America's 250th Anniversary—1776-Summer 2026

The Illinois Patriot

Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution
Illinois-sar.org

Illinois Society President Message

Greetings, Illinois Society Compatriots. I trust you are as excited about 2026 as I am. I encourage all of you to take full advantage of this historic time by participating in America 250 events, engaging with the public, and inviting prospective members to join our Society.

Our Patriot ancestors could not have imagined that their bold acts of resistance in Boston Harbor, Lexington and Concord, and Moores Creek Bridge would ignite a decade of brutal warfare. Nor could they have foreseen the enduring Republic that would rise from their sacrifices. Guided by their faith in self-governance, individual liberty, and the rule of law, they set in motion events that continue to define our nation.

Their legacy calls us to remain vigilant guardians of the freedoms they secured. As we move through 2026—America's 250th Anniversary year—the Illinois Society's activity level remains high, greatly increasing our visibility and impact across the state. This milestone is one of the key events of the Decade of the American Revolution, and we continue to celebrate it through meaningful public service, education, and fellowship.

In May, several chapters held multiple Liberty Tree ceremonies, including several hosted by the Long Knives Chapter, while others marched in Memorial Day parades. In June, the Captain Zeally Moss Chapter dedicated the Revolutionary War Patriot Plaza in Peoria alongside the DAR and the Springdale Historic Preservation Foundation. The Fox Valley Chapter supported the Flag Day observance at the National Flag Day Monument in Batavia with the Daughters of the American Revolution and the City of Batavia. Liberty Tree dedications continued across Illinois throughout June, bringing the ILSSAR's total well into double digits. Please consider submitting information and photographs from your Liberty Tree ceremonies to the NSSAR Liberty Tree Project website so your chapter's efforts can be permanently recorded: https://www.piedmontchapter.org/Pages/NSSARLibertyTreeProject.htm

As we enter July, chapters statewide are participating in Fourth of July parades and ceremonies, as well as July 8 commemorations of the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence. Many are partnering with local VFWs, American Legions, and historical societies. The Illinois Society is also supporting a virtual American Sign Language presentation of the Declaration. There is still time to organize a reading—visit hawaiiamerica250.org for resources and registration. Check our Facebook page for details. Many more chapter events have taken place and deserve recognition. I encourage every chapter to actively use the ILSSAR Facebook page (facebook.com/ILLSSAR) to promote events and connect with fellow SAR and DAR groups. Please share upcoming activities and photos with Society Secretary Matt Clark at matt.clark@illinois-sar.org so they can be promoted on our Facebook page. If your chapter is not yet on Facebook, please forward notices to me or Secretary Matt Clark. Matt

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The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

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Illinois Society President Message-Continued

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has done an outstanding job adding posts, events, and linking our state page with many ILSSAR, SAR, and DAR chapters across the country.

As our chapters promote awareness, I also encourage you to recognize neighbors and businesses through Flag Certificate presentations. 2026 is an ideal year to honor those who proudly display the American Flag.

Outreach remains vital to the continued success of our Society. Engage the public, answer questions, and invite prospective members to join. Whether through solemn cemetery markings, lively parades, or Declaration readings, your participation matters. Each of us is a living link between the founding generation and future Americans. This is the sacred trust they placed in our hands. Let us honor it with the same resolve as our Patriot ancestors.

Thank you for your continued dedication to liberty and patriotism.

Yours in Patriotic Service,
Jeff Case
State President
Illinois Society, Sons of the American Revolution

August 8 Illinois Society Meeting Details

The August meeting of the Illinois Society will be held at the American Legion #210 in Effingham on Saturday, August 8, 10 am-2 pm.

Compatriot Chris Suerdieck of Ewington Chapter will present a program on Mattoon's role in the Civil War.

You may register at this link: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/12MG7F8uqt?origin=lprLink . **Registration is due JULY 31.** Lunch will be provided by the Legion, with cost to be determined. Please come with cash, check, or use Zelle or invoice.

The Ladies Auxiliary will hold a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are $1 each.

The Illinois Patriot
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Illinois Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
Published Quarterly (Jan/Apr/July/Oct)
Jason Butterick, Editor

Submissions, Photographs, Articles, and Chapter announcements/events can be submitted at the following e-mail address:
kybrd76@hotmail.com

Editor reserves right to edit submitted materials for space.
The Illinois Patriot Fall 2026 (October 2026)
Deadline for Submissions: ***Sunday, September 20.***

A Decade of Stewardship– A New Chapter of Service

From the Grassroots to the State Level

When we look at the strength of the Illinois Society, we aren't looking at a single entity; we are looking at a tapestry of local chapters. My own journey in the SAR began in those very meeting rooms nearly thirteen years ago. When my membership was approved September 11, 2013—under the guidance and sponsorship of Compatriot Richard E. Chamblin (Grandfather)—I was driven by the same desire that motivates many of our new compatriots: a profound respect for history, a dedication to genealogy, and a wish to honor the ancestors who risked everything to build this nation.

My roots were planted in local chapter life, serving as Vice President and Secretary for both the Stephen Decatur Chapter and the Springfield Chapter, eventually having the distinct honor of serving as President of the Springfield Chapter. Those years taught me that the lifeblood of our society is found at the chapter level. It is where the real work of patriotism happens—one school presentation, one youth award, and one community parade at a time. Every lesson I have carried into state leadership was forged right there.

The Names That Drive Our Mission

Like many of you, my dedication to this work is fueled by the personal histories we carry. When I look at my own lineage, I see a profound cross-section of the Revolutionary War. I am reminded that the fight for independence required every tier of society and every corner of the colonies.

My own roster of twelve Patriot ancestors serves as a daily reminder of the vast scope of our mission:

- **The Officers and Militia**: Men like Ensign Titus Hinman of the Connecticut Militia (who gave his life at the Wyoming Massacre on July 3, 1778) and Captain George Head of the New York Militia.
- **The Line and Musicians**: Men like Sergeant John Coy Sr. and Private David Crady, who served as a Fifer in the Maryland line, alongside Privates Alexander Wood, John Coy, and John Barnett of Virginia and Maryland.
- **The Patriotic Service**: The unsung heroes who sustained the army through civil service and supply lines, including William Butcher, Jesse Dixon, Moses Teague, Jacob Utterback, and Henry Salisbury.

Whether they wore the epaulets of an officer, marched with a fife, or provided the crops and cattle that kept Washington's army fed, every single one of their contributions matters. It is our sacred duty to ensure none of those names fade into the margins of history.

A Decade at the Administrative Helm

It was with those ancestors in mind that I stepped up to serve at the state level. In 2016, I was trusted with the responsibility of serving as your State Secretary, a role I held for a full decade until this past May. Combined with taking on the responsibilities of State Treasurer in 2022, the last ten years have given me a unique view of the massive administrative machinery required to keep our society moving forward.

Managing the records, application pipelines, and financial accounts for an organization of our size is a quiet, often invisible task. However, it is the bedrock upon which all our public-facing work stands. Whether it was streamlining communication or building long-term financial models to secure our future, my goal has always been to leave the state's infrastructure stronger than I found it.

Being recognized with the Distinguished Service Certificate this past May was a deeply humbling milestone. But as any officer knows, this work is never a solo endeavor. I owe an immense debt of gratitude to my wife, Tina, whose enduring patience and support over the last thirteen years have made this extensive multi-role service possible.

The Road Ahead: Embracing the Future

This past May also marked a major transition for me personally, as I stepped down as your State Secretary to assume the role of State Sr. VP.

As I step into this new executive capacity, my focus shifts from day-to-day administrative details to the broader, strategic vision of the Illinois Society. We are living in a time when the preservation of American history and the defense of our founding principles are more critical than ever. My promise to you is to bring the same work ethic, operational knowledge, and fiscal responsibility that defined my time as Secretary and Treasurer into this new chapter of leadership.

I challenge every compatriot to look at their own chapter and the state organization. If you have been sitting on the sidelines, step up. If you are a chapter officer, consider how your skills can serve us at the state level. Together, we will ensure that the legacy of our Patriot ancestors continues to burn brightly across Illinois.

