

# The PATRIOT



Established July 198

Missouri SAR

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

**Volume 39 Issue 7** Ozark Mountain Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

July 2019



# Greetings from President Kenneth Lawrence

Although August is somewhat of a slow month, due to our recess, we will still have a couple of activities.

On August 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M., we will honor Patriot Nathanael Greene on his 277th birthday celebration with a ceremony at the Greene County Courthouse.

Due to our annual August recess, we will <u>not</u> have a regular August Chapter meeting.

\*\*In lieu of a formal meeting, we will conduct a field trip to the Library Center on South Campbell on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. for a genealogic workshop with host Brian Grubbs.

Our regular monthly Chapter Meeting at OTC will resume on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 A.M.

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable 4<sup>th</sup> of July. As I sat watching fireworks with my family, I found myself reminiscing of my childhood enjoying the 4th with my grandparents. I remember my grandmother and grandfather would continually impress upon me how "fortunate and blessed" we were to have been born in this country. I am so grateful to have had grandparents that instilled that patriotic spirit in my soul. Being a grandparent now myself, I need to carry that message to my grandchildren. I believe we have an obligation to teach our young people what it means to be an American. We must educate them on the many sacrifices our ancestors endured to create the greatest nation in the world. We, as citizens, are the benefactors of the arduous toil our fathers and forefathers endured for the cause of

#### **Next Chapter Meeting**

Next Scheduled Meeting: September 14, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Ozarks Technical College, Room 108.

Please note the meeting date change for September

The guest speaker and topic to be provided.

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#### No Chapter Meeting in August

Liberty and Freedom. We should all be eternally grateful for their selfless personal sacrifice.

As members of the Sons of the American Revolution, we are well equipped to carry the message of history and patriotism forward to our youth. As an American citizen, it is up to us to sew the thread of patriotism into the fabric of our society.

This is what unites and binds us as a nation. We must express the American patriotic spirit to our children and impress upon them as my grandmother would tell me, "how fortunate and blessed" we are to live in this great country.

Laodicea Langston, "Dicey" as her friends and family called her, was the daughter of Solomon and Sarah Bennett Langston of South Carolina. She was born May 14, 1766, on her father's plantation. Dicey's mother died when she was a little girl, and she was raised by her father and brothers.

When the Revolutionary War began, Dicey's brothers left the plantation to fight with the Continental Army. They camped in the forest with a small band of Patriots, so the plantation wouldn't suffer the consequences of their patriotism. To save the family from difficulties, they visited only infrequently in secret. Through it all, they managed to maintain communication with Dicey, who had become an outspoken patriot along with her brothers.

By her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday, Dicey was an expert equestrian and an excellent shot.

While doing her daily chores, she noticed British Troops setting camp near her father's farm. She began passing information to her brothers, who were camped across the other side of the river some 20 miles away.

Dicey's father was a Patriot and a supporter of the revolution. Although his age limited his role, he participated with his resources and his influence. Most of his neighbors and relatives were loyal to King George, which made it easy for Dicey to gather information about the enemy.

With so much information being related to rebel forces, Tory suspicions began to surface toward Solomon Langston and Dicey, his daughter. The Tories threatened her aged father, holding him accountable for the actions of Dicey, if more information were to be leaked. Langston scolded Dicey and forbade her to visit her brothers camp. Although she agreed to the demands, she did not abide for long.

The Bloody Scouts were a band of Tory outlaws, led by Bloody Bill Cunningham, who were known for their ruthless cruelty to families of rebel sympathizers. When Dicey learned of a planned raid of her brother James camp, she knew she must warn her brother. The Tories were incensed with her brother, and he would be killed if captured; thus, she would deliver the warning in complete secrecy.

After the family and servants were asleep, she set out on foot, avoiding roads traveling in the fields and forests to avoid detection. Making her way through woods, marshes, and creeks, she finally reached the icy waters of the Enoree River, which was swollen by the spring rains. The only way to cross was to wade through the deep rushing waters. As she crossed, she fell and the current carried her downstream. After regaining her footing, she was finally able to drag herself onto the bank soaked and exhausted.

She traveled on and reached her brothers camp where she delivered her message of the impending raid. The Patriots immediately broke camp and ran to warn the settlers. Dicey

began her 20-mile journey home having to again cross the river once more on her return. She made it home, dripping wet, in time to cook breakfast for her father, never telling him of her adventure.

Later that morning, the Bloody Scouts raided the settlement only to find it deserted and the Tories became incensed and immediately decided the old man must die as they made their way to his house to kill him and plunder his belongings.

Solomon Langston was physically unable to escape or hide, and too proud to beg for mercy. When the Bloody Scouts arrived, he stood up, denying he had anything to do with passing them the message. Bill Cunningham declared him a liar and pointed a pistol at the old man's chest. Dicey jumped up and stood between her father and the angry Tory, who told her to move out of the way or he would put a bullet through her heart. She stood her ground and shouted that her father was an old man, clasping him closer to her keeping her body between him and the gunman. The Bloody Scouts were marveled by her bravery and fearless devotion to her father. Because she interfered, her father was spared.

On another occasion, Dicey was riding home when a company of Loyalists met her. They demanded she tell them information about the rebels. She claimed to know nothing. The Loyalist leader drew his pistol demanding she tell what she knew or be shot. She again refused, whereupon the captain held a pistol to her breast, and ordered her to make the disclosures or "die on her tracks." Dicey responded, "Shoot me if you dare! I will not tell you." Again, she was ordered, and again, she refused. Enraged by her defiance, the officer was about to fire, when another man hit the pistol, causing it to fire in the air. As the men squabbled, Dicey mounted her horse and made a speedy escape.

Throughout the war, Dicey continued her patriotic work by standing up to bands of Loyalists who frequently terrorized her home.

Even as a young girl, Dicey had the American patriotic spirit that was instilled in her by her family. She desperately wanted to do her part in support of the cause of liberty without regard for her safety. What fearless courage this 15-year-old hero displayed defending freedom. The American Patriotic spirit must be taught to our youth so if ever called upon or challenged, they too will respond like Dicey.

Enjoy your Summer, and I will see you at the next event! Ken

# Minutes of the OMCSAR Chapter Meeting Saturday, July 20, 2019. By Norman Knowlton, Secretary

**Vice President Gary Gift** called the Meeting to order at OTC at 9:00 AM with 25 members and five guests.

Chaplain Dan Philbrick gave the invocation. Compatriot Ed Gwin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Compatriot J. Howard Fisk** led the Pledge to the SAR. He proceeded to have guests introduce themselves. Compatriot Will Carr told a brief story of how he acquired a new auto license plate labeled "B-52".

Vice President Gary Gift asked Compatriot Ben Edmondson to come forward to be presented a Supplemental Membership for his ancestor William Edmondson. Ben gave a summary of the biography of his patriot who was born November 8, 1764, and died before 1833. He served at Kings Mountain and Wetzell Mill and served as one of the "Over the Mountain Men" with the militia from Virginia. This lead to the retreat of General Cornwallis from North Carolina. A certificate was presented; pictures were taken.

Compatriot J. Howard Fisk introduced the speaker of the day, Richard Crabtree. He has been in our community for over 20 years as a successful real estate agent and broker. He learned history from his grandfather who instilled his passion for the past, including his family's history. He had family members that came across on the Mayflower, fought in the Revolutionary War, and fought on both sides during the Civil War. He also had a teacher that inspired him to love history. When he came to Springfield and was in the real estate field, he learned the history of this community. He has become a resident historian, and today he presented some of the history of Springfield around the railroads.

As a real estate agent, he researched the history of the houses in the area not only for sale, but also to learn the history of this community. He has become a speaker on the history of Springfield and especially the history of the railroad. We are blessed to have one of the premier railroads in the Frisco Line which was started in Springfield and why it became the most prominent railroad in the country.

It started at the time around the Civil War and President Abraham Lincoln wanted to hook up the entire country and have a transcontinental line. Three routes were purposed. The Northern route was the Union Pacific line. The Middle route was along the 35th Parallel. Jefferson Davis surveyed the Southern route. This all started around 1849 with Colonel Phelps and Colonel Boyd surveying and developing the land which was to be used for the Middle route-along the 35th Parallel. The Frisco started multiple times and went broke in 1867. It started as the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad and had made it to the Rolla area at the

time of the end of the Civil War. General Fremont was given the railroad with his managers. He was an excellent General but a horrible businessman. In the year he had the railroad, it only went 13 miles. Another branch of the Atlantic & Pacific railroad also started out west with the plan for the two branches to meet up in the middle. By 1869, the railroad made its way to the Lebanon area.

