



THE DRUMBEAT

Volume I, Issue I (January 2016)

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTON STATE
COLOR GUARD



Editor: Lieut. Paul Adan, Adjutant

Commander's Greeting



Col. Douglas Nelson,
Brigade Commander

"On behalf of our members, I invite you to join our ranks as we strive to keep patriotism and the memory of our Revolutionary War heritage burning in the hearts and minds of every American, young and old. We believe it is our responsibility to bring public awareness of how we became this free nation and understand that it did not come free."



What's New?



During the 2015 Veteran's Day Parade in Auburn, WA, the Washington State SAR Color Guard (along with a contingent of DAR ladies) was awarded the City's Veteran's Award for "Best Non-Motorized" Entry. This outstanding achievement was a group effort, but the presence of the recently formed "Fife and Drum Corps" was a critical factor. Huzzah!

Check us out Online!

www.wassar.net/

www.sar.org/

www.facebook.com/WashingtonSocietySAR/timeline



TABLE OF CONTENTS

UNIFORMS AND SUPPLIERS	3
WA STATE COLOR GUARD ACTIVITIES	8
AWARDS AND RECOGNITION	12
WESTERN WA ACTIVITIES	16
EASTERN WA ACTIVITIES	23
NATIONAL SOCIETY COLOR GUARD	28

The Color Guard Wants You!

Unlike any other component of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), the Color Guard provides newly inducted SAR members with multiple opportunities and challenges to do something meaningful with those handsome membership-certificates. Besides being a lot of fun, and a great way to form lasting friendships with other compatriots, the Color Guard is an excellent way to become an active participant in fulfilling the over-arching mission of our great organization. After all, where else but the Color Guard would you ever be given the opportunity to march in parades, participate in “Honor-Flight” homecoming welcomes for WWII veterans, post colors and congratulate new Americans at Citizenship ceremonies, honor individuals and businesses with Flag-Certificates, or teach our great American heritage to classrooms full of eager 4th and 5th graders? The answer is clearly, “nowhere.”

In an effort to encourage your participation, the Color Guard would like to give you the opportunity to use a loaner uniform (hunting frock or Regimental, free of charge) until you're able to purchase your own. During this transition phase, as you “build” a uniform, the Color Guard will also provide you with helpful tips and website addresses (see pages 4 – 7). By the way, you needn't be a military veteran to join the ranks of these modern day “patriot soldiers.” All that is required is the ability to smile, and wave a flag!



Washington State Color Guard members are flanked by National President General Lindsey Brock (far left), and Treasurer General Mike Tomme (second from right). Oregon State SAR Color Guard Commander Mark Robertson is kneeling, at right.

Uniforms and Suppliers

WASSAR Color Guard Uniforms: January 2016

During his tenure as Western WA Regiment Color Guard Commander, Bob O'Neal (shown below, saluting) has meticulously researched websites, costs, suppliers, and everything else that is needed in order to assemble a Revolutionary War era uniform. The information he compiled is provided below, in his own words... Thanks Bob, for all your hard work!

NOTE: ALL the uniform items DO NOT need to be obtained to make up a COMPLETE uniform for Color Guard events (See below).



Regimental Uniform

NOTE: This is the preferred uniform for Color Guard leaders and flag bearers.

Typical items: Tri-corn hat, coat, waistcoat (vest), breeches or long overalls, stockings, buckled shoes.

Undergarments: White soldier shirt, collar, puffed sleeves, optional ruffles at throat & cuffs.

Note: Officers wear shoulder boards, and a crimson silk sash; NCO's wear epaulets, red wool sash, and a sword.

Accoutrements: Neck stock (tie), haversack, canteen, pistol or musket/bayonet or long rifle

Minimum costs less tax & shipping:

Jas. Townsend & Son: www.jas-townsend.com/

Tricorn Hat: TH-905 (\$66), Other Models: (\$62 to \$200)

Coat: RC152 (\$345 - \$365. Purchase of a coat can be deferred, as the other items make a suitable uniform.)

Waistcoat: SW-130 (\$122-\$132); **Knee breeches:** \$90.00 or **Long pants:** PA-125 (\$85.00) or **light color khakis**

Soldier Shirt: \$45.00 or **Ruffled shirt:** \$60.00; **Neck stock:** \$8.50; **Long stockings:** \$13.00

Total Minimum Outlay: \$200 - \$300 as a starter uniform. (Regimental coat added later.)

Optional Accoutrement Items:

Leather Belt: \$22.00; **Shoulder boards:** \$15.00 (One or two, in red, green, silver, or gold; according to rank)

Sash: \$100.00. (Crimson for officers) **Note:** The 54" long sash was used as stretcher to carry fallen off the battlefield.

Haversack: \$20.00; **Canteen:** \$55.00; **Sword:** \$82.00 "Bunker Hill" sword widely available on web.

Rifle replica: \$180.00. Available as non-firing pieces; **Musket replica:** \$200.00 with **Bayonet;** **Powder Horn:** \$20.00



David Irons



Viren Lemmer

Colonial Militiaman's Uniform

NOTE: Desirable for armed color guardsmen to flank the flag bearers.

