

# The Illinois Patriot



## Illinois Society Sons of The American Revolution

[www.illinois-sar.org](http://www.illinois-sar.org)

April, 2022



### MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT regarding the next two Board of Managers Meetings

The Executive Committee made some important changes to the BOM schedule. Due to a scheduling conflict with the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield, the Board of Managers meeting has been rescheduled from May 13-14 to May 6-7, but still located at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel.

We have an April 21 deadline for the SAR group rate at the hotel. About this upcoming May 6-7, 2022 BOM, the committee voted unanimously to move the Medals and Awards & Silent Auction portions to the August BOM.

**Continued on Page 3.**



### A Message From The President

**By ILSSAR  
President Michael  
Campagnolo**

In just a few short weeks we will be coming together at the Abraham Lincoln in Springfield for our annual Youth Awards Luncheon. On Saturday, May 7, we will have our business meeting where the Board of Managers will be asked to approve the slate of officers for ILSSAR for 2022-2024 that was distributed in Bloomington last month.

The BOM will also be asked to confirm committee chairs for 2022-2024 and the short list of BOM members-at-large. Following the meeting and the swearing in of the new management team we will have lunch and our annual Youth Awards Program. New ILSSAR President Chuck Dobias will be the host of both the Friday evening dinner and the Youth Awards Luncheon on Saturday.

It has been an honor to serve as your president the past two years. I am confident that



From left: WWII veteran and Fox Valley Compatriot Don Shee, Franz Herder, and ILSSAR President Mike Campagnolo are shown at a Flag Day concert in Downers Grove, organized by Don on June 23 2014.

### A True Gentleman, Mentor, and Friend passes

By ILSSAR President Mike Campagnolo

I was so sad to hear of Franz Herder's passing last December. I will always remember Franz as a mentor when I joined the SAR in 2010. Franz was President of the Illinois Society from 2010-2012. He was also the President of the Salt Creek Chapter. I remember going to several of their chapter meetings in downtown Brookfield. I always felt welcomed. After I was appointed to my first state position, ILSSAR Flag Award Chairman in 2011, ILSSAR President Franz Herder took me under his wing to explain what the SAR is all about and the importance of all the ILSSAR positions to the society. I could always lean on Franz for advice. Franz was a soft-spoken gentleman with great knowledge of world events. Franz also had a great sense of humor. I got to know Franz better while driving down to the Mt Vernon BOM a couple of years ago. Franz told me he would like to go but didn't have a ride. I told him I would pick him up at his home in Brookfield so we drove together. On the 5 1/2 hour drive each way we talked about family, politics, sports, current events and of course the SAR. It was a very enjoyable drive and it seemed to make that drive a lot shorter.

Franz has marched in parades, helped with a Flag Day Concert, participated in Revolutionary War Days and numerous cemetery markings over the year with us at the Fox Valley Chapter.

Franz has been awarded the Silver Council of Presidents Medal, Patriot Medal, State Distinguished Serve Medal, Bronze and Silver Roger Sherman Medals, Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals, Bronze and Silver Good Citizenship medals and Certificate of Appreciation.

Franz' passing was a great loss for the Illinois Society. He will be missed.

It was great to have known you.

Rest in Peace Franz



## Reflections On Ukraine

As with many Americans, I spend most evenings watching the latest news from Ukraine. The headlines are appalling, and images of destruction and the suffering people (especially children) are heart-wrenching. At the same time, though, the fortitude of the Ukrainian people is a shining example to the world: The man standing in front of a Russian tank ala Tiananmen Square in 1989, the old woman giving a Russian soldier a handful of sunflower seeds to be fertilized by his body after he is killed, the man leaping on a Russian armored personnel carrier while waving the Ukrainian flag. Such acts of defiance, as expected, provide sound bites for the media. But much more is going on behind the scenes. Reportedly, thousands of Ukrainian civilians have taken up arms and joined Ukrainian soldiers in fighting off the Russian invaders. We have not yet heard their stories but wonder: How many have died? How many have suffered grievous injuries? How many will now suffer psychologically for the rest of their lives? Most have paid a high price, but they chose their course and most will be forever proud of their stand. Was this not also true of our patriot ancestors at the onset of the American Revolution?