Andrew Peirce, Jr. then purchased the railroad. He was selling stock in Europe to fund the new railroad. But in building the railroad, he decided to build the railroad thru Springfield only if he could have his station for \$25,000. Local persons, including Boyd, Harwood, and Robberson, decided to build an entirely new city and call it North Springfield. Mr. Pierce gave 40 acres to have the railroad shops complete access thru the town, allow them to build a station, and give them half of the interest in the town. North Springfield is now formed in 1869 and adopted in 1871. Two new parks were also formed, including Lafayette Park and Washington Square.

May 3, 1870, the first train arrives in Springfield. The rail-road paid its employees up to \$2.50 per day, which was great for its new employees, and because of this, they were able to expand its employee base quite rapidly. By 1873 many of the shops in North Springfield were already built on North Commercial Street. By the turn of the century, the trains were getting larger, they were expanding their yards, and were bringing in more revenues and more people.

He showed pictures of the new trains and the expanded yards. The tracks however, we're not able to progress thrrough Oklahoma because of the Indian Territory and could not go through the more southern route through Texas. The Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe railroad took all that land and laid track to California. He again showed pictures of the old shops, the blue-collar and white-collar workers, the roundhouses, and the yards. He also showed pictures of the old Ozark Hotel, which burned, was rebuild, and burned again. The Frisco took over the top floor of this last Hotel to look over the tracks and yards. Its location today would be at Commercial and Benton. The train station continued to expand.

Today, we only have two buildings which are related to the original Frisco Line: the Frisco Opera House (used as a union hall and meeting facility) and the bridge (built to get water and people south across the 13 tracks). Commercial street merchants completely funded the bridge. The construction company was by J.P. Morgan and his 21 different companies. This same company also built the Eads Bridge in St Louis. The bridge was built over the tracks in Springfield to not stop or delay the trains from running. The first person to cross the bridge was Allie Moon even before it was completed (8/29/1919). They also had the Springfield Hospital built, which was paid for by employees having 30 to 50 cents deducted from their paychecks. The hospital eventually closed and services shifted to the Frisco Hospital in St. Louis. The two cities got back together again.

Another railroad, the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Gulf (later to be called Memphis), came into Springfield in 1879 and built its shops and yards. The station was built in 1882, and The Harvey House was built. After World War I, in 1923, a new station was built and new bridges were funded by a tax on Springfield (southern Springfield). Construction was by W.W. Johnson.

In 1907 J.F. Woodruff came from St. Louis as the main corporate attorney for the railroad with its entire base being shifted to Springfield. They built a huge facility and even built Frisco Lake which was used to draw water for their power plant. They built neighborhood subdivisions near the yards. Mr. Crabtree showed pictures of trains, buildings, and other locations near these tracks. Vice President Gary Gift presented Richard Crabtree an OMCSAR Certificate for his presentation. Pictures were taken.

Vice-President Report - Gary Gift announced that registration is now open for the South Central District SAR meeting in Oklahoma City on August 23rd and 24th. We participated in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor at Immaculate Conception on July 9 for three Eagle Scouts with the Color Guard performing. A nice note was received from one of the mother's and included a \$100 donation. A voice thank you was recorded and played for us from the father of one of the Scouts. The Merit Badge Workshop is scheduled for November 2.

Secretary Report – Norman Knowlton showed a commemorative stamp for the 25th anniversary of the Landing and Walk on the Moon on July 20, 1969, which is 50 years ago today. The minutes from the last Meeting were published and included with the Patriot Newsletter last month. He asked for any additions or corrections. It was moved and seconded and passed as written.

**Treasurer Report - John McAlear** reported we have \$6242.31 in our Arvest Bank checking account. There is \$9186.48 in our interest bearing guaranteed fund at the Community Foundation of the Ozarks fund. These accounts total \$15,428.79. Our Membership number is now at 98. The report was accepted and passed.

Genealogist Report – Steve Perkins purged the prospective list of new inquiries down to 9 or 10, which are still at some level of continued interest. He does have one person of interest who is interested in SAR.

**Editor Report - Tom Sentman** reported that our OMC was given a full page in the Missouri section of the present NSSAR Color Guard Magazine.

**Historian Report - Curtis Trent** requested any materials or programs from any of our events to get them to him for the yearbook.

**Sgt-at-Arms Report - Charles McMillan** was at Oshkosh, Wisconsin at the time of our Meeting. His written report – he represented the OMC at three grave markings at

the Sappington Cemetery in Crestwood, Missouri. He played a drum behind the bagpiper as they led the procession into and out of the cemetery. He also visited two veterans at the Republic Nursing Center this past week.

Chapter Development Committee Report - J. Howard Fisk reviewed a previous award given to Chief Williams of the Springfield Police Department as an example of the Awards we will be giving this fall. Compatriot Tom Sentman sang happy Birthday to Dan McMurray. He announced the South Central SAR meeting in August. Next Saturday is the State MOSSAR in Columbia, Missouri July 27. August 7 is Nathanael Greene's birthday at the Greene County Courthouse. We are looking for others who willing to participate from other organizations—IE. Scout Troops, VFW, or friends. The Purple Heart Society will also share in this event.

The 250th Anniversary National Celebration Committee has established an award for individuals who participate in activities and gain points for their involvement. Once you acquire a certain number of points, one might accumulate enough to receive a medal for that level of participation. He introduced Barrett Fisk, a new Color Guard member who was included in the recent Color Guard magazine article about the

Compatriot Dan McMurray presented a quick update on the proceedings of the National Congress of the SAR which was held in July in Costa Mesa, California, which was hosted by the California State SAR. He presented the daily events and activities that he

OMC.

attended, including the installation of the new President General John "Jack" T. Manning.

Past President General David Appleby also gave his update on the National Congress, including some of the awards that were presented. These included the Minuteman Awards, the Youth Awards, Eagle Scout Essay, the Rumbaugh Oration Award, Law Enforcement Awards, Safety Awards, and the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Awards.

The NSSAR Memorial service included three members of Missouri SAR including Lemuel Compton, Calvin Holsinger, and Romine Carr.

He then presented a story of Col. Stewart Boone McCarty. He related that he was one of his special friends. McCarty, a descendant of Daniel Boone, had a relationship with him in the SAR and Knights Templar. David was introduced to him after his father had passed away accidentally. Stewart then became his surrogate father. Stewart joined the Navy in World War II and was a flight cadet. He graduated from flight school and got his wings, and the next day, the war ended. He left there and enlisted in the Marines. He became a Captain in the Korean War and a Company Commander

along with Raymond Davis, who later became the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

By the time of the Viet Nam War, he was a Lt. Colonel and Battalion Commander and ended his career as the Secretary to the General Staff of the Marine Corps.

Stewart Boone McCarty became the President General of NSSAR and a Grand Pryor of the Knights Templar. He was the president of 12 different lineage societies. He passed away, and all of the pallbearers were Admirals or Generals except for David, who gave the eulogy at the funeral service.

Some of Colonel McCarty's best friends were the Small-woods and the Nevells, who were very active in the SAR and the DAR. Eleanor Nevell, who is the only honorary first lady in the SAR, established two awards in the SAR. One was for Howard Horn, who is still living, and one for Stewart McCarty. Stewart worked very hard for the SAR and established many of the youth programs, particularly for education. Just before her death, Eleanor Nevell established the McCarty Award in his honor. He was a General in the New York State Guard and refused to be referred to as General because he stated that he would rather be a Marine Corps Colonel than an Army State Guard General.

President General David Appleby noted, on behalf of the NSSAR, he is honored to present this award, not only for Stewart, but also to one of the really great leaders in the SAR and a truly great friend, Joseph Howard Fisk. This is not just an award or a certificate for one person, but for all 38,000 members in the SAR who promote patriotic education for American youths. It has never been awarded to any member from Missouri. His wife joined him for the award, and pictures were taken.

A check for \$350 was also presented to Compatriot Fisk. He in turn, donated his monetary award to the Ozark Mountain Chapter for educational programs of the OMC. He thanked all of the OMC members for their involvement and those, including David Appleby, who have continued to make this possible.

#### **Committee Report**

No additional reports

**Old Business** 

None

**New Business** 

None

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

Compatriot Steve Perkins led the Recessional.

Compatriot Dan Philbrick provided the Benediction.

The Meeting ended at 10:21 AM.

<b>Happy August B</b>	irthdays
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Happy August Diffidays	
Chris Adcock	August 1
Terry Miller	August 1
David Healy	August 11
Wayne Jones	August 14
John Sayre	August 16
Terry Wood	August 17
Gary Gift	August 22
James Shad	August 22
Norman Knowlton	August 25
Zane Wood	August 26
Martin Capages	August 28
Robert Clark	August 28
Gerald Fowler	August 28



Happy September Birthdays		
Matthew Craft	September 2	
Jeffrey Patrick	September 2	
Barrett Fisk	September 3	
Edward Gwin	September 6	
Michael Neblett	September 9	
Clifton Smart	September 9	
Jerry Compton	September 11	
Al Walden	September 11	
Glenn Gohr	September 18	
Nelson Hermilla	September 22	
John McAlear	September 23	
James Whited	September 28	
Philip Reinbold	September 30	

#### **Photos**

By: Margaret Swales, Norman Knowlton, Gary Gift, Dan Piedlow, and Tom Sentman.

Editor: Tom Sentman 417-823-3902

tsentman@msn.com

#### **Sergeant's Corner**

#### **By Charles McMillan**

Who was 5' 9" and had a waist size that would not be desired by a "coquette"?

Deborah Sampson Gannett was a woman who disguised herself as a man so she could join the military in the American Revolution.

She was betrayed the first attempt by someone who recognized her.

During this era the average height of a woman was around 5 feet and a man was 5' 6" to 5' "... so you see she was even taller than a normal man.

"In May 1782, Sampson enlisted again, this time in Uxbridge, Massachusetts under the name "Robert Shirtliff" (also spelled in some sources as "Shirtliffe" or "Shurtleff"). She joined the Light Infantry Company of the 4th Massachusetts Regiment,[14] under the command of Captain George Webb (1740–1825)." (wiki)

"In September 1783, following the signing of the Treaty of Paris, November 3 was set as the date for soldiers to muster out. When Dr. Binney asked Sampson to deliver a note to General Paterson, she correctly assumed that it would reveal her gender. In other cases, women who pretended to be men to serve in the army were reprimanded, but Paterson gave her an honorable discharge, a note with some words of advice, and enough money to travel home. She was discharged at West Point, New York, on October 25, 1783, after a year and a half of service. [4]

An Official Record of Deborah Sampson Gannett's service as "Robert Shirtliff" from May 20, 1782 to Oct 25, 1783 appears in the "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War" series.

I highly recommend Private Deborah Sampson (Gannett) for further research. You will find her amazing.

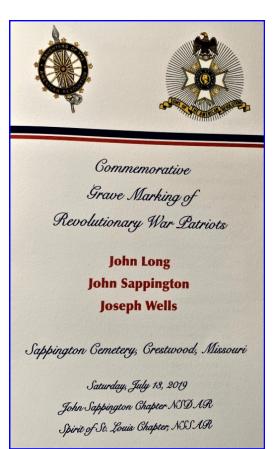
### **Chapter Participation Event July 13, 2019**

## City of Crestwood Sappington Cemetery 6st. 1811

#### OMC Color Guard member and Missouri SAR Sergeant-at-Arms Charles McMillan attended the Grave Marking Ceremony at the Sappington Cemetery near Arrow Rock, Missouri.

The ceremony was presented by the John Sappington Chapter DAR and the Spirit of St. Louis Chapter SAR.

### **Grave Marking Ceremony**



Charles McMillan was in Oshkosh. Wisconsin at the time of our meeting.

He represented the OMC at three grave markings at the Sappington Cemetery in Crestwood, Missouri. He played drum behind the bagpiper as they led the procession into and out of the cemetery.

The historic cemetery near Arrow Rock, Missouri, the Sappington Cemetery houses the graves of prominent pioneer physician Dr. John Sappington and two former Missouri governors, Meredith Miles Marmaduke, and Claiborne Fox Jackson.

He also visited two veterans at the Republic Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Republic, Missouri.

### **Chapter Event July 3, 2019**

# Branson Landing. Branson, Missouri

12th ANNUAL Liberty Light
Up Concert & Fireworks featuring Jason Pritchett & The Steel
Horses Summer Concert Series
6 pm to 10 pm



Right: OMC Color Guard members Charles McMillan, Steve Perkins, and Dan Piedlow attended.



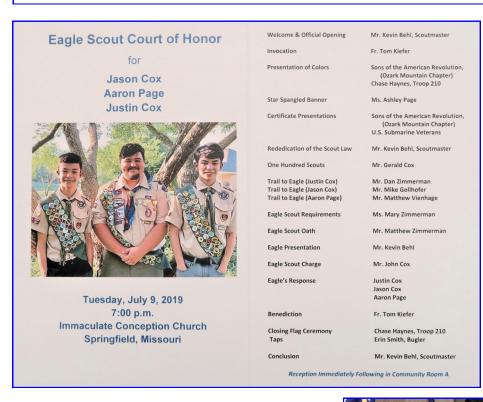
#### Chapter Event July 4, 2019

A parade was held July 4 at Meadowmere Place for the residents and families. Members participated.



### Chapter Event July 9, 2019

#### Court of Honor for Three Eagle Scouts at the Immaculate Conception Church in Springfield, Missouri





Vice President Gary Gift displays the program for the Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

**Right:** OMC Color Guard members Ken Lawrence (left) and Steve Perkins (right), and compatriots Norman Knowlton, and Gary Gift, attended the event.





#### Chapter Event July 16, 2019

## **History Explorers**



## "Capturing Ozarks History and Culture"

Dale Moore, a great storyteller and educator provided an interesting and enjoyable presentation about storytelling and obtaining and presenting subjects for the OPT Television OzarksWatch Video Magazine.



Dr. Dale Moore explains how he searches for topics and individuals to produce shows about Ozark events.

A video production was produced about the Sons of the American Revolution organization and Revolutionary War Patriots who are buried in Southwest Missouri.



J. Howard Fisk discussed noted Missourians who settled and brought early history to the Ozarks. Among those were John Polk Campbell, Nathanael Greene, Mary Whitney Phelps, wife of Governor John Phelps, and others.











of the American Revolution.



Left: Attendees enjoyed learning how a

azine Moderator. OPT Television

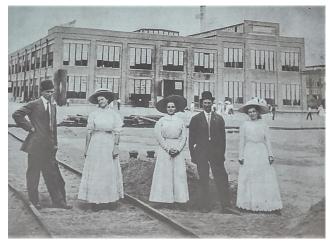
video production is developed and pro-**OMCSAR** President Ken Lawrence duced. More than 50 people attended. presents a Certificate of Excellence to Dale Moore for his presentation.



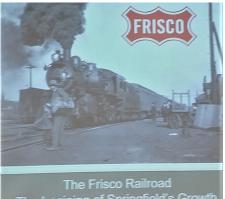
https://www.optv.org/shows/ozarkswatch-video-magazine/

### **Chapter Meeting Events** July 20, 2019

Guest Speaker Richard Crabtree presented "How Governor Phelps brought the railroad to Springfield."



Early Railroad Building and Employees.



The Frisco Railroad in Springfield, Missouri.



Vice President Gary Gift presented Richard Crabtree a OMCSAR Certificate of Appreciation for his presentation.



Vice President Gary Gift presented Ben Edmondson a Supplemental Membership. His Revolutionary War ancestor was William Edmondson, who was born November 8, 1764.



Past President David Appleby (right), on behalf of the President General of the SAR, presented the Colonel Stewart Boone McCarty Award to Joseph Howard Fisk. Jan Fisk joined him for the award.

A check for \$350 accompanied the award, which Compatriot Fisk donated to OMC educational programs.

Treasurer John McAlear (left) accepted the check.



### Chapter Event July 27, 2019

## Missouri SAR Quarterly Meeting Columbia, Missouri



MOSSAR President James Osbourn displayed the Colonel Stewart Boone McCarty Award Certificate awarded to OMC Compatriot J. Howard Fisk.





**OMC Attendees** 

**Left:** Steven Perkins, George Swales, Norman Knowlton, Ken Lawrence, J. Howard Fisk, Dan Philbrick, Dan McMurray, Tom Sentman, and Charles McMillan.



President James Osbourn announced the appointment of the Missouri SAR Color Guard Commander.

(Image provided by Dennis J. Hahn, FDL Chapter)



President Osbourn congratulated Compatriot Steven Perkins as the new Missouri SAR Color Guard Commander.

South Central Vice President Dan McMurray looks on. Compatriots Perkins and McMurray are members of the OMCSAR.



Missouri Society and OMCSAR Sergeant-at-Arms Charles McMillan with streamer.

The streamer was awarded to the Missouri Society for attending the George Rogers Clark Wreath Laying Ceremony May 26, 2019, at Vincennes, Indiana.



# Message from the President General Independence Day Warren Alter, President General 2018-2019

Compatriots and Friends of the Sons of the American Revolution,

This Thursday, July 4, 2019 will be the 243rd Celebration of America's Birthday. Those familiar with the Declaration of Independence, and our American history recognize the significance of what Independence Day means to this country. Some may think it is time for hot dogs and fireworks. Others, a day off from work. But it means so much more. Our forefathers declared their independence from the greatest military country in the world. This was a new beginning for our country and eventually changed the destiny of the world. This independence did not come easily, and many thought there was no way the Patriots would succeed. It took many years to prove we were independent and win our freedom from England, but we did.

Many of our Chapters and States will be participating in 4th of July Celebrations. Some with just SAR, others with DAR and C.A.R., and others with local and state entities. Some will have a few dozen people, others in our nation's largest cities and venues will have thousands. For some it will just be a quiet evening in the backyard with family. For others, like the American Village in Montevallo, AL it will be their annual largest event of the year with thousands coming to their 180acre facilities.

Others, like many of our active duty military will do so in foreign lands away from their families and homes. Remember they are serving to keep our country free. Remember their sacrifices and help the families who are home celebrate this Independence day.

For Public Service workers it is often one of their busiest days, keeping crowds under control, unthinking adults and innocent bystanders safe from gunshots fired in the air. Please remember, what goes up, must come down. Each year innocent people are injured or killed by unthinking or careless people. Or even with our own color guard and their muskets; there may be no musket balls in those muskets, but there is black powder and safety must be our priority. We don't want any injuries at any of our events. Fire Department personnel responding to fires and damage caused by improper fireworks. Paramedics and other medical personnel treating those injured from auto accidents, firework mishaps, and unruly crowds associated with Independence Day celebrations and travel. Often, Public Service Workers don't look on this day as a celebration, but an event to get through safely. Let's make not make it harder on those military and public service workers who strive to keep us safe. Take time to say thank you to our military and public safety employees. They all need and appreciate our support.

Continued from Page 10

Whatever manner you choose to celebrate Independence Day, don't ever forget it means many things to many people and please let us make it enjoyable for everyone. Take the time, this day and every day to remind the public and young people what this day is and why we celebrate it. Remind them that living in the United States we shouldn't take for granted the freedoms that we enjoy, for many around the world have never even been exposed to freedom. Make part of your celebration a history lesson.

Finally, I would like to share Concurrent Resolution Number 25, agreed to by House and Senate June 26, 1963 that I will have the honor to be reading at a 4th of July Event in Cerritos, CA this year. Perhaps others can incorporate it into their events and celebrations.

#### Concurrent Resolution Number 25

United States Senate and The House of Representatives

"Whereas the tolling of the Liberty Bell at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, 1776, proclaimed the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and

Whereas the adoption of this historic document marked the birth of our country as a free and independent nation; and

Whereas it is fitting that the anniversary of this great event should be appropriately observed in each year at the same moment throughout the United States;

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the Congress hereby (1) declares that the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence should be observed each year by the ringing of bells throughout the United States at the hour of 2 o'clock, eastern daylight time, in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, or at such other time on that day as may be determined by local authority, and (2) call upon civic and other community leaders to take appropriate steps to encourage public participation in such observance."

#### Adopted 26 June 1963

I wish you, our families and friends a joyous Independence Day this July 4. Be safe and remember what we are celebrating thanks to our Patriots.

Warren M. Alter

President General 2018-2019



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Memorial Day Remembrance - May 27, 2019 Springfield National Cemetery





https://members.sar.org/media/uploads/pages/245/ORGEok24AV3Q.pdf

Copy and paste hyperlink into your browser

**July 2019** 

### **Upcoming Events**

## **August**



Wednesday, August 7, 10 am-11 am Nathanael Greene & Purple Heart Ceremony Greene County Courthouse



**Monday, August 12 Chapter Development Meeting** 6:30 p.m. Neighbor's Mill Bakery & Café, 1435 E Independence St. #110.



Friday-Saturday, August 23-24, SAR South Central District Leadership Oklahoma City, OK. Meeting.

Hilton Embassy Suites, Will Rogers Airport 1815 South Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK.



## September

Monday, September 9 **Chapter Development Meeting** 6:30 p.m. Neighbor's Mill Bakery & Café, 1435 E Independence St. #110.



#### Saturday, September 14 Chapter Meeting Note Date Change this Month.

Several members will attend the NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting on Saturday, September 20th, the regular monthly meeting date.