

THE PATRIOT



Established July 1981
Missouri SAR



Winner of the Missouri SAR Josiah Fogg Award for 2020

VOLUME 42 ISSUE 3 OZARK MOUNTAIN CHAPTER SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION MARCH 2022



The President's Message

By President Ben Edmondson

Greetings Compatriots,

I hope everyone is ready for the beautiful Ozarks Springtime.

We had a wonderful month in March. We presented our Life Saving Award at our meeting. And the Rachel Donelson Chapter of the NSDAR presented our chapter with the NSDAR America 250! Commendation for all the work we do raising awareness of revolutionary patriots and America's



Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR President Ben Edmondson receiving the award from Rachel Donelson Chapter DAR Regent Pat Haas.

As we move into April, let me update you on a few upcoming spring events on our calendar.

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Minutes from the OMCSAR Chapter Meeting Saturday, March 19th, 2022

Next Scheduled Meeting: April 9th, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. at Ozark Technical College in Springfield, Missouri.

President Ben Edmondson called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with 21 members and 6 guests. **Compatriot Norm Knowlton** gave the invocation. **Compatriot J. Howard Fisk** led the Pledge of Allegiance. **Compatriot Steve Perkins** led the Pledge to the SAR.

President Ben Edmondson introduced our guests Paul Bales, his wife Wendy, and his friend Matt for our OMC Life Saving Heroism Awardee.

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250th Anniversary.

April and May are ROTC and JROTC season. We will soon begin making our presentations to deserving cadets at our local High Schools and Universities. If you would like to participate this year, please contact John Hathcock for details.

Our Chapter Meeting will be held on April 9 at 9:00 A.M. at OTC.

The Ozark Mountain Chapter will hold a Flag Retirement Ceremony in conjunction with Cox Health. The event will be at their facility located at 2224 W Sunset at 4:30 P.M. on April 18th. This will be a community service event and should be well attended.

So, please mark your calendars for these events and plan on attending and participating.

April 29th and 30th will be the Missouri SAR Annual Meeting in St Louis.

The events of April 1775 remind us all that communication

is key to our success. Last month we listened to Professor Bill Piston. He informed us of how the Minutemen had prepared their network of communication leading up to the events



surrounding the clash between the Minutemen and the Redcoats. As the Minutemen answered the call, let us answer the call to continue raising awareness of our patriot ancestors.

I hope everyone has a great Spring season.

Ben Edmondson, President
Ozark Mountain Chapter

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Compatriot Dan Piedlow told the story of this gentleman's heroism. On August 20th, 2021 Paul was driving his tractor-trailer on I-44 going east at about 7



AM near Rolla, Missouri all the cars in front of him started slowing down and stopping. There was debris on the road and there was a battered pickup truck under the overpass. Paul pulled his truck over, went to the pickup, and was joined by two construction workers. The accident had just happened and they could not see anyone inside the truck. One of the construction workers found a 50-year-old man pinned under the truck, he was not moving and was completely unconscious. Flames started coming from underneath the engine compartment. The three men dragged him out as far as they could to make sure he was safe. Paul took his fire extinguisher from his tractor-trailer, but the fire was too involved. The injured man was taken by helicopter to St. Louis where he will make a full recovery. If Paul had not stopped and rendered his assistance, this man would have definitely died, pinned under the truck and with the car on fire. For this, we are giving Paul Bales the OMC of the Sons of the American Revolution Life Saving Heroism Award. His Certificate and Medal were presented and pictures were taken.

President Ben Edmondson then had **Les Becker** to come forward where he inducted him with the SAR Oath. He was then presented his NSSAR Membership Certificate and his Rosette was placed on his lapel by **Compatriot Steve Perkins**. Pictures were then taken. Newly inducted Les Becker gave a brief history of his Patriot. He related as a



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youth at a family reunion he would listen to the grownups talking about his family and overheard that his grandmother was a member of the DAR. Years later his youngest daughter was studying American history and they took a trip to Washington D.C. to give more substance to her education. They visited the DAR building and they looked into this further. The staff at this DAR building took his grandmother's name and researched but was unsuccessful. Later his aunt did the genealogic research for almost an entire year and made the rest happen. His sister and he went on to get their genealogy for their memberships.

