



THE DRUMBEAT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE WASHINGTON STATE COLOR GUARD

December 2022 (4th Qtr. Oct, Nov, Dec)



[The Editor](#)



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YOUR COLOR GUARD

SONS OF THE AMERICAN

EVOLUTION



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.

Looking forward there are a few important events to keep an eye on. The George Washington Birthday Celebration (Feb 20) is now considered a national event. Massing of Colors is planned for March 4th in DuPont. In April we will have our annual State Conference which will be held in Spokane, Washington. I encourage as many Color Guard members who can attend to be present. We will have a Color Guard meeting Friday, April 28 and several assignments to fulfill for Posting of Colors, plus our annual Color Guard photo. We have allocated Color Guard Drill time. This is one of the few times during the year we can practice together.

We have had an outstanding year despite the slow start. Throughout the year we participated at multiple locations during the National events. This includes the 4th of July, Veterans Day, and Wreaths Across America. 37 Living History presentations were reported in this year. The Color Guard was involved in multiple ceremonies, recruiting boots, parades and other activities.

As a member of the Sons of the American Revolution I am grateful for the bond of brotherhood and respect that we have for one another. Through the Washington State SAR Color Guard we have a special bond and comradery by working together to achieve our local chapter, our State, and the Nation SAR Society goals.

I am personally grateful for my association with each and every one of you and for your support.

Color Guard Membership numbers continue grow. Though we have lost several members who have not renewed their membership or have left the area. Our current Color Guard member count has increased to 96 members from 9 chapters. This is up from 73 from when I started as Commander 2 years ago. I encourage you to continue in your recruitment efforts into the Color Guard. 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.

In the past, Important certificates have been presented to the Chapters at both State & Chapter level and it was placed in the state archives. Will all Chapters please provide a copy of any of these awards to the State Historian (Me) once again so there is a record of who has received what awards.

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

Color Guard Patch Available

The Deputy Commander has created a sew on patch for the WA State Color Guard members only.

The patch measures 4"x4" (at right)

A limited quantity is still available. The cost is \$3.25 each.

If you want them mailed the cost is:

- More than 2 the postage is \$9.90.
- Less than 3 the postage is \$1.00

Members of the CG may contact the [Deputy Commander](#) for purchase



The National Colorguardsman Magazine

Is available at this LINK: <https://www.sar.org/?s=Colorguardsman>

WA SAR COLOR GUARD HISTORY – 2011-Present

OUR FIRST VETERANS DAY PARADE



The Washington SAR Color Guard was formed in 2011 and we marched in the Auburn Veterans Day Parade - 11 years ago, November 11, 2011.

Strangely, Veterans Day was originally Armistice Day, to celebrate the end of WWI at the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month!



The ladies of Auburn's DAR, Lakota Chapter had been marching in the parade for some years.



When I found out about that, I decided that our new Color Guard should join them in the parade. With encouragement from Vice Commander Stan Wills in Spokane, we signed up!

This tradition began with us all gathering for breakfast at the "Rainbow Cafe".

Veteran Color guardsmen Stan Wills and Gale Palmer came over the mountains from Spokane, dressed to the hilt and marched with fixed bayonets!

The parade unit included SARs from four chapters: Alexander Hamilton of Tacoma; Spokane, John Paul Jones of Bremerton; and Seattle Chapter.



Our very first State SAR Color Guard event.

THE PARTICIPANTS

- WA SAR Color Guard:
- Bob O'Neal-Commander
- Stan Wills-Vice Commander
- Doug Nelson, JPJ CG Captain
- Lee Thomasson, AH Chapter CG Captain
- Lee Palmer, Spokane CG Lieut.
- Ed Tropp-Banner carrier
- DAR Joyce Thomasson-Limo driver, with WWII veterans
- SAR's Chuck Waid and John Herr
- Mike Hutchins-Big Red Truck driver from Seattle Chapter.

THE REST IS WA SAR COLOR GUARD HISTORY!



Today we are 91 members strong from 10 Chapters and 12 non-SAR Fife & Drum support members.

Contributed by Bob O'Neal

Color Guard Events Throughout The State

Regional Area Color Guard Events In Oct, Nov, Dec

Northern Region

11 Nov: Veterans Day. The Seattle Chapter posted the Colors at the DAR Lady Sterling Chapter Veterans Day memorial service. The service was held at the Bothell Pioneer Cemetery, Bothell Washington. 3 new Color Guard members joined the Seattle CG at this event.

