to recognize all of the recipients of our nation’s highest military award for valor and recall their extraordinary service and sacrifice on behalf of their brothers in arms and in defense of American Liberty.

On this day in 1863, Private Jacob Parrott was the first of six men to receive the Medal of Honor for their actions as members of Andrews’ Raiders, whose valorous acts on April 12, 1862, were immortalized in print and film as “The Great Locomotive Chase.” Those actions occurred just south of Chattanooga, Tennessee, the Birthplace of the Medal of Honor

- Continued on Page 8, Medal -



## - From Page 7, Medal -

and home of the National Medal of Honor Heritage Center.

The National Heritage Center's educational mission is to instill the next generation of young people with the six character-trait pillars of the Medal of Honor — traits that are common to all recipients: Courage, Sacrifice, Patriotism, Citizenship, Integrity, and Commitment.

Notably, Chattanooga was also the field of service for the only woman who holds a Medal of Honor, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker. Other well-known recipients from our area include World War I's SGT Alvin York (Army), whose life story was immortalized in the film "Sergeant York." The heroic actions of my old neighbor, World War II veteran CPL Desmond Doss (Army), were featured in the movie "Hacksaw Ridge." And recent recipient CPT Larry Taylor (Army) was also from Chattanooga.

Since those first medals were awarded, American presidents and military commanders have, in the name of the United States Congress, presented Medals of Honor to more than 3,500 recipients — and amazingly, there have been 19 double recipients. In a nation of some 330 million people today, there are only 63 living recipients.

For additional inspiration, read "Our Flag — What Do



You See?" by Col. Thorsness.

In 1992, during Ronald Reagan's final public address, he offered these words about honoring our legacy of Liberty: "My fondest hope for each one of you is that you will love your country not for her power or wealth, but for her selflessness and her idealism. May each of you have the heart to conceive, the understanding to direct, and the hand to execute works that will make the world a little better for your having been here. May all of you as Americans never forget your heroic origins, never fail to seek divine guidance, and never lose your natural, God-given

optimism."

I'll leave you with these words, which Medal of Honor Marine recipient Kyle Carpenter noted are the foundation for his service and sacrifice: "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." —John 15:13

(Visit the National Medal of Honor Heritage Center website.)

Semper Vigilans Fortis Paratus et Fidelis

Pro Deo et Libertate — 1776

<https://patriotpost.us/references/78659-national-medal-of-honor-day>

## Birthday's

Donnie Williams	4-5
Edwin Frederickson	4-11
James Mason	4-13
Steven Lawson	4-17
Randy Painter	4-17
David Appleby	4-18
James Harris	4-19
Charles Clark	4-20
Jesse Haggard	4-24
Donald Pruitt	4-25
Steven Montague	4-28
Frank Snelson	4-29



Remember, you can order your Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR shirts from Missouri Embroidery. Their phone number is: (417) 889-2221 and their address is: 1307 S. Glenstone Ave.



## George Rogers Clark Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony Celebrating the 245<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Capture of Fort Sackville and Patriot Grave Marking

Louis Godere, Pierre Godere, Joseph Dubois, Andre Languedoc, and Francois Pelletier

May 25, 2024 @ 11:00 – 11:45 am EDT

George Rogers Clark Memorial  
401 S 2nd St  
Vincennes, IN 47591

Free admission and open to the public.

For questions contact Robert Cunningham.

812-327-5114, Email: [rpcunnin@indiana.edu](mailto:rpcunnin@indiana.edu)

Event website: <https://www.spiritofvincennes.org/>

National, District, State, Chapter, Color Guard

The George Rogers Clark Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony, a National Sons of the American Revolution event, will take place on Saturday, May 25, 2024, at 11:00 am EDT outside the Clark Memorial at the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park in Vincennes, IN. Ribbons will be awarded to SAR, DAR, and CAR chapters; states; districts and national officers presenting a wreath; and lineage societies (one ribbon per wreath).

**WREATH PRESENTERS:** If you would like to present a wreath at this ceremony, please send Robert Cunningham the name of the wreath presenter, the title (office) of the wreath presenter if applicable, chapter, organization, email address and phone. **To be listed in the program, please send the information requested above by May 17 by filling out the attached registration form.** Wreath presenters are not required to wear colonial attire. Wreath presenters supply their own wreath and stand. All chapter Compatriots, their families and guests are invited and encouraged to attend this ceremony. Feel free to bring lawn chairs as this ceremony will be outdoors; we will move indoors if it rains.

**COLOR GUARD:** The George Rogers Clark Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony is a National Color Guard event. **All participating Color Guard will muster at 10:00 am EDT outside of the Clark Memorial. To be listed in the program, please send Robert Cunningham the names, organization, and state of those who will participate in the Color Guard by filling out the attached registration form and Color Guard Waiver by May 17.** Color Guard participants are welcome to bring state or chapter flags and flag stands for outdoors (and indoors if it rains).

**HELP FUND THIS CEREMONY:** If you are not participating in this ceremony in another capacity, you may receive credit toward your SAR Patriot Grave Marking Medal for one Patriot by contributing \$60 to help fund this ceremony. (Color Guard service does not count toward this medal.) **If you wish to help in this manner and be listed in the program, please provide the information requested by May 17 by filling out the attached registration form. Please make your \$60 check payable to Indiana SAR.**

**FRIDAY EVENING DINNER:** SAR Compatriots, wives, family, and guests are cordially invited to Procopio's Pizza and Pasta restaurant on Friday evening May 24 at 6:00 pm EDT for dinner. **If you plan to attend, please send Robert Cunningham your name and guest(s) names and a check for your dinner/s by filling out the attached registration form by May 17.** We will have a private dining room with seating beginning at 6:00 pm EDT. Procopio's address is 127 N 2nd St, Vincennes, IN 47591, phone 812-882-0914. The dinner will be an Italian buffet with a cost of \$20 per person excluding alcohol.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** A block of rooms has been reserved for Friday, May 24 and Saturday, May 25 under Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) at the Towneplace Suites Vincennes Marriott, 1320 Willow St, Vincennes, IN 47591, phone 812-255-1500. The rate is \$107/night plus tax for a king or two queen beds. **Mention SAR when making your reservation which must be made by May 8.** This hotel is close to the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park. Make your reservations as early as possible. Hotels in Vincennes fill up quickly. Our ceremony is held during the Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous which hundreds of people attend.

**PARKING:** Parking for the Wreath Laying Ceremony and the Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous is available down the road from the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park Visitor Center at 401 S. 2nd St. There are a limited number of parking spaces in front of the visitor center. Parking is also available on the neighborhood streets but is not permitted along yellow curbs. The earlier you arrive, the closer to the memorial your parking space will be.

(03/15/2024)





# Battle of Fort San Carlos Festival and Grave Marking

**SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024**  
**STE. GENEVIEVE, MISSOURI**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Registration at Guibord-Valle House**

Flowers, commemorative challenge coins and medals available for purchase

**1 p.m.**

**Memorial Cemetery Ceremony with Wayside Marker Unveiling**

Militia and Color Guard muster at 12:30 p.m. at Guibord-Valle House

**2 p.m.**

**Battle of Fort San Carlos Memorial Celebration  
at Ste. Genevieve Catholic Church**

**3 p.m.**

**Ste. Genevieve and Ste. Genevieve Milice History  
at The Orris**

Color Guard Grave Marking Event, Ste Genevieve, MO  
Sunday May 26th, 2024  
12:30 PM

**UPDATED FORM!!**

To: All Color Guard Compatriots attending the Ste Genevieve Grave Marking Ceremony.

Upon review by National, there is a revision from what was previously announced regarding qualifying for points toward the National Grave Marking Medal. The five patriots are still eligible but the previous plan for purchasing a flower has been changed and no registration money is needed. Instead, National has agreed to count member participation through a different activity. The new approved activity is a shared participation in the singing of YANKEE DOODLE. This change has been made to the program for the grave marketing and although a \$10 fee no longer applies, pre-registration is still encouraged.

NOTE: Alternatively, you're welcome to bring a wreath for the ceremony.

If you plan on attending and wish to receive credit for the Grave Marking Medal, please pre-register so we may have some idea who will be participating ahead of the event. If you already sent a check, it will be refunded to you at the event. If you prefer not to receive a refund, your gift will be designated to the MOSSAR Ladies Auxiliary.

See the event flyer for additional event information.

Color Guard Members, Thanks for all you do!

Steven Biggs, event chairman  
636-262-0267

Registration Form

Please detach form and mail it to **Event Registrar Vicki Biggs 17432 Hilltop Ridge Dr. Eureka, MO 63025** by May 20.

(Please Print)

Name

Email

National Number

State Society

Chapter



# Awards and Events

Saturday, April 20, 2024: Guardsmen the from Missouri Ozark Mountain and Ozark Patriot chapters commemorated Patriot's Day at Springfield's Phelps Grove Park. Chapter President pro-tem James



Robinette made introductions, led the pledge to the flag and Steven Perkins led guests in the singing of the national anthem. Bob Dixon spoke a few words about the great undertaking by the colonists, and then George Swales told attendees about the chronicled events of that historic day of April 19, 1775. As many know, British Regulars made their appearance in the towns of Lexington and Concord in their failed attempt to capture Sam Adams and John Hancock, and to recover arms and munitions suspected hidden away in Concord. Two hundred forty-nine years later, on a crisp and sunny morning Color Guard marched upon a much smaller arched stone bridge and symbolically fired three musket volleys. The bell was rung 14 times by chapter member David Carmichael to honor the original colonies and General Washington. Special guests included Greene County Commissioner Bob Dixon, and Pat Haas, Regent of the Rachel Donelson DAR chapter.



Retiring after volleys are Steve Perkins, Don Higerson, Gerald McCoy, Dan McMurray, Ben Edmonson, Gary Gift, and Brad Frazier.

Sunday, April 21, 2024: Members of Missouri's Ozark Mountain Chapter Color Guard supported the DAR Rachel Donelson chapter with their America 250 Commemorative Tree and Historical Marker Dedication. The ceremony was held at the Historic Greene County Court House with many DAR Regents and members from nearby chapters, Past State



Regent Sally Bueno, State Regent Renee Pace, and State Chaplain Susan Hauf. Flags were presented by SAR & DAR for the Pledge to the Flag, and the National Anthem

which was led out by the Honorable John Ashcroft, former Missouri Governor, and State Senator, and US Attorney General. Renee Pace brought greetings, then Bob Dixon, Presiding Greene County Commissioner, and Springfield Mayor Ken McClure each spoke briefly about the significance of the historical events of 250 years ago. Mr. Ashcroft gave an inspiring talk about "liberty", and how it is critical for those who love it to preserve it, especially now. He touched on how the Justice system is in disarray and lost its way as it was designed and established by the founders of this nation.

The ceremony then moved to the south side of the Court House where the OMC Color Guard formed with flags. The DAR unveiled its new marker which stands before the America 250 tree and a single musket volley was fired.

Pictured L-R: MO State CG Commander Steve Perkins, DAR members Salley Bueno & Renee Pace, Charles McMillan, John Ashcroft, Pat Haas, Janet Perry, Ben Edmondson, and Dan McMurray.



Pictured L-R: MO State CG Commander Steve Perkins, DAR members Salley Bueno & Renee Pace, Charles McMillan, John Ashcroft, Pat Haas, Janet Perry, Ben Edmondson, and Dan McMurray.

# Awards and Events



MOSSAR Color Guard presenting colors at the start of the annual convention.



Guest speaker, Professor Chuck Henson. A trial practice professor of law, University of Missouri.



Posting of the colors.



MOSSAR President David Shaul presenting Professor Henson with a Silver Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.



A challenge coin is available for the Boston Tea Party. They are \$15.00 each from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk.



# Awards and Events



One of the busy tables at the Ladies Auxiliary room, the wine and alcohol table.



Fifth Grade Poster Contest winner Phillip Hall, with his parents, sister, Poster Chairman Daniel Piedlow, and MOSSAR President David Shaul.



The Missouri 200th Anniversary SAR Medals are for sale. They are \$30.00 if you get them from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk and \$35.00 if he has to mail it to you.



The Missing Man Table.



Poster Contest winner Phillip Hall with his parents, sister and Becky and James Osbourn.

# Awards and Events



Compatriot Ken Lawrence receiving the ColorGuardsman of the Year Award for Compatriot J. Howard Fisk from MOSSAR Color Guard Commander Steve Perkins.



Compatriot George Swales receiving an award for his long distinguished service to the Missouri Society.



Ozark Mountain Chapter President Charles McMillan receiving the First Place plaque for the Josiah Fogg Award.



Ozark Mountain Chapter President Charles McMillan receiving the First Place plaque for the Lloyd Yearbook Award.





# Awards and Events



Compatriot Dan Philbrick receiving the Patriot Medal and certificate from President David Shaul.



OMC President Charles McMillan receiving the certificate for First Place in the Americanism contest.



The new officers for FY 2024-25, including Ozark Mountain Chapter members from left, Dan Piedlow, Gary Gift, Dan Philbrick, Norm Knowlton, and fourth from right, Ken Lawrence.



The transfer of the gavel and medallion from outgoing President David Shaul to newly installed President Gene Henry.



# Upcoming Events



Thursday, May 2 at 11:30 A.M., there is a Naturalization Ceremony at the Wilson's Creek Battlefield in Republic. All members are invited to attend. Color Guard will be there for pictures with the new American citizens.



Tuesday, May 7 at 6:30 P.M., the Chapter Executive Committee will be meeting at Steve Perkins home. All members are welcome to attend.



Wednesday, May 15 at 9:00 A.M., there will be a Heroism Award being presented at the Missouri Highway Patrol, Troop D headquarters located at 3131 E. Kearney St., Springfield.



Saturday, May 18 at 9:30 A.M., the Ozark Mountain Chapter monthly meeting will be at the Ozark Technical College, located at 1001 E. Chestnut Expy., Springfield.



Sunday, May 19 at 8:00 A.M., the Ozark Mountain Chapter Color Guard will be at the 1812 Society Event located at 2376 E. Farm Road 66, Springfield.



Sunday, May 26 at 10:00 A.M., the Ozark Mountain Chapter Color Guard will be in Ste. Genevieve, MO for a Grave Marking Ceremony for five Patriots. All members are invited to attend this event. For more information, go to page 10.



Monday, May 27 at 11:00 A.M., the Ozark Mountain Chapter will be having their Memorial Day Service at the Springfield National Cemetery, located at 1702 E. Seminole St., Springfield. The Color Guard will present colors. All members are encouraged to attend to honor our Military.



Wednesday, May 29 at 9:30 P.M., an Honor Flight will be returning from Washington D.C. at the Springfield Airport. All members are encouraged to attend to show support to our Veterans.



Pancake Feed

Cowboy shoot outs

Cowboy Poets

Cowboy Music

Mountain man encampment

Pioneer Village

Historians

Tomahawks

Trader Tent

2 Firearm Raffles

Quilt Raffles

Flag Ceremony by the

Sons of the American Revolution

Save the Date

Cowboy Church

Food Trucks

Vendors Crafts

Kids Area

Pony Rides

Face Painting

Jail

# Spring River Pioneer Days

May 31,

June 1st,

and 2nd

Stagecoach Rides

Bank Robbery 5pm Sat 4/1

The Red Bandanna Dulcimers

Street Dance Friday May 31st

(Band) Long Time Running

For information contact

Shane 1(417)848-8620

Michelle 1(417)850-0337

veronamo.civicgroup@gmail.com

Verona, Mo

Canon Park