A Message From The President

By ILSSAR President Richard Chamblin

My visits to chapters began as an obligation to fulfill my duties as president. During the last sixteen months, I have visited eleven of the fourteen chapters in our state. I realized that I was getting an education. I not only learned about what each of the chapters were interested in doing, I learned something about the people involved.

I have experienced chapter events that filled me with pride and impressed me with the amount of work performed to accomplish them. I couldn’t help but note the number of people attending these events and the cooperation of the news media. The news coverage of some events reached areas far beyond the chapter area. One such event by the Long Knives Chapter was covered by a newspaper whose distribution covered Southern Illinois and parts of Kentucky and Indiana. Another was a DAR grave marking with Stephen Decatur Chapter participation that made the Chicago Tribune and a San Francisco paper.

The Lewis and Clark Chapter held the most moving Awards Night where law enforcement and military heroes were honored. The Long Knives Chapter asked me to take part in the SAR funeral services for Bob Morefield. That was also a moving event and definitely appreciated by the family.

The most important part of my SAR education has been the opportunity to get to know more of our members and why and how they conduct SAR business. The ‘How’ is easier to observe than the ‘Why’ because it is action. The interesting thing about the ‘How’ is that it varies from chapter to chapter and presents an opportunity for other chapters to mimic, just as when the Springfield Chapter decided to have its first Cemetery Marking.

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Patriot’s grave marked in unusual Peoria location

The grave marking ceremony of Revolutionary War Patriot Lt. John Dusenberry - June 14, 2019

By Dr. Allan Campbell

The ceremony was performed at the site of the Old French Cemetery in the 400 block of SW Washington St., jointly by the Peoria Chapter NSDAR and the Captain Zeally Moss Chapter. The cemetery, located at the foot of the Bob Michael bridge in downtown Peoria, no longer exists.

Descended from Dutch immigrants arriving in the 1600’s, John Dusenberry was born in New York c. 1754 and enlisted in the service of his country in December 1775. On February 26, 1776, he was appointed First Lieutenant of the 8th Company of the 3rd Regiment of the New York forces of the Continental Army. His commission was signed by John Hancock, then President of the Congress of the United Colonies.

He served under General George Washington through many battles, including

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ILSSAR Treasurer Lee Braden is providing details on the 2020 dues invoicing and payment process.

Members for whom we have a valid email address have received an automated email containing their 2020 invoice details, including a PDF attachment.

The email message contains a link to pay online. ILSSAR Treasurer Lee Braden is providing details on the 2020 dues invoicing and payment process by mail as in previous years. Members receive their paper invoices, they still have the option to pay online through the initial email.

Whether paid online or by mail, all dues payments are still due December 31, 2019.

When paying on the website with the emailed invoice, members will enter the payment amount, payment method, and click “Send payment.”
They asked Dr. Allan Campbell for help and received all the help they needed. The ‘Why’ is much more elusive and probably too complicated for me to discern but isn’t it amazing that so many compatriots volunteer their time and energy to the things they do without any evidence of an expectation of anything in return. So, ask members in other chapters for ideas on how they do something that you might want to do and tell me too.

The contracts are signed and we will be trying out a new BOM location in the Northern Region at the Double Tree Lisle/Naperville (see map below) on November 8 and 9, 2019 in Lisle, IL at 3003 Corporate West Drive, Lisle, IL 60532. Ph: 630.505.0900. Rooms are $111 each night for the SAR rate. Our dinner speaker is Dr Allen Campbell, speaking on Colonial Medicine.

After the success of the last February BOM in Mt Vernon we plan on going back there for the February 2020 BOM. We will be looking at February 8 & 9, 2020. The May 15 & 16, 2020 and August 7 & 8, 2020 BOMs will remain in Springfield and those contracts are already signed. We will need a speaker for the February 2020 BOM in Mt Vernon. If you know of anyone please let me know.

Summer is almost over and the kids are back in school. You should have received your dues notice by now. This year ILSSAR Treasurer Lee Braden sent out dues invoices via e-mail. This will be the first time using this method. I have already heard from some compatriots who thought it was a great idea and plan to pay their dues online.

The goal was to email them out by September 1. Compatriots without email addresses will receive their Dues Invoices by regular mail. We do this so we have time before December 31st to react to those who have not paid. If renewals are not into National by then, members are dropped from the roles and there is a $5 late fee to get each one reinstated. Please get your dues in as soon as possible so your chapter president doesn’t have to start making calls! While you are at it, help our Ladies Auxiliary support us by signing up your wife.

At the last National Congress in Costa Mesa California in July, Compatriot Jim Petre from the Michigan Society was elected to the esteemed position of Vice President General of the Great Lakes District (Illinois, Michigan & Wisconsin).

The Michigan Society SAR will host the Great Lakes District Meeting on Friday October 18th and Saturday October 19th at the Sheraton Ann Arbor in Ann Arbor Michigan. The GLD banquet on Friday and the GLD meeting Saturday morning will be followed by a lunch buffet at noon. State and national officers will be in attendance to meet compatriots, address the group, and answer questions.

Important schedule change in BOM meetings for 2020

A change in plans for future BOM’s in Springfield. (May & August) The Springfield Wyndham hotel that we usually stay at is booked on May 15 & 16, 2020. The Wyndham Springfield offered May 22 & 23, 2020 (Memorial Day weekend) I declined those dates because people will be on vacation or participating in parades.

I booked at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield across the street for May 15 & 16 at a lower room rate of $102 plus tax instead of the Wyndham Springfield price of $121 plus tax.

The August BOM will be at the Wyndham Springfield on August 14 & 15, 2020 instead of August 7 & 8.

This will coincide with the state fair. We will probably not be marching in the Twilight parade on the 13th.

SAR Midwestern delegates head west for the National Congress in California

The Great Lakes District was well represented at the Costa Mesa, CA SAR Congress on July 9. The Great Lakes District Breakfast attendees were GLD VPG Tom Ashby, 1st VP National Ladies Auxiliary Linda Ashby, Michigan SAR President Ken Goodson, Mary Conger, GLD VPG elect Jim Petres, Past VPG Joe Conger, Wisconsin Delegate Ben Hobbins, and Illinois Trustee Toby Chamberlain.
Illinois Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Illinois Society Quarterly BOM Meeting November 8 & 9, 2019
at the DoubleTree by Hilton Lisle/Naperville
3003 Corporate West Drive, Lisle, Illinois 60532

SAR Block of Rooms $109 (plus taxes) per night    Call (630) 505-0900 and ask for the
Sons of the American Revolution group rate    Group Rate Reservation Cutoff is October 18, 2019

Friday, November 8th dinner in the Birch/Hickory Rooms begins at 7pm. We will have a cash bar
and social hour from 6pm to 7pm.
    Following dinner will be our Speaker Dr Allan Campbell on “Colonial Medicine”

Saturday November 9th Board Meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. in the Birch/Hickory Rooms
Saturday November 9th Ladies Auxiliary meeting begins at 8:30 in the Oak Room.
    Followed by Luncheon Buffet starting between 11:45 and noon in the Willow Room.

Member name: ___________________________  Friday Dinner  ___________________________  Saturday Buffet  ___________________________
Spouse name: ___________________________  Friday Dinner  ___________________________  Saturday Buffet  ___________________________
Guest name: ___________________________  Friday Dinner  ___________________________  Saturday Buffet  ___________________________
Chapter: ___________________________  Present Colors in Color Guard Uniform  Yes  No
(We would like the Color Guard to present colors for Friday)
Special Diet needs: ___________________________

Additional Guests may be written on back.

Friday November 8, 2019 Dinner Menu $45, Birch/Hickory Rooms

Entrée  Sauteed Chicken- with preserved lemon gremolata, fresh herb emulsion
Soup    Cream of Chicken & Wild Rice- with preserved lemon gremolata, fresh herb emulsion, toasted
Salads  Hilton House Salad
Starches and Sides  Toasted Orzo-Pine nut pilaf and Grilled Summer Squash
Dessert  Allgauer’s Toffee Cheesecake

Saturday November 9, 2019 Sandwich Tray Buffet Menu $30, Willow Room

Entrees  Selection of Sandwich Halves
Salads  Cole Slaw and Creamy Potato Salad
Starches and Sides  Relish Tray
Dessert  Homemade Brownies

Send completed reservation form and check payable to “ILSSAR” send to:
Compatriot Mike Campagnolo...1196 Cactus Trail... Carol Stream, IL 60188
Cell Phone No. (630) 464-4904
The Orphan Train movement began in the 1800’s when immigrants flooded to America in search of a better life. This wave of immigration overwhelmed some of the cities on the East Coast, especially New York City. By 1830, there were an estimated 30,000 homeless, abandoned or orphaned children in New York City alone. The Children’s Aid Society, the Children’s Village and the New York Foundling Hospital were among several institutions that sought to alleviate the suffering of these children. These institutions gathered groups of children and shipped them along the railways to rural areas, first in the Midwest and eventually across the US and even into Canada. The first “train” took the children to Michigan in 1854 and the last train took them into Texas in 1929.

There were hundreds of Orphan Train stops throughout Illinois along the rail routes. It is estimated that at least 10,000 children were placed in families in Illinois. Advertisements would be circulated announcing the arrival of the train and the need for homes for the children. The children would travel by train to the rural towns where they would be lined up for inspection by prospective parents. Those who were chosen for would begin their new lives and have to leave behind the rest of American society. We hope to have the continued support of the SAR in this project and with our activities throughout the year.

The hope for these children was that they would find loving homes and a chance to not only survive childhood but have the opportunity to flourish. For some children, this was indeed the case. Other orphan train children were not as lucky. Many were overworked and some were abused. Child labor laws began to be passed in the later 1800’s and the foster care system changed to seek to keep families together. The last orphan train left the station in 1929.

ISCAR will raise funds to purchase a bronze memorial bench statue that will sit on the grounds of the Amboy Railroad Depot Museum in Amboy, Illinois. It will feature two children each holding a toy and waiting for a new home. It will be mounted on a cement pad and will feature a small presentation plaque and a standing informational plaque with information about the Orphan Train Movement in Illinois.

In order to raise the funds necessary to complete the project, the members of ISCAR will sell pins, bags and phone pop rings. The pins will sell for $10 each.

The bags will be similar to the very popular blue DAR bags, only they will be red and say CAR! The bags will sell for $5. If $10 is spent on the bags, we will fill them with school supplies and send them to the DAR sponsored schools for their fall term. Finally, we will sell pop up ring phone stands. These will also say CAR on them and will sell for $3 each.

For more information or to purchase merchandise or to schedule Bryn to speak to your chapter, please email orphantrain@illinoiscar.org.

By Bryn Callahan
I.S.C.A.R. President

Greetings to the members of the Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution from the Illinois Society Children of the American Revolution! This year as President of the ISCAR, it is my honor to lead the state society and I have chosen the theme “ALL ABOARD THE ORPHAN TRAIN”. We will be learning about the brave boys and girls that travelled on the Orphan Train and how this movement affected the lives of its riders and the rest of American society. We hope to have the continued support of the SAR in this project and with our activities throughout the year.

The Orphan Train comes to Illinois thanks to I.S.C.A.R. President Bryn Callahan

Stephen Decatur Chapter

Editor’s Note: In the previous Illinois Patriot, an incorrect headline reading “Flags delight hundreds in Naperville” was placed above a story about Piatt County’s only Revolutionary War veteran Samuel Olney. The story was the correct one, but not the headline. We sincerely regret that error. As Illinois Patriot editor, the mistake was mine and mine alone. Scott Sanders
Ipillinois Patriot editor

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**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 Gragan
Genealogist ——— —— Ron Peck
Chancellor ——— ——— Kevin Babb
Historian ———— ——— Ed Bachesta
Chaplain ———— ——— Rev. Raymond P. Owens
Sgt.-at-Arms ——— ——— Ken Griffin
NSSAR Natal. Trustee ——— Toby Chamberlain
NSSAR Alt. Trustee ——— Dick Chamblin

ILSSAR Patriot Newsletter Editor:
Scott Sanders
Send articles to scott.sanders@illinois-sar.org
(This is my new SAR email address)
Minutes and Report of The ILSSAR BOM Mtg 8/10/19
Submitted by Recording Secretary Scott Sanders

25 Members Present
- Dick Chamblin (SPG/SD), Scott Sanders (FV/ABC), Franz Herder (Ft. D), Richard Ruedin (GGRC), Robert Ridenour (GGRC), Toby Chamberlain (SPG), Allan Campbell (CZM), Ken Kruta (L&C), Bill Wheeler (Ft. D), Gerald Whitson (LK), Jim Wallace (LK), Dan Crafton (L&C), Karl Reed (SPG), Jason Sturges (K), Stan Buckles (SPG), Drew Robinson (SPG/SD), Lee Braden (ABC), Billy Cook (CZM), Larry D. Burgett (SD), Stephen A. Bradley (SPG), Charles D. Dobias (GGRC), Tom Ashby (Ft. A), Sid Welles (ES), Mike Campagnolo (FV), Lou Myers (SPG).

