Let me start by saying it is a privilege and an honor to have been elected your president for the 2014 – 2016 term. I will do my best to do a good job for the Illinois Society.

I would like to ask your help in the upcoming BOM Meetings. If you are a Committee Chairman, consider either meeting “online” or hold a meeting with your committee on Friday afternoon before the dinner. Also, I’d like to reinstate the “This is my Chapter” presentations from volunteer Chapter Presidents. If you’d like to volunteer for August or another month please e-mail me (tdashby@me.com). I’d like to get one or two Chapters to volunteer per BOM meeting. If there are any individuals who would be willing to do a 10 to 20 minute “Revolutionary War Message” after our Saturday Luncheon, I think this also would be an excellent addition.

It is so very important for every chapter to have a Registrar who is actively pursuing additional members. Chapters can’t grow without going after potential members either through a recruiting event such as a “How to be an SAR Member” seminar, sometimes called a genealogical seminar, sponsored by the SAR. Or, give presentations at local community meetings telling about your Revolutionary War ancestor, informing them about the SAR and how they can become members. Thanks to all those members who brought in a member or two last year.

What a great Annual Meeting we had in May at the Abraham Lincoln! At the Friday banquet, the food starting with hors d’oeuvres was excellent. Leslie Goddard, portraying Abigail Adams, really did a superb job conveying a Patriot woman’s point of view. What a performance! Then, the polished team of Franz and Wendy Herder helped our awards ceremony move quickly through many well deserved awards for our Compatriots. Congratulations to all the winners! The Ladies Auxiliary needs our congratulations too for raising about $700 at the Silent Auction for the Center for Advancing America’s Heritage and the Grave Marking program. What wonderful contributions to good causes! After a light breakfast, the Saturday BOM went well and we were done on time! I appreciated President General Dooley coming for the installation of officers and being a part of our two meals.

The highlight though, of the entire weekend, was awarding and hearing from our Youth and Community members at the Saturday luncheon. Outstanding youth, our History Teacher, followed by the Hero Awards to the Police, Fire and EMT were the icing on the cake. I have to say my eyes got moist a few times.

Linda and I are planning to attend the National Congress in Greenville, South Carolina, in July. With all the touring, enjoying the area sites and battlefields where one of my Patriot Ancestors fought, and Congress events, it will be another fun and educational vacation.

This August, the State Fair Parade on the 7th, the dinner and presentation from Dr. Kenneth Owen on the 8th about “The Unlikely and Unruly Heroes of Independence in Pennsylvania” and the BOM Meeting and luncheon on the 9th 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 will be taking our granddaughters to tour the State Fair on Friday before the dinner meal and speaker. DO plan to join us!

Scan this QRC with your smart phone for our Face Book page!
Board of Managers Meeting, August 8-9, 2014
Springfield Hilton hotel room discount cutoff date is July 18, 2014
Call 800-445-8667 and ask for code “SAR” for the ILSSAR group rate
$103 per night (includes parking and breakfast for two hotel guests)

Illinois State Fair Parade
Held on Thursday afternoon, August 7. 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 (Toby Chamberlain) know if you plan to participate at saichamb@comcast.net or 217-483-6267.

Friday, August 9th dinner program at 7 p.m.
Our dinner will be in Vista room 6. We will have a cash bar available at 6 PM. Our speaker will follow dinner:
University of Illinois Springfield Assistant Professor of History Doctor Kenneth Owen will be our speaker and will speak about, “The Unlikely and Unruly Heroes of Independence in Pennsylvania”. Doctor Owen was born in England and educated at Oxford University. He previously taught at Ohio University and the University of Sussex. His teaching concentration is Colonial, Revolutionary and Early National America. His teaching interests include the political history of the United States, most aspects of colonial and revolutionary America and Native American history.

This is a unique opportunity to hear about the American Revolution from an individual whose early years were formed from the British perspective.

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.