Your ancestor almost certainly went through a period of soul-searching before committing to the path of revolution. In the months and years leading up to Lexington and Concord, there was ample time to consider the choices, and I'm sure that the daily news back then was as important to our ancestors in shaping their choices as today's news is to us. But when the first British troops left Boston to seize the rebels' arms caches, it was decision time. The Patriot rebels likely faced the approaching British troop formations with the same dread that the Ukrainians felt while confronting the Russian tank columns. Imagine your ancestor facing the British army, then the most powerful military in the world! He may have begun having some doubts as to the course he had taken. In the heat of the moment his decision seemed logical. But sober reflection may have brought the realization that he was gambling not only his own life and future, but that of his wife and children. Thomas Paine wrote of the "summer soldier" and the "sunshine patriot", but it is understandable that, as the war dragged on and



## From the president continued from P.1

By ILSSAR President Michael Campagnolo

Chuck and his Sr. Vice President Richard Ruedin will do a great job and keep the society strong and moving forward. Reservation details for the Abraham Lincoln Springfield are included in this issue of the Illinois Patriot.

ALL SAR members are welcome, and I would highly recommend that if you possibly can, plan to join us in Springfield. This is always a well-attended weekend, worth making the effort to attend. This has been a pretty good year for the Illinois Society, and I am confident we are past the COVID hurdle and will have a great remainder of the year. Program activities have been coming back in many areas. Chapters have grown. As of last year, membership has continued to grow. And as a result of increased attention to recruitment and membership growth at the chapter level, we can look forward to the Illinois Society continuing to grow.

The Color Guard is anticipating an active year with additional growth. As the weather turns warmer, all of us with uniforms look forward to getting outside for various community parades, patriot grave and cemetery markings, memorial ceremonies and the like. The uniform gets the attention of people if worn for presentations of awards to Police, EMS,

ROTC, Outstanding Citizens, an Eagle Scout or just about any other event you may be involved in. A Color Guard is always a wonderful thing to have at a parade, SAR meeting, DAR event, or any patriotic celebration. Sure, the uniform costs a few dollars but you can start with a Minuteman set-up of a tricorne, shirt, britches, stockings, and shoe buckles. Later you can add a haversack, regimental or frock coat, maybe some authentic buckle shoes, a musket, bayonet and scabbard, and a cartridge box. You can go to G. Gedney Godwin (<http://www.gggodwin.com>) or James Townsend (<http://www.jas-townsend.com>) and get the whole outfit. Chapter Color Guard members are automatically part of the Illinois Society and National Color Guards. They can participate at events around the state and country, if they desire. Many times, the uniform is what sparks interest in becoming a member of the SAR. For you who are not convinced to obtain a uniform, that's not a problem. A uniform isn't for everyone. The uniform is another way to garner interest in membership. Have a great Spring and remember to have your chapter represented at our next two Board of Manager's Meetings in May and August.

## Winners of 2022 Knight Essay Contest announced

By Allan C. Campbell, M.D. Chair, ILSSAR Knight Essay Committee

I am most pleased to announce the winners of the 2022 ILSSAR Knight Essay Contest. After careful review by our committee, the winner is Artem Khalet of Mount Prospect for his essay on *African Americans and the Revolution*. He will receive a check for \$1,000, a certificate and a medallion. He will be invited to the May 7 Youth Awards luncheon at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield to receive his medallion. His essay was forwarded to the NSSAR committee for further review. He may be invited to the NSSAR 132nd Congress in Savannah, GA July 10-15. The National award has been increased to \$ 6,000 with a \$1,500 travel stipend if the winner attends the congress. Additional awards are as follows: \$3,000, \$2,000, \$500, and \$500.

Additional participants in the ILSSAR contest were as follows:

Jamison Fortschneider of Godfrey for his essay *Washington and the Cause*. He will receive a

check for \$500 and a certificate.

Roy Llewellyn of Downers Grove for his essay *From Bookstore to Battlefield: Major Henry Knox*. He will receive a check for \$300 and a certificate.

Alex Boyden of Malta for his essay "*What it means to be an American*". He will receive \$100 and a certificate.

Details, rules and forms for the contest are available at the NSSAR website [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org) under the Education tab. Our deadline for 2023 will be January 15. Any assistance the Illinois Chapters and compatriots could provide to encourage High School students would be most appreciated. Essays and application forms may be forwarded directly to me via email by the deadline date. The deadline for the Rumbaugh Oration contest is still coming up on April 15. Again, details about that contest are on the NSSAR website.

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309-360-9345

defeat followed defeat, many lost heart and left for home. But enough Patriots believed strongly enough in the cause that the dream of independence was sustained and victory was eventually achieved.

Will Ukraine have a similar outcome? The future appears foreboding at this time, but the

spirit of freedom still reigns in Ukraine.

The bravery of those fighting for their country should inspire us to reassess how fortunate we are to enjoy the freedoms that we have and to silently thank our ancestors, even as we continue to pray for the Ukrainian people in their struggle.

**MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT regarding the next two Board of Managers Meetings Continued from P. 1**

We then will have the official swearing in of officers. Chuck will unofficially take over as president in May. Why we are doing this you ask? Drew and I will not be able to attend the May 6-7 BOM due to prior commitments made before the change of dates (May 13-14 to May 6-7). We also have to give Tina

Robinson (President Ladies Auxiliary) time to set up and organize the Silent Auction. I also thought it would be strange to send my President's Medallion and Gavel by mail to Toby to present to our new President Chuck Dobias.

The Youth Awards will still be held on Saturday, May 7 as scheduled. It would be silly

to move these to the August BOM because schools will be out of session in August and it would be hard to call the students and ask them to attend at the changed dates.

Speaking of the August BOM, we need to settle on August 4-5 or August 13-14 in Springfield, not in Mt Vernon.

## **Minutes of the Illinois Board of Managers Meeting February 12, 2022 in Bloomington, IL**

The meeting was opened at 8:30am by

President Mike Campagnolo

- Pledge and SAR pledge.
- Invocation by Gordon Bidner
- In attendance: 14. Gordon moved to suspend the rules to have a quorum. Passed unanimously.
- Mike made an announcement of Franz Herder's passing and made a brief commemoration.
- Steven Kern recognized for attending his first BOM mtg.

### **Committee Reports**

- National Trustee: Toby Chamberlain
  - No report. Nothing happening.
  - Toby is also the national chair for the national newsletter contest. Suggestion made to change the BOM name.
  - The nominating committee is having a hard time finding people for secretary, treasurer and recording secretary.
  - Patriot Medal: Three nominations received. Two approved for two of the three available medals.
  - Toby has recruited 19 new George Washington Fellowship members.
- Mike Campagnolo comments:
  - Discussion about treasurer's turnover
  - Gordon Bidner suggested consolidating project committees and making sure that committees are actually doing their work. Committee members need to continually remind their contacts to meet contest deadlines.
- GLD report: VPG Bill Austin:
  - GLD meeting and ILSSAR BOM meetings will be combined this year on first weekend of November.
  - VPG attendance makes any meeting a district meeting for double points.
- President's report Mike Campagnolo:
  - Mentioned that he has been honored to be the president and thanked everyone.
  - His first year as president was tough due to COVID requirements forcing BOMs to be virtual on Zoom.
  - Four confirmed cemetery markings set for this year.
  - Bill Austin started a discussion about how to mark graves of SAR compatriots. Several good ideas presented.
- Senior Vice President: Chuck Dobias
  - Asked for patience and understanding

because he is new to his upcoming presidency.

