



THE DRUMBEAT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE WASHINGTON STATE COLOR GUARD

December 2021 (4th Qtr. Oct, Nov, Dec)



The Editor



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YOUR COLOR GUARD, THE FACE OF THE SAR



From The Commander

Compatriots,

Happy Holidays and Seasons Greetings! What a wonderful year we have had the privilege of participating in. The Color Guard continues to strive forward in meeting the objectives of Education, History, and Patriotism.

We continue to encounter roadblocks for our public appearances, yet we have also found creative ways to continue to make our presence known. This past year we had the opportunity to participate in the **2021 National Congress** that was held in Renton Washington, July 9/15. What an opportunity it was to work together with the other members of the Color Guard from throughout the country. I know those who did attend and participate gained great insights and it was an enjoyed by all. To the Washington State Color Guard in attendance, again I say thank you. We received several praises for our performance and professionalism. At congress we also had the opportunity to attend a Grave Marking ceremony. During the installation banquet, Commander Neil Vernon, Deputy Commander Dick Motz, Fife and Drum Major Viren Lemmer, and Past Commander Art Dolan were honored in participating in the Ring Bearing Ceremony. A once in a lifetime opportunity to be that close to the actual relic once owned by George Washington. Since Congress we have been actively engaged once again and showing our public face. Throughout the State of Washington, we have once again attended parades and other public appearances. From what has been reported to me the Color Guard was present at 15 locations and placed nearly 4,200 wreaths on Veterans Graves during the Wreaths Across America held on December 18, 2021. Great work by all.

Looking forward there are a few important events to keep an eye on. The George Washington Birthday Celebration (Feb 21) **is now considered a national event**. In April we will have our annual State Conference which will be held in Vancouver, Washington. I encourage as many Color Guardsmen who can attend to be present. We will have a Color Guard meeting Friday, April 8 and several assignments to fulfill for Posting of Colors, plus our annual Color Guard photo.

Beyond this, keeping seeking for opportunities to be engaged. Some schools are beginning to open up to the idea of having external presenters once again. Be sure to follow the required protocol. Remember to ensure a safe environment for learning. As a reminder for all presenters, the online NSSAR Youth Protection Training course is mandatory.

Color Guard Membership numbers continue to ebb to and fro. We have lost several members who have not renewed their membership or have left the area. Our current Color Guard member count hovers around 84 members from 9 chapters. This is up from 73 from when I started as Commander 2 years ago. As we emerge and once again available to meet in person, I would like for each chapter to renew their efforts in recruitment into the Color Guard. There are several new members added to our chapters that we have yet to meet in person. Extend the welcoming hand and introduce them into the exciting opportunities to service in our communities, honor our ancestors, and keeping our national history alive.

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



NSSAR Color Guard Magazine

The Oct 2021 issue is available at this [LINK](#)

Back issues are available by visiting SAR.org, logging in, then click on this link [Magazine link](#)



How Historically Accurate is the Old Guard?

I found this to be a very interesting evaluation of the Commander-in-Chief's Guard, a ceremonial unit within the 3rd United States Army Regiment, also called "**The Old Guard.**" The Old Guard performs a variety of ceremonial duties on top of their role as regular soldiers, including putting on displays of 18th Century-inspired

You Tube [LINK](#)



Color Guard Events Throughout The State

Regional Area Events In Jan, Feb, Mar

Northern Region

12 Oct: The George Washington Chapter Color Guard proudly presented a new DAR flag and posted the colors for the Ann Washington DAR chapter in Mt. Vernon, WA.

(L/R) John Kraft, Marshall Eberhart, Hugh Jonson, Mike Hutchins, and Bob Wall.



16 Oct: 9 members of the George Washington Color Guard paraded and posted colors for the Ann Washington DAR Chapter 100th Anniversary held at the Skyline Beach Club in Anacortes WA. Approximately 100 guests celebrated with the DAR ladies.

(L/R) Mike Hutchins, Hugh Jonson, Patricia Francisco, Marshall Eberhart, John Kraft Sr, Chris Fridley, Russ Oliver, Bob Wall and Bruce Bock.



4 Dec: Anacortes Xmas Parade.

Proudly carrying the 250th Anniversary with Betsy Ross colors the George Washington Color Guard lead by WA SAR Color Commander Neil Vernon.

The Ann Washington Chapter DAR who had a seasonally decorated vehicle with a Christmas tree festooned with red, white and blue ornaments, and proudly flying the Ann Washington DAR Chapter flag. Although the weather forecast was dismal, the rain mostly stopped before the parade started. The 38-degree temperature and the brisk pace made for a quick event. Many of us retreated to a local deli for a welcome warm lunch and lively post parade discussion. A pleasant chance to catch up, share and chat with each other.

Participants were: (Photo at right l to r) Patricia Francisco, Neil Vernon, Kieth Wiessinger, John Kraft, Bruce Bock, Dick Whittemore, Ken Marshall, Mike Hutchins, Karen Manatt (DAR) (Not in picture was Marshall Eberhart).



Southern Region

6 Nov: Auburn Veterans Day Parade. There was light rain for the group photo. When marching time arrived the rain was turned off for the parade.



