I was reading a speech by Admiral Papp and he reminisced that, when he captained a Coast Guard Cutter at sea, the first thing he did upon waking each day was to go to the helm and check to make sure the ship was on course or if an ill-wind had blown the ship off its heading during the night.

It made me stop and think about the past two years that I have had the honor to serve as your society president. As I check the direction the Illinois Society is moving, I feel confident that we are on course. Now, it has not been all “fair winds and following seas” as we have faced the challenge of dwindling participation among a couple of our chapters. However, when I have sought council with our President General Joe Dooley and other senior national leaders I have been told that the steps we are taking to revitalize our chapters “is one of the best in the country.”

As Admiral Papp would stress, a ship’s captain cannot sail a ship alone. A successful journey takes a dedicated crew working together for a common purpose. Our society has been blessed with many dedicated members who have contributed long hours to improve our society. Our Regional Vice Presidents, Lou Myers and Gerald Whitson, have been diligently working with our central and southern Illinois chapters that are in need of assistance and I have received very promising reports. Vice-President Tom Ashby has been working on establishing a new chapter in the Quad Cities area, and Compatriot Dale Bottom has completely updated the ILSSAR manual, which provides a blueprint for chapters—quite an undertaking! Society Secretary Jim DeGroff has brought us into the 21st century with a revamped web page and a Face Book page. Our board members have been innovative in reaching out to the public with increased color guard events, including participating in the largest Memorial Day Parade in the nation, broadcast live on ABC television Chicago and attending several statewide genealogy events.

One of the most exciting events has been shepherded by Former ILSSAR President Franz Herder and Chaplin Dave Ashbrook. This April 6, we will install the first patriot cemetery roadside marker in Elk Grove Village. Motorists driving by the cemetery will now, for the first time, learn that a patriot from the Revolutionary War rests inside their local cemetery. Started by the Wisconsin Society, this project is envisioned to spread across Illinois over the upcoming years and will be a source of local chapter pride and community awareness.

Scan this QRC with your smart phone for our Face Book page!
The Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution
Annual Congress and Board of Managers Meeting, May 16 & 17, 2014
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel & Conference Center
701 East Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701

Hotel room discount cutoff date:
April 25, 2014

Call 866-788-1860 and mention Sons of the American Revolution Meeting
for the ILSSAR group rate, $97.00 per night. Continental breakfast is provided, parking is on your own.

NSSAR President General Joe Dooley will be our honored guest both Friday evening and Saturday.

Meet Abigail Adams

Abigail Adams. More than just a celebrated wife (of second U.S. President John Adams) Abigail Adams was also a committed patriot and a true partner to her husband. In this first-person program, set in 1776, Adams recounts her life in a time of revolution including her famous call to John to “remember the Ladies” in the founding of the new nation. She shares her opinions of the founding fathers' plans for a new nation and offers us a glimpse at one of the great love stories of American history.


**Friday, May 16:** Formal dinner (Black Tie/Uniform/Dark Suit) and Member Awards presentation. We will meet in Freeport Rooms A, B & C. Color Guard members please wear your uniform to present the Colors. A Silent Auction, Cash Bar & Hors D'oeuvres will be available from 6 until 7 PM; dinner is at 7:10 PM followed by our awards program and guest speaker Abigail Adams (Leslie Goddard). **Saturday, May 17th:** SAR Men will enjoy a Continental Breakfast from 7:30 until 8:30 AM in the Ottawa Room A & B. **The Ladies Auxiliary** will have a separate Continental Breakfast from 8:30 AM until 9:30 AM in the Governor Horner Room. Their meeting will follow.

**Saturday Board meeting** will start at 8:30 AM until Noon and will be in the Ottawa Room A & B.

**Saturday Community/Youth Luncheon** is from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM will be in the Lincoln room with our Recognition Awards. **Don’t miss this event as it shows the real purposes of the SAR.**

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**Friday and Saturday Meal Requests**

**Friday dinner**: Romaine Lettuce Salad with Tomatoes, Croutons and Parmesan, Top Sirloin with Shiraz Cabernet Reduction, Chef's Choice of Starch and Seasonal Vegetable, Lemon Berry Delight Cake: **$35 each**

**Saturday Community/Youth Awards luncheon**: Lemon and Herb Chicken Scaloppini Style, Illinois Corn Chowder with Corn Muffin, Chef's choice of a starch and Seasonal vegetables, Chocolate Truffle Mousse Cake with Raspberry Coulis: **$30 each**

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Member name: _________________________ Friday _____ Saturday _____

Spouse name: _________________________ Friday _____ Saturday _____

Guest name: _________________________ Friday _____ Saturday _____

**Mail personal check payable to “ILSSAR” for meal total to:**
Compatriot Thomas D. Ashby Phone: 309-897-8483
15863 245 North Avenue, Bradford, IL 61421-9520 e-mail: tdashby@me.com
Senior Vice-President Tom Ashby’s Corner

Our February Board of Manager’s Meeting in downtown Bloomington-Normal was once again very enjoyable. Genealogist General Larry Cornwell did an excellent job of presenting his workshop and he and his wife Leanne were wonderful as General and Mrs. Montgomery. What a great example they were, he as a genealogist/registrar/interpreter and she as an interpreter/supporter wife. The food was again a credit to the hotel.

Linda and I attended the Spring Leadership Meeting in Louisville at the Brown Hotel from February 27th to March 2nd. We joined four other Illinois SAR and Auxiliary members at the event. I first attended, along with Allan Campbell and John Dyrud the George Washington Development Fund Distribution Meeting. The Illinois Society submitted three projects, each costing about $2000 per cemetery marker to complete. The George Washington Fund agreed to give $1000 toward each of the three projects, which was wonderful news. We should all become George Washington Fellows to help support this work! I then attended the Eagle Scout Committee meeting where we approved a small number of adult Scouters for the Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award and later went through 25 Eagle Scout Scholarship Applications to pick a winner for the NSSAR award. I also attended the Patriot Index/Revolutionary War Graves and Membership Committee meetings. You should all be aware of the information available at Patriot/SAR.org This is a work in progress to continue with the older Patriot Index CD and covers Patriot Graves and membership applications from 1997 to present and they’re almost done.

Linda and I again checked out the progress on the new construction on the Center for Advancing America’s Heritage (SAR Offices and Museum) next to the Library. Things are progressing very well with move in completion expected to be later this year (although I said the same last year). Then it’s on to Phase 2B, which is outfitting the museum.

This May, for our Annual Congress we’re again at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center. We’ll start Friday evening, May 16th with Cocktails and Hors D’oeuvres at 6:00 PM followed by dinner around 7:15 and are usually ready to begin with either our program or our awards presentation at 8:00 PM. This year we will have President General Joe Dooley, the current NSSAR President, joining us Friday evening and on Saturday. We also have a great program planned with Leslie Goddard portraying Abigail Adams.

I’m looking forward to the evening and the BOM meeting with Community/Youth Awards Luncheon to follow on Saturday, I hope you are too. Remember you have until April 25th to book your room and until May 9th to reserve your meals.
SAR Calendar of Events

May 16 & 17, 2014 Illinois Society Board of Managers Meeting at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield.

May 24, 2014 Chicago Memorial Day Weekend Parade—all members invited to march!

July 18 to 24, 2014 124th NSSAR Annual Congress, Greenville, South Carolina at the Hyatt Hotel.

August 7 for Parade, and 8 & 19, 2014 Illinois Society Board of Managers Meeting at the Springfield Hilton.

September 26 to 28, 2014 NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting at the Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky.

November 7 & 9, 2014 Great Lakes District Meeting, Madison, WI

November 14 & 15, 2014 Illinois Society Board of Managers Meeting at the Marriott Pere Marquette in Peoria.

February 6 & 7, 2015 Illinois Society Board of Managers Meeting at the Marriott Bloomington – Normal.

February 26 to 28, 2015 NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting at the Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky.

THE ILLSSAR TORNADO RELIEF FUND

The Illinois Society is asking all our members to contribute $25 or more to our emergency tornado relief fund which will be used to help our members directly impacted by these storms. All contributions will go directly to the victim families. Any excess funds will be donated to the American Red Cross Illinois Tornado Relief Fund.

Please make checks payable to “ILSSAR Tornado Fund” and mail to our treasurer, Compatriot Don Hyland, 304 Felmley, Normal, IL 61761.

Yes, I want to help a compatriot’s family! I am donating $_______

Name: ____________________________________________
ILSSAR President Bruce Talbot was on hand to swear in new members and present first meeting rosette pins. Nathan Bliss agreed to take over the flag awards program and Mark Kaletka offered to help create a chapter Face Book page, which was up and running that same weekend. Kishwaukee Chapter continues to make great strides in increasing membership and looks forward to a great year in 2014.


The November 11, 2013 Veterans Day meeting was held at College Park Christian Church which featured a moving presentation by Jeanie Wendt, a retired history teacher who presented an oral history of World War II from Bloomington, Illinois area veterans. Staff Sergeant Alex Wernz, U.S. Army retired, currently a social studies teacher at Roanoke-Benson High School, was honored for his service with a SAR/US pin and the promotion of patriotism in his high school.

Fifteen members were in attendance along with several guests. Three generations of the Funk family were in attendance including John, Jim and 93-year old Virgil Funk!

April 10 is our Annual Outstanding Citizen/Scholarship Banquet, and on April 18 at 7:00 AM is our Patriot’s Day meeting at the Bob Evans restaurant.
Fox Valley President Rod Herbig, Incoming President Michael Compagnolo and Salt Creek Color Guard and ILSSAR Budget Director Joseph Costello, presented the colors at the Children of the American Revolution State Convention at the Lisle, Illinois Hilton Hotel and Conference Center.

ILSSAR President and Fox Valley member Bruce Talbot addressed the 95 people in attendance, thanking the C.A.R. members for being role models in their schools and community.

The Fox Valley Chapter teamed up with the Daughters of the American Revolution at the 39th Annual DuPage Genealogical Conference at the Hilton Garden Inn Conference Center in At. Charles, Illinois on February 15, 2014. The conference featured 15 seminars and vendors offering everything imaginable to those interested in tracing their family roots. Having a staffed display table along side the D.A.R. table afforded chapter members to recruit prospective members who already have an interest in preserving family history.

Fox Valley Chapter presented seven police officers of the Aurora Police Department with medals and certificates on Friday January 10, 2014 in a ceremony at the police station for their actions that resulted in a 13-year old girl being rescued from a car that drove into a frozen pond.
Captain Zeally Moss Chapter Expands Westward

General George Washington (actor Terry Lynch) visits the Zeally Moss Chapter on a recruiting drive to rally more troops for the Revolution! He related the microphone would have been most useful at Valley Forge. Terry returns at our June 25 meeting at Weaver Ridge in Peoria to portray James Madison.

At the February 8 meeting of the Board of Managers, a proposal to include Henderson, Mercer and Warren Counties in the territory of the Captain Zeally Moss Chapter of the ILSAR, was accepted. For members in these Counties please Google "Captain Zeally Moss Chapter" to locate the chapter website listing the scheduled meetings for 2014 and the officers. Please contact the chapter secretary, John Foster, to have your email put on the list for announcements of the monthly meetings (jfoster107@comcast.net).

Kishwaukee Chapter

“On March 9th Kishwaukee Chapter members Andy Hill - Scout Chairman, and Ray Beets - Chapter President, awarded over 180 Eagle Scout certificates to Scouts in the Blackhawk Area Council as part of the Council’s 2014 Adult and Youth Recognition Dinner held in Rockford. The event was well attended by Scouts, parents, family and local business leaders. After the ceremony, members in Revolutionary War uniform posed for photos with some of the Scouts.”
General MacArthur was portrayed by Robert Blanchard, secretary-treasurer of the chapter. Compatriot Blanchard reviewed the life and history of MacArthur and quoted from his many speeches.

Left to right are Lewis & Clark SAR chapter officers for 2014: Jack Firse of Belleville, ROTC chairman; Ron Peck of Belleville, registrar; Bob Blanchard of Belleville, secretary; Dan Crafton of Red Bud, president; Russell Hunter of Lebanon, chaplain; and John Meacham of Chester, historian. Other officers are Brian Cutler of DuBois, treasurer; and Jim Jones of Belleville, serjeant-at-arms.

The Lewis & Clark Chapter of the Illinois Society of Sons of the American Revolution recently welcomed Martha Washington, first First Lady of the United States.

“I was a patriot, too,” Mrs. Washington, portrayed by Barbara Kay, said. Kay told her audience that Mrs. Washington organized women who lived near her Mt. Vernon plantation home to make bandages, blankets for the colonial soldiers. She personally delivered these, along with food, medicine, clothing, shoes and other supplies to Valley Forge.

Kay recently retired after teaching history at Highland High School for 34 years. She was named Teacher of the Year for 2011 by the Illinois Society of SAR. Among the other characters she portrays are Dolly Madison, Abigail Adams, Clara Barton, Mary Lincoln and Amelia Earhart.

Sources for Uniforms

James Townsend & Sons, Inc.
33 North First Street, Box 415 Princeton, Indiana 46562
jas-townsend and son.com
**Secretary — Jim DeGroff**

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:

loladegroff@charter.net

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**ILLINOIS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**
**OFFICERS 2008-2010**

President ——- Bruce Talbot
Sr. Vice Pres. —— Thomas D. Ashby
Vice Pres. N. Region —— Franz Herder
Vice Pres. C. Region —— Louis (Lou) Myers
Vice Pres. S. Region —— Gerald Whitson
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Registrar —— Robert R. Morefield
Genealogist —— Garry A. Grugan
Chancellor —— Kevin Babb
Historian —— Michael Campagnolo
Chaplain —— David K. Ashbrook
Sgt.-at-Arms —— Ken Griffin
NSSAR National Trustee —— Martinus (John) Dyrud
NSSAR Alt. Trustee —— Stephen Bradley
Vice President General Great Lakes Dist.
Alan Krebs, Wisconsin Society

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**Date for items for the JULY issue of the Patriot**
**Due:**
**June 10, 2014**

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**TAPS**

Tim Raymor 1/10/2014

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If you know of a com-patriots death, please send me a note!
GGRCC President Jim DeGroff welcomes Annual Meeting George Rogers Clark impersonator Seth Graves, a world and U.S. history teacher at Golconda, Illinois. Graves was the Illinois SAR History Teacher of the Year in 2012. He participates in numerous living history events, saying "I have always felt that preserving and teaching history is imperative to our society."

Highland Eagle Scout Ben Leman received his GGRCC scroll and badge from President Jim DeGroff in a February ceremony. His Eagle project was installation of a new bench, flagpole and memorial blocks at the Veterans Tree Forest near Silver Lake. In December, President DeGroff presented the Eagle Scout ranking awards to Sean Mulligan, Troop 1031, in a ceremony at the Center for Spirituality and Sustainability at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.
Good Citizenship Award Honors Returner of Misplaced Purse

A Good Citizenship Award was presented at the GGRCC Annual Meeting to a Glen Carbon woman who returned a purse containing almost $1,900 inadvertently left in a shopping cart.

Sharilyn Lylera, at right, received the award after praise from Lloyd E. Scharz (left) of GGRCC, who recommended her for the citation. Mrs. Lylera was cited along with her sister, Dianna Bates (center) who actually was the first to see the purse in the cart outside a Target Store on Dec. 15.

The purse's owner, Nancy Vetter of Glen Carbon, is director of social services for Oliver Anderson Hospital. She said it contained personal papers, $1,400 in cash from the hospital staff for Christmas gifts and $500 in gift cards.

Nancy Vetter and her husband had been shopping at Target stores in Glen Carbon and Shiloh and first realized the purse was missing when they drove on to the Wal-Mart store in Glen Carbon. It was dark when they got to their home and saw a car parked in the driveway. It was Sharilyn Lylera, who said, "Mrs. Vetter, I have your purse" and apologized for opening the purse to learn the owner's identity.

ILSSAR Cemetery Marking Program

This program, first presented at our November 2013 Board of Managers Meeting, was well received and very strongly supported by our membership - and continues to be strongly supported. We are moving into a new stage next month.

Our first two historic cemetery markers will be officially installed Sunday April 6. The first ceremony will be at 10 a.m. at the Elk Grove Cemetery in suburban Cook County, honoring Patriots Aaron Miner and Eli Skinner. The second dedication will be 2 p.m. at the Linn-Hebron Cemetery in McHenry County - honoring Patriot Major Watson.

Both events will include community figures, Patriots' descendants, SAR including elements of the ILS-SAR and WISSAR Color Guards, DAR and CAR representatives, an American Legion bugler and rifle team, and the media.

Next in line for completion and dedication will be markers in cemeteries in Peoria, Princeville, and Glen Carbon. This is a long term public education program. Our objective, contributions permitting, is markers in as many cemeteries as we can identify where Revolutionary War Patriots are buried - State wide. Please join us for these dedications if you can.

We truly appreciate your generous support. This is a program we can all be proud of. And tax-free donations can be mailed to ILSSAR Treasurer Don Hyland, 304 Felmley Drive, Normal IL 61761.

Thank you.

If you plan to attend, call for driving instructions to 708-738=7801 (Franz Herder)
Sons of the American Revolution, Illinois Society

Cemetery Marking Project

The Illinois Society has undertaken a project to mark all the graveyards in Illinois where Revolutionary Patriots are buried. Although many of the individual graves are already marked, our hope is to place a cast-aluminum plaque similar to the example on your right at the entrance to every graveyard with a Patriot to allow visitors to honor the graves of the Patriots as well as to aid in protecting these cemeteries from being lost to development. The first cemetery where we are undertaking to place a marker is the Elk Grove Cemetery. It is the only cemetery in Cook County that is the final resting place of two Patriots; Aaron Miner and Eli Skinner.

Donations to this project may be made out to ILS-SAR (tax deductible) and mailed to ILSSAR State Treasurer:
Don Hyland 304 Felmley Drive Normal, IL 61761
donsgen50@gmail.com
Questions; call Franz Herder at fherder@sbcglobal.net
Gerald Whitson at jeremwhit@nwecable.net
Or your chapter president

See page 11