



# THE DRUMBEAT

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



Dec 2024 (4th Qtr. Oct/Nov/Dec)

Message to [The Editor](#)

# YOUR COLOR GUARD



## FALL 2024

(4th Quarter)

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# AMERICA'S FIRST VETERANS AND THE FACE OF THE SAR

**From The State SAR CG Commander**

**Compatriots,**

Happy Holidays and Season Greetings to all Color Guard and Compatriots. Another year has passed and we have continued to meet most of the requests that came our way. Our in-person school presentations remain a strong outreach to the younger generations. During this past year we had a few Veteran reinternments, honoring those who paid the ultimate price. It is with great gratitude that I thank each of you Color Guard members for your sacrifices in promoting the objectives of the SAR. I have truly been blessed to serve as your commander over the past 5 ½ years. The comradery and brotherhood is truly remarkable when we get together.



**Major Accomplishments this year:**

- 1) The CG rose to the challenge of Patriot Week given to us by President Greg Lucas. Several members stepped up to make sure that the Washington State Society left an impressionable positive mark in the Ocean Shores community.
- 2) An outstanding show of Color Guardsmen participated in the annual Color Guard meeting and State Conference.
- 3) This past year saw the presentation of several Von Steuben Color Guard medals for the State of Washington. These compatriots have served the Washington State Society as Color Guard members for a minimum of 8 years. Their sacrifices and achievements have been many. Congratulations to all of you. It has been a pleasure to be the State Commander to present these honors on each of you.

**Viren Lemmer (AH)**

**Ken Roberts (AH)**

**Fred Gilbert (JPJ)**

**Dick Motz (AH)**

**Art Dolan (GRC)**

**Looking Forward:**

Please mark your calendars for the annual meeting in April. I would like to see as many Color Guard members there as possible to witness and be a part of the Changing of the Guard Ceremony.

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

**From The State SAR CG Deputy Commander (and NL editor)**

I have given it a great deal of thought and have decided to step down from my duties as **Deputy Commander** and **Newsletter Editor** for the WA State Color Guard. I have been in this position for the past 7 years (appointed 2017) and I believe it is time for a younger compatriot to step up and take over this support function. I make this decision due to my age and for the good of the organization.



**NOTE:** I will maintain the CG schedule till a replacement is found or I am unable to do so.

**Retirement to be effective at the end of the 2025 State Conference after the change of command ceremony.**

My replacement should have the following IT qualifications:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Have advanced computer skills.                       | 6. Support the CG Commander in all computing matters   |
| 2. Be proficient in the use of HTML.                    | 7. Be able to update all CG documents/manuals.         |
| 3. Be able to use FTP.                                  | 8. Be able to update all web pages.                    |
| 4. Be an advanced user of Microsoft Word & Excel.       | 9. Maintain the communication with web host.           |
| 5. Be able to update documents on a daily/hourly basis. | 10. Other duties as determined by the State Commander. |

I will remain available for assistance as needed...

**Respectfully submitted, Walter R (Dick) Motz, Deputy Commander Washington State Color Guard.**

**Color Guard Patch Available**

A **limited quantity** of the sew on Color Guard Patches are still available at a cost of \$4.00 each.

If you want them mailed the postage cost is:

- 3 or less .....\$1.00                      4-6.....\$2.00
- 7-9 .....\$3.00                              10 or more .....\$9.90



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

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

The patch measures 4"x4"

## Regional Area Color Guard Events in Oct, Nov, Dec

### Northern Region

**10 Nov: Veterans Day Parade:** The GW Chapter attended the event with their flag trailer and proudly marched in the Anacortes Veterans Day parade. (l-r) John Kraft, Bill Bentler, Ken Carlson, Bruce Bock, Marshall Anderson and Marshall Eberhart



**11 Nov: Skagit County Veterans Parade.** The GW chapter participated in the event in Burlington ...

Members present were: (l-r) Bill Bentler, Marshall Anderson, John Mark Jenny, Bruce Bock, Rod Jenny, Ken Carlson and Russ Oliver



**14 Dec: Wreaths Across America:** Nine Members of the George Washington Chapter CG, helped present the colors at the Wreaths Across America event at Hawthorne Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Washington. The event was hosted by the Ann Washington Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. Members were: (l-r) John Mark Jenny, John Kraft, Bill Bentler, Russ Oliver, Marshall Anderson, Chris Fridley, Bruce Bock, Lee Schuirman, and Rod Jenny.



