



THE DRUMBEAT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE WASHINGTON STATE COLOR GUARD



September 2021 (3rd Qtr. Jul, Aug, Sep)

[The Editor](#)



IN THIS ISSUE

[From the Commander](#)

[George Washington Speaks](#)

[Color Guard Events](#) Throughout the State

[Wanted & For sale](#)

[Revolutionary War Map](#) (National Geographic)

[Military Humor](#)

State Color Guard *Event Schedule* [LINK](#)

YOUR COLOR GUARD, THE FACE OF THE SAR



From The Commander

Compatriots,

With great joy I look forward to re-uniting with you as the pandemic restrictions are lifted. It has been a long haul yet I am very mindful of the struggles of our ancestors and the hardships they faced. We truly are in a blessed society to where we have the communication power, the medical expertise, and technology to combat this pandemic. We have persevered and come out on the other side. At the same time, we need to be mindful of our fellow S.A.R. members and Color Guardsmen that have been affected adversely during the last 15 months.



I pray that we will find strength and let the healing begin. Our fore-fathers did not have it so fortunate. So now is the time to be counting our blessings.

Respectfully Submitted, Neil A Vernon, WA State-SAR, Commander, WA State Color Guard.

“George Washington Speaks”

Our very own Vern Frykholm, the personification of George Washington, is in the news again. Vern met with Jeff Bankston, the station manager of KSQM, a local radio station, this morning for an hour+. Jeff got pretty excited about having “George Washington Speaks” be a part of the weekly KSQM schedule and wants to take the audio portion of the website video files, one episode a week, and use it to open up a 60-minute time slot Thursdays at 4 pm. After the 4 pm news, Rich Henrickson, the announcer, will play the audio from a single episode with Vern “as George”, and then he will interview Vern, “as Vern”, and talk about the segment for elaboration and additional insight. The first 3 episodes aired in September.



The next broadcast will be at 4pm on the 7th of October on KSQM (91.5 FM), so tune in. With 26 videos pre-recorded on Vern’s web site, the audio for the radio is potentially 6+ months pre-recorded, which could take the broadcast through the middle of March. Vern has appeared in support of many WA State Color Guard events and is a big hit at the **Northwest Colonial Festival** which takes place every year at the George Washington Inn, located between Sequim and Port Angeles in August.

So, if you want to know more, call Vern at 360-460-9302, send an [email](#) , listen to the radio show, or go [Vern’s website](#).

National Congress July 2021

(Participants From All Regions)



The NSSAR National Color Guard

WA State SAR Color Guard members attending the National Congress 2021

Alexander Hamilton		Cascade-Centennial	George Rogers Clark	George Washington	John Paul Jones	Mid-Columbia	Seattle
Dick Motz	Jan Lemmer	Richard Whittemore	Art Dolan	Bruce Bock	David Irons	Brian Smith	Craig Lawson
John Herr	Matt Bendickson		Dennis Case	John Kraft	Fred Gilbert	Kelly Schutz	Grant Rauzi
Michael Moore	Mikey Bendickson		Dick Moody	Mike Hutchins	Mick Hersey	Larry Flint	Kenny Marshall
Skip Stephen	Viren Lemmer				Noah Chase		Neil Vernon

Color Guard Events Throughout The State

Regional Area Events In Jan, Feb, Mar

Northern Region

7 Aug: Opening ceremonies at the Sedro Wooley Washington Vietnam Veterans annual picnic. The George Washington Chapter Color Guard lead by WASSAR Color Guard Commander Neil Vernon participated in the event which was attended by over 150 Vietnam veterans, their families, and veterans from other conflicts. Pictured are Commander Neil Vernon, Drummer Christopher Fridley, George Washington Captain Mike Hutchins, members Bob Wall, Cpl Bruce Bock, Hugh Jonson, Cpl Marshall Eberhart



Marshall Eberhart Hugh Jonson Bruce Bock Bob Wall Mike Hutchins Neil Vernon Chris Fridley