CG members present were: Jerry Bordelon, Viren Lemmer, Noah Chase, Mike Moore, Fred Gilbert, Bob Korn, John Herr, Dennis Case, Jan Lemmer, Skip Stephen, Perry Taylor, Neil Vernon, and Dick Motz
 Other support personnel were: Keith Weissenberg (our State President), Ralph & Melonie Leaning, Roxane Hreha, Stephanie Conroy, Terry Barker, Diane Moore, Kate Bendickson, and Susan Nelson

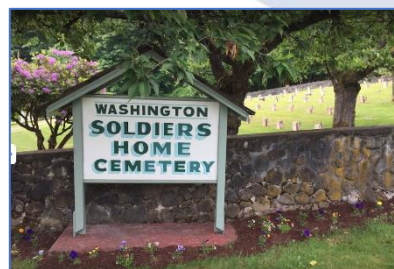
17 Dec: Working closely with Marc Perez (location coordinator WAWSHO WAA), the AH Chapter provided a truck escort from the trucking terminal in Sumner to the cemetery in Orting. Jerry Bordelon & Dick Motz participated in the escort. (Video [LINK](#))



Mark Perez



On the 18th the Chapter Color Guard posted the Colors at the ceremony that took place at the WA Soldiers Home Cemetery in Orting.



At right (L-R) Jan Lemmer
 Skip Stephan John Herr
 Michael Bendickson Michael Moore
 Keith Weissinger Ralph Liening
 Viren Lemmer



Eastern Region

23 Oct: Yakima County Fairgrounds. The Mid-Columbia Chapter maned an information booth at the Veterans Stand Down
Attendees were: Kelly & Karen Shultz, John & Loretta Tipton, and Larry Flint.



6 Nov: veterans Day: The Mid-Columbia SAR Chapter, joined with the Kennewick and Columbia River DAR Chapters and the Rattlesnake Mountain CAR Chapter to march together in the West Richland, Veterans Day Parade.



12 Nov: The Mid-Columbia SAR Chapter again participated in a second Veteran's Stand Down in Kennewick.

(L/R) Larry Flint, Kelly Schultz, Afghan Vet & his son, Brian McReynolds and Randal Roach



20 Nov: Spokane Lilac Parade. After being cancelled for two years due to Covid the Spokane #1 was one of over 40 entries in the parade watched by several thousand spectators.

(L/R) Dennis Shaw, Rob Scott, Will Palmer, Stan Wills, Rob Hill, Koda Palmer, Carl Durkoop and Dale Ryan.



Stan Wills of the Spokane Chapter/Spokane Flag Museum donated a large American Flag to the Summit Christian Academy of Coeur D'Alene, Idaho. The 10'X20' Flag was part of the Veterans Day celebration conducted at the school. I am glad the flag found a good home.



18 Dec: Spokane SAR participated in Wreaths Across America. The snow storm stopped just long enough to put out 90 wreaths at the Pines Cemetery in Spokane. Stan Wills, Dale Ryan, John Knauer



18 Dec: The Mid-Columbia SAR Chapter joined with the Columbia River DAR and the Columbia Basin Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, on December 18th, to participate in the Wreaths Across America Program. In 2053 cemeteries around the country and others around the world, let by Arlington Cemetery, we had a ceremony and laid wreaths on the graves of our Nations veterans. The Ceremony was opened by Laura Nunnelle, Regent of the Columbia River DAR. Chris Crowder, Washington State DAR Regent and wife of our Harvey Crowder, spoke. Commander Brad Klippert, of the State Legislature, 8th District was the keynote speaker. Dan Newhouse, our congressman also spoke. The Civil Air Patrol presented Wreaths for each of the service branches, including the Space Force. We gave the pledge of allegiance and Hank Cramer sang the National Anthem. We all then went outside to lay over 600 wreaths on the graves of servicemen.



Western Region

18 Dec: Ivy Green Cemetery, over 300 volunteers came out in the wind and rain to honor and remember our Veterans and the lives they had. Wreaths Across America location coordinator and Master of Ceremony Mick Hersey of the John Paul Jones Chapter WASSAR led the event.



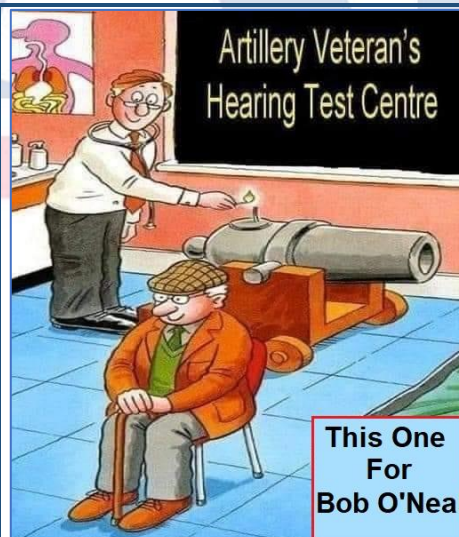
Chapter President David Irons provided the Honor Guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns as Chapter members Perry Taylor, Conrad Plyler, Fred Gilbert and Bob Schneider presented Service Wreaths. Behind the scenes help was provided by Noah Chase. At noon a second ceremony was held at Bethel Cemetery with the ceremony being held in the Grace Bible Church gym. Color guard Captain Fred Gilbert, David Irons, Chapter President and Noah Chase brought in the colors presented to active-duty Marines and Sailors for Salute. Mick Hersey was again the Master of Ceremony. Over 100 volunteers participated.



Military Humor & More



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



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).



The Washington Trail - Publication Schedule

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

Edition	BOD	Period covered	Deadline	Published on
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 +/-

News from the Chapters:

A [media links](#) page has been provided to give access to each Chapter's Facebook page, Newsletter, and Web Site for those that have them.

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



SAAR

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION