

THE PATRIOT



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Missouri SAR



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The President's Message

By President Curtis Trent

Compatriots,

Spring is here! I hope everyone is enjoying the warming weather and refreshing rains. In the era of pre-industrial warfare, such as the revolutionary war period, seasons and weather had a much bigger impact on combat than today's mechanized armies. This was also true of naval operations, where sailing ships were at the mercy of environmental conditions for their propulsion.

On April 24, 1778, the American sloop of war *Ranger* faced off against the British vessel *Drake* in the North Channel between Ireland and Scotland. John Paul Jones, the captain of the *Ranger*, had already experienced several successes in prior commands and been dispatched to France in 1777 with general orders to support the war effort. In his encounter with the *Drake*, an American ship found itself in the rare position of being better armed and crewed.

The disparity in weapons became apparent as soon as the two ships began exchanging broadsides. The *Drake's* four-pound guns had difficulty piercing the *Ranger's* hull and keeping all its guns firing as disorganization plagued its efforts. The *Ranger* eventually blasted

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away the *Drake's* sails rendering the British ship immobile in the calm winds. After more than an hour of combat the British ship surrendered, becoming the victor's prize.

Naval activities during the revolution would eventually take on a bigger role when France and its sea power joined the effort. However, the actions of American ships helped ensure that even outmanned and outgunned, the fledgling new maritime nation would never be fully driven from the seas.

Warm Regards,

Curtis Trent

OMSCAR President

Minutes from the OMCSAR Chapter Meeting March 20, 2021

President Curtis Trent called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. via zoom with 23 members and 1 guest. The invocation was given by **Compatriot Dan Philbrick**. The pledge of allegiance by led by **Compatriot J. Howard Fisk**. The pledge to the SAR was led by **Compatriot Gary Gift**.

Introduction of the Guest Speaker was by **Compatriot Jeff Patrick** who introduced **Sarah Cunningham**, the new director of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. This woman is Jeff's boss who is presently the new superintendent of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield and has been a several year veterans of the National Park Service who recently came to us from the Carolinas and is also a native from Missouri and actually worked as seasonal ranger at Wilson's Creek-thus she is coming back home.

Guest Speaker Sarah Cunningham described her background. She was born and raised in Missouri and grew up outdoors while appreciating nature around her. At an early age she gained the appreciation of history in the National Park system while visiting several of the parks with her family in summer times with her sister. One of the most memorable trips was one to Colorado in the early 90's visiting most of the western National Parks. As an avid learner she earned her Bachelor of Arts at Missouri State University in Arts degree in Public History with a concentration in Museum Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. In order to gain access to the National Park service she needed additional schooling where she received a Master of Science in Resource Interpretation under the Forestry Department at Stephen F. Austin State University in Texas then back to the Carolinas. Her areas of interest are Military History, Social History and Material Culture. While earning her Bachelor degree she worked at Wilson's Creek for 2 years and learned while she was there. While working on her graduate degree she started working at Guilford Courthouse and then transferred to Ninety Six Battlefield in South Carolina for that permanent position. In 2015 the

Southern Campaign of the American Revolution Parks were established where she took a position of Integrated Resources and Facilities. She then went back to be superintendent of Guilford Courthouse. In 2018 she was acting superintendent of Guilford Courthouse and during 2018-2019 she gained valuable experience as to managing a park. Most recently she was the superintendent of the Southern Campaign Park before accepting the position at Wilson's Creek. She showed slides of the Parks. She has worked with the National Park Service for the past 15 years. She has been involved in many aspects of these facilities in which she participated. She had many cultural management projects. She showed slides of several of the projects that she was in charge at the various parks.

She has been present now at Wilson's Creek for the past 5 months. She is learning the Park and has her short- and long-term goals. Her short-term goals include keeping management of operation moving forward, providing recreational opportunities, keeping people healthy mentally and physically, and to complete the Visitor Center renovation during the COVID. Her long-term goal is to first find out about the now first and lead forward to the future to make it function better. She would like to come back in another year to show how things have changed under her leadership.

She then went on to discuss her participation in the various Parks where she worked and showed slides of the various Battlefield Parks. First was the Overmountain Victory Trail which is 330 miles thru 4 states (Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina). This traces the direction of the Patriot Militia during the pivotal Kings Mountain Campaign of 1780. She told the story of the men who volunteered in these campaigns. On October 7 1780 was the Battle of Kings Mountain which was one of the most hotly contested battles of the Revolution. It was the first major Patriot victory after the British had taken Charleston, South Carolina. Thomas Jefferson termed this the "Turn of the tide is set".

Cowpens Battlefield Park commemorates the

- continued on Page 3 -

victory of Brigadier General Dan Morgan over his dreaded enemy Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton on January 7, 1781. He used his classic tactic of “Double Development” to turn the British attacks into a victory for the Patriots.

The Battle of Guilford Courthouse was on March 15, 1781 in which Major General Nathanael Greene resulted in a significant loss of British soldiers and

British Officers leading to having General Cornwallis leave North Carolina and head north to Virginia. This Park stands in the middle of Greensboro, North Carolina on 250 acres.

Ninety Six Park was in the middle of the previous Cherokee lands. The first Battle of the American Revolution in South Carolina was fought in the Fort area of Ninety Six in November 1775 over gunpowder. Ninety Six was a strategic location in the western South Carolina for the British. On June 18 of 1781 General Greene attacked, but this siege lasted for the longest siege of the Revolution -- for 28 days. The name Ninety Six is believed to be named because it's distance is ninety six miles from the Fort to the town of Kiowa, the main town of the Cherokees.

She encouraged all to visit the websites of these Southern Campaign Parks and some of their documentaries.

She was thanked and invited to come back next year to give us an update on renovations at the Park and she will let us know when the Park is going to be opened back up after the renovations.

State Representative and OMC President Curtis Trent offered assistance for the Wilson's Creek Park since this is in his congressional district.

Officer's Report:

First Vice President—Ben Edmondson—No Report - He is progressing on the yearbook for last year.

.Second Vice President—Jeff Patrick—echoed Sarah Cunningham's report about Guilford Courthouse and it's recent anniversary of the Battle and encouraged all to utilize their virtual tour for information and it's film on line on their website and

Facebook page.

Treasurer—John Charles—gave an update on our finances. We have \$13,068.23 in our Arvest Bank checking account and \$9,280.60 in our interest bearing, guaranteed fund at the Community Foundation of



In a scene from March 15, 1781, at Guilford Courthouse, Gen. Nathanael Greene deploys his Continentals and militia against the British army and Lord Charles Cornwallis. (credit: Painting by Keith Rocco /)

the Ozarks account. These two accounts total \$22,348.83. A motion to accept this report was made, seconded and passed to send this on to the Audit Committee for audit.

Secretary Report – Norman Knowlton—The minutes from the last meeting were published and included with the Patriot Newsletter last month. He asked for any addition or corrections. Seeing none, it was moved and seconded and passed as written. He spoke briefly on the subject of Honorary Citizenship in the United States. A person of exceptional merit, a non-United States citizen, may be declared an Honorary Citizen of the United States by an Act of Congress, or by a proclamation issued by the President of the United States with authorization granted by Congress. There have been only eight persons so honored. Mother Teresa and Sir Winston Churchill were the only living individuals to have received this honor while alive.

The other eight were given posthumously including: Raoul Wallenberg (Swedish diplomat who rescued Jews in Hungary from the Holocaust), William Penn and his second wife Hannah Penn (Founders of Pennsylvania), Marquis de Lafayette of France, Casimir Pulaski of Poland, and Bernardo de Galvez (Spanish Officer who claimed Florida for the Patriots in the Revolutionary War).

Genealogist Report – Steve Perkins—He reported that he is actively working and seeking new applicants to our chapter. He presented that there are 36 prospects. There are 3 new prospects. There are 5 supplemental applications sent to National which are pending. There are 2 New member applications sent to National and pending. And there are 2 recent members which have been approved. He wished to thank Len Slovensky for his assistance in doing research on some of our stale applications. He also has received papers for another new application to send to State who is serving in Germany and will be returning home in the near future.

Editor Report – Dan Piedlow—asked to have anyone participating in OMC events to send pictures or information from any of events to him. He reminded all about the Wreath Laying event on April 10th with the Isaac Garrison DAR. This will be a Color Guard event but encouraged all to attend. Our new SAR Logo will be included in our next month's Patriot Newsletter.

Historian Report –Don Higginson—He is working with Ben Edmondson with the yearbook and trying to streamline the yearbook.

Sgt. at Arms Report –John Hathcock-No formal report, but he again encouraged all to help with this year's ROTC and JROTC events this spring.

Chapter Development Committee— Compatriot Gary Gift reported upcoming events:

March 27th Missouri SAR Meeting by Zoom

March 28th Eagle Scout Court of Honor at Camp Childress, south of Joplin

April 8th OMC Chapter Development Meeting by Zoom

April 10th Patriot Timothy Scruggs Wreath Laying with the DAR-Griffin Cemetery, Nixa

April 17th OMC monthly meeting by Zoom

April 24th Missouri SAR Meeting by Zoom

May 4th WOLF School Flag ceremony at Nathanael Greene Park

May 4th Patriot William Bodenhamer Memorial at Nathanael Greene Park

May 6th OMC Chapter Development Meeting by Zoom

May 15th OMC monthly meeting by Zoom

May 15th Memorial Day Ceremony at Springfield National Cemetery in person

All of these events are presently on our website for your convenience.

We are coming along with our 40th Anniversary event with Tom Sentman spearheading this event in November.

The Merit Badge workshop will be held at OTC the first Saturday in November and we will be sending out this information to the area scout troops.

Committee Report—Other Committee Reports--None

Old Business—None

New Business

An Eagle Scout Essay video was attempted to be shown but secondary to difficulties it will be presented later in a small file that will be emailed to each of our members via a link in our Patriot Newsletter.

Compatriot John Hathcock, after arm twisting, has taken on the coordinator of our ROTC and JROTC program. The baton has been passed from Charles McMillan to John Hathcock and he will be pursuing the dates for these events after the school's spring break. The only one that is scheduled is the Branson High School JROTC will be held the first of May at 5:30 PM and will be a dining out event at an in person event.

There will be a new “Gold Program” at the School of the Ozarks since they dropped the JROTC program and he has been affiliated with the commissioning program of the Missouri National Guard.

He gave his history of his involvement in the Military and his involvement with the National Guard.

Compatriot Gary Gift introduced the new OMC Challenge Coins and OMC pins for the OMC. He presented the size, the design, and the costs of the order. This will be used for our 40th Anniversary of the OMC and

could be used for other activities including personal use or marketing. A motion to purchase 200 pins

and 200 coins was made to be used by our chapter. It was suggested that preorders might be taken from members who might wish to purchase these for personal use. The cost would be for 200 pins would be \$465 dollars and for 200 coins would be \$1040 dollars. This would become our OMC Challenge Coin indefinitely. We would still use the previous Challenge Coins for program presenters and other beneficiaries. Members could purchase pins or coins for personal use at a suggested price of \$3 dollars for pins and \$6 dollars for the coins. These coins would be of the same standard size coins that are used by our National. The motion was made and seconded to purchase 200 pins and 200 coins and passed.

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

Compatriot Tom Sentman led the Recessional.

Compatriot Dan Philbrick gave the Benediction.

The Meeting ended at 10:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted.

Norman Knowlton, Secretary



Important Dates in History

March 1 – Articles of Confederation ratified 1781

March 3 – U.S. Marines first landing on foreign soil 1776

March 5 - Boston Massacre 1770

March 10 - Last Naval Battle of the Revolution 1783

March 12 - Battle of Guilford Courthouse 1781

March 17 – British evacuate Boston 1776

March 16 - James Madison Birthday 1751

March 22 – Stamp Act 1765

March 23 – Patrick Henry’s “Liberty or Death” speech 1775

March 24 - Quartering Act 1765

March 30 - New England Restraining Act 1775

April 5—Sugar Act 1764

April 13—Thomas Jefferson Birthday 1743

April 18—Paul Revere and William Dawes Ride 1775

April 19—Battles of Lexington and Concord 1775

Birthdays

Tom Sentman	March 26
Daniel J. Piedlow	March 27
Matthew Lyons	March 29

Barrett Barker	April 6
Edwin Frederickson	April 11
Randy Painter	April 17
David Appleby	April 18
Donald Pruitt	April 25



MARCH AWARDS AND EVENTS

OMCSAR Compatriot Gary Bishop presents the Eagle Scout Award to Johan Hensley from Boy Scout troop 333 in Joplin. Scout Hensley earned 52 merit badges including the American Heritage and Law.



Medal of Honor Commemoration Sergeant Freeman Davis, U.S. Army, Oak Hill Cemetery, Butler, MO, 21 March 2021.

- L-R: Dale E. Crandell, Ozark Mountain Chapter
- Robert L. Grover, Harry S. Truman Chapter
- Michael R. Lundeen, SUV
- Brian V. Smarker, Harry S. Truman Chapter
- John K. Stewart, Harry S. Truman Chapter
- Kevin L. Miller, Willian C. Corum Chapter
- James D. Becker, SUV

Attending were the Daughters of the American Revolution, United States Daughters of 1812, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Sons of the America Revolution, Bugles across America, American Legion Post 67 Rich Hill, MO, Missouri Nation Guard.

Other:

Drummer: Pat Stewart, DAR Independence Pioneers Chapter

Taps: Edward Bliefnick, Bugles Across America

Flag Folding: Missouri National Guard

The United States of America presented the Medal of Honor to The United States of America presented the Medal of Honor to Sergeant Freeman Davis on 30 March 1896 with the citation:

“This soldier, while his regiment was falling back, seeing the 2 color bearers shot down, under a severe fire and at imminent peril recovered both the flags and saved them from capture.”