Typical items: 'Round' hat, hunting frock, long pants and/or leggings, boots or moccasins;

Undergarments: White soldier shirt or regular farm-type checked shirt;

Note: Officers wear colored sash, NCO's colored wool sash.

Accoutrements: Belt, haversack, canteen, tomahawk, musket & bayonet or long rifle (no bayonet);



Paul Adan

Minimum costs less tax & shipping:

Jas. Townsend & Son: www.jas-townsend.com/

Round Hat: \$40.00 - \$52.00; **Hunting Frock:** \$65.00 (Dixie Gun Works) or \$95.00 - 110.00 (Jas-Townsend), **Waistcoat:** \$40.00 - \$122;

(Options: Purchase your own cloth & a pattern for \$12.00 and make it locally; purchase the Kit with pieces already cut for \$35.00 and have it sewn to fit locally)

Leather Belt: On hand;

Long pants: \$85.00 (Or use light color khakis);

Cravat: \$14.00;

Soldier Shirt: \$45.00 (Or use any rough cotton, linen or homespun farm-look shirt, solid or check);

Moccasins or work boots or hiking boots: On hand - shoes, boots not critical;

Total Minimum Outlay: \$200-\$300 as a starter uniform. (Pants added later);



Dan Weedin

Optional Accoutrement Items:

Leggings: \$33.00; **Haversack:** \$20.00; **Canteen:** \$55.00; **Rifle replica:** \$180.00 (non-firing)

Musket replica: \$200 with **Bayonet;** **Powder Horn:** \$20.00; **Tomahawk:** \$16.00; **Hunting knife:** \$40.00



Uniform Sources

Uniforms in polyester are less expensive and look dressier. But they cannot be used for firing flintlocks as sparks will burn through this material. Uniforms in wool and linen are more authentic, more expensive, and less comfortable. They can be used to fire flintlock weapons since the sparks will not burn through.

These are just a few sources. Check the internet for more.

Rick Haven: Uniforms are made to order (Dress regimental, and accessories, too). The uniforms are museum-quality, at reasonable prices. Fine Wool, Polyester/wool.

Email: 5elves@bellsouth.net

Web Address: www.just2tailors.com/

Jas. Townsend & Son: Hats, clothing, and accoutrements. All items, including uniforms, are good quality and reasonably priced.

Web Address: www.jas-townsend.com/

C&D Jarnigan Co.: All items of uniform – higher priced quality goods. Wool, linen, cotton.

Web Address:

www.jarniginco.com/revwarframe.html

Example: (Leggings for riflemen-\$33)

Avalon Forge: Accoutrements at reasonable prices. Also carries many items from colonial life for presenting in the classroom.

Address: 409 Gun Road, Baltimore, MD 21227

Phone: (410)242-8431

Web Address: www.avalonforge.com/

Smiling Fox Forge: All items of Uniform – gun supplies, colonial goods – reasonable prices

Web Address:

www.stores.ebay.com.au/smiling-fox-forge

Guns and Swords: Arms, replicas, flintlocks. Rifles, muskets, bayonet, and swords are sold at competitive prices.

Web Address: www.gunsandswords.com/

Crazy Crow Trading Post: Rifleman, mountaineer, Indian items (kits, crafts, and patterns). Also sells a variety of rifleman accoutrements. Round hats: \$25.00.

Web Address: www.crazycrow.com/

Dixie Gun Works.: Guns and accoutrements, including a very good hunting frock for only \$65.00.

Web Address: www.dixiegunworks.com/

Rendezvous schedule: Used items are often on sale at “mountain man” rendezvous.

Get Outfitted for a Rendezvous!

March 12 and 13, 2016

Evergreen State Fairgrounds (Saturday 9AM-5pm, and Sunday, 9AM – 3PM) Admission is \$8

Web Address:

www.cascademountainmen.com/gunshow.html

Fort Nisqually Gift Shop: Located at Point Defiance in Tacoma. They have many items of colonial life for presentations in the classroom.

Editor's Note: Don't forget to check out the following additional websites:

www.amazon.com/ (Muskets, powder horns)

www.caltd.com/ (Collector's Armory – replica weapons)

www.colonialuniforms.com/ (Coats, breeches, waistcoats, shirts)

RULES REGARDING THE WEAR OF TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH ATTIRE

During the Revolutionary War, many Americans of Scottish ancestry supported the patriot cause. In fact, 19 of the 56 delegates who signed the Declaration of Independence were Scottish-Americans. On the battlefield, those who fought the Redcoats often did so while clothed in traditional Scottish attire.

Recently, there was much discussion about whether or not Color Guard members should be allowed to march in their kilts. The following material addresses the controversy and the agreed upon solution.



As Presented, the suggested compromise actually is very close to what most supporters were seeking approval to wear. It is a good alternative.

The 1777 woodcut/image of a Georgia Scottish attire Militiaman was actually on our Georgia Patriot “Continental” money from 1777---War’s end.

