I am impressed at the many events our chapters and state society are undertaking to support the principals of the American Revolution, and I wanted to share a few of the highlights. In our second year participating in the largest Memorial Day Parade in America, our color guard was moved up from unit number 124 to unit number 29 by the City of Chicago, giving us major coverage on the Chicago ABC affiliate station. The General George Rogers Clark Chapter held a grave marking to honor Revolutionary War soldier Joseph Evans this spring. The Salt Creek Chapter held a formal dedication during the planting of a new Liberty Tree in Brookfield, Illinois and the Fox Valley Chapter color guard visited an elementary school to teach proper care and respect for the American flag.

I could go on for pages detailing the events our chapters undertake, but I think you understand my point: a healthy chapter takes an active role in the community to support the principals of the revolution. It doesn’t take money or even a color guard uniform to participate. Whether it is personally attending a R.O.T.C. or high school awards event to present a S.A.R. medal, or presenting a flag award certificate to a dedicated homeowner, I urge every chapter to make a goal of participating in at least one community event per month.

Recently a new compatriot suggested that ILSSAR should participate in the Honor Flight program to say a final thanks to the Greatest Generation who fought in World War II. It was explained to the new member that we have been supporting Operation Honor Flight financially for some time, but the member interrupted and said, “We should line up at the airport and shake their hands, not just write a check.” Wow, now THAT is the spirit! I hope every compatriot in the Chicago metro-area will join our color guard at Midway airport on Wednesday June 12, 2013 at 8:30 pm and on Wednesday, July 10 at 8:30 pm.

I also strongly encourage chapters to reach-out to the Daughter of the American Revolution and other patriotic organizations and form partnerships. I have personally participated in three D.A.R./S.A.R. grave markings and it is a rewarding experience to work with like-minded organizations as well as a great way to enlist new members! You don’t need to spend hundreds of dollars on a grave marking event. On Saturday, April 20, 2013 I presented a historical talk on the American Revolution at Sea before a joint meeting of the Kishwaukee SAR and Rockford DAR chapters. There were about 40 in attendance and my talk was followed by a do-it-yourself pot-luck luncheon at an area church. Low cost but high rewards! Has your chapter established a relationship with the D.A.R.?

A great place to start is the up-coming first annual “Illinois State Heritage Weekend”. After many meetings and discussions this spring with Ms. Jane Schleinzer, the event organizer, we have all agreed to book the Embassy Suites hotel conference center in East Peoria, Illinois for the event on September 27-28, 2013. This will be a great opportunity to recruit new members and strengthen ILSSAR chapters with over a dozen genealogical/patriotic organizations throughout Illinois. I hope every chapter can send a pair of men to attend this important networking event.

Continued page 3  (President's message)
The Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution
Board of Managers Meeting, August 9-10, 2013
Springfield Hilton hotel room discount cutoff date:
July 18, 2013
Call 800-445-8667 and ask for code “SAR” for the ILSSAR group rate
$99 per night (includes parking and breakfast for two hotel guests)

Illinois State Fair Parade

Held on Thursday afternoon, August 8. Participants in the Twilight State Fair Parade should meet between 5:30 and 5:45 at the corner of 9th and North Grand. Step off will be at 6 PM.
Out of town participants are encouraged to stay Thursday night at the Hilton
Please let me (Tom Ashby) know if you plan to participate at tdashby@me.com or 309-897-8483.

Friday, August 9th dinner program at 7 PM.
Our dinner will be in Vista room 6. We will have a cash bar available at 6 PM. Our speaker will follow dinner: Mr. Dale K. Phillips of the National Park Service and former Superintendent Of George Rogers Clark National Historical Park who will speak on the life of George Rogers Clark. He is currently the Superintendent of the Lincoln Home, National Historic Site in Springfield.
Mr. Phillips had been at the helm of the George Rogers Clark site for more than 12 years. He began his Federal career in 1978, working as a seasonal employee at Gettysburg. In 1978, he took a position with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Shelbyville in Illinois, but returned to the NPS in 1981 as a park technician at Fort Sumter. Upon furlough later that year, Phillips took a position with The Charleston Museum in Charleston, S.C. He resumed his NPS career in 1982 as a park ranger at Fort Sumter, followed by a supervisory park ranger position at Chickamauga & Chattanooga. Phillips then served as unit manager of both the Chalmette Unit and the Acadian Unit of Jean Lafitte, spending 10 years at the park before being named to his previous position at George A New Jersey native, Phillips graduated from York College of Pennsylvania in 1978, receiving his BA in U.S. history.
Phillips is married to the former Carol Patton of Franklin County, Illinois, and has one grown daughter, Laura, who resides in Phoenix, Arizona.

Saturday morning free breakfast buffet at Bennigan’s for hotel guests (bring your hotel check-in meal coupon).
Check out time is 11 AM. Free parking for hotel guests.
Saturday meeting, August 10th at 8:30 AM to 12 PM in the Hilton Conference Center 2.
Saturday luncheon at 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM in the Hilton Plaza 1 room.

Friday and Saturday Meal Requests
Friday dinner: Grilled Sirloin Steak, Au Gratin Potatoes and Asparagus & Wild Berry Charlotte: $35 each
Saturday luncheon: Roast Turkey with cranberry sage stuffing and whipped potatoes & Key Lime Parfait: $30 each

Member name: _______________________________________ Friday _____ Saturday ____
Spouse name: _________________________________________ Friday _____ Saturday ____
Guest name: _________________________________________ Friday _____ Saturday ____
I will attend the BOM Meeting but not any meal events: __________

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
President's message (from page 1)

As Compatriot Dale Bottom puts the finishing touches on his monumental task of up-dating and rewriting our over 20-year old ILSSAR chapter handbook, we are making plans to further support chapter growth. Genealogist General Larry Cornwell has agreed to be the featured speaker at our November 1-2, 2013 Board of Managers meeting in Peoria. His expertise in genealogy combined with an extremely interesting multi-media presentation will not only entertain but inform as well as reduce the number of rejected applications.

In closing, I want to personally thank outgoing ILSSAR treasurer Bob Collins for his life-time of support to ILSSAR and the Children of the American Revolution. I had the honor of attending the C.A.R. annual awards dinner in Bloomington this spring and offered a few welcoming remarks to the many parents and children present. Learning recently that Bob’s daughter Caitlin has been elected as president of the National Society of the Children of the American Revolution must be the crowning gem in Bob’s many years of service. And finally, I want to pay my respects to the late, great, Col. Charles Schweizer, who did so much for the organization over the years. And please keep Compatriot Jack Frise and Esther Reed in your thoughts as they face their health challenges.

Bruce Talbot

Liberty Tree Dedication

FLASH!! From the newsroom comes information that a gaggle of patriots have gathered in the park to dedicate the replanting of the Liberty Tree. With 100 years of service to the community of Brookfield, thunderstorms and lightening destroyed our beloved Oak the night! The local DAR chapter along with SAR chapters Salt Creek and Fox Valley made the whole event a real HOOT!

Pictured: Rod Herbig, Joe Costello, and Mike Campanolo
(Do any other Illinois towns have a Liberty tree?)

SAR Calendar of Events

July 5 to 10, 2013 NSSAR Annual Congress, Kansas City, Missouri

August 8 for Parade, and 9 & 10, 2013 Illinois Society Board of Managers Meeting
At the Springfield Hilton.

September 26 to 29, 2013 NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting
At the Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky.

November 1 & 2, 2013 Illinois Society Board of Managers Meeting
At the Four Points by Sheraton in Peoria.

February 7 & 8, 2014 Illinois Society Board of Managers Meeting
At the Marriott Bloomington – Normal.

February 27 to March 2, 2014 NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting
At the Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky.

May 16 & 17, 2014 Illinois Society Board of Managers Meeting
At the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield.
Senior Vice-President, Tom Ashby’s Comments

What a great Annual Meeting in May at the Abraham Lincoln. At the Friday banquet the food starting with or divers was excellent. Our speaker Brian “Fox” Ellis portraying John James Audubon had an air of seasoned professionalism about him really conveying his message with clothing, gestures, and accent. Then the team of Franz and Wendy Herder made our awards ceremony move quickly through many well deserved awards for our Companions. Congratulations to all the winners! The ladies Auxiliary needs our congratulations too for raising about $500 for the Center for Advancing America’s Heritage at the silent auction. What a great contribution for a good cause! The Saturday BOM went well preceded by a light breakfast and we were done on time as well.

I think the highlight though of the entire weekend was awarding and hearing from our Youth and Community members at the luncheon on Saturday afternoon. What a great oration! And what an honor to be in the presence of Larry “The Flagman” Eckert who has honored our departed servicemen and women with hundreds of flags flying from funeral home to gravesite all manned by volunteers. His Silver Good Citizenship Medal has a good home.

I want to personally thank the Patriot Award Committee, and whoever recommended me, for awarding me the Patriot Medal. What a great honor!

Linda & I are planning our first joint trip to the National Congress at Kansas City in July. With all the touring, enjoying the area sites, and Congress events it promises to be a fun and educational vacation.

This August State Fair Parade on the 8th, the dinner and presentation from Mr. Dale Phillips on the 9th about George Rogers Clark’s life and the BOM Meeting and luncheon on the 10th all promise to be a series of events to look forward to. It’ll be hot at the Fair grounds during the parade but we’ll try to end up at Saputos for dinner, a little R &R & look forward to our room at the Hilton. Linda and I always like to tour the State Fair on Friday before the dinner meal and speaker. If you do, remember to take the tram, visit the Ethnic Village for lunch and the Artisan building for purchasable art. Use the map at this URL http://www.agr.state.il.us/isf/maps/Map.pdf for your tour.
Notes from National

In 2011, National received 3178 new member applications and 1057 supplemental applications for a total of 4235 apps. Of that total, 366 remained "pended" on Dec 31, 2011, for an end-of-year pended rate of 8.6%.

By contrast, in 2012, National received 3786 new member applications and 1503 supplemental applications for a total of 5289 apps (an increase of 24.9% over 2011). Of that total, only 95 remained pended on Dec 31, 2012, for an astounding end-of-year pended rate of 1.8%! Twenty-seven societies had NO pended applications at the end of 2012: AK, AR, CN, CT, DA, DC, FR, HI, ID, IN, ME, MX, MN, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NM, OR, RI, SP, SW, UK, WA, WI, and WY. Congratulations!

The top seven state societies submitted an average of 55 applications, with one state society (Washington) submitting 90 applications that were all approved by year's end, followed by MO (79), AR (58), MN (54), CT (47), DC (33), and NM (26).

That's the good news, but some of the state societies at the other end of the spectrum could do better. Read on, please.

I share your frustration with the growing backlog of applications. The target of only a four-week backlog has slipped to 5 1/2 weeks for new members apps, and 8 1/2 weeks for supplementals. Why?

The Genealogy Staff is spending an inordinate amount of time on some of the applications that lack proper documentation, and I know you are grateful for the Staff's help. Other reasons for the lengthening backlog: total applications are up in 2013 compared to the same period last year, and Deborah Andrew has resigned, leaving the Genealogy Staff short one full-time member, leaving only three full-time genealogists. Until a replacement can be hired and trained, we can expect the backlog to increase.

As indicated above, about half the states could do better. In coordination with Executive Director Don Shaw and Director of Genealogy Susan Acree, and until a replacement genealogist can be hired and trained, I'm asking that each Genealogy Staff member spend only an average of one hour per application, before approving it or identifying to the state society what documentation is still needed. (Application fees are based on an average application taking one hour to process.) If you are submitting "approval-ready" applications, this speedup in service will be good news. If you are submitting applications that aren't "approval ready," then you may have more work to do.

The on-line Application Preparation Manual and the Genealogy Policies manual have great tips for submitting "approval-ready" applications. Please continue to make good use of them.

As always, thank you for your great work. You are the key to keeping the SAR flourishing so it can accomplish its many missions in years to come.

Yours in Patriotic Service,
Larry P. Cornwell
Genealogist General
Long Knives Color Guard at Mounds City National Cemetery Memorial Day Service.


Rod Herbig, Mike Campanolo, Joe Costello.

George Gillespie Gives Program.

Scott Gillner and children. Scott is a member of the Kentucky SAR and is the son of George Gillner of the Long Knives Chapter.

I WANT YOU FOR THE COLOR GUARD.

Rod Herbig, Mike Campanolo, Joe Costello.

Rod Herbig, Abraham Lincoln, and Franz Herder.

Rod Herbig and Mike Campanolo.

29 Sons of the American Revolution Illinois Society.
Student Outstanding Citizenship Award Recognition Ceremony

High school seniors from Madison, Jersey and Macoupin counties received Outstanding Citizenship certificates and pins April 4 in an annual recognition ceremony by GGRCC at First Christian Church, Edwardsville. The students were selected by their schools based on dependability, cooperative spirit, leadership, service to their school and community and evidence of personal values and patriotism. The event continued to be coordinated by chapter member Robert J. Stegemeier. Eleven of the 13 chosen were present for the program. They were, with high schools, (R to L front row) Aaron Peach, Granite City; Rebecca Billings, East Alton-Wood River; Taylor Pile, Roxana; Hannah Warneke, Alton; Rachel Wieseman, Edwardsville; and Nathan Brown, Staunton. (L to R top row) Joe Mersinger, Triad; Jonathan Woelfel, Civic Memorial-Bethalto; Phillip Reedy, Southwestern; Travis Dunnette, Collinsville; and Mallory Stevens, Marquette Catholic. Not present were two awardees, Allison Wadsworth, Bunker Hill, and David McIntyre, Madison. Chapter members who assisted in the program were (at left) Lloyd E. Schwarz, behind Robert J. Stegemeier, and (L to R behind top row) Chapter President Jim DeGroff, Tom Beavers, Tom Lawrence, Ronnie Hicks, Sam Akeman and Jim Hicks.

Children of the American Revolution

Illinois State Society of the Children of the American Revolution held their annual state conference banquet on March 2nd 2013 at the Marriott Hotel & Conference Center in Bloomington, Illinois. ILSSAR members Bob Collins, a senior adult advisor, and ILSSAR President Bruce Talbot spoke at the gala event. Illinois President Caitlin Collins has just taken over as the national society president, a first for Illinois! Congratulations Caitlin!
Col. Charles (Charlie) B. Schweizer, Ret., was born on May 18, 1913, in Maplewood, MO. The family moved to Vicksburg, MS, where he graduated from high school. He continued his education at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, graduating in 1936. Upon graduation he joined the US Army as a 2nd Lieutenant. Among many military schools he attended during his career, he also earned a Master’s Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1947. Charlie retired in 1966 and moved to Edwardsville, where he lived until his death.

On June 7, 1941 he married Eleanor Noxon, at the Webster Groves Presbyterian Church in Webster Groves, MO. They joyously celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in 2011, four months prior to Eleanor’s death. Charlie is survived by his sister, Lorraine (Mrs. Byron) Bledsoe, his three children, Anne (Bart) van Giessen, Chuck (Maria) Schweizer, and Elizabeth (Carl) Saunders, 9 grandchildren, and 18 great grandchildren.

Charlie’s life has been full of achievements. For example, he was a 32nd Degree Master Mason within the Scottish Rite and was Worshipful Master of the Ben Franklin Masonic Lodge in Orleans, France in 1963. He was the first American to receive the honor of being the Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of France. He continued to provide strong leadership in many local and state organizations including the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), where he participated in Revolutionary War re-enactments, became president of the Illinois Chapter, and was active in the national SAR effort. His latest focus was the Illinois Society of the War of 1812, where he was a re-enactor and president of the Illinois Society of the War of 1812. At his death, he was the vice-president general of the Society, and as such was a representative to the national organization.

Scenes from the annual spring dinner & awards ceremony
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

ILLINOIS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
OFFICERS 2013-2014

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
Secretary ——————— — Jim DeGroff
Treasurer ———— -Don Hyland
Recording Secretary ——— Jim DeGroff
Registrar ——— Robert R. Morefield
Genealogist ———— Garry A. Grugan
Chancellor ———— Kevin Babb
Historian ———— Michael Campagnolo
Chaplain ———— David K. Ashbrook
Sgt.-at-Arms ———— Vacant
NSSAR National Trustee ——— Martinus (John) Dyrud
NSSAR Alt. Trustee ———— Stephen Bradley
Vice President General Great Lakes Dist.
J Gordon Bidner 2012-13

Date for items for the October issue of the Patriot
Due: September 10, 2013

Taps!
Charles B. Switzer May 12, 2013
James B Matson May 28, 2013
Frederick C Gillham May 3, 2013
Orville L. Woodward, Jr. April 8, 2013

If your love one does not appear here...call 630-964-3512

ILSSAR Patriot Newsletter Editor —
Rod Herbig 5237 Oakview Dr. Lisle Il. 60532
Scout1947@Comcast.net
SAR Medals and Awards at the Annual Banquet

Chapter Awards

Joel Willis Newsletter Award
Zeally Moss
Fort Dearborn
Gen. Joseph Bartholomew
Springfield

Flag Awards
Long Knives
Zeally Moss
Gen. Joseph Bartholomew
Lewis & Clark
Springfield
Kishwaukee
Fox Valley
Gen. George Rogers Clark
Salt Creek

Chapter of the Year Award
General Joseph Bartholomew Chapter
President, J. Gordon Bidner

Individual Awards

Color Guard
Bronze Color Guard Medal/OLC/Certificate
Donald Lush - medal & certificate

Bronze Medal - Southern District
Stephan Constantine
Lance Newman
Benjamin Pyle
John Cramer
Douglas Pyle

Bronze Medal - Ft. Dearborn
Robert Collins
Charles Well

Springfield Chapter
Lou Myers

Silver Color Guard Medal/OLC/Certificate
Toby Chamberlain
Dave Ashbrook
Jim DeGroff
Karl Reed
Andrew Cairel
Dan Hrenko
Don Hyland
James Wallace
Tom Ashby

Color Guardsman of the Year
Jim DeGroff

Bronze Good Citizenship
Eric Banfield
Steve Haldeman
Andrew Cairel
Richard Chamblin
Georges Tinkham
Don Lush
Virgil Short
Bill Feeney
Salt Creek
Long Knives
Long Knives
Springfield
GJB
GJB
GJB

Silver Good Citizenship
William White
J Cummins
Dale Bottom
Toby Chamberlain
Cletis Underwood
Rick Morris
John Dyrud
GJB
JG
JG
Springfield
Springfield
Lewis & Clark
Springfield
Lake Defiance

Genealogy Award
Garry Grugan
Lou & Polly Myers
Bob Morefield
Bing Siebold
Zeally Moss
Springfield
Long Knives
Ft. Dearborn

J & Lola DeGroff
GJB
Zeally Moss
Wendy Herder
Andy Baffes
GJB
Zeally Moss
GJB
GJB
Zeally Moss
GJB
SAR MEDALS and AWARDS (cont.)

Certificates of Appreciation

Membership Retention
- Bob Collins
- Jim DeGroff

Continuing support of Ft. Dearborn
- Nancy Siebold

Support of the Ladies of the SAR Auxiliary
- Linda Ashby

Martha Washington Award
- Shirley Firse

Daughters of Liberty Award
- Polly Myers
- Sandy Bidner
- Lola DeGroff
- Wendy Herder

Meritorious Service Medal
- Karl Reed, Springfield
- Stephen Bradley, Springfield
- Dave Ashbrook, GLB
- Dale Bottom, Fox Valley

Military Service Medal
- Louis Robinson, Long Knives

War Service Medal
- Donald Shee, Fox Valley
- Steve Riles, Fox Valley
- George Selby, Springfield
- John Dyrud, Lake Defiance

Distinguished Service as Chapter President
- J. Gordon Bidner, Springfield
- Jerry Whitson, Long Knives
- Toby Chamberlain, Springfield
- Jim DeGroff, GGRC
- Rod Herbig, Fox Valley
- Franz Herder, Salt Creek

PATRIOT MEDAL & CERTIFICATE
- Tom Ashby, Zeally Moss Chapter
- Lou Myers, Springfield

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
- CHARLES SENER, Fox Valley, 25 years
Illinois SAR
Marches in Largest
Memorial Day Parade
in the United States