In Patriotism,
Drew Robinson

Welcome New Compatriots & In Memoriam

American Bicentennial
Joseph Paul Sener, P.E.

Ewington
Jerry Dean Donoho

Fox Valley
Erik George Ford
Matthew Lucas Hanson

General Joseph Bartholomew
Tracy Lee Cummims

Kishwaukee
James Worth Case
Stuart Worth Case

Lewis & Clark
Frank William Bonan

Long Knives
Barry Leonard Vinyard

Piankeshaw
David Karl Morris
Darius Reinhart Eveland

Springfield
Joe Franklin Goodner

Getting to Know Your New Illinois Society Secretary

My name is Matt Clark, and I am honored to serve as the Secretary of the Illinois Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

I am a member and Past President of the Fox Valley Chapter SAR, where I have enjoyed working alongside dedicated compatriots to promote patriotism, preserve our Revolutionary War heritage, and support educational and community programs throughout our region.

Outside of SAR, I serve as President of the Pingree Grove Fire Protection District, serve on the Board of the Three Fires Council of Scouting America, and own and operate businesses in Illinois and California. History, service, and community involvement have always been important parts of my life.

As State Secretary, I look forward to supporting our officers, chapters, and members across Illinois. I am committed to strengthening communication, preserving our records, and advancing the mission of the SAR as we honor the sacrifices and legacy of our Patriot ancestors.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve and look forward to working with all of you.

Veteran Recognition Made Simple: State Sponsored Medals Now Available

Our compatriots have served, and the Sons of the American Revolution has two standing ways to honor that service. The Veterans Committee wants every chapter to take advantage of both.

1. The NSSAR Certificate of Patriotism

Through the National Society's Veterans Recognition Committee, any compatriot who served in the U.S. Armed Forces,and was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, is eligible for a Certificate of Patriotism honoring their service to country. It's a simple process: · The compatriot completes the Multi-Corps Survey Form. · The form is emailed to VetCorps@sar.org.

· Once approved, the certificate is signed by the President General and sent through the State Society to the chapter for presentation at a chapter, state, or national event.

This also enrolls the compatriot in the appropriate SAR Military Veterans Corps. Chapter Veterans chairmen: make it a goal to get every eligible member recognized.

2. ILSSAR Will Sponsor War Service & Military Service Medals

Here's the news worth circling. The Illinois Society will sponsor the cost of the SAR War Service Medal and Military Service Medal for eligible compatriots when chapters submit the application.

A quick distinction:

· War Service Medal: for service during a recognized period of war or armed conflict (with bronze bars indicating the specific period).

· Military Service Medal: for honorable military service that doesn't otherwise qualify for the War Service Medal.

To take advantage, a chapter submits:

1. The completed Compatriot's Military Service Reporting Form (the standard NSSAR application).

2. A copy of the compatriot's DD214 (or equivalent service documentation).

Submit these through the ILSSAR Veterans Committee (bill.wheeler@illinois-sar.org), and the state will cover the medal so your chapter can make the presentation.

Bottom line: There's no reason an eligible compatriot should go unrecognized. The certificate costs nothing but a form, and the medals are now sponsored by the state. Let's get these into the hands, and onto the chests, of the men who earned them.

Questions? Contact Bill Wheeler (bill.wheeler@illinois-sar.org) with the ILSSAR Veterans Committee.

Chapter Capsules
News from Our Chapters

American Bicentennial
Eagle Scout Presentation

On April 24, 2026 the American Bicentennial Chapter attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony of Russell Snider of Troop 159. The Chapter awarded Russell Snider with the Outstanding Citizen lapel pin and certificate, the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate, and the SAR Eagle Scout Patch and Certificate. The ceremony was held at St. Simon's Church in Arlington Heights, IL. The awards were presented by Compatriot Jeremy Rogers, the Chapter's President.

JROTC Awards Presentations

On May 8, 2026 the chapter attended the Waukegan Army JROTC Awards Night at the Lakehurst Banquet Hall. Compatriot Jeffrey Leach, Chairman of the Military Awards Committee presented SGM Daniela Cordero with the SAR JROTC Medal and Certificate.

On May 13, 2026 the chapter attended the District 214 JROTC Awards night at Maine High School Gymnasium in Wheeling, IL. Compatriot Jeffrey Leach, Chairman of the Military Awards Committee presented Dominic Watts with the SAR JROTC Medal and Certificate.

Chapter Meeting

On May 31st, 2026 the chapter had Sarah Sullivan, the Department Chair Economics, Political Science, History at McHenry County College give a presentation on the process of statehood for Vermont, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

The chapter also induced three new members: Erik Lambertsen, Dean Lambertsen, and Joseph Sener.

Eagle Scout Presentations

The chapter attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony of Zachary Straube of Troop 95. The Chapter awarded Zachary Straube with the Outstanding Citizen lapel pin and certificate, the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate, and the SAR Eagle Scout Patch and Certificate. The ceremony was held at Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Elk Grove, IL. The awards were presented by Compatriot Paul Douglas.

On June 9, 2026 the chapter attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony of Ryan Cichon of Troop 159. The Chapter awarded Ryan Cichon with the Outstanding Citizen lapel pin and certificate, the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate, and the SAR Eagle Scout Patch and Certificate. The ceremony was held at St. Simon's Church in Arlington Heights, IL. The awards were presented by Compatriot Jeremy Rogers, the Chapter's President.

Cemetery Dedication Ceremony

On July 4, 2026 the American Bicentennial Chapter along with the Eli Skinner Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter will attend the Elk Grove Cemetery dedication ceremony. Elk Grove Cemetery contains the graves of Revolutionary War soldiers Eli Skinner and Aaron Miner.

Captain Zeally Moss
Cemetery Dedication Ceremony

As our nation prepares to celebrate "America 250″—the Semiquincentennial of the United States in 2026—Springdale Cemetery is proud to announce a landmark project to honor the local heroes who fought for that independence. Through a collaborative effort between the Springdale Historic Preservation Foundation and the Peoria chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), we are undertaking a major renovation to create the Revolutionary War Patriot Plaza. This revitalized memorial will not only beautify our grounds but will finally give three of Peoria's Revolutionary War veterans the recognition they deserve.

Fox Valley
America 250 Activities

The Fox Valley Chapter, has enjoyed a busy and successful spring as members continue supporting America 250 initiatives and promoting Revolutionary War history throughout northern Illinois.

On May 2, chapter members attended the Illinois SAR Youth Awards Banquet in Springfield, where Fox Valley Chapter-sponsored JROTC Essay Contest winners Cadet Alexa Gilbert of Lincoln-Way Central High School and Cadet Jisela Ulloa of Joliet Central High School were recognized for

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Members and leaders of Scout Troop 920 received the General Joseph Bartholomew Chapter SAR 2026 Flag Day Commendation Award, a 250th Anniversary American flag, and a contribution toward their flag repair and maintenance fund in recognition of their service, leadership, and commitment to patriotic citizenship through the troop's Fifty Flags Display and community activities. Troop 920's "50 Flags" Display served as the centerpiece for the event.

Left to Right: Richard Ruedin, Marcus Hoffman, George Rogers Clark Chapter President Eric Reelitz and Albert Oleson presented an Eagle Scout Recognition certificate on March 28, 2026

Compatriot Mike Snedeker of Elijah Smith Chapter presented the ROTC Silver Medal to Cadet Alexis Strack, a Junior in the program, at the WIU Awards Ceremony on May 7th, 2026.

Your Chapter News Missing in the Illinois Patriot?

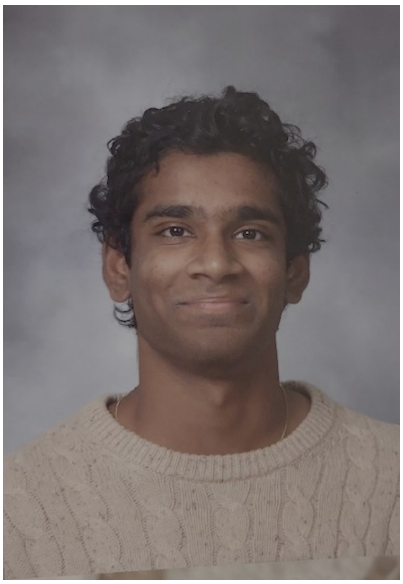
Submit Your News Here!

Attn: Illinois Patriot

kybrd76@hotmail.com

Captain Zeally Moss Color Guard Compatriots Keith Bonnett, James Miller, Thomas Ashby, and Douglas Holmes stand at the dedication of the Revolutionary War Plaza in Peoria's Springdale Cemetery on June 14, 2026.

Long Knives Compatriots gather at the log cabin near the Thebes Historic Courthouse for A Salute to Liberty held on June 14.



Vivaan Reddy Named Illinois Society Rumbaugh Oration Winner

Vivaan Reddy, a senior at Normal Community High School in Normal, Illinois, has been named the 2026 Illinois State winner of the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest.

Vivaan first earned recognition as the local General Joseph Bartholomew chapter winner before advancing to statewide competition, where his original historical oration was selected as Illinois' top entry. The national competition will be held during SAR Congress in Greensboro, NC this July.

His speech focused on Penelope Barker and the Edenton Tea Party, emphasizing the courage of ordinary citizens during the Revolutionary era and drawing compelling parallels to civic participation and responsible citizenship in modern America.

The Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest remains one of the SAR's most important patriotic education programs, encouraging students to explore Revolutionary War history while developing public speaking skills and a deeper appreciation for America's founding principles.

Vivaan received a $500 award from the General Joseph Bartholomew Chapter and an additional $1,000 Illinois Society SAR award in recognition of his achievement.

Vivaan is an accomplished student leader and community volunteer, serving as:

· Co-Captain of the Normal Community High School Varsity Speech Team

· Co-President / Secretary of his Class Board

· Student Equity Action Team Representative

· Illinois 4-H Youth Leadership Team member

· BN Youth Volunteering Corps Co-Chair

He plans to attend Illinois State University to study Legal Studies, with future plans to attend law school and pursue a career in justice and public service.

Reddy is following a recent champion.

In 2024, Shreya Nallamothu advanced through chapter, state, and national competition to become the National Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Champion.

The Decade of the American Revolution 2023-2033

As we have passed the milestone of the 250th Anniversary of the signing and approval of the Declaration of Independence this year, we are reminded that this is but one of many observances available to commemorate in the Decade of the American Revolution.

The rest of the decade series follows:

⇒ 2027 Battle of Saratoga
⇒ 2028 French Alliance
⇒ 2029 Siege of Vincennes/ Fort Sackville, Battle of Kettle Creek
⇒ 2030 Battle of Kings Mountain
⇒ 2031 Siege of Yorktown
⇒ 2032 Battle of Blue Licks
⇒ 2033 Treaty of Paris.

State Societies and local chapters are encouraged to coordinate and host observances for each of the highlighted national observances. Local chapters should connect with D.A.R. chapters, Boy Scout troops, and other partnerships and organizations to coordinate a public event or activity highlighting the historical milestone. As was spoken at a previous National Congress, "Just because the historical event did not happen in your area does not mean your area cannot have an event observing the historic anniversary."

The America 250th SAR Programs Committee has collected programs, materials, videos, and more to help your chapter organize and resource teachers, students, and the general public about the significance and impact of the Revolutionary War. You can review these resources at their website: america250sar.org

From the Desk of Ladies Auxiliary President Amanda Butterick

The Illinois Society Ladies Auxiliary will be holding a 50/50 raffle at the Illinois Society meeting on August 8. Tickets will be $1 each, and the drawing will be held following the lunch. You must be present to win.

A short business meeting will be held, followed by a thank you card to veterans project. All women are welcome to come.

Have You Checked Out the Revolutionary War Rarities Podcast?

It provides 8-10 minute videos telling the rarely known, rarely taught stories of the American Revolution.

Check It Out Here:

fastfunhistory.com

GRAVE MARKING CEREMONY for
REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOT
JEHIAL HARMON
GREENWOOD CEMETERY, ROCKFORD, IL
10 OCTOBER, 2026, 11:00 AM

Memorial plaque of similar design placed in 2024 for Patriot Alexander Thompson

PLEASE JOIN US WHEN THE KISHWAUKEE CHAPTER, ILLINOIS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION HONOR REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIER JEHIAL HARMON WITH A BRONZE HISTORICAL MARKER JUST NORTH OF THE CORNER OF AUBURN AND MAIN STREETS.

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their outstanding essays and awarded scholarships.

Memorial Day Observances

Throughout Memorial Day weekend, chapter members participated in ceremonies across the Fox Valley region, including the City of Elgin Memorial Day observance at Bluff City Cemetery and the Elmhurst Memorial Day Parade, where compatriots proudly represented the Sons of the American Revolution.

America 250 activities accelerated on June 13 as Fox Valley Chapter members participated in Revolutionary War Day at Cantigny Park. During the event, the chapter assisted with historical interpretation and participated in the dedication of a new Liberty Tree, continuing the chapter's leadership in establishing Liberty Trees across Illinois as lasting symbols of American liberty and civic engagement.

Flag Day Observance

On June 14, Flag Day, members joined the Illinois State Organization, DAR, and community leaders in Batavia for the dedication of Phase I of the new Liberty Education Plaza at the Flag Day Monument. The plaza serves as a legacy project commemorating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States and will provide future generations with opportunities to learn about the principles and sacrifices that establish our nation.

General George Rogers Clark

Memorial Day Observance

On Monday, May 25, 2026, the General George Rogers Clark Chapter participated in the Alton, Illinois, Memorial Day Parade. This was the 159th occurance of the Alton Memorial Day Parade. It is one of the oldest continuous running Memorial Day Parades in the United States.

Eagle Scout Award

On March 28, 2026, an Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held at The First Methodist Church in Godfrey, Illinois.

The scout attaining the rank of Eagle Scout was Marcus Hoffmann of Troop 8007 in Alton, Illinois.

ROTC Award

On April 23, 2026, the ROTC unit at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville held their annual awards ceremony. The ROTC was presented to Cadet Cody Lang by the GGRCC ROTC Awards Chairman, Dennis Lybarger.

Prayer Breakfast

On June 13, 2026, a Community Prayer Breakfast for God, Home, and Country was held at Julia's Banquet Center in East Alton, Illinois. This event was in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. There were over 60 persons in attendance.

America 250 Garden Party

On June 13, 2026, the Bond County Historical Society held an America 250 Garden Party celebrating 250 year of American Independence. This event was held on the Bond County Museum Grounds in Greenville, Illinois.

Members of both the Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution were in attendance.

One of the highlights of the party was the dedication of two mature cedar trees on the museum grounds as Liberty Trees. However, the stone cutter made a mistake so the dedicating stone was not installed and will have to be replaced.

Entertainment was supplied in the form of patriotic music played by the Greenville Municipal Band.

General Joseph Barthlomew

High School Awards

The General Joseph Bartholomew Chapter recognized 19 outstanding high school seniors from McLean and Woodford Counties at its Annual Outstanding Citizenship Awards Luncheon held April 9, 2026, at the Bloomington Country Club. Students were honored for citizenship, leadership, scholarship, and community service. Four adult Outstanding Citizenship Awards were also presented for exemplary service to their communities and the chapter. Two $1,000 student scholarships were awarded through the Arthur & Burdena King Endowment. Keynote speaker Dr. James E. Shadid, President of Bradley University, challenged students to embrace the responsibilities of citizenship and service, reminding them that "Citizen" is the highest office in the land.

ROTC Cadet Recognition

The chapter proudly recognized Cadet Corey Urban of the Illinois State University Redbird Battalion with the SAR Silver ROTC Medal, a $500 scholarship, certificate of recognition, and chapter challenge coin during the battalion's annual Change of Command Ceremony on April 30, 2026.

The SAR Silver ROTC Medal recognizes one outstanding cadet annually within each ROTC program for leadership, military bearing, scholarship, and overall excellence.

Cadet Urban is pursuing dual degrees in Finance and Risk Management & Insurance, with a Military Science minor, and is scheduled to graduate in May 2027.

Beginning in Fall 2026, he will serve as Battalion Commander of the Redbird Battalion.

His military accomplishments include Ranger Challenge competition, Air Assault School, Northern Warfare participation, Fort Knox field training, and a U.S. Army JAG internship.

The award was presented by chapter Veterans Committee members Compatriots Randy Boyd and Terry Willis.

Of special note, Compatriot Boyd received the same SAR ROTC recognition as an Illinois State cadet in 1985, creating a meaningful full-circle moment as one generation of Redbird military leadership recognized the next.

Flag Day Observance

The chapter celebrated Flag Day on June 13, 2026, in Normal, Illinois. During the program, Dale Simpson, Flag Day Committee Chair, presented Flag Day Commendation Awards to the Croxton family and Scout Troop 920. Chuck and Brenda Croxton were recognized for their longstanding patriotic display and proper care of the American flag. Troop 920 (W. D. Boyce Council) of Bloomington IL, was honored for its service to the community and its popular Fifty Flags Display, featured at parades, patriot grave marking ceremonies, the Liberty Tree dedication, and other patriotic events. Chapter members also contributed to the troop's flag repair and maintenance fund. The program included a presentation on the history and significance of Flag Day and the importance of passing patriotic traditions to future generations.

Long Knives

Liberty Tree Ceremonies

With summer fast approaching, the Long Knives Chapter has currently completed a total of 7 Liberty Tree ceremonies and planted an additional Liberty Tree at the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. The goal is to have the remaining 9 ceremonies completed by the end of fall. There has been a great deal of support from the community in each county in which the Liberty Trees have been planted, bringing knowledge and enjoyment to each person attending. Speaking of support, the wives of the Long Knives members have also donned period clothing in support of the ceremonies to make the experience complete. Other participants have been given Certificates of Appreciation for their efforts in making the ceremonies a success. Besides, the Liberty Tree ceremonies, the chapter members have been busy participating in other local America 250 parades, celebrations and re-enactments as a group and individually. The summer looks to be busy but filled with enjoyment celebrating America's 250 .

As Abigail Adams said, "Remember the ladies"...

What would we do without them? The Illinois SAR Ladies Auxiliary has raised thousands of dollars to help the Society in carrying out its mission of inspiring patriotism and informing others of the contributions of our revolutionary ancestors.

Membership in the Auxiliary is open to the wives, mothers, daughters, stepdaughters, sisters, aunts, nieces and other women relatives of members of the SAR who are in good standing.

The current dues are $5 per year (which also makes a lady a member of the National Ladies Auxiliary).

The SAR Education Center & Museum Friends Society is a community of supporters dedicated to advancing the mission of the ECM and ensuring that the stories, sacrifices, and ideals of the American Revolution continue to inspire generations to come.

Through annual membership, Friends Society supporters help fund exhibitions, educational programs, collections preservation, student outreach, special events, and new initiatives that bring Revolutionary War history to life for visitors across the nation.

Free Museum admissions, discounts, etc. available. For more information: https://www.sar.org/museum-friends-society-membership/

Illinois Society Sons Of
The American Revolution
999 N. Plaza
Schaumburg, IL 60173

DATES TO REMEMBER

136th National Congress
Koury Convention Center
Greensboro, NC
Friday, July 10—Thursday, July 16

Illinois Society Meeting
American Legion #120 200 W Washington Ave,
Effingham, IL
Saturday, August 8, 10 am-2pm

Great Lakes District Meeting
Grand Haven, MI
Friday, October 23-Saturday, October 24

More Ways To Stay Informed
Here are even more ways to connect with SAR events & news

National Society
sar.org

facebook.com/
sonsoftheamericanrevolution/

Great Lakes District
illinois-sar.org/gld.html

Illinois Society
illinois –sar.org

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.