**14 Dec: Wreaths Across America:** The Seattle chapter Color Guard was joined by the NJROTC Blue Angel Squadron, Ballard VFW, DAR, Colonial Dames, University of Washington employees, Boy Scouts, and several other community members at the annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Lakeview Cemetery in Seattle. During the ceremony we were honored to have one of the cadets as the keynote speaker. They are scheduled to ship out following graduation. This ceremony honored those who are no longer with us, Veterans and current active duty, and future service members



CG members were: Neil Vernon, Grant Rauzi, Stephen Clayton, Acki Muller, Stan Granberg, and Chris Grabowski. Other SAR members were: Tim Zenk, Kenny Marshall, George Hanson, and Richard Seeder



## Southern Region



**7 Oct: Honor Flight:** WA State Color guard met the returning Honor Flight to greet the Veterans as they entered the rotunda.

Members present were: Neil Vernon, Timothy Smith, John Herr, Art Dolan, Dick Moody, and one other from GRC

**10 Oct:** Ft Vancouver chapter presented the colors at a swearing in of new US citizens. The event took place at the Pearson Air Museum which is part of the Fort Vancouver National Park. It was hosted by the US Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Immigration.

(l-r): Mike Fitzpatrick, Paul Winter, Jeff Lightburn, Garry Carpenter with Dave Witter and Joel Simmons of the Lewis & Clark chapter (OR)



**14 Oct: Mountain View Cemetery.** The Ceremony marking Compatriot Glenn Oliver's Memorial Marker with the SAR Medallion, was hosted by the Alexander Hamilton Chapter. Wreaths were placed by 8 WSSDAR Chapters. (l-r) Mick Hersey, John Herr, Viren Lemmer, Skip Stephen, Tom Barham, Perry Tayler, Dick Moody, Ralph Liening, Melonie Liening, Tim Smith, Charley Frisk & Jan Lemmer (kneeling)



**18 Oct:** The George Rogers Clark chapter and the Sacajawea DAR chapter, were proud to participate in opening night ceremonies of the Broadway play "What the Constitution Means to Me". The event took place at the Olympia Harlequin Theater. Their participation generated excitement for the play, called attention to the Constitution and encouraged all people to exercise their constitutional right to vote. The timing of the play, the presidential election, with the combined effort of S.A.R and D.A.R. it was the perfect venue to highlight the power of voting. They were surprised at the number of people who had already voted by October 18th.

(l-r) Dick Moody, Jeni Swanson (Sacajawea Regent), Lew Maudsley, Franida Maudsley, Art Dolan.

**19 Oct:** The George Rogers Clark chapter SAR partnered with the City of Tumwater, Sacajawea chapter, DAR to present the first ever "Talking Headstones". The program featured the DAR headstone cleaning project. The headstone cleaning and repair process was explained by Mick Hersey, JPJ Chapter, SAR and the headstone rededication at the Tumwater Cemetery. Following the ceremony the crowd was separated into 8 groups to visit SAR/DAR presenters at 8 historical figures. Approximately 200 community members attended the tour (l-r) Shirley Stirling, Franida Maudsley, Mick Hersey, Lew Maudsley, Shannon Wells, Dick Moody, Art Dolan, Della Stenstrom Jeanne Pittenger



**19 Oct: 200th anniversary of Major General Marquis de Lafayette's return to the United States:**

VITA Elementary School, Vancouver.

**POC for event: Larry Heckethorne.** CG Members were: **No Data****No Data Received**

**27 Oct:** The George Rogers Clark chapter CG gathered at the Violet Prairie Grange in Tenino, WA to post colors for the 2024 Veterans Appreciation Day. This was the 2nd year that this type of event was held at a Thurston County Grange but the 1st year for the CG to post colors. The event had a veteran singing several patriotic songs, CG Capt. Art Dolan giving a presentation of the history of the U.S. flag. 3 U.S. veterans from the US Army and US Navy were awarded a quilt of valor.

**(l-r)** Eric Olsen, Lawrence Bowman, Art Dolan, Dennis Case, Lew Maudsley, and Kevin Saville



**2 Nov:** DAR National Defense Luncheon, Seattle Airport Marriott.

**POC for event was John Herr.** CG Members were: **No Data**

**No Data Received**

**9 Nov: Auburn Veterans Day Parade.** The WA State CG attended the 59th annual **Veterans Parade and Observance**. Members from several chapters of the SAR CG and the DAR participated. **CG Members were:** Brian Doar, Dave Witter (OR), Christopher Clayton, Eric Olsen, Fred Gilbert, Harold Steenbergen, Jan Lemmer, John Herr, Mike Moore, Neil Vernon, Noah Chase, Paul Winter, Perry Taylor, Stephen Clayton, Tim Smith, and Viren Lemmer. **F&D were:** Terry Barker Alonde Droege Charley Frisk, Stephanie Conroy. (video [LINK](#)).

**11 Nov: A Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans** event was held at the Vietnam Veterans memorial at the state capitol. The event was sponsored by the Sacajawea chapter of the DAR. Members of the George Rogers Clark Color Guard along with one of the DAR members and the state president for the CAR posted & retired colors. The event was well attended even with the bad weather. **(l-r)** Eric Olsen, Terry Church, Lew Maudsley, Dick Moody Jesai Bancroft-Connors (DAR), Julien Bancroft-Connors (CAR), Dennis Case, and Joe Cooraugh



**14 Dec: Wreaths Across America:** The AH chapter CG attended the WAA ceremony held at the Washington Soldiers Home Cemetery in Orting.

**CG members:** **(l-r)** Ralph Leining (HODAR), Charlie Frisk, Mike Bendickson, Thomas Barham, Michael Moore, John Herr and Timothy Smith.

**F&D:** Tim Smith, Charley Frisk, Mick Bendickson,

**At JBLM:** Viren Lemmer, Jan Lemmer, Skip Stephan, Alonda Droege, and Melonie Liening.

*The memorial is the "Civil War Medal of Honor".*



**14 Dec: Wreaths Across America:** Members of the George Rogers Clark CG gathered at the Masonic Cemetery in Tumwater, WA for what has become their last main event of the year. Working with the local DAR Sacajawea Chapter they posted colors, helped lay wreaths in front of Veterans of the Spanish American War memorial. They then proceeded to help lay wreaths around the cemetery.

CG members were: (l-r) Eric Olsen, Lew Maudsley, Dick Moody, Joe Coorough and Terry Church.



## Eastern Region

**12 Oct:** Spokane #1 along with members from the John Paul Jones and Mid-Columbia chapters participated in the dedication of the DAR's America 250 Patriot Plaza at South Pines Cemetery in Spokane Valley. They also presented and retired the colors. The weather was great which contributed to a great crowd of over 75 people present to honor our patriots with this fantastic plaza. They supported the project with the purchase of Patriot Bricks, direct donations, assisting at workdays, and the DAR dedications. There were three sites for this project, Lakewood (America 250! Marker), Seattle (Rainier House), and Spokane Valley (Patriot Plaza).



(l-r) Mick Hersey, Stan Wills, Dale Ryan, Rob Hill, will Palmer, Tracy Prock, Robert Korn, Ken Carlsen, Wes Corder, Kelly Schulz, Joyce Corder, Doug Jonas



**19 Oct: Veteran's Stand Down:** The Mid-Columbia Chapter, representing America's First Veterans, participated with the Veteran's Stand Down at the Sun Dome in Yakima. The chapter provided an SAR information table. They had discussions with two potential SAR members at the event. In addition to the CG, two members of our Ladies Auxiliary, Karen Schultz and Jan Hughes along with the mascot Niles, the dog were there.

(l-r) Larry Flint, Kelly Schultz, Conn Clark, Richard Roddy, Randal Roach and Brian McReynolds.

Photo by Karen Schults.

**26 Oct:** The Mid-Columbia Chapter assisted the Washington Society, DAR America 250 project for a Patriot Marker Dedication Ceremony.

The event took place at the Desert Lawn Memorial Park in Kennewick. The Color Guard, (l-r) Brian Smith, Kelly Schultz and Larry Flint, posted and retired the colors. President Richard Roddy brought greetings from the Chapter.



**6 Nov: Naturalization Ceremony,** Four Members of the Mid-Columbia Color Guard Participated in the November 6<sup>th</sup>



Naturalization Ceremony at the Federal Courthouse in Richland. Twenty-six new citizens from 7 countries were sworn in by Judge Shea.

The Chiawana High School choir sang several songs including the National Anthem. We passed out Cross-Flag Pins (Betsy Ross/current Flag). Several of the New Americans elected to take pictures with the CG. (l-r) Kelly Schultz, Randal Roach, Larry Flint and Richard Roddy.

**9 Nov: Veterans Day Parade.** The Mid-Columbia chapter SAR and 2 chapters of the DAR (Kennewick and Columbia River) participated in the West Richland parade.

CG Members were: Karen Schultz, Kelly Schultz, Conn Clark, Larry Flint, Jerry Noor, Brian Smith, Randal Roach, Richard Roddy



**15 Nov: Veteran's Stand Down,** (TRI-CITIES VETERANS RESOