President’s Message

As we begin to move forward with our new program to strengthen our chapters, I am proposing the consolidation of the Lake Defiance Chapter with the American Bicentennial Chapter at the November Board of Managers Meeting. Our Northern Region Vice-President (and past ILSSAR president) Franz Herder has been in talks with Lake Defiance Chapter President and National Trustee John Dyrud and American Bicentennial Chapter President Mike Cobb and all parties feel the consolidation will better serve our members in the northern Illinois area. Formal service area lines and official papers will be submitted at the November Board of Managers meeting in Peoria on Saturday, November 3, 2013 at the Four Points Sheridan hotel. I strongly agree with John, Mike and Franz that this consolidation will strengthen our chapter activities and provide more opportunities for our northern Illinois members to participate in chapter programs. Any compatriot who would like to comment on the proposed consolidation is encouraged to attend the November Board of Managers meeting, which is always open to all ILSSAR members.

At the August meeting I outlined the framework for our chapter revitalization program. I proposed that every chapter in the Illinois Society use the President General’s Americanism Cup (http://www.sar.org/node/283) program as the template for a healthy chapter. This annual contest measures every outreach and community service program the SAR offers to communities. This will provide our chapters with ready-made programs for their members to serve their communities. Last year 98 chapters and 11 state societies were recognized as meeting the President General’s challenge. Unfortunately, not one Illinois chapter was on the list.

An active chapter with community service programs and diverse activities for its members is a health growing chapter that members look forward to participating with each month. A chapter that only meets periodically for coffee or a dinner slowly begins to wither in membership even though there are a number of established and new incoming members in their chapter area.

I look forward to meeting with local chapter members to get this exciting program started. Let’s all set a goal of making sure our local chapter makes the President General’s Americanism list at the 2014 National Congress!
Senior Vice-President, Tom Ashby’s Comments

Linda and I attended our first joint trip to the National Congress at Kansas City from July 5th to the 11th. What a remarkable destination Kansas City, Missouri is for the National Congress. We started with a tour of the recovery museum and artifacts of the steamboat Arabia, which, was uncovered from 40 feet of mud in a farmer’s field, which happened to be a former channel of the Missouri River. A great event with cocktails and or divers and led by the family that found the steamboat and did the recovery. The next day we toured Kansas City, which was very enlightening and impressive. One of the highlights of the tour was the Alexander Major’s house, which was situated at the head of the Santa Fe & Oregon trails. Major was the founder and operator of the Pony Express. That evening was the Host Society (Missouri/Kansas) reception, which started with a police motorcycle escort to the National World War I Monument and Museum with a taste of Kansas City Barbeque. If you like history it’s the place for you. The Sunday Memorial Service for Compatriots who went beyond the veil was a most inspiring and moving. It was set in a church with a remarkable look and feel. I sat in on all the orations that evening. That’ll keep you on your toes. On Monday we opened Congress and had the Youth Awards Luncheon which gave everyone in attendance the pride of recognizing these outstanding young men and women. On Tuesday our second session of Congress, the ladies attended the First Lady’s Luncheon follow by a tour of the Hallmark Center, a big hit. The men went to the George Washington’s Fellows Luncheon and back to Congress. This was followed by the President General’s Banquet. Wednesday was our final session of Congress and the tour of Independence, Missouri and the Truman Presidential Library, followed by the Installation Banquet. Thursday was a tour of historic Fort Leavenworth and heading home. It was a fun filled, whirlwind experience.

In August the State Fair Parade was on, Thursday the 8th. The weather was great for the parade. After a bit of a delay and a little confusion we ended up at Saputos for dinner, a little R &R & an enjoyable night in our room at the Hilton. Linda and I always like to tour the State Fair on Friday before the dinner meal and speaker. We visited Expo and Artisan Buildings, the Ethnic Village for lunch and the Farmer’s Market Tent for dessert. The dinner and presentation from Mr. Dale Phillips on the 9th about George Rogers Clark’s life was once again a great experience. Mr. Phillips was an outstanding speaker and was a master of his subject. The BOM Meeting on the 10th was fully packed with business as usual. The luncheon was enjoyable, but needed better seating arrangements, which I communicated to the Hilton staff, who were very responsive.

In November we will be having our BOM again at the Four Points in Peoria. We are pleased to present a great speaker for our Friday dinner, Dr. Ralph Keen from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Unfortunately, I will not be in attendance as I must go in for a knee replacement on October 24th and will be convalescing for the following six weeks. But, be sure to attend and let me know how everything went. I trust you will be pleased.
The Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution
Board of Managers Meeting, November 1st & 2nd, 2013
Four Points by Sheraton Downtown Peoria
500 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria, IL 61602

Hotel room discount cutoff date:
October 17, 2013
Call 309-674-2500 and mention Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution - Quarterly Board Meeting group rate of $113 per night (includes parking, breakfast is on your own)

Friday, November 1st dinner program at 7 PM.
For dinner we will meet at the Sheraton in the Madison Room. A cash bar will be available at 6 PM, dinner at 8 PM followed by our program. Our speaker will follow dinner: Ralph David Keen, Ph.D., University of Illinois, speaking on the subject of "Religion and the American Revolution"

Dr. Keen is a professor of history and the Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation History Chair at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He received his doctorate in history from the University of Chicago, a master's degree from Yale and his undergraduate degree from Columbia. In his presentation, Dr. Keen will explore the history of religious beliefs of the founders and the history behind the separation of church and state in the American system. This is a very interesting, enlightening, and timely presentation to an always-heated topic. You will not want to miss this great presentation! Dr. Keen is a member of the Fort Dearborn Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Saturday meeting, November 2nd at 8:30 AM to 12 PM in the Madison Room.
Saturday luncheon at 12 PM to 1 PM in the Conference Room One.

Friday and Saturday Meal Requests
Friday dinner: Char-broiled Rib Eye Steak, Garden Salad, Mashed Potatoes and Chef’s Vegetables: $35 each
Saturday luncheon: Chicken Picatta, Garden Salad, Chef’s Vegetables: $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
15863 245 North Avenue, Bradford, IL 61421-9520
Phone: 309-897-8483
e-mail: tdashby@me.com

SAR Calendar of Events
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.
July 18 to 24, 2014 124th NSSAR Annual Congress, Greenville, South Carolina
August 7 for Parade, and 8 & 19, 2014 Illinois Society Board of Managers Meeting At the Springfield Hilton.
September 26 to 28, 2014 NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting At the Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky.
State ROTC Chairman Dale Bottom and State Society President Bruce Talbot presented an original piece of art by Estelle Hollingworth circa 1890 depicting the First Rhode Island Infantry Regiment to the Cadet Commander of the Chicago City-Wide JROTC Corps of Cadets, Brandon Wilson. The art work depicts the 140 African-American soldiers who served with the First Rhode Island Regiment and fought with distinction at the Battle of New Port in 1778. This historic illustration was a gift from Kent Worley to be displayed at the Bronzeville High School Military Academy in Chicago, a historic Black school just south of downtown Chicago.

The African-American troops of the First Rhode Island Regiment fought with distinction among the 440 total troops that comprised the infantry regiment. Some of the solders were free-men, however many were slaves. The Rhode Island legislature passed a law saying any slave who joined the regiment would be given their freedom at the conclusion of the war. Slave holders were compensated for the value of their slaves who joined.

During the Battle of New Port in 1778, the first major engagement for the new regiment and its Black troops, and also the first battle where French forces joined the Americans, the Americans lost 30 killed and 48 wounded. During the battle the regiment was praised for its fighting ability in the battle. The regiment suffered three killed, nine wounded, and eleven missing. During the Revolutionary war the regiment suffered five African-American troops were killed battle. As the war shifted to the south, the regiment saw little formal action. However, in 1781, the regimental commander, Colonel Christopher Greene and several of his black soldiers were killed in a skirmish with Loyalists. Greene's body was mutilated by the Loyalists, apparently as punishment for having led Black soldiers against them. The regiment was disbanded at Saratoga in 1783.

Photo left– Cadet Brigadier General Brandon Wilson of Chicago’s Bronzeville Military Academy High School receives the Estelle Hollingworth illustration of “The Black Regiment” from Society President Bruce Talbot. Brandon, a high school senior at Bronzville, states he is applying to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point this Fall and has received a letter of intended appointment from the academy.
The GGRCC Flag Day program on June 14 was held for the second straight year on the spacious grounds of the Lewis & Clark Confluence Towers in Hartford, which provided an impressive setting for the chapter's 50 state and 19 historic flags. Chapter Chaplain Lloyd E Schwarz (at podium) narrated descriptions as each of the historic flags was displayed by Troop 1031 scouts and their leaders, assisted by chapter members William E. Johnson (left) and Albert A. Olson. The flag array included for the first time banners commemorating two recently deceased GGRCC presidents—chapter founder Charles B. Schweizer (Fort Moultrie) and Donald E. Campbell (An Appeal to Heaven). Two daughters of Schweizer, Anne van Giessen and Elizabeth Saunders, attended and were introduced. The program was organized by chapter Vice President Marvin A. Meng. Baritone Don Bradford sang the Star Spangled Banner and God Bless America. Chapter President Jim DeGroff spoke on the history of Flag Day.

Edwardsville Scouts (from left) Drew Tojo, Aaron Wilkinson and Bryan McPherson receive awards from GGRCC President Jim DeGroff.

