



THE DRUMBEAT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
WASHINGTON STATE COLOR GUARD



Dec 2023 (4th Qtr. Oct, Nov, Dec)

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YOUR COLOR GUARD



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AMERICA'S FIRST VETERANS AND THE FACE OF THE SAR

From The Commander

Compatriots,

Happy Holidays and Season Greetings to all Color Guard and Compatriots. This past year has been full of activity in nearly every chapter. Some of the milestones we experienced is reaching out to over a 1,000 student through patriot chest presentations on the Kitsap Peninsula! Several other chapters also were reaching hundreds of students in the schools.

The George Washington Birthday Celebration (Feb 19) is now considered a national event. Massing of Colors or Washington Patriot Day will be held on March 2. In April we will have our annual State Conference which will be held in Ocean Shores, Washington, April 26-27. I encourage as many Color Guard who can attend to be present. We will have a Color Guard meeting Friday, April 26 and several assignments to fulfill for Posting of Colors, plus our annual Color Guard photo.

Prior to the State Conference, **Patriot Week** will be held April 22-25 in Ocean Shores and other locations in Gray's Harbor County. Several presentations and ceremonies are in the planning stages. This is a great opportunity to show this community the SAR and what we stand for.

Be sure to check the on-line Color Guard [Schedule of Events](#) regularly for events in your area that you can attend.

As this newsletter gets distributed, we are orbiting the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party of December, 16, 1773.

Many more events will take place over the next 10 years to honor our Patriot ancestors for providing us a nation of free men. 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 of course 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 citizenry to the remembrance the significance of the time period in which we live.

I am always so amazed at the unselfish sacrifice of time and resources that the Color Guard puts forth with enthusiasm and dedication. It is an honor and humbling to serve with you!

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



Boston Tea Party 16 Dec 1773



Color Guard Patch Available

A limited quantity of the sew on Color Guard Patches are still available at a cost of \$3.25 each.

The patch measures 4"x4"

If you want them mailed the postage cost is:

- 3 or less..... \$1.00
- 4-6..... \$2.00
- 7 or more..... \$9.90.

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

NOTE: Authorized for **WA State Color Guard members only**



Color Guard Events Throughout The State

Regional Area Color Guard Events In Apr, May, Jun

Northern Region

11 Nov: Skagit Co. Annual Veterans Day Parade in Burlington. The GW Chapter participated in the event and were honored to be the lead group with our historic flag trailer right behind the Skagit Co. parade banner carriers.



CG Members attending were:

(l to r) Rodney Jenny, Mike Hutchins, Johnmark Jenny, Bill Bentler, John Kraft, Bruce Bock, Marshall Eberhart.

16 Dec: Wreaths Across America: The CG attended the ceremony at **Hawthorne Cemetery in Mount Vernon.**

They were in support of the Civil Air Patrol Color Guard during ceremonies honoring and placing wreaths on more than 1200 veteran graves.



Members present were: John Kraft, Bruce Bock, Terry Layton, Rodney Jenny, Johnmark Jenny, Russ Oliver, Mike Hutchins, Ken Carlson, Bill Bentler, Marshal Anderson, Chris Fridley.

16 Dec: Wreaths Across America: On 15 Dec, 9 members of the Seattle chapter prepared for the laying of wreaths at the **Lakeview Cemetery** in Seattle, by marking the veteran graves with American flags. Then on December 16, 14 Chapter & Color Guard members participated in the Wreaths Across America program. This cemetery is the oldest cemetery in Seattle and the resting place of more than 500 veterans. With the sponsorships from the Ballard VFW, Colonial Dames, University of Medical Center IT Services, and others, enough Wreaths were on hand for the first time to honor each veteran grave in the cemetery, ranging from the Civil War to present day. Following the posting of colors by the Color Guard and some local Navigators, the Seattle Chapter donated a new flag to the cemetery and the Color Guard conducted a flag replacement ceremony.

Seattle Chapter members included: Tim Zenk, George Hanson, Scott Laing, Richard Seeder, Jerry Strode, and Jon Newton. One member from the Ranger Chapter: Tim Doughty. Color Guard included: Chris Grabowski, Stan Granberg, Stephen Clayton, Christopher Clayton, Neil Vernon, Grant Rauzi, Jim Carpenter, and David Horsley.



Southern Region

16 Oct, Honor Flight: The flight was greeted by 7 members of the WA St CG.



Meet & Greet



Present were: Stan Granberg, Jim Carpender, Bill Bentler, Neil Vernon, John Herr, Dick Mody, Art Dolan

4 Nov: The CG posted the colors in support of the DAR's National Defense Luncheon held at the Seattle Airport Marriott.



Members present were:
 John Herr, Mike Moore, Ken Roberts, Dick Motz, Viren Lemmer, and Jan Lemmer
 Also present from the Fife & Drum corps were:
 Terry Barker, Stephanie Conroy, and Melonie Leaning

8 Nov: Veterans Day: Evergreen Christian School, Posting the colors for their Veterans Day Celebration.

The two children in the photo were recently adopted from Bulgaria and attended their first Veterans Day ceremony. They are students at Evergreen Christian School.

George Rogers Clark Color Guardsmen were: Art Dolan, Dick Moody.



9 Nov: Veterans Day ceremony. Art Dolan and his grandson, Jackson Sackville-West were the Dierenger Heights Elementary school pre ceremony speakers presenting "The Stars and Stripes Revolutionary Road". There were more than 90 veterans in attendance for the flag presentation which was followed by a musical tribute.



11 Nov: Veterans Day Ceremony & Pinning of Vets: Veterans Day ceremony on the Olympia Capitol Campus included a pinning ceremony for all attending Vietnam vets receiving their 50-year commemorative lapel pin combined with the reading the names of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam, from the memorial wall.

CG Members were: Eric Olsen, Lew Maudsley, Dennis Case, and Dick Moody



11 Nov: Veterans Day Parade, Auburn WA: The group gathered at the Rainbow Café for the annual get together before the parade. It was a little wet before the parade started, but the skies cleared just in time for the event.

SAR & CG Members present were:

(back row) Neil Vernon, Melonie Leaning (F&D), Jan Lemmer, Mike Moore, Skip Stephen, Jerry Bordelon, Jim Carpenter, Mike Bendickson, David Horsley, Mat Bendickson, Katherine Bendickson, Diane Moore, Dick Motz (Front row) Keith Weissinger, Alonde Droege (F&D), Danica Bendickson, Ralph Leaning, Harold Steenbergen. Jeff Harlan also participated



16 Dec: Wreaths Across America. The Ah Chapter posted the colors at the **Washington Soldiers Home** cemetery in Orting

CG Members attending were:

Dick Motz, Tim Smith, Mike Moore, Viren Lemmer, Ken Roberts, John Herr, Tom Barham, Jan Lemmer.



16 Dec: Wreaths Across America.

The CG attended the ceremony at **Masonic Memorial Park** in Olympia. GRC Chapter Color Guard, along with Sacajawea Chapter DAR posted colors and participated in Wreaths Across America event at the Masonic Cemetery in Olympia. Also participating were representatives from the Washington Society of the CAR and the Trail Blazers Society of Olympia, The Sacajawea Chapter arranged the 156 wreaths and coordinated the afternoon ceremonies. Representatives of all service branches, active and retired, laid wreaths at the Washington State Monument in Memory of Her Valiant Sons.

CG Members present were: Dick Moody, Eric Olsen Lew Maudsley, and Joe Coorough

**17 Dec: St Paul, Oregon.**

The Fort Vancouver Chapter partnered with the DAR, CAR and 2 Oregon chapters (Lewis & Clark & Republic) to lay a wreath and fire a volley to honor William Cannon. He is the only documented Revolutionary War soldier buried in Oregon. St. Paul Catholic Church records show he died Aug. 29, 1854, and was buried in the cemetery the next day. The records describe him as being 99 and a widower of a Chinook woman and not known to have had any descendants. Participating chapter members were:

Ft Vancouver: Carl Gray, Paul Winter

Republic: David Devin David Woods Russ Erickson

Lewis & Clark: Clayton Watters David Witter Eugene Foley Fred Heiserman. Joel Simmons. Joseph Martin Mark Phillips Matt Rosenberg Michael Lebsock Michael Tieman Rob Green Terry Witter



Eastern Region

21 Oct: Veteran's Stand Down, Sun Dome, the Mid-Columbia Chapter provided an information table at the Yakima Veteran's Stand Down.

A Veteran's Stand Down is a chance for the community and support groups to offer support to our military veterans. Our chapter meeting was held at the same time. We enjoyed talking with people that stopped by. Several signed up for more information. One gentleman was certain that he had a Revolutionary War Patriot.

Attending were: Steve Winmill, Larry Flint, George Boice, Kelly Schultz, Richard Roddy & Conn Clark

**2-9 Nov:** Stan Wills, of Spokane #1, did four school programs in 7 days. He was assisted by Doug Jonas.

On 2 Nov they gave a presentation to two 8th grade classes at Spokane International Academy.

On 8 & 9 Nov they gave the presentation to two 5th grade classes at Odessey Elementary School.

The total number of students in the four classes was 102.



4 Nov: Vietnam Vet Recognition Ceremony. The Mid-Columbia Color Guard posted the Colors for the DAR and American Legion, Vietnam Appreciation Ceremonies at the West Richland, American Legion. Vietnam-era Vets in attendance received certificates and challenge coins. Hank Cramer's father, was the first American soldier killed in Vietnam. Following retiring of the colors by the Color Guard, we enjoyed coffee, cookies and conversation. CG Members present were: Larry Flint, Kelly Schultz, Richard Roddy, Brian Smith



5 Nov: Naturalization Ceremony. The Mid-Columbia Chapter attended another Naturalization Ceremony at the Richland Federal Building on November 5th. Randal Roach, Richard Roddy, Larry Flint and Kelly Schultz attended in uniform and handed out crossed flag pins to the new American Citizens. Some took pictures with us representing America's First Veterans



10 Nov Veterans Day: Veterans program at the Corbin Park Senior Center Spokane. A Veterans luncheon sponsored by the center was served for 51 Veterans. Stan Wills set up several tables to provide historical artifacts and documents for the SAR, War of 1812, Civil War, WWII and Iraq War. The displays included flags, guns, other weapons, uniforms on manikins, paintings, soldier equipment and handouts. Unfortunately, Stan had to attend his SAR chapter meeting which was held at the same time. After the Chapter meeting, he returned and picked up everything and returned it to the Flag Museum. ***That's what you call multitasking!! (Photo not available)***



11 Nov: The Mid-Columbia Chapter, along with the Kennewick DAR and Columbia River DAR Chapters, participated in the West Richland Veterans Day Parade. Conn Clark, Kelly Schultz, Larry Flint, the DAR Ladies, Brian Smith, Richard Roddy, Karen Shultz, & Randal Roach



17 Nov: Veteran's Stand Down. The Mid-Columbia SAR Chapter along with the Kennewick DAR Chapter had information tables at the Veteran's Stand Down in Kennewick. George Boice, Arthur Broady, Larry Flint, Randal Roach, Richard Roddy, Kelly Schultz and Brian Smith attended from the chapter. Karen Schultz and Sandra Mauws were also in attendance.



16 Dec: Larry Flint and Richard Roddy joined the Karmeesta DAR chapter in Moses Lake for a commemorating, to mix with the public, in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party on this date in 1773. This was followed by a wreath laying at Resthaven Cemetery to honor William Johnston, Civil War Veteran by the same group. Richard Roddy spoke about William Johnsons service experiences and Arthur Broady laid the wreath.

(l-r) Larry Flint, Conn Clark, Randal Roach, Arthur Broady, Richard Roddy & Brian Smith



Western Region

11 Nov: Veterans Day, The John Paul Jones Chapter Color Guard and Education team manned their booth at the 2023 Veterans Day Recognition event at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Bremerton.

The team's focus was on the First Veterans, ancestry, and education in the community.

The team was constantly busy discussing the values and sacrifices of the First Veterans who won our freedoms and securing a new nation.



Team members were: Perry Taylor, Mick Hersey, Fred Gilbert, Brian Dorr, Noah Chase, Hugh Turker, Mark Whitaker, and Patrick Burch

16 Dec: Wreaths Across America. The JPJ chapter was blessed with a cool day for honoring our Veterans at our Wreaths Across America at both Ivy Green Cemetery (Bremerton) and Bethel Cemetery (Port Orchard). 1038 wreaths were placed in 12 cemeteries around Kitsap County. We thank all those that assisted in the Ceremonies and came out and placed Wreaths honoring our Veterans.

Members attending were:

(l-r) Hugh Tucker (Ret LAFD Bn Chief), Pat Burch, Fred Gilbert, Perry Taylor, Bob Schneider, Noah Chase, and, Mick Hersey (Master of Ceremonies).



During the 4th Quarter the JPJ Education Team (Fred Gilbert, Doug Nelson, Robert Smalser, Perry Taylor, Brian Door, and Patric Burch) presented gave 2 more school presentations to 350 students.

That makes a total of for a total of 11 presentations to 382 students this year.

Great job compatriots.





Would You Believe???

Click this [LINK](#) for video
(available till end of quarter)

1862 Cannon Mouse Trap



Military Humor & More



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



What does this C5 find amusing?



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" <input type="text"/>	Bottom:	0.4" <input type="text"/>
Left:	0.4" <input type="text"/>	Header:	0.1" <input type="text"/>
Gutter:	0" <input type="text"/>	Footer:	0.1" <input type="text"/>
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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.**

<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 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)

Note: The December (4th Qtr) issue is usually out by Christmas.

SAR

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