



The PATRIOT Newsletter

Established 18 July 1981

Ozark Mountain Chapter

Missouri Society

Springfield, Missouri

Sons of the American Revolution



February 28, 2018 • Volume 38 #2

President's Message

George Swales



The Ozarks Mountain Chapter actively engaged the community in 2017. Last year's Chapter President, Howard Fisk, was instrumental in

moving us forward and has graciously agreed to remain as Chair of the Chapter Development Committee. This year as Chapter President, I want to continue to build on our accomplishments and enlarge our scope. Upcoming activities planned at the WOLF School located at Bass Pro and participation in Missouri State University's "History Day", as well as other new events, will help pave the way to achieve those goals. Chapter enhanced publicity efforts are already underway. Website updates, as well as greater Facebook utilization, will give OMCSAR greater social media exposure.

Thanks to all those compatriots who have submitted a Patriot biography. Many of our Chapter members have already written and submitted to National a biographical sketch of their patriot. If you have not already done so, please take a little time to complete and submit your respective patriot biography to OMCSAR Vice-President Ken Lawrence. The essay will then be forwarded to National to be placed in the patriot's file for future generations.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Presidents' Day. We celebrate Presidents' Day to honor all U.S. Presidents, past and present, particularly George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. As members of the Sons of the American Revolution, we tend to focus on George Washington. President Washington was born February, 22, 1732, in Westmoreland County, Virginia, and died December, 14, 1799, at Mount Vernon, Virginia. His service to our country was long and wide-ranging including fighting in the French and Indian War, becoming General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, and first President of the United States of America. Presidents' Day was originally established in 1885 in recognition of President Washington and celebrated on his February 22nd birthday. In 1971, the Washington Birthday Holiday date was moved and became known as Presidents' day which is usually

Next Chapter Meeting:

March 17, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Ozarks Technical College, Room 108

Lafayette Day

In This Issue

Officers Report	P. 4
Upcoming Events	P. 5
History Explorers	P. 6
President's Day Celebration	P. 7
Americanism Poster Student Contest	P. 10

celebrated the third Monday in February. Although four Presidents were born in February (George Washington, William Henry Harrison, Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan), none of them were actually born on the now celebrated Presidents' Day.

We often complain about the frigid weather in February and early March, but take some time to reflect and remember George Washington and the troops at Valley Forge, who had it much rougher. Many books written about the winter of 1777 describe severe conditions in the camp the troops endured, including freezing temperatures, no shelters until they built them, little or no food, sparse or very worn clothing, and disease throughout the camp. In the end, however, they endured, survived and, with the help of Baron Friederich von Steuben, became a professional fighting force, capable of challenging the British and securing our freedom and liberty.

I had a neighbor whose common refrain when asked about an upcoming event would typically shout "I'm so excited"! I feel the same about our 2018 OMCSAR events and programs. We are off to a great start. With your gracious help, our Chapter can make 2018 an exciting, great year!

Chapter Minutes

President George Swales called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. at the Ozarks Technical College, Room 108, with 23 members and 9 guests.

Compatriot Dan Philbrick delivered the invocation. Compatriot John McAlear led the Pledge of Allegiance and Compatriot Norman Knowlton led the Pledge to the SAR.

President George Swales asked Vice-President Ken Lawrence to introduce the new members to the OMC and had them come up front for their swearing in ceremony.

The three inductees are:

William Barrett Barker
Jerome Wade Compton
Lincoln Pfeifer Hough

They were sworn in by Vice-President Ken Lawrence and pinned with their rosette by Compatriot Dan McMurray and given their Ozark Mountain Chapter challenge coin by President George Swales. Each of them gave a brief history of their patriot and requested to provide written a short story of their history for our records.

A supplemental membership was also given to Compatriot John Charles.

Awards were then given to the following members by President George Swales and Vice-President Ken Lawrence:

First : Compatriot Gerald McCoy – received the Color Guard Commander Award

Second : Compatriot Norman Knowlton – received the Roger Sherman Medal

Third : Compatriot Charles McMillan – received the Silver Missouri Medal

Vice-President Ken Lawrence then introduced the guest speaker of the day, Walt Cameron. Walt Cameron is a national speaker, inspirational speaker and author who has recently been the Chairman of the Ozark Honor Flight which has served to transport United States Veterans to Washington D.C. to visit their respected military monuments and memorials. He has also this week held a large conference of charitable organizations principles in the management for which he serves as a consultant to assist them in their programs.

As an author he has written “Yes, The American Dream is Alive and Well”.

He started his presentation with a brief family history where his family came over from Ireland and Scotland during the Potato Famine in the 1850s. Most of his family were farmers and thus became farmers. But most of all they all were Dreamers. They all were hard workers, honest, and successful and all had big dreams. As a result of writing this book he started a radio show which was titled “The American Dream”. This program provided stories of individuals and their dreams and successes which served to be inspirational. It became obvious these stories led to concepts that were founded in their roots from our Founding Fathers of our country with the burning desire for freedom. These came from all over the world. The colonists came to the land of promise and opportunity. This universal concept has continued for the last 243 years.

His research found many individuals who exemplified these characteristics but his favorite was the fictitious character Forrest Gump who never gave up and was fighting for the American Dream-mastering ping pong, playing football for Alabama, catching fish with his friend Lt. Dan, investing in Apple stock, and when he made it big to give half of his Bubba Gump shrimp funds to Bubba’s mother to let her live her life dream. He asked if anyone knew the definition of an atheist in Alabama? The answer was a person who does not believe in the famous Alabama coach of Bear Bryant.

When Forrest Gump went to heaven he met Saint Peter asked him to answer 3 questions in order to get into heaven. The first was how many days in a week start with the letter “T”? He answered two—today and tomorrow—God answered I guess you are right. The Second was how many seconds are there in a year? He answered “12”— January 2nd – February 2nd - March 2nd and so on. God answered again, I guess you are right. The third was what is God’s first name? He answered “Andy”— and he walks with me and talks with me on and he walks on water. God answered by telling Forrest to “Run Forrest Run” and he did so into heaven.

At the time of the American Revolution there were about 2 and ½ million colonist in the 13 colonies. They also had some of the highest standards of living of the time because of the trade they were doing. With King George III needing to pay for his debts from previous wars, he started to Tax the colonists, but even with those taxes they were far less than those paying taxes back in England.

The 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence were some of the most prominent and successful people of the colonies at that time. They were risking everything they owned and their very lives. They were committing treason to the King and could risk being hanged. He told the story of Caesar Rodney who was the deciding Delaware vote to make it unanimous for the colonies to declare the colonies independence.

Because the Colonists had no taxes for themselves the War was financed by many of these prominent signers, loaning money for which they never were repaid and some even died poor.

Even as they signed the Declaration the English Fleet was stationed in New York Harbor. John Hancock famously signed in the most boldly signature to be sure King George could read his name without his spectacles. Ben Franklin is quoted as saying “if we do not hang together we will certainly will hang separately. The signers and their families were hunted by the English troops by the King for their involvement. One example was the story of John Hart, a signer of the Declaration, a farmer, and even a judge, who lost everything including his farm, his wife and he never saw any of his 13 children again. Another example was Abraham Clark of New Jersey who was a surveyor, a huge land owner and one of the wealthiest Colonist. His two sons were both Captains in the Military and both were captured by the British and were prisoners on the famous prison ships the “Jersey”.

The British sent messages to Abraham Clark that if he renounced his signature to the Declaration and signed an oath to the King, they would let his sons go. He first declined and countered by offering all of his money and his lands for his sons — which was declined. Secondly he offered his own life for his two sons — which again they declined. Lastly he sent his response with but one word — Never”.

His sons remained on this horrible death ship but eventually they were released in exchange for other prisoners.

George Washington was one of Walt’s favorites Americans. He did not sign the Declaration of Independence. He never compromised himself. He was always with his men at War and riding his trusty horse “Prescott”. God must have protected George Washington during his battles because he survived many close calls.

Stories have been told about George and the cherry tree but this is not true. What is a true story from his mother is when George was 9 years old his family had a superb stallion from a famous blood line who could never be broken by the Washington family, their staff or others. George decided to do so himself and he was able to get on the horse and it bucked and bucked, but George was able to stay on his bare back. Finally with one last flying leap the horse jumped and broke a blood vessel and fell to the ground dead. George when called in for breakfast had to tell his mother that he had broken the horse but his mother’s favorite sorrel was dead. His mother composed herself and tells George that she regrets the loss of her horse but was pleased that he would not tell a lie. George’s father died when he was but 11years old

Also were stories of him having wooden teeth, but the fact was that he actually had special dentures made for him by the best dentists of the time that were actually spring operated thus leading to always keeping his mouth closed or else the mouth would pop open. He lost his teeth at a very young age. He also had a set of dentures that were made of hippo tusks and gold. He apparently had but one tooth remaining. It was because of this he was very rarely seen smiling.

George Washington was a man of presence—straight posture, tall 6 foot 3, size 13 shoe, 210 pounds, elegant, and strong. His strength was shown by his showing his ability to hurl an iron bar further than others even with his coat being on. He was stronger than the Wrestling champion of the time again throwing him to the ground again with his coat still being on. It was said that when he wrestled the champion his grip was like a lion and when he fell he “felt as tho the marrow of his bones were to come out”.

Walt's next favorite Patriot was Ben Franklin. He was called a true "Renaissance Man". He was a true patriot, a publisher, a printer, an inventor, a business man, a statesman, and even a spy. He invented the glass harmonica, the lightening rod, and the Franklin Stove. Never getting a patent on his inventions. He was a traveler -- 8 times to Europe between the ages of 18 and finally when he was 79. He spent 27 years of his life abroad. He was a master of trade and a great negotiator. He loved the ladies and was always charming. He loved to drink beer with the men at the taverns and as a result formed a group known at the Junto Group. It was there that discussions of the events of the time were discussed. He started the first Post Office, the first public bank, and first library. Being a ladies man he even published in 1745 a book titled "How to cultivate a mistress". He felt at that time all men should marry. But he did write that there were 8 reasons older ladies were better mistresses than younger women -- his reasoning was that they would be better appreciated.

It is a result of these true Patriots and wonderful people that they were at the right place in the right time of history for us. Thank you God.

Officers Report

Vice- President Ken Lawrence gave Walt Cameron one of our OMC Challenge coins for his participation in today's activity.

Vice-President Report: Vice-President Ken Lawrence reported that at our next meeting on March 17th our guest speaker will be Allen Casey. He is a local architect, a local activist, a lifelong resident of Springfield, instrumentally involved with the History Museum and will discuss informational factoids about Southwest Missouri.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer John W. McAlear--On February 2nd he moved our funds to Arvest Bank. The total funds we have in our checking account is \$14,929.14.

He is presently doing research on interest-bearing account options for those funds not needed for daily operations. In late January, we received one late dues renewal so this brings our beginning-of-the-year membership numbers to 83 members plus one dual member.

Secretary Report/Historian Report—Secretary Norman Knowlton: The minutes from last meeting were published and included with the Patriot Newsletter last month and he asked for any additions or corrections — seeing none — the minutes were moved, seconded , and passed

Genealogist Report: Genealogist Steven Perkins---We have one new member who is but a check away from completion and should be sworn in next meeting—Compatriot Gary Gift

Editor Report: Editor Tom Sentman---He is presently in Cox Hospital recovering from aortic valve surgery and is improving.

Sergeant at Arms Report: Sergeant at Arms Charles McMillan---The lists of those that are going to participate in the JROTC and ROTC awards were provided and he encouraged other to participate so that we have at least two members present at these events this spring. We will be participating in 11 different functions this year.

Committee Report

There was no committee reports

Old Business

President George Swales encouraged all members, including new members, if they have not already, to submit a historical biographical story of their Patriot so that we can archive their stories.

New Business

President George Swales reminded our members that we are participating in the Missouri State University History Day Program on Friday March 2nd, 2018 and are looking for members who might be able to assist.

A motion to Adjourn was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

Secretary John Allen led the Recessional.

Chaplain Dan Philbrick led the Benediction.

The Meeting ended at 10:20 A.M.



March Birthdays

Tom Sentman **Mar 26**

Matt Lyons **Mar 29**

*Learn more about how the CAR is
training tomorrow's leaders
click the image below*



*Video montage
of 4 battles
between
Washington &
Cornwallis*



Upcoming Events

March 19: Wolf School 12:30 p.m. White River Center
Native Americans during US Settlement
Speakers: Steve Perkins Checking With Coleen /
Charles McMillan Research

March: Graham Clark Teacher Award

April 4: College of the Ozarks ROTC award 7:00 p.m.

April 10: Wolf School 12:30 p.m.
Springfield National Cemetery
William Freeman Patriot & Springfield Pioneer

*Click for more
OMCSAR Activities*



The WOLF School: WOLF is an innovative learning opportunity for 46 fifth-grade students with a special interest in nature and the outdoors. WOLF offers an inquiry-based learning experience which allows students to explore a comprehensive curriculum through the context of environmental sciences and conservation. WOLF is a partnership with the Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Bass Pro Shops.

The WOLF School has asked OMCSAR to continue History Explorers the next academic year with 10 sessions

Photos by: Margret Swales, Steve Perkins,

Editor: Tom Sentman, 417-823-3902 tsentman@msn.com

Associate Editor: Erin Hotchkiss ehotchkiss@drury.edu

Chapter Events

History Explorers at the WOLF School

The life of Alexander Hamilton, George Washington and Friends



Left: J Howard Fisk, as Hamilton, sharing impressions of his friends, Presidents, Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison & Monroe



Above: J Howard Fisk as Alexander Hamilton, discussing his (Hamilton's) life with students of the WOLF School during a Q & A session.



Above: Dan McMurray discussing Gadsden Flag and Minute Man Uniform of the American Revolution with WOLF School students



Left: WOLF School students taking a closer look at walrus tusk

Chapter Events

President's Day Celebration: February 12 at Washington Park

George Washington's 286th Birthday

Right: Greene County Commissioner Lincoln Hough proclaimed this day George Washington Remembrance Day in Greene County, MO.

Color Guard members Perkins, McCoy, Lawrence, McMurray and McMillan presented Colors.



Left: Dan McMurray presents Commissioner Lincoln Hough a membership rosette.

Lincoln was sworn in as new member on Saturday, Feb 17.

“It was my honor to present a Proclamation from Greene County to commemorate the 286th birthday of not only our first President but the father of a nation that has stood the test of time. As this Nation continues to grow and prosper let us never forget the men and women who sacrificed so much to allow all that remain to enjoy this beautiful representative democracy.”

- Lincoln Hough, Greene County Commissioner

Chapter Events

Ozark Mountain Chapter Meeting, February 17

Walt Cameron reviews his new book, "Yes, the American Dream is Alive and Well":
A collection of inspirational stories of our founding Fathers



Above: Guest speaker Walt Cameron discussing Ozark Honor Flights

Right: OMCSAR members listening to Walt Cameron



Left: George Swales and Ken Lawrence with Walt Cameron

Chapter Events

Ozark Mountain Chapter Meeting, February 17



Above: Gerald McCoy receiving recognition as Ozark Mountain Chapter Color Guard Commander



Left: Swearing in of new members Jerry Compton, Lincoln Hough and Barrett Barker. Jerry's father was a Charter Member of the Ozark Mountain Chapter. Barrett was the Ozark Mountain Chapter Eagle Scout Award Winner two years ago



Above: Norman Knowlton being recognized as Ozark Mountain Chapter Historian.



Above: John Edward Charles receives a supplemental membership certificate



Above: Charles McMillan recognized as Ozark Mountain Chapter Sergeant-at-Arms.

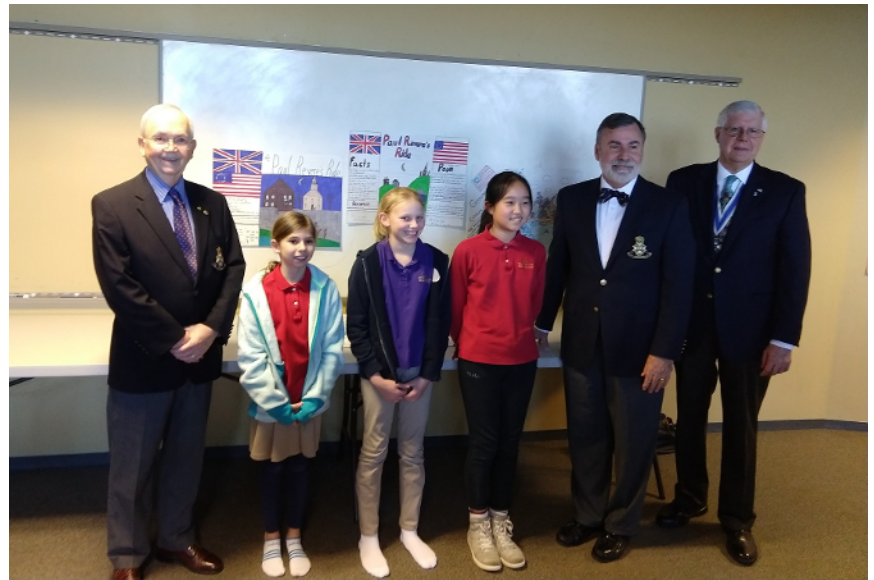
Chapter Events

Americanism Poster Contest at the Summit School, February 27

Presentation of certificates to 4th and 5th grade participants



Above: Dan McMurray, J Howard Fisk & George Swales at the Summit School



Presentation of Americanism posters and certificates

Contest Winners 1st place: Sydney Walker

2nd place: Cadence Gelner 3rd place: Judy Shi



Left: Summit School 4th and 5th grade students with instructors Julie Anderson, Lisa Murphy & Rhonda Gentry

4th Graders: Will Beall, Adeline Bowerman, Emily Chindlund, Madison Fann, Levi Freeman, Isabella Harper, Tristan Khoshyomn, Leah Martin, Atia McClain, Hudson Messenger, Evelyn Nelson, Grayson Stenger

5th Graders: Cameron Coring, Harley Durr, Izzie Keech, Hannah Lee, Quinton Miller, Ella Schippert, Cooper Scroggs, Katherine Swinney, Ellie Wiley, Kaydence Wroten