WISCONSIN SOCIETY PRESIDENTS REPORT

GREAT LAKES DISTRICT MEETING

OCTOBER 19th 2019

There are 205 members in the Wisconsin Society with 9 Life Members.
Average age of the membership is 60.7 years. Oldest member is Warren Kanzelberger from Manitowoc, WI (92 years).
47 members are under the age of 50, 76 members are age 70 or older.
Longest term member is LTC Beverstock at 52 years.
The Wisconsin Society has added 104 members from 2015 through this year. 85 members were sponsored by Genealogist Bob Stone.

My main message this year, as President of the Wisconsin Society, is a need for more chapter activity. We have some very active chapters with Color Guard members and then some chapters with no or little activity. I believe there must be a reason for the membership to attend the chapter meetings such as an interesting speaker, active elections and of course, Color Guard activity.

We had the Larson Picnic in Stevens Point this summer to celebrate the Aupaumut Chapter's 50-year anniversary of their charter. Charlie Larson was awarded the Silver Sherman Medal and the 50 years of Service medal.
The Aupaumut Chapter also awarded Mr. Larson the Chapter Eagle Award.
The WISSAR Color Guard presented and retired the Colors with members from three different chapters.

The WISSAR Color Guard also marched in the Waukesha parade on the 4th of July and in Janesville for the Labor Day parade. We also presented the Colors at the State Capital on Memorial Day, and Honor Flights returning to Madison, Wreathes Across America last December and many chapter meetings.

At the last meeting of the Nathaniel Ames Chapter this spring the chapter Color Guard members attended in uniform which will now be an annual event. Pictured below are five of the six Color Guard members, missing member was away at collage. A presentation of the C & C Guard Power Point was made. Thank you, Michigan Society, for letting us use their Power Point presentation.

Brian Barrett is the Wisconsin Color Guard Commander. With his leadership the Color Guard has grown by six new members. Brian has written several books on the American Revolution.

Bob Haglund of the Aupaumut Chapter attend the Fall Leadership Meeting September 19-21, 2019. Bob served in the National Color Guard both nights. Bob also heads up the Wisconsin Eagle Scout Committee and serves as 1st VP of the Aupaumut Chapter.

We have one member of the Tainter Chapter who has been working to input patriot records into the NSSAR system. A special mention was made by Chairman Green at dinner during Leadership on how great a job Mr. Kaus is doing. Looking for more compatriots to join in this.

WREATHS *across* AMERICA

The Nathaniel Ames Chapter will be participating in the Wreaths Across America this December14th. I am asking that the Nathaniel Ames members contribute to this cause. I will be the first to pledge $200. I am using $600 from Roger Boeker's funds. Mark and Mike Nelson have pledged $100 each, both Color Guard members. For every $15.00 pledged $5.00 comes back to the Chapters. For pledges over $100.00 you will receive a lapel pin from the Century Club. A lesser pledge will be counted toward the Century Club pin. There will be an entry on the dues notice for Wreathes Across America this year and other chapters may have wreathes sent to cemeteries in their area and have their chapter receive the $5.00 per wreath. **We now have 50 wreaths pledged; I would like to see the total reach 200 wreathes. One wreath for every member will get us there**
The Goal in Wreaths Across America is to place a Christmas wreath at the headstone of every veteran who served this country. We in Madison place wreaths at Forest Hill Cemetery in the Veterans section, Union Rest and Confederate Rest. I will also be taking wreaths to the Fort Winnebago Cemetery in Portage, WI to place wreaths at the two Revolutionary War graves there. We will also place a wreath at Roger's grave while in Color Guard uniform.

The 2020 Great Lakes District meeting has been scheduled for October 23-24, 2020.

Submitted by
WISSAR President William T. Austin
19 October 2019