Friday and Saturday Meal Requests
I will attend the BOM Meeting but not any meal events: 

Mail personal check payable to “ILSSAR” for meal total to:
Compatriot Toby Chamberlain Phone: 217-483-6267
230 Marblestone Drive, Chatham, IL 62629 e-mail: saichamb@comcast.net
Senior Vice-President Toby Chamberlain’s Comments

After being sworn in by National Society President General Joe Dooley as the ILSSAR Senior Vice-President at the May Board of Managers meeting, I thought about the saying, “What goes around comes around.”

In becoming your Senior Vice-President, it took 124 years to come around for me. Two of my ancestors were named ILSSAR Officers when the Illinois State Society was founded in 1890. John Van Der Cook was the first ILSSAR State Registrar and C. R. Van Der Cook was the first Sergeant at Arms. What an honor it is to be carrying on in the footsteps of patriots who helped found this great nation of ours and the Illinois State Sons of the American Revolution Society.

There are two areas that I would like to see improvement in during my term as your ILSSAR Senior Vice President but your help is instrumental in making them happen. 1) We need an increase in attendance at the quarterly BOM Meetings. Each chapter should have at least one member (two or more would be better) in attendance. The next BOM is scheduled to be held in Springfield August 8-9 at the Springfield Hilton Hotel. There is no cost to attend the Saturday morning BOM and any SAR member in good standing is welcome. The 2014 Illinois State Fair Twilight Parade is August 7 so you have a great opportunity to see/participate in the parade and attend the BOM Meeting. 2) In order to help build up our membership numbers, we need to work harder on retaining our members. Each year chapters lose members because they did not pay their dues. Over the past four years the Springfield Chapter has contacted each Springfield Chapter member who did not pay his dues. We use email for the first contact and for the members that do not have email, we send a personal letter. This is followed up in two to three weeks with a second contact letter to those members who still did not pay their dues. After two to three additional weeks, we make a final contact with a telephone call. This procedure does not take a lot of time, just commitment.

When first contacted this year two Springfield Chapter members said they did not receive their dues notice and one member who moved forgot to inform us of his new address. All three said they would mail their membership dues after our first contact with them. This process does work as for the last four years the Springfield Chapter has returned 70 to 75 percent of the chapter members from the initial nonpaying list to SAR membership.

Is this a job that someone in your chapter would be willing to take on? You won’t know until you ask.
SAR Calendar of Events

**July 18 to 24, 2014** NSSAR 123rd Annual Congress, Greenville, South Carolina, Hyatt Hotel.

**August 7, 2014** Illinois State Fair Twilight Parade, Color Guard, Springfield

**August 8 & 9, 2014** ILSSAR Board of Managers Meeting, Springfield, Hilton Hotel.

**August 10, 2014** Illinois State Fair Veterans Day Parade, Springfield

**September 26 to 28, 2014** NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY, Brown Hotel.

**November 7 & 8, 2014** Great Lakes District Meeting, Madison, WI.

**November 14 & 15, 2014** ILSSAR Board of Managers Meeting, Peoria, Marriott Hotel.

**February 6 & 7, 2015** ILSSAR Board of Managers Meeting, Bloomington-Normal, Marriott Hotel.

**February 26 to 28, 2015** NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY, Brown Hotel.

**May 14-16, 2015** ILSSAR Annual Dinner, Awards Night and Board of Managers Meeting, Springfield Abraham Lincoln Hotel,

**June 26 to July 1, 2015** NSSAR 124th Annual Congress, Louisville, KY, Brown Hotel.

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**American Bicentennial Chapter**

**Meet Our New Chapter Officers!**
At the American Bicentennial Chapter annual meeting in February, a new slate of officers was elected: Larry Wade (President), Burton Showers (First Vice-president), Chris Jenner (Second Vice-president), Jeremy Rogers (Secretary), Geoffrey Thompson (Sergeant-at-Arms), and Richard Carey (Historian).

**Vietnam War Patriotism Certificate**
Caption: Left to Right – Compatriot Donald Marlowe, Compatriot Mike Cobb

LTC Ryan Yantis (Ret.) was guest speaker at our April 27 meeting. Ryan talked about his experience at the Pentagon on 9-11 and how it related to personal service and the character of being an American.

Caption: Left to Right – Ret. LTC Ryan Yantis, President Larry Wade
Introduction of Stephanie Lee—Winner of the Outstanding JROTC Cadet who won State and Fox Valley Chapter Top Awards!!!

Stephanie ranks number one in her high school class of 740 academically. In addition to all she has done both in ROTC and other scholastic and community activities, she works part time. Her principal and Senior Military instructor wrote a glowing letter of recommendation for her. In fact, let me quote for you a sentence from Lt Col Benjamin White’s, who is a West Point graduate, letter of recommendation. “Stephanie is the quickest high school learner that I have mentored in my 22 years of military service and 6 years of teaching.”

Attached is a picture of me and Eagle Scout Andrew Nason, to whom I presented the SAR Eagle Scout Certificate today (Saturday, May 24, 2014).

Bill White
The Library of Congress Digital Collections and You
Garry Grugan, ILSSAR Genealogist
The Library of Congress has been actively digitizing historic newspapers covering nearly every region in the United States from 1836-1922. They currently offer 1,371 different newspapers with over 7.7 million pages. The newspapers available are represented by anything from a handful of issues per title for some to a whopping 10,000+ issues for others. If you have done any genealogical research, it is easy to understand the importance that the newspapers of the day can provide. Not only are newspapers useful for family details, they add a historical context to the life and times of our ancestors. An obituary can easily provide that “missing link” in making a genealogical connection but the more mundane news and notes paint a picture of everyday life and offer additional research clues.

For example, the October 17, 1907 issue of the “Cameron County Press” tells me that “Joseph Grugan from Olympia, Washington who is brother-in-law of B.J. Collins is visiting at the home of the latter this week. This is the first time he has visited this section in twenty years.” This is an interesting newspaper tidbit that could also be genealogically important. If I am seeking information on Joseph Grugan the paper confirms to me that he now lives in Washington State, he is visiting family in Cameron County, Pennsylvania so probably has further connections there, likely has a sister married to a man named “B.J. Collins” and has been absent from the area for about twenty years so I will need to look for him somewhere besides Cameron County during that time frame. A simple social note in the newspaper has thus provided significant clues for a genealogical search. It was common at the time, with smaller populations, for the newspapers to act not only as a source for more general news but social gossip and goings that have become even more valuable over time.

Reading the stories and understanding the local history that surrounded your ancestors will provide a better understanding of their life, movements, career and actions. This, in my opinion, leads to a more complete understanding of your lineage and helps answer the “Why?” questions. Why did my ancestor migrate somewhere? Why did they stay where they were? Why did their career path lead them in this direction or that? In genealogy we tend to focus on the When and the Where but the Why can sometimes be more interesting.

All of these newspapers and additional records are easily searchable through a simple keyword process and are available free of charge at www.loc.gov. If you tire of browsing at old newspapers you can also find large sections covering Prints and Photographs, Performing Arts, Veterans History, Sound Recordings, Film, Maps and Manuscripts.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with research questions at gagrugansar@comcast.net.
GGRCC Honors 15 High School Seniors as Outstanding Citizens

These high school seniors from Madison and neighboring counties received Outstanding Citizenship certificates and pins April 24 at First Christian Church, Edwardsville, in an annual GGRCC ceremony. The students present and their schools were (first row, from left) David Zimmerman, Vandalia; Hannah Ditter, Triad; Mirena Pebley, Gillepie; Taylor Boodooram, Alton; Colton Evans, Cowden Herrick; and Alexandra Hachmeister, East Alton-Wood River. (Top row, from left) Aaron Mattix-Wand, Marquette Catholic; Chad Carter, Metro-East Lutheran; Daniel Sims, Collinsville; Nathan Early, North Greene; and Jacob Sparks, Granite City. Not present but honored were Mallory McCune, Bethalto Civic Memorial; Aaron Wilkinson, Edwardsville; Katie Carson, Brownstown; and Hannah McEnery, Staunton. GGRCC members who assisted were (left, from bottom) James C. Hicks, event coordinator Robert J. Stegemeier, Ronnie B. Hicks and (right rear) chapter President Jim DeGroff. Event speaker (rear center) was Col. Peter Wangler, Alton High ROTC supervisor. The students were nominated by their schools on the basis of dependability, cooperative spirit, leadership, service to their school and community and evidence of personal values and patriotism. Compatriot Stegemeier is retiring from oversight of the activity after conducting it for 14 years.