Compatriot Jim DeGroff Named SAR “State Man of the Year.”

GGRCC President Jim DeGroff Jr. was cited as the state society's "Man of the Year" at the August Board of Managers meeting. The award was delayed from the May meeting due to Jim’s attendance at Compatriot Charlie Schweizer’s funeral.

In presenting the award, State President Bruce Talbot said, "I want to acknowledge the person who has been invaluable to the state society and has worked tirelessly to make our society a success."

Besides his offices in GGRCC, Jim DeGroff has been secretary of the state society for several years. He "is our contact for all matters of the state society to SAR national in Louisville. He has taken his chapter and more than doubled the membership to where they are the second largest in the state. He was also the selection of our state society for the Joe Smith Color Guardsman of the Year Award," Talbot said.
Notes from our National Society

Dear Genealogy Staff/State Society Point of Contact:

The SAR auditors have recommended that all mail destined for the Genealogy Staff (new member and supplemental applications, and additional documentation for an already vetted application) be sent to 1000 South Fourth Street in Louisville because that allows "individual processing, a secure area, and a centralized location." In other words, please discontinue sending additional documentation for a pended application to the West Main Street address.

Therefore, to address the infrequent problem of additional documentation going astray when it is included in the same envelope as new applications that you send to National, please keep that documentation separate from new and supplemental applications. Don't list this additional documentation on the transmittal form. Instead, clearly label it as additional documentation for ACN xxxx, name of applicant, name of patriot, and name of the genealogy staff member who pended the application.

Thanks!

Yours in Patriotic Service,

Larry P. Cornwell
Genealogist General

Below Bill Hammitt awarding Gordon Bidner on the right with the Chapter of the Year Award

The grave marking was held at the Dawson Cemetery, Ellsworth, Illinois honoring James Wirt, 1790-1868. Wirt was a private in CAPT. SHEPARD'S COMPANY, OHIO MILITIA. Also recognized were War of 1812 soldiers Cassell Banks, Jeremiah Greenman and Archer Martin who are also buried in the Dawson Cemetery. Seventy-five people attended the ceremony, including many descendants. The grave marking was sponsored by the Sangamon River Chapter, U.S. Daughters of 1812. Mary Barringer is the chapter president. Those attending from GJB color guard were Don Lush Dave Ashbrook and Don Hyland. Jim DeGroff State U.S. Sons of 1812 was also there in his 1812 uniform.
Proofs, Proofs, Proofs – What is a good proof of lineage?

Garry Grugan, ILSSAR Genealogist, Fall 2013

The most frequent question I receive involving new member applications is “Can I use this as a proof?” It seems that there remains a good deal of confusion over what constitutes an acceptable proof of lineage when working with both new applicants and current members assisting those applicants. The NSSAR provides an excellent “Application Preparation Manual” on their website that goes into great detail as to what exactly meets the requirements of genealogical proof in regards to a document or publication. This manual needs to be used by everyone that is preparing applications for submission and, in my opinion, should be shared with all prospective applicants to help them in their genealogical research.

Put simply, to be accepted as a generational proof a document must be complete and original or be a published record that clearly cites the original source documentation in such a manner that it can be located and verified. To quote some of the more important passages in the standards of documentation section from the NSSAR Manual – “While some unacceptable sources can be valuable in providing leads for further research, they do not in and of themselves constitute acceptable proof.” “To be considered as an adequate proof document, any published derivative source must include a citation describing the original source record that the information came from so the original source can be found and consulted if necessary.” Examples of primary sources include birth certificates, census records, bible records, death certificates, wills, etc. Derivative sources would include published histories and genealogies that refer to primary sources and are fully cited.

Common misconceptions I encounter include the belief that an unpublished family history compiled by a relative can be used as a proof, or that an Ancestry.com family tree will work because “everyone has them listed as family” or that a census index alone will suffice as a proof of lineage. While all of these items can help guide the researcher, they cannot be used as stand-alone proofs.

When compiling a proof packet for an applicant the questions you should be asking yourself for each generation are listed below. If you can answer “yes” to any one of them you are done with the proof requirements for that generation and can move on to the next. If your answer to all of the questions is “no” you will need to do more research or build a circumstantial evidence case (please reference the NSSAR Manual for the correct procedure).

1. “Do I have an original document that clearly states the relationship from parent to child?”
2. “Do I have a secondary published source that clearly states the relationship from parent to child and provides primary source citation?”
3. “Do I have a combination of primary and secondary documents that clearly state the relationship from parent to child through reasonable logic?”

For a much more detailed examination of this topic please go to www.sar.org and download the “Application Preparation Manual”, read it, learn it, love it, share it. It will make the application preparation portion of your life so much easier. As always, do not hesitate to contact me with further genealogical questions at gagrugansar@comcast.net.
From the Flag Day concert in Downers Grove to the Wheaton 4th of July day parade, your Fox Valley Chapter has been very busy. Bottom picture includes Dave Olsen, Rod Herbig, Mike Campanolo and Jim Riles. Picture on top left also includes Joe Costello, who had to truck 5 extra blocks from the train station. Wow! Such dedication. Joe joined us from the Salt Creek Chapter!

Top picture on right is Mike Campanolo and Rod Herbig, trying to brighten up a block party in Downers Grove. Compatriot Don Shee set the whole thing up and then when the photographer showed up, he disappeared.

While we were at Cantigney new members arrived for their certificates and rosettes. Right are pictured Rod Herbig, Franz Herder from Salt Creek chapter, Mike Cobb from ABC Chapter, Bruce Talbot, ILSAR President, Mike Campanolo, and Dave Olsen. Pictured left are Luanne Newman, Bruce Talbot, Rod Herbig, New members Bud Newman, David Schrodt, and Mike Campanolo.

Won't you join us in the COLOR GUARD?

This is the largest draw for new Members.

Thank You for your service!
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 January issue of the Patriot
Due: December 10, 2013

TAPS
Dr. John William Plummer July 4, 2013
Col. Donald G Robison June 10, 2013

ILSSAR Patriot Newsletter Editor—
Rod Herbig 5237 Oakview Dr. Lisle Il. 60532
Email: Scout1947@Comcast.net
New Member swearing-in ceremony at Chicago’s Union League Club on July 18, 2013. The program speaker for the luncheon was Dr. Ralph Keen, University of Illinois at Chicago who spoke on “Religion and the American Revolution”.

From left to right - Bing Seibold, Scott Martin Baranski (Bank Officer), Edmund Harrison Lester (Bank Officer), David Michael Ashley (DEA agent), Bruce Talbot. From Compatriot A. Bingham Seibold III, President of the Chapter.

Captain Zeally Moss held Hat Night at the July Meeting, Members wore a period hat or just an interesting hat with quite a variety of Military Service, TRICOR’s, and a few Bonnets worn by the ladies.

Captain Zeally Moss is pleased to announce that 18 year old Eagle Scout Nick Maintz has filed all His paper work to join the Sons of the American Revolution. Nick won the Adams Award for his Eagle Scout project of restoring Pioneer Gravesites at Monmouth Cemetery.

Springfield Chapter Compatriot Cletis Underwood was presented the 2013 C. C. Hall Meritorious Service Award by Toby Chamberlain. The award is named after former Springfield Chapter member C. C. Hall and is the highest chapter award presented to a chapter member.

The award can only be received one time by a chapter member and is based on but not limited to length of SAR membership and service to the Springfield Chapter and/or ILSSAR. The award is not presented every year and is only given when a chapter member’s contributions are considered exceptional.
American Bicentennial Chapter

Compatriot Burt Showers and Vice President of the ABC Chapter has just published a book on his experiences in World War II serving under General MacArthur in the Pacific. The book, “BURT, General MacArthur, and GHQ”, describes Burt’s experiences from joining GHQ and General MacArthur in Brisbane, Australia in June 1944 through Tokyo, Japan in 1946 (Published May 16, 2013; for orders: contact Xlibris Corporation, 1-888-795-4274; www.Xlibris.com; Orders@Xlibris.com, $3.99 E-book; $19.99 Soft cover; $29.99 Hardcover). We are proud of Burt not only of his service in WW II, but as founder of the ABC Chapter in 1976 and for all of his significant service in SAR over the years, including being a Minuteman and Patriot Medal awardees'. Congratulations, Burt! ++++++++++++++

ABC Chapter Compatriot and Des Plaines resident Max Dease donated a statue of firefighters rescuing a child entitled “Courage Under Fire” to the Des Plaines, IL Fire Department on behalf of ILSSAR and the ABC Chapter. Fire Chief Alan Wax acknowledged his appreciation on behalf of the Des Plaines Fire Department: “We are grateful for your generosity and your thoughtfulness in offering this statue to us for display in our fire station. I assure you we will place it prominently and display it proudly. We also appreciate your organization, the work that it does, and the contributions you make.”

Peoria Honor Flight June 4

In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are 'limbs,' therefore painting them would cost the buyer
Kent Worley provided a wonderful gift of an antique fire hose nozzle to honor the heroism of the members of the Chicago Fire Department. Present at the ceremony was Compatriot Chris Gomez of the Salt Creek Chapter, Chicago Fire Commissioner Jose Santiago, Rod Herbig, president of the Fox Valley Chapter, and Illinois State President Bruce Talbot. Chris, a retired Chicago fireman, is the chairman of the public services awards committee for the Salt Creek Chapter.