17 Sep: Constitution Day. The Ann Washington Chapter DAR and the George Washington chapter SAR on the steps of the Skagit County Courthouse Friday September 17, a very windy outing, Mt Vernon, WA

(l to r) Penny Platt, Bruce Bock, Mandy Harmon, Karen Manatt, Linda Macki, Kim Tomczak, Pam Hutchins, Cheri Lenssen, MarKay Neumann, Mike Hutchins



Southern Region

7 Aug: DAR Grave Marker Dedication. The Alexander Hamilton Chapter posted Colors at the honoring F1C Alfred Roach, a sailor that has laid in an unmarked grave for 69 years. In Bob O'Neil's words *"The Chapter did a great job at the DAR Grave Marking! We had it all; five great Colors posted, two US Sailors folded the Flag, a Civil War soldier with rifle fired a volley, two buglers played Taps, a soldier in a Spanish-American War uniform, another in a WWI uniform, and a 1917 era nurse (a nurse in reality). The Alexander Hamilton Chapter was at least half the ceremony!"*.

Members of the Color Guard were:

Mike Moore, Dick Motz, John Herr, Ralph Lienen (HODAR), and Melonie Lienen (DAR). Bob O'Neil played Taps for the event. Mick Hersey of the JPI chapter, was also present and was one of the event coordinators.



The event was sponsored by the Mary Ball, Sacajawea, and Elizabeth Forey & hosted by the Mary Ball Chapters of the DAR.

21 Aug: The Alexander Hamilton Chapter honored the service of Freeland Howe Benson and to celebrated the marking of his final resting place. This was a journey that the Alexander Hamilton Chapter has been on for about 10 years. The story actually starts in Spokane where Stan Wills and SAR Minuteman John Ellingson discovered that Washington State had three actual Sons of the American Revolution buried here. Alexander Hamilton President, Jerry Bordelon, was able to pull this all together. It's taken 10 years, but here we are. After obtaining official permission from the cemetery, Dick Motz and Mick Hersey cleaned the stone prior to the ceremony. (right).



From Viren Lemmer, MC; Let me share a few words about Captain Freeland Howe Benson. He was born May 2nd, 1835 in Marshall's Island, Maine. His parents were Jephtha Benson and Mary Kench. He married Elizabeth Sadler in 1860 on Swan's Island, Maine. Together they had nine children. Captain Benson first went to sea when he was about 14 years old and later became master of his own ship. He sailed the Atlantic until 1884 when he moved to the Pacific Northwest. Captain Benson joined the Washington State Society SAR #338 in 1896. Two of his sons, Edwin and Charles also joined, Numbers 349 and 347. Captain Benson died after a short illness on November 27th, 1911, at his son Edwin's ranch in Cle Elum. Captain Benson's father, Jephtha, was born May 14, 1759, and died March 10, 1859. He enlisted in 1778 and served as a private in the Massachusetts Militia, Maine Province during the war. He took part in the famous Bagaduce Expedition at Castine, Maine. He also fought in the War of 1812. Captain Benson's father's service qualifies him as a genuine Actual Son of the American Revolution.



The Color Guard Choir sang God Bless America and Taps was played by Bob O'Neal.

Color Guard members present were:

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Viren Lemmer | Skip Stephan | Mike Moore | Jim Blanton |
| John Herr | Kent Troy | Bob O'Neal | Chuck Miller. |
| Jan Lemmer | Ken Roberts | Stephen Clayton | |
| Mikey Bendickson | Neil Vernon | Bob Korn | |
| Others present: | | | |
| Greg Lucas | Barbara Waid | Muriel Parrish | |
| Cindy Lucas | Harold Steenburgen | Sally Buckingham | |
| Chuck Waid | Bob Doughty | Chandra Prater | |

6 Sep: Labor Day Parade: First parade in over a year!!!Black Diamond



Participating members were:

Alexander Hamilton Chapter		Seattle Chapter	Cascade-Centennial Chapter	George Washington Chapter	NON-CG Supporters
Dick Motz	Mike Moore	Bob Korn	Dick Whittemore	Mike Hutchens	Jeannine Stephen (P&D)
Jan Lemmer	Mikey Bendickson	Bruce Bock			Ralph Leaning (HODAR)
Jerry Bordleon	Skip Stephen	Neil Vernon			Stephani Conroy (P&D)
John Herr	Viren Lemmer	Stephen Clayton			Terry Barker (P&D)



Combined SAR DAR parade group

11 Sep: GRC Chapter Charter Signing Ceremony & 9/11 Recognition. Flag raising/lowering to half-staff in recognition of 9/11. Greeting from the State SAR President. Location: DuPont City Hall Chambers,



The GRC Color Guard with the State CG Commander



11 Sep: Flag Raising & 9-11 Observance:

On the twentieth Anniversary of the 911 tragedy over 200 people gathered at the Pell Ranch in Covington, WA to honor those whose lives were taken by terrorist acts on September 11, 2001.

WSSAR Color Guard Commander Neil Vernon led compatriots Michael Moore, Matt Bendickson, John Herr, James Blanton, Michael Bendickson and Steve Clayton to the resonance of the Fife and Drum corps as they presented Colors to a backdrop of a 12-foot high by 18-foot-long flag at half-mast on a 70-foot-high flagpole.



19-20 Sep: WA State Fair. The Alexander Hamilton Chapter represented the SAR at the WA State fair in Puyallup.



Members manning the booth were: Dick Motz, Jean Paul Bordelon, Jerry Bordelon, John Herr, Mike Bendickson, Mike Moore, and Ralph Liening (HODAR)



DAR Pam Gassman at work as Ralph Liening looks on.



Eastern Region

20 July: Stan Wills and John Kaneau conducted a 13 Star Flag Program for the Southside Community Center Seniors in Spokane WA. There were 60 seniors in attendance. Many questions were asked by the seniors about American Flag History



Western Region

12-15 Aug 2021 NW Colonial Encampment: Four days of colonial fun and reenactment, period artisans, militia, redcoats, kids' activities, colonial demonstrations. There's nothing else like it in the Pacific Northwest. A variety of living historians and the Fife and Drum Corps provided entertainment throughout the weekend. WA State SAR members supported the event with displays of various period artifacts, lively discussions of the Revolution and Colonial times as well as answering many challenging questions by the encampment attendees.



In the photo at left, (JPJ members) are: (r to l) Perry Taylor, Mick Hersey, Bob Smalser, Mark Dunham, and CG Captain Fred Gilbert Also, in attendance were: Noah Chace (JPJ) and Mike Hutchins, Hugh Johnson, and Bob Wall (all GW Chapter)

While at the event, Robert Smalser was awarded the Bronze Color Guard medal by Color Guard Captain Fred Gilbert for his dedicated service to the Color Guard and the Educational outreach program where he gave numerous presentations about the Colonial Frontier life during the American Revolution and how the Riflemen supported the Continental Army.



Military Humor & More



Military Humor highlights is from the [Facebook group](#) by the same name



The Scariest Things On Earth



UNIFORMS & OTHER ITEMS WANTED/FOR SALE

Wanted:

Item	Size	Contact	Note

For Sale:

Item	Size	Cost	Contact	Notes

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](#) (\$16.95).



Publication Schedule

The State Newsletter will be published quarterly to include the State BOD meeting.

<i>Edition</i>	<i>BOD</i>	<i>Period covered</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Published on</i>
Winter (1 st Qtr.)	Jan	1 Jan to 31 Mar	No later than 31 Mar	1 Apr +/-
Spring (2 nd Qtr.)	Apr	1 Apr to 30 Jun	No later than 30 Jun	1 Jul +/-
Summer (3 rd Qtr.)	Jul	1 Jul to 30 Sep	No later than 30 Sep	1 Oct +/-
Fall (4 th Qtr.)	Oct	1 Oct to 31 Dec	No later than 31 Dec	1 Jan +/-

All articles/submissions are to be sent to the [Editor](#) no later than the above indicated dates.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION