

The Illinois Patriot



Illinois Society Sons of The American Revolution

www.illinois-sar.org

April 2017



The President's Message

by President Toby Chamberlain



Toby Chamberlain

As I travel around the state to attend Illinois Society chapter events, I see a large number of our members wearing National Society medal awards on their uniforms. The National Society policy on this is, **do not do it**. The logic behind this position is these awards were not presented to our Patriot ancestors during the Revolutionary War. If you attend a National Society event (congress or Spring/Fall leadership) and you have medals on your uniform or are wearing a neck ribbon the National Color Guard Commander will ask you to remove them. I got caught by the Color Guard Commander two years ago at the Louisville National Congress when I was wearing my neck ribbon at the Sunday Memorial Service. Not only did he tell me I should not be wearing it, he then took it off himself and handed it to me.

The DAR Referral Program is working and is something every chapter should take advantage of to help increase our chapter and state numbers. The referral forms are easy to fill out and are available on the National Society website on the forms page.

For one approved referral, the DAR member is awarded the SAR Medal of Appreciation, for three approved referrals, she will revive the Martha Washington Medal. Five approved applications earns the DAR member the coveted Daughters of Liberty Medal. The referral form must be attached to new applications at the time of their submission. Only new applications are considered.

The good news about this program is at the last count of numbers I received from the National Society, Illinois had gained six new compa-

triot members. The bad news is Illinois is tied for 18th with Oregon, Michigan and Delaware. Georgia leads all states with 104 approved DAR referral applications.

Whenever I visit a chapter meeting, I ask how many DAR members are there. I go over the referral program with them and ask that they



become involved. Chapter presidents, try and meet with DAR Chapters in your area and get them involved. I think this program can really help us increase our numbers, but it will take all of us being involved.

A new SAR medal has been proposed by Chaplain General Rt. Reverend Louis V. Carlson Jr. If approved by the Medals and Awards Committee, Chapter Chaplains would qualify for the Bronze Chaplain Medal; State Chaplains would qualify for the Silver Medal; and the SAR Chaplain General would qualify for the Gold Medal.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Illinois Society Annual Awards Dinner and the Ladies Auxiliary Silent Auction followed by the Board of Mangers Meeting on Saturday. Make your hotel reservation now if you have not already done so.

The May 12 Awards Night Dinner and the May 13 Saturday Board of Managers Meeting with the Youth and Community Awards Lunch have always been well attended so I expect our block of discounted rooms to go fast.

Senior Vice-President Jim DeGroff's Comments



Jim DeGroff

By Senior Vice-President Jim DeGroff
After the BOM approval of the Constitutional changes for chapters at the last BOM meeting and agreement on the new ILSSAR Tri-Fold expounding the merits of what we do as an organization for SAR, I thought, "That's not enough." What drives an organization like ours is membership. We need to not only take the brochures to libraries, genealogical organizations, VFWs and American Legions, but we need to participate in community activities and have the events publicized to get widespread publicity for the SAR and your chapter. Membership is the key to success. If you have

ten new members and one is willing to work as a chair or committee member or as an officer, then you have done well.

Invite yourself to DAR meetings or Rotary or VFW, etc. They always need speakers. The DAR chapters I'm familiar with did not know that a male of any age can join SAR. They do now. Our SAR DAR Referral program can reward DAR individuals and chapters with medals and monetary awards depending on how many new SAR members they refer. That can be a great ice breaker when speaking at DAR meetings.

We are fortunate that many of our SAR programs recognize others in the community (an opportunity for positive media coverage) and an opportunity to toot our SAR horn! You could consider doing a short 'e-commercial' for SAR when you present awards. You might be surprised who will be interested.

Fascinating talk about pioneer women monuments

DAR Illinois Vice Regent Lola DeGroff gave a very interesting presentation at February's BOM dinner entitled "What to take on your covered wagon." Assisted by her husband, ILSSAR Vice President Jim DeGroff, she told attendees about monuments in 12 states along the Oregon Trail installed by the DAR to honor pioneer women.

