



March 2024

Issue 3



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A challenge coin is available for the Boston Tea Party. They are \$15.00 each from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk.

IN EVERY ISSUE

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On the Cover
Presenting Phillip
Hall for his first
place poster.



Photographs provided by: Daniel Piedlow, Margaret Swales, Jeff Settle
Editor: Daniel Piedlow



The President's Message

By President Charles McMillan

"Preserve History, Provide Youth Education and awareness of our patriot ancestors and founding fathers and inspire patriotism in our community."

March is a busy month for the OMC. Don't forget to look at our website to keep up on our schedule of events.

<https://ozarkmountainsar.com>

I and several other compatriots attended the Spring Leadership Meetings at the Brown Hotel in Louisville, KY. I am lucky to be on the Patriot Research System (PRS) National Committee and while I was there joined the History Teacher Committee. I feel it is important for OMC members to be available both at the State level and the National level for service. I am the PRS Chairman for the Missouri State Society. We (many, many volunteers from across the nation including Missouri) have been digitizing Members Record Copies of application for membership. These records provide generational information of people's families that lead to a Patriot.

In addition to being able to see the record copies you will be able to see the Patriot Record. This has several tabs: Patriot Detail which shows information about your Patriot to include personal information like DOB, DOD, Qualifying Service, and reference materials to substantiate him/her being a Patriot, and the name of the spouse and children. Grave Detail which shows if there is memorial in Find A Grave and/or if there is information on the burial location. Biography is the last tab and YOU can write and submit a biography on your Patriot. There is a DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) number if one has been added. The system is available to all members. You can sign in and find your Patriot and by doing you can see if anyone else claims that Patriot as their own. You might find a relative. Try it.

One of our own compatriots, Past President Howard Fisk was selected to receive the highest honor bestowed by National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, "Minute Man". There are only 6 selected each year and it is rare to be chosen on the first application. Congratulations from the Ozark Mountain Chapter to Howard Fisk.

On the 25th of March, Monday, several members will travel to the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum, in Independence, MO to take part in the National Medal of Honor Day. The Medal of Honor is awarded only to military members; it is awarded by Congress and is also known as the Congressional Medal of Honor.

On the 29th of March the OMC will be conducting a short program at the American Legion Post 639. This is in honor of the National Vietnam Veterans Day. My committees are working hard to support their objectives. If you want to serve your Chapter, please think about what you are interested in doing as a support for the mission.

Looking ahead to April we see the Chapter Meeting will be held at Phelps Grove Park, 950 E. Bennett St. in Springfield. You will be reminded of Lexington and Concord by the event that is planned. Plan to attend. On the 21st the Chapter will be supporting the DAR with a 250th Dedication at the Courthouse at 940 N Boonville Ave, in Springfield at 2:00 p.m. The Color Guard will present the colors. On the 26th thru the 27th several of us will attend the annual MOSSAR conference. This year it will be held in Columbia starting at 09:00. I encourage you to attend and learn more about how the system works.

If you can't go to Columbia, you might go to the Cherry Blossom festival and Naturalization Ceremony in Marshfield... starts at 11:30. If you haven't witnessed a Naturalization Ceremony you should go and see and support the people that have become citizens of the USA the proper way.

On the 30th of April will be the History Explorers, presenting the "First Continental Congress", at 6:30 p.m. at the Schweitzer Brentwood Library in Springfield.

Kudos to the Ladies Auxiliary for providing support to the Chapter Executive Committee meetings held at Commander Perkins home.

Have a great rest of your month and remember to be kind to someone. You never know what they are going through.



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

OMC/SAR Meeting Minutes 23 March 2024

1. Regular Business Meeting. Irregular date due to Spring Vacation at OTC
2. Ozark Mountain Chapter
3. 23 March 2024, Ozark Technical College Commons
4. President Charles McMillan was present. The position of secretary is still vacant.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
6. The meeting started at 09:30 and ended at 11:22
7. There were 27 members present and 14 guests.
8. A motion to accept the amendments to the Chapter By Laws was made Ken Lawrence and seconded by Dan McMurray. A discussion was had and only one question was presented by Col Hathcock and that was should the report made by the Chaplain on a deceased member be sent to the MOSSAR Secretary as in the By Laws or should it be sent to the Registrar. Steve Perkins said it goes to the State Secretary and he sends it to the Registrar.
- A vote was called for and the motion passed without dissent.
9. Meeting was called to at end at around 11:22.

Crispus Attucks

“The first to defy, the first to die”
Crispus Attucks has been immortalized as the first casualty of the American Revolutionary War and the first African-American hero.
“... a crowd of mostly white sailors followed a seafaring man of color into danger; and this time, into history.” (Jeffrey Bolster)
On March 5, 1770, toward the evening that day, a crowd of colonists gathered and began taunting a small group of British soldiers.
Tension mounted rapidly, and, when one of the soldiers was struck, the others fired their muskets, killing three of the Americans instantly and mortally wounding two others. Samuel Adams called this incident the Boston Massacre
Attucks was the first to fall, thus becoming one of the first men to lose his life in the cause of American independence.

Early coverage and investigations into the details of the Massacre refer to Attucks as Michael Johnson, a name he may have used as an intentional alias.
After uncovering his actual name, newspapers published a few details about his life, notably his profession, a sailor; his birth in Framingham, MA; his

residence in New Providence in the Bahamas; and his



ship's destination of North Carolina.
His last name, ‘Attucks,’ is of Indigenous origin, deriving from the Natick word for ‘deer.’
His first name reflects the trend in the colonial era of enslavers forcing an Ancient Roman name onto their enslaved people. Attucks shares the name ‘Crispus’ with the son of Emperor Constantine.
Attucks was born around 1723 somewhere near Framingham, Mass., perhaps Natick, the Praying Indian town. His mother belonged to the Wampanoag tribe, and his father was an African-American slave.
Crispus Attucks was enslaved for 27 years, probably by a man named William Brown of Framingham. In 1750 he won his freedom by running away to sea. Or he may have bought his freedom.
In any case, he often worked on whalers, and in between voyages, he worked as a ropemaker. Seafaring was one of the few occupations free men of color could enter. Twenty-five years after the American Revolution, one-fifth of the 100,000 men employed as sailors were African American.



Instructions to Get Started as a Volunteer with the Patriot Research System

First off, thank you for your willingness to participate in the Patriot Research System (PRS) program!

Access

As you can see, this site is completely different from the Patriot Index site, and everything regarding how records are added/updated has changed as well. So, we have been putting together some documentation to assist with the migration to the new system.
First off, access to the new site is different from before. Instead of using your name and national#, you will use your email address as the login, and you will set up your own password for the system. The Access Info document that I attached attempts to address this, but in summary, here's what is going to happen:

Volunteer Access to the sarpatriots.sar.org website
1. Once the account is created, the Volunteer will receive an email like the one below:



The Volunteer needs to click the link to “Activate Your Account”. That activation link takes you to the SAR patriots’ website, and you see a screen like the below: This first step proves the email address is valid and the Volunteer has access to it.
2. The Volunteer then receives a second email, like the one below:



From now on, the Volunteer can go to <http://sarpatriots.sar.org> and click on the little person icon in the upper right corner to go to the login prompt: Once you've set up the password, you'll just log in going forward. If you ever forget the password, we can send you a new email with a link to click to reset

it again.

Updating Records

You'll notice when logged into the system, that there are now buttons on the pages allowing for edits and additions, etc.
Now, once into the system, you're going to see a 'Volunteer Task' pulldown menu available to you with access to what I've been calling a 'dashboard'. Any time you're working with a record, it is visible within your dashboard. The really short description of how things work is:
1. You click on the edit/add buttons to start working with a record.
2. You make the changes you want to that record. You can save it and come back later if you
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Important Dates in History

- Mar 1: Articles of Confederation ratified 1781
- Mar 3: The Continental fleet captures New Providence Island in the Bahamas, U.S. Marines first landing on foreign soil 1776
- Mar 5: Boston Massacre 1770
- Mar 10: Last Naval Battle of the Revolution 1783
- Mar 12: Battle of Guilford Courthouse 1781
- Mar 16: James Madison’s Birthday 1751
- Mar 17: British evacuate Boston; British Navy moves to Halifax, Canada 1776
- Mar 18: The Declaratory Act 1766
- Mar 22: Stamp Act 1765
- Mar 23: Patrick Henry’s “Liberty or Death” speech 1775
- Mar 24: Quartering Act 1765
- Mar 30: New England Restraining Act 1775
- Mar 31: Boston Port Act, one of the “Intolerable Acts” 1774
- Apr 1: Marines Disbanded 1783
- Apr 5: Sugar Act 1764
- Apr 13: Thomas Jefferson’s Birthday 1743
- Apr 18: Paul Revere and William Dawes Ride 1775
- Apr 19: Battles of Lexington and Concord 1775
- Apr 19: Congress ratifies preliminary peace treaty 1783
- Apr 25: Greene defeated at Hobkirk’s Hill, SC 1781
- Apr 27: Benedict Arnold’s troops force a British retreat at Ridgefield, Connecticut. 1777

The Boston Massacre

March 5, 1770



In June 1767, Parliament passed the Townshend Acts, which levied import duties on articles including tea, lead, glass, paint, and paper, and established a Board of Customs Commissioners for America to be stationed in Boston. Bostonians protested the import duties by encouraging nonimportation and nonconsumption movements in the colonies. In February 1768, the customs commissioners asked Parliament to guarantee their safety as they carried out their duties in Boston. Troops began arriving in October of that year. Many Bostonians resented the presence of the standing army in their town, and patriot leaders made concerted efforts to feed the population's animosity toward the soldiers.

As the nonimportation movement falters in January and February of 1770, some Bostonians take it upon themselves to discourage merchants from selling British goods. Importers' stores are vandalized, and customers bullied. On 22 February, eleven-year-old Christopher Seider is slain as irate customs informer Ebenezer Richardson fires into a crowd. Patriots ensure that Seider becomes a young martyr in the war against import duties.

By the winter of 1770, civilians are clashing more and

more frequently with the soldiers of the Fourteenth and Twenty-ninth Regiments, the last troops remaining in Boston. (Other regiments had been previously relocated.) After a series of clashes between soldiers and workers at John Gray's ropewalks during the weekend of 2 March, Bostonians are predicting additional trouble. On the evening of 5 March, a lone sentry posted in front of the Customs House is hassled by a group of young men. As the crowd swells, Captain Thomas Preston leads seven soldiers from the Twenty-ninth Regiment to reinforce the sentry, but he cannot persuade the crowd to disperse. Amidst the noise and confusion, shots are fired; three civilians are killed and two more are mortally wounded. Within hours of the episode, Captain Preston and his men are in jail, and townspeople are demanding that the troops be removed from Boston. Newspapers scramble to report the news of the tumultuous week and its capstone event.

Tories and patriots immediately blame each other for the confrontation, and both sides begin collecting depositions to support their points of view. The Tories strike first, and their account and depositions are sent to England on 16 March. Not content to let military officials talk for him, Preston speaks out from his jail cell. Patriot leaders, meanwhile, stage their own propaganda attack. A town-appointed committee drafts a narrative implying that the incident was the result of a sinister plot. Paul Revere markets an engraving that vividly depicts a bloody massacre, while others commemorate the "tragical scene" in verse.

Patriot leaders call for an immediate trial, but Lieutenant Governor Thomas Hutchinson, knowing that townspeople are demanding an eye for an eye, hopes to push the trials into the summer. The trials are ultimately delayed until fall, but in the intervening months, Richardson is tried in the death of young Seider and found guilty of murder.

John Adams, Robert Auchmuty Jr., and Josiah Quincy Jr. are retained to defend Preston and his men. Robert Treat Paine and Samuel Quincy (brother of Josiah) will prosecute. Lieutenant Governor Thomas Hutchinson, also chief justice of the Superior Court of Judicature, declines to preside at the trials. Benjamin Lynde serves in his place. Preston's trial opens on 24 October 1770, and a few days later the jury reaches a surprise verdict: not guilty. Preston's men are tried separately beginning 27 November 1770. Adams prepares a complicated defense, and six of the soldiers are found not guilty; two others are found guilty of

manslaughter but escape the death penalty. Quiet settles over Boston following the trials. Writing under the pseudonym "Vindex," Samuel Adams attempts to retry Preston and the soldiers through a series of newspaper articles, but his writings fail to rouse public sentiment as he had hoped. Adams does succeed in turning 5 March into a day of mourning, and commemorative orations are delivered in Boston each year through 1784. Years later, John Adams looks back at the events of 1770, believing that justice had prevailed.

www.masshist.org/revolution/massacre.php

- From Page 3, Instructions -

like.

3. Do note -- only 1 person can edit a given record at a time, so it is possible that you'll click on one of those buttons, and you'll get a message that someone else is already editing something. Of course, that person could also be YOU and the system saved the item in the "Edit Applications (Updater Dashboard)" under your Volunteer ID number.

4. Finally, when you have the record ready to go, there is a field in the editor "ReadyForApproval". You just change the 'no' -> 'yes' and save the record. That record is now removed from your dashboard (no further editing), and presented to the people who can publish those records out to the Production view. (Right now, Dennis and Jamie). If there's an issue, they can, of course, kick it back to your dashboard for further work, if necessary.

Everyone still has a volunteer ID #. If you were an early volunteer, you should have the same one as used in the Filemaker system.

The Patriot Research system does keep a tally of all records that get published, and which volunteer had updated the record so that we can keep counts of who is doing x records.

Finally, the Info document is still a draft and being updated, but it's an attempt to provide much more comprehensive information about the system.

Some other notes

It is important to use the information in the Updater Procedures about editing and adding records. Unlike Filemaker, this system will -not- allow the submission of duplicate entries for Accounting Control Numbers (ACNs) or Patriot IDs. You can try, but it will fail to update the record, causing you some grief and frustration if you try. (Filemaker allowed for lots of

duplicate entries).

There are 3 dashboards -- one for each kind of record: Bios, Patriots, and Applications/Lineages. The pulldown menu will show a # next to each dashboard to indicate how many records you have personally in the dashboard. Right now, you can see all of the records from all volunteers in the dashboard, and while you can filter these yourself to see only yours, it might make sense to just limit it to your own records only. (Looking for feedback here from you guys once you try it).

Also, if you inadvertently clicked on add/update a record or changed your mind about an edit, it will still be in your dashboard. You can safely delete records from your dashboard and not affect the production data on the site. I would encourage doing that since no one else can edit a record if it's on a dashboard somewhere.

Additionally, we also have ACN information for membership where we do not have the record copies available. This is because I'm getting data from National HQ's database on our membership and their member<->patriot relationships. This is why you may see records showing up for a member, but the Patriot is noted as "unindexed". This means we have some application information, but it isn't associated to a Patriot ID at this point. (We may or may not have the record copy to move forward on those.)

Finally - There is a LOT more happening in this system vs the old one, and it's all new. If something seems strange or confusing, please ask questions. If there are things we can potentially do better, I'm always open to ideas.



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.

Jeremiah O'Brien

Naval Captain

Early Life

Jeremiah O'Brien (1744-1818) was the eldest son of Irish immigrants Morris and Mary O'Brien. He was born in Kittery, Province of Massachusetts Bay in 1744. His family moved to Scarborough, Maine, and settled in Machias, Maine in the 1760s to engage in lumbering. Maine had still been a part of Massachusetts at the time.

American Revolution

Reports of the battles of Lexington and Concord reached Machias in early May 1775, leading Benjamin Foster to rally Machias residents at Job Burnham's tavern. Machias merchant captain Ichabod Jones sailed ships Unity and Polly to Boston with a cargo of lumber and purchased food for sale in Machias. British troops encouraged Jones to deliver another cargo of lumber for construction of their barracks in Boston. Admiral Samuel Graves ordered HMS Margarett, under the command of James Moore, to accompany Jones' ships to discourage interference from Machias rebels.

When the ships reached Machias on June 2nd, 1775,

James Moore ordered the liberty pole removed; and Machias townspeople refused to load the lumber. Foster plotted to capture the British officers when they attended church on June 11th, but the British avoided capture and retreated downriver aboard Margarett. On June 12th Foster pursued Margarett aboard the packet boat Falmouth. After Falmouth ran aground, O'Brien and his five brothers, Gideon, John, William, Dennis, and Joseph seized the Unity. Under the command of Jeremiah O'Brien, thirty-one townsmen sailed aboard Unity armed with guns, swords, axes, and pitchforks and captured Margarett in an hour-long battle after Margarett had threatened to bombard the town. John O'Brien jumped aboard Margarett as the two ships closed but was forced to jump overboard by the British crew. After rescuing John, Unity again closed Margarett until their rigging became entangled. Unity was bombarded by grenades from the British ship, but Margarett surrendered after James Moore was mortally wounded.

This battle is often considered the first time British colors were struck to those of the United States, even though the Continental Navy did not exist at the time. The United States Merchant Marine claims Unity as its member and this incident as their beginning.



Captain Jeremiah O'Brien (1744-1818)



USS Wasp, a schooner thought to closely resemble the Margarett

O'Brien continued as the captain of Unity, renamed Machias Liberty, for two years, and received the first captain's commission in the Massachusetts State Navy in 1775. Despite this, his ships fell out of commission a year later in the fall of 1776.