- Incoming Sr. VP said there should be a breakout session for officers learning about their new positions.
- Steve Kern discussed his booklet detailing the duties and responsibilities of officers and committee chairmen.
- Secretary report: Drew Robinson.
  - Started 2021 with 1012 members, gained 122 members, 72 brand new members and ended with 1001 due to deaths and other member number adjustments.
  - The electronic dues collection went well due to the collections going straight to Drew with help from a remote collection deposit machine from the bank.
  - Drew has complete lifetime histories of chapter payments that can be made available if requested.
  - Gordon Bidner asked about the percentage of members who paid electronically. Drew said about 30%. Due to the electronic system, Drew said he can see how many times compatriots open their invoices and look at them. (19 times in one case)
  - Due to reinstatements and new members, the 1001 member count is a low point and is already on the way up from there.
  - When the chapter presidents receive new applications they should warn the applicants that the time to process them is a long one, about twelve weeks now vs. about eight weeks a few years ago.
- Treasurer Report: Lee Braden - absent
- Mike talked about how the treasurer and secretary positions will be combined to be done by one person.
- A brief description about what would be required is needed.
- Gordon Bidner made motion that "For the upcoming year, we combine the secretary and treasurer positions on a temporary basis until we are able to get the treasurer position filled for one year."
- Second by Toby Chamberlain.
- Chuck Dobias questioned whether one person can hold two jobs at the same time. Consensus was yes since it is a temporary situation. The constitution doesn't need to be changed in order for that to happen.
- Passed unanimously.
- Registrar's report: Gerry Whitson - absent

- Drew mentioned that Gerry is the genealogist and Greg Westfall is the actual registrar so there is no overlap.
- Historian report: Vacant. Ed Bachesta will hopefully stay on.
- Gordon suggested the Board of Managers needs to be "cleaned up." Mike mentioned that some officers and committee chairmen don't regularly attend the BOM meetings. The constitution says if you don't attend BOM meetings for two years, you're off the board according to Gordon.
- Chaplain's report: Ray Owens - absent
- Northern Region VP: Mike Cobb - absent.
  - Mike Cobb is moving to Oregon.
  - Bill Wheeler was appointed to take over the job.
- Central Region VP: Sid Welles
  - No report.
- Southern Region VP: Joe Harris
  - Long Knives chapter is very active. Other chapters, not so much due largely due to COVID.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

- Auditing Committee: Work in progress
- Nominating Committee: Toby Chamberlain
  - All Region VP positions filled.
  - Open positions are Sr. VP, Attorney and Sgt. at Arms.
- Color Guard report:
  - 79 Members in the state.
- Scout Report: George Tinkham - absent
  - Four Eagle scout applications received.
- Flag Award committee: Ted Miller absent.
  - Eight chapters gave at least one award last year to qualify for Furlong award
- Cemetery Marking: Jim Wallace
  - Elijah Smith is planning one for this year.
- Medals and Awards Committee: Jack Cramer.
  - Write to Jack with award notifications.
- Outstanding Citizenship: Vacant
- ROTC: Chuck Dobias. Nothing to report.
- Law Enforcement, EMS, Hero Awards: Sid Welles.
  - GJB nine awards,
  - Springfield three awards
  - Lewis & Clark ten awards
  - Long Knives two awards
- Toby Chamberlain announced that Richard Ruedin has agreed to be the new Senior VP.
- Benediction Gordon Bidner
- SAR Reccessional and adjournment.



# General Joseph Bartholemew Chapter

## Good citizenship awards close out GJB's year

The General Joseph Bartholemew ILSSAR Chapter wrapped up 2021 and began 2022 with several items to highlight. On December 10, 2021, the GJB Chapter, in conjunction with the Watseka DAR, held its Citizenship Tea in Watseka at the Faith Lutheran Church and awarded six Outstanding Good Citizenship awards to seniors in Iroquois County. The awards were presented by GJB SAR members Bill White and Albert Day.

The GJB chapter has published its calendar of events for 2022. The schedule includes seven chapter meetings with a variety of topics and programs. Also scheduled is the 23rd GJB SAR Citizenship/Scholarship Luncheon for the 20 high schools in McLean and Woodford County. The luncheon will be held on April 7 at the Bloomington Country Club, with Dr. Stephen Standifird, president Bradley University, as the keynote speaker. In addition, we have a combined meeting with the LGS DAR Chapter on September 9, recognizing Constitution Week and First Responder Awards. Keynote speaker will be Illinois State Senator Jason Barickman.