The following is from the Wikipedia article about the monuments:

Madonna of the Trail is a series of 12 monuments dedicated to the spirit of pioneer women in the United States. The monuments were commissioned by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR). They were installed in each of the 12 states along the National Old Trails Road, which extended from Cumberland, Maryland to Upland, California.

Created by sculptor August Leimbach and funded by contributions, the Madonna of the Trail monuments were intended to provide a symbol of the courage and faith of the women whose strength and love aided so greatly in conquering the wilderness and establishing permanent homes. Dedicated in 1928 and 1929, the twelve statues became sources of local pride. Through the continuing efforts of local and national groups, all are currently in good condition and on display.

In 1911, the NSDAR established a national committee known as the National Old Trails Road Committee. It worked to establish the Old Trails Road as a great National Memorial Highway. In 1912, the National Old Trails Road Association was organized, and the roadway became known as the National Old Trails Road. The group wanted to recognize the contributions of women with a statue to be erected in each of the twelve states connected by the National Road. The committee chair, Judge (and future U.S.



Lola DeGroff, assisted by husband Jim, talks about pioneer women at February's Board of Managers meeting.

president) Harry S. Truman, guaranteed the expense of the erection of the monuments. A design was completed in 1927.

"They [the women] were just as brave or braver than their men because, in many cases, they went with sad hearts and trembling bodies. They went, however, and endured every hardship that befalls a pioneer." Harry S. Truman said at the Ohio dedication ceremony

Truman, at that time the President of the National Old Trails Association, attended the dedication of its statue in Albuquerque, New Mexico on September 27, 1928. This monument was re-dedicated 44 years later on September 27, 1972.



**ILLINOIS SOCIETY
SONS OF
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
OFFICERS 2016-2018**

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 ILSSAR Patriot Newsletter Editor:
 Scott Sanders
 (Send articles to w9run1776@gmail.com)

ILSSAR Registrar – Garry Grugan
 Effective immediately my new e-mail address is
 gagrugansar@gmail.com.
 Please update your contact information accordingly.
 I apologize for the inconvenience.

Secretary — Drew Robinson
 Please notify me of address changes or deceased members, in order to keep your ILSSAR database up to date and your newsletter delivered to the correct address AT:
 TheRobinsons_@comcast.net

Do we have your e-mail address?


FROM THE EDITOR

Please scan the QR code at right to see the state website at:
 www.illinois-sar.org



The Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution

Illinois Society Annual Meeting May 12 & 13, 2017

President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, Illinois

The President Abraham Lincoln Hotel room discount rate is \$105.00 plus tax. The cut-off date for discount reservations is April 21, 2017. Call 866.788.1860 and ask for the Sons of the American Revolution group rate. Complimentary breakfast and parking are not provided. Historically this has been a well-attended event so do not delay in making your reservation. Dress is black tie, business dress or uniform.

The Friday, May 12 dinner begins at 7 p.m. The cash bar and social hour with Hors D'oeuvres is from 6 to 7 p.m. Dinner is in the Freeport Room on the second floor. Following dinner and music from the Gateway Dulcimer Society, ILSSAR chapter and individual awards will be presented. The Ladies Auxiliary will hold its annual Silent Auction to raise funds to assist the Illinois and National Societies.

The Saturday Board Meeting on May 13 will start at 8:30 a.m. in the Freeport Room with a continental breakfast. At 9 a.m, the Auxiliary will meet in the Governor Yates room with continental breakfast. Lunch begins at noon in the Lincoln room followed by community service, non-SAR individual awards, and Youth Program awards.

I will attend the BOM meeting but not any meal events: _____
 Please fill this out even if you are just coming to the Saturday meeting !

Friday and Saturday Meal Requests

Friday Dinner: grilled chicken, vegetables, and strawberry short cake: \$40.00 each

Saturday Luncheon: braised short ribs, veggies, and desert: \$35.00 each

Member name: _____ Friday _____ Saturday _____
 Spouse name: _____ Friday _____ Saturday _____
 Guest name: _____ Friday _____ Saturday _____
 Special Dietary Needs: _____

NOTE: Meal payment is due no later than May 6.

Meal requests received after May 6 will cost \$45.00 for Friday dinner and \$40.00 for Saturday lunch.

Mail personal check payable to "ILSSAR" for meals total to:

Compatriot Jim DeGross
 6 Ridgefield Drive,
 Troy, IL 62294-1925

Phone: (H) 618.667.8660
 e-mail: jimdegross@charter.net

SAR 2017 Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 12 and 13, 2017

The Illinois SAR Awards Dinner will be Friday night 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel Doubletree by Hilton, 701 East Adams, Springfield, IL. Immediately following dinner, there will be a musical interlude by The Gateway Dulcimer Society. The Ladies Auxiliary will also hold its annual Silent Auction to raise funds to assist the Illinois and National Societies.

Then the Board of Managers meeting will begin Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. concurrent with the Ladies Auxiliary meeting. At 12 p.m., the Non-Member Awards Luncheon will be held, also at the hotel.

The SAR room rate is \$105.00 plus tax. It does not include \$7.00 parking or breakfast. A continental breakfast will be provided in the meeting rooms. The cutoff date is April 21, 2017. Call 866.788.1860 and ask for Sons of the American Revolution for reservations.

July 6 to 13, 2017

National SAR 127th Congress, Knoxville, TN. The Holiday Inn Knoxville is the primary site and is already full, so overflow reservations are being taken at the Hilton Hotel, which is the only one available within walking distance of the Convention Center.

Call 865.523.2300 for the SAR rate of \$129.00 per night.

August 10, 11, and 12, 2017

The Illinois SAR Board of Managers weekend starts Thursday, August 10 with the Illinois State Fair. The BOM dinner is Friday night, August 11 at the Wyndham hotel in Springfield. We have rooms at \$110.00 each night at the SAR rate, with free breakfast and free parking and for those staying Saturday, August 12. Wyndham Springfield City Centre 700 E Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701 Ph: 217.789.1530

September 28 to 30, 2017

National SAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY, Brown Hotel.

Call 888.888.5252 and ask for the Sons of the American Revolution rate.

October 27 to 29, 2017

Great Lakes District Meeting, No other info at this time.

November 3 and 4, 2017

BOM meeting at the Wyndham, Springfield. Rooms at \$119 each night for the SAR rate with free breakfast and free parking. Wyndham Springfield City Centre 700 E Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701 Ph: 217.789.1530

Feb 2 and 3, 2018

BOM meeting at the Wyndham, Springfield. Rooms at \$110.00 each night for the SAR rate with free breakfast and free parking. Wyndham Springfield City Centre 700 E Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701 Ph: 217.789.1530.

American Bicentennial Chapter

ABC welcomes new member

The February 26 meeting of the ABC Chapter included the induction of one new member, Tom Fitzgerald. Chris Jenner also spoke on the death of his father, a 1st Lieutenant and test pilot of a 3 man crew in an ill-fated mission on this date years ago.

Following Mr. Jenner's speech and the induction ceremony, the artist, cartographer, and medical historian David Jahntz spoke on the Declaration of Independence and Revolutionary War era medical field tent surgical techniques. Mr. Jahntz had an interesting array of surgical instruments from that time and also provided a fascinating discussion of that era's treatment of smallpox. The chapter has several positions open if anyone would like to step up and volunteer to assist.



Compatriot Geoffrey Thompson, left, pins a rosette on new chapter member Tom Fitzgerald, center, while ABC Chapter President Chris Jenner, right, conducts the new member induction.



Medical historian David Jahntz discussed the Declaration of Independence and displayed an array of period medical instruments.

Captain Zeally Moss Chapter

CZM presents a huge flag award in Peoria

On Tuesday, February 21 the Captain Zeally Moss Chapter of the ILSSAR presented its Flag Award to the Atrium Building for display of a large flag in its atrium.

Deborah Simon, President and CEO of UnityPoint Health - Methodist/Proctor, welcomed those attending and introduced Dr. Allan Campbell, Past President of the Cpt. Zeally Moss Chapter.



The large flag is suspended above the atrium of the eight story office building, which includes a wellness clinic and was installed in memory of the 9/11 event.

The ceremony was held in the lobby of the atrium and included a Tribute to the Flag (see Page 12) and the Pledge of Allegiance.



The event was well covered by the media. **Compatriot Dr. Allan Campbell, above, presents the chapter's Flag Award to the UnityPoint Health/Methodist Atrium Building February 21 at a ceremony in Peoria.**



Captain Elijah Smith Chapter

Chapter shows its appreciation for longtime compatriot

Jim Neese was presented a Distinguished Service Certificate and medal for his exemplary service to the Sons of The American Revolution. He has served in many capacities throughout the last 30 years, including the State Secretary, Chapter President, Secretary, Treasurer, and most recently Registrar for the chapter. Jim Neese, Frank Turnbull, Harold Woodworth, and others were responsible for the reorganization of the Elijah Smith Chapter in the early 1980's. Jim, at age 93, continues to regularly donate his time and expertise.

The chapter wishes to gratefully thank Jim for his continuous service and extraordinary efforts in promoting the ideals and purposes of SAR.



From left in photo are Chapter President Sid Welles, Jim Neese, and friend, Evelyn Mason.

Ewington Chapter

Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Ewington Chapter members participated in the Eagle Court of Honor held February 12 in Salem where three scouts received their Eagle Scout awards. The recipients were Ethan Hawkins, Patrick Wilson, & Payne Barbee. Payne is a Ewington member who recently joined along with his father and brother. The photo at left features the Ceremony Team of the Milliwakay Chapter of the Nisha Kittan Lodge of the National Order of the Arrow. This group presented its Trail to Eagle Ceremony at the COH. The Eagle Scouts in the photo are from left: Payne Barbee, Ethan Hawkins and Patrick Wilson along with Jim DeGroff, Ewington Registrar Bob Lybarger, and Ewington President Joe Harris.



Fox Valley Chapter

ROTC cadets honored by chapter at Military Night

It was an inspiring time for Chapter Vice President Mike Campagnolo at the Marmion Academy Military Night Ceremony in February. He met MSRT Collins, who passed along his greetings to the chapter.

The ceremony included a marching band with rifle drill demonstrations before a packed gymnasium.

Compatriot Campagnolo presented the Bronze ROTC medal and certificate to CLTC Andrew J. Lifk, the Battalion Commander.

He also presented the Bronze Good Citizenship medal and certificate to CCPT Adam L. Streich, the Headquarters Company Commander. "Both of these cadets are fine young men. It is great to know the future of this country is in good hands with the cadets at the academy," Campagnolo said.



Marmion's rifle drill team and cadets put on an amazing demonstration at the academy in Aurora.

Chapter Vice President Mike Campagnolo is pictured at right with award recipient CLTC Andrew J. Lifk.



Chapter Vice President Mike Campagnolo is pictured above with award recipient CCPT Adam L. Streich.

Long Knives Chapter

Kentucky compatriot speaks at meeting



The Long Knives Chapter had an excellent guest speaker at its January meeting. Jim Wallace was able to arrange a presentation by Geoff Baggett, Registrar of the Col. Stephen Trigg Chapter, Kentucky SAR. He gave a lively discussion on genealogy and things that might turn up during your research. He also shared his chapter's method of marking patriot graves. They use a local monument supplier and have them produce the markers as shown at left.

Fort Dearborn Chapter

Fort Dearborn holds its first genealogy meeting

By Chapter Vice President Bill Wheeler

The Fort Dearborn held its first Genealogy Meeting on Saturday, February 25th at the historic Newberry Library in Chicago, IL. These new genealogy meetings are an opportunity for prospective members to receive assistance from chapter staff and access key resources in the library. They are scheduled to take place four times a year.

The first meeting was chaired by chapter registrar and vice president, Bill Wheeler. After a few late attendees joined us, we had a full room. The meeting was started with the induction of two new members, Mark Dunn and Thomas Fiske. Following the induction ceremony, Bill Wheeler reviewed some of the programs in the chapter, the application process to the SAR, using the new online application system and how to check the status of an application. Future meetings will go into deeper detail of the introduction to genealogy overview provided by Newberry Library.

Lewis And Clark Chapter

Chapter gets 'lessons' on manners from past United States presidents

George Washington, the Father of His Country and first President of the United States, considered good manners so important that he wrote a book titled "Rules of Civility" when he was just a teenager.

"Some of these rules have evolved and are still applicable, and some aren't," Dianne Isbell, etiquette columnist for the Belleville News-Democrat, said at the Lewis & Clark Chapter of the Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution's 18th annual Presidents Day dinner at the Hop House in O'Fallon.

"Washington wrote, 'Every action done in company ought to be done with some sign of respect to those that are present.' I would say that is still applicable today," Isbell told the SAR members and guests.

Washington advised his readers not to talk with food in their mouths, and good table manners are still critical, especially in the company of a potential employer, Isbell said. "Corporations today want employees who will represent them well in public. If you don't have good table manners, you can make or break your interview right at the time you are having lunch."

After accidentally throwing up on the



Etiquette expert Dianne Isbell

Japanese prime minister, a more recent president, George H.W. Bush, would have done well to heed this rule from his predecessor George Washington's book: "In speaking to men of quality, do not lean or look them full in the face, nor approach too near. At least, keep a full pace from them."

General George Rogers Clark Chapter



Newly elected chapter officers take the oath of office at GGRC's February meeting. Pictured from left are: Lloyd Schwarz, Chaplain; Jim DeGroff, Registrar; Tom Beavers, Treasurer; Robert Ridenour, Vice President, Charles Dobias, President. Marvin Meng, Outgoing Chapter President looks on as State President Toby Chamberlain administers the oath.

Longtime compatriot honored at chapter's February meeting

The Gen. George Rogers Clark Chapter Sons of the American Revolution held its annual awards dinner in Edwardsville on Thursday, February 23, 2017, at the First Christian Church.

Member and local historian Kevin Kaegy, from Greenville, presented a program on Slavery and the Underground Railroad in Illinois.

Local Resident Honored for Thirty Years of Membership

The evening had three highlights: First was a standing ovation when Edwardsville resident Marvin Joseph (Joe) Hill received a pin recognizing his 30 years of membership. Hill has been an active member of the Society since he joined, serving as Chapter Treasurer, Chapter President and State Treasurer.

Essay Contest winner

The second highlight was a presentation honoring the chapter's Knight Essay Contest Winner, Abbie Peterson, a senior at Staunton High School. Chapter Chairman Eric Reelitz presented Abbie with a certificate and a check for \$200.00. Her essay has been submitted for competition at the state level.



Above, outgoing Chapter President Marvin Meng, left, presents a 30 year pin to Marvin Hill.

New Officers installed

The third highlight of the evening was the installation of officers for the next two years. Those elected are: President, Charles Dobias of Collinsville; Vice President, Robert Ridenour of Dorsey; Treasurer, Thomas Beavers of Edwardsville; Registrar, Jim DeGroff of Troy; Chaplain, Lloyd Schwarz of Glen Carbon; and Secretary, Roy Wehling, of Edwardsville. State President Toby Chamberlain from Chatham installed the new officers.

Continued on next page...



Chapter Knights Essay Contest Chairman Eric Reelitz (right) presents the chapter award to Abbie Peterson as Outgoing Chapter President Marvin Meng (left) looks on.

GGRC takes part in Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Members of the Gen. George Rogers Clark Chapters of the Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution presented Noah T. Walker with the SAR Eagle Scout Award certificate and badge and a pocket Constitution during a ceremony held at the United Methodist Church in Pocahontas on Saturday, January 14, 2017.

Noah, a senior at Bond County Community High School in Greenville, is a member of Troop 60 sponsored by the Methodist Church in Pocahontas, Illinois.

GGRC Chapter Registrar Jim DeGross said, "Recognizing outstanding young people is one of my favorite things we do in SAR. It is also important to our members as evidenced by the number participating today."

Chapter members come from Bond, Madison, Jersey, Macoupin, Greene, Calhoun and Montgomery counties.



Gen. George Rogers Clark Chapter members were pleased to be part of the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Noah T. Walker. Shown are Caine Kelso, Philip Bailey, Greenville resident Eric Reelitz, Eagle Scout Noah T. Walker, Greenville resident Bill Johnson (also an Eagle Scout), Chapter Vice President Charles Dobias, and Chapter Registrar Jim DeGross.

GGRC chapter also involved in many area programs

Continued from the previous page...

The Gen. George Rogers Clark Chapter has been active in the local area since its organization in February 1986.

Chapter activities include sponsorship of a little league team, honoring heroic deeds of

first responders and brave citizens, recognizing JROTC and ROTC cadets, recognizing outstanding American history teachers and outstanding citizens from high schools.

GGRC also participates in Wreaths Across America, honoring eagle scouts, and identify-

ing and marking Revolutionary War patriot graves.

Additional information is available on the chapter website <http://ggrc-sar-il.org/> or by calling Jim DeGross, 667-8660.

Springfield Chapter



Eagle Scouts honored at state capitol by Springfield Chapter

From left: Springfield Chapter Compatriots Richard Moldenhauer, George Tinkham, Toby Chamberlain, Dick Chamblin and Thomas Turpin. The five Springfield Chapter members participated in this years Abraham Lincoln Council Recognition Night when 62 Scouts were presented National Society Eagle Scout Certificates. The Presentation Ceremony was held at the Illinois State Capital in the Senate Chambers following a dinner at the Capital Building.

General Joseph Bartholemew Chapter

GJB teams up with Iroquois County DAR for annual Good Citizenship Awards

By Virgil D. Short M.D.

The GJB SAR Chapter, represented by William White, GJB SAR Committee member and J. Gordon Bidner, GJB SAR President and Chairman of the Citizenship Committee and Joanne Claus, Citizenship Chairman of the Princess Wach-e-Kee Chapter of the DAR, participated in the annual joint Iroquois DAR/SAR Good Citizenship recognition program. The program was held Dec. 9, at the Faith Lutheran Church in Watseka, IL during which seven senior students from the seven high schools in Iroquois County were presented with the SAR Good Citizenship Certificate, Pin, and Pocket copy of the U.S. Constitution. The students included:

Donovan High School - Elle Martell

Cissna Park High School- Michele Fehr

Christ Lutheran High School - Juliette Harstick

Central High School at Clifton - Connor Call

Iroquois West High School - Hannah Fink

Milford High School - Emily Trumann



Good Citizenship Award from left are: Robert Flesher; Juliette Harstick, Christ Lutheran High School; Nathan Schroeder, Watseka High School; Michelle Fehr, Cissna Park High School; Hanna Fink, Iroquois West High School; Elle Martell, Donovan High School; Emily Tru-man, Milford High School; and Conner Call, Central High School and William White, and GJB SAR Citizenship Committee Member.

Witseka High School - Nathan Schroeder

Also, during this program Conner Kaeb, Cissna Park High School, received the Eagle Scott Award from William White, GJB SAR Eagle Scott Committee Chairman and Robert Flesher, GJB SAR Chapter member, received the SAR War Service Certificate and Vietnam

Medal.

The GJB SAR Chapter has participated in this recognition program over the past nine years during which time nine such programs have taken place. William White has provided the GJB SAR Chapter representation at these events.

A busy meeting kicks off the year for the GJB Chapter

The GJB Chapter held its first official meeting of 2017 on Feb. 14 at the Lakeside Country Club at 6:00 p.m. It was hosted by Jeff Kretlow and attended by eight members and seven guests which included wives and



Compatriot Bill White, left, presented certificates to three Eagle scouts in Eureka on February 26 during a Court of Honor. Pictured after the ceremony at Eureka Christian Church are from second left: Nick Knappenburger, Trevor Smith, and Kevin Mickleson.

the speaker and his wife. Twenty one had made reservations but six had cancelled due to illness. Being Valentine's Day, Gordon presented each lady a small heart shaped box of candy and Lance McCormick brought table decorations.

The meeting was opened by President J. Gordon Bidner with a welcome and introductions. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lance McCormick and the SAR Pledge by Al Abbott. The Invocation by Dr. Virgil D. Short, GJB SAR Chapter Chaplain, was read by Gordon because Virgil was one of those who had to cancel due to illness.

