

THE PATRIOT

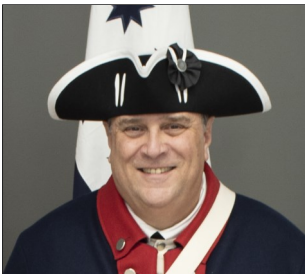


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Missouri SAR



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VOLUME 40 ISSUE 11 OZARK MOUNTAIN CHAPTER SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION DECEMBER 2020



The Presidents Message

By President Gary Gift

Greetings Compatriots,

As of the writing of this we will have all finished celebrating Christmas and New Year 2021. It is my sincere hope that all of you had a joyous and merry Christmas and New Years celebrations. Although this year's celebrations were like no other in our memories it was still a time of hope, gratitude and a new beginning.

I am very grateful for all the help that you all have given me personally during my presidency this year. I was absent for two months following an altercation I had with a ladder in April but I think I have eventually prevailed. Or at least the ladder is not now banned from my garage. Never was I concerned in my absence that the work of the Chapter would continue. And thanks to many in the chapter we continued on demonstrating the team that we are.

We also prevailed in continuing our mission and duties during the Corona Virus Pandemic. We have had to make many adjustments to our normal operations but we made changes where we had to

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and created new ways to get the job done. From zoom chapter meetings and presentations to virtual History Explorers programs. There have been several programs and activities that we had to cancel because there was no real safe way to carry on. We will continue with all of them once it is safe to do so.

For the month of December we had a busy and successful month. We started off the month with a Pearl Harbor Memorial and Wreaths Across America ceremony on December 7th at Hazelwood Cemetery at the



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grave of Patriot Samuel Austin. It was a beautiful crisp December morning and several Compatriots attended.

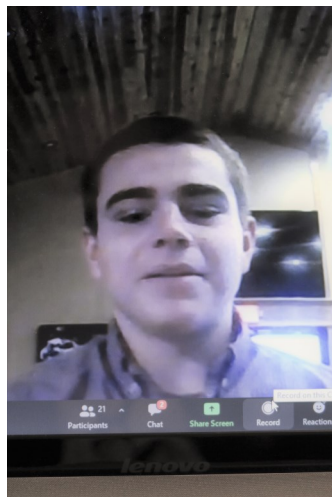


Our virtual chapter development meeting was held on the evening of December 7th headed by Chapter Development Chairman Ken Lawrence. We discussed upcoming events and the agenda for the December 19th chapter meeting.

The Chapter met virtually via Zoom on December 19th. It was a busy meeting and we accomplished many things that I feel will help create more experienced and seasoned chapter officers in the future with the adoption of the changes to our by-laws creating a new 2nd Vice President position. We also split the duties of the officers more evenly so that it spreads the work around and makes it easier for all to accomplish their duties.

The proposed slate of new officers for 2021 was presented to the chapter. We will vote on the new officers at our January meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted. After the election we will immediately swear in our new officers for 2021. The proposed slate of officers for 2021 is listed later in this newsletter.

Our guest speaker for the meeting was our Missouri State Society of The Children of The American Revolution President Matthew Stroder. Matthew gave us a very good



virtual presentation on his project which is to raise funds for The Museum at The Missouri National Veterans Memorial in Perryville, Missouri. The funds raised will help them to collect artifacts to include in their display and help build some of those displays. We have included a copy of Matthews project flyer later in the newsletter in case anyone would like to contribute or purchase a pin to support his project.



On December 22nd we presented the Lifesaving Medal to Eagle Scout Dustin Waterhouse outside in front of the Boy Scout Service Center. Dustin is an Eagle Scout with Venture Crew 205 which is sponsored by Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Nixa. While he was vacationing with his family on a houseboat in Alabama. His aunt injured her arm while jumping into the water rendering her unable to swim against the strong river current.



Dustin immediately went into motion bringing a kayak and lifejacket to her. He assisted her by getting her into a lifejacket while their family tried to launch the raft which would not start. He then proceeded to bring his aunt to safety against the swift current to the house boat and used a towel

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to provide a sling for her injured arm till she could receive medical attention. For his heroic actions Dustin was awarded the Heroism Award by The Boy Scouts of America.

As I write this, I am thinking about the cold Christmas night on December 25, 1776 when General George Washington crossed the icy Delaware River



in a logistically challenging and dangerous operation with 5,400 troops. And then attacking the Hessian forces in Trenton, New Jersey. What was his reasons for taking on this challenging and risky operation? It was a great victory for Washington but was it necessary and what was the strategic value attacking the Hessians in Trenton. There were 22 Hessians killed, 98 wounded and 1,000 captured along with acquiring muskets, powder and artillery. There were minimum casualties among the Americans with 3 killed and six wounded. Washington then returned victoriously to Pennsylvania with his troops and the captured Hessians and weapons. Washington didn't cross the icy Delaware and attack Trenton for any significant strategic objective but because of something much more important. The Continental Army had already suffered several humiliating defeats and morale was very low. Not only among the troops but among members of Continental Congress as well. Hope was fading that we could be successful in winning the war. Also, General Washington's army was about to lose most of its troops because

the enlistments of his troops and officers was set to expire. To many all hope was lost.

What General Washington did was instill hope in the Continental Army and the American people that we would be successful. The victory was what was needed to reinvigorate the hope and moral and many whose enlistments was set to expire decided to continue to fight. There would be more defeats and victories in the future but never again would the moral and hope be as low as it was before the crossing of the Delaware and the battle of Trenton.

I like to think of this in regards to what we have been going through for the last year with the Covid-19 pandemic. We need to remember the lessons taught us by General Washington on that cold December night. It is the lesson that there is always hope and that we will prevail. Does it require sacrifice? Yes, and we must be vigilant in following what we know we need to do to remain safe. But the hope of the vaccine now being distributed and the sacrifice's made by our medical workers and first responders and the quarantining and social distancing we have all been asked to do have helped us at least symbolically cross our own Delaware and give us hope for the future. We must remember that we all Americans and that even though the skies may be dark there is always hope and we will prevail.

Thank you. Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous and HOPEFUL 2021 to you all.



Slate of Officers for 2021

The slate of officers presented by the nominating committee at our regular chapter meeting on December 19, 2020 inadvertently left off two officers by mistake. We apologize for the error. The full slate of officers nominated by the nomination committee for the year 2021 are as follows:

President: Curtis Trent

1st Vice President: Ben Edmondson

2nd Vice President: Jeffrey Patrick

Secretary: Dr. Norman Knowlton

Treasurer: John Charles

Historian: Don Higginson

Chaplain: Dan Philbrick

Chancellor: Gary Bishop, Esq.

Sargent at Arms: Daniel J. Piedlow

Editor: Daniel F. Piedlow

The nominating committee consisted of Compatriots, Ken Lawrence, George Swales and Gary Gift. Nominations from the floor will be called for and accepted during our January 2021 meeting.

Birthday's

John Hume	December 2
Lee Viorel	December 8
Harrison Philbrick	December 15
Steven Rinker	December 20
William Walker	December 21
John Allen	December 28
Matthew Brunner	December 28

Edward Choate	January 8
Roy Blunt	January 10
Gerald McCoy	January 12
George Cindrich	January 14
Harold Finch	January 18
Pletcher Rogers	January 19
Richard Dnelson	January 31
Jonathan	January 31

Minutes from the OMCSAR Chapter Meeting Saturday, December 19th, 2020

President Gary Gift called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM via Zoom with 19 members and 2 guests.

He then asked **Compatriot Dan Philbrick** to give the Invocation, then **Compatriot Jeff Patrick** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and then **Compatriot Ben Edmondson** to lead the Pledge to the SAR.

He then asked for guests to be introduced and they were acknowledged.

President Gary Gift congratulated and recognized **Compatriots Charles McMillan** and **James Mason** for their achievement with regards to the NSSAR Lafayette Volunteer Service Medals. Charles has already received his medal but James Mason will be receiving his medal next week in person. Charles has served our organization in an extraordinary fashion by indexing and digitalizing our patriots into our organization's database for the state of Missouri SAR, Kansas SAR and Texas SAR. For this he has received 7 Gold Oak Leaf Clusters and 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, and has worked indexing 2920 hours performing this project. Compatriot James Mason has also worked on this project and has 516 hours indexed and received a Gold Oak Leaf Cluster and a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster. Charles has been recruiting others for this project and has put Missouri ahead of all other states in this endeavor. He also learned from this project and this led him to three new supplemental SAR memberships for himself.

Vice - President—Curtis Trent administered the oath of office to two new members: Charles Clark and Dan J. Piedlow. Each was sent a rosette of the SAR and was pinned on them at this point. The rosette is the colors of George Washington's uniform. They each will present their biographies of their Patriot at the January meeting. Their certificates were mailed to them.

President Gary Gift – introduced the guest speaker of the morning—**MSSCAR President Matthew Stroder**. He spoke of his project and about himself. He also introduced Nicole Sammons who is the

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senior state President of the CAR. This presentation is being broadcast via Zoom.

Matthew Stroder thanked our OMC for his invitation to speak. He has been a member of the MSSCAR since he was about 6 months old. In the organization he has learned a lot of American history and patriotism. He grew up with his grandparents and showed his love of his country through their own service and to his family. His “grandpa Macky” was an elected office holder and his “grandpa Stroder” served in the United States Army. These played a big part as role models in his decision to choose this project as well as future projects for his own life. When he was younger he learned to respect and honor these roles. He made cards for veterans and visited Veteran Homes to hear their stories. As he grew up he learned more and more what they sacrificed from their own lives to give back to the country they loved. He went out of his way to make sure that they knew that they were appreciated for their service. He attended events at port of entrance, helping with projects in the CAR like Pets for Vets or Honor Flights. Or maybe just by reaching out to shake their hands as they passed by and thanked them for their service. He even while visiting the Sequoia National forest, his family thought they had lost him, but he was just thanking the Veterans and talking to them for their service while they were riding through the park honoring the MIA and POW program. He thought it was his duty as a USA citizen to give his time to service. Once he graduates in May he has applied to the United States Air Force Academy to pursue a career in flight and aeronautical engineering.

His project was spearheaded by a gentleman by the name of Jim Edelman. This gentleman fought valiantly in the Tet Offensive during the Vietnam War. He carried several severely wounded men to the medevac helicopters and made a promise that he would honor his comrades if he made it out alive. In 2011 when Jim and his wife Charlene began to develop a board of directors to fill his promise. In 2016 his plans started to come together and today there is stands the Missouri National Veterans Memorial of the exact replica of the

Vietnam Veteran Wall in Washington D.C.. There is also a museum. When Mr. Edelman spoke to him, it felt to him to proceed with this project since it represented so many of his values that were important to

him. His project is to raise funds for the museum and to help them to collect artifacts to include in their display and to



help build some of these displays. He has pins for sale to help with project and they are still looking for any artifacts that one might contribute. He is looking forward to this spring when he might be able to come visit our chapter in person. He was personally broadcasting from the welcome center of this museum while giving this presentation in Perryville, Missouri.

If one wishes to give a donation to this project his address and forms for donations are included. You will receive one of his Vietnam Wall Memorial pins for each \$10 donation.

President Gary Gift reported that a check for \$50 dollars is being given on behalf of OMC of SAR.

He then introduced Nicole Sammons and she said that Steve Green is the state treasurer for the MSSCAR and any donations can be mailed to him. She also thanked our chapter for its participation and donation.

State President J. Howard Fisk—thanked Matthew Stroder for his project and his participation in the CAR and his successful year as President of MSSCAR.

Officers Reports

Vice-President Report—Curtis Trent—spoke briefly on what is happening at the capital in Jefferson City legislatively this next year. He is working on black powder discharging issue and looking into a state wide regulatory scheme and

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looking into other states' models that might be used in developing a new regulation for Missouri. He has talked with those involved including members of the Department of Safety and they do not have any problem with this idea in theory. He is still working on making each November "The American Heritage Month."

Treasure's Report---John Charles— The total funds we have as of today consists of \$13,911.91 in our Arvest Bank checking account and \$9,272.16 in an interest-bearing, guaranteed fund at the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. These two accounts total \$23,184.07.

Dues collection for 2021: 92 out of 103 members have renewed their memberships for 2021, leaving 11 members who have not renewed their memberships. A motion to accept this report was made, seconded, and passed to send this report onto the audit committee for its review.

Secretary Report—Norman Knowlton—The minutes from last meeting were published and included with the Patriot Newsletter last month. He asked for any additions or corrections. Seeing none, it was moved and seconded and passed as written.

He gave a brief history of the Generals that were commissioned by the Continental Congress on June 19th, 1775 when General George Washington was selected as Commander in Chief.

George Washington-Commander in Chief

Major Generals Charles Lee-Virginia

Artemas Ward-Massachusetts

Israel Putnam-Massachusetts

Philip Schuyler-New York

Adjuvant General Horatio Gates-Virginia

Brigadier Generals Seth Pomeroy-Massachusetts

Richard Montgomery-New York

David Wooster-Connecticut

William Heath-Massachusetts

Joseph Spencer-Connecticut

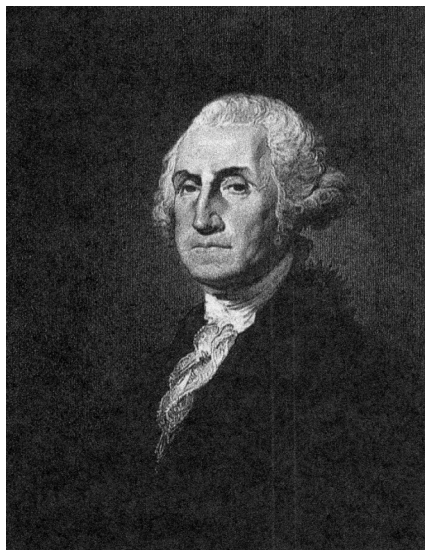
John Thomas-Massachusetts

John Sullivan-New Hampshire

Nathanael Greene- Rhode Island

Genealogist Report – Steve Perkins— was present and there is no new report.

Editor Report—Dan Piedlow- he is still looking for any activities our members have participated and any histories of any of our patriots that might be included in our Patriot Newsletter. Any problems getting our monthly Newsletter, please let him know. **State President J. Howard Fisk** asked that a link be included to purchase the Missouri Bicentennial Medal set for \$30 or if mailed \$35.



Historian Report—Ben Edmondson – encouraged all to get any event information to him for compilation of this year's Yearbook. He is going to get together with Curtis Trent and others to organize the yearbook for this year.

Sgt.-at-Arms Report—Jeff Patrick—he announced that today is March in Day—the anniversary of when General George Washington led the Continental Army into Valley Forge for their winter encampment. He did a shout out to his fellow National Park Service colleagues for their Facebook presentation at Valley Forge this evening at 6 PM central time. This will be an hour long special and a premier of their film and behind the scenes program on its creation. He encourages all to try to watch.

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Chapter Development Committee Report-Ken

Lawrence—we are finishing up our public service awards with the Lifesaving Service Award this Wednesday at the Boy Scout office on Eastgate at 1:00 PM in the front of their headquarters. He asked for all to attend and will be a Color Guard event. The scout rescued his aunt while on a houseboat and she hurt her arm and was not able to swim. He rescued her from running water with the use of a kayak

In January will again start awarding our public service awards for 2021. We will be doing three Life Saving Awards for a tag team for a group of gentlemen who were on scene when a victim fell ill at a softball game and they had to perform CPR until the paramedics arrived and the person survived.

The January 9th event at the cemetery at Wilson Creek has been postponed until later this summer when we will again try to have the event in conjunction with the 1812 group, the civil war group, and our congressional delegation to honor one of the sons of a revolutionary patriot.

Committee Report—No additional reports**Old Business**

MOSSAR President Elect George Swales presented and read the proposed OMC bylaws changes that were presented last month for consideration. The bylaws changes were emailed to our membership and included in our Patriot Newsletter last month. Discussion was entertained. Motion to accept the bylaws changes was made, seconded and passed.

New Business

Compatriot Ken Lawrence- Chairman of the Nominating Committee- presented the nominated slate of officers for the 2021 year of the OMC.

President- Curtis Trent

1st Vice President- Ben Edmondson

2nd Vice President- Jeff Patrick

Treasurer- John Charles

Secretary- Norman Knowlton

Historian- Don Higgerson

Editor- Dan F. Piedlow

Sgt. At Arms- Dan J. Piedlow

Chaplain- Dan Philbrick

Chancellor-Gary Bishop, Esq.

Chapter Development- Gary Gift

President Gary Gift reminded all to stay safe with regards to COVID

State President J. Howard Fisk also reminded all to stay safe and get vaccinated from the entire state

He encouraged all to wear your mask, social distance and wash your hands. He recognized our chapter for all the events we have been able to have while other chapters have been limited. He encouraged all to try to get flag awards to many persons, neighbors, or businesses for flying their flags appropriately.

Dan and Dan Piedlow are going to digitalize our medals for availability, records, and pictures. He also showed via zoom the new medallion for the new sons and daughters of patriots of the American revolution which will be used at the cemetery of Josiah Edgars at Wilson Creek when it is commemorated. This will be able to be used at other events as well.

Motion to Adjourn was made, seconded, and passed

Compatriot Don Higgerson led the Recessional.

Chaplain Dan Philbrick gave the Benediction.

The Meeting ended at 9: 55 AM

Respectfully submitted.

Norman Knowlton, Secretary

Important Dates in History

- December 4 – Washington bids farewell to his officers in New York City 1783
 December 15 - Last State Signed the Bill of Rights 1791
 December 17 - Boston Tea Party 1773



- December 19 - Washington and his army winter in Valley Forge 1777
 December 22 - Continental Navy Created 1775
 December 23 – Washington Resigns as Commander in Annapolis, MD
 December 26 - Battle of Trenton 1776
 January 3 - The Battle of Princeton 1777
 January 11 - Alexander Hamilton Birthday 1755 or 57
 January 17 - The Battle of Cowpens 1781
 January 17 - Ben Franklin Birthday 1706
 January 23 - John Hancock Birthday 1737

Wreaths Across America

Missouri Veterans Cemetery

Springfield, Missouri

The mission, Remember, Honor, Teach, was carried out in part by coordinating wreath laying ceremonies on Saturday, December 19, 2020 at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Springfield, Missouri, as well as veterans cemeteries and other locations in all 50



states and beyond. The purpose is to spread our message about the importance of remembering our fallen

heroes, honoring those who serve, and teaching our children about



the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms.

The Ozark Mountain Chapter (OMC) of the Sons of the American Revolution supported this national program. Wreaths were dis-

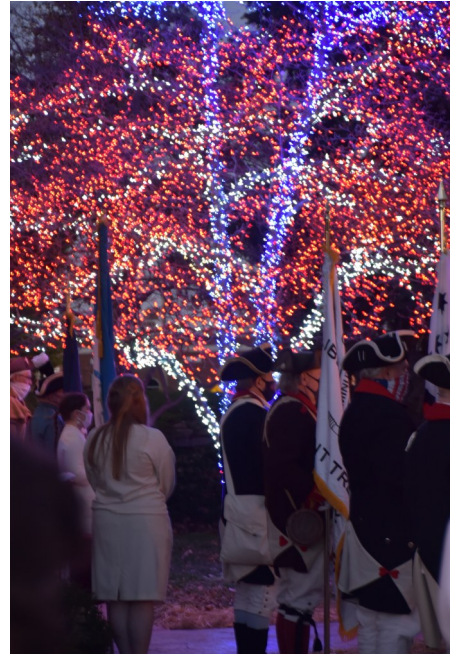


played on the graves at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery south of Springfield, Missouri.



Missouri SAR Cologuard Attended State DAR Lights of Love

Missouri Color Guard members from four chapters joined together to participate in the annual Missouri DAR Lights of Love memorial. The weather the evening of December 5 could not have been more pleasant at the state DAR headquarters known as Roslyn Heights, in Booneville. Virtually no wind to cause a chill to temperatures in the mid-40's at sundown. Their event pays tribute to all veterans of all wars, all branches of service, and to first responders. Lights are donated by DAR chapters from across the state. The SAR Missouri Color guard spectacularly brought forth the colors to a drum cadence with decorum to meet the occasion. Near 50 persons attended properly donning masks. Pictures L-R: Don Turner OPC, Wayne Merrill MGC, Dan Piedlow OMC, Stephen Sullins IPC, Steven Perkins OMC, DAR page Elisa Leighton, Russ DeVenney MGC, Frank Furman OPC, and Charles McMillan OMC. OMC member Dan Piedlow Jr was our photographer.



Captain Levin Lawrence

Definition of a "flying camp":

In military strategy, a "flying camp", was a small but strong army of horsemen and dragoons, to which sometimes added foot soldiers. Such an army usually was commanded by a Lieutenant General, and always in motion, both to cover the garrisons in possession, and to keep the adversary in continual alarm. This concept of a mobile reserve or rapid response force is employed by military strategists to the present day

In May 1776 the Continental Congress authorized the formation of the "Flying Camp" a force of 10,000 militia, a strategic idea conceived by General George Washington.

Washington's Flying Camp was able to turn the main component of General Howe's British army away from New Jersey and Pennsylvania toward General Washington's main force in New York, without their efforts, the Revolutionary War might have had a earlier and different outcome.

My Patriot:

Levin Lawrence, was born in 1750 in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. His parents were Levin Lawrence Sr. and Susannah Dorsey. He was one of eight siblings, and grew up on the family plantation called Poplar Spring Garden.

He was appointed on September 17, 1776 as 1st lieutenant of Captain Thomas Watkins Flying Camp company, Col Weems Elk Ridge Btn. On April 1, 1777 he was promoted to Captain in the Sixth Maryland Regiment of the Continental Line, He was involved in the Battle of Germantown, where he was wounded.

The Battle of Germantown:

After defeating the Continental Army at the Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777 Sir William Howe outmaneuvered George Washington and seized Philadelphia. General Howe set up his headquarters and 9,000 troop garrison at Germantown in the northwest section of Philadelphia. The battle took place Saturday October 4, 1777 when George Washington directed the simultaneous advance, under the cover of darkness, of four different units of American troops led by Generals John Sullivan and Nathanael Greene. The four columns of American soldiers were to converge near General William Howe's headquarters and catch the British



by surprise. The American advance started well in the early morning with some of the British retreating. However, the advance faltered when one of the four American columns lost its bearings in a dense fog and smoke. Bad luck dogged the other columns who failed to coordinate effectively. The Continental Army launched furious assaults against Cliveden, the stone house of Chief Justice Chew, but the greatly outnumbered defenders beat them back, inflicting heavy casualties. The American army was forced to retire to Valley Forge, a strong place in the hills not far from Philadelphia.

Despite the defeat at Germantown it still boosted American morale and self-confidence as they believed the defeat was the result of bad luck, not bad tactics.

After being wounded in battle, on April 1, 1778, Captain Levin Lawrence resigned his Commission in the Continental Army.

On returning to civilian life he married Sarah Dorsey on August 29, 1786. Their union produced eight children. He inherited land in Illinois from his brother-in-law in 1802.

Levin Lawrence died March 31, 1805

William McCune

William McCune was born around 1750 or 1751 in Hopewell Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, son of John and Agnes McCune.

After his father's death, William was raised by his mother until he petitioned the court to allow his half-brother, John Hinkson to become his guardian until he became of age.

On or about 1769, William met and wed his wife Elizabeth. They moved to a farm in Fairfield Township, Squirrel Hill, Pennsylvania, where they had six children.

In 1780, William's half-brother John Hinkson convinced William and family to pull up stakes and move to Kentucky. After a brush with Indians, the men left their families at the fort at the Falls of the Ohio. William and John began to trek into the interior frontier of Kentucky. They came to a fort called Ruddle's Station, commanded by Captain Isaac Ruddle. The fort held upwards of three hundred people. On June 24, 1780, a force of over one thousand British regulars, Tories, Canadian volunteers and Indians quietly denuded upon them. The expedition led by Captain Henry Byrd of His Majesty's 8th Regiment, had traveled from Montreal to wreak havoc upon the Kentucky Frontier. Adding to their great force, the British brought with them the first cannon ever used against log forts of the wilderness. It proved too much against flintlocks and ensured the outcome of the battle.

After destroying the fort, the Indians were allowed to plunder. After Ruddle's, the British and Indians moved on to another fort in the area and captured it as well. They captured over 450 people and forced them to

march over 600 miles from the wilderness of Kentucky to Detroit. Many died or were killed along the way while the Indians carried others into captivity. John Hinkson managed to escape his captors, William McCune was not as lucky. He spent about twenty months in captivity attempting to escape on at least one occasion. According to folklore, William McCune was betrayed by none other than Captain Isaac Ruddle. Ruddle, hearing of the pending escape attempt, forewarned the British. McCune was subsequently placed in irons. Upon returning from captivity McCune met Ruddle where he beat Ruddle badly with a hoop-pole.

After returning to Bourbon County, Kentucky, William and Elizabeth settled into farm life and raising their family. Over the next several years William purchased several parcels of land.

Sometime in 1817, William and family moved from Kentucky to Pike County, Missouri. They established McCune's Station, and farmed.

William died on December 6, 1830. Elizabeth died November 9, 1835.

SAR Compatriot
Ken Lawrence
NSSAR # 195183

Upcoming Events

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.

www.missouriem.com



Ozark Mountain Chapter Development Meeting on January 11 at 6:30 P.M. via Zoom.



Ozark Mountain Chapter Meeting on January 16 at 9:00 .A.M. via Zoom.