After his ships had fallen out of commission, O'Brien engaged the Royal Navy as a privateer captaining the Resolution and eventually the Scarborough, a British vessel captured in 1777. O'Brien continued to harass the Royal Navy off the coast of Massachusetts until he was captured aboard the Hannibal in 1780. He was first transported to the HMS Jersey, a British vessel retrofitted to serve as a prison ship off the coast of New York. Despite being constructed to compliment 400 sailors, as many as 1,200 prisoners were held on the ship at a time. These overcrowded conditions led to an average of eight deaths per day, their bodies being taken ashore and buried in mass graves. By the end of the war, as many as 20,000 were alleged to have died in captivity off the coast of New York. O'Brien managed to survive his time aboard the HMS Jersey before being transported to Mill Prison, a prison camp in British-controlled Plymouth. After suffering from considerable hardship, he managed to escape the prison and take up arms once more. Till the end of the war Jeremiah O'Brien commanded the Hibernia and the Tiger. His commitment to the establishment and preservation of the United States of America warranted regional attention. This commitment was recognized nationally, as in 1811 he was appointed by James Madison as the federal customs collector for the port of Machias. He held this position until his death in 1818.

Continued Recognition and Legacy

Despite not being a household name, Jeremiah O'Brien is remembered as a representative of patriotism and mettle in the United States Navy. Since 1900, five ships have been named in his honor as well as the O'Brien class of destroyer prominent in World War I. The most recent of these ships, USS O'Brien (DD-975), was launched in 1976 and served until its decommissioning in 2004. Additionally, the SS Jeremiah O'Brien, a World War II Liberty ship, is one of the only surviving vessels to have participated in the invasion of Normandy Beach during D-Day, a fleet that originally consisted of almost 7,000 ships. It was restored throughout the 1970s is now based in San Francisco as a seagoing museum ship.



SS Jeremiah O'Brien circa 2015

Birthday's

Dana Fredrick	3-7
Nicholas Inman	3-11
Daniel Cowin	3-12
Patrick Morrow	3-15
Chase Boggs	3-17
Daniel J. Piedlow	3-27
Matthew Lyons	3-29
Donnie Williams	4-5
Edwin Frederickson	4-11
James Mason	4-13
Steven Lawson	4-17
Randy Painter	4-17
David Appleby	4-18
James Harris	4-19
Charles Clark	4-20
Jesse Haggard	4-24
Donald Pruitt	4-25
Steven Montague	4-28
Frank Snelson	4-29



Battle of Fort San Carlos Festival and Grave Marking

SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024
STE. GENEVIEVE, MISSOURI

11:30 a.m.

Registration at Guibord-Valle House

Flowers, commemorative challenge coins and medals available for purchase

1 p.m.

Memorial Cemetery Ceremony with Wayside Marker Unveiling

Militia and Color Guard muster at 12:30 p.m. at Guibord-Valle House

2 p.m.

**Battle of Fort San Carlos Memorial Celebration
at Ste. Genevieve Catholic Church**

3 p.m.

**Ste. Genevieve and Ste. Genevieve Milice History
at The Orris**

Color Guard Grave Marking Event, Ste Genevieve, MO
Sunday May 26th, 2024
12:30 PM

UPDATED FORM!!

To: All Color Guard Compatriots attending the Ste Genevieve Grave Marking Ceremony.

Upon review by National, there is a revision from what was previously announced regarding qualifying for points toward the National Grave Marking Medal. The five patriots are still eligible but the previous plan for purchasing a flower has been changed and no registration money is needed. Instead, National has agreed to count member participation through a different activity. The new approved activity is a shared participation in the singing of YANKEE DOODLE. This change has been made to the program for the grave marketing and although a \$10 fee no longer applies, pre-registration is still encouraged.

NOTE: Alternatively, you're welcome to bring a wreath for the ceremony.

If you plan on attending and wish to receive credit for the Grave Marking Medal, please pre-register so we may have some idea who will be participating ahead of the event. If you already sent a check, it will be refunded to you at the event. If you prefer not to receive a refund, your gift will be designated to the MOSSAR Ladies Auxiliary.

See the event flyer for additional event information.

Color Guard Members, Thanks for all you do!

Steven Biggs, event chairman
636-262-0267

Registration Form

Please detach form and mail it to **Event Registrar Vicki Biggs 17432 Hilltop Ridge Dr. Eureka, MO 63025** by May 20.

(Please Print)

Name

Email

National Number

State Society

Chapter



Dishonoring Our Fallen

High-profile hero receptions for those who did not perish in combat dishonor the fallen who were killed in action.

Mark Alexander

“Illustrious examples are displayed to our view, that we may imitate as well as admire. Before we can be distinguished by the same honors, we must be distinguished by the same virtues.” —James Wilson (1790)

As part of our Mission of Service to the men and women in our Armed Forces, and in honor of many Veterans now serving on our National Advisory Committee, The Patriot Post has become one of the nation’s leading advocates for America’s military personnel and their mission. As such, we provide millions of Americans with the right perspective on that mission as it pertains to our critical national security interests. Additionally, we fund worthy military and family support groups through Patriot Foundation Trust and Liberty Fund.

On rare occasions, we have engaged military support groups that we believe are misrepresenting themselves or their services or those that lack financial accountability. Ten years ago, that included the Wounded Warrior Project, which at the time was allocating 45% of its revenue to fundraising, salaries, travel, etc. They received low marks from the American Institute of Philanthropy and Charity Watch. In the years since we exposed this issue, Wounded Warrior has substantially improved their operations, and their rating by Charity Navigator, the nation’s largest oversight and review organization for charitable groups, is now a very respectable four stars and 98%.

I take no pleasure, once again, in calling out an organization that serves military personnel and their families.

Six months ago, I came across a social media page named Honoring Our Fallen, which was operated by a nonprofit organization under the same name. The page immediately caught my attention because the latest post was of a commercial aircraft arriving at Los Angeles International Airport under the honor water cannon arches and salutes of fire equipment. There were many additional photos of honor guard, military, and law enforcement personnel on the tarmac, who followed procedures associated with receiving a combat casualty, the remains of a service person killed in action.

Many reading this have witnessed or seen similar videos of airport honor receptions, with pilots asking for passengers to respectfully remain seated as a flag-draped casket is ceremonially removed from the plane’s cargo hold by uniformed personnel, and, with the deceased family, taken by police escort from the tarmac. These solemn receptions are reserved to honor the valor of those killed in action — or should be.

Considering the initial valor reception post I saw, though we are no longer suffering casualties in Afghanistan, we still have Special Forces deployed around the world. Thus, I thought this valor reception might have been for the return of one of those operators killed in action. Or perhaps this ceremony was for remains that had been recovered and returned from a former combat theater.

Or maybe the reception was for someone killed in a military training accident.

Since the 9/11 Islamist attack on our nation, and the War on Terror in response, more military personnel have died in training accidents than in combat.

Training for war is a dangerous business. Recently, there have been several high-profile fatal accidents involving Osprey, Apache, and Blackhawk rotary-wing aircraft.

But oddly, when I researched the name associated with the Honoring the Fallen post that caught my attention, there was no service person by that name who had been killed in combat or in training. On further review, I determined that the individual in question was actually killed in a car accident unrelated to his work at a domestic military base. There was no record of this young man having served in a combat theater.

Scrolling further down the page, there were other similar valor reception posts, but none of those were combat casualties. I was not able to identify any

recent full military honor receptions at LAX arranged and promoted by Honoring Our Fallen that were associated with a combat death or military training accident.

Instead, in each case, as with the original post that I reviewed, these valor receptions were arranged for young people who had died in non-military related accidents, illnesses, etc., and most in the U.S.

This piqued my curiosity.

The “Honoring Our Fallen” organization is operated by a former civilian public affairs officer for a California training base, Laura Herzog, who, according to the bios provided, “served as the lead for Hero Missions (fallen soldiers returning from Afghanistan & Iraq)” among her other duties. In other words, she arranged local receptions and family services to fittingly honor the valorous actions of those killed in combat during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Thus, I would think that Herzog would be able to clearly distinguish between what constitutes a fitting ceremony for the return of combat casualties versus those who died under circumstances unrelated to their military service.

In recent decades, I have both attended and/or been part of the planning for the interment of many military personnel and Veterans, including Medal of Honor recipients. Most were at National Cemeteries. Some of those ceremonies were for warriors killed in action, some were for former POWs, and others were for retired military Veterans who served our nation honorably. I have some sense of what constitutes a fitting ceremonial sendoff for these individuals based on their service.

But most of the Honoring Our Fallen airport valor reception posts do not make clear how the persons they are arranging services for were killed, obscuring whether the airport ceremonies they are providing are fitting for a combat casualty. I have received sparse responses to inquiries regarding the cause of death for the individuals receiving the valor receptions at LAX, but after researching the individuals named in the posts, it is clear that these receptions are not for those killed in combat.

However, the Honoring Our Fallen social media pages do have fitting photo tributes to service personnel from around the nation, some of whom have been killed in combat, but those posts are mostly unrelated to the services provided by this organization.

It is notable that virtually all of the organization’s

social media posts are labelled with the word “hero,” a word that has been overused in our era. Consequently, its meaning, when applied to those who have earned it, has been diluted. The generations of warriors I have known, those with distinguished combat service records, universally reject being called “hero,” though many have clearly done heroic things. In fact, of all the Medal of Honor recipients I have met, none tolerate being called “hero,” deflecting that word to those with whom they served. And they have earned the right to apply the word “hero” as they see fit.

It’s outstanding that, in their local California region, Honoring Our Fallen supports the families of military personnel and veterans who have died, including the provision of motorcycle escorts to cemeteries and graveside honor guard services. They also organize other services, including flagging local Veteran gravesites and retreats for mothers and widows of the deceased.

Further, I have reviewed their available financial information, which is sparse, but the returns indicate that only a small percentage of their revenue is used for salaries. However, Charity Navigator gives the organization a poor rating, I assume because, like many small organizations, they don’t have the staff to provide sufficient reporting.

To be clear, the reason I have contacted the organization in recent months to question their non-combat hero receptions — what they label as “Angel Flights” or “Honor Flights” — is because they have a growing social media following, now about 250,000. Those page followers need to know that the public, high-profile hero receptions the organization is arranging, are not for those who were killed in combat, and that doing so dishonors our fallen who were killed in action.

In addition to the disruption of airport operations and the allocation of equipment and personnel for these valor receptions, which the airport authorities involved may incorrectly assume is for a combat casualty, most of those on planes and in terminals witnessing these receptions also assume they are to honor the valorous actions of someone killed in combat.

Before reluctantly writing this assessment, I talked with senior military officers about these posts, and they were not as charitable in their responses. There

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was discussion equating these honor receptions to stolen valor — not by the deceased or their families, but by the organization arranging it as if it was to honor the valorous actions of an individual killed in the service of our nation.

I applaud those who appropriately honor deceased American military personnel and Veterans, including those whose deaths are unrelated to military service. But Honoring Our Fallen has unfortunately blurred the lines between a fitting reception for those killed in combat deaths and those for non-combat deaths, and in doing so, their best intentions aside, they dishonor our fallen.

I hope that moving forward, Honoring Our Fallen will reserve valor receptions for those who have earned them and, for clarity, provide more information in their posts about how those they are serving perished.

Semper Vigilans Fortis Paratus et Fidelis
Pro Deo et Libertate — 1776

<https://patriotpost.us/alexander/105187-dishonoring-our-fallen-2024-03-13>



2/2024

Charles,
Thank you so much for
the SAR memory Certificate
for John Hume. It is in
a frame hanging in my office.
Please express my appreciation
to the Chapter members.
Dee Dosch

Awards and Events

Color Guardsmen from the OMC received their Von Steuben medals from National Commander Scott Collins. The presentation was at the National Color Guard meeting in Louisville March 1, 2024. Charles McMillan, Ken Lawrence, and Howard Fisk have dedicated themselves at least 5 years after the Silver medal was earned for their service in uniform. Only national events are allowed, and a minimum of 500 such points must be earned. Charles earned 1165 points during that time period, in most cases earning as many mileage points as the event itself. Give them a congratulatory handshake when you see them.



New Medal now available! A medal for the Battle of Fort San Carlos is now available from Compatriot J Howard Fisk. They cost \$35.00 and you must participate in the events in Ste. Genevieve.

Awards and Events



Guest speaker Bob Dixon, Presiding Commissioner with the Greene County Commission.



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Bob Dixon with a Certificate of Appreciation.

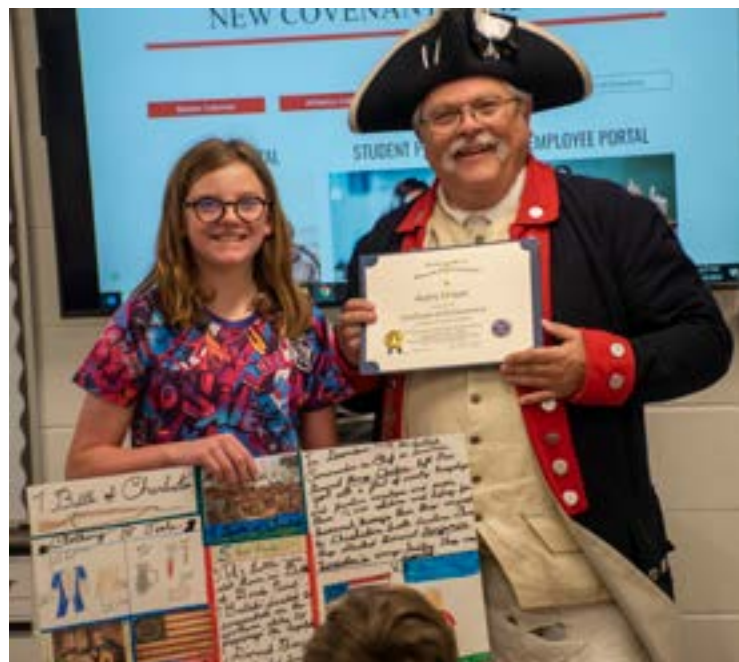


First Vice-President Jim Robinette presenting Compatriot Len Slovensky with the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal and Certificate.



Compatriot Daniel Piedlow presenting Phillip Hall with his Certificate and a check for \$150.00 for placing first in the fifth grade Poster Contest. Phillip's poster also won first place in the State competition.

Awards and Events



Compatriot Daniel Piedlow presenting the certificate and check for \$100.00 for second place in the Poster Contest to Avery Chayer.



Compatriot Daniel Piedlow presenting the certificate and check for \$50.00 for third place in the Poster Contest to Brooklyn Propst.



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.



National Vietnam Veterans Day 29 March 2024

The Ozark Mountain Chapter/Sons of the American Revolution had the privilege of presenting a program at the American Legion, Post 639, Springfield, Missouri, Mike Goforth, Commanding, honoring Vietnam Veterans.

In 2017 the Commander-in-Chief issued a presidential proclamation which stated, and I quote: "To ensure the sacrifices of the 9 million heroes who served during this difficult chapter of our country's history are remembered for generations to come, I signed into law the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017, designating March 29 of each year as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. Throughout this Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, and every March 29 thereafter, we will honor all those who answered our Nation's call to duty. We vow to never again confuse personal disapproval of war



with prejudice against those who honorably wear the uniform of our Armed Forces. With conviction, our Nation pledges our enduring respect, our

continuing care, and our everlasting commitment to all Vietnam veterans. End quote.

March 29th is a fitting choice for our National Vietnam War Veterans Day because it marks the day U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam was disestablished, the day the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam, and the day Hanoi released the last of its acknowledged prisoners of war . The program went like this.

Program of Events

Call to Order.....Charles McMillan, OMC President

Presentation of Colors.....OMC Color Guard, Steve Perkins, Commander
Pledge of AllegianceALL
Invocation.....Chaplain Dan Philbrick
Welcome Home..... Charles Mc Millan, President OMC
Recognize VeteransCharles McMillan, OMC President
Presentation of Flag CertificateCharles McMillan, President OMC
Benediction..... Chaplain Dan Philbrick
Musket SaluteColor Guard, Steve Perkins, Commander
TapsCharles McMillan, OMC President
Dismissal.....Charles Mc Millan, OMC President

To recognize the Veterans that were present, I carried the portable sound box, thanks Gary Gift, to the crowd and asked them to identify themselves as to when and where they served in the military. It was awesome to hear from them. One member was in the last group to



leave Vietnam. Another veteran, my brother-in-law, Master Sergeant Donald L. Anderson, Marine Corps. served in country in Vietnam. He

now resides in Republic, Missouri.

I presented a Flag Certificate to Commander Goforth for the American Legion, Post 639. Color guard Commander Steven Perkins and member Don Higgerson shot one volley with their muskets which was immediately followed by taps. To all Vietnam Veterans!!!

Welcome Home!

Upcoming Events



On Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. the Chapter Executive Committee will be meeting at Steve Perkins home.



On Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 9:30 A.M. the monthly meeting will be held at Phelps Grove Park, located at 950 E. Bennett St., Springfield. Besides the meeting the OMC Color Guard will be performing a re-enactment of the Lexington and Concord Battle.



On Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 2:00 P.M. the OMC Color Guard will be present to support the DAR dedication in honor of the 250th Anniversary. The location is 940 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield.



On Friday and Saturday, April 26 & 27, 2024 the Missouri Society SAR will be having their Annual Conference at the Courtyard Hotel in Columbia, MO located at 3301 Lemone Industrial Blvd., Columbia, MO 65201.



On Friday, April 26, 2024 at 11:30 A.M. the OMC will be attending the Cherry Blossom Festival and Naturalization Ceremony in Marshfield, MO.

Upcoming Events



On Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 6:30 P.M., History Explorers will be presenting on the days leading up to Bunker Hill and after the battle at the Schweitzer Brentwood Library, 2214 S. Brentwood Blvd., Springfield.



On Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 11:30 A.M., OMC will be attending the Naturalization Ceremony at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, located at 5242 S. State Hwy. ZZ, Republic, MO.



On Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. the Chapter Executive Committee will be meeting at Steve Perkins home.



On Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. the OMC Color Guard will be presenting a Heroism Award at the Highway Patrol Troop D Headquarters located at 3131 E. Hearney St., Springfield.