The Secretary's report was presented by Gordon in the absence of Dave Ashbrook. The 2017 program was printed and sent out electronically on Jan 25.

The membership/contact information that Jay Cummins put together, indicates the chapter now has 45 members. With the NSSAR's approval of Roger N. Hollis' application, two associates, and one honorary member, the info is being circulated to the membership for corrections/additions. Jay also prepared an excel-

lent annual chapter report for the ILSSAR Board of Managers meeting held Feb. 4.

The treasurer's report was not presented because Don Hyland, GJB SAR Chapter Treasurer, was also one of those who had to cancel due to illness. Kelly Gray presented his Investment Report. As of 12/31/2016 the GJB SAR Chapter investment portfolio had \$40,792.70. On June 30, 2010 the investment total value was \$18,164.81. The Investment Committee, chaired by Kelly has done a good job because not only has the \$30,000 total endowment that Mr. King donated to institute the chapter's Citizenship/Scholarship Program been replenished, but during this time \$13,800 in scholarship has been awarded to 18 students. Also, 322 students have been recognized with Good Citizenship Certificates, SAR Pins, and Pocket US Constitutions.

The program for the evening was a presentation by Dr. John Reda, Associate Professor, Department of History at ISU on "From Furs to Farm" The Transformation of the Mississippi Valley 1762-1825.

Piankeshaw Chapter



Chapter presents Good Citizenship awards in joint ceremony with DAR

Members of the Piankeshaw Chapter joined Alliance Chapter DAR members to present Good Citizenship awards to seniors from the 13 high schools in its area on February 10. Also at the meeting, Compatriot Bill McLane displayed his President Washington exhibit pictured at left.



Above, Compatriot John Malone, left, and Lt. Col. Randy Smith, right, present the award to one of the students, Zach Johnson. At right, DAR member Karen Malone, guest speaker Robert Easter, and Compatriot John Malone.



National Trustee's report from the Fall Leadership Meeting

By Tom Ashby

There were a few significant items that came from the Fall Leadership Meeting in Louisville on March 3 and 4.

Our (Illinois) Eagle Scout candidate won 1st place in the nation over 39 other State Society entrants winning a \$10,000.00 scholarship! This the first time Illinois has won in my recollection.

I had individual discussions with the Registrar General, Russ DeVenney; the Genealogist General, John Sinks; and the President General, Mike Tomme regarding

the time applications are taking to be approved at National and how the Illinois Society voted a motion at our last BOM meeting to bring this to the attention of the NSSAR. The gist of the reason why applications are taking longer to be approved is a lack of trained staff. Apparently a Staff Genealogist was hired and is in training but before she could complete the training, she resigned. Other staff has been hired and is currently in training.

The trustees voted on changes to the membership application (on-line and other):

1) An ethical statement will be inserted in which a new member would sign that he is not a felon, does not believe in the overthrow of the government, etc.

2) The place to list children will be removed from the application.

3) The Genealogist General's signature line will be modified to a Staff Genealogist signature block.

By mid April on-line registrations will be available for Congress in Knoxville, Tennessee.

A new Lifesaving Medal has been approved.



**Illinois Society Sons Of
The American Revolution**
c/o Scott Sanders
1177 Leicester Rd.
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A Tribute to the American Flag



Photo of a Betsy Ross flag taken looking from behind, toward the street, into the sun.

I am Old Glory; for almost 12 score years I have been the banner of hope and freedom for generation after generation of Americans.

Born amid the first flames of America's fight for freedom, I am the symbol of a country that has grown from 13 colonies to a united nation of 50 sovereign states.

Planted firmly on the high pinnacle of American Faith, my gently fluttering folds have proved an inspiration to untold millions. Men have followed me into battle with unwavering courage. They have looked upon me as a symbol of national unity. They have prayed that they and their fellow citizens might continue to enjoy the life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, which have been granted to every American as the heritage of free men and women.

So long as we love liberty more than life itself, so long as we treasure the priceless privileges bought with the blood of our forefathers; so long as the principles of truth, justice and charity for all remain deeply rooted in human hearts, I shall continue to be the enduring banner of the United States of America.

(Flag officially adopted June 14, 1777 - 240 years ago)