

# The Illinois Patriot



Illinois Society  
Sons of The  
American Revolution

www.illinois-sar.org

July 2018



Richard Chamblin

## A Message From The President

By ILSSAR President Richard Chamblin

Thank you for giving me the honor of serving you. I will strive to perform the duties in the manner you have a right to expect.

I am fortunate to have inherited an outstanding roster of officers and committee chairs due to the efforts of our Immediate Past President, Toby Chamberlain, and our nominating Committee Chairman, Gordon Bidner.

Our Senior Vice President is busy, as he always is, working hard on a number of projects such as Medals and Awards programs and Board of Managers meeting locations. His remarks on page two about Growth and Retention deserve close attention.

Our Regional Vice Presidents are improving the system of communication between the chapters and the Board of Managers. We must improve the awareness of the Board of Managers of the problems our chapters face in order to better serve them.

I hope to hear much advice and suggestions from Bill Wheeler, who has taken on the task of working with the Senior President of the CAR, Susan Flanagan, to improve our relationship with an organization that can become an important source of trained and committed members.

Another source of membership is the DAR.

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Incoming ILSSAR President Richard Chamblin reacts to a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday at the BOM dinner.

## We need to hear from you!!!

At the recent Board of Managers meeting, former ILSSAR President Toby Chamberlain raised a concern he was made aware of involving delivery of the electronic version of The Illinois Patriot. He mentioned that he has received complaints from compatriots who were on the email distribution list but didn't receive it for any one of several reasons.

After a discussion, the board voted to return to delivering a printed copy to every compatriot via the USPS. Please cut out this survey, check the appropriate box, then give it to your chapter president at your earlier convenience. It is our attempt to deliver The Patriot to you in a form that you will both receive and read. Thank you for taking the time to do this. It is very important to receive everyone's preference for a complete delivery of each issue.

**Please fill this out and return to your chapter president.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

- I have an email address and want to receive The Patriot by email.
- I have an email address but would rather receive the printed Patriot by regular US mail.
- I don't have an email address and need to receive The Patriot by regular US mail.



Mike Campagnolo

# A Message From The Sr. Vice President

By ILSSAR Senior Vice President Mike Campagnolo

I was honored to be sworn in Senior Vice President for the Illinois Society SAR by President General Larry Guzy on May 12, 2018. I am also proud to finally become a "George Washington Fellow"

## Growth In Membership

When I was Fox Valley Chapter President our main goal for chapter growth was to bring 'New Blood' into our chapter. My main priority was building a relationship with the DAR and CAR Chapters in our area. We would participate with them at parades, grave markings, meetings, picnics and genealogical conventions. By working with our sisters in the DAR, we have picked up quite a few new members. I encourage all of you to work with the DAR!

More chapter growth areas are Good Citizenship Awards, Eagle Scout and JROTC. These are where the young people are. With our large chapter area, we do our best to attend as many high school awards ceremonies for Outstanding Citizenship and JROTC as possible. We need to get the word out and most of all we need the exposure! I grew tired of hearing from people "we never heard of the SAR, only the DAR".

## Member Retention

We also need to work harder on retaining new members. We must make the SAR fun and fulfilling. We are fortunate at Fox Valley to have a solid core of outstanding, committed and hardworking compatriots in all key officer positions. This will not last forever. In the last two years we have had Compatriots Dale Bottom, Bruce Talbot move to Florida and Rod Herbig to North Carolina. Those were BIG shoes to fill! We quickly found new compatriots to fill in and we didn't miss a beat. When I became a member eight years ago we had around 75 members in our chapter, now we are closing in on 150. Our goal is to retain at least 85%.

We encouraged all new members to attend our chapter meetings, chapter luncheons, parades, grave markings, conventions, Drill and Grill, Rev War Days, musket shoots and become involved. Once they get a feel for what we do and are interested, we offer them a committee position they feel comfortable with. We also want to encourage all new members to experience our ILSSAR Dinners and BOM meetings. Compatriot Bruce Talbot, Fox Valley President at the time I joined invited me to come down to Springfield as soon as I became a new member. I have enjoyed the comradery with the compatriots

downstate and also met new friends. In eight years I have only missed one ILSSAR BOM meeting.

Even if a new member doesn't want to be active we still need them to pay their dues to help support all our important programs. At the end of the year we get a non-paid listing from the ILSSAR Treasurer. We split the listing up between several compatriots then email and call each one. We find some that say they didn't receive an invoice or just plain forgot.

## Medals and Award Committee

Franz and Wendy Herder are retiring their position as Medals and Award Chair. Franz and Wendy have done a great job over the years and now it is time to pass the torch. My goal this year is to assemble a new Medal and Awards Committee under Compatriot Gary List as Chairman and Chuck Dobias as co-Chair with the help of the 3 Regional VP's and all chapter presidents. We need all deserving chapters and compatriots recognized at next May's Annual Awards Ceremony and Banquet. We will have a meeting after the Saturday Luncheon on August 11th to discuss all future awards (old and new).

## BOM Meeting Locations

Another subject that keeps coming up is BOM meeting locations. I sent a survey out to see if we want to consider changing BOM meeting locations.

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## ILSSAR Calendar of upcoming events in 2018

July 12 to 19

### National SAR Congress

July 12 thru 19, 2018 National SAR 128th Congress, Houston TX, at the Houston Westin, Memorial City. \$159 per night at 800 937-8461 as for NSSAR or the National Society Sons of the American Revolution group rate or on-line at [starwoodmeeting.com/book/NSSAR2018](http://starwoodmeeting.com/book/NSSAR2018).

