

The Liberty Bell

Kansas Society Sons of the American Revolution

Spring 2025, Volume 134 Issue 1





On the Cover

Wreaths decorate the graves of veterans at the Fort Scott National Cemetery. Little Balkans Chapter of SAR collected donations to purchase the wreaths from Wreaths Across America. The wreaths were laid a week before the Christmas holiday.

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Message from the Outgoing Kansas SAR President



By Bryan Wampler
President
Kansas State Society, Sons of the American Revolution
Monticello Chapter

Dear Members, Family Members, and Friends of the Kansas SAR,

As I pen my final Liberty Bell message as the Kansas SAR President, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who makes this organization truly special. Your unwavering support, commitment to fellowship, and dedication to fostering patriotism are both inspiring and invaluable.

I want to extend my deepest appreciation to our Color Guard, who serve as the “face” of our organization. Their presence at numerous events across the state leaves a lasting impact on our communities and reinforces our mission in a tangible, meaningful way.

In my travels to chapter meetings and events, I have seen firsthand the vital role family members play in the success of our chapters. Their encouragement and contributions are essential to our continued growth and accomplishments.

As a volunteer organization, we are fortunate to have so many capable and committed members who take on leadership roles at the chapter, state, and national levels. These self-motivated individuals are the backbone of our society, ensuring we meet our goals and uphold our traditions.



A special thank you goes to the Daughters of the American Revolution for their invaluable support. Whether through referrals or collaboration, their contributions strengthen our society, and their trust in referring family members to join our ranks is deeply appreciated.

As I conclude my term, I look forward to the leadership of Tim Peterman, the 2025–2027 slate of officers, and committee chairs. I am confident they will continue to advance the mission of the Sons of the American Revolution and lead the Kansas SAR to even greater heights.

Thank you again to all who support the Kansas Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Your dedication ensures our legacy endures.



Editorial

By Robert Lofthouse
Liberty Bell Editor
Treasurer, Henry Leavenworth Chapter
General Chair, George Washington Birthday Committee



Please join me in congratulating and thanking Steve Hamlin for his four years of editing and distributing the Liberty Bell. Steve has been a loyal supporter of SAR from his Washington Chapter membership, Color Guard participation, State Society Secretary and Editor of this publication. There are probably a few things I've missed. We will miss him in this capacity but hope to see him continue in his role as State Society Recording Secretary.

By way of introduction, I am a relatively new member of the SAR, and only four years ago found out that my 4th great-grandfather, James Knowles, was a member of General Knox's artillery regiment, serving in the Continental Army throughout the entirety of the Revolutionary War. He responded to the General Alarm in April 1775 and was there at the siege of Boston, Battles of Trenton and Princeton, winters at Valley Forge and siege of Yorktown.

I volunteer my time as Treasurer of the Henry Leavenworth Chapter in addition to serving as the General Chair and Treasurer of the Kansas City area George Washington Birthday Celebration while filling a role on the State Society Board of Governors as the Streamers and Awards Chair. In my Marine Corps service, I achieved the rank of Corporal but then entered civilian life as a computer programmer decades before building a successful Information Technology (IT) career. Retiring not long ago as the Vice President of Professional Services with a local IT company, I began writing. My books have won some critical acclaim, and I coach other writers, while reviewing new books for the Military Writer's Society of America. In my spare time, I volunteer around the Leavenworth and Kansas City communities.



It is an honor to serve the Kansas Society as your new Liberty Bell Editor. This is your newsletter, an effective means of communicating chapter news and activities while learning about what's going on with your compatriots across the Sunflower State. I hope to visit each chapter and meet as many of you as possible. So, when you see me, say 'hello' and tell me your story. I'd like to get to know you!

In the meantime, check out this newsletter. There's a ton of stuff going on throughout our state chapters! President Wampler has written his farewell address. The Color Guard Commander, Bill Marshall, brings us his calendar of events for both the past quarter and the currently scheduled upcoming quarter. Jordan Chambers put together a guide to online scams and threats with some helpful tips and advice. You'll read a letter of appreciation from DAR compatriot Patricia Winger just before you see the Chapter Spotlight on our newest chapter, Little Balkans. The list of candidates for our upcoming national conference is next, followed by an article from Brian Vazquez about the 248th anniversary of the Battle of Princeton. We have not one, but two George Washington Birthday Celebrations approaching in February. Bruce Smith penned a nice story about the Rumbaugh Oration and new Video Contest. Then, we launch into the individual chapter updates, new members, supplementals and taps for the dearly departed. At the end, you will see an insert for the Oklahoma SAR Society annual meeting, for those of you interested in the sooner state.

My commitment to you as editor of this publication is to uphold the standards set by Steve and his predecessors, with the expectation to make the Liberty Bell informative, accessible and useful.

Can't do that without your help, so please send me articles and information about your chapter, its community involvement and especially your support of America's 250th Anniversary. You can reach me at rlofthouse@KSSSAR.org.

Rob



Color Guard

Kansas Face of the SAR

By Bill Marshall
KS SAR Color Guard Commander

This column will become an ongoing feature of the Liberty Bell, showing Color Guard plans for the coming calendar quarter, and past activities conducted by members of our State Society Color Guard over the previous calendar quarter. Photos at the end of this column.

Editor's Note: A big shout-out to CG Commander, Bill Marshall, for managing the statewide Color Guard activities, and sharing all the information and pictures below.

<u>Future Dates</u>	<u>Type of Contact / Activity</u>
January 21st 2025	The first Naturalization of 2025 was led by Past Commander Dewey Fry-DX
February 1st 2025	The 1st Quarter BOG, held in Wichita
February 15th 2025	The Washington Chapter 2025 GWBC
February 19th 2025	The 2nd Naturalization
February 22nd 2025	The GWBC Celebration in Kansas City (Independence)
March 14-15 2025	The 133rd Kansas SAR Annual Conference
March 25th 2025	The Kansas Color guard - Harry S Truman chapters' Medal of Honor event held at the Harry S Truman Library in Independence, MO
<u>Past Dates</u>	<u>Type of Contact / Activity</u>
October 1 st 2024	Attending the funeral for Western Adjutant John Hooker was Commander Bill Marshall-KP, Bobbie Hulse-SP, wife-Deb, Bit



	Roberts-SP, played taps, Jim Ganyon-SP, David Parks-SP, not in uniform, and Scott Fry-SP, also not in uniform.
October 19 th 2024	Baldwin City parade was attended by President Jim Cooper-CR, John More-CR, Troy Phillips-CR, and Brian Vazquez. Not in uniform and following in a pickup, was Peter Grassl-CR, and Walt Kihm-CR.
October 22 nd 2024	Honor Flight in Kansas City, MO was attended by John More-CR, Kirk Rush-DX, Clay Shropshire-DX, Jeffrey Winter-MC, and Alan Martin-MC, and Past Commander Dewey Fry-DX.
October 24 th 2024	Honor Flight at Eisenhower Airport was attended Past SCVP Bobbie Husle-SP, wife Deb Hulse, Bit Roberts-SP, Jim Ganyon-SP.
October 26 th 2024	The Kansas DAR hosted the dedication of the Battle of Prairie Dog Creek in Long Island, KS, which was attended by Commander Bill Marshall-KP, John More-CR, John Sherman-PM, and Bill Posson-FH. Not in uniform were other members of the Fort Hays SAR, John Bremer-FH, and not SAR members helping were Mike Snodgrass, Norton KS, Sam Schnuerle, Long Island, and Gale Hayes from Almena, KS.
October 29 th 2024	Attending the Naturalization in Kansas City were Clay Shropshire-DX, Dennis Nelson-DX, Alan Martin-MC, Past Commander Dewey Fry-DX, Steven French-DX, Troy Phillips-CR, and John More-CR.
November 2 nd 2024	The 4 th Qtr. BOG held in Abilene was attended by Commander Bill Marshall-KP, Bit Roberts-SP, Frank Hottman-BN, Brian Vazquez-TJ, and Jeffrey Winters-MC. Not in uniform was Rev. Vern Welkner-HL.
November 9 th 2024	Arkansas City Veterans Day parade was attended by John Schwartz-WA, Joe Warne-WA, Randy Colby-WA, Matthew Campbell-WA, and Tim Baxter-WA.
November 9 th 2024	Osage City parade was attended by Doug Brabb-KP, Alan Martin-MC, John More-CR, Brian Vazquez-TJ, and Clay Shropshire-DX.



November 10 th 2024	Sagamore DAR honoring Vietnam veterans in Kansas City, KS Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall, was attended by Past Commander Dewey Fry-DX, Steven French-DX, Clay Shropshire-DX, Alan Martin-MC, Jeffrey Winters-MC, Brian Vazquez-TJ, and John More-CR.
November 11 th 2024	Veterans Day parade in Leavenworth was attended by Rev. Vernon Welkner-HL, Alan Martin-MC, Jeffrey Winters-MC, Tom Chychota-HL, Clay Shropshire-DX, Brian Vazquez-TJ, Dewey Dry-DX, Dennis Nelson-DX, and Steven French-DX.
November 11 th 2024	Flint Hills Veterans Coalition parade in Manhattan was attended by Doug Brabb-KP, Greg McCune-KP, Tim McCall-KP, Wally Mack-KP, and John More-CR.
November 26 th 2024	The first of two Naturalization ceremonies was attended by Dewey Fry-DX, Steven French-DX, clay Shropshire-DX, Alan Martin-MC, Troy Phillips-CR, and Brian Vazquez-TJ.
November 26 th 2024	The second of two Naturalization ceremonies was attended by Dewey Fry-DX, Steven French-DX, clay Shropshire-DX, Alan Martin-MC, Troy Phillips-CR, and Brian Vazquez-TJ.
November 26 th 2024	Rob Lofthouse's mothers grave marking, held in Raytown, MO, was attended by Commander Bill Marshall-KP, John More-CR, and Tim Baxter-WA. Also attending from the Missouri Color guard was John Stewart, Robert Grover, and Steve Sullin.
December 7 th 2024	The Pearl Harbor remembrance was attended by Wichita Mayor Lily Wu, Tim Baxter-WA, Joe Werne-WA, Matthew Campbell-WA, and John Schwartz-WA.
December 12 th 2024	The Henry Leavenworth Chapter Annual Muster was attended by Commander Bill Marshall-KP, Tom Chychota-HL, Rev. Vernon Welkner-HL, Alan Martin-MC, Dewey Fry-DX, Kirk Rush-DX, John More-CR, Brian Vazquez-TJ, and Jim Beesly-James Smith Talbott Chapter of Missouri.
December 14 th 2024	The Kansas Veterans WAA, in Manhattan, was attended by Bill Marshall-KP, wife Dee, Gregg McCune-KP. No uniforms.
December 14 th 2024	The Johnson County Memorial WAA was attended by John More-CR, Dan Dryer-DX, John Forbes-DX, Dewey Fry-DX,



	Kenneth Ludwig-DX, Dennis Nelson-DX, Adjutant Kirk Rush-DX, Clay Shropshire-DX, Alan Martin-MC, Jeffrey Winter-MC, and Brian Vazquez-TJ.
December 17 th 2024	The Lindsborg High School basketball game was attended by Commander Bill Marshall-KP, Bobbie Hulse-SP, Patrick Crawford-BN, Bit Roberts-SP, and Jim Ganyon-SP along with Deb Hulse and Candace Crawford.





Navigating the Digital Frontier: Guide to Online Scams and Threats

By Jordan Chambers
KS SAR Webmaster
VP Monticello Chapter

In the digital age, we are all familiar with the "Nigerian Prince" scam, where one is promised substantial wealth in return for a modest initial payment. Much like the deceptive assurances of the British during our nation's founding, the internet harbors not just opportunities but also deception. There are ways to navigate these digital waters and do so with caution, ensuring you remain secure in your online interactions.

Phishing Scams

You may receive an email purporting to alert you to suspicious activity on your account, urging you to click a link to rectify the situation. However, such communications are often deceptive.

- **Identifying Deception:** Examine the sender's email address for anomalies such as misspellings or unfamiliar domains, akin to how our founding fathers scrutinized documents for signs of deceit. Reputable organizations rarely solicit personal information through unsolicited emails.



- **Safeguarding Your Digital Presence:** Refrain from clicking on links from unknown sources. Instead, access the organization's official website or use a verified contact method to confirm any issues.

Fake Tech Support

Unexpected pop-ups or calls might claim your device is at risk, offering unsolicited technical assistance for a fee.

- **Recognizing the False Alarm:** Authentic tech support does not initiate contact without prior interaction. And they don't scare you with multiple pop-ups.

Protecting Your Digital Assets: Disregard such notifications or terminate the call. Ensure your security with trusted software.

The Grandparent Scam

A call might arrive, masquerading as a plea for help from a family member in distress, seeking financial assistance.

- **Detecting the Impostor:** While the caller might possess some knowledge, they often lack specific details.
- **Ensuring Family Safety:** Verify the identity by posing questions only your true family member would know, much like verifying loyalty's in the early days of our nation.

Lottery and Prize Scams

Emails may arrive, asserting you've won a lottery or contest you've never participated in.



- **Identifying Fraud:** The premise that one can win without entering is fundamentally flawed.
- **Rejecting False Promises:** Disregard these emails; legitimate winnings do not require upfront payment.
- **The Nigerian Prince:** This is similar to the Nigerian Prince scam that you may see come across your inbox.

Charity Scams

After notable tragedies or during festive seasons, you might encounter appeals for donations, but the legitimacy of such requests can be dubious.

- **Spotting Deceit:** Be wary of poor grammar, urgent requests for funds, or unusual payment methods like gift cards or wire transfers.
- **True Philanthropy:** Donate only to well-vetted charities, ensuring your contributions support genuine causes.

Fake SAR Email Scam

Within the SAR, we have seen our own share of email scams which target members of the Sons of the American Revolution. You might receive an email from someone purporting to be a president of a local chapter or state society, asking for your help in purchasing digital gift cards for an "urgent" cause or event:

- **Identifying the Scam:** These emails mimic official SAR communications but often contain subtle errors, like incorrect email addresses or slightly off signatures. They'll typically urge quick action, claiming it's for a special project or celebration, and promise reimbursement.



- **Protecting Your Patriotism:** Never purchase gift cards based on unsolicited emails. Verify the request by contacting the chapter or state president through known, official channels.

General Recommendations for Digital Vigilance:

- **Maintain Updated Systems:** Keep your software and security measures current to guard against vulnerabilities.
- **Password Management:** Employ strong, unique passwords for each account, considering the use of password managers for convenience and security.
- **Two-Factor Authentication:** Add this layer of security where available to enhance protection.
- **Skepticism:** Approach unsolicited offers or requests with caution; if something appears too advantageous, it might well be a ruse.

In conclusion, as we explore the boundless opportunities of the digital world, let us do so with a blend of curiosity and caution. May this guide assist you in maintaining your digital integrity and security, in keeping with the vigilance that characterized our nation's founders.



Appreciation Award – Patricia Winger



Patricia Winger

November 15, 2024

Kansas Sons of the American Revolution

Dear Bryan Wampler, KSSSAR

Thank you to the State Society for the Appreciation Award I received last Tuesday evening at the Sons of the Plains November 12, 2024 society meeting. I am thankful for the opportunity to represent the Dodge City DAR and the KSCAR Buffalo society in these great patriotic endeavors.

It is a privilege to be able to partner with patriotic organizations.

Member of the Ladies Auxiliary SAR

Patricia Winger



Chapter Spotlight

Little Balkans

New SAR Chapter in SEK

By Dustin R. Strong
Chapter President

A new chapter of the KSSAR was formed in southeast Kansas last spring. Centered in Pittsburg, the new chapter includes members from the region of the state known historically as “the Little

Balkans”. Made up of Slavs, Italians, Hungarians, Greeks, Austrians, Germans, and a host of other European ethnicities that came to work the coal

mines, the Little Balkans came to be known for its independent nature, cultural diversity, and refusal to bow to authorities in Topeka -- much like Massachusetts in the 1770s -- so we chose to honor that history as the Little Balkans Chapter.

It’s been a busy first year. After officers were elected, chapter members hit the ground running. We have supported a local American Legion retiring American flags, have presented flag awards to the cities of Frontenac and Pittsburg, assisted



THE PITTSBURG CHAPTERS OF SAR AND DAR SPONSORED A BOOTH DURING THE LITTLE BALKANS DAYS CELEBRATIONS IN PITTSBURG TO MEET AND GREET AND EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE MISSION OF THE ORGANIZATIONS AND AMERICAN HISTORY.



Quilts of Valor move into a new facility, delivered cookies to local police, fire, and EMTs, and prepared snacks for Honor Flight participants.

Members of the chapter received donations to sponsor 1,109 wreaths from Wreaths Across America, laying them at veteran graves at the Fort Scott National Cemetery. The goal for next year is 1,110.

Many of our programs support the local DAR chapters in Pittsburg and Independence. Together, we hosted the traveling American Revolution exhibit at the Crawford County Historical Museum, assisted with Constitution Week by preparing packages that contained small American flags, bells, coloring books, candy, and a pocket Constitution for 333 students in four school districts ranging from kindergarten to high school seniors. Both Pittsburg chapters shared a booth at the Little Balkans Days celebrations on

Labor Day weekend to generate interest in the SAR and American history.

Along with the Joplin chapter of the SAR in Missouri, members attended the dedication of a Liberty Tree in Webb City. Currently, we are working with the Independence DAR to purchase, plant, and dedicate our own Liberty Tree for the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

As president of the chapter, my leadership style is more “bottom up”. Instead of dictating goals, members are encouraged to take the lead and pursue event and program ideas that interest them and focus on their community. Chapter leadership focuses on supporting those ideas and facilitating them as much as possible.

Anyone interested in learning more information about Little Balkans should reach out to Dustin at dustinrstrong@gmail.com.



Candidates for Office

Here is the list of national candidates for 2025-2027, with the caveat that additional candidates may pop up.

President General: Michael Elston
Secretary General: Allen Greenly
Treasurer General: T. Brooks Lyles & Edmon McKinley
Chancellor General: Peter Davenport & Greg Ohanesian
Genealogist General: Gary Green & Gary Neal
Registrar General: Keith Weissinger
Historian General: Jeffrey Thomas
Librarian General: James Osbourn
Surgeon General: Joe Hamil
Chaplain General: Christopher Grimes
Foundation Board: "PG slot" John Dodd
Foundation Board: at-large Dan McKelvie

From your Kansas State Society Nominating Committee, the slate of candidates for 2025-2027 will be presented to the February Board of Governors (BOG) meeting for review and approval before presentation to the full Annual KS SAR Conference.



America's 248th Anniversary of The Battle of Princeton

By Brian Vazquez
President, Thomas Jefferson Chapter

January 3, 1777

We remember General George Washington's crossing of the Delaware River on December 25, 1776, to attack Trenton, New Jersey. The crossing started a 10-day cycle that would change the course of the war by proving the ability of the fledgling Continental army to defeat the British under the right circumstances.

The 10-day cycle ended with the Battle at Princeton on January 3, 1777. The initial confrontation was unplanned. Lieutenant General Charles, Lord Cornwallis, had decided to move his approximate 8,000 men from Princeton, New Jersey, to directly counter the Continental army at Trenton. Princeton was approximately 10 miles from Trenton. A British commander, Lt. Colonel Charles Mawhood, was marching his 4th Brigade (from Lancaster, known as the "The King's Own") of British regulars to Trenton, New Jersey when his scouts spotted the American forces on the move. At the time, General Washington was moving his army away from the earlier Trenton engagements along Assunpink Creek to Princeton to counterattack the British forces.

The American forces, also, spotted a British column around William Clarke's farm, a 200-acre farm with orchards near Princeton. (The farm is in the current Princeton Battlefield



State Park.) General Washington detached Brigadier General Hugh Mercer's militia brigade to intercept. Mercer ran into the British 17th Foot Regiment, a part of Mawhood's forces, entrenched behind a fence at the end of Clarke's orchard. During the subsequent volleys between the forces, Mercer was fatally wounded, and his brigade was routed by a British bayonet charge.

If Mawhood continued with his forces, the American column would be split. General Washington responded in three ways. To stop Mawhood from splitting the American forces, General Washington sent Colonel John Cadwalader's Third Battalion of Philadelphia militia (the Philadelphia Associators – a militia unit originally formed by Benjamin Franklin in 1747) into the gap. General Washington also assigned artillery support to Joseph Moulder's small artillery battery, a part of the Philadelphia Associators. (Moulder had only 2 long-barreled 4 pounder cannons but used grapeshot canisters.) Finally, General Washington personally led an American counterattack that broke Mawhood's British line.

There were two other engagements as well – at Frog Hollow and on the grounds of the College of New Jersey (now known as Princeton University). Both led to British retreats. The overall result was that the Continental Army proved it could defeat British regulars.

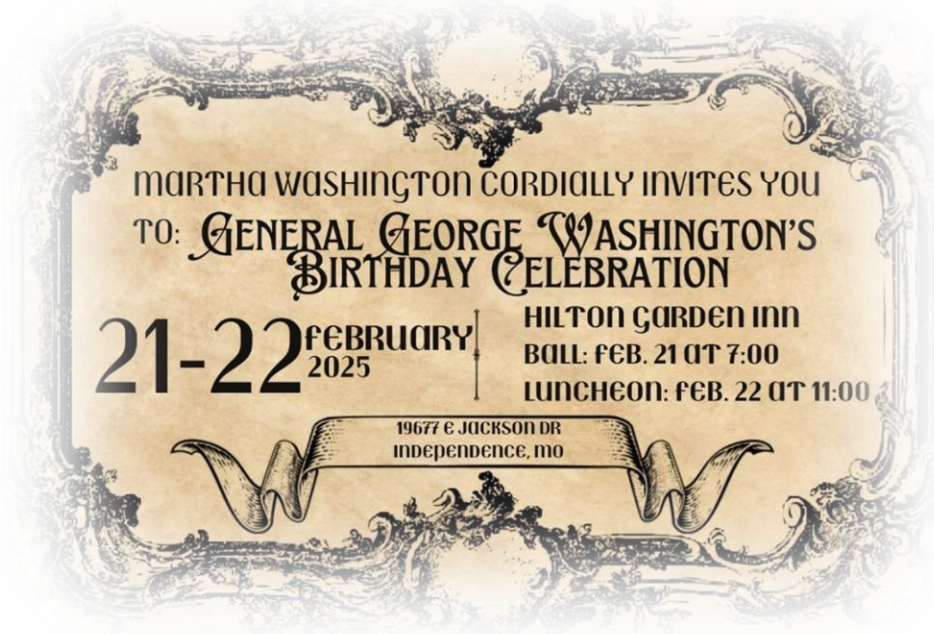


George Washington Birthday Wichita

★ ★ ★ ★ ★	
Please Join Us For	
GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY & PRESIDENT'S DAY DINNER	
Saturday, Feb 15, 2025 Holiday Inn East, 549 South Rock Rd, Wichita Time: 6pm \$45 Per Person	
Keynote Speaker: Mike VanCampen President of Kansas Honor Flight	
HOSTED BY CHAPTERS OF THE SONS AND KANSAS DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION	
Net Proceeds To Benefit: KANSAS HONOR FLIGHTS	
FOR INFORMATION: Call (316) 239-1116 (John Schwartz) Or Call (316) 706-1359 (Valerie Bothell)	
Business Attire Recommended (Men Coat and Tie)	
Return This Reservation Form and your check for \$45 each person to: ✂	
John Schwartz, 15236 E. Castle Cir., Wichita, KS 67230	
Make Checks out to: WA CH SAR - to be received no later than Jan 30	
Your Name _____	
Your Phone _____	
Entree Chicken Florentine w/rice pilaf - How Many? _____	
Entree London Broil w/mashed potatoes - How Many? _____	
Dinner includes salad, bread and dessert	
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	



George Washington Birthday Kansas City



Go to our website <https://gwbckansascity.org/> for reservations and more details.

Checks may also be sent to:
GWBC
P.O.B. 9017
Kansas City, KS 66112

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/235312398909718/>

Please contact members of the Planning Committee for details of the KC area event:

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Jeffrey Winters, Trustee winters@ksssar.org

Mark Davis, Marketing hlsar1776@gmail.com

Andy Harvey, Programs harveyadsm@gmail.com

Greg Beck, MC beckgt@gmail.com

Bruce Smith, Fundraising brtspa@aol.com



Kansas State Rumbaugh Oration and Video Contest Winners Sponsored by the Delaware Crossing Chapter

By Bruce Smith
Rumbaugh Oration & Video Statewide Chair

Sydney Esch will present her KSSSAR winning Rumbaugh Oration at the March KSSSAR Annual meeting in Overland Park during the Youth Luncheon. She is a junior at St. James Academy in Lenexa and participated in the Delaware Crossing Chapter Oration contest last year. Sydney was thrilled with the opportunity and came back again this year to compete in the oration, essay, and video contests. Submission of her oration video to the national contest for preliminary judging will be due mid-April. We wish her well in this difficult contest.

The inaugural KSSSAR Video Contest winner is Gavin Dykes. Gavin is an 8th grader at Lexington Trails Middle School in De Soto. This unique contest is open to both middle and high school students. He will also present his Video Contest entry at the March KSSSAR Annual conference in Overland Park. Gavin was our state brochure contest winner in Hutchinson last year, and his older brother, James, has been the KSSSAR essay contest winner the past two years. One of the interesting aspects of the Video Contest is the creativity allowed. Gavin created a recruiting video encouraging people to volunteer for Continental service in the aftermath of the Battles of Lexington and Concord. Wouldn't it be great if he made the national finals in the very first year this contest was officially sanctioned by SAR. Fingers crossed.

Watch these two perform at the State Conference in Overland Park on March 22.



Chapter News

BENNINGTON CHAPTER (Salina Area)

Joe Black, President - *Meeting place; Harmony Hideaway, 3488 N Crystal Springs Rd, Salina Kansas meeting time: 4th Tuesday at 7PM September-May.*

No update.

CHARLES ROBINSON CHAPTER (Lawrence) Jim Cooper, President - *Meets*

3rd Wednesday of September, November, January, March and May, 6:00 PM, Perkins Restaurant, 1711 23rd St, Lawrence



PHOTO BY JESSICA BROWN

Charles Robinson joined with the Jayhawk Chapter of Military Officers Association of America for Veterans in the Classroom on Veterans Day

2024. Compatriots Peter Grassl and Jim Cooper, both Navy veterans, spoke at several area schools: Peter at Eudora Elementary School and Cordley Elementary in Lawrence, and Jim at Deerfield and Sunflower Elementary Schools in Lawrence. They discussed the history and significance of Veterans Day and described their own service to the students and answered the myriads of students' questions. In the photo, Jim explains the intricacies of the P-3 Orion sub hunter to first graders at Sunflower.

COL. JOHN SEWARD CHAPTER (Liberal)

Dr. Ray E. Allen, President - *Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the Month (except December) at 7:00 PM at the Leader and Times Newspaper Office, 16 S. Kansas Avenue, Liberal, Kansas*

No update.

DELAWARE CROSSING CHAPTER (Kansas City & Johnson County) Ken Ludwig, President - *Meets 3rd Saturday monthly*

for 9:00 AM Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn 12080 Strang Line Road, Olathe, KS 66062

Delaware Crossing produces a very good newsletter every month. It's chock full of stories and pictures about activities their members engage in throughout the year. Primary to that is their Color Guard



participation. Earlier in this newsletter, you've seen the full record of KS State Society Color Guard activities which includes Delaware Crossing Compatriots, so I won't repeat all of that here. But you probably already know they are very active in representing SAR through flag ceremonies, flag display award certificates to organizations like the Masonic Lodge which proudly displays the American flag. Wreaths Across America, the Patriot Muster in Leavenworth and Naturalization Ceremonies are also well attended. Speaking of Naturalization Ceremonies, the January Patriot reported that Dewey Fry has now presented Colors to more than 19,000 naturalized citizens and led more than 9,000 in reciting our Pledge of Allegiance for the first time as a US citizen. Huzzah!

Their January edition also highlighted a past Rumbaugh Oration contestant, CJ Phanstiel.

Richard Lee McClellan became a member of the NSDAR, KSSSAR and Delaware Crossing Chapter on September 13, 2024. Richard was administered his Membership Oath at our October 19th Chapter Meeting by President Ken Ludwig.

Richard's Patriot Ancestor is George Holt who joined as a Private in the North Carolina Militia from Town of Hillsboro in 1778. He served for 3 months in the

Company of Captain Gwinn and Captain Murray. He was promoted to Sargent and served 3 months under Captain

The Delaware Crossing Chapter is fully engaged in community services, primarily through their color guard activities. In a recent edition of their newsletter, *The Patriot*, the following letters written by elementary school students show their appreciation for SAR.

Submitted by Larry Tatum, Patriot Editor,
Delaware Crossing





Submitted by President Jim Gilpin

FORT HAYS CHAPTER (Hays) Doak Doolittle, President - Meeting Dates and Location- Meet on the 3rd Tuesday of Jan, May, July, Sept, Nov. at 7:pm (March is the State SAR Meeting) at the Rooks County Museum, 921 S. Cedar St, Stockton, KS.

No update.

FORT SCOTT CHAPTER (Ft. Scott) Jim Gilpin, President - Meets second Saturday in February, April, June, August, October and December at Lucci's Cafe at 11 am

We helped with the Wreaths across America project at Fort Scott Cemetery - Little Balkans chapter sold over 1,000 wreaths with the Pittsburg DAR.

HENRY LEAVENWORTH CHAPTER (Leavenworth) Bennett Dickson, President - Meets 4th Thursday monthly at The Heritage Center, 109 Delaware St., Leavenworth, KS 66048

On December 12, 2024, the chapter held its 8th Annual Patriot Muster. Eighty-One attendees were treated to some history lessons, Revolutionary War trivia, great food, music, service and the Defender of Freedom Award Program.

The night began with a presentation of Colors, the opening prayer - and then two new Compatriot inductions. Dr. Glen Welch, whose patriot ancestor is Solomon Cortwright, a Sergeant in the NJ Militia and Cole Ruckman, whose patriot ancestor is Benjamin Paschall, a justice of the peace in Philadelphia.

Presentations of the prestigious "Defender of Freedom" statues were awarded to seven incredible recipients.



Sponsors and their new Freedom Corps members are Walt Schley / Judy Bauer, Russ King / Susie Young, Andy Harvey / The Heritage Center, Rob Lofthouse / Michael Sevcik, Vern Welkner / Tamara Sevcik, Walt Schley / Rebecca Johnson, Walt Schley / Robert Gray [accepted by his wife due to his deployment], and Bennett Dickson / Mike Lehnerr. This award is for their outstanding community volunteerism. Additionally, the Heritage Center, our monthly meeting venue, received a "Defender of Freedom" award for the awesome support they've given to our Chapter. Colonial flags representing all thirteen colonies and some allied flags were posted along with a ceremonial lighting of Colonial Lamps for each. The silent auction and 50/50 raffle were a big hit, and the lucky recipients walked away with their prizes. About three-dozen toys were collected and cash donations were given to the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program. The KS State Society Color Guard gave an outstanding performance, with Evan Marion keeping cadence with his drumbeats. Some of the night's guests came from long distances Abilene, St. Joseph, Independence and Baldwin City to name a few. The



PRESIDENT BENNETT
DICKSON AND VETERANS
DIRECTOR WALT SCHLEY

night ended with a benediction by our National SAR Chaplain General Vern Welkner.

Henry Leavenworth inducted Compatriot Evan Marion as its youngest member earlier in the Fall. Evan's Revolutionary War ancestor is Matthias Link. Young Evan is also our newest Color Guard member, bringing his drum to keep the beat.



EVAN MARION AND
PRESIDENT BENNETT
DICKSON

Oscar Miller was inducted in November. Compatriot Miller's Revolutionary ancestor was Benjamin Brown.



Compatriot Glen Welch was also inducted during the Annual Muster. Welch's patriot ancestor was Solomon Cortright, who served in Colonel Mertens's New Jersey



Regiment.

John Schatzel continues to offer free genealogy research for anyone looking for their Revolutionary War ancestor.

For more information about our annual muster, please reach out to our Vice President, John Schatzel jschatz82@aol.com or President Bennett Dickson bennettdickson47@gmail.com.

Submitted by: Walt Schley, Public Relations, Henry Leavenworth

KONZA PRAIRIE CHAPTER (Manhattan)
Doug Brabb, President - Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM, Meeting location TBD

Konza Prairie SAR members attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony on Saturday and placed a wreath on the grave of our former president, Mark Naughton, at the Kansas Veteran's Cemetery near the Manhattan airport. Mark was a special guy.



LITTLE BALKANS CHAPTER (Pittsburg)
Dustin Strong President - Little Balkans Chapter is the state's newest chapter, they continue to increase membership.

Refer to the Chapter Spotlight article.

MONTICELLO CHAPTER (Shawnee)
Jake Cox, President - Meets 3rd Thursday monthly, 6:00 PM at Pegah's Restaurant 12122 W 87th St, Lenexa, KS 66215

No update.

PRAIRIE MINUTEMEN CHAPTER (Ellsworth Area) David Bailey, President

No update.

SONS OF THE PLAINS CHAPTER (Hutchinson) Bit Roberts President - Meetings at Reno County Museum 100 South Walnut Hutchinson Ks 7PM Tuesday Sept-May

Newest member of the Sons of the Plains. Onyx was referred by Patty Winger Senior Leader of the Buffalo Society CAR.





THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAPTER

(Topeka) Brian Vazquez, President - *During the months of January to April 2025, the Thomas Jefferson Chapter will be holding a business meeting at 9:30 am at the Topeka-Shawnee County Library on the 2nd Saturday of the month. At 10:00 am, the TJ Chapter will join the Topeka DAR chapter, who also meets at the library on the 2nd Saturday of the month, to hear presentations. The April meeting will be at a different location. The Topeka DAR hosts a social gathering at 10:00 am with the meeting starting at 10:30 am. The schedule of presentations for the DAR meetings will be:*

Jan. 11th C.A.R. State President

Feb. 8th American History Essays Winners & Good Citizen Award Winner

March 8th Loyalist in the American Revolution-Suzanne & Steve Germes

April 13th Indian Raids in KS – Janet Weatherhogg (I believe this meeting will be at Faith Lutheran Church)

The Pearl Harbor Memorial Service was good and included a gun salute and taps played on a bugle.



Submitted by John B Schwartz, President WA Chapter

THE KANSAS SAR LADIES AUXILIARY

Jennifer Wampler, President - *Meets during the Quarterly Board of Governors*

No update.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER (Wichita Area)

John Schwartz, President; *Meets 3rd Thursday except January & July at 7:00 pm at Good Shepherd Church Wichita, KS*



Washington Chapter

KSSAR in attendance at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Service that was held in the Veteran's Memorial Park in Wichita, Kansas on Pearl Harbor Day. The

woman standing next to us is Mayor Lily Wu, Mayor of the City of Wichita.



New Members

Last	First	Middle	NSSAR	Ks	Ch Sponsor	Approved	Ancestor
Welch	Glen	Frank	231903	4077	HL Schatzel, J A	12/06/24	Solomon Cortright
Stoneking	Michael	Anthony	231904	4078	BN Schatzel, J A	12/06/24	Jacob Stoneking
Ruckman	Jason	Cole	231905	4079	HL Schatzel, J A	12/06/24	Benjamin Paschall
Fleischer	Aidan	Todd	231906	4080	HL Schatzel, J A	12/06/24	James Dawson
Topliff	Daniel	Lynn	231907	4081	KP Schatzel, J A	12/06/24	William Marshall
Wise	Patrick	James	232013	4082	HL Schatzel, J A	12/13/24	James Sparks
Wise	Joshua	Charles	232014	4083	HL Schatzel, J A	12/13/24	James Sparks
Wise	Zachary	Patrick	232015	4084	HL Schatzel, J A	12/13/24	James Sparks
Wise	Dennis	Richard	232016	4085	HL Schatzel, J A	12/13/24	James Sparks
Mullinax	Mark	Christopher	232017	4086	KP Posson, W A	12/13/24	Peter Borst
Liby	Darren	Lance	232018	4087	SP Hulse, B A	12/13/24	Frederick Leiby
Lofthouse	Jon	Remington	232019	4088	HL Schatzel, J A	12/13/24	James Knowles
Waggoner	George	Calyn Robert	232073	4089	SP Schatzel, J A	12/20/24	John Alban
Wheeler	Dennis	Keith	232074	4090	LB Schatzel, J A	12/20/24	John Gritton
King	Michael	Wayne	232075	4091	MC Schatzel, J A	12/20/24	Peter Wheeler

Supplementals

Last	First	Middle	NSSAR	Ks	Ch	Approved	Ancestor
Sayler	John	George	118274	1367	CR	11/08/24	John Mullan

Taps

Last	First	Middle	NSSAR	Ks	Ch	Member	Died
Hammer	Jerry	Lavern	226133	3974	HL	2023	07/08/19+
Hart	Robert	Wince	208180	3428	HL	2018	01/14/24
Berryman	Jerome	Woods, II	82353	727		1957	08/05/24*
Symns	William	Forrester	96554	903		1968	09/06/24*
Newman	Charles	Michael	78048	722	MAL	1956	09/08/24



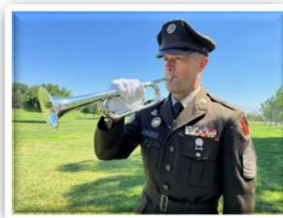
Last	First	Middle	NSSAR	Ks	Ch	Member	Died
Carlton	Christopher	Vincent	215567	3665	WA	2020	09/15/24
Bolte	Allen	Nicol	221236	3829	HL	2021	10/01/24
Bowden	Roger	Dale	177558	2765		2010	10/10/24*
Karnes	Gerald	Ray	121819	1507	BN	1983	10/11/24
Guesnier	Jerome	Delano "Rene"	160192	2358	SP	2003	11/06/24
Henry	Arthur	Floyd, Jr.	125060	1597		1985	12/11/24*
Wood	Richard	Warren	215237	3652	LB	2020	12/31/24
Lambert	Leonard	John "Jack", Jr.	125076	1599		1985	12/31/24*
Boldt	Waldemar	Harris, Jr.	113836	3332		1978	01/01/25*

**inactive*

+died before registration as new member

Taps Verse

Thanks, and praise, for our days,
 'Neath the sun, Neath the stars,
 'Neath the sky,
 As we go, this we know,
 God is nigh.

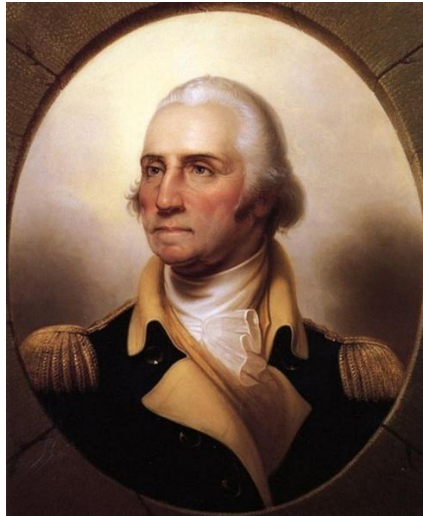


MSGT Keith Beyer
 300th Army Band

Bugler, and Professional Trumpet Player; Taps for Memories



Final Thought



Beware of the continuing legacy which you carry as a Son of the American Revolution.

SAR members have answered their country's call in every major American conflict beginning with the battle of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775, continuing through WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Operation Desert Storm, to the present-day recent actions in Afghanistan and Iraq, among many others. SAR members have received the highest awards America bestows, including the Medal of Honor and the SAR Minuteman.

- Remember Our Past by honoring those who served or assisted the colonies during the Revolutionary War.
- Promote Core Values by protecting our Constitution and perpetuating American ideals and traditions.
- Shape Young Minds by educating our youth about the Constitution and those who developed the American ideals and traditions.

The Editor of the Liberty Bell is Robert Lofthouse of the Henry Leavenworth Chapter. The Publisher is Bryan Wampler of the Monticello Chapter, President of the Kansas SAR. If there is something you want to see in it please reach out to the Editor at rllofthouse@kssar.org.



Appendix



Sons of the American Revolution
Oklahoma Society
Norman Chapter
Invitation to the Oklahoma Society SAR 119th
Conference April 12, 2025



The Norman Chapter SAR is honored to host the 119th OKSSAR Conference, and cordially invites members, wives and friends to this event. We will meet at the Events @ Madison Square Center, 480 24th Ave NW, Norman, OK. Lunch is included in the Registration Fee. Dress code: Business Attire.

Schedule:

8:30 AM	Registration: Coffee & Snacks. – Madison Square Center
9:00 AM	Color Guard will present the colors – Event Center
9:30 AM	Business Meeting – Event Center
	Opening greetings by Norman Mayor Larry Heikkila
	Ladies convene for a program by JoAnn Banse, Blanchard DAR Chisholm Fork Chapter Regent, Oklahoma State Chair Service To Veterans and Jane Harris, Norman Black Beaver DAR Regent.
11:00 AM	Conference recesses for Lunch – Provided by Louie's Restaurant.
12:15 PM	Conference Reconvenes
	Greetings and Keynote Speaker, Gary P. Miskovsky Jr. U.S. Army Colonel (ret), an overview of Military contrast
1:30 PM	Awards Ceremonies & Recognition of Guests
3:00 PM	Adjournment and Retirement of Colors

Your registration fee includes a Norman SAR Chapter ink pen and lunch. The Norman area is rich with history, so come early, stay late and bring the family. While you are here, visit the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History, the National Weather Museum and Science Center, the Historic Campus Corner District, or the Tribes Gallery.

Directions: See attached websites, maps and directions. Link to Norman Chapter SAR website: www.facebook.com/groups/828671780963852. A blank Application Form for the Conference is available on the Norman Chapter website.

Event Contact:

Mark Atterson, President, Norman Chapter SAR

Email: matterson2@hotmail.com



OKSSAR 119th Conference - Hosted by Norman Chapter SAR Saturday, April 12, 2025.
Application Form: (Please Print & mail). Registration Fee: \$40.00 per person (\$15 additional if you'd like a Norman Chapter Challenge coin). Buffet Lunch is included.