The new members are, Stan Granburg, David Horsley, & Robert Nofsinger who rang the bell at 11:11 on Nov 11. Veterans present included: Sally Buckingham (DAR) (Lt US Army/Vietnam), Rob Nofsinger (Marine Officer/Army Chaplain), Mrs. Nofsinger (US Army), Nofsinger father-in-law (US Army/Vietnam)

Both the 250 Anniversary and the Vietnam Anniversary flags were posted at the ceremony

(L to R) Neil Vernon, Stan Granburg, Robert Korn, David Horsley, Nancy Moreyra (DAR), Rob Nofsinger, Liz Runkle (DAR).



12 Nov: Veterans Day: The GWC was honored today to participate in the annual Burlington, WA Veterans Day parade. CG Members present were John Kraft, Bill Bentler, Bruce Bock, Cris Fridley, Ken Carlson & Marshall Eberhart

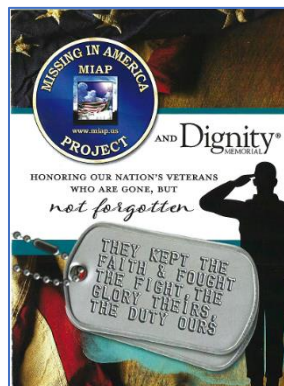


14 Nov: Veterans Day - Funeral/Burial, Washelli Cemetery. Members of the WASSAR Color Guard joined other Civic and military organizations to honor Veterans and their family members who have been identified through the Missing in America Project. The Ceremony was held at the Washelli-Evergreen Cemetery in Seattle for the unclaimed remains of nearly 100 veterans from all service branches along with a handful of spouses and dependents. The oldest unclaimed remains have been in storage for 110 years. All of those honored were interred at Washington State Veteran's Cemetery on November 16 except three that will be buried at sea and eight will go to Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Washington.



CG Members attending were: Neil Vernon, Michael Moore, Bill Bentler, Perry Taylor, and Robert Korn.

Also attending was WASSAR President Keith Weissinger



3 Dec: Anacortes Christmas Parade.
36 degrees, wind 10 mph.
Participants were John Kraft, Bruce Bock, Bill Bentler, Chris Fridley.
Mike Hutchins towing the new flag trailer.



17 Dec Wreaths Across America: Hawthorne Cemetery, Mount Vernon, GW Chapter
The George Washington Chapter (Mt. Vernon, WA) was proud to turn out at the Hawthorne Cemetery in Mt. Vernon to participate in the annual Wreaths Across America ceremonies today.
One of the many living veterans in attendance was a 103-year-old gentleman who was shot down over France in WWII and survived a Nazi prison camp.



Here John Craft places one of the wreaths



Participants were: Bill Bentler, John Craft, Mike Hutchens, Chris Fridley, Ken Carlsen, And Bruce Bock.

17 Dec Wreaths Across America: Lakeview Cemetery in Seattle. Seattle Chapter. Brushing headstones and remembering our fallen, we were struck by how beautifully diverse the Veterans we hoped to memorialize were. As one of the VFW volunteers commented, "I was struck by how many AAPI family's names I recognized Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, Hispanic, Black, White, Native shared residency." Nearly 300 Wreaths were placed in one of Seattle's oldest cemeteries and the final resting place of the prominent pioneer families of the area.

Color Guard members: David Horsley, Stan Granberg, Neil Vernon, Grant Rauzi, Robert Korn



Southern Region

29 Oct: DAR National Defense Luncheon.

Members of the AH chapter posted the colors for the event. Members present were Mike Moore, Dick Motz, and Jan Lemmer. F&D support members were Melonie Leaning, Terry Barker, Alonde Droege, and Stephanie Conroy

Viren Lemmer was also in attendance.



5 Nov: Auburn Veterans Day Parade.

Great turn out for the parade. Members present were:
Back row: Dick Motz, Mat Bendickson, Jerry Bordelon, Bob Korn, John Herr, Mike Moore, Neil Vernon, Stephen Clayton, Christopher Clayton, Chris Grabowski, Ralph Liening, Meleni Liening.
Front row: Danika Bendickson, Jan Lemmer, Viren Lemmer, Skip Stephen, Mike Bendickesen.

