



THE DRUMBEAT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE WASHINGTON STATE COLOR GUARD

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[The Editor](#)



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YOUR COLOR GUARD, THE FACE OF THE SAR

From Our Color Guard Past Commander

Let us begin with the most important news. At the July meeting of the Board of Directors in Ellensburg, **Neil Vernon** was appointed as the new Washington State Color Guard Commander. Congratulations to Neil and along with this promotion please be advised he needs your help. How you may wonder? Neil has the responsibility to submit articles to the "Colorguardsman", "SAR Journal", and "Washington Trail" newsletter. He is the eyes and ears across Washington so be sure to send him you color guard activities and pictures. Speaking of pictures:



I hope all of you had the opportunity to see the July issue of the Colorguardsman magazine. It is a digital publication so it would have come in your email.

Why this issue? Seems the WASSAR Color Guard was on the cover. Jan Lemmer of Alexander Hamilton Chapter was the selected photo. It was a current photo of Jan posting the colors in the Olympia, House of Representatives, but could have served as a recruiting poster for any war in US history. Congratulations to Jan along with a huge thank you, for finding time to post the colors in the Capitol.

I was particularly proud of our State Color Guard for their participation is so many events across the state from Idaho to the Pacific Ocean.

Perhaps the greatest tribute to our Color Guard is the devotion by all the chapter Captains stepping up in their role to organize activities in their respective geographical regiments. Captains are now the top of the event planning chain of command. ***This is where it should be!***

One of the best examples is the 4-day Northwest Colonial Festival in Sequim. John Paul Jones set up two full tents to present Education, History, and Patriotism to all interested. Bob Smalser is the rapid fire weapons expert, Fred Gilbert spy and why a teenager would join the revolution while Doug Nelson explained life in the colonies. Town crier, Mick Hersey, faithfully announced each upcoming event every half hour for the four day event. Kudo's to John Paul Jones for organizing the living theater SAR speakers and all their tent activities.

Neil Vernon, President, and Color Guard Captain represented Seattle chapter. Operating the tent while still finding time to present about the "14 Forgotten Presidents" Neil generated interest in his chapter while extending an open hand to all possible new members. The Color Guard was well represented.

Across the state through local parades, memorial events, fairs, recruiting booths, and genealogical meetings, the SAR color guard presence is increasing while color guard membership is expanding. If you are interested, visit our [Color Guard Website](#) click on [Information and Data Links](#) and look for [Uniform Information](#) so you too, can be part of the Color Guard.

Just a final thought, I would like to remind every chapter, the Color Guard is the **face** of the SAR. Uniforms are a community magnet where the public gathers to ask questions. This is the opportunity for every chapter to get their name out in public while increasing membership at the same time.

Just as the color guard is **The Face of the SAR**, each chapter meeting is the **voice**. Be sure your chapter meetings are sending an invitational message combined with a sense of pride to all members for having family members who served and supported the American Revolution.

The American Revolution is a time when 13 independent colonies, formed for a variety of reasons, then combined to become "The 13 United States of America". It was a time when a unique constellation of minds, virtually unknown to each other in 1774, brought together through a common cause to form a new country. This experiment in a Democratic Republic still works today 243 years later. Your family, and you, are a part of that passage. Honor the past, participate in the present, and work to preserve our future.

Respectfully Submitted, [Arthur Dolan](#), WA State-SAR, Past Commander, WA State Color Guard.

Washington SAR Color Guard Featured In July National SAR "COLORGUARDSMAN" Magazine



THE COVER

Commander Art Dolan writes:

"Our Color Guard has been marching in tandem with the SAR Fife and Drum Corps. This is an interesting mix of SAR, DAR and community members. When the DAR march with us the husbands (HODARs) accompany their wives and become outstanding candidates to join SAR. They are already at the event and have firsthand knowledge of how much fun it is to march in uniform along with a Fife and Drum. The general public members of the Fife and Drum also serve as conduits providing future SAR members. Even our parade banner reads "Sons of the American Revolution, Join Us"! We have a positive presupposition every male wants to join the SAR" [\(Link to this issue\)](#)

Image of the article

WASHINGTON



President's Day,
University
of Washington
February 18, 2019



It is not often that Patriotism, Education and History coincide but on April 12th, 2019 such an event happened. The Washington State Color Guard was honored to post the colors in the Washington State House of Representatives, Olympia, WA. As State Color Guard Commander I honored three members from around the state to perform in the ceremony. Ordinarily we only get two color guard members but I added a drummer.

When the command "Forward March" was given, the drums pounded out a sound resulting in the Representatives standing taller, heads held high and a deep sense of pride glistened in their eyes.

I am attaching two pictures of the event and I would request the one of the drummer at attention on the "House Floor" be considered for the June cover of the Colorguardsman. If a picture is worth a thousand words, this photo speaks volumes of Duty, Honor, Patriotism, History and Education.

The significance of the single drummer photo has deep roots. The drummer, Jan Lemmer, has supported the SAR at nearly every event yet never joined, even though his son is president of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter. Jan joins nothing, yet the honor we showed him to drum in the colors was a turning point in his life and he submitted his application. Since his son is in SAR, his application will be approved quickly. It may be approved already.

His courage to attend and participate with no ulterior motive, the honor he bestows at every Washington State SAR color guard event and his eventual application to join SAR is the highest distinction he could give to the SAR. See Cover Photo.

Washington State Color Guard is visible!

Our outreach into the community has doubled in the past year to include school Patriot Chest presentations, Honor Flight greeters, parades, public speaking to community organizations, JROTC, New Citizen ceremonies, Boy Scouts and much, much, more. With only 60 Color Guard members across the state we had 754 uniformed individuals in the field. Obviously those 60 have been actively supporting the SAR at nearly 11 events per member.

Two chapters, Seattle and George Washington, have expanded their Color Guard activities into areas in which we have not participated in the past. Seattle Chapter (Neil Vernon, Color Guard Captain) has embraced the city center during the annual SEAFair festival participating in the popular West Seattle Parade. George Washington Chapter (Mike Hutchinson, Color Guard Captain) is filling a void near the Canadian Border where, in the past, we did not have a presence to meet the community requests.

Every Color Guard member is a recruiting tool for the SAR and we should all recognize the Uniform is a conversation magnet! Its presence invites conversation and combined with a welcoming smile, we increase SAR interest resulting in increased membership. The Color Guard is the FACE of the organization while the meetings are the VOICE. When working in concert with each other a powerful invitational message is sent "You want to join us!"

Our Color Guard has been marching in tandem with the SAR Fife and Drum Corps. This is an interesting mix of SAR, DAR and community members. When the DAR march with us the husbands (HODARs) accompany their wives and become outstanding candidates to join SAR. They are already at the event and have first hand knowledge of how much fun it is to march in uniform along with a Fife and Drum. The general public members of the Fife and Drum also serve as conduits providing future SAR members. Even our parade banner reads "Sons of the American Revolution, Join Us"! We have a positive presupposition every male wants to join the SAR.

As a special note, once a year, the WA SAR Color Guard has the opportunity to recognize two outstanding members from across the state to post the colors in the Washington State House of Representatives. It is quite an emotional time to know you are posting colors, to quote the words from "Hamilton", "in the room where it happens". We always manage to squeak in a drummer and next year a fifer for this event. When the Color Guard marches in with the drums, Representatives stand a little taller, their shoulders are more square and their salutes more crisp as the Color Guard passes by. It is deep honor to be part of the Washington State Color Guard.

Finally, I would like to remind all Color Guard members of the 2021 National Congress in Seattle! The majestic Mt. Rainier (14,410 ft volcano) combined with the beauty of Puget Sound and to the west, the Olympic Mountains, will make this a perfect setting for the 2021 event. Do not miss out on the Pacific Northwest in all its natural beauty combined with a fantastic National Congress, this will be an event talked about for years to come.

Hall Lineup for Posting Colors at the Washington Annual Meeting
Left to right: Dick Metz, Fred Gilbert, Bob O'Neal, Kelly Schultz, Dennis Shaw, Kelly Schultz, Mike Moore, Doug Nelson, Christopher Clayton, Ken Roberts, Larry Flint, Noah Chase, Jeannine Stephan, Skip Stephan, Mike Hutchins, David Irons, Neil Vernon, Carl Durkopp.



Front Row seated left to right: Bob O'Neal, Jeannine Stephan, Skip Stephan, Virus Lemmer, David Irons, Neil Vernon, Standing

Back Row, Left to Right: Fred Gilbert, Dick Metz, Kelly Schultz, Jim Lindley, Mike Moore, Christopher Clayton, Arthur Dolan, Doug Nelson, John Kraft Sr., Dennis Shaw, Mike Hutchins, Carl Durkopp, Larry Flint, Noah Chase, Stan Will.



Native Americans in the Revolutionary War

By Stan Wills, Vice Commander, Washington State SAR Color Guard

Battle of Barren Hill May 1778

George Washington's army was preparing to leave Valley Forge, he sent Lafayette with 2000 militia & 47 Oneida Indian Warriors, to scout for any movement of General Howe's British movements near Philadelphia. When Lafayette arrived at Barren Hill, half way between Valley Forge & Philadelphia, he set up a defensive position.



The British had learned from spies and deserters of Lafayette's plans and sent 8000 troops to capture Lafayette and attack Washington while the Continental Congress was convened nearby. The British launched a three prong attack. At the sight of British troops, the militia retreated without firing a shot. Lafayette sent the 47 Oneida warriors to protect the rear guard retreat.

Yelling war hoops and attacking the British head on, the Oneida warriors startled the British advance guard. The British retreated and attempted to regroup not knowing how many troops they were facing. This gave Lafayette time to retreat and Washington time to set up a defensive blocking position. Six Oneida Indians were killed in the rear guard action. The actions by the Oneida warriors saved Lafayette, Washington and the Continental Congress from being captured. If captured this would have ended the war. In 1825 when Lafayette returned to Barren Hill, he held a special celebration with the Oneida tribe and thanked them for their sacrifices. He called them the "Forgotten Allies".

The Hill was later renamed Lafayette Hill and a plaque has been placed there to commemorate the sacrifices of the Oneida Warriors.

WA State Color Guard Schedule of Events [Link](#)

Regimental Area Activities

Northern Regiment

The Napkin Brigade



22 Aug: Napkin Brigade of the GW Chapter, practices for an upcoming chapter event showing off our napkins provided by Suellen Eberhart, Vice Regent Ann Washington DAR.

They practiced once a month over the summer and in August held a "full "dress practice to include a demonstration of coordinated drawing and fixing napkins to show our appreciation of Snellen's work. Aug 22 2019.



20 Jul: West Seattle Grand Parade. First parade this year and CG Captain Neil Vernon reported that they won 3rd place in the Community Category! Huzzah!

Pictured at right:
 Back Row: Neil Vernon, Ralph Leining
 Center Row: Stephan Clayton and Robert Korn
 Front Row: Jim Blanton, Michal Cook, Christian Ferrin, Stefan Kovalenko, Christopher Clayton, Dan Ferrin, Daniel Keen, Tyler Keen



17 Aug: Celebrate Woodinville Parade. Again, we had a great turnout for this event. We had 26 members in the group.



Matt Benedictson, Mike Benedictson, Jerry Bordelon, Art Dolan, Jan Lemmer, Viren Lemmer, Michael Moore, Dick Motz, Bob O'Neal, and Skip Stephan from the Alexander Hamilton chapter. Mick Hersey from John Paul Jones, Christopher Clayton, Stephen Clayton, Robert Korn, and Neil Vernon from the Seattle chapter. Also from the DAR were Danika Benedictson, Kate Benedictson, Diane Moore, Terry Barker, Stephanie Conroy, Jeannine Stephan, and Ralph Leining (HODAR).

Many enjoyed some pancakes at the firehouse prior to the parade...



We also had a 3 generation team of
 1st: Mike & Diane More
 2nd: Matt & Kate Bendictson
 3rd: Mike & Danika Bendictson.



Stephanie Conroy was promoted to the rank of Lt.



With the addition of the flag trailer, it was a large parade group.

22 Aug: The George Washington Chapter CG members at the Burlington Library.

L to R Marshall Eberhart, Bruce Bock, Captain Mike Hutchins, Gary Gray, Hugh Jonson and Sgt John Kraft.



19 Sep: Constitution Day. Hooray for “Ringing the Bells”. The George Washington SAR members, Marshall Eberhart, Hugh Jonson, and Mike Hutchins participated along with the DAR



Southern Regiment

4 Jul: Steilacoom. There was a great turnout for the birthday celebration of our country. SAR CG members present were:

Harold Steenbergen, Mick Hersey, David Irons, Jerry Bordelon, Dick Motz, Conrad Plyer, Mike More, Joe Coorough, Art Dolan, Alex Lemmer, Viren Lemmer, Mike Bendickson.

Also marching was **Ralph Lining (HODAR), Melanie Liening (DAR), Alonda Droege (F&D), Andrew Hunter (F&D), and Jan Lemmer (F&D),**



The combined SAR/DAR group provided quite an assembly on the parade route



The town crier (Bob O'Neal) rushed in to announce that the congress had voted to declare independence!!



It was also the maiden voyage of the new flag trailer. The trailer is the brain child of Dick Motz who said "I have this trailer that I have not used for a few years and thought I might repurpose it to use in SAR parades."