August 9 to 11

### Twilight Parade and August BOM Mtg.

August 9, 10, & 11, 2018 Board of Managers, Springfield, IL Illinois SAR Board of Managers meeting dates are 9 August

Thursday for the State Fair. The BOM dinner is 10 August Friday night at the Wyndham, Springfield, IL. We have rooms at \$112 each night at the SAR rate, with free breakfast and free parking and for those staying Saturday 11 August. Wyndham Springfield City Centre 700 E Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701 Ph: 217.789.1530. Our speaker is Steve Kling author of the book "Battle of St. Louis".

September 27 to 29

### NSSAR Fall Leadership Mtg.

September 27 thru 29, 2018 NSSAR Fall Leadership Louisville, KY Meeting at the Brown Hotel. Call 888 888-5252 and ask for the Sons of the American

Revolution rate. Registration can be found at [SAR.ORG](http://SAR.ORG), Compatriots, Leadership Information, then Register.

### October 26 and 27 NSSAR Great Lakes Mtg. and ILSSAR MOM Mtg.

Oct 26 and 27, 2018 Combined NSSAR Great Lakes District meeting and ILSSAR Board of Managers, Springfield, IL at the Wyndham, Springfield. Rooms at \$121 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. Our dinner speaker is to be determined.

### 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\\_20@comcast.net](mailto:therobinsons_20@comcast.net)



### ILSSAR Registrar — Garry Grugan

Effective immediately, my e-mail address is [gagrugansar@gmail.com](mailto:gagrugansar@gmail.com).

Please update your contact information accordingly. I apologize for the inconvenience.

# The Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution Illinois Society Quarterly Meeting August 10 & 11, 2018 Wyndham Hotel, 700 East Adams, Springfield Illinois

The Wyndham City Center Hotel room discount is \$112.00 plus tax.  
Rate includes free parking and breakfast. Cutoff date for discount reservation is July 11, 2018.  
Call 217-789-1530 and ask for the Sons of the American Revolution rate.  
Dress is Business Suit, Business Dress or Uniform.

**Thursday, August 9th Twilight Parade. Meet in Hotel lobby at 4:30pm.**  
Parade starts at 5:30 from Nelson Park. Saputo's after parade (Optional)

**The Friday, August 10 dinner begins at 7 p.m. in the Rendezvous Room.**  
We will have a cash bar and social hour from 6 to 7 p.m.  
Following dinner, the speaker will be Steve Kling, author of the book *Battle of St. Louis*

**The Saturday, August 11 Board of Managers Meeting will start at 8:30 a.m.  
in Conference Center 4 on the Concourse floor.**  
The Ladies Auxiliary Meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. in Conference Center 3.  
A light soup and sandwiches lunch will be served at 12pm noon in Plaza One.  
Please pay by check before coming.

### Cut Here and return

I will attend the BOM Meeting on Saturday but not any meal events

### Menu

**Friday Dinner** Grilled Chicken Provencal w/ Sweet Basil Rissotto and Petite Green Beans,  
Garden Greens Salad and Vanilla Blueberry Cheesecake (\$40.00)  
**Friday Vegetarian Entrees Available:** Portabella Ravioli or Grilled Vegetable Napoleon (\$40.00)  
**Saturday Lunch** Broccoli Cheese Soup and Deli Meat, Assorted Breads, Brownies (\$25.00)

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Friday\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday\_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Friday\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday\_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ Friday\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday\_\_\_\_\_

Special Diet Needs \_\_\_\_\_

Additional guests may be added on the back.

**Meal payment is due no later then July 20.**

Mail Personal Check payable to ILSSAR for meal total to:  
Compatriot Mike Campagnolo  
1196 Cactus Trail, Carol Stream, IL 60188  
Cell: 630.464.4904  
Email: mscfoxvalleysar@att.net

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## A Message From Richard Chamblin ILSSAR President

Many of us have experienced the help the Daughters are willing to provide. The Daughters can and do introduce family and friends to chapter members as potential members, pair with SAR chapters to produce Outstanding Citizenship and Cemetery Marking events, and assist us in conducting more genealogy workshops. The CAR and the DAR can be amazing partners. We must find ways to reach out to them.

The 2017 year witnessed many successful improvements. Among those, our Immediate Past President improved the performance of some struggling chapters by attending multiple chapter meetings and providing advice when asked. He also made strides in increasing the number of chapters represented at Board of Managers.

In 2017, we welcomed 227 new members. Unfortunately we lost 229. Only 14 of the losses were by death. This gives evidence of one of our basic problems...retention.

It is urgent that we find a way to reduce resignations. Appointing a state-level committee to gather information from other state societies is one thing that might be possible but it is the chapters, with their knowledge of chapter activities and the issues facing their members, that can provide realistic ideas.

We still have a vacancy in the office of the State Historian. If you would consider the job of a state officer...ask for a description of the duties and, if you find it to your liking... volunteer. Don't wait to be asked.

Our next Board of Managers meeting is in Springfield August 9th to 11th. The Illinois State Fair Twilight Parade kicks off Thursday, August 8th. The State Fair Veterans Day Parade (veterans enjoy free admission) will be held on Sunday August 12th. We need to have good attendance at these events to improve our visibility to the community and, also, to honor our veterans.

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## Senior Vice President Mike Campagnolo's Message

Instead of having all four BOM meetings in Springfield, we could mix it up. We are considering moving the location of two of the quarterly Board of Managers meetings to new locations to increase member participation. This would start in 2019.

The idea is to keep the May awards dinner and meeting in Springfield and also the August meeting which coincides with the Twilight parade at the Illinois State Fair.

The November and February BOM meetings would be held in the North and South regions. We should get a good sampling statewide of what compatriots are thinking before the August BOM.

To all my compatriots statewide, have a happy and healthy and prosperous 2018!

## Looking for a Few Young Men

By Bill Wheeler

During the recently completed Illinois Society Board of Managers meeting in Springfield, President General Larry Guzy shared the establishment of an "under 40 group".

A Young Members Committee has been established at a national level that is intended to attract and retain younger members to the Sons of the American Revolution.

During the last several months, the committee has been working to create an Outstanding Young Member Medal. This medal is named after Revolutionary War Patriot Joseph Plumb Martin. It is named the Joseph Plumb Martin "For the Duration" medal. The medal emulates the DAR award which encourages young members to be active and involved.

This award is going to be a tiered award:

Bronze at the chapter level

Silver at the state level

Gold at the national level

While the full details of the award are yet to be finalized, it appears that an individual will only be able to receive the gold or national award once during his lifetime.

The committee will be working to come up with ideas as to how to get young members (and potential members) engaged. It is a challenging task for the committee to come up with ways to get engaged with youth when there are so many other things vying for their attention.

If you would like to learn more about the programs or would like to get involved with the committee, please contact Bill Wheeler at [bill.wheeler@dearbornsar.org](mailto:bill.wheeler@dearbornsar.org).

### ILLINOIS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION OFFICERS 2018-2019

President	Richard Chamblin
Sr. Vice Pres.	Mike Campagnolo
Vice Pres. N. Region	Scott Sanders
Vice Pres. C. Region	Louis (Lou) Myers
Vice Pres. S. Region	Dan Crafton
Secretary	Drew Robinson
Treasurer	Lee Braden
Recording Secretary	Scott Sanders
Registrar	Gary Grugan
Genealogist	Ron Peck
Chancellor	Kevin Babb
Historian	TBD
Chaplain	Rev. Raymond P. Owens
Sgt.-at-Arms	Ken Griffin
NSSAR Natl. Trustee	Toby Chamberlain
NSSAR Alt. Trustee	Dick Chamblin

ILSSAR Patriot Newsletter Editor:

Scott Sanders

Send articles to [w9run1776@icloud.com](mailto:w9run1776@icloud.com)

(This is my new email address)

**"Guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism."**

...George Washington

# May Board of Managers Meeting Minutes and Report

## 33 Compatriots Present

Larry T. Guzy – NSSAR President General  
 Dave Ashbrook – GJB  
 Tom Ashby – Ft. Armstrong  
 Kevin Babb – GGRC  
 Lee Braden – ABC  
 Stan Buckles – Springfield  
 Mike Campagnolo – Fox Valley  
 Allan C. Campbell, MD – Capt Zeally Moss  
 Toby Chamberlain – Springfield  
 Dick Chamblin – Springfield and  
 Stephen Decatur

Brian Conden – Long Knives  
 Dan Crafton – Lewis & Clark  
 John Cramer Jr. – Long Knives  
 Russell DeVenney – Missouri Society  
 Charles D. Dobias – GGRC  
 John Dyrud – Ft. Dearborn  
 Franz Herder – Ft. Dearborn  
 John Foster – Zeally Moss  
 Ken Kruta – Lewis & Clark  
 Gary List – Zeally Moss  
 Bill McLane – Piankeshaw and Champaign  
 Dave Miller – Stephen Decatur

Louis Myers – Springfield  
 Karl Reed – Springfield  
 Drew Robinson – Springfield and  
 Stephen Decatur  
 Richard Ruedin – GGRC  
 Scott Sanders – Fox Valley and ABC  
 Jim Wallace – Long Knives  
 Sid Welles – Elijah Smith  
 Bill Wheeler – Ft. Dearborn  
 Gerald Whitson – Long Knives

## President General's Comments:

- PG Guzy said when he owned a business for 30 years he got his employees to join him in understanding that what they did was important and they're all in it together to make a living. He said that's what we should do in the SAR. We should be respecting our customers/members and make them happy so they stay. We do programs "right." Guzy said he comes from a business background and sometimes leaders coming from a non-business background don't always understand what needs to happen for a project to succeed.
- He organized a Genealogical Research System committee that had already been established before he became PG. He said we need a system like the DAR has. And a detailed plan is needed to make it a reality. The DAR is willing to provide the architecture of their website to the SAR.
- We needed a new website. The old one was built by an outside company without receiving adequate instructions from the SAR about what was wanted. He said what we got was something that didn't work and cost "a ton of money." Now, we have permission from the trustees to build a new website with exactly what is needed. The proposal to build a "brand new" website is ready to be formally presented.
- PG supports a two year term for the top officers only. It will be voted on at the National Congress. He said a two year term promotes consistency. The pipeline system for moving up should be revised because talented people who want to serve shouldn't have to wait years to move up in the system.



President General Larry Guzy spoke to the Board of Managers about national SAR programs and activities.

## New Business:

### Chairman George Washington Distribution Committee Russ DeVenney comments:

- Introduced by PG Guzy
- Your money in the fund will always be there and never be spent, only the interest. The money will always be there for future projects after some of you are gone.
- President Toby said last year's contributions were tax deductible but he isn't sure what the new tax plan will do for this year.

### Trustee Report – Tom Ashby

- On p. 8 of packet
- At last Spring Leadership Meeting: New website and GRS were discussed and voted to allow a new RFP for those items.
- Committee accepted several gifts. Committee voted to spend \$200,000 for genealogic offices at the headquarters.
- Moved to change the requirement to use the new membership system from 030118 to 030219

### 2017 National History Teacher of The Year from Illinois:

- 2017 winner Krista Graves is from Pope County High School, a very poor area according to Toby.
- It's the first time an Illinois teacher has won the award.

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- She has chosen to go the academic conference (out of four choices) at UVA.
- Toby Chamberlain proposed giving her \$500 from the ILSSAR to help with her expenses at the conference
- Motion made to give \$500 to Krista Graves for the conference expenses made by Dr. Allan Campbell and seconded by John Foster. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

### **Paper vs. paperless distribution of the Illinois Patriot:**

- Toby Chamberlain said “Recently, a plan was pushed through to go to paperless distribution. From where I sit, that is not working. Several other states have tried that and have gone back to postal distribution because members were not getting it for various reasons.”
- Toby said he as spent “countless hours” over the last 30 days on registration for this meeting which was “almost nil.” He said he called chapter presidents who said they didn’t get the form.
- Toby said “I think we should go back to paper distribution of the newsletter.” We could drop the color pages to save costs, he said. “I really think this would benefit us as a group,” he said.
- Discussion ensued.
- Patriot Editor Scott Sanders agreed with Toby and mentioned that the form for the meal reservations still had to be downloaded, printed out, and sent in. Scott proposed going back to the old way but without the color page, printing it out in b/w, and mailing it to the compatriots. Scott continued to say that he could send out the color pdf version by email if an individual member requests it.
- Bill Wheeler said to clarify that all newsletters are on the website without passwords. He said we are missing a significant number of email addresses for electronic distribution. Of the 780 copies delivered electronically, he said only 50% of those getting emailed copies are actually opening the emails. Going back entirely to paper distribution is a “sub cost that we are going to lose money on long term.”
- Dave Miller said “We have limited resources and the question is where do we spend that money.” He continued to ask what would be the better use of the money: sending out a printed newsletter or creating another grave marker or awarding another scholarship.
- A Long Knives Chapter member questioned that if 50% of email recipients aren’t opening the emails, what does that do for retaining the members we have, saying there are five members in his chapter who don’t use email. He gives them printed copies to keep them interested.
- Lou Myers said sending the electronic copies takes time to work out but can be done. Need to followup with calls to members who can’t get the emails or don’t want email delivery.
- Tom Ashby made a motion to go back to the paper format of the newsletter and to include a questionnaire on P1 to indicate if they want to receive it electronically, please let us know. Otherwise they would receive it b/w by regular mail. Seconded by Karl Reed. Passed unanimously by voice vote.
- Drew Robinson said each chapter presidents could call their own members to update who wants receive it by email rather than one person calling all
- Scott Sanders is putting a survey in the next Patriot to gauge individual member preferences. Scott said the goal of the SAR as a non-profit is not to make money, and that spending money on a newsletter is a good use of the society’s money to reach and engage with the members.

### **Confirmation of committee chairs: Dick Chamblin**

Audit – Kevin Babb  
 Budget/Finance – Michael Murray  
 Car/Dar relations – Bill Wheeler  
 Eagle Scouts – George Tinkham  
 Ethics – Kevin Babb  
 ILSSAR Constitution – Kevin Babb

Illinois Patriot – Scott Sanders  
 Flag Awards – Mike Campagnolo  
 IT Chairman – Bill Wheeler  
 Nominating – Toby Chamberlain  
 Outstanding Citizenship – Gordon Bidner  
 Knight Essay – Gary List  
 Rumbaugh Oration – Dr. Allan Campbell  
 Patriot Medal – Gary List  
 ROTC – Chuck Dobias  
 Schweitzer History Teacher – TBD  
 Veterans Welfare – Louis Myers  
 Webmaster/Internet – Bill Wheeler  
 Toby Chamberlain called for a vote to accept the committee chairs.  
 Approved unanimously by voice vote.

### **Kaskaskia Stone Update: Dan Crafton**

- Met with IDNR people about text for the plaque.
- Dan read the text on the plaque and described the layout on the stone and distributed photos and maps of the stone and location.
- No cost to SAR unless we want to donate.
- IDNR wants to put the SAR material on the back of the monument and put cemetery history on the front.
- Dan thinks if SAR text is put on the back of the monument, we will have to make it handicapped and wheelchair accessible.
- Dan thinks all the material can be put on the monument front so that handicapped access won’t be needed.
- Our material might be missed by people in cars when driving by if it is on the back of the monument.
- Only the SAR emblem will be in brass and embedded in the gray granite of the monument.
- Final approval for construction won’t be given till all funds are in hand and IDNR approval in writing is received.
- Toby suggested having the SAR emblem cut right into the granite to eliminate the possibility of a brass emblem being stolen. Positive comments received. No definite action to be taken at this time.

### **Ten Minute Break**

#### **Audit Report: Kevin Babb**

- Received report from outside independent auditor.
- Handbook... state treasurer protocols. somewhat critical of not having particular procedures for handling cash receipts and disbursements
- Balance sheet... Very detailed and complicated report with “down in the weeds” details. Dick Chamblin provided detailed explanation.
- Kevin summed it all up by saying: “Everybody agrees on what the money is, ... nobody is stealing any money, everything is accounted for, ... everybody agrees all money is present and accounted for.”
- Audit committee will look at details, and report at August BOM Mtg. Motion made to accept (not to approve) the report. Explanation of the difference in terminology provided by Kevin. Seconded and passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **Comments by Toby Chamberlain**

- Karl Reed suggested combining awards at the Friday awards dinner to save time. Toby said that worked well at the dinner last night. And he asked if that practice should be continued or go back to the previous way of individual awards and photos. He recommended continuing the new way. He asked for objections and there were none.

#### **IT Presentation: Bill Wheeler**

- Regarding submitting biographies for the new Patriot Resource System, Bill found that not all applications are linked with each of the SAR patriots.
- A committee is working to get teams in each state to index the

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applications linked into the PRS.

- 169,000 Patriots are already in PRS and 2567 of them have headstones. More headstone photos are needed.
- Only 7000 of them have biographies. He urged compatriots to write up stories of their patriot ancestors if known, and get it in the system.
- Detailed info on the procedure is in the BOM packet.
- Full presentation to be given at the August BOM Mtg.

### General announcements: Toby Chamberlain

- Next meeting is to be held during the Illinois State Fair and usually all the hotel rooms are booked. We have a block of rooms reserved at this hotel but once those rooms are booked, there is “no room at the inn...anywhere.” You might have to stay out of town.
- Regarding The Patriot, the goal is to have something from each chapter in the Patriot. We haven’t done that the past two years.
- Scott Sanders asked if anyone knows how to get historical markers on roads to alert drivers of an upcoming cemetery marker sign in a cemetery. Several suggestions offered. County historical society seems to be the best.
- After that, a long discussion about geocaching ensued. PG Guzy suggested using geocaching to draw attention to the cemeteries and gave an overview of what geocaching is and how it could be used to find patriot graves. GGRC already has two geocaches for this. Other chapters either have geocaching markers already or have programs started for it.
- A question about ID cards was brought up. ID cards are needed for those who go to the national HQ for research and other places where proof of SAR membership is required. Bill Wheeler said cards will be printed but only for those who request them. ID cards are not being automatically printed for everyone. Gerald Whitson suggested chapters should send requests for life membership cards to Bill Wheeler. Bill Wheeler said he could print up a small number of cards but not the large numbers of them such as 300. An outside printer would be needed to be set up for that. He said he could give the instructions for printing them to those interested in printing them themselves.
- Dick Chamblin said the discussion for indestructible permanent cards could be reopened. They would all have identical info on them however. He had a previous bid for 1000.
- Toby Chamberlain asked PG Guzy what the state society could do to improve the way we do things. PG Guzy said we should “steal” from other state societies and they should “steal” from us. An example: check with the Pennsylvania society that already has permanent dues cards for ideas. He said he’s been to Texas and California and Pennsylvania state annual banquets and although being larger societies, they only had slightly larger attendance than we did last night. He said “So, there’s obviously something that you guys are doing right, and that says good things about Illinois.” He suggested continuing the new awards procedure at the dinner, but said in addition to handing out awards, we should also recognize people in the audience, such as having all eagle scouts in the audience stand when the actual award is given out. Recognition of people who are members of awarded groups who don’t get awards is important, such as having all military members stand up.
- The Young Members Committee was re-formed by the PG and is now composed of members under 40. He said they should have their meetings without having to go to Louisville and talk to each others there. These younger members talk to each other and meet via skype, reddit, and email. They are developing a medal for younger members who are active in not just in SAR but in all sorts of other organizations apart from SAR.
- PG Guzy said the Georgia state SAR website is a good place to go to for ideas, specifically its online sourcebook. It is a good place to “steal” from, he said.
- PG suggested doing other things such as flag retirement ceremonies

and other things that members can get involved in.

### ILSSAR President Dick Chamblin and Senior VP Mike Campagnolo comments:

- We have a strong management team. “I couldn’t be more pleased with what we have coming with us right now” Dick said.
- Dick sees officers and committee chairmen showing energy, involvement, and a willingness to form committees to get things done and not to sit around and drink coffee.
- Mike said he has plans to further the outstanding grave marking program with Franz Herder as well as other programs to spread patriotism across the state “and beyond.”

### Toby Chamberlain announcement:

- Springfield chapter will have the first grave marking in the state for a female patriot. It will be for Luann McDaniel, a nurse at Valley Forge, on June 30 at the Dawson Cemetery, east of Springfield.

### Officer and Committee Reports:

- Louis Myers: Quincy Veterans Home is a very old place built after the Civil War. The residents there have no family and no place to go, he said. The ILSSAR veterans committee is trying to get the residents relocated, the current building torn down and rebuilt. Trying to get younger SAR members interested in helping at these homes.
- President Toby said his time as president has been “a wonderful experience.” He urged members to get involved as officers.
- Secretary Drew Robinson reported a total membership of 1060 with 15-20 applicants in the pipeline. Drew has received tickets for the Houston Congress so attendees should see him for them. Tickets needed to vote.
- Genealogist Ron Peck: Genealogists at national have a new definition of genealogical proof arguments. Take a look at policy letter number 35 if you are planning to submit a genealogical proof argument for part of your lineage.
- Historian Mike Campagnolo: Reports that Dave Miller is to be sworn in as the new state historian. Mike has eight plastic tubs with material to give to Dave Miller for his keeping. Mike thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as historian for the past six years.
- Chaplain Dave Ashbrook is retiring.
- Treasurer is now Lee Braden who is working with Dick Chamblin on the transfer of materials and duties Chancellor
- Chancellor Kevin Babb reports that everything is fine from a legal standpoint.
- Regional VP reports: Mike Campagnolo reported on upcoming grave markings in Northern Region. Lou Myers says Central Region working hard on new applications. Dan Crofton says a similar grave marking program is coming soon in the Southern Region.
- Color Guard. Mike Campagnolo is submitting application for the Twilight Parade. He is also getting quotes for color guard insurance. Still looking for a Central Region color guard commander.
- Eagle Scout committee: Communication with chapters should improve in getting youths to submit essays.
- Nominating Committee: Toby Chamberlain is replacing Gordon Bidner as the chairman.
- Knight Essay Committee; Gary List reported there were 13 entries this year. He hopes there will be more info about this contest when the new website comes out. Bill Wheeler said “The website is yours and I just maintain it.” He encouraged everyone to let him know about material that should be on it.
- Patriot Medal Committee: Karl Reed is handing it over to Gary List.
- ROTC Committee: Chuck Dobias reported that essay submissions have been going down in recent years and that none were submitted for this year’s awards. He will get together with chapter

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ROTC chairmen to try to improve the situation.

- Ladies Auxiliary: Presented a check for \$1000 for cemetery marking program to the ILSSAR.
- Incoming state officers sworn in by PG Guzy.
- Toby passed the state president's medal to Dick Chamblin, who

presented the past president's pin to Toby Chamberlain.

- Toby was given a gift of an engraved wall clock.

• **Meeting adjourned**



President General Larry Guzy swears in new ILSSAR officers. From left: PG Larry Guzy; Lee Braden, treasurer; Richard Chamblin, president; Mike Campagnolo, senior vice President; Dan Crafton, Southern Region Vice President; Ron Peck, Genealogist; Drew Robinson, Secretary. Not pictured due to taking this photo: Scott Sanders, new Recording Secretary and Northern Region Vice President.

## Captain Zeally Moss Chapter



Fiona Sarvis gives her winning speech at the Board Of Managers awards Saturday luncheon as Oration Committee Chairman Allan Campbell, left, and ILSSAR President Richard Chamblin, right, listen.

## A Tradition Continues in Oratorical Contest

Once again, this year's winner of the Rumbaugh Oratorical Contest is a student from Fenwick High School in Oak Park.

CZM members served as judges and chose Fiona June Sarvis as the winner of \$1000 for her speech entitled *Noah Webster, Creator of Our Unique American Language and Culture*.

CZM judges were Allan Campbell, Billy Cook, Gary List, and Mike Tubbs.

## Knight Essay winner chosen over twelve other entrants.

A total of 13 essays were submitted for judging by the selection committee. CZM Essay Committee Chairman Gary List, Ron Peck and Jack Cramer served as judges. They selected Lisle's Benet Academy Senior Kristina Garney as the winner for her Essay *The conventional wisdom of Thomas Paine*. A scholarship of \$1000 was awarded on May 12 at the Saturday Awards Luncheon.

At right, CZM Essay Committee Chairman Gary List and ILSSAR President Richard Chamblin applaud Knight Essay Winner Kristina Garney at the BOM scholarship luncheon.



# General George Rogers Clark Chapter



## Two big awards for GGRC



GGRC President Charles Dobias accepts the Chapter Of The Year award from President General Larry Guzy at left. Above, Sr. Vice President Mike Campagnolo presents the Patriot Medal to Charles Dobias for years of dedicated service to the ILSSAR itself and to many community projects.

## GGRC members travel to Indiana to honor George Rogers Clark

By Lola DeGroff

Five members of the General George Rogers Clark Chapter, Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution, paid tribute to their chapter's namesake on May 26.

Chapter president Charles Dobias, vice president Robert Ridenour, registrar Jim DeGroff, and members Philip Bailey and Richard Ruedin traveled to Vincennes, Indiana, to participate in ceremonies at the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park sponsored by the Indiana SAR to honor Clark. DeGroff represented the chapter in placing a wreath in front of the statue of Clark.

George Rogers Clark, a surveyor and militia officer during the Revolutionary War, was the highest ranking military officer on the northwestern frontier. He is best known for leading a small force of about 175 men across and through the freezing waters of Illinois country to capture the British-held Fort Sackville at Vincennes during February 1779. After two days of fighting Gov. Hamilton and his 600 British and native American troops surrendered to Lt. Col. Clark's force.



Compatriot Jim DeGroff prepares to salute after placing the chapter wreath in front of the statue of George Rogers Clark.



GGRC Chapter members from left, Philip Bailey, Charles Dobias, Jim DeGroff, Robert Ridenour and Richard Ruedin, stand in front of the statue of George Rogers Clark after the ceremony.

# General George Rogers Clark Chapter

## Spreading the SAR message with Geocaching

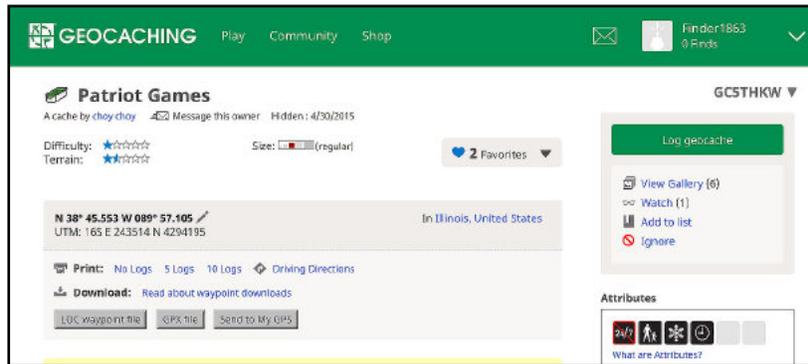
**Editor's Note:** At the May BOM Mtg. President General Larry Guzy spoke very positively about using geocaching to teach history and promote the SAR to many thousands of citizens using the web and smart-phones. GGRC President Charles Dobias has started doing this and here is his story.

By Charles Dobias

It was May 5, 2015, when I nervously opened my first geocaching email. "Nice Placement!" it began. "Good coordinates made for an enjoyable search - Some interesting memorials in this nice well-kept cemetery - Appreciate the history and the invitation! - Thanks for expending the time and effort to create and place this cache - It is appreciated!" I was ecstatic that my first attempt had been successful. "But what," you ask, "is a geocache"? Let me start from the beginning.

A few weeks before my daughter and her husband had introduced me to geocaching. I spent a pleasant weekend with them as we drove about Southern Illinois with our eyes glued to our cell phones, searching for the GPS coordinates we had input. Using our phones and the clues we found on the Geocaching web site, we quickly found three sites within a distance of about four miles. While the sites we located that day were rather innocuous, I began to see the possibilities of geocaching as a teaching tool to inform people about local history and the SAR. So I began my research.

I started with the geocaching web site at [www.geocaching.com/play/search](http://www.geocaching.com/play/search). After reading the instructions it offered, I realized that two locations closely related to our Chapter would make great geocaches. First, we had our Patriot grave markers for six Revolutionary War veterans as well as three veterans of the War of 1812. They were buried at the top of a hill in a portion (known as the Nix-Judy Pioneer Cemetery) of a larger cemetery. At the bottom of the hill was an SAR Cemetery Marker, which had been placed the previous year and which featured the names of the Patriots and their graves atop the hill. The location was very accessible (less than a mile off I-270), was of historical significance, and the plaque had been erected by our SAR Chapter. The second location was about two miles away, also within a short distance of the



A 'details page' above and a map of Glen Carbon area geocaches below.



Interstate. Oaklawn Cemetery was the site of our Chapter's Wreaths Across American ceremony and contained the graves of 40 patriots/veterans who had served in wars from the War of 1812 through the Korean War. After selecting these locations, I then began to build my geocache page.

I built my geocache page online at <https://www.geocaching.com/> after creating my own (free) account. I first read through all of the guidance to gain an understanding of what was needed. I also viewed several existing geocaches to see the variety of ways to make my caches more interesting and to get an idea of their "naming convention."

**The details page** was also created online. This involves several steps, but the written instructions are a great help. The contents of the container are most important, as this is what you want the finder to see. You want it to be interesting but also fit into your container. I recommend laminating paper items to previous damage from moisture. I saved my work on my computer so I can more easily update or replace when needed.

**The first step** is to create a details page for each site. The site will be identified by a name, which you select. Your task is to find a name that will catch peoples' interest and make them curious enough to click on your site. Perhaps it was a little corny, but for the first site I chose "Don't Say Nix, Judy!"

**Then**, you must furnish details on the site, such as size of container used as the cache, dif-

ficulty in finding, terrain accessibility, and – most important – geographic coordinates. Next, you add a written description. This is where you are free to provide details on why the cache is important or even to supply a short history lesson! Lastly, you can offer additional hints (which may be "encrypted").

I followed the same process with our other site which (because it contained 40 veterans) I labeled "Patriot Games". Part of the detail page is provided above to better illustrate.

**Once your page is created**, then you must build the actual geocache. This will consist of an appropriately-sized waterproof container which will hold the information you want to impart; a log in which finders can write the date, their names, and comments; and a pencil. In addition to the log, most geocachers go online and post their comments to your details page, which generates an email direct to you. As you can see, there is much room for creativity, so let your imagination run free!

**The last step** is to physically hide your geocache container at the location. Hopefully you determined the location beforehand, as you'll need to know it before you prepare your details page. I recommend that you check out the geocaching web site for full instructions on how to build a geocache as well as hints on preparing and hiding your container.

As near as I can tell, the map on the website shows all geocaches in Illinois, and I haven't been able to determine if there is a way to categorize sites by subject. There is a feature called a Pocket Query, but that requires a Premium membership, which I don't have. I tried exploring the subject, but it wouldn't let me in.

Since the initial email, I've received over 150 messages commenting positively on my geocaches. Common terms include "sweet!, cool!, and awesome!" Others are more specific: "Lots of history here – thanks!", "Great cache, great history", "very creative" and even "thanks for bringing me here." Such responses indicate that I'm achieving the goal of teaching history and an appreciation for our veterans, as well as publicizing our Chapter and the SAR. Building geocaches is not difficult, and it is a fun way to spread the news about local history and the SAR.

# Springfield Chapter



Above, Lou Myers received the Bronze Good Citizenship medal for his tireless work for veterans. He is working now to get a fifth veterans' home built in the Chicago area. At left, outgoing President Toby Chamberlain congratulates incoming President Richard Chamblin who in return presented him with an engraved wall clock.

Compatriot Richard Chamblin displays his State Medal of Distinguished Service. It is the highest medal that can be awarded by a state president during his term for superior service to a state society.



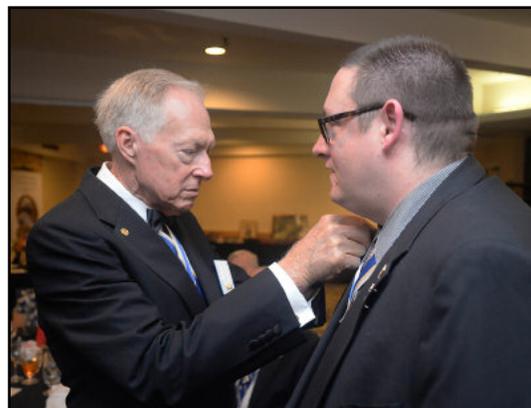
## Springfield compatriots receive much deserved commendations at BOM dinner



Mike Campagnolo, left, congratulates Compatriot Ron Peck who received a standing ovation for being awarded the Patriot Medal for many different worthwhile and important activities both inside the SAR and outside the SAR in service to the general community.



Above, Karl Reed and Drew Robinson display their Roger Sherman certificates and medals.



President General Larry Guzy affixes the George Washington Fellow pin on new GWF member Drew Robinson.

# Kishwaukee Chapter

## Plaque unveiled in Belvidere for two Revolutionary War Patriots



Two Revolutionary War Patriots, Timothy Lewis and Thomas Hart, were honored Saturday, June 16, at The Belvidere Cemetery in Belvidere. Descendents of Revolutionary War Patriot Lewis: Bruce Lewis and Maxine Lewis Smith, were greeted at right by Kishwaukee President George Graham before the ceremony began. The Fox Valley Chapter Color Guard, including Kishwaukee Compatriots Ray Beets and Rich Stabenow bring in the colors, above. More info on Lewis' and Hart's service can be found at [www.rrstar.com/news/20180612/ceremony-to-honor-2-revolutionary-war-veterans-buried-in-belvidere-cemetery](http://www.rrstar.com/news/20180612/ceremony-to-honor-2-revolutionary-war-veterans-buried-in-belvidere-cemetery)



Bruce Lewis and Maxine Lewis Smith Display a Gadsden Flag at their ancestor's grave, above. At right L-R: Ray Beets, George Graham, Ron Feldman, Bruce Lewis, Maxine Lewis Smith, Rich Stabenow, Jon Fixmer, and Mike Campagnolo are shown with the new historical marker. Patriot Thomas Hart's story is on the reverse side of the marker.



# Ft. Dearborn Chapter



## Chapter members honored at BOM Dinner

At left, Bill Wheeler receives the Man Of The Year from PG Guzy for his many projects and offices he holds, especially involving electronic technology. At right, Toby Chamberlain, Springfield Chapter, and John Dyrud hold their Meritorious Service awards.



# Fox Valley Chapter

## Patriot's Historical Marker Unveiled

On May 19, FV members honored Patriot Daniel Burroughs during a ceremony in Griswold Cemetery outside Plano, Illinois.



Burroughs volunteered no less than four different times and served honorably, including in the pivotal Battle of Saratoga.

After the war, he settled in Vermont for 17 years, then moved to Ohio. Finally, he headed west to Kane County.

He was 88 when he passed away on October 18, 1843.



The Fox Valley Color Guard brings the colors in, passing Daniel Burrough's tombstone visible at right, above.



After the ceremony, Mike Campagnolo presented state awards to L-R: Ted Miller, Bronze Color Guard Medal and Certificate; Jon Fixmer, Special Certificate for attending the General Washington Tomb Vigil; and Chip Dawes, Silver Color Guard Medal and Vigil Certificate.

## FV compatriots honored at BOM Dinner

At left, Senior Vice President Mike Campagnolo congratulates FV Compatriot Scott Sanders for being awarded the Patriot Medal for his SAR service. At right, Mike displays his Meritorious Service Medal and certificate.



# American Bicentennial Chapter

## Members honor Past President Burton Showers



From left, Mike Cobb, Chuck Combs, Geoffrey Thompson, Bruce Wright, Burton Showers (seated), Jeremy Rogers, Paul Douglas, and William Braden.

After the February ABC meeting several chapter members met at the home of past Chapter President Burton Showers to present Mr. Showers with Emeritus, a 40 year Membership Award and certifi-

cates. Past ABC president Mike Cobb was also awarded a medal and certificate for extensive service to the SAR.

The February 2018 chapter meeting of the Illinois American Bicentennial Chapter included two speakers. Larry Wade gave a speech on the ancestry of the Wade family from the 1200's to the time of his Wade ancestor's Revolutionary War service, including a stirring story of revenge taken for British and Hessian atrocities.

Next, Brian Clauss, Director of the Veterans Legal Support Center at the John Marshall Law School in Chicago spoke on the center's program for assisting veterans with contacting the VA and other legal issues. Mr. Clauss related how the center emphasizes informal meetings and low stress discussions. He said that there are many servicewomen experiencing PTSD and other service related injuries, and that many Illinois veterans come from rural areas where legal assistance is difficult to obtain.

Mr. Clauss encourages veterans that need assistance with VA and other legal issues to contact the center. The students and attorneys there will assist with any issue. Mr. Clauss demonstrated the caring attitude of the center by immediately assisting one WWII veteran in the audience with advice on VA benefits that the member should rightfully be receiving. The center's legal services are free and its website is [www.jmls.edu/clinics/veterans/](http://www.jmls.edu/clinics/veterans/).

# Ewington Chapter

The Ewington Chapter, Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution, recognized 35 outstanding seniors from local high schools during a ceremony at the First Baptist Church in Effingham on April 17.

Many students were not able to attend as they were participating in baseball, softball and track events that had been rescheduled

due to inclement weather.

24 Students attended and received the Outstanding Citizenship Lapel Pin and a certificate. The SAR Outstanding Citizenship award is presented to recognize the recipient's furthering of American citizenship principles.

Each school nominated a student based on his or her dependability, cooperative spirit,

leadership, service to their school and community, evidence of personal values and patriotism.

Ewington Chapter Chairman Larry Smith said, "I am amazed by all these students have already accomplished. We are pleased to honor them and know that they will continue to do great things."

# Captain Elijah Smith Chapter



Compatriot Sid Welles holds his Roger Sherman medal and certificate.

# Lewis & Clark Chapter

Compatriots Dan Crafton, in uniform, and Stephen Bradley, Springfield Chapter, display their Roger Sherman medals and certificates.



# Ft. Armstrong Chapter



Tom Ashby received The Silver Roger Sherman medal at the May Board of Managers Meeting in Springfield for his outstanding service to the SAR at the chapter, state, and national levels.

# Long Knives Chapter



## Chapter members receive awards at BOM Dinner

Franz Herder congratulates the Color Guardsman Of The Year Long Knives Compatriot John Cramer.



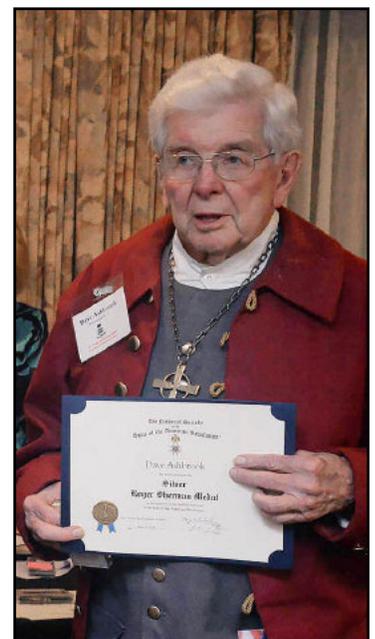
Four RW Patriots: Peter Meisenheimer, Adam Clapp, Christopher Lyerle, and Jacob Hileman were buried in St John's Cemetery in Union County. The chapter held a grave marking ceremony June 9 to honor their memory.



# General Joseph Bartholomew Chapter



Pictured above are recipients of GJB's annual Good Citizenship awards. GJB held its annual recognition banquet April 12. This year marks the 19th year the program has been held since its inception in 2000. Individuals from the community and students were presented with SAR Good Citizenship Certificates, SAR Pins, and Pocket US Constitutions with two students awarded \$1,000 Scholarships. At right, Long-time ILSSAR Chaplain and General Joseph Bartholomew Compatriot Dave Ashbrook displays the Roger Sherman medal he received at May's annual award dinner.





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## *Eagle Scout Award*



Eagle Scout Chairman George Tinkham congratulates Noah Stull for receiving the ILSSAR Eagle Scout award at May's annual awards luncheon. They are flanked by Noah's parents Robert and Michelle Stull.