Below: DAR Members participated....



11 Nov: Posting of the colors at the Vietnam Wall in Olympia.

This was the DAR Veterans Day ceremony in which all the fallen Vietnam soldiers names were read. All attending Vietnam Veterans received a 50th year anniversary pin commemorating the end of the Vietnam war



CG members participating were: Dick Motz, Art Dolan, Dick Moody, Lew Maudsley, Kevin Saville, & Art's grandson Jack.



Keynote speaker was Col Paul T Sellers, Special Forces, Chief of Staff WAARNG

17 Dec Wreaths Across America: The Alexander Hamilton Chapter Participated in the 2022 WAA event at the Orting Soldiers Home Cemetery. 2237 wreaths were placed and the names of the honored veterans were read.

Participants Were (l-r) Melonie Leaning (DAR F&D), Skip Stephan (F&D), Dick Motz, Mike Moore, Jan Lemmer (F&D), John Herr, Viren lemmer (F&D), and Ralph Leaning (HODAR)



Also in attendance was the WA State President Keith Weissing and his wife Cindi.

Posting the Colors are Dick Motz, Mike Moore, John Herr, and Ralph leaning



17 Dec Wreaths Across America Masonic Cemetery Olympia, GRC Chapter was the official Color Guard for the event and during the Wreath Laying Ceremony compatriot Joe Coorough was selected, as a Marine veteran, to place the "Space Force" wreath with the other 5 branches of the military.



(l to r) Dick Moody, Joe Coorough, Lew Maudsley, Petty Officer 1st Class Scott Calhoon (US Coast Guard), Lt. Col Rachel Gonzales (USMC), Captain Liz Dykstra (US Navy Reserve), Arthur Dolan, and Eric Olsen.

The DAR graciously allowed the chapter to place a ceremonial wreath along with the 5 military branches representing the fallen Revolutionary War men and women.

Eastern Region

22 Oct: Veterans' Stand Down, Yakima WA.

Mid-Columbia Chapter members John and Loretta Tipton, Kelly and Karen Schultz, Brian Smith, Brian McReynolds and new member Steven Winmill attended the event.

An SAR information table was provided at the event. New member Steven Winmill, who came in Regimental uniform was sworn in at the event.



Many visitors gathered around to see what was happening.



4 Nov: Stan Wills did a living history program for 50 students at Libby School in Spokane. These are the 50 thank you cards from the students. Some are really amazing. This is how you touch youth and get them interested in history.



10 Nov: New Citizens: Stan Wills attended the new Citizens ceremony that took place at the Spokane County Court House. He gave flag pins to 25 new citizens from 18 countries.



19 Nov Holiday Parade. The Spokane #1-chapter CG marched in the in downtown Spokane Holiday Parade along with 32 other entries, including Santa Claus. The temperature was in the mid 20's, but still a large crowd of over 5000 people watched the parade.



Marching in the parade were Stan Wills, Rob Hill, Dale Ryan, John Knauer, & Will Palmer. Will Palmer's grandkids carried the banner.



17 Dec Wreaths Across America: The Mid-Columbia Chapter participated, at Sunset Gardens Cemetery, Richland, with the Columbia River DAR Chapter and the Civil Air Patrol in this year's Wreaths Across America Program on December 17th to honor our Veterans, in concert with numerous other volunteer groups across the country. Conn Clark, Brian McReynolds, Luke Sowieralski, Richard Roddy, Brian Smith, Randal Roach. Jerry Noor, Arthur Broady and Larry Flint were in attendance.



17 Dec Wreaths Across America: Spokane Chapter. Spokane #1 Members Stan Wills, Will Palmer & Doug Jonas all attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony at Pines cemetery in Spokane. 100 people attended to help lay 460 wreaths on Veterans headstones in 25-degree weather with a foot of snow on the ground.



Western Region

9 Nov: The John Paul Jones Chapter education team had a full day of presentations at the Klahowya Secondary School in Silverdale, WA. The team gave four extremely well received presentations to six classes, 7th and 8th grades. The team was led by Chapter President Perry Taylor who gave Introductions followed by Fred Gilbert the education coordinator and Color Guard Captain, Bob



Smalser color guard member and Doug Nelson chapter registrar and color guard. The team had time between classes to discuss our presentation objectives with the principle and school History Leader. The principle was given a SAR challenge coins for his many years supporting the SAR. Fred Gilbert discussed what lead up to the revolution starting with the French and Indian War and ended with George Washington departing Valley Forge, followed by Bob Smalser who discussed the West frontier militiamen who were Washington's sharp shooters and end with Doug Nelson discussing the life of a colonial student in our rural colonial life.

11 Nov Veterans Day: Great turnout at the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Kitsap Pavilion in Bremerton. John Gardner did an excellent job organizing the event.

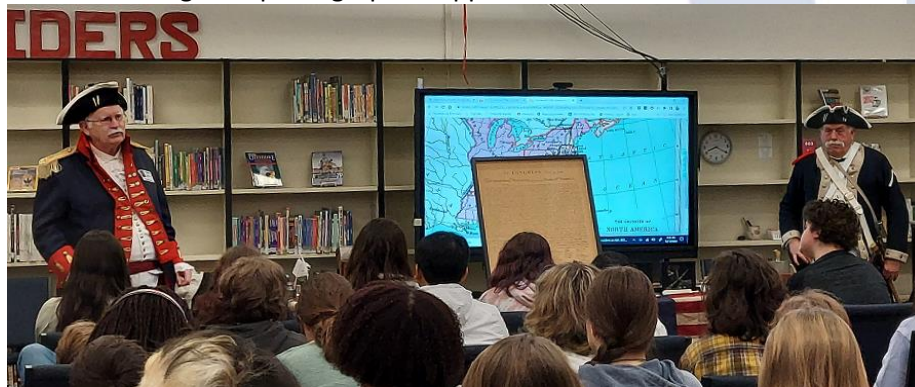


Members of John Paul Jones Chapter WASSAR we're in attendance. Perry Taylor, Mick Hersey Doug Nelson, Bob Schneider, Fred Gilbert, Noah Chase, Quentin Gilman and Brian Dorr. Great interest in the First Veteran's Exhibit along with the Elizabeth Ellington Chapter WSSDAR and Northwest Colonial Festival Exhibits.



12 Dec: The JPJ Chapter presented a large number of 8th graders at Ridgetop Middle School (RMS) in Silverdale, WA with Revolutionary War talks.

Presenters were Compatriot Fred Gilbert, and Doug Nelson. Perry Taylor (JPJ Chapter President) introduced the team and provided technical support and assistance along with photographic support.

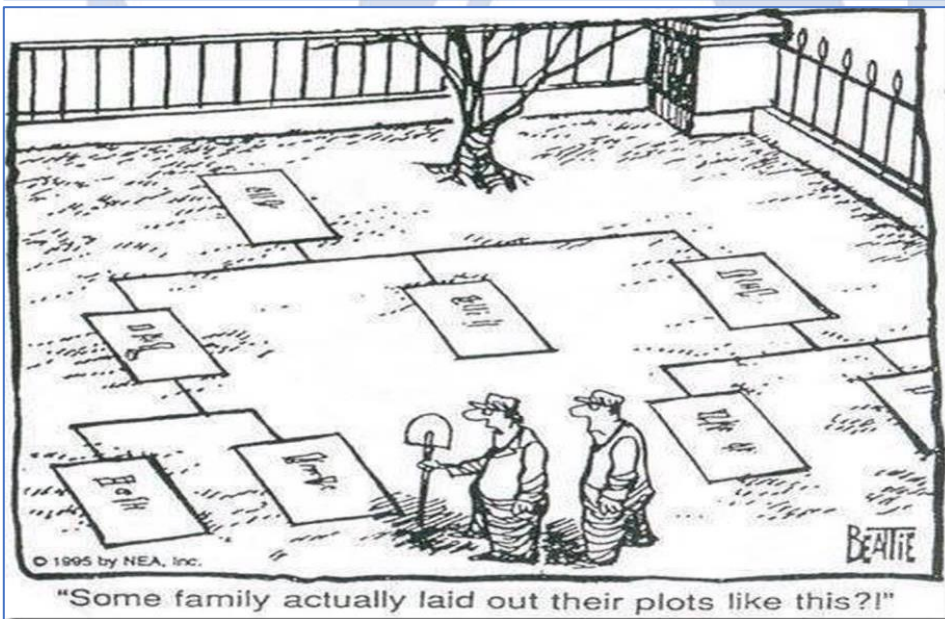
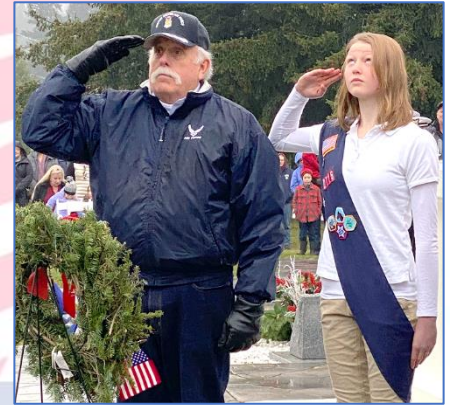


Six (6) 45-to-50-minute sessions were presented throughout the day to 226 students. President Taylor presented Washington SAR challenge coins to RMS Principal Rusty Willson and RMS 8th grade History Lead Shauna Barnett.

16 Dec The JPJ Chapter education team gave six presentations on the American Revolution to over 233 students at the Central Kitsap Middle School in Silverdale, WA. The presenters were introduced by chapter president Perry Taylor who are: Fred Gilbert chapter Color Guard Captain speaking on what lead up to the revolution through to the winter of 1777 and Valley Forge; Bob Smalser discussed the life on the Western Frontier and the role they played supporting the revolution; and Doug Nelson talked about what daily life was like for the colonist. During their day long set of presentations, Perry Taylor took a short break and presented the CKMS principal Ms. Jodie Woolf and lead history teacher Sonnet Sujka with WA State SAR Challenge coins thanking them for inviting the John Paul Jones Chapter into their school and giving the team this opportunity to discuss the American Revolution



17 Dec Wreaths Across America: JPJ Chapter. 2022 has been an awesome year. As part of the National Wreaths Across America Day Over 900 wreaths were placed in 9 cemeteries and on Veteran's Memorial sites around Kitsap County. Participating members of the John Paul Jones Chapter WASSAR we're Mick Hersey, Perry Taylor who presented the Army Wreath, Bob Schneider presented the Marine Corps Wreath, the Air Force Wreath was presented by Fred Gilbert. Others that provided behind the scene support were Noah Chase and Brian Dorr. Refreshments we're provided by Elizabeth Ellington Chapter WSSDAR. Over 200 volunteers attended the 2 ceremonies at Ivy Green Cemetery Bremerton and at Bethel Cemetery in Port Orchard. Nationally 3700 cemeteries participated receiving 2.5 million wreaths placed by 3.5 million volunteers.



5 GOLDEN RULES OF GENEALOGY

- #1** Leave no stone unturned, unless it is a headstone.
- #2** Handwriting legibility is inversely proportional to a documents importance.
- #3** The further away a cemetery or library is, the more awkward the opening hours will be.
- #4** The relative you most need to talk with is the one whose funeral you are currently attending.
- #5** Wherever you find two or more siblings, there also will you find two or more surname spellings.

Military Humor & More



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



Tragically, Frank learns that his recruiter had misrepresented the term "Storm Trooper"

From the Editor

I ran across this video on YouTube and thought I would share with you.

Atlas, Boston Dynamics's robot (at right), dances to "[Do you love me](#)" and does it better than I can!



The field of robotics has advanced quite a bit in the last 30 years.

I can't help but wonder if *Skynet* is not far off???

I sure hope not!!! 😊

Skynet is a fictional artificial neural network-based conscious group mind and artificial general superintelligence system that serves as the antagonistic force of the Terminator franchise.

In the first film, it is stated that Skynet was created by Cyberdyne Systems for SAC-NORAD. [Wikipedia](#)

Uniforms & Other Items Wanted/For Sale

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

Wanted:

Contact	Item	Size	Note

For Sale:

Contact	Item	Size	Cost	Notes
Dick Motz	Sewing Machine	N/A	Free!!!	Just come pick it up... Great for sewing those uniform accessories.



The Washington Trail - 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 24 Mar	1 Apr +/-
Spring (2 nd Qtr.)	Apr	1 Apr to 30 Jun	No later than 25 Jun	1 Jul +/-
Summer (3 rd Qtr.)	Jul	1 Jul to 30 Sep	No later than 24 Sep	1 Oct +/-
Fall (4 th Qtr.)	Oct	1 Oct to 31 Dec	No later than 25 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.