- President Dick Chamblin began the meeting by presenting awards:
  - Bill Wheeler-volunteer work on behalf of the National SAR.
  - Toby Chamberlain-Military Service Award.
  - Tom Ashby-Vice President General Award.
  - Dan Crafton-Silver Roger Sherman medal.
  - Gerald Whitson-Silver Meritorious Service medal

- Trustee Report from the Last National Congress
  - Toby Chamberlain
  - Trustee meeting was short and uneventful
  - Toby asked how many chapters gave public service medals in 2018. Only person recognized this year was someone from GJB. He said it is important to make sure that the info is sent to national online.
  - Tom Ashby reported on the national congress. He passed out photos taken at the GLD dinner and talked about other events.
  - The new NSSAR President, Jack Manning, is sponsoring a cruise to the Bahamas next May but it is on the same day as the May ILSSAR awards dinner.
  - The new national congress will be held in Richmond, VA next year.

First time attendees recognized:
- Jason Sturges, Kishwaukee’s new president was introduced. He was presented with a rosette. Jason spoke about the status of the Kishwaukee Chapter.
- A cemetery marking last summer for two RW veterans in Rockford had a great turnout with a heavy media presence.
- Another upcoming cemetery marking in November for Samuel Campbell from the Massachusetts Militia. He has about 40 descendants still living in the area. That will happen next Spring or early Summer.

Officers’ Reports:
- Senior Vice President Mike Campagnolo
  - Krysta Graves’ presentation at last night’s dinner was “really outstanding”.
  - No complaints so far about the buffet style dinner
  - Next BOM meeting in November will be in Lisle.

- Secretary Drew Robinson
  - 1114 Active members as of the end of July
  - Applications still running 8 or 9 weeks for approval.

- Treasurer Lee Braden
  - Checks for chapter dues have gone out except for Ft. Anderson.
  - The emails for the next dues cycle will go out mid August. With paper statements going out in September to those who haven’t paid electronically.
  - Financial statements have been uploaded to the BOM portal.

- Northern Region VP Scott Sanders
  - Attending chapter presidents will now give their own chapter reports if they wish.
  - ABC Lee Braden: Pretty quiet this summer.

- Kishwaukee Jason Sturges:
  - Chapter has presented two Civil Air Patrol awards, 2 Jr. ROTC awards, 17 Outstanding Citizenship awards to high school students.
  - Jason has two heroism awards for the families of two police officers killed in the line of duty. He is planning the presentation.
  - Planning a hero award for a Dixon cop who prevented a school shooting.
  - Two flag retirement awards coming up.
  - Chapter shirts have arrived.
  - Chapter is having a big event September 21-22 in Rockford with a huge WW2 reenactment attended by “tens of thousands”. Kishwaukee will have a 10’ X 20’ tent there with the DAR and hopefully the CAR.
  - 3 Kishwaukee compatriots marched in an Independence Day parade.
  - Two new members to be inducted in September.
  - Four new applications in the pipeline.

- Ft. Dearborn Bill Wheeler
  - Participated with the CAR, FV at the Schaumburg Boomers game and gave the CAR $1000 for their projects.
  - Working on projects with the DAR.

- Fox Valley Mike Campagnolo, for President Ted Miller
  - Awarded 60 Outstanding Citizenship awards in June. (Five presented in person)
  - Marched in the Wheaton Memorial Day parade.
  - In June, we presented heroism awards to members of the Naperville and Aurora SWAT teams and the EMT awards to Naperville and Aurora EMT members who entered a factory in Aurora to confront an active shooter and treat victims.
  - We presented the colors at the Boomers game.
  - Marched in the Mokena Independence Day parade.
  - Presented five flag awards so far this year.
  - We have a grave dedication coming up in September.
  - We handed out 250 small flags in Naperville to promote Flag Day.
  - Gave JROTC medals to two cadets.
  - Gave out an Eagle Scout award.
  - We have more than 160 official members.
  - We have six applicants under national review.
  - We have a new chapter merchandise program with the FV logos.

- Central Region VP Lou Myers
  - No report.

- Southern Region VP Dan Crafton
  - Planning is underway for the DuQuoin State Fair in August.
  - Planning is underway for a Gold Star event September 29 in Perryville, Missouri, featuring a flyover and a life-size replica of the Vietnam Wall in Washington.

- Chapter Development Gordon Bidner (absent)
  - Dick Chamblin said the plan is to figure out how to help development in chapters that might need or want help. Dick says a communication channel between the state and the chapters needs to be set up. Chapters should share what they do really well with other chapters who would like the help with their projects.

- Medals and Awards Jack Cramer (absent)
  - Dick says Jack is “a go-to guy who gets things done.”
  - Dick wants rules for Jack to go by on medal selection.
  - Dick started a discussion to find members’ opinions about giving chapter awards at the state awards banquet.
  - Tom Ashby said “Chapter medals ought to be given at the chapter.” He doesn’t think it is fair for the state to purchase the awards for the chapters. But military medals will be given out at the chapter level but the state will pay for them.
  - Mike Campagnolo agreed “100%” with Tom. There are state awards and chapter awards. Bronze awards are chapter medals and silver medals are state medals. Gold medals are awarded by national only.
  - Mike said there were chapter medals given at the state awards dinner last year. He pointed out that if that is continued, all 15 chapters’ medals will have to be given at the state level. That would result in the...
program lasting “until 2am.” He said that the state could “kick in a few dollars” to help small chapters that have small budgets.

- Mike remembers that from last year, Gordon Bichner suggested splitting up the Chapter of the Year award into three: gold, silver, and bronze. Mike said he can see that but that doing so would dilute the significance of the chapter of the year award. Mike suggested breaking it up by chapter size so big chapters weren’t competing against small chapters.

- ScottSanders said the Chapter of the Year awards should be regarded as equal and not first, second, and third irregardless of what they are called.

- Steve said that small chapters haven’t given any medals “because they can’t afford it.”

- Drew Robinson agreed that “chapter and state awards be separate and handled at their own level.” He continued that if the Chapter of the Year was broken up, that it be by region.

- Sid Welles said that the chapter presidents should be made aware of which awards are for state presentation and which are for chapter presentation. Tom Ashley reminded everyone that bronze medals are chapter awards, silver medals are state or district level awards, and gold medals are only from national.

- Mike Campagnolo has worked up a spreadsheet showing which medals are to be awarded at each level and has copies for distribution.

- Chuck Dobias said that who service is provided to should be considered. If service is provided to the community or the chapter, it is a chapter award. If to the state, it is a state award, and a national award for national service. And also, the person doing the nominating needs to write up why he is nominating someone for an award.

- Bill Wheeler agreed that state and chapter awards should be separate. He then said that having more than one Chapter of the Year award is adding too many awards. Having more than one award waters down the value of the award.

- Chuck Dobias said agreement about how to determine the Chapter of the Year award needs to be reached today. The three recommendations (chapter size, geography, first second and third place) need to be narrowed down to one. He said the regional plan isn’t good. He thinks chapter size is the way to go so small chapters would be able to compete.

- Lou Myers agreed that competing by chapter size would be the way to go for an even competition.

- Jerry Whitson said the size categories would need to be spelled out.

- Karl Reed said no other state has Chapter of the Year awards and maybe we shouldn’t either.

- Dick Chamblin said chapters can be better than others in certain areas and eliminating the Chapter of the Year award might be a good idea.

- Drew Robinson agreed that we may have created a problem didn’t exist. Creating more awards would add to the committee’s work and would just “muddy the waters with multiple awards that after thinking about it, would diminish it.”

- Chuck Dobias said there should be a venue to recognize chapters for specific things that they may do better than others. He suggested maybe having an ‘innovation of the year’ award. The winner of such an award would be required to make a presentation explaining how they do what they do excellently.

- Drew Robinson said that unless it is a level playing field, you can’t single out one chapter as many excel in different areas. He agrees with Karl Reed that it might be time to give up the Chapter of the Year award.

- Dick Chamblin said motions are needed:
  - Bill Wheeler moved that the Chapter of the Year award be dropped. Second by Karl Reed. Passed unanimously by voice vote.
  - Allan Campbell moved that the awards be presented at the level for which they are given: chapter, state, or national. Second by Mike Campagnolo. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
  - Bill Wheeler asked for technical clarifications. Chapter awards should be recorded in a database.

- Allan Campbell moved that it be the responsibility of the chapter presidents to report annually the chapter awards to the medals and awards chairman and to the state president. Second by Sid Welles. Motion passed by voice vote. For = 24. Against = 1.

### Committee Reports

- Budget and Finance Dick Chamblin
  - Kishwaukee and Fox Valley cemetery markings are planned. Budgeted $3,500.00 and $2,100.00 already spent. $4,200.00 will be need to be spent though.
  - The state no longer gets $500 for each marker. Franz Herder said dialogue with GWF committee should continue. Dick Chamblin moved to increase the 2019 cemetery marking budget to $4100.00. Second by Bill Wheeler. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
  - Dick Chamblin has been invited back to the GWF distribution meeting to ask for more money. We have been turned down so far in 2019.

- CAR DAR relations Bill Wheeler
  - CAR state president Bryn Callahan is now a SAR member.
  - The Orphan Train is the CAR project for this year. A train came from the East Coast to ‘deposit’ children without parents to grow up here in the Midwest.
  - Color Guard Mike Campagnolo State parade cancelled for the color guard this year.

- Knight Essay contest Toby Chamberlain
  - A permanent chairman is needed. Toby is filling this position temporarily.

- Flag awards Mike Campagnolo
  - 10 awards given so far by three chapters
  - Bill Wheeler asked about viable content for The Patriot. Patriot Editor Scott Sanders said a short CAR article would be fine for inclusion in each issue.

- GWF Distribution Toby Chamberlain
  - Toby says if chapters have unfunded projects, you should write them up and send them to the state president. Any worthwhile project would be covered.

- Allan Campbell said that recruiting for Rumbaugh Oration Contest entries is starting, along with the Knight Essay contest. There were six contestants this year.

- Patriot Medal Toby Chamberlain
  - The committee will be made up by the three regional vice presidents plus Karl Reed and Chairman Toby Chamberlain.

- ROTC contest Chuck Dobias
  - The Air Force has now agreed to allow the SAR award to be worn on cadets’ uniforms again.

- Sargent At Arms position is still open.

- Teacher Award Larry Burgett
  - Suggestions about how to proceed are needed.

- Veterans welfare Lou Myers
  - Discussed veterans arrangements at the state fairs.

### Old Business

- GGRG attends the Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony to George Rogers Clark memorial in Vincennes, Indiana each year. Presidents of state societies from all over also attend.

- Next BOM mtg will be in Lisle. Speaker will be Dr. Allan Campbell who will make a presentation about colonial medicine.

- Meeting Adjourned.
American Bicentennial Chapter

The August 2019 Chapter meeting of the Illinois American Bicentennial Chapter was held at the Moose Lodge in Wauconda, Illinois. Two new members were inducted, David Naftzger and Raymond Schraeder. Next we were fortunate to have as our speaker Sarah Sullivan. Ms. Sullivan is Instructor of History, Department Chair for History, Political Science and Economics, and Faculty Council Chairperson at McHenry County College. Ms. Sullivan spoke on the life of Alexander Hamilton, one of the founding fathers. Hamilton was born in the Caribbean and was a prolific writer, responsible for writing much of the Federalist Papers, writings often quoted by the U.S. Supreme Court. Other aspects of his life covered included his involvement in multiple duels, as well as stories surrounding several U.S. government positions that he held in the early days of the newly established United States. After the Chapter meeting the Board met to discuss business including the change in leadership officers to take effect soon. If you are interested in becoming involved in the organization through volunteering for a leadership position please volunteer by the next meeting.

General George Rogers Clark Chapter

GGRC Recognizes Jersey County Deputy

The General George Rogers Clark Chapter recognized the heroic efforts of Deputy Justin Decker during a regular meeting of the Jersey County Board on August 13.

On March 31, 2019, Deputy Decker braved chest-deep water to rescue Donald Lurton, an 83-year-old man whose vehicle was partially submerged in flood water on Route 100 near the Pere Marquette Illinois Youth Center.

Deputy Decker responded to the scene and saw the man splashing inside of the vehicle. He entered the water and freed the trapped driver, removing his life jacket and securing it to the driver. At that point, the driver, Mr. Lurton, who had been trapped in the vehicle for approximately 40 minutes, was extremely cold and did not think he could walk without a cane for assistance. Deputy Decker got him to the shoreline and kept him warm.

The QEM Fire Department and Jersey County Ambulance also responded to the scene. Mr. Lurton was taken to Jersey Community Hospital for further evaluation and has fully recovered from his harrowing experience.
Elijah Smith Chapter

GIVE ME LIBERTY

Written by Maria Ferraro
For THE SOURCE Newspaper
Submitted by Elijah Smith Chapter,
SAR Jacksonville
Used with permission

Most of us were born in America, free to make our own choices, free to live without the government dictating our lives. We are free to work, speak, hope and dream. We rarely even think about the fact that there was a day in America when you couldn’t live without the government dictating your everyday life. If it were not for a small band of passionate individuals, that would still be the case today.

America was born 243 years ago, when the people of 1776 cried out for freedom. They craved to be free to speak, hope and dream. They longed for their children to know a country where they could live without the government dictating their lives. If it cost them everything, they wanted to die knowing that the next generation would live in freedom because of their courageous commitment.

Citizens hear: never underestimate the power of one man who is willing to speak, fight and die for his words. Speak, fight, die— that is what was pledged on July 4,1776. Before the dawn of that day, one man spoke in the Virginia House of Burgesses—a man who has been called “trumpet of the American Revolution”. The words Patrick Henry said in 1775 have echoed in the hearts of every enslaved soul through the ages. In his speech to that body, he said seven powerful words: “ Give me liberty, or give me death!” In those words, he waged war against tyranny and the greatest empire on Earth, summing up mankind’s quest for freedom and committing himself to its immorlal cause.

In 1776, 56 men gathered in Philadelphia to put action behind Henry’s words. To them, the choice was clear: they would rather die fighting for freedom than to live as slaves. They knew the decision they made wasn’t just for them; it was for their children, grandchildren and every succeeding generation. As British soldiers neared American ports, the patriotic delegates made their choice. They knew they had one more chance to speak. They knew King George would readily kill them for their stand. But they also knew, in that moment, they were responsible to future generations for whether they spoke or kept silent. If this was the last time they could take a stand, they, like men, would stand, and if necessary, die for the stand they took.

The vote for independence was taken, each colony voting for freedom. Each man pledged every earthly possession he had to the cause, including “his life, his fortune and his sacred honor”. There was no looking back. Once the vote was taken, they were committed to liberty and possibly death. John Hancock, the president of the Continental Congress signed the document in a bold, clear hand. It was done. They had taken a stand for the world to see. They could die for freedom with no regrets.

For the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, their lives would never be the same. Those 56 men funded the war, and years later, many died homeless while having suffered great loss to their families, their health and their land—all because they chose not to sit by in comfort and let freedom be stolen from them. As humans, they embraced their right to freedom, and with that, they embraced their responsibility to speak and defend freedom.

They had no regrets for their losses; each wished they could have done more. Nathan Hale, a young American spy stated before he was hanged at the hand of British soldiers, “ I regret that I have but one life to lose for my country”.

In 1783, our founding fathers secured freedom after a long and brutal fight. They didn’t ask for a reward. They only asked that we make good use of our freedom. That we don’t forget their struggle or sacrifice. That we speak and stand. That we remember our responsibility to our children and our grandchildren and succeeding generations. We are Americans—therefore, we are free. As free men, we have a duty to stand for freedom. If the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence could speak to us today, they would ask that when we are called to take a stand, we would not be content to sit by, but heed their example and boldly proclaim, “Give me liberty or give me death!”

For a perfect fit to your patriotic plans for the 4th of July, read the real Declaration of Independence at www.ushistory.org/declaration/document.

Springfield Chapter

SAR participates in Veterans Day at the Springfield and DuQuoin State Fairs

We participated at each event with a table and passed out SAR brochures and leaflets to help interested persons get started on their Heritage route back to a person in the Revolutionary War in order to become a member of the SAR.

The program for the day included the Gold Star Memorial Service for those who had lost family members in our wars, a Kids Corner for the younger family members, JROTC drill competition, benefits expo to help veterans find out about benefits available to them, band music and patriotic music, a noon program on the Lincoln Stage, lunch served to all veterans and their families, and a parade with WWII veterans as the Grand Marshalls.

At Springfield, our table was manned by: Compatriots Stan Buckles, Springfield President Larry Burgett; Jeffery Burgett, Roger Swim of the Stephen Decatur Chapter; and Lou Myers.

At DuQuoin, VP Dan Crafton helped with the planning. Gerald Whitson, Long Knives; and Ken Kruta, Lewis & Clark manned the table.

Springfield Chapter

National Society Newsletter Ranking

Each year, the National SAR Society has a contest for chapter and state newsletters and periodicals. For 2019 the Springfield Chapter finished in fourth place with 135 points.

First place went to Raleigh, NC with 156 points followed by Halifax NC with 150 points and Harris Ferry, PA with 146 points. Rounding out the top nine and following Springfield were Ben Franklin, Ohio, Huron Valley, MI, Center County, AL, and Daytona-Ormand, FL.
General Joseph Bartholemew Chapter

GJB Compatriot Celebrates 70th Anniversary

Compatriot Franklin Putnam Lewis Jr. (Bud) and Mrs. Virginia (Short) Lewis (Jin) enjoyed their 70th Anniversary on Aug 19 with a family dinner with their children, grandson and his wife and two great granddaughters. Bud was born in Bloomington in 1925 and Jin was born in LeRoy in 1923. Soon after high school graduation with the WW II going on Bud enlisted in the Navy and was busy during the war as a Yeoman aboard ship. After the war was over he went to work for the Funk Brothers' Seed Co. and not long after he and Jin married. The next 40 years were busy with Bud at work at Funks and Jin housekeeping and raising 2 kids.

When there was free time she took up painting and became quite adept at it. Bud has some tales of experiences he had during the Eisenhower Campaign during which he was asked to drive the campaign trunk for five weeks.

Bud became a member of the GJB Chapter of SAR on Oct. 10, 2012 and ILSSAR and later became an ILSSAR Life Member. His Patriot is Zadock Putnam. The Putnams were very active in MA, CT, VA, and can be traced back and beyond 1066 when William the Conqueror came from Normandy (some say a Putnam was a knight in his army) and conquered England. In the American Revolutionary War Zadock was at Lexington as a Fifer Minuteman and later as a Sergeant at Bunker Hill in Capt. Joseph Warren's Co. (who died in that battle). Most famous of other relatives are Major General Israel Putnam—“don’t fire until you see the whites of their eyes” and General Rufus Putnam who was a good general and friend of Washington but is probably more known for his organizing and pioneering the opening of the Ohio area which was part of the Northwest Territory gained from England as part of the war settlement which was being used to pay those soldiers in land who did not get paid during the War. He is credited with founding the city of Marietta and much of Southern Ohio.

Ewington Chapter

New members for Ewington

The Ewington chapter is pleased to welcome two new members, Ryan Jennings, left, and his son, Atticus Jennings, right, pictured with President Joe Harris. The father and son are both from Effingham, Illinois.
Grave marking ceremony in Mokena is Fox Valley’s best ever

By Kevin Alcott and Ted Miller

The Fox Valley Chapter has undertaken a project to mark at least one cemetery per year with a plaque for a Revolutionary War Patriot. Our chapter currently has 19 patriots buried in our eight-county area. In the last three years we have marked cemeteries for Patriots John Dudley, Abner Powers, and Daniel Burroughs.

On Saturday September 7, we honored Patriot Charles Denny with a plaque and ceremony at the Pioneer Cemetery in Mokena, IL. Refreshments were served by the Founders Crossing Chapter DAR.

Fox Valley President Ted Miller said, “We had a great day for the grave marking ceremony. Despite a few glitches, I think all went very well,” he said. “Kevin did a GREAT job as emcee. What I was most impressed by for this particular ceremony is that all sponsors and planners really stepped up and made the ceremony a success,” Ted said.

Ted said he wants to thank everyone who helped make this ceremony a great success. We lucked out and the weather was perfect. We had great sponsorship and contribution from the Village of Mokena, the Founders Crossing Chapter DAR, and the William Martin VFW Post 725 as well, and together we all made this ceremony a fitting tribute to Patriot Charles Denny, his family, and the community.

Kevin Alcott said there were about 75 in attendance, and the weather was perfect! Kevin offered the Pledge of Allegiance.

Two of Charles Denny’s descendants travelled all the way from their homes in Minnesota to attend. One of them, Stacey McGowan Olson gave a speech. Kevin said “Everyone gave good speeches, but the best was delivered by Major General Mark Anderson Ret., who received a standing ovation and extended applause.”

Many stayed afterwards for more than an hour for refreshments and fellowship. Compatriot John Lansing took the photos. Local TV and newspapers covered the event.

At right, color guard members are shown with the marker. From left are Fox Valley compatriots John Fixmer, Max Cockrell, Ted Miller, Mike Campagnolo, Ray Beets (Kishwaukee chapter), and Drummer Will Jennings.
Battle of Trenton after crossing the Delaware River. His final service was guarding the ordinance taken from Cornwallis at Yorktown. He was discharged in early 1784 and received a pension of $20.00 per month and a land warrant for 500 acres in Seneca County, NY.

He moved to Peoria, IL around 1832 with his son David and his grandson Moses. He died on September 26, 1833.

At the ceremony, Bob Hoffer presented his biography and with Cynthia Bertino, unveiled the markers by the DAR and the SAR. Karen Freis, Deb Owen, Billy Cook and Allan Campbell conducted the service. The SAR color guard and the American Legion color guard fired a salute. Taps was played by Brianna Varvil. Several distant relatives were in attendance. An excellent article with color photographs was published in the Peoria Journal Star on June 15.
George and Martha Washington get very modern ride in Champaign parade.

Susan (aka Martha Washington) and I (aka as George Washington) represented the Piankeshaw SAR Chapter and the Alliance DAR Chapter in Champaign's 4th of July parade, right. We received many “I LOVE THAT FLAG” shout outs from the onlookers.

The local TV channel WCIA featured the town of Sidney, IL on the 19th of July on their “SMALL TOWN ILLINOIS” program. Susan and I were interviewed for the program at the American Legion Post 433 in Sidney where I have a display of WWI memorabilia and a display of 33 photos of members of both Susan's and my family members in uniform along with their ribbon awards, rank insignias and other qualification badges such as pilot wings, and command badges.

We also attended a DAR marking about two weeks ago at Wells Cemetery by Gifford, IL.