The name of his Patriot was William Kelly who was from Connecticut and his history is included. Born in 1747.

President Ben Edmondson then proceeded to present NSSAR Supplemental Memberships to:

Joel Monteith

James Whited

Ben Edmondson Pictures were taken

Histories of these Patriots are included.

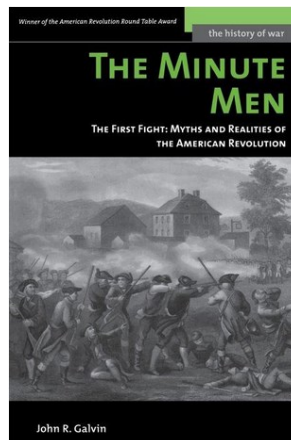
Compatriot J. Howard Fisk gave the introduction

of our speaker for the day---
William Piston. He spent his life in the education of American



History. He has published multiple books, especially on Civil War History. His first book was about Robert E. Lee. He developed a love of Trans Mississippi activities in the Civil War. His most recent book was "We Gave Them Thunder" about Brigadier General John Marmaduke in Missouri and Arkansas. He has been a lecturer and consultant in Civil War History. He has been on the Foundation Board of the Wilsons Creek National Battlefield. The title of his talk is "The

Role of the Militia in the American Revolution". **William Piston** referenced two books that are important to understand the role of the Militia in the American Revolution. The first is one that he used in teaching his classes in American Military History over the 29 years at Missouri State University- John Galvin's book-"The Minute Men". It deals with the Lies and Legends of the Battle of Lexington and Concord. The legend is the British stupidly marched to Lexington and Concord and got beaten because they were wearing bright red uniforms and stood



together in straight lines and fired short-range muskets and they were opposed by a militia all of whom brought their hunting weapons and were crack shots like Daniel Boone- and won because of a brief standoff at Lexington and Concord and they hid behind trees and picked the British off at long range. This is a gross exaggeration. The militia was actually there. This is part of the half-truths of that event. This did occur and was a running event that occurred from Concord all the way back to Boston. This was an incredibly lopsided victory for the Americans. The British had some 1500 involved with nearly 18% casualties and the Colonials involved had 4% casualties. But the myth was that these were amateur farmers-many of the colonists were officers from the French and Indian War which ended in 1763. Time had passed but many of the officers had some military experience even though many of the younger men did not. The British that survived were astonished with the military discipline shown by the Militia-they marched in ranks under military command in the field at Concord. Some irony to this was that the British while occupying Boston, marched around the streets and countryside to try to intimidate the militia. This perfected the alarm system of the Militia. This would occur frequently when the British and the Militia would face off with each other. While there was some long-range firing that

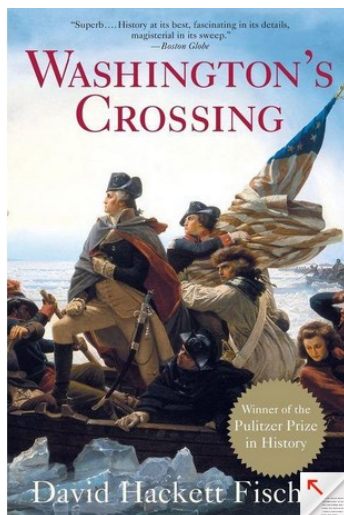
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wore out the British, most of the casualties were in short-range firing. There were many close-range ambushes and the British would march on. Success was in part because colonials would fire and skirt around and fire again, not just behind the bushes at long range. As Colonial units would fire briefly and pull off while other newly arriving Colonial units from their alarm system would again attack as they would arrive. The decentralized nature of the alarm system worked perfectly in this situation because the junior officers heard of this fighting and took advantage of this opportunity. At one point where the "Provincials" tried to stand up to the British by blocking the road and hand to hand fighting took place and most of the Colonial's casualties took place. This debuffs the myth that the Colonials who own hunting rifles and were crack shots and hid in the woods—NO—It is a triumph of organization that caught the British by surprise. This led to thousands of Militia from this alarm to assist in the siege of Boston. The British could not believe that a Militia organization of this size could have happened. The revolution was won in the hearts and minds of the people before the first shots were fired. In Massachusetts, this was true because the Militia was ready on demand. Because of the events of the time, many of the loyalists had been weaned out of positions of authority in the local areas, so when the Militia was called out, they were ready. So the organization, not firearm capabilities, was the reason the Militia was so successful.

The second book that was recommended was David Fischer's

"Washington's Crossing" which is associated with the myths and lies about the crossing of the Delaware by Washington but also it is a first-rate piece of military history. It is a history of the American Revolution from the first campaigns in New York where Washington has



to do something. He tried to defend New York and failed. He failed at Long Island, he failed at Massachusetts, he failed at Harlem Heights and the American Army is about 30,000 which included the Militia. He was pushed down thru New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and into Delaware. And at that time dropped below 3000 men because of short-term enlistments, weather, and supplies. Washington had not done a very good job, but not because of the Militia. The only reason that Washington and his men survived was because the British Commanders, William Howe, the Army Commander, and Richard Howe, the Naval Commander, both were sympathetic to the Colonial cause and they did not want to kill the Americans. They gave up the chance to trap the clumsy American Army which they found they were not difficult to outflank, take over the American Army, and not to take Philadelphia. Congress was ineffective, desertions were rampant, the failures of the British Commanders, and poor communications with England led them to lose the opportunity to destroy the American forces.

This led to the Howe brothers being replaced. What changes things was Washington deciding to cross the Delaware River and take Princeton and Trenton. It was the daring success of the Militia that stayed with Washington to help capture these towns. Because of these two successes, people come back to rejoin the Army. He believed this was the turning point in the American Revolution. The Forage Wars were an important factor in these two battles. During the winter of 1776 -77, the Howe brothers decided to occupy most of New Jersey and the actions of their men was abominable-foraging food, crops, and supplies, pillaging, and raping women. The behavior of the British troops helped change the behavior of the Militia which turned out to protect their own before Washington crossed the Delaware and Princeton. This helped strengthen the Militia to be able to attack the British again and again. The Militia in a decentralized mode attacked the British while they were going after forage and so leading to strengthening the American cause and the

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Militia before the crossing of the Delaware. From Long Island to the Forage Wars the British had 4397 casualties which is significant and the sickness of this winter campaign. During this time the British lost up to 40% of their Military force. This got back to England and resulted in no inch of territory which is safe. He reemphasized the critical role of the Militia before the Battles of Princeton and Trenton and played a real critical role after these battles.

Compatriot J. Howard Fisk presented **William Piston** with the first 250th NSSAR Challenge coin that has been awarded by the NSSAR from the Education Committee. Pictures were taken.



William Piston receiving the 250th challenge coin from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk.

1st Vice

President Report—Cris Brayman—No Report

2nd Vice President Report—Jim Robinette—Not present and No Report

Treasurer Report—John Angst---we have presently \$8,722.61 in our Arvest Bank checking account, \$9303.92 in our interest bearing, guaranteed fund at the Community Foundation of the Ozarks fund. These two accounts total \$18,026.53. This report was accepted and passed unanimously and was sent for audit.

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

Genealogist Report – Steve Perkins—There are 6 applications that are on the cusp of getting completed. There are 2 new supplemental applications that are in early stages. **Compatriot Gary Gift** is working on another which appears to be a slam dunk. The time to get applications

be a slam dunk. The time to get applications approved for supplementals is about 11 to 12 months. There have been a couple of new applicants for membership this past month but it takes about 3 to 3 ½ months for processing because of backlog and being understaffed at National.

Editor Report—Dan Piedlow—It has been a rather slow month for activities but if anyone has information, pictures or events they have attended please forward these to him.

Historian Report—Don Higginson— He has finished the 2021 Yearbook and he requested any materials or programs from any of our events to get them to him for the 2022 yearbook and place them in Word and send them directly to him so it would be easier to be compiled.

Sgt-at-Arms Report—Danny Piedlow—No Report

Chapter Development Committee Report---Gary Gift---Not Present-- Report given by Compatriot J. Howard Fisk—He has requested all to go to the Chapter website which gives a link to our OMC

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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

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Chapter Development Committee Report---Gary Gift---Not Present-- Report given by Compatriot J.

Howard Fisk—He has requested all to go to the Chapter website which gives a link to our OMC coming events and see the many of the events which are coming up. **Compatriot Gerald McCoy** has an event for Cox Medical Center on April the 18th at 4:30 PM on West Sunset for a Flag Retirement Ceremony, Ceremony for Health Care Workers in Springfield, Missouri, and for Patriots Day.

Committee Report—No additional reports

Old Business

President Ben Edmondson reminded our members to participate in the certification by the NSSAR in our Youth Protection Programs

NSSAR – <https://www.sar.org/courses/youth-protection-training/>

Boy Scouts – <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>

He also reminded us that the Bylaws of our chapter are being reviewed and will be presented next meeting.

Compatriot John Hathcock reminded us that the JROTC and ROTC Award Ceremonies are going to be presented this Spring and we are participating in 9 High Schools and 2 Colleges. He has presenters scheduled for all but Branson, Forsyth, and Bolivar High Schools and looking for volunteers. We will be assisting the Joplin Chapter at Joplin High School and Webb City High School.

He stated that our nominee from the OMC for the JROTC Enhanced Program won our OMC Award and also the MOSSAR Award and will be submitted to the NSSAR

Compatriot J. Howard Fisk stated that the 250th Anniversary Celebration information and our own **Compatriot Dan Piedlow** compiled information on SAR Medals and how to wear them-photos that were included were taken by us and Dan Piedlow of over 50 medals.

The Missouri Humanities Council has helped us in many ways with gifts and funding, including Curt Fields for his presentation of Wilsons Creek in the past, and they are celebrating 200 years of U. S. Grant with a program he encouraged all of us to attend.

New Business

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

Compatriot Steve Perkins led the Recessional.

Compatriot Norm Knowlton provided the Benediction.

The Meeting ended at 9:53 A.M.

Respectfully submitted.

Norman Knowlton, Secretary

Photographs provided by: Daniel Piedlow, Dan Philbrick, Anita Philbrick, Dan Piedlow

Editor: Daniel Piedlow

National Medal of Honor Day

“Honor, justice, and humanity, forbid us tamely to surrender that freedom which we received from our gallant ancestors, and which our innocent posterity have a right to receive from us. We cannot endure the infamy and guilt of resigning succeeding generations to that wretchedness which inevitably awaits them if we basely entail hereditary bondage on them.” —Thomas Jefferson (1775)



In 1787, [George Washington](#) and the Constitutional Convention delegates composed this preamble: “We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

For all Americans, and especially those of us who have sworn “[to support and defend](#)” our Constitution, securing the “blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity” is more than just an aspiration. *It is our sacred duty.*

March 25 is National Medal of Honor Day — the anniversary observance of the first Medal of Honor recipients. It’s an opportunity to recognize all of the recipients of our nation’s highest military award and recall their extraordinary service and sacrifice on behalf of their brothers in arms and in defense of [American Liberty](#).

On this day in 1863, Private Jacob Parrott was the first of six men to receive the Medal of Honor for their actions as members of [Andrews’ Raiders](#), whose valorous acts on April 12, 1862, were immortalized in print and film as “[The Great Locomotive Chase](#).” Those actions occurred just south of Chattanooga, Tennessee, the [Birthplace of the Medal of Honor](#) and home of the [National Medal of Honor Heritage Center](#). The Heritage Center is focused on six character-trait pillars of the Medal of Honor — traits that are common to all recipients: Courage, Sacrifice, Patriotism, Citizenship, Integrity, and Commitment.

Since the first medals were awarded, American presidents and military commanders have, in the name of the United States Congress, presented [3,527 Medals of Honor](#) to 3,508 individuals, including 19 double recipients.

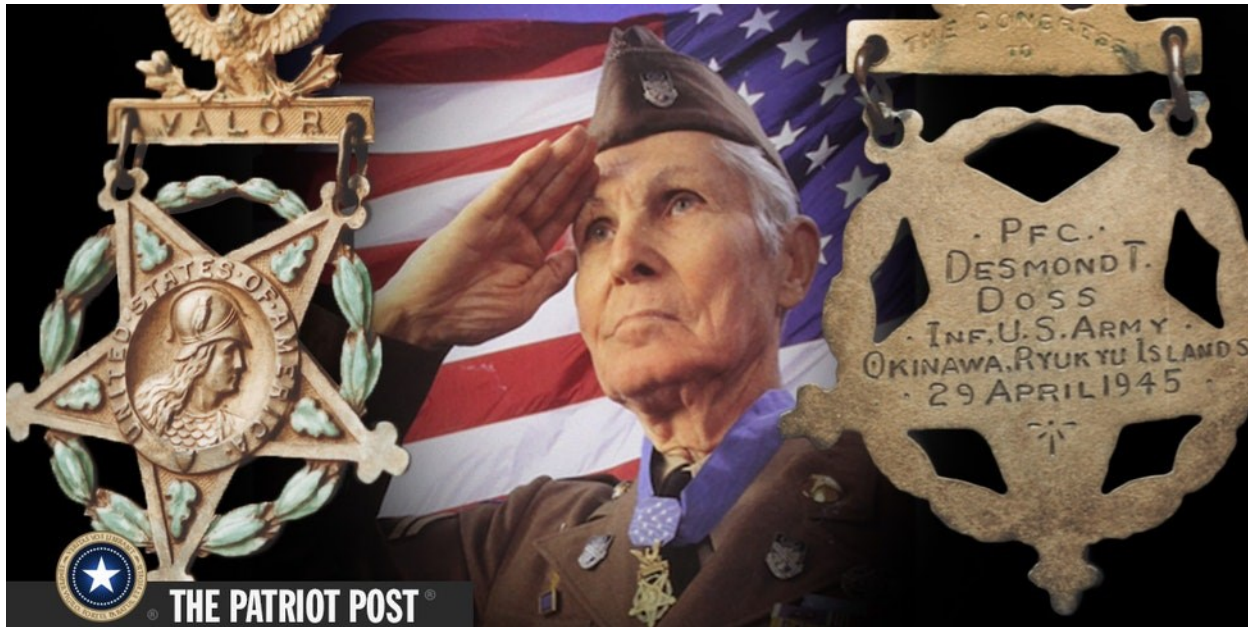
In a nation of some 330 million people, only [71 recipients](#) are living today.

Notably, Chattanooga was also the field of service for the only woman who holds a Medal of Honor, Dr. Mary

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Walker. Other well-known recipients from our area include World War I's Alvin York, whose life story was immortalized in the film "Sergeant York." More recently, the heroic actions of my old neighbor, World War II veteran Desmond Doss, were featured in the movie "Hacksaw Ridge."



I have profiled several Medal of Honor recipients: [Pfc. Desmond Doss](#) (Army), [Col. Wesley Fox](#) (Marine Corps), [Col. Leo Thorsness](#) (Air Force), and [Sgt. Sammy Davis](#) (Army).

For additional inspiration, read "[Our Flag — What Do You See?](#)" by Col. Thorsness.

In 1992, during [Ronald Reagan's](#) final public address, he offered these words about honoring our legacy of Liberty: "My fondest hope for each one of you is that you will love your country not for her power or wealth, but for her selflessness and her idealism. May each of you have the heart to conceive, the understanding to direct, and the hand to execute works that will make the world a little better for your having been here. May all of you as Americans never forget your heroic origins, never fail to seek divine guidance, and never lose your natural, God-given optimism."

I invite *you* to help us extend "the blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity" by ensuring that we as Americans "never forget our heroic origins" and by promoting and extending the legacy of all Medal of Honor recipients to the next generation. Please consider making a [designated gift online](#) or make a check payable to Patriot Foundation Trust (noting NMOHHC on the memo line), and mail to:

Patriot Foundation Trust

PO Box 407

Chattanooga, TN 37401-0407

Read about *The Patriot Post's* [Mission of Service](#) to our Armed Forces, including [Operation Shield of Strength](#) supporting our Patriots in uniform and their families.

I'll leave you with these words, which recipient Kyle Carpenter noted are the foundation for his service and sacrifice: "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." —John 15:12-14

Semper Vigilans Fortis Paratus et Fidelis

Pro Deo et Libertate — 1776

Join us in prayer for our Patriots in uniform and their families — Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen — standing in harm's way, and for our nation's First Responders. We also ask prayer for your Patriot team, that our mission would seed and encourage the [Spirit of Liberty](#) in the hearts and minds of our countrymen.

Awards and Events

Compatriot Leslie Becker's Ancestor

The name of my patriot ancestor is William Kelley.

In 1747, he became the fourth generation born in the colonies.

He was born in Bristol, Rhode Island where he later got married



and raised ten children. According to **A History of Barrington Rhode Island by Thomas Williams Bicknell**, Corporal William Kelley served in Capt. Thomas Allin's Co.; appeared on the alarm at Bristol, April 1, 1776; served on the Militia Guard of Barrington from April 5th to May 20th, 1778; he was a Corporal in Capt. Viall Allen's Co. in 1780.

The seventh of his ten children, Ebenezer Kelley, later served as a Captain in the War of 1812.

William Kelley died January 27th, 1829 and is buried at Aspinwall Cemetery in Putnam Connecticut alongside his wife, Rebekah where a Revolutionary War monument marks his grave.

Rachel Donelson Award

Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR Color Guard graciously accepted the Rachel Donelson DAR chapter's invitation to bring forth colors at the open ceremony for their March 22 chapter meeting in Springfield, Missouri. Guardsmen Gary Gift, Dan Piedlow, Dan McMurray, and Steven Perkins all carried flags to the front of the room for the various pledges and national



anthem sung by the DAR members. Following the opening ceremony and recognition of guests, Pat Haas made the very first presentation by their chapter of the new DAR 250th Anniversary award.



OMC was honored to be the first recipient from the Rachel Donelson chapter. This may be the first award of this type presented to a Missouri SAR chapter. The certificate and medal were

presented to Ben Edmondson, which will be displayed at the next OMC chapter



meeting. It seemed a fitting proposal that the medal be worn by the current chapter President, and possibly even shared with recent past Presidents to proudly wear. Photos were taken courtesy of Dan Philbrick.



Awards and Events



Joel Monteith receiving his supplemental certificate from President Ben Edmonson. His patriot is Joseph Camburn.



James Whited receiving his supplemental certificate from President Ben Edmonson. His patriot is Josiah Tanner.



President Ben Edmondson receiving his supplemental certificate from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk. His patriot is William Bodenhamer.



Compatriot Color Guard presenting Colors at the Rachel Donelson DAR meeting. Compatriots Steven Perkins, Dan McMurray, Daniel Piedlow, and Gary Gift.

Birthdays

Dana Frederick	March 7
Harold Sentman	March 26
Daniel J. Piedlow	March 27
Matthew Lyons	March 29
Edwin Frederickson	April 11
Randy Painter	April 17
David Appleby	April 18
James Harris	April 19
Charles Clark	April 20
Donald Pruitt	April 25



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.

Upcoming Events



Saturday, April 9 at 9:00 am is the monthly meeting for the Ozark Mountain Chapter. This will be at Ozark Technical College in the Atrium.



Monday April 18 at 4:30 pm is a Patriot Day Flag Retirement at Cox Health, located at 2240 W. Sunset, Springfield. It is west of Kansas Expressway. Color Guard to arrive at 4:00 pm.



Friday April 22 at 6:00 pm is the Missouri DAR State Convention at the Intercontinental Hotel in Kansas City. Color Guard are invited to provide colors at the beginning of their event.



Saturday April 23 at 4:45 pm at Branson High School is the JROTC-250th Anniversary Medal presentation.



Thursday April 28 at 11:00 am is the General Federated Women's Clubs Meeting at the Oasis Convention Center. Color Guard are to present Colors for their opening ceremony.



April 29-30 is the Missouri SAR Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Westport Chalet in St. Louis.

Upcoming Events



Thursday May 5 at 11:30 am is a Naturalization Ceremony at Wilson's Creek Battlefield. All are welcome to attend and Color Guard is requested to be in uniform.



Saturday May 7 at 8:00 am is the American Patriot Merit Badge Workshop at Ozark Technical College. Color Guard will present Colors at the beginning of the event.



Monday May 7 at 6:30 pm is the OMC Chapter Development meeting via Zoom.



The Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR Challenge Coins are for sale. These coins are \$5.00 each from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk.



The Missouri 200th Anniversary SAR Medals are for sale. They are \$30.00 if you get them from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk and \$35.00 if he has to mail it to you.