MARCH AWARDS AND EVENTS

Biography:

Freeman Davis was a native of Ohio, having been born in Newcomerstown in 1842.

Little is known about Freeman's early years but we do know he was an industrious and dependable young man who willingly, and I dare say eagerly, enlisted during the early months of the Civil War. His quick rise in rank surely speaks to his trustworthiness and determination to succeed in whatever order was issued.

Following the War, 27 year old Freeman married in 1869. His wife Anna was also born in Ohio and was 23 when they wed. To this union four children were born; three sons, Frederick, Burton, and Raymond. A daughter Jessie Love Davis was surrendered to the Angels at the tender age of ten years old.

We do not know when the Davis' moved to Butler but the 1880 Census has the family living in Mt. Pleasant Township, in Butler. Freeman's occupation is listed as "works in woolen mill". Freeman's wife, Anna, died in 1894 with the cause of death being 'shock following a surgical operation.'"

On March 30, 1898, sitting on the porch of his home at 410 Delaware, 56 years old Captain Davis received a letter. Putting on his glasses he began to read:

The President of the United States on behalf of the Congress and a grateful nation is pleased to inform you that you have been awarded the Medal of Honor for your heroic actions at the Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tennessee on November 25, 1863.

An article in the Bates County Record newspaper, dated April 9, 1898, stated that Captain Freeman Davis had received from the War Department the Medal of Honor for gallantry in battle.

The medal was enclosed in a satin lined case, is made of bronze in the shape of a star and the design and workmanship are beautiful. It was accompanied by an autograph letter from Secretary of War Alger, stating it was awarded to Captain Davis by Congress.

Only a few months later, Captain Davis passed away on February 23, 1899. He was laid to rest by his beloved wife Anna and their darling child, Jessie Love.

Mr. Davis' story slipped into obscurity and was forgotten. It is incumbent upon each generation to remember, honor, and pay tribute to the heroes who have gone before us. On this day, we remember, honor, and pay tribute to Captain Freeman Davis.

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.



MARCH AWARDS AND EVENTS

OMCSAR Compatriot Charles McMillan presented the Republic High School JROTC Award to Cadet Blane Bordwel on March 22nd.



OMCSAR Compatriot and Missouri State President J. Howard Fisk presented the Law Enforcement Commendation Award and Medal to Judge Mark Harpool. Mark Douglas "Doug" Harpool (born June 7, 1956) is a United States District Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri. He is a former Missouri House of Representatives from southwest Missouri member representing the 134th district. Judge Harpool served five terms from January 5, 1983 to January 6, 1993. Judge Harpool currently presides over the United States Naturalization Ceremonies that occur in Southwest Missouri.



On March 28th OMCSAR Compatriots Gary Gift and Steven Perkins presented the Eagle Scout Scholarship award to Eagle Scout Lucas Ruth of Boy Scout Troop 34 in Neosho.



The Missouri Bicentennial Medal is available for purchase. This medal set is approved to be worn with your other medals and is \$30.00 if purchased from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk (while he still has them) or can be ordered online for \$35.00.

MARCH AWARDS AND EVENTS

On March 6th, the OMCSAR Compatriots Gary Gift, Steven Perkins, President Curtis Trent and Daniel Piedlow presented Eagle Scout William Sutherlin a Certificate of Recognition for his achievement to Eagle Scout. This was presented at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor at the Ozark Trails Council in Springfield.



On March 7th the OMCSAR Color Guard participated with the DAR in presenting the Colors for the inaugural meeting of the Agnes Hill Chapter DAR in Phillipsburg, MO. The Color Guard members were Compatriots Steven Perkins, Charles McMillan and Daniel Piedlow photographing the event.



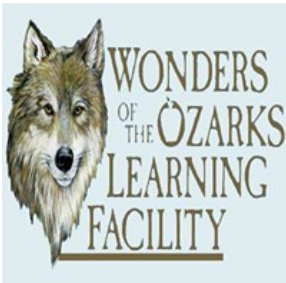
UPCOMING EVENTS



The Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR monthly meeting is Saturday April 17, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. via Zoom.



The Missouri State SAR is having their quarterly meeting on Saturday April 24, 2021 at 8:30 A.M. at Fisk Transportation, 2001 E. Trafficway, Springfield and viz Zoom.



On Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. the Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR Color Guard will be conducting a flag ceremony for the WOLF School at Nathanael Greene/ Close Memorial Park, 2001 South Scenic Ave., Springfield. This event will be immediately followed by a memorial for Patriot William Bodenhamer. This event is on the same grounds at the WOLF event.



Thursday, May 6, 2021 the Ozark Mountain Chapter Development Committee meeting will be on Zoom at 6:30 P.M.