• Per Mark Anthony: The SAR Color Guard is a representative body and NOT historically accurate in presentation of Revolutionary War-era Militia, Army, or other supporting Revolutionary War era materials. As such, as stated, a Representation of these Patriots in question would be sufficient.

• The kilt uniform would consist of:

- 1) A kilt (Modern/ Ancient) (long pleat or short waist pleat)
- 2) Waist Belt to hold pleats, over or under waist coat
- 3) Buckle shoes, boots or moccasins for foot wear
- 4) Stockings – knee length of wool or cotton, with or without, garters or leg- buckle ties
- 5) A colonial shirt (pull over) white – checkered--raw tan cotton-etc...
- 6) A neck sock-option, colonial waist coat, a bonnet, flop or Tricor hat
- 7) Ancient Sporrans “only”; sewn skin-leather bags tied at the apex and attached to a waist belt (under coat), or tied around the waist
These were in lieu of NO pockets on old/ancient pleat kilts or Scottish clothing.

• Accessories:

- 1) Haversack
- 2) Broadsword or claymore
- 3) Dirks/knife/tomahawk
- 4) Musket & cartridge box



Bob Parrish

• **NO Modern** sporrans, **NO** modern foot-wear, **NO** ties (bow or long), **NO** day coats, **NO** Prince Charlie Coats and **NO** modern uniform hats. **NO** ‘dicing’ on any article.

* Need Stockings? Made from 75% cotton, 22% polyester, and 3% Spandex. Even better, they come up to the knee! A tip from Color Guard Commander, Bob O’Neal: www.golfknickers.com/

WA State Color Guard Activities

WASSAR Color Guard Annual Report 2015

**The Washington Society Color Guard musters at 31 uniformed color guardsmen.
They performed 270 times at 118 uniformed events.**

65 Living history presentations	2 Funerals & Memorials
4 Posting of Colors	3 Honor Flights
14 Ceremonies & meetings	4 National Events
4 Parades	9 Flag retirements
16 Recruiting Events & Booths	8 Citizenship Ceremonies

National Events:

Pacific District Conference	Bellevue WA	April
National Congress	Louisville KY	July (Col. Doug Nelson)
Steilacoom 4 th July Parade	Steilacoom WA	July
Veteran's Day Parade	Auburn WA	November
Wreaths Across America	Five Chapters	December

Major State Events:

GW Birthday Memorial	Seattle WA	February
WASSAR Annual Meeting	Bellevue WA	April
WSSDAR State Conference	Redmond WA	May
Armed Forces Day Parade	Bremerton WA	May
Richland Parade	Richland WA	June
Sprague Days Parade	Sprague WA	July
NW Colonial Festival	Sequim WA	July
Labor Day Parade	Black Diamond	Sept
WA State Fair	Puyallup WA	Sept

We presented Living History to 65 elementary school classes and civic organizations bringing History, Education & Patriotism to over 1,600 children and adults. Drum Major Viren is regularly fielding our Fife & Drum unit at parades. In addition we continue to be recognized with articles and pictures in *The SAR Magazine*, *The SAR Color Guardsman* magazine (1 & ½ pages!) and local press.

Chapters with fully staffed Color Guard units received a blue & gold WASSAR Streamer from Col. Doug Nelson: Alexander Hamilton Chapter, John Paul Jones Chapter, Mid-Columbia Chapter and Spokane #1 Chapter. Loaner uniforms are now available at all these chapters and Cascade Chapter for those who would try some of our events. Attached is our CG Roster and the current CG Events Schedule.

Our WASSAR letter to National SAR & Bob Parrish's Resolution urging full reconsideration to accept *properly* kilted compatriots into our National Color Guard was favorably acted upon by the SAR Special committee.

We continue to enjoy a good reputation and much communications with our Washington DAR Society, from which have come many new members.

Many thanks to you all, your service is valued & appreciated,
Yr most Obed't & humble Serv't,

Bob O'Neal

Commanding (WASSAR Color Guard)

Color Guard Roster

As of January 2016

Brigade Commander: Col. Douglas Nelson [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Western Washington Regiment:

WASSAR Commander

Lt. Col. Bob O'Neal, [REDACTED] Tacoma
Cell: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Alexander Hamilton Chapter:

Captain Lee Thomasson, [REDACTED]

Hoquiam

Email: [REDACTED]

Drum Major Viren Lemmer Tacoma

Email: [REDACTED]

Lieut. Paul Adan [REDACTED] Tacoma

Email: [REDACTED]

Lieut. Art Dolan [REDACTED] Olympia

Email: [REDACTED]

Ensign Fred Ramsey, [REDACTED]

Olympia

Email: [REDACTED]

Lt. Col. Bob Parrish [REDACTED]

Univ. Place

Email: [REDACTED]

John Welsh, [REDACTED] (Rochambeau)

Email: [REDACTED] Olympia

Skip Stephan [REDACTED] Steilacoom

Email: [REDACTED]

Claude Asher [REDACTED] Auburn

Email: [REDACTED]

John Paul Jones Chapter:

Captain Fred Gilbert [REDACTED] Seabeck

Email: [REDACTED]

1st Lt. Mick Hersey [REDACTED]

Bremerton

Email: [REDACTED]

Col. Bob Smalser [REDACTED] Seabeck

Email: [REDACTED]

Dave Gaddis [REDACTED] Poulsbo

Email: [REDACTED]

Ken Roberts [REDACTED] Gig Harbor

Email: [REDACTED]

David Irons [REDACTED] Olalla

Email: [REDACTED]

Keith Phillipy [REDACTED] Bremerton

Email: [REDACTED]

Drummer Dan Weedon, [REDACTED]

Poulsbo Email: [REDACTED]

Noah Chase [REDACTED] Burley

Email: [REDACTED]

Cascade Centennial Chapter:

Capt. Greg Emerson [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Renton

Major Jim Lindley, [REDACTED] Bellevue

Email: [REDACTED]

Eastern Washington Regiment:

WASSAR Vice Commander:

Major Stan Wills, [REDACTED] Sprague

Email: [REDACTED]

Spokane Chapter:

Captain Gale Palmer, [REDACTED] Sprague

Email: [REDACTED]

Lieut. Dale Ryan [REDACTED] Spokane

Email: [REDACTED]

Tom Clark, [REDACTED] Deer Park

Email: [REDACTED]

Bill Rickett, [REDACTED] Spokane Valley

Email: [REDACTED]

Mid-Columbia Chapter:

Captain Larry Flint [REDACTED]

Richland Email: [REDACTED]

Lieut. Barry Moravek [REDACTED]

Richland Email: [REDACTED]

Conn Clark [REDACTED] Richland

Email: [REDACTED]

John Tipton [REDACTED] Yakima

Email: [REDACTED]

Other Western Washington Chapters:

Seattle Chapter: None -TBA

George Washington Chapter: None - TBA

Fort Vancouver Chapter: None -TBA

Official State & National Society Color Guard Events

(REF: SAR Handbook, Vol. V and SAR Color Guard Handbook www.sar.org/)

The listed events are hereby designated Official State Level Color Guard events by the WASSAR Color Guard Committee and are under the responsibility and control of the WASSAR Color Guard Commander. State level events are in blue ink and National in red for earning SAR color guard medals. Dates are approximate and should be confirmed on the current Color Guard Events Schedule.

WESTERN WASHINGTON

DATE (approx.)	EVENT	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
Feb 15	Washington Birthday Memorial	(DAR) Present Colors	UW Seattle
March	NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting		Louisville KY
Apr 29	Pacific District Meeting		OR or WA
Apr 30	WASSAR Annual Meeting	Present Colors	OR or WA
May 7	WSSDAR Annual Conference	Booth & Colors	EWA or WWA
May 21	Armed Forces Day Parade	Parade	Bremerton
May 30	Memorial Day Activity		Various
June 18	WSGS Annual Conference	Booth & Colors	EWA or WWA
July 4	Independence Day Parade	Parade	Steilacoom
July 4	Independence Day Activity		Various
July 5	National SAR Congress		Various
Sept 5	Labor Day Parade	Parade	Black Diamond
Sept 18-19	Washington State Fair	Booth	Puyallup
Sept 17	Citizenship Celebration	Booth & Colors	Tacoma
September	NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting		Louisville KY
Nov 7	Veterans Day Parade	Parade Auburn	WA
Nov 11	Veterans Day Activity		Various
Dec 12	Wreaths Across America		Various

EASTERN WASHINGTON (Additional State level Events):

(EWA color guards may count their chapter color guard events as equivalent to State-level events.)

DATE (approx.)	EVENT	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
May 14	Lilac Torch Light Parade Veterans	Parade	Spokane
Sept 17	Constitution Day Citizenship Ceremony	Meet & Greet	Spokane
Nov 7	Richland Veterans Day Parade	Parade	West Richland
TBA	DAR State Events	Post Colors	Various
TBA	Honor Flight for WWII/Korea Veterans	Meet & Greet	Spokane

The SAR Bronze CG medal requires uniformed participation at 3 state level events or equivalent chapter level events over each of 3 years; The Silver medal requires 3 national/district events over each of three years; The Von Steuben medal requires 25 national/district events over at least 5 years.

Douglas Nelson, Col.
Brigade Commander
& President, WASSAR

Robert O'Neal, Lt.Col.
WASSAR Color Guard Commander
& Committee Chairman

Awards and Recognition

Editor's Note: *The following material comes from the NSSAR Color-Guard Handbook, pages 13-16. This handbook is an excellent source of information, and can be found at www.sar.org Another great source is Volume V of the NSSAR handbooks. The three medals discussed below are ones that can be earned at the state level. Also, since Washington State employs the "events system" rather than the "points system," only the material pertaining to the "events system" is included herein.*

"As clarification, the order in which Color Guard medals are earned is as such. The Bronze Color Guard Medal is earned first followed by the Silver Color Guard Medal. It is possible that both medals may be earned within the stated three year time frame. If both are earned within that time frame, then the Bronze Color Guard Medal is always presented to the compatriot prior to the presentation of the Silver Color Guard Medal. After the Silver Color Guard Medal is earned, then the Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard may be earned. There is no requirement for earning the Von Steuben Medal prior to earning the Gold Color Guard Medal."

I. Earning the Bronze Color Guard Medal

Precedence: 42

Year Authorized: 1998

Presented By: State Society President or Chapter President

Approved By: State Awarding Authority (State Color Guard Commander)



Summary: The Bronze Color Guard Medal is for service at the Chapter and State level. Each medal is awarded for at least three years of service. The three years may be broken, not continuous. The medal may be awarded for retroactive service so any living compatriot may receive it even if he does not march anymore.

Qualifications: Each State Society shall determine for itself whether to employ a Points System or an Events System, as defined below, for earning the Bronze Color Guard Medal.

Events System:

1. To earn the SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal, a Color Guardsman must participate in at least 50% of the scheduled Chapter and/or State Color Guard activities in each of three years which do not need to be continuous. A year shall be any period of twelve consecutive months.
2. A Chapter event shall be defined as an event hosted by a chapter where an invitation to the State Color Guard was not extended. Examples include, but are not limited to: school assemblies/programs, presentations at civic clubs, churches and other public organizations, chapter meetings, flag retirement ceremonies, local veterans' events, local Revolutionary War event celebrations, local government proclamation ceremonies and similar local events. The Chapter President should approve a chapter event before the event may be counted.
3. A Color Guardsman must keep track of the events in which he has participated, and must prove that he has participated in the minimum number of events to the State President or State Color Guard Commander, or to such other appropriate State authority.

Subsequent Presentation NOT Authorized: A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

II. Earning the Silver Color Guard Medal

Precedence: 40

Year Authorized: 1998

Presented By: District Vice President General, State President or by the District or State Color Guard Commander (as appropriate). The President General or the National Color Guard Commander may also present this award.

Approved By: State or District Color Guard Commander and National Color Guard Commander



Summary: The Silver Color Guard Medal is for service at the District and National levels. The medal is awarded for at least three years of service. The three years may be broken, not continuous. The medal may be awarded for retroactive service, so any living compatriot may receive it, even if he cannot march anymore. *An SAR Color Guardsman must have qualified for and received the Bronze Color Guard Medal before he can be awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal.*

Special Application Required: SAR Color Guardsmen who believe they qualify for the Silver Color Guard Medal must complete the appropriate form setting forth their qualifications. This form is available on the SAR website and must be submitted to the State or District Color Guard Commander for review and recommendation. It is then forwarded to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the Silver Color Guard Medal.

Qualifying Events: The SAR National Congress and semi-annual Leadership Meetings are National events, and Color Guardsmen are strongly encouraged to participate in them. Other qualifying events which may be substituted for National Congresses and Leadership Meetings shall include:

An historic commemoration recognized by the NSSAR Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee, (See the published listing in *The SAR Magazine* and/or on the National Society SAR website),

An Annual State Meeting at which the President General is present,

- 15 -

An Annual District Meeting or Annual District Conference,

Any National or District event at which the President General is present,

Any event specifically determined by the National Color Guard Committee to be a qualifying event, See *National Color Guard Events* under MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION at the back of this Handbook,

Other events as determined by the National Color Guard Committee to be qualifying events on a case-by-case basis.

Qualifications: Each State Society shall determine for itself whether to employ a Points System or an Events System, as defined below, for earning the Silver Color Guard Medal.

Events System:

1. To earn an SAR Silver Color Guard Medal, a Color Guardsman must participate in at least three District and/or National events in each of three years, which do not need to be continuous. A year shall be any period of twelve consecutive months.

2. For those events that are both state and National events, it is the policy of the National Color Guard Committee that any such event can be counted only for the Bronze Color Guard Medal until it is earned and only then can it count toward the Silver Color Guard Medal.

Subsequent Presentation NOT Authorized: A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

III. Earning the National Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard

Precedence: 39

Year Authorized: 2012

Presented By: District Vice President General, State President, or by the District or State Color Guard Commander (as appropriate). The President General or the National Color Guard Commander may also present this award.



Approved By: State or District Color Guard Commander and National Color Guard Commander

Description: The National Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard is gold in color, and depicts a likeness of Baron Friederich von Steuben.

Summary: The National Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard, authorized 2 March 2012 by the National Society SAR Executive Committee, may be awarded for sustained service to the Society as a Color Guardsman at the National or District Levels. Recipients must have already been awarded the Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals.

Special Application Required: SAR Color Guardsmen who believe they qualify for the National Von Steuben Medal must complete the appropriate form setting forth their qualifications. This form is available on the SAR website and must be submitted to the State or District Color Guard Commander for review and recommendation. It is then forwarded to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to the National Von Steuben Medal.

Qualifications: Each State Society shall determine for itself whether to employ a Points System or an Events System, as defined below, for earning the National Von Steuben Medal.

Events System:

1. To earn the National Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard, a Color Guardsman must serve at least five (5) years after the date his application for the Silver Color Guard Medal was approved and he must participate in at least twenty-five (25) National and/or District Color Guard events. The five years' service does not have to be continuous. Color Guardsmen may take longer than five years to participate in twenty-five qualifying events, but may not be awarded the National Von Steuben Medal earlier than five years after his application for the Silver Color Guard Medal was approved.

2. The same events that count toward earning the Silver Color Guard Medal shall also count toward earning the National Von Steuben Medal.

Subsequent Presentation NOT Authorized: A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

Retroactive Effectiveness: SAR Color Guardsmen who were active at the time this Medal was approved by the National Color Guard Committee (July 2011), and who had previously been awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal, may count the points earned from attending any qualifying National or District Color Guard event if using the points system, or the actual number of events if using the events system, in which they participated during the two (2) year period prior to the National Color Guard Committee approval, or from the date they were approved for the Silver Color Guard Medal, whichever is more recent, toward earning the National Von Steuben Medal.)

Western Washington Activities

Events Schedule: Winter-Spring 2016

(Official WASSAR scheduled events in blue, **NSSAR in red.**)

Western Washington Regiment

Jan 13 – 9:40am & 11:10am Lowell School Tacoma 4th Grade Mr. Oak, *Flags of the Revolution* 45 (O’Neal)

Jan 15 – 1:10am Lowell School Tacoma 4th Grade Mr. Oak *Flags of the Revolution* 45 (O’Neal)

Jan 17 – 10:45am Emerald Elem. Silverdale, 3ea 5th grades, *Colonial Life* (Gilbert, Nelson, Smalser)

Jan 18 – 10:30am Living Hope School Puyallup Juzeine Thomas, *Flags of the Revolution* (O’Neal)

Jan 21 – 10am-12am FILA Home School Bethlehem Church Tacoma *Teenagers & Old Glory* (O’Neal)

Jan 29-30 – WSSDAR BOM Meeting SeaTac Hilton Hotel. Luncheon 12:00-2:00pm Sat. Jan 30.

Feb 2 - 12:15 Kitsap Middle School, Silverdale, 3ea 7th grades, *Colonial Life* (Gilbert, Nelson, Smalser)

Feb 8 – 8:15-10:15am Meeker Middle School 7th Grade -2 classes *Colonial Life* - 40 (O’Neal)

Feb 9 – 10:15-1:45am Meeker Middle School 7th Grade-2 classes *Colonial Life* - 40 (Dolan)

Feb 11 – 1:45-2:45pm Meeker Middle School 7th Grade-1 class *Colonial Life* - 40 (O’Neal)

Feb 15 - 9:00am Presidents Day with GSDARRC: George Washington Memorial Wreath Laying at Univ. of Washington – WASSAR Color Guard – Present & post Colors.

Feb 17 – 1:35pm Heritage Christian U-Place, 2nd Grade “*Minuteman, Colonial Life*” - 40 (O’Neal)

Feb 21 – 3:00pm Massing of the Colors – Stadium High School Gym – O’Neal, Dolan, Lemmer, Stephan

Feb 23 – 1:30pm Heritage Christian, U-Place, 1st Grade “*Washington’s Birthday*” - 40 (O’Neal)

Feb 25-27: NSSAR Leadership Conference - Louisville KY (Nelson, Doughty, Lucas)

Mar 12-13 – 9am-5pm Get outfitted for Color Guard at the Annual Gun Show, Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Monroe – See www.cascademountainmen.com/gunshow.html

Mar 14 – 5:00pm Sea Scout Ship 110 Bridge of Honor awards- Mt. Tahoma HS - (O’Neal)

Mar 22 – Geiger Montessori 4th & 5th Grades Kaitlyn Jolliffe – 5 classes! *Colonial Life* (O’Neal & Dolan)

Mar 18 – Buckley Historic Society, Foothills Museum, Anne Gibson *Flags of the Revolution* - (O’Neal)

Mar 19 – 1:00pm DAR Black Diamond Library, Jeannette Carroll, *Flags of the Revolution* - (O’Neal)

April 22-23 – WSSDAR 2015 State Conference: SeaTac Marriott – (O’Neal & Emerson & CG)

Apr 29-30 - WASSAR Pacific District Conf. – Portland Airport Hotel (O’Neal, Wills, Nelson, Thomasson, Emerson, Flint, Gilbert, Lemmer, Adan, Hersey, Palmer, Dolan, Moravek, Ryan, &c.)

April 30 – 8:00am WASSAR Annual Meeting – Color Guard (All Hands)

May 10- 5:00pm Cascade DAR Bellevue, Lanabeth, *Teenagers in the Revolution* - (O’Neal)

May 21 - 9am Armed Forces Day Parade, Bremerton (Color Guard & all Hands)

May 29 – 1:00pm Memorial Day Fir Lane Memorial Park, 924 E. 176th, Spanaway, Full Color Guard - (O’Neal, Thomasson, Adan, Dolan, Lemmer, Stephan)

News from the Fife and Drum Corps



Drum Major Viren Lemmer was the driving force behind the creation of the Western Washington Color Guard Fife and Drum Corps. He recently gave a presentation to the Alexander Hamilton Chapter. The title was, "The Fife and Drum during the Revolutionary War." A brief synopsis of his presentation is provided, below, along with his biography.



"During the Revolutionary War, armies didn't have radios to give commands. Music was the primary method for them to communicate over long distances. The fife was used because of its high pitched sound and the drum because of its low pitched sound. Both instruments can be heard from great distances and even above the awful din of the battlefield.

Fifers and drummers would provide the music to command all of the actions that soldiers needed to do throughout the day. They would play tunes in the camp, on the battlefield, or for a march. This month's presentation will look at the manner in which these instruments and musicians, vital to the battle, helped further the cause of our Nation's independence."

Viren Lemmer's music career began at age 8, when he received his first drum! Several years later, while his father was stationed in Germany and Viren was in high school, he joined a German fife and drum corps. As a member of the corps, Viren performed for the Chancellor of Germany. After High School, Viren immediately enlisted in the Air Force. It was during his enlistment that he was given the opportunity for an early release, in order to complete his bachelor's degree, if he would agree to return as an officer. Viren seized the opportunity, and would later receive his commission [REDACTED]

While in college, Viren worked as a 'roadie' for 25 national touring bands. This covered a wide range of musical groups from Randy Travis and Reba McEntire, to Metallica. He also had stints with The Beach Boys, Aerosmith, and Chicago. After playing as a sideman for many years, he recorded his own solo CD, 'The Way to the Lord,' in 2009. The title track reached #2 on the Independent Christian Music Charts.

Viren has been a music teacher [REDACTED] since 1994. He received national recognition as an *M-powered Educator* for the Northwest Region of the United States. This award was for the use of technology in the music classroom.

Viren Lemmer
Drum Major, WA State SAR

Year-End Review (2015 Events)



A



B



C



D



E



F

A and B: Washington Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony at UW, Seattle; **C and D:** Massing of the Colors, Stadium HS, Tacoma; (L to R) Drum Major Viren Lemmer and Lt. Col. Bob O'Neal; **E and F:** Lt. Art Dolan (with Flag) at Washington Portrait Dedication, George Washington Elementary School. Viren Lemmer and Dr. Knight can be seen on the platform. Compatriot Bill Baxter is seated at far right behind the woman with green blouse.



A

B



C

D



E

A and B: Bremerton Memorial Day Parade; In B, Lt. Col. Bob O'Neal shows children how to make a perfect 5-point star; C: Steilacoom July 4th Parade; D: Former WA State SAR President Jim Lindley in his new Regimental uniform; E: Labor Day Parade, with DAR, at Black Diamond, WA.



A



B



C



D



E

A: Black Diamond Parade; B: Drum Major Viren Lemmer, Jan Lemmer, and Viren's son, Alex; C: In the rain at the Auburn Veteran's Day Parade; D and E: Cpt. Greg Emerson gives a "Day in the Life" living-history presentation.



A



B



C

A and B: US Citizenship ceremony. In B, WA State SAR President Doug Nelson with new Americans; C: (L to R) Lt. Col. Bob O’Neal, Col. Doug Nelson, Drum Major Viren Lemmer, and Lt. Art Dolan at the “Educator’s Night, Foss Waterway Museum, WA. Over 500 teachers were present, many of whom invited the SAR into their classrooms to give living-history presentations.

Eastern Washington Activities

Major Stan Wills Receives Award



Congratulations!

Washington State SAR Color Guard Vice-Commander, Major Stan Wills, was recently awarded the [Bronze Distinguished Service Medal](#) by Spokane Chapter President Bill Ailes. Major Wills distinguished himself by his outstanding service to the chapter as past-President, Vice-President, and Color Guard Commander.

Precedence: 11

Year Authorized: 2013

Presented By: Chapter

Approved By: Chapter President

Description: The Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service (“CMDS”) is diamond shaped with a blue SAR insignia surmounted on a white enamel background and trimmed in bronze hanging from a drape of solid maroon ribbon. A miniature medal is available. [The CMDS is the highest medal that can be awarded by a Chapter President.](#)

Authorized Presentation: The incumbent Chapter President may present one medal during his term (or each year of his term if elected to a multiyear term) at the Chapter’s Annual Meeting, to a Compatriot in recognition for that Compatriot's conspicuous service to the Chapter during the president's administration. The Chapter President presents this Medal at his discretion; no other approval is required.

Subsequent Presentation NOT Authorized: A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

Year-End Review (2015 Events)



A



B



C

A: WASSAR's Mid Columbia Chapter Color Guard at the Veterans Day Parade, Nov 7th, in Richland, WA: (L to R) Fifer Kelly, Conn Clark, Major Stan Wills, Captain Larry Flint, Ken Powe, and Drummer Dale Ryan; **B:** Sam Tipton (son of Compatriot John Tipton) rides in the Parade vehicle driven by Barry Moravek at West Richland's Veterans Day Parade. **C:** Color Guard Eastern Washington Regt., at Medical Lake VA Cemetery, Washington Territory: (Left to right) Keith Phillipy, Vice Commander Stan Wills, Drummer Dale Ryan, Lt. Gale Palmer



A



B



C



D



E



F

A: Compatriot Keith Phillipy in his new Regimental uniform. Keith is a member of Spokane Chapter No. 1. Keith is a USN submarine veteran. He coordinates events schedules at the VA hospital & VA cemetery; **B:** (R to L) Gale Palmer, Keith Phillipy, Stan Wills firing muskets; Drummer Dale Ryan stands by; **C:** Dale Ryan (Left) and Major Stan Wills await an Honor Flight at Spokane International Airport; **D:** Major Stan Wills permanently retires the Colors; **E:** Mid-Columbia Color Guard at Wreaths Across America, Richland, WA; **F:** Spokane Compatriots Keith Phillipy (L) and Dale Ryan attended the new Citizens ceremony today. Twenty-one new Citizens from 14 countries were sworn in. This young lady and her family were from Uganda.



A



B



C



D

A: Wreaths Across America; B-D: Honoring America's veterans with wreaths and musket fire!

National Society Color Guard

National Color Guard Information

From the "SAR Colorguardsman" www.sar.org (pages 37-38)

State Society Color Guard Commander

Welcome to the NSSAR Color Guard. Please note that any questions concerning potential color guard events or participation in events should be directed to the respective commander in the state where the event is taking place. Each commander is emailed each new issue of "The SAR Colorguardsman" for distribution to the guardsmen within each state society. Any questions about the distribution of the new issue should be directed to the respective state commander.

State Color Guard Commander /Primary Phone Number /Email /Address City

Alabama:

George Thomas Smith, III [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Montgomery

Arizona

Stephen Miller [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

California

James C Fosdyck [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Garden Grove

Colorado

Steven DeBoer [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Littleton

Connecticut

David Perkins [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bethel

Florida Charles Day [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Brooksville

Georgia

Dr Ed Rigel Sr [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Gainesville

Illinois

Thomas D Ashby [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bradford

Idaho

Nathan Pyles [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Nampa

Indiana

Robert Cunningham [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bloomington

Kansas

Dennis Nelson

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Forest Chilton [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Louisville

Louisiana

Ted Brode [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

West Monroe

West Monroe

Maine

Paul Salisbury [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bangor

Maryland

David H. Embrey [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Savage

Michigan

Gerald Burkland [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Millington

Minnesota

Hon. Paul Kent Theisen [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sauk Centre

Mississippi
John R Taylor Jr [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Mize

Missouri
Bill Groth [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
St. Louis

Nevada
Gary Parriott
[REDACTED]

New Hampshire
Jack Manning [REDACTED]

New Mexico
George Garcia [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Albuquerque

New York
Peter K. Goebel [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

North Carolina
Gary Green [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ohio
Tony Robinson [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Circleville

Oklahoma
Fred Morris [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Bartlesville

Pennsylvania
John L. Carroll [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Allison Park

South Carolina
Robert (Bob) Krause [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Pickens

Tennessee
David Miles Vaughn [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Gallatin

Texas
John K Thompson
[REDACTED]

Utah
E Layton Patterson
[REDACTED]

Virginia
Darrin Schmidt [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Herndon

Washington
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Tacoma

West Virginia
John H Sauer [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Point Pleasant

Wisconsin
Aaron Krebs [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Madison

This is the current listing of state society color guard commanders with confirmed data. Those state societies that are not confirmed are asked to submit updated data to the editor. **No Color Guards:** *Alaska, Arkansas, Dakotas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wyoming .*

NSSAR Color Guard Commanders

Donald N Moran (CA) 1989-1990
David J Gray (MA) 1990-2000
Garrett Jackson (CA) 2000-2002
Edgar Grover (KS) 2002-2004
Peter K Goebel (NY) 2004-2006
Charles Lampman (CA) 2006-2007
Larry Perkins (OH) 2007-2009
Joseph Dooley (VA) 2009-2011
J Michael Tomme (GA) 2011-2013
Michael Radcliff (TX) 2013-2015
David Hoover 2015 - Present

Color Guardsman of the Year

The Gold Color Guard Medal was authorized in 1998. It may only be worn by the National Color Guard Commander (usually presented at the end of his term as commander) and those guardsmen selected as Color Guardsman of the Year. The Color Guardsman of the Year is elected by the Guardsmen present at the Spring Leadership Meeting. The following is a listing of those guardsmen who have been honored by their compatriots as Color Guardsman of the Year.

Lowell Nichols (IN) 1998

Edgar E Grover (KS) 1999

Robert L Grover (MO) 2000

Bernard G Lamp Sr (WV) 2001

Raymond Zimmerman (MD) 2002

Charles Lampman (CA) 2003

James McCafferty (MD) 2004

Lester A Foster (MD) 2005

Andrew M Johnson (VA) 2006

George Thurmond (GA) 2007

Charles F Bragg (IN) 2008

Charlie A Newcomer (GA) 2009

John H Franklin Jr (OH) 2010

Paul Prescott (GA) 2011

Tom Green (TX) 2012

Gerald McCoy (MO) 2013

Samuel Powell (NC) 2014

Robert Cunningham (IN) 2015

