

THE PATRIOT



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Missouri SAR



Winner of the SAR National Robert B. Lance Award for Best Website for 2018

VOLUME 41 ISSUE 1 OZARK MOUNTAIN CHAPTER SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION JANUARY 2021



The Presidents Message

By President Curtis Trent

Compatriots, let's all take a moment to thank Gary Gift and all officers for the work they did to maintain our chapter during the uniquely difficult year of 2020. Despite the significant disruptions to our daily lives by the pandemic our chapter was able to continue safely holding events and meetings in service of the community we all love. I am hopeful for a fun and productive 2021.

If you have any suggestions for how we can make our chapter better, please don't hesitate to reach out to myself, the other officers of the chapter, or our development committee. This is truly a team effort and an opportunity for us to build each other up as we carry out the mission of the chapter.

One aspect of our chapter that I most enjoy is the exploration of American history, particularly Revolutionary War era history. On January 17, 1781 a pivotal battle was fought near the town of Cowpens, South Carolina. The battle was small in size, with less than two thousand American troops

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Important Dates in History

- January 3 - The Battle of Princeton 1777
- January 11 - Alexander Hamilton Birthday 1755 or 1757
- January 17 - The Battle of Cowpens 1781
- January 17 - Ben Franklin Birthday 1706
- January 23 - John Hancock Birthday 1737
- February 2 - Stamp Act 1765
- February 6 - Aaron Burr Birthday 1756
- February 6 - The United States and France become allies 1778
- February 9 - Thomas Paine Birthday 1737
- February 14 - Battle of Kettle Creek 1779
- February 14 - Crossing of the Dan 1781
- February 22 - George Washington Birthday 1732

facing off against a British force of around eleven-hundred. The battle was still very fierce, with multiple charges by cavalry, volleys of exchanged infantry fire, and a bayonet charge that turned the tide of battle leading to a mass surrender by British forces. Over a hundred British soldiers died, two hundred were wounded, and five hundred were captured. You can read a quick account of the Battle of Cowpens at the [National Park Service's website](#).

The Battle of Cowpens was considered a significant morale boosting event by contemporary writers and historians. Some see it as the turning point battle that ultimately culminated in the British disaster at Yorktown, which occurred later in that same year, and marked the end of major British ground operations in North America. History may pivot on many events, small and large, planned or chanced upon. Will we encounter an event that changes history? Will we know about it when the moment arrives? Let's live each day like it could be our most important day, either for ourselves or someone we touch.

I look forward to our meeting this month and to a great year. Thank you all for the honor of being able to serve as your president.

Warm Regards,

Curtis Trent

OMSCAR President

Compatriot Bill Groth

Jefferson Barracks is a National Cemetery located in St. Louis, Missouri. I had never been there and when I arrived, I was greeted by a magnificent beauty in arrangement of the grave sites.

Grave sites of America's defenders... their final resting place for their bodies.

Due to the great number of funerals each day (between 20 and 30) the ceremony is not held at

the burial site. They are conducted at a "committal shelter" and then picked up by a vehicle with other caskets and taken to the burial site.



I attended former Missouri State Color guard Commander Bill Groth's funeral with several other compatriots.

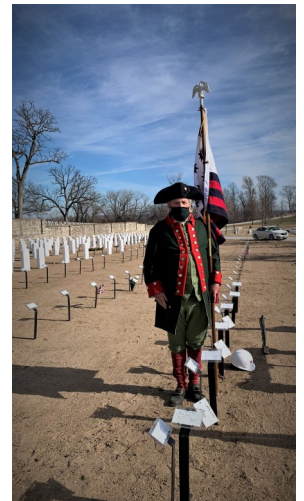
I remember Bill when we were at a State Annual Meeting, Dennis Hahn was the outgoing President, and it was my first time to be in the Color Guard. Bill gave us commands... his last act as the Commander.

I felt I needed to see where he was to be laid. After the service was over, I drove around and found two other sites and took photos for a friend. His brother and uncle were interred there.

I then called the cemetery and was given his burial location. I found the site and was surprised by the starkness of the site, but realized that it would not have that finished look, with grass etc. It was rather stark... I saw his casket lowered into the ground.

I stood at attention in uniform holding the Guilford Courthouse flag... other members had brought Old Glory and others, I felt I had provided Bill a somber recognition of his passing.

But like I said earlier this is a resting place for the body. His soul is with God.



Compatriot Charles McMillan at the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery

Minutes from the OMCSAR Chapter Meeting

Saturday, January 16th, 2021

President Gary Gift called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM via Zoom with 25 members and 1 guest.

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

President Gary Gift introduced Vice President Curtis Trent who is to present the New Member Oath to Guy Elsworth Mikesell II.

Vice-President Curtis Trent gave the New Member Oath to **Guy Elsworth Mikesell II**. After saying the oath Guy gave a short history of his Patriot Private Jacob Mikesell. He was born in November of 1756 in Fredrick Maryland and was 19 years old at that time and enlisted in the colonial army in Fredrick County, Maryland in July of 1776. He was assigned to Captain Daniel Dorsey Company under Colonel Josiah C Halls Maryland Regiment known as "The Flying Camp". He was discharged at Valley Forge while in the General Smallwood's Brigade. He was tasked with using his horse team to carry General Lafayette's baggage from Annapolis Maryland to Yorktown Virginia. He participated in the Battle of White Plains. In 1795 he purchased 190 acres in Bourbon County Kentucky. In accordance of the Revolutionary War Act of 1832 Jacob was able to receive a soldier's pension receiving 20 dollars every 3 months until 1843. Madison City newspaper article in 1939 recounted events of Private Jacob's life to including a story of his encounter with a bull that he owned in his own pasture. The bull was angered and attacked him and messed him up. He limped home and got his flintlock and stuffed it full of powder and wads and returned to the bull. When the bull again attacked him he shot the bull with the powder and wads

stopping the bull from ever attacking him again. His headstone bears his name, his date of birth and death, and the inscription of "A Revolutioner".



President Gary Gift asked **Compatriot Dan Piedlow Jr.** to give his Patriot's history since he did not have an opportunity to do so last month.

His Patriot was John White. He was born May 19th, 1722. Enlisted July 25, 1775 and discharged December 20th, 1775. He died November 24, 1797. He enlisted in the 7th Connecticut Provincial

Regiment 10th Company under the command of Colonel Charles Webb. In August of 1775 Charles Webb's Regiment was designated the 39th Regiment of Foot and was renamed to the 19th Continental Regiment in 1776. In order to assign the separate New England units into a single Continental Army, on August 5th, 1775 General Washington ordered that the board be convened in order to determine the rank of the Regiments at Boston. The board consisted of a Brigadier General and 6 field officers as members and completed its task August 20th, 1775 and reported to General Washington. The Regiments in the infantry of the Continental Army were accordingly numbered without reference to the colony of origin. There were 39 Regiments of Foot in the Army of the United Colonies. General Washington referenced these by their number and appeared in the reported that were compiled by Adjuvant General Horatio Gates.

Next month Charles Clark is to give his history of his Patriot.

Officers Reports

Vice-President Report—Curtis Trent--spoke briefly of the activities at the capital in Jefferson City.

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Many of the events are primarily ceremonial at this time with committees and functions being reestablished. The House has been cancelled as a result of COVID. Curtis has been appointed chair of the General Laws committee (Speakers Committee)

Treasurer Report—John Charles— the total funds we have as of this date consists of \$13,572.66 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 \$22,844.82. He stated that at this time we had 95 members that renewed their memberships and had 3 new members, totaling our membership at 98. This report was moved and seconded to be sent to be filed for audit. The motion passed.

Auditor's Report—George Swales—he will present the quarterly audit report at the February meeting. The audit report will be given by John McAlear at the February OMC monthly meeting.

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 United States Postal System. Most everyone knows that Ben Franklin was the first Postmaster General in Philadelphia Pennsylvania in 1753 but did not know that between 1609 and 1860 all mail was paid by the receiver of mail not by the sender. It was delivered from Europe to the colonies by sea captains, traders, friends and slaves. It was normally left at Taverns or Inns to be picked up and paid. In 1673 the General Court of Massachusetts designated the Richard Fairbank's Tavern in Boston, Massachusetts as the official mail delivery to and from overseas. Soon thereafter New York's Governor, Frances Lovelace set up a horse back post between

Boston and New York to have its mail delivered to their state. In 1683 William Penn established Pennsylvania's 1st Post Office for delivery. At this time the British Government had the exclusive rights for postal service to the colonies. In the colonies there were postal roads where stage coaches and riders would deliver the mail to the other colonies. When Ben Franklin became the first Postmaster General of Philadelphia in 1753 there were but two Post Offices in the colonies, Boston and Philadelphia. Postage was paid by the distance and the weight. During the 2nd Continental Congress on August 7th, 1775 Ben Franklin was appointed the first Postmaster General of the colonies but served but one year before being sent to France. In 1789 when George Washington was elected as the first President of the United States the Post Office Department became under the Executive Branch of the government and still is today. At that time George Washington selected Samuel Osgood, a U.S. Congressman from Massachusetts, as the first Postmaster General of the American Nation. By 1789 there were 75 Post Offices in the U.S. and now there are over 40,000 with over 500,000 employees and is still Not For Profit.

Genealogist Report – Steve Perkins—he has 29 prospects at this time. He recently submitted supplemental for Joel Montieth and regular membership of a new membership for Paul Wilkerson, both of these are at the state's genealogist and have not made their way to National. Applications at National-Supplements for Len Slovensky went in August 31, for Norm Knowlton two supplementals went in October 13, James Whited went in November 2. Mikesell's was approved and awarded today, was approved November 19, Charles Clark was approved October 23 and was sworn in last meeting, There is one other new application for John Hathcock and that was received at National October 30

Editor Report—Dan Piedlow- no report

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Historian Report—Ben Edmondson—reported that he had met with **Compatriot Curtis Trent** and are on the way to compiling the 2019 and 2020 year-books.

Sgt.-at-Arms Report—Jeff Patrick-.This weekend is the 240th anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens and if you go into the Cowpens National Battlefield Facebook page they are doing a number of virtual events today and tomorrow. He encouraged all to check out the latest scholarship on Cowpens and the Cowpen's campaign on this anniversary weekend.

Chapter Development Committee Report-Ken Lawrence-He presented an update on the activities our chapter has been involved and are planning to participate. We were trying to have our Public Service Award for Life Saving for its three recipients to be presented but has been postponed until later this spring at a ballgame. We have another Public Service Award and will be presenting it to a Boy Scout in the upcoming months. After next months' monthly Zoom OMC meeting we will be celebrating George Washington's Birthday at the George Washington Park here in Springfield.

The History Explorers program is still on the schedule virtually on line on February 12th. Compatriot Dan Piedlow will be filming the program with presenters being **Compatriot Jeff Patrick, Compatriot J. Howard Fisk** and Chief Wallace. **Compatriot Dale Moore** will be filming Chief Wallace's segment for his Ozark Watch program. This is so the Springfield Library can live stream this program. **MOSSAR President J. Howard Fisk** updated other programs in the works.

Curtis Field, who is a U.S. Grant reenactor, will be providing his program on August 9th following a dinner where he is an impersonator. He will also be involved the next day at the Wilson Creek National Park for the 160th Anniversary of the Battle of Wilson Creek and the 200th Anniversary of Missouri's Statehood. Others from MOSSAR, the 1812 group, the DAR. And state politicians will be present.

The MOSSAR will be participating in the reopening of the Truman Library after the first of the year. MOSSAR will be involved in laying a Bronze Medalion at the foot of the new Truman statue. U.S. Presidential participation may also be involved depending upon safety.

MOSSAR membership has recovered and renewals in membership have surpassed last years' total by 5 members with total membership greater than 700.

OMC President Gary Gift explained he will have an update later on the Boy Scout Merit Badge Workshop and the Legends of Conservation later this fall when things are a little more concrete.

Next month the OMC will be having a celebration of George Washington's Birthday at the George Washington Park following our OMC monthly Zoom meeting. It will be a Color Guard event and possibly include the Branson JROTC Color Guard.

Committee Report—No additional reports

Old Business—None

New Business

President Gary Gift provided all in attendance a gracious thank you for all that made his job easier through this past year, especially through this COVID Pandemic.

He was glad to provide awards to those members that helped him serve in his capacity.

Certificates of Appreciation were given to:

Don Higginson for his new participation in our chapter

David Appleby for his continued service besides being our Past President General of NSSAR

Dan McMurray for his loyal work at our chapter as well as serving as

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Harold Tom Sentman for his expertise in providing our OMC Newsletter

Dan Piedlow Jr. for his videography and providing for our Facebook page and becoming our new Sergeant at Arms

The Distinguished Service Certificate given to:

Ben Edmondson for his work of this past years' Yearbook

The Roger Sherman Bronze Medal given to:

Jeff Patrick for his service as Sergeant at Arms

John Charles for his continued service as OMC Treasurer

Curtis Trent for his service as our OMC Vice President and our next year's President

Dan Piedlow for his excellent work on our OMC Patriot Newsletter

Roger Sherman Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster given to:

Steve Perkins for serving as OMC Genealogist and MOSSAR Color Guard Commander

George Swales for serving as Past President of OMC and President Elect of MOSSAR

Dan Philbrick for serving as Past President of OMC and Chaplain of OMC and MOSSAR

Charles McMillan for serving as OMC Sergeant at Arms and directing our JROTC programs

Bronze Good Citizenship Medal given to:

Ken Lawrence for his service as Past President of OMC and the chairman of the Chapter Development Committee



Tom Sentman with his Certificate of Appreciation



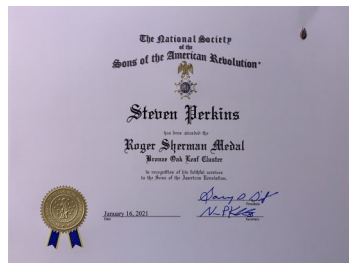
John Charles with his Roger Sherman Medal and Certificate



Daniel J Piedlow with his Certificate of Appreciation



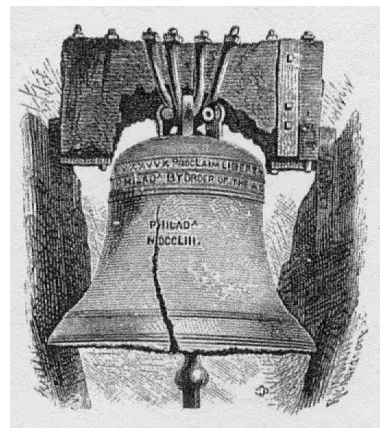
Daniel F Piedlow with his Roger Sherman Medal and Certificate



Steven Perkins Oak Leaf Certificate



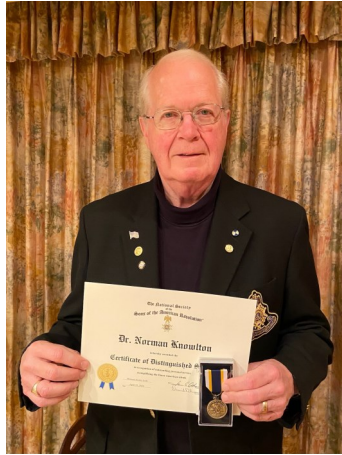
George Swales with his Oak Leaf and Certificate



Missouri State Society Bronze Medal to:

Dr. Norm Knowlton for his service as Secretary of OMC and Surgeon for MOSSAR

J. Howard Fisk for his continued support as OMC Past President, MOSSAR President and his fantastic drive for our chapter



Norm Knowlton with his Bronze Medal and Certificate

The Outstanding Citizenship Pin to:

Jan Fisk for her support for our chapter and also for this community

President Gary Gift regrets he was not able to give these awards in person but this is the times. All those who have been given these awards will need to pick up their awards at Fisk Transportation when possible. Pictures of these recipients receiving their awards should be taken by someone at home and get these pictures to Dan Piedlow for publication in our Newsletter.



J. Howard Fisk with his Medal and Certificate and Jan Fisk with her Pin and Certificate

Election of the Chapter Officers for the year 2021-2022:

As per our bylaws the OMC Nominating committee has recommended the following slate of officers for the upcoming year. This was announced last month at our December OMC monthly meeting and published in our OMC Patriot Newsletter for review. Compatriot Ken Lawrence, Chairman of the Nomination Committee, to read those Nominees:

President- Curtis Trent

1st Vice- President- Ben Edmondson

2nd Vice- President- Jeff Patrick

Secretary- Dr. Norm Knowlton

Treasurer- John Charles

Genealogist- Steve Perkins

Historian- Don Higginson

Sergeant at Arms- Dan Piedlow, Jr.

Chaplain- Dan Philbrick

Editor- Dan Piedlow, Sr

Chancellor- Gary Bishop, Esq.

Nominations from the floor were requested three times and repeated three times. Seeing no additional nominations, a motion to accept this slate of officers was made, seconded, and passed.

MOSSAR President J. Howard Fisk presided over

the inauguration of these new officers. The oath to the SAR was read and all responded affirmative virtually. They were all congratulated for accepting their responsibilities. He also reminded them to assist, and encourage those members of the chapter.

Newly elected **OMC President Curtis Trent** received his gavel and thanked the outgoing President Gary Gift and the entire chapter as a whole for their hard work. He thanked all for their support for the upcoming year. This has been a very stressful year and we continue to convene virtually rather in person reveals how much we have had to adjust to this ongoing pandemic. This will be a collaborative effort and he hopes all will continue to think of ways we can continue to be effective in our mission. Your participation, your ideas, and your dedication are what has made and will to continue make this chapter successful.

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OMC President Curtis Trent--His first duty was to then present **outgoing President Gary Gift** with his first official act as OMC President the **Distinguished Service Medal** virtually.

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

MOSSAR President J. Howard Fisk introduced our guest-**Sumner Hunnewell**- the President of the 1812 Missouri Society who will be speaking to their local chapter following our OMC meeting this morning. He presented a brief update on the Missouri 1812 organization. They have meetings Quarterly following our local OMC meetings. Locally this chapter in Springfield has grown from 5 to 17 over the past couple years.

Sumner Hunnewell is a member of the Spirit of St. Louis chapter of the SAR and is the present President of the Missouri Society of 1812. This Society was founded in 1854 and presently has about 50 members with four state chapters—St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbia, and Springfield. This past year their organization with the Missouri State Historical Society worked on a project to digitalize documents from the time period of 1812. The records came from General Smith. He documented his time during 1812. He moved to Missouri and started a farm in central Missouri. These records included letters and other correspondences of that time. These have been funded by other organizations as well and have been transcribed and put on line. They also will be participating in the reenactment at Wilson Creek with the Missouri 200th Anniversary celebration at Wilson Creek later this summer. They will also be having their annual 1812 National meeting in Philadelphia in April of this year. Before being adjourned all were invited to stay on for additional information during the local Springfield chapter of the 1812 meeting following this Zoom meeting of the OMC.

Compatriot Ben Edmondson led the Recessional.

Chaplain Dan Philbrick gave the Benediction.

The Meeting ended at 10:05AM

Respectfully submitted.

Norman Knowlton, Secretary

Major General William Heath

Born: March 2nd, 1737 Roxbury, Suffolk County, Massachusetts

Died: January 24th, 1814 Roxbury, Suffolk County, Massachusetts

Buried: Forest Hills Cemetery, Roxbury, Massachusetts

William Heath lived his entire life on his family farm in Roxbury, Suffolk County, Massachusetts (presently Jamaica Plain-a part of Boston). He was born on his family farm to Lieutenant Samuel Heath and Elizabeth Payton Heath and died on that same farm. He was well liked and became involved with his local militia where he advanced from Captain in the Roxbury Company of Suffolk County Regiment to Colonel and Commanding Officer. He married Sarah Learnard in Cambridge, Massachusetts on April 19th, 1759. They had five children: Colonel Samuel Heath, Sarah Spooner, Henry Heath, William Heath, and Joseph Heath. In 1761 he was elected member of the Massachusetts General Court representing Roxbury. In 1765 he joined the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company in Boston.

In 1774 the Massachusetts government commissioned him Brigadier General of the State Militia. He was called to arms as William Dawes made his famous ride to call the colonists of Massachusetts to alarm and commanded the Massachusetts

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forces during the British retreat following the Battle of Lexington and Concord in April 1775. In June Of 1775 the Massachusetts Provincial Congress made William Heath a Major General and on June 20th, 1775 William Heath was made Brigadier General by the Continental Congress under General George Washington. He served in the defenses of New York City, the Battles of Long Island and Harlem

Heights. According to sources he was far better at training than he was leading. He enjoyed training the militia and soon General George Washington was concerned of his ability to lead in combat and he was thus limited from commanding of troops in combat. He was however promoted by the Continental Congress on August 9th, 1776 to Major General. In January of 1777 he was ordered by General Washington to attack Fort Independence which failed miserably. He was given charge of the Burgoyne surrendered troops at Saratoga in October of 1777. In 1779 he placed in command of the Lower Hudson District of the Highland Department after General Benedict Arnold was convicted of Treason, but he never saw battle again.

After the War, Heath returned to Roxbury, Massachusetts where he became a member of the state convention which ratified the Constitution. In 1791 was elected to the Massachusetts Senate and later appointed judge, Probate Court, Norfolk County, Massachusetts where he served several years. In 1806 he was elected Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts but declined the serve. He died at his farm in Roxbury, Massachusetts on January 24th, 1814 at 76 and was buried in Forest Hills Cemetery in Heath, Massachusetts. At the time of his death he was the last surviving Major General of the Revolutionary War.

William Heath was probably the least liked of George Washington's Major Generals that were

selected by the Massachusetts Assembly and the Continental Congress to serve in the Continental Army.

Upcoming Events



Chapter Development Meeting on Thursday, February 11 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.



Chapter Meeting on Saturday, February 20 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom.



Washington's Birthday Ceremony at Washington Park, Springfield after the Chapter Meeting on February 20.

Remember, you can order your Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR shirts from Missouri Embroidery. They will embroider almost anything you want, a shirt, jacket, hat. Their phone number is: (417) 889-2221 and their address is: 1307 S. Glenstone Ave.





Compatriots,

President Fisk has requested that the following reminder concerning the Youth Protection Training (YPT) Program be sent to all Missouri Society, SAR, Officers, Honorary Vice Presidents, Chapter Presidents and Committee Chairpersons. The YPT course can be accessed by going to the SAR website, logging in, and selecting eLearning from the menu at the top of the page. Also, one can access the YPT course using the following link in your web browser search window: sar.org/courses/youth-protection-training/.

"This training takes just a few minutes to complete and is an important reminder of our responsibility.

Be sure that you register as you begin so that you can print out a certificate with your name.

Missouri SAR has asked all of our board members and committee chairmen to take this training. We scan a copy of our certificate and forward to our Missouri Secretary who keeps a google spreadsheet record with the date of completion."