Who Knew?

Evidently it is a well known fact that the National Society President General is a cookie lover. The members of the ILASAR (Illinois Ladies Auxiliary Sons of the American Revolution) baked cookies to be used in their silent auction. Extra cookies from each baker were included in a basket presented to PG Joe Dooley at the Friday night awards dinner. His task was to select a favorite – not a job for the meek. Being the polished and diplomatic southern gentleman that he is, PG Dooley did reveal his favorite at the Saturday Community and Youth Awards Luncheon. The following is the winning recipe baked by ILASAR member Jane Bradley:

**Chocolate Volcano Cookies (Gluten-free)**

Active time: 10 minutes Total time: 30 minutes plus cooling Makes about 2 dozen cookies

1 lb. confectioners' sugar ¾ cup unsweetened cocoa ½ tsp. salt 4 lg. egg whites 1 Tbsp. vanilla extract 1 ½ c. semisweet or bittersweet chocolate chips.

1. Preheat oven to 350. Line 2 cookie sheets with parchment paper; lightly coat with nonstick cooking spray.
2. In large bowl, whisk confectioners' sugar, cocoa and salt. Add egg whites and vanilla and beat with wooden spoon until smooth. Fold in chocolate chips. Set dough aside 5 minutes.
3. Drop dough by rounded tablespoonfuls, 2 inches apart, onto prepared cookie sheet. Bake 13 to 15 minutes or until set and crackly. Let cool on cookie sheets 3 minutes; then, with spatula, carefully transfer to wire racks to cool completely. Each cookie: about 135 calories, 2 g protein, 27 g carbohydrate, 4 g total fat (2 g saturated), 2 g fiber, 0 mg cholesterol, 60 mg sodium

The auction was again a big success, raising enough money for a $500 donation to the Center for Advancing America's Heritage and funds leftover for future projects.

Members of the Auxiliary thank everyone for their donations and 'spirited' bidding. Did you know that membership in the Auxiliary is open to ALL women related by marriage or bloodline to members in good standing or members deceased while in good standing of NSSAR? In addition to supporting the state SAR, ILASAR members go on field trips and have speakers while the SAR members attend the state Board of Managers meeting. The dues are only $5.00 a year. We would love to have you join us. Contact Linda Ashby at lkashby@frontier.com for more information.

Photo: (L) Bruce Talbot holds the basket of cookies being presented to President General Dooley (R) by ILASAR member Cindy Collins.
SAR Medals and Awards—2014

Chapter Awards  Joel Willis Newsletter Award Certificates

Fort Dearborn—
  Fox Valley—
  George Rogers Clark—
  Springfield—
General Joseph Bartholomew---

Chapter Presidential Citations Certificates
-Gen Joseph Bartholomew; Fox Valley; Springfield; Long Knives; Salt Creek; American Bicentennial; -Gen George Rogers Clark; Lewis & Clark

Flag Awards--- Streamers, no certificates
Long Knives, Kishwaukee, Fox Valley, Gen Joseph Bartholomew, Gen George Rogers Clark, Lewis & Clark, Salt Creek and Springfield.

Chapter of the Year Award- Certificate
  General George Rogers Clark Chapter

Individual Awards
Bronze Color Guard Medal/OLC/Certificate
  Mike Campagnolo, Fox Valley, Medal & Certificate.
Silver Color Guard Medal/OLC/Certificate
  Don Lush, GJB, Medal and Certificate.
  Don Hyland, GJB, Medal and Certificate.
  Bob Morefield, Long Knives, Medal and Certificate.
  Steve Haldeman, Long Knives, Medal and Certificate.
  Ron Feldman, Salt Creek, Medal and Certificate.
  Joe Costello, Salt Creek, Medal and Certificate.
  Franz Herder, Salt Creek, OLC and Certificate.
  Rod Herbig, Fox Valley, Medal and Certificate

Color Guardsman of the Year
  Dan Hrenko
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

Date for items for the October issue of the Patriot
Due: September 10, 2014

TAPS
Kenneth P Robinson  4/20/2014
Jon D. Holtz  6/7/2014

If you know of a compatriot’s death, please send me a note!
(Cont) Illinois State Congress

Bronze Good Citizenship

George Selby, from Springfield, Medal & Certificate

Silver Good Citizenship


National Service Recognition

Certificates only.

Tom Ashby
Allan Campbell
John Dyrud
Steve Bradley
Dick Chamblin
Dave Ashbrook

Meritorious Service Medal & Certificate

Don Hyland, GJB, Medal & Certificate; Dave Ashbrook, GJB, OLC & Certificate; Gordon Bidner, GJB, OLC & Certificate; Alan Harrison, GGRC, Medal and Certificate; William Feeney, GGRC, Medal & Certificate; Robert Stegemeier, GGRC, Medal & Certificate; Charles Burgess, GGRC, Medal & Certificate; Ronnie Hicks, GGRC, Medal and Certificate; Cletis Underwood, Springfield, Medal and Certificate

Silver Good Citizenship


Meritorious Service Medal & Certificate

Don Hyland, GJB, Medal & Certificate; Dave Ashbrook, GJB, OLC & Certificate; Gordon Bidner, GJB, OLC & Certificate; Alan Harrison, GGRC, Medal and Certificate; William Feeney, GGRC, Medal & Certificate; Robert Stegemeier, GGRC, Medal & Certificate; Charles Burgess, GGRC, Medal & Certificate; Ronnie Hicks, GGRC, Medal and Certificate

Cletis Underwood, Springfield, Medal and Certificate
Cemetery Marking Program

First certificates to the following individuals have been pivotal in launching this program: Certificates only

- Joseph Dooley
- Bruce Talbot
- John Dyrud
- Tom Ashby
- Franz Herder
- Dave Ashbrook
- Don Hyland
- Allan Campbell
- Jim DeGroff
- Michael Cobb

Contributions Medals

- Joseph Costello
- Bob Collins
- Allan Campbell
- Franz Herder

Certificates of Appreciation

- Cheryl Chamblin, Certificate
- Mirian Whitson, Certificate
- Martha Washington
- Linda Ashby, Medal & Certificate

Daughters of Liberty Award

- Polly Myers, OLC & Certificate

Lydia Barragh Award, Medal & Certificate

- Wendy Herder, OLC & Certificate

State Medal of Distinguished Service

- Jim DeGroff

Patriot Medal & Certificate

- Dave Ashbrook, GJB, Medal & Certificate
- Dale Bottom, Fox Valley, Medal & Certificate

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Photo 1: grave of Patriot Timothy Lewis.
Photo 2: Belvidere Cemetery sexton Sam Larson explains history of buried patriots to Kishwaukee Chapter members.
Photo 3: Kishwaukee Chapter held its May meeting inside the Pettit Chapel (designed by Frank Lloyd Wright) in the Belvidere Cemetery, Belvidere, Illinois where sexton Sam Larson gave a talk on the history of the chapel and the cemetery, her duties as sexton and biographies on the two Patriots buried in the cemetery. Wes Hyland and his wife Nancy were kind enough to arrange for the food at the meeting, which in part was held to share information in placing a Cemetery Plaque Marker at this cemetery. Having a meeting and luncheon in a cemetery didn’t seem to bother the group as there were 24 in attendance. Patriots buried in the cemetery are Timothy Lewis and Thomas Hart.
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@nwcable.net
Or your chapter president