The Illinois Patriot
Illinois Society
Sons of The American Revolution
www.illinois-sar.org
October 2016

The President’s Message
by President Toby Chamberlain

It’s been a busy time since I became the Illinois Society President last May. I have logged a lot of travel time and miles taking part in the National Society Congress in Boston, then a cemetery marking in Northern Illinois at Lily Lake, multiple chapter meetings, Illinois State Fair activities and the August Board of Managers meeting in Springfield.

Was it worth the time and effort? Yes! One of the highlights so far, was attending the first Stephen Decatur Chapter organizing meeting. Decatur has risen from the flames as did the mythical Phoenix. The energy and enthusiasm of those who attended the meeting was infectious and left me with the feeling our Illinois Society is headed in the right direction.

As I write this, Sue and I will soon be attending the Fall Leadership meeting in Louisville, KY. The Leadership Meeting is followed four weeks later with a trip to Grand Rapids, MI to attend the Great Lakes District meeting. There will be more about these trips in the next issue of The Patriot.

Our state committees are actively involved in plans for 2016-17. The newest committee, School Poster/Brochure Contest is headed by Co-Chairmen Dave Ashbrook and Don Hyland. Don recently informed me they are still in the gathering information stage.

All Youth Committee Chairman need to take notice that not all of our state activities were reported to National for 2015-16. This resulted in the Illinois Society not being eligible for a National Society Flag Streamer and more importantly, a cash award. Please remember that if you chair CAR, Eagle Scout, JRROTC, Knights Essay, Rumbaugh Oration, School Poster/Brochure or the Outstanding Citizenship programs to report your activities to contest winners to the National Society. While not in the youth category, History Teacher of the Year and Veterans activities should also be reported. As you file your reports, please let me know so I can track who has and has not reported.

Senior Vice-President Jim DeGroff’s Comments

I have been Senior VP for one quarter and was honored to receive the National SAR Florence Kendall award for the most new members in the nation. However, I have to share it with all those who have assisted in talking to potential new members and helping spur their interest in SAR. Many of our activities like 4th of July parades, Eagle Scout Courts of Honor, Outstanding Citizens awards, Flag awards and veterans events have led to an influx of people wanting to join through our state and national websites. In the past two months I have received over 40 inquiries to join SAR. As I get them I direct them to the nearest chapter registrar to assist them. A prompt response to these folks is critical along with answering their questions and helping with their applications.

For some time, I have been concerned about our soft language when it comes to chapter responsibilities in our constitution so I am chairing a committee to propose a change in wording. The committee will review, recommend changes and at the next BOM we will be making recommendations for approval.

The August Board of Managers meeting in Springfield featured the Thursday Twilight State Fair Parade. Somehow we survived a heat index of 107°. Our Friday night dinner found us inside the Wyndham with a torrential rain storm outside. Following dinner, our speaker, Eddie Price, spoke about the Battle of Blue Licks and his book, Widder’s Landing, a historical novel about life on the frontier.

With the Stephen Decatur Chapter becoming active, we now have 16 chapters. Did you notice in the last Patriot Newsletter we had 15 of our 16 chapters reporting on their activities. Somehow Patriot Editor Scott Sanders made it all work with the limited space he has. I hope that all 16 chapters will soon appear together in a future edition of The Patriot newsletter.

Change – it’s coming. At the August Board of Managers meeting, a motion was made and seconded to hold all future meetings at the Wyndham City Center Hotel [formally the Hilton Hotel] in Springfield. The motion passed and will be implemented in August 2017.

New public service medal planned

The National Society Public Service and Heroism Committee has proposed a new Public Service medal. The Lifesaving Medal would be available in 2017. The new medal would be equal to the Heroism Medal but would be awarded to an individual who was not in danger while performing a lifesaving act.

Examples of acts that would result in awarding the Life Saving Medal are: A person is choking. A bystander performs the Heimlich maneuver or other appropriate first aid, clears the obstruction and helps the victim breathe normally. Or, a person is drowning. A bystander enters the water and brings the victim to safety, performs CPR and or rescue breathing and the victim begins breathing normally. If such an event occurs in your chapter area during 2016-17, keep this new medal in mind and when it is available make a presentation.
Send in your Patriot Ancestor’s Biography for the SAR Patriot and Grave Index

Initiated by PG Brock two years ago, and continued under PG Lawrence last year, the Patriot Biographies Program is a continuing program for 2016-2017 during PG Tomme’s term in office.

The Ancestor’s Biographies Committee asking for your assistance to get the word out to your state society and/or chapters in order to encourage your membership to embrace this important program.

At this time, 4,358 biographical sketches have been loaded to the Patriot and Grave Index. Submissions for biographical sketches should be forwarded to patriotbios@sar.org. The information should be provided in a file that is Microsoft WORD compatible. Please help us spread the word. With your help we will continue to expand the database to build the best data source that we can.

Please note, there is no defined format for your submission. We ask that the information be between 200 and 500 words and be sent in a Microsoft WORD-compatible format.

There is no need for documentation references. As noted on the database, it is the sole responsibility of the author to research the facts and data contained in the submission. Citing sources is not required. The sketch cannot be used for proof of lineage. It can, however, serve as a guide for the continuation of research.

The Patriot Ancestor Database is one way you can honor your ancestors for perpetuity. For those Chapters/State Societies presented a streamer during 2014-2015 or 2015-2016, a Star will be presented for each additional 20% achievement. This Star will be affixed to the streamer. For clarification on how the achievement levels are calculated: Example - A chapter has obtained a 12% submission rate. If they hit a total of 20% during the current year, they will be presented a streamer. Stars will be presented at each additional 20% level - 40% - 1 Star; 60% - 2 Stars; 80% - 3 Stars, etc.

For the member counts, we will use the December 31, 2016 membership figures for those who have paid their 2017 dues. National Headquarters will provide this information as they did last year. All streamers and stars will be presented at the 2017 National Congress in Knoxville.

We do have a method to identify the listing of all the Patriot Biographies that have been entered into the database. We have established a Patriot named ‘Index’ - #P-334038 within the Patriot and Grave Index.

We have expanded the Index to alphabetize by state of service for the Patriots. Hopefully, this will enable a more specific search when looking for a biography entry. In order to access the database: 1. Enter the Patriot and Grave Index (http://patriot.sar.org/fmi/wp/cgi-db=Grave%20Registry&-loadframes) and input “Index” in the box labeled Full or Partial Surname and then click the SEARCH box. 2. Patriot Index with Ancestor # P-334038 will come up. Click on the “Read Biography” box in the lower left corner of the page to access the listing of biographies in the database.

Good luck with your searches!

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

FROM THE EDITOR

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

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 November 4 & 5, 2016
Pere Marquette Marriott Hotel, 501 Main Street, Peoria, Illinois

Pere Marquette Hotel room discount rate is $115.00 plus tax.
The cutoff date for discount reservations is Oct 4, 2016.
Call 800.228.9290 or 309.637.6500 and ask for the Sons of the American Revolution group rate.
Dress is business suit, business dress or uniform.

Friday, Nov 4 dinner begins at 7p.m.
We will have a cash bar and social hour from 6 to 7 p.m.
Following dinner, our speaker is Dan Leifel from Bloomington who will speak on various historical subjects.

The Saturday Board Meeting will start at 8:30 a.m with pastries. Lunch begins at noon.

I will attend the BOM meeting but not any meal events: __________________________

---------------------------------
Friday and Saturday Meal Requests

Friday Dinner: Grilled Sirloin, Salad and Dessert: $40 each
Saturday Luncheon: Marinated Chicken Breast, Vegetable and Dessert; $35 each

Member name: _______________________________________ Friday ___ Saturday ___
Spouse name: _________________________________________ Friday ___ Saturday ___
Guest name: _________________________________________ Friday ___ Saturday ___

Special Diet Needs: _________________________________________

NOTE: Meal payment is due not later than October 4.
Meal requests received after Oct 26 will cost $45.00 for Friday dinner and $40 for Saturday lunch.

Mail personal check payable to “ILSSAR” for meal total to:

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

e-mail: jimdegroff@charter.net
Phone: (H) 618 667-8660
Flag Awards: Powerful outreach tools for us

By Eric C. Banfield

NSSAR Flag Awards are wonderful outreach tools. People love to get them, and I love to give them. It might be one of the most rewarding activities I have ever performed.

From 2012 through early 2016, under the good graces of Franz Herder, I served as Flag Chairman for the ILSSAR Salt Creek Chapter. That chapter, to our sadness, was closed in February 2016. But the prior month, Fort Dearborn President John Dyrud graciously welcomed me as Flag Chair for the Fort Dearborn Chapter, which mainly represents the Cook County area including Chicago.

The key role of Flag Chairman is granting Flag Commendation Award certificates to residents and merchants for flying an American flag.

The best part of the process is meeting people and, if I’m lucky, finding out about them or their flag or why they fly it. Some stories and encounters are quite moving.

From the start, part of the fun comes from the sheer element of surprise. No one absolutely no one expects any kind of award for putting up their flag; invariably each and every individual does it out of sheer devotion. So offering an actual award to someone for it has a powerful impact.

When I explained to one fellow named Bob what I was doing, he looked at me, as best I can describe it, as if I were some sort of angel.

Award recipients also are enjoyably surprised when they realize I am not selling anything. Most people are, quite rationally, wary of any ‘free lunch’ offer. I explain this is a civic service we provide; we are asking for no email addresses or donations, and there is no mailing list. Merchants like that. People answering their front doorbell appreciate it.

The NSSAR business card also helps create the right impression.

Once in while I even catch recipients in the middle of flagrant acts of patriotism.

Josephina was packing a care package for an adopted soldier when I knocked.

Bruce (a Son of Union Veterans of the Civil War), was just leaving for a Memorial-Day stone-laying ceremony at the Brookfield town Circle; he told me that the SAR Flag Award "has meant the world to this soul."

This, just from a knock at the door with simple outreach tool.

Each State SAR can benefit, too, if enough of its Chapters issue at least one Flag Award. ILSSAR’s state Flag Award Committee Chairman, Mike Campagnolo, explains fully:

To qualify for the Admiral William R. Furlong Memorial Award, 51% of all chapters need to present at least one NSSAR Flag Certificate to a person or organization. The State Society must also present one flag certificate. If the ILSSAR President presents a flag certificate, even if it was also a chapter presentation, it counts as the State Society presenting a certificate. For each succeeding year qualifying, the ILSSAR will receive a certificate and a white star to be placed at the top of the streamer.

Each chapter must submit its Flag Award counts and recipient names by March 1st of each year.

The flag has its stars and stripes and three colors. But the recipients, all lovers of America, come in all stripes and colors, and they are the real stars. Some of the proudest and most patriotic recipients I have met are Mexican, Indian, French, and Native American.

I meet many who served in the military and even spouses of some still serving overseas now.

Some patriotic residents politely refuse to accept a physical Award certificate. They tell me they deserve no reward for doing ‘what’s right.’ My very first award effort was a turn-down; imagine if I had let that discourage me. These good people graciously accept my vocal commendation and handshake instead. I don’t count them in my reported totals, only in my heart.

Otherwise, residents and merchants really love to receive Flag Awards. Some residents are thrilled that I happened to stopped by when the main flag-lover is out of the house; wives seem to love to surprise their husbands.

For SAR, Flag Awards are fantastic outreach tools. I think the reason is that the process is all about one-on-one, human interaction a warm smile, recognition for something held dear, a firm handshake, and welcomed praise. In any case, the simple act of giving always generates positive energy.

Once printed with the recipient’s preferred name, the Flag Award is powerfully personal. It reaches directly and physically into people’s home and business.

Especially when given away in a frame with glass ($1 at any ‘dollar store’), the SAR Flag Award certificate truly shines, on a wall, supported by hooks or nails, or propped in bookcase, but always mounted with the deepest American pride.

They are effective tools for reaching out because they reach so deeply within.

Some recipients, like Diane at the gas station, and Sam at the repair shop, were so moved on receiving the SAR Flag Award that they literally hugged me. How often to you get a chance to generate that kind of reaction?

That is why I love giving out Flag Awards. I often forget I am doing it for SAR and I simply gain great pleasure doing it just for my own reward. That is why I truly mean it when I say I am happy to serve.

SAR 2016 - 2017 Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 29 - October 1, 2016
National SAR Fall Leadership Meeting
Louisville, KY, Brown Hotel. Call 877-926-7757 and ask for the Sons of the American Revolution rate.

October 28 & 29, 2016
Great Lakes District Meeting
Amway Grand Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI. Room rate is $149 and reservation information call 1 800 253-3590 and ask for the SAR rate. 7 PM on 28th dinner and Business meeting 9 AM on 29th.

November 4 & 5, 2016
Illinois SAR Board of Managers Meeting
Peoria Pere Marquette Marriott Hotel, $115.00 plus tax. Sons of the American Revolution rate includes free self-parking and two free breakfast buffet coupons per room. Cutoff date for reservations is October 4, 2016. Call 309-637-6500 or 800-228-9290 for reservations. Our speaker Friday night will be Dan Leifel from Bloomington.

February 3 & 4, 2017
Illinois SAR Board of Managers meeting
Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel, $139.00 plus tax. Sons of the American Revolution rate includes free self-parking and two free breakfast buffet coupons per room. The cutoff date for reservations is January 13, 2017. Call 309-862-9000 or 800-228-9290 for reservations.

May 12 & 13, 2017
Illinois SAR Board of Managers meeting
Abraham Lincoln Hotel D Doubletree by Hilton, 701 East Adams, Springfield, IL. $105.00 plus tax. Does not include parking $7 or breakfast, a continental breakfast is provided in the meeting room. Cutoff date is April 21, 2017, call 217-788-8360 and ask for Sons of the American Revolution for reservations.

July 6-13, 2017
National SAR 127th Congress
Knoxville, TN. Hotel information to be determined.
The August Chapter meeting of the Illinois American Bicentennial Chapter included an induction ceremony for two new members, Rich Black and Tristan Murray. In addition to the induction and welcoming of our new members, Chapter activities were discussed. The Chapter is growing and several opportunities to assist are open if any member would like to volunteer.

The ABC Chapter and the Eli Skinner DAR Chapter are key supporters of the Aaron Miner Chapter CAR. All three organizations were represented in the Arlington Heights July 4th parade. From left above are, Jeremy Rogers, Zach Rogers, Max Hohmeier, Elle Hohmeier, and Liz Hohmeier.

**American Bicentennial Chapter**

**ABC growing with new members**

**General George Rogers Clark Chapter**

**GGRC member receives national award**

Compatriot Jim DeGroff received the Florence Kendall Award from President Toby Chamberlain at the recent Board Of Managers meeting. It is a national award that is given to the compatriot who recruited the largest number of new members in the NATION. Two other states had someone who had 61 new members each, but even that wasn’t good enough.

Jim had 62 signed and approved applications for the State of Illinois and had more than 30 new ones processed or being processed towards next year and 25 more he’s working on now. Congratulations Jim!

**Eagle Scout honored**

The Genl. George Rogers Clark SAR Chapter was pleased to participate in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor on September 3rd at the Senior Services Plus Center in Alton, Illinois. The ceremony honored David Witt of Troop 7. David is a senior at Alton High School. He has earned 32 badges and his Eagle project was constructing a fitness center for senior citizens at the center. Jim DeGroff presented David with a certificate, badge, and pocket Constitution.

**Compatriot Jim DeGroff presents David Witt of Troop 7 with Eagle Scout awards**
Chapter marks grave of Revolutionary War Patriot in Worden

On Sunday, August 28th, the General George Rogers Clark Chapter formally marked the grave of Revolutionary War Patriot Francis Roach at the Worden Lutheran Cemetery, Worden IL. Roach was born in Stafford County, VA in 1739. Orphaned as a boy, he was bound to a master who removed him to North Carolina where he learned the hatter trade. He was a resident of Dobbs County NC when he entered the service under Captain Joseph Sessions and Lieutenant Stephen Pipkin. Roach later moved to Dougherty Station near Danville, KY and was sent out several times to guard the frontiers. In 1782 he entered service under Genl George Rogers Clark. After the war, Roach eventually moved to what was then St. Clair (now Madison County) IL. He received a pension for his military service. Francis Roach died at the home of his son on July 9, 1845.

National scouting award

The Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award is a national recognition approved by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. It may be presented to any member of the SAR in good standing who is currently active in a scout unit, district, or council or a member that has displayed outstanding dedication to the Scouting Program.

The purpose of this award is to recognize the recipient’s outstanding service to youth through the programs of the Boy Scouts of America.
Patriot grave honored with historical marker

By Compatriot Jon Fixm er

In the fall of 1852, Abner Powers, an aged man of almost 92 years, was laid to rest at the Lily Lake Cemetery, ten miles west of St. Charles. Feeling the pull of history, one hundred and fourteen years later, the Fox Valley Chapter decided to permanently tell his story in a way cemetery visitors could see for years to come. A biography was prepared and the text was cast into a double faced sign which was erected and installed near the entrance of the cemetery.

Enlisting at the tender age of fifteen, Powers’ military career spanned some of the most significant and influential events of the war. From the victories at the Battle of Bennington and the Saratoga Campaign, to the depravation of Valley Forge and eventually, the penultimate victory at Yorktown, Powers served in all of them.

On Saturday, July 30, the Fox Valley Chapter conducted a well-attended dedication ceremony to once again honor Abner Powers’ extraordinary service as a young man during the Revolution.

A grand procession kicked off the event in which upwards of 50 people marched. It was led by a bagpiper and a combined Color Guard unit of 21 strong. Among them were members of the Northern Illinois District SAR Color Guard, Elgin American Legion and AmVets Posts, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War and Hamilton’s Artillery.

The combined color guard units marched to their posts and in a show of honor, remained at attention during the ceremony.

Many dignitaries spoke, including Toby Chamberlain, the ILSSAR President; Robert Pritchard, Illinois State Representative from the 70th District; Franz Herder, ILSSAR Grave Marking Chairman; Tom Grisham, Past Master of Unity Masonic Lodge #48, Jerry Kowalski, SUVCW; Lynne Krantz and Lynne DeConti, Regents of the Aurora and Fort Payne DAR Chapters; John Knewitz, Lily Lake Cemetery Association; and Nick Provenzano, a representative of US Congressman Randy Hultgren.

The Master of Ceremonies was Fox Valley Chapter President Mike Campagnolo. He was assisted by Fox Valley Chapter members Harry Reineke IV, (Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation); Ted Miller (Sons of the American Revolution Pledge and Laying of the Wreath); Kevin Alcott (Reading of the Sign); Chip Dawes (SAR Recessional) and Jon Fixm er (Captain of Combined Color Guard).

A signature moment was the special performance of Echo Taps by two veterans in attendance. It was performed by a bugler accompanied by a harmonica player from AmVets post 202. This unique pairing of instruments created an incredibly memorable sound that was as hauntingly beautiful as it was sorrowful.

Memories fade, but monuments and markers are made to stand the test of time. Hopefully, Abner Powers will now not soon be forgotten.
Chapter honors new lifetime member

Compatriot Kenneth J. Lindquist recently received his lifetime membership certificate from Long Knives Chapter President Jack Cramer.

The Long Knives are honored and blessed in having such a upstanding man as a member of our Chapter.

Pinkneyville restaurant serves up $$$ for Long Knives Chapter

The Dixie’s Cup Cafe located in Pinkneyville, IL, recently held a bake sale as a fundraiser for the Long Knives Chapter.

Dixie King volunteered to take up this unsolicited project on her own accord. Here, she is pictured presenting a check for $265 to Gerald Whitson and Kent Dixon of the Long Knives Chapter.

The Chapter greatly appreciates the support and effort of Dixie and her employees.

Springfield Chapter

Emeritus Status

At the August Illinois Society Board of Managers meeting, Springfield Chapter Compatriot Cletis Underwood was named an Illinois Society Emeritus Member. Cletis had previously been named a Springfield Chapter Emeritus Member. To be designated a chapter emeritus member, you must be a least 80 years old and for the state society the minimum age is 90.

New Member

The Springfield Chapter’s newest member is Compatriot Kenneth Spann. Spann lives in Springfield. His application was approved in July. His Patriot is Thomas Williams. Williams served as a wagoner in General Anthony Wayne’s Brigade. Wayne was sometimes called ‘Mad’ Anthony Wayne because of his fiery personality.
GJB makes chapter’s annual flag award

At its regular Flag Day Meeting, Jun. 14, 2016 the General Joseph Bartholomew Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution awarded its annual Flag Award.

The winner was selected by the Flag, Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and EMS Committee, consisting of Jeff Kretlow CH., Ed Proctor, Virgil D. Short MD., David Dougall, Bill Hammitt. Chairman Jeff Kretlow presented the GJB SAR 2016 Flag award to Mike and Pat Kirk of rural Bloomington, IL for consistently and properly displaying Old Glory.

Mike is a Vietnam era veteran of the National Guard. He was given a time to respond during which he noted the history of his flag pole, and he and his wife’s travels, which have increased their love and pride of their homeland.

Chapter celebrates Constitution Week at September 20 meeting

By Virgil D. Short MD

The General Joseph Bartholomew Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held their Constitution Week meeting Sep 20, 2016, 1:00pm at the College Park Christian Church. This meeting was held jointly with the Letitia Green Stevenson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The meeting was a Commemoration of the ratification of the US Constitution, as well as, an expression of gratitude to our First Responders for their service and dedication in keeping us safe and maintaining an orderly society. In view of the recent unwarranted negative publicity directed to the law enforcement departments of our country the committee decided to expand the award to include an award for each law enforcement department in our area rather than a single award for the whole area in an effort to emphasize our support and gratitude for their services.

The meeting was Co-hosted by Jeff Kretlow, Don Hyland, and Cherie Valentine and was attended by 50 people which included members and their wives of GJB SAR Chapter, members of the LGS DAR Chapter, members of the first responders’ departments, guests, and speaker.

The meeting was opened with Pledges and Invocations, after which J. Gordon Bihner, Pres. of the GJB SAR Chapter welcomed the attendants and expressed the communities’ appreciation for first responders care and protection of us all and how important and essential they are for a smooth functioning society.

The GJB SAR Chapter presented the 2016 GJB SAR Public Service Awards to outstanding members of our local first responders in the departments of Law Enforcement/Fire Safety/EMS. The Flag, Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and EMS committee consists of Jeff Kretlow CH., Ed Proctor, Virgil D. Short MD., David Dougall, and Bill Hammitt.

Presentations were made by Chairman Jeff Kretlow assisted by William Hammitt, GJB SAR Chapter Genealogist.

The speaker, introduced by Cherie Valentine, Regent of the LGS DAR Chapter, was Appellate Judge Jim Knecht whose presentation was on the US Supreme Court entitled “The Least Dangerous Branch.” The meeting was closed with comments from the President of the GJB SAR Chapter and the Regent of the LGS DAR Chapter followed by the SAR Recessional. Refreshments of cookies, cupcakes, peanuts, and tea and lemonade were provided by SAR and DAR Members.

The GJB SAR Chapter participated in the 4th of July Parade of Downs, IL, riding on a decorated flatbed wagon provided by Rodney Lush. Those participating included Don Lush, Don Hyland, Dave Ashbrook of our Color Guard in uniform and Rodney Lush.
August 20, 2016 is chapter’s resurrection day

The Stephen Decatur Chapter was chartered by the Illinois Secretary of State as a N-F-P org. in 1990. It suspended operation in 2011. And thanks to the hard work of several compatriots, as of August 20, 2016, it is back in action!

Compatriot Dick Chamblin made phone calls and sent letters to a pool of twenty-five SAR members and potential members resulted in a meeting of ten men who met at the Prairie Avenue Christian Church at 10:00am on 20 Aug 2016. The group consisted of six SAR members and four applicants. Five of the attendees were from towns other than Decatur.

The meeting was conducted as a normal chapter meeting with all rituals observed. Each attendee was supplied with a packet that contained Youth Award brochures, State and Chapter histories, meeting agenda, a sample of the chapter newsletter, ‘The Commodore’s Broadside’ prepared by Toby Chamberlain, the current contact list, and other items to help new members better understand the SAR.

Dick Chamblin acted as the presiding officer with help from Drew Robinson, Springfield Chapter Vice President and Toby Chamberlain, State President.

Topics discussed included some of the items in the packet but featured such things as the Outstanding Citizenship program, genealogy workshops and personal appearances before other organizations, and the importance of attending Board of Managers meetings.

A survey was distributed to determine individual interest in specific chapter activities, official duties they are willing to assume, and future meeting details.

Decatur Chapter

The CZM chapter provides a Color Guard in and around the Peoria area for Flag Day and parades. At right, they raise 13 flags and fire off a volley during Flag Day 2016 ceremonies at Constitution Garden in Peoria.

Attending the first meeting are: front row from left: State President Toby Chamberlain, Mark Rankin, Jason Butterick, Robert Hoagland. Back row, from left: Dick Chamblin, James Barr, Drew Robinson, Charles Speck, David Miller, Larry Burgett.

Captain Zeally Moss Chapter

Garry Grugan receives the Patriot Medal and Certificate at the July 27 meeting of Captain Zeally Moss Chapter at the IVY Club, Peoria. He also received the Liberty Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster for recruitment of new members.
Two new chapter members, Danny Marks, at left, and Dave Tannahill, above, deserve a lot of recognition for their persistent work with Jim Neese to prove their lineage to the Revolutionary War Patriots. They received their certificates from Chapter President Sid Welles. Many hours were spent by both in completing their work.

In other chapter news...

Genealogist Bill Wheeler has 11 applicants he is working on. Eric Banfield has presented seven flag certificates this year to date. Franz Herder has officiated in two cemetery plaque dedications to date. Mike Fleckinger is joining Chris Gomez to work with the 60 JROTC units in the chapter’s coverage area. Franz Herder and John Dyrud had a nice meeting with Les Libschutz who is returning to SAR ‘active duty’ after a long illness.

In other news, The chapter is also working towards the cemetery marking program with Franz Herder and local Eagle Scouts assisting. We have located four Revolutionary War vets in the Jacksonville East Cemetery. Again, this year, the Elijah Smith Chapter will solicit 34 schools for participation in the Schweizer History Award.

The chapter has shown some interest in participating in the Rumbaugh Oration Contest with Dr. Allen Campbell’s help.

Fort Dearborn Chapter

A Dramatic Portrayal of Alexander Hamilton was the topic presented at the September meeting of the Ft. Dearborn Chapter at the Union League Club in downtown Chicago. From humble beginnings, although never a president, Hamilton was a Founding Father who lives even today on the $10.00 bill.

In other chapter news...

Genealogist Bill Wheeler has 11 applicants he is working on. Eric Banfield has presented seven flag certificates this year to date. Franz Herder has officiated in two cemetery plaque dedications to date. Mike Fleckinger is joining Chris Gomez to work with the 60 JROTC units in the chapter’s coverage area. Franz Herder and John Dyrud had a nice meeting with Les Libschutz who is returning to SAR ‘active duty’ after a long illness.

From left: Tom Ashby, National Trustee, John Foster, Sponsor, David Lee Foster & David Keenan, President of the Ft. Armstrong Chapter.

On August 17, an SAR Membership Certificate was presented to new Compatriot David Lee Foster at the Fort Armstrong Chapter Meeting at the Windmill Restaurant in East Moline, IL. The Fort Armstrong Chapter meets on the third Wednesday of every month from April through November at that location.
On Saturday, July 30, the Fox Valley Chapter conducted a well-attended dedication ceremony to once again honor Abner Powers’ extraordinary service as a young man during the Revolution. A grand processional at Lily Lake Cemetery kicked off the event in which upwards of 50 people marched. It was led by a bagpiper and a combined Color Guard unit of 21 strong.