For 2022, GJB elected and installed the following officers:

President: J. Gordon Bidner

Vice President: Charles N. Erickson

Secretary/Historian: Jay L. Cummins

Secretary Emeritus: Harry E. Hoit

Registrar: David J. Dougall

Assistant Registrar: Robert Harshbarger

Genealogist: William M. Hammitt

Treasurer/Asst Historian: L. Lance McCormick

Chaplain/Sergeant-at-Arms: Raymond P. Owens

Chaplain Emeritus: Dr. Virgil D. Short

Editor, The General's News: Charles N. Erickson

David L. Edwards: Member at Large



Pictured from left to right are Bill White, William Tieg (Milford High School), Weston Lareau (Donovan High School), Jordan Schroeder (Watska High School), Samantha Sigler (Iroquois West High School), Lyssa Kaeb (Cissna Park High School), and Albert Day. Not pictured was Katherine Thompson (Central High School).

Alan C. Washburn: Member at Large

William A. White: Member at Large

In addition, GJB has 15 committees organized and filled. The chapter is using the *Duties and Responsibilities of Officers and Committees* prepared by member, Steve Kern, to make sure everyone is engaged. We continue to keep chapter members up to date with the winter edition of The General's News, published February 5.



## Stephen Decatur Chapter

The Stephen Decatur Chapter had its February chapter meeting recently. The program was to celebrate Washington's and Lincoln's birthday. We had a photo cake with the President's picture on it. We had several artifacts on display relevant to Washington and Lincoln.

We had an official Lincoln impersonator who gave a great speech at our chapter meeting. Pictures were taken. We are hoping to get a program together with Milliken University who has a letter written by George Washington. This would be a great way to showcase our chapter. Lots of ideas coming our way.



## Long Knives Chapter

### Wreaths Across America

Once again, the Long Knives Chapter was privileged to participate in the Wreaths Across America program.

Our Chapter assisted in the placement and salute for hundreds of veterans that find the Mound City National Cemetery their final resting place. This cemetery is near the location of a Civil War Union hospital, naval ship building facility, and army fort.

The cemetery contains the remains of both Union and Confederate Soldiers and Sailors. U.S. Veterans and family members from every branch of Service now find this cemetery their permanent resting place.



The Long Knives Chapter wishes to present and congratulate our new Officer Team for 2022. Our new Chapter President is Tom Edmondson; Chapter Vice-President is Allen Lang; Secretary is Patrick Haskell; and the Chapter Treasurer remains Jim Wallace. The new officers, left, are shown with Steve Haldeman. Let's all wish them the very best in their upcoming endeavors.

During our February Meeting, the Long Knives Chapter honored Kent Dixon and Steven Haldeman with their Ten Years Membership certificate and pin. Both members have been very active in Chapter work and activities. Here past President Lance Newman is presenting the Awards.



New member Patrick Haskell is welcomed into the Society by Steve Haldeman.





**Please save the dates of  
Oct 21 and 22, 2022**

The Great Lakes District annual meeting will be in Illinois this year. Illinois SAR will host the meeting at the Springfield City Center Hotel. Additional information will be provided at a later date.

As Illinois SAR is the host we need to have the maximum numbers of attendees as possible.

Toby Chamberlain  
GLD Vice President General (elect)  
and  
Chuck Dobias  
IL President Elect  
Sons of the American Revolution

Cordially invite you to the  
Annual Banquet and Meeting  
Of the Great Lakes District  
And the Illinois Society meeting  
October 28 and October 29.

Wyndham City Center Hotel  
Springfield, Illinois

\$121.00 plus tax  
Includes free parking plus two free  
breakfasts for each room

More information to follow.  
Toby Chamberlain  
saidirect@comcast.net  
217-483-6267



**President Joe Harris, left, accepts a large donation from Compatriot Jerry Groniger.**

## *Ewington Chapter*

The Ewington Chapter was honored to receive a very generous donation of \$5,000 from Jerry Groniger.

Compatriot Groniger first joined SAR in May of 1997 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Following his retirement, he moved to Mattoon to manage the Groniger family farm which is designated as a Centennial Farm that started in 1894. He transferred his membership to Illinois and Ewington in 1999.

He was one of Ewington's eight members when the chapter was reestablished following a period of inactivity.

Ewington and SAR is a family affair as Compatriot Groniger's son and grandson are also members.

### **ILLINOIS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION OFFICERS 2020-2022**

President ——— Mike Campagnolo  
Senior Vice President — Chuck Dobias  
V P Northern Region — Michael Cobb  
V P Central Region ——— Sid Welles  
V P Southern Region—— Joe Harris  
Secretary ——— Andrew Robinson  
Treasurer ——— Lee Braden  
Recording Secretary — Scott Sanders  
Illinois Patriot Editor — Scott Sanders  
w9run1776@icloud.com  
Registrar ——— Gregg Westfall  
Genealogist—— Gerald Whitson  
Chancellor ——— Kevin Babb  
Historian ——— Edward Bachesta  
Chaplain ——— Rev. Dr. Ray Owens  
Sgt. At Arms ——— Jason Sturges  
ILSSAR Trustee — Toby Chamberlain  
Alternate Trustee — currently vacant

# **Illinois Society, Sons of the American Revolution Quarterly Meeting, May 6-7, 2022 at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield, IL**

The SAR discount rate is \$105.00.

**The cutoff date for reservations is April 21**

The hotel's phone number is 217-544-8800.

The Friday May 6 dinner begins with a social hour at 6pm in a room TBD, with dinner to follow at 7pm.

## **Friday Dinner - \$39**

Entrée: Pan-Seared Chicken Provencal

Salad: Ripe vine tomato, basil pesto, fresh mozzarella, arugula, balsamic reduction, extra virgin olive oil

Starch: Roasted garlic whipped potatoes

Vegetables: Haricots verts (green beans) and glazed carrots

Dessert: Chocolate flourless cake

## **Saturday Awards Luncheon - \$25**

Entrée: Roasted Turkey, turkey and sage dressing, and cranberry chutney  
Salad: Mixed spring greens, strawberries, roasted almonds, and feta cheese  
with balsamic vinaigrette or Italian dressing

Starch: Yukon roasted herb potatoes

Dessert: Lemon and blueberry tartlet

Do you have special diet needs?

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Friday Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Friday Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Friday Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter : \_\_\_\_\_ Will you be present in Color Guard Uniform? \_\_\_\_\_

Meal selections must be received by May 2 Send checks payable to ILSSAR to:

Compatriot Charles D. Dobias

127 Briar Ridge Drive

Collinsville, IL 62234

Cell 618-334-5641; Email: [dobiascd1099@gmail.com](mailto:dobiascd1099@gmail.com).



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# ***George Washington Endowment Fund***

The George Washington Endowment Fund (GWEF) was created to establish a permanently restricted fund, the income of which would provide annual funding for support of NSSAR unfunded and underfunded committees and special projects. The GWEF is the only permanently restricted endowment fund established and managed under the expressed authority of the George Washington Endowment Board of the SAR." The GWEF has grown annually and continues support of approved NSSAR activities and projects. The corpus of the fund is never touched. Eighty percent of the earnings are withdrawn each year to support NSSAR projects with twenty percent being rolled back into the corpus each year.

George Washington Fellows have elected through their single gift or annual installment payment plan to give a \$1000.00 membership donation thereby leaving a patriotic legacy of a lifetime whose perpetual gift never dies and continues to support the SAR in perpetuity." Becoming a George Washington Fellow is not limited to SAR members. Spouses, children, grandchildren, nephews, and nieces are all eligible. And once a George Washington Fellow, you are always listed as a George Washington Fellow. Your donation is a perpetual gift which never dies, it is working to support the SAR in perpetuity. All new George Washington Fellows receive a beautiful gold lapel pin, a certificate acknowledging their status as a GW Fellow, and their name is added to the list of all GW Fellows in the SAR Genealogical and Research Library.



Gifts or pledges of \$1,000 or more entitle you to be known as a George Washington Fellow. Please consider making a gift or commitment to this program and leave a patriotic legacy for life. **Donate Today**