



THE DRUMBEAT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE WASHINGTON STATE COLOR GUARD

Sep 2023 (3rd Qtr. Jul, Aug, Sep)



Washington State Color Guard - State Conference 2023

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YOUR COLOR GUARD



THE FACE OF THE SAR

From The Commander

Compatriots,

During this last quarter I have the opportunity to attend the National Congress in Orlando, Florida. There were eight compatriots from Washington State present. John Kraft (GW), Drum Major Viren Lemmer, and myself participated in the Color Guard activities as part of the National Color Guard.



We witnessed two “*Changing of the Guard*” events. First was the transfer of command from Brook Lyles to Scott Collins as the National Color Guard Commander after a very strong year by Commander Lyles. Second, we witnessed the transition of the President General, from C Bruce Pickette to John Dodd of California. During the inaugural speech of PG John Dodd, he emphasized the promotion of the America 250.

On that note, many of us have worked personally on activities to earn the SAR 250 medals. Now is the time to turn outward towards our communities. With December 16, 2023 being the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party. The events of the American Revolution are upon us. I well remember the fanfare of the Bi-Centennial of 1976. Our communities are virtually unaware of what the next 10 years of recognition and celebration of the events that brought forth a new and free nation.

I encourage each chapter and Color Guard to become creative on how to promote the 250th Anniversary in your communities and activities to increase this awareness.

The cornerstone will be July 4, 2026, commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence. But as you are well aware, this is but the beginning.

Remember, we are the “**Face of the SAR**” and in many ways, the only organization to bring the remembrance and significance of the time period to the citizens in today’s world.

As a side note, the next three National Congresses are being held in Revolutionary War areas, beginning with Lancaster, Pennsylvania. This is followed by the Congress being in Connecticut and then North Carolina. If these are on your to do lists of areas to visit, I encourage you to join the Congress that best suits your interest.

Respectfully, Neil A Vernon WASSAR Color Guard Commander.

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:

- 1-3 postage is \$1.00, 4-6 postage is \$2.00, 7-9 postage is \$3.00
- 10 or more the postage is \$9.90.



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

LINKS To CG Newsletter & Documents Of Interest

LINKS to the Color Guard Training Videos on YouTube
[Escort and Flag Duty](#) - [Firing Drill](#) - [Safety Inspection](#)

[LINK](#) to the July issue of the National Color Guard Magazine

Color Guard Events Throughout The State

Regional Area Color Guard Events In 3rd Quarter

Northern Region

4 Jul: Nine members of the GWC Color Guard represented the SAR with our historic flag trailer including the 250th flag at the annual Anacortes July 4th parade. There was a huge turnout, and it was enjoyed by all.



(L to R) Rodney Jenny, Mike Hutchins, Marshall Eberhart, Bill Bentler, "Doc" Marshall Anderson, Bruce Bock, Ken Carlson, Terry Laxton, John Kraft



22 Jul: The annual (since 1935) West Seattle Grand Parade was attended by the SAR/DAR. The parade is a member of the Seafair community of events which includes the pirates, clowns, marching bands, drill teams, floats, pageantry and excitement that leads up to the Seafair Torchlight Parade the following weekend.



SAR members were:

(Back row) Jim Carpenter, Stan Grandberg, Tim Zink, Matt Bendickson, Mike Bendickson, David Horsley, Bob Korn, Mike Moore.

(In front) Eric Olsen, Neil Vernon, Dick Motz

There was also Mike Moore's 3 generation Revolutionary family (L-R)

Mat Bendickson (son in-law)
Danika Bendickson (granddaughter),
Katherine Bendickson (daughter),
Mike Bendickson (grandson),
Diane (His wife), and Mike Moore.



5 Aug: The GW chapter was honored to be able to present the colors at the annual Vietnam Veterans of America picnic in Sedro-Woolley. CG members present were Bill Bentler, Bruce Bock, Ken Carlson, Marshall Eberhart, John Kraft, Bob Wall, Hugh Jonson, Mike Hutchens, and Jim Carpenter,



12 Aug: The annual Woodinville Parade was well manned by 4 chapters of the SAR Color Guard (AH, GRC, GW, SE).

Attendees were:

(Back) Stan Granberg, Ralph Lienes (HODAR), Bill Bentler, Eric Olsen, Dennis Case, Jerry Bordelon, Lew Maudsley, Robert Nofsinger, Melonie Lienes (F&D), Neil Vernon, Dick Motz

(Front) Alonde Droege, Nofsinger 1, Stephanie Conroy, David Horsley, Viren Lemmer, Jan Lemmer, Skip Stephen, Nofsinger-2



17 Sep, Constitution Day: Two members of the GW Chapter SAR joined the Ann Washington Chapter DAR. They celebrated the signing of the Constitution by ringing bells, waving flags and shaking pompoms for one minute at 1:00pm on the steps of the Skagit County courthouse in Mount Vernon.

The SAR Members were Mike Hutchens and Ken Carlson.



17 Sep, Constitution Day: The GW Chapter also celebrated the day at the Anacortes library.

Members were: John Mark Jenney, Rod Jenney, Bill bentler, Marshall Anderson, Bruce Bock, Bob Wall, & Marshall Eberhart,



Southern Region

4 Jul: The Fort Vancouver Chapter, SAR has successfully completed their inaugural parade participation! They marched, drove and rode with pride and dignity at the "Go 4th" celebration in Longview which commemorated not only our nation's birthday but also the 100th anniversary of Longview.

One of the charter members of the Fort Vancouver chapter, historian George Vernon, clad in patriotic attire was also celebrating his 91st birthday!



(L-R)
Rick



Cline, George Vernon, Larry Heckethorne, Allan Furlow, Gregory Stewart, Michael Fitzpatrick, Jeff Lightburn, Paul Winter, Carl Gray, Garry Carpenter, and Neil Vernon (taking the photo).

A very special thanks to Garry Carpenter who not only provided the trailer and pick-up but also contributed countless time, effort, vision, sweat,

and finances into the preparation of the float.

4 Jul: The Steilacoom annual Independence Day parade was attended by both the SAR & DAR.

At right, Bob O'Neal, acting as town crier, read the Declaration of Independence to the crowd.



Mike Moore led the parade group followed by the flag trailer.

SAR/DAR/other Participants were:

(Back row) Coral Hileman (DAR), Katherine Bendickson, Mike Moore, Mike Bendickson, Alonde Droege, Melonie Leaning, Jeannine Stephan, Skip Stephan, Dian Moore, Ken Roberts, Danika Bendickson, Beth Miklos-Essenber, Susan Nelson, Pam Gassman, Dick Motz (Front row) Jan Lemmer, Harold Steenbergen, Ralph Leaning, Viren Lemmer.



4 Jul: The **GRC chapter** & DAR shared a combined presence in this years "**Christmas in July**" event. Both chapter banners proudly marching side by side followed by the SAR/DAR color guard. The group leaders, Franida Maudsley (DAR) and Art Dolan (SAR) shouted out "**Merry 4th of July**" and "**Happy Birthday America**" much to the enjoyment of the spectators. For the first time DAR's Jesai Bancroft-Connors proudly carried the Betsy Ross flag.

Our CAR. compatriot, Julien Bancroft-Connors, fell back from his banner post to carry the Washington State Flag as the extreme heat caused one of our flag bearers to take a seat in the trailing limousine. The best part of being parade entry #50 was we preceded the horses at entry #52. Rule #1 in the Washington State Color Guard is to "Have Fun" and we complied completely for the entire parade route.

(L-R) SAR participants: Joel Bancroft-Connors (volunteer), Art Dolan, Lew Maudsley, Eric Olsen, Dick Moody, Julien Bancroft-Connors (CAR)



Other participants: Franida Maudsley (DAR), Michaelann Henley (DAR), Shirley Stirling (DAR), Jesai Bancroft Connors (DAR).

19-20 Aug: Local DAR and SAR join forces for historical demos. The city of Dupont was alive with history during the Hudson Days Festival. Taking part were two Olympia-based patriotic service groups (Sacajawea Chapter, NSDAR and the GRC Chapter, SAR). The two groups often combine efforts at such community events.

This particular event took place at the Clock Tower Park in Dupont. The two-day festival included a barbecue competition; a heritage car show; live music; local culinary fare; a beer garden featuring local craft brews, wines, liquors and cocktails, fantastic children's activities, and historical activities and demonstrations. The DAR/SAR hosted a booth and provide demonstrations of life in the 18th century on Saturday & Sunday. CG Members present were...Eric Olsen, Joe Coorough, Lew Maudsley, Dick Moody, and Denis Case



4 Sep: Black Diamond Labor Day Parade.

Participants were:

(Standing) Eric Olsen, Mat Bendickson, Jim Carpenter, Mike Moore, John Herr, Cris Grabowski, Danica Bendickson (DAR), Bill Bentler, Stephan Clayton, Katherine Bendickson (DAR), Cris Clayton, Melonie Leaning (DAR), Bruce Bock, and Alonde Droege (F&D).

(In front) Viren Lemmer, Ralph Leaning (HODAR), Harold Steenbergen, Neil Vernon, Dick Motz, Mike Bendickson



Fife & Drum Awards were also in order:



The Flag Trailer was also present.



Dian Moore
Pin for 1st Parade

Alonde Droege
Promoted to
Corporal

Terry Barker
Promoted to
Captain

18 Sep: Honor Flight at Sea-Tac Airport. The welcome home event at SeaTac was very successful. There were bagpipers, 10 patriot guard, and 6 SAR Color Guard. The setup was totally different but it worked very well for the 30+ veterans on the flight. It was all worth the time spent to get there, wait for the vets to deplane and thank them for their service.



The Color Guard and SAR presence at this Honor Flight would make all SAR chapters proud. GC Members present were: Denis Case, Mike Moor, Dick Moody, Eric Olsen, Art Dolan & Neil Vernon. Neil Vernon had a nice flag display along with his stand-up SAR soldier display he had in Spokane.

30 Sep: The GRC Chapter Posted the colors for Daughters of American Colonists.

The event took place at the Boston Harbor Marina and was the dedication of the Boston Harbor Lighthouse plaque. Featured speaker Dr. Richard Moody. Participating were (L-R) Eric Olsen, Dick Moody, Joe Coorough, and Art Dolan



Eastern Region

4 July: The Mid-Columbia Chapter participated in the Pasco Grand Old 4th of July Parade with the local DAR Chapters.

Six members, Brian Smith, Randal Roach, Brian McReynolds (L to R, to left of truck), Richard Roddy, Jerry Noor, and Kelly Schultz (to right of truck) Participated, carrying flags and our America's First Veterans banner.



24 Jul: Dale Ryan, Doug Jonas, Stan Wills and his grandson, Brayden, (wearing his new uniform) assisted the DAR in presenting flag pins to 88 new citizens from 33 countries.



Over 200 people were in attendance.



23 Aug: The Spokane #1 chapter attended their 2nd new citizens ceremony of 2023.

Pictured are (L-R) Stan Wills, Miss Spokane, Dale Ryan, and Doug Jonas. Also present was Bob Korn who took the photo.



Here Stan attends the colors as the pledge of allegiance is recited.

15 Sep: As part of Constitution Week, Stan Wills, Doug Jonas, Dale Ryan, Tracy Prock participated in the New Citizens ceremony held at Central Valley High School in Spokane.

The entire school attended.



16 Sep: Stan Wills, Wes Corder, Bob Korn posted colors for the Washington State DAR Board of Management meeting held in Spokane. Also in attendance were Doug Jonas and Ladies Auxiliary member Joyce Corder. The DAR did not allow any pictures to be taken inside the meeting. This photo was taken before we entered.



20 Sep: Stan Wills, Bob Korn, Tracy Prock, Doug Jonas participated in a New Citizens ceremony on 20 Sept 2023 at the Spokane Event Center, 48 new citizens from 19 countries.



22 Sep: Valley Fest Parade. Stan Wills, Dale Ryan, Rob Scott, Tracy Prock, Will Palmer, Carl Durkoop, Doug Jonas participated in the Spokane Valley Festival Parade "Heart Of Gold". Parade started at 7:30pm and had over 100 entries.



Western Region



31 Aug – 3 Sep: NW Northwest Colonial Festival. For a complete photo gallery of the event use this [LINK](#) (FB)

The John Paul Jones Chapter of the SAR participate in the four (4) day 2023 North West Colonial Festival (NWCF) on the grounds of the George Washington Inn in Port Angeles, WA. This year's festival set new attendance records with many visiting the SAR education booth. The festival, a living history, make us in the SAR more aware of the sacrifices of our patriot ancestors, a very memorable four days. The JPJ Chapter sponsored presentation speakers from two fellow chapters discussing topics like: The history of the US flag; the first 14 presidents, Washington's spies in the revolution, why does a young boy go to war, and the early history of the US Navy. SAR members who participated in the festival were: Perry Taylor, Neil Vernon, Mike Hutchins, Mick Hursey, Fred Gilbert (festival SAR coordinator). A big thank you to our fellow SAR members who manned the booth; Mark Dunham, Noah Chase, Patric Kane, Brian Dorr, SAR members who participated in the re-enacting of Lexington and Concord; and a huge special thank you to JPJ Chapter member Dan Abbott for allowing the festival to use his property, grounds of the Inn.



Thank You!!!

As we close this quarter, I would like to thank all the Color Guard members who gave of their time and effort to represent the WASSAR to the public.

Without you we would probably be unknown.

We are truly ***"The Face of the SAR"***



Dick Motz
Deputy Commander
WA St Color Guard

GREAT JOB THIS QUARTER!!!

A Few Photos From The 133rd National Congress



Washington State Attendees

(Back row) Tony Abbott, Viren Lemmer, Neil Vernon, John Kraft, Diane Kraft, Andrew Brewer
(Front row) Stephen Taylor, Cindy Lucas, Teri Vernon, Keith Weisenburg, Cindi Weissenberg, Susan Tayler, Perry Taylor



DAR Bench Dedication



John Kraft



Neil Vernon



Viren Lemmer

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

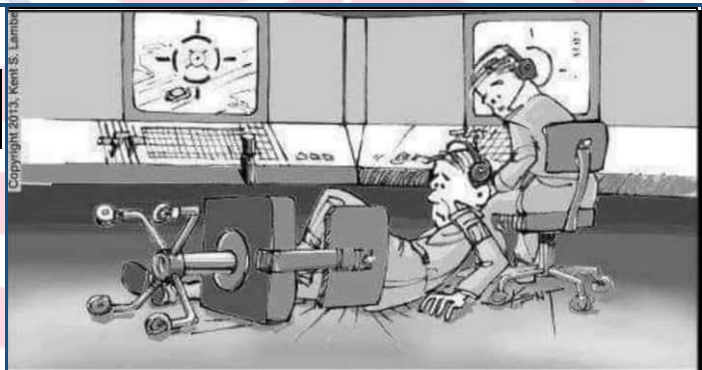
For Sale/Free:

Contact	Item	Size	Cost	Notes
Dick Motz	Trailer 3rd wheel		Free	

Military Humor & More



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



Experiencing an engine and complete instrument failure, Jack ejects from his Predator aircraft and lands roughly earning him a Purple Heart and Distinguished Flying Cross.



Anyone remember these???

Genealogy Humor



The Washington Trail - Publication Schedule

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

Text should be in "WORD" format. Font: Calibri Size: 11 point

Margins				Headers and footers	
Top:	0.4"	Bottom:	0.4"	Header:	0.1"
Left:	0.4"	Right:	0.4"	Footer:	0.1"
Gutter:	0"	Gutter:	Left		

Photos should be in JPG or PNG format and separate

Could it be a regular feature? Yes.

Multi page items? Yes, but should be no more than 2.

Edition	BOD	Period covered	Deadline	Published on
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 single article on a topic of interest from each chapter will be accepted each quarter.

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. (6/13/23)

REVOLUTION