It has four seats for those that can no longer march



It seemed to be a big hit.



Dick Motz and Mick Hersey presented a special Award to Art Dolan for his leadership of the Color guard for the past two years.

2 Sep: Labor Day Parade Black Diamond. Another great turn out for this Labor Day Celebration. Over 40 members of Washington State SAR, DAR, and CAR marched in the parade and passed out over 1000 American flags to attendees. The Group was awarded the First Place Plaque for Music/Band. In the words of **Mick Hersey** "Good Time was had by all".



The Combined SAR/DAR/CAR: "A force to be reckoned with!"

SAR members from 5 chapters were: **AH:** Mat Bendickson, Mikey Bendickson, Jerry Bordelon, Alex Lemmer, Jan Lemmer, Viren Lemmer, Michael Moore, Dick Motz, Skip Stephan. **CC:** Greg Emerson. **GW:** Mike Hutchins. **JPJ:** Mick Hersey. **SE:** Christopher Clayton, Stephen Clayton, Robert Korn, Neil Vernon. **DAR/F&D:** Melonie Liening, Terry Barker, Stephanie Conroy. **F&D:** Jeannine Stephan (WOSAR).

Also in the combined group: Danika Bendickson (DOSAR), Ralph Liening (HODAR), Kate Bendickson (WOSAR), President and Members (CAR), Regent and Members, Mary Fell Stevenson Chapter (DAR)

Once again, we had a 3 generation team. This time they were all musicians.

Jan Lemmer (father), **Viren Lemmer** (son), and **Alex Lemmer** (Grandson). Alex was also promoted to the rank of Sergeant. This will be his last event for a while as he is off to a career in the US Navy.



Here the F&D practice before the parade.

This might explain why the group took another 1st place award.





Jerry Bordelon, CG Captain from AH Chapter, gives commands to the group.



The CAR was out in force.



Here we see the DAR representatives.



The flag trailer was well received.

15-16 Sep: WA State Fair: We only the 2 education days at the fair this year.

Scheduled supporters of the booth this year were:

- Jerry & his son Jean Paul Bordelon
- Mike More
- Ralph Liening
- Dick Motz
- Joe Coorough
- Chuck Waid

Bob O'Neal also pitched in to help.



16 Sep: Honor Flight: SAR/DAR participated in welcoming our vets back from Washington DC on the "Honor Flight".

SAR participants were:

- Christian Ferrin
- Daniel Ferrin
- Conor Ferrin
- Neil Vernon

DAR participants were:

- Nancy Moreyra (Lady Stirling Chapter)
- Claudia Underhill (Cascade Chapter)
- Sally Buckingham (Lady Stirling Chapter).



Six Oregon Trail Markers in WA Rededicated By DAR. 27 Jun – 27 Sep
 Supporting this effort were SAR Color Guard members from several chapters

27 Jun: First site was in **Kelso.**



Attending this Event were Viren Lemmer, Mick Hersey, Jerry Bordelon, and Dick Motz

13 Jul: Second site was in **Tumwater.**



In attendance were, Jerry Bordelon, Joe Coorough, and Art Dolan.

13 Jul: The third site was in **Bush Prairie.**



Jerry Bordelon, Joe Coorough, and Art Dolan also attended this event.

18 Jul: The fourth site was Mathilda State Park, Chehalis.



18 Jul: The fifth site was at **Ground Mound, Centralia.**



CG members Art Dolan and Jerry Bordelon attended both events. Dar member Jeanne Pittenger carried the DAR Flag.

27 Sep: The sixth site was at the Joseph Borst House in **Centralia.**

CG members at this site were, Jerry Bordelon, Art Dolan, Dick Motz, Joe Coorough, and Lee Thomasson.



Jeanne Pittenger carried the DAR Flag.

Mick Hersey served as our official photographer.



Posting of the Colors

This was the last of eleven markers re-dedicated in the State of Washington



===== Eastern Regiment =====

26 Mar: Mid-Columbia Chapter participates in two events the same day.

First event - a presentation for the Americanization class at the West Side Church in Richland, by **Kelly & Karen Schultz** and **Randal Roach**.

They talked about their period dress and what it meant to have their own ancestors involved in the founding of our country.



Karen Kelly Randal Brian

Second event - at the same time in Pasco with two Cub Scout troops at their annual Blue and Gold Dinner, **Brian Smith** and **Larry Flint** spoke about their uniforms and Patriot Ancestors and gave a demonstration on several colonial items, including the 1777 Charleville, Flintlock Musket. The scouts really liked the hands-on.

15 Jun: Richard Roddy, John & Loretta Tipton, Kelly & Karen Schultz, and Larry Flint, all attended the Scottish Fest in Prosser.

They added ten people to their friends and potential members list. Of those four were from towns closer to other chapters, including one from Tennessee.



They were again asked to present the flags for the opening ceremonies.

This was accomplished with the help of two members of the Scottish American Military Society.



13 Sep: Stan Wills presented a Indian History Program for the Spokane chapter. As you can see, he made a new Indian Headdress for his outfit. It is a replica of the Oneida Indian Headdress. The headdress is decorated with Turkey feathers and elk teeth that he harvested. The buckskin is from the same elk that he harvested. The wampum beads around his neck are a replica from the movie "The Last of the Mohicans" starring Daniel D. Lewis. He will be doing a Native American Program for the State DAR BOM in February.



17 Sep: Stan Wills & Will Palmer along with the DAR chapters in Spokane presented Flag Pins to 98 new citizens from 40 countries at the new citizen ceremony. Stan reported that they finally received TV and Newspaper coverage of the event.



19 Sept: Stan Wills provided a tour of the flag museum to Cub Scout Troop 426.
 "There is nothing better than teaching kids about the American Flag."
 Said Stan.



20 Sep: The Spokane chapter participated in the Spokane Valley Fest Parade.
 L-R: Carl Durkoop, Dale Ryan, Will Palmer, Stan Wills, and Denny Shaw.



21 Sep: Stan Wills was the guest speaker at the WA DAR BOM meeting held in Spokane. He presented a program on Native American History. He received a Community Service award from the DAR and presented the Lady Veterans with the WA SAR Lady Veteran Challenge coin.



24 Sep: Stan Wills presented flag Pins to 28 new citizens from 15 countries during the New Citizens ceremony at the Spokane Federal Courthouse.



Western Regiment

It was 1775 again at the Northwest Colonial Festival in Sequim.



Here are some of our members in action



Art does his Flag Presentation



Mike Moore, Mike Bendickson



Mike Hutchins & Wife at the snack tent



The JPJ Booth



The Seattle Booth



Doug & Art



John Kraft, Mike Hutchins, Hugh Johnson



Bob Smalser talks guns



Mike Hutchins, Bob O'Neal, Hugh Johnson



Fred gives a presentation



**The Punishment for Insubordination
(We all know who this is!)**



The Town Crier (Mick Hersey)



The General (Vern Frykholm)

Members from four of our chapters participated:

From AH: Art Dolan, Bob O'Neal, Mike Moore, and Mike Bendickson

From JPJ: David Irons, Fred Gilbert, Bob Smalser, Doug Nelson, Mick Hersey, and Noah Chase

From GW: John Kraft, Mike Hutchins, and Hugh Johnson

From SE: Neil Vernon

**CUDOS TO THE ENTIRE COLOR GUARD
WE CERTAINLY HAVE BEEN BUSY THIS QUARTER**

Military Humor



This is an actual radio conversation between the British & the Irish off the coast of Kerry in Oct 1998

Irish: Approaching vessel. Please divert your course 15 degrees to the south to avoid collision.

British: Recommend you divert your course 15 degrees to the north to avoid collision.

Irish: Negative. You will have to divert your course 15 degrees to the south to avoid collision.

British: This is the Captain of a navy ship. I say again divert your course.

Irish: Negative. I say again. You will have to divert your course.

British: This is the aircraft carrier HMS Britannia! The second largest ship in the British Atlantic Fleet.
Three destroyers, three cruisers, and numerous support vessels accompany us.

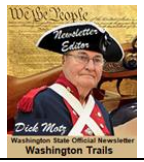
I demand that you change your course 15 degrees north. I say again that is 15 degrees north or counter-measures will be undertaken to ensure the safety of this ship.

Irish: We are a light house... **Your call.**

A Final thought from the editor: I still need suggestions as to what you would like to see in future issues and I welcome all news items/photos that might be of interest to the masses.

Please include the **five Ws (Who, What, When, Where, Why)**.

Please send to the [Newsletter Editor](#)



UNIFORMS & OTHER ITEMS WANTED/FOR SALE

Wanted:

Name	Item	Size	Contact	Note

For Sale:

Name	Item	Size	Contact	Note

If you have anything, you want or have for sale, please send information to the [Newsletter Editor](#)

Battles of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812: 2-Sided Map is available from the National Geographic Society.

[Link to order](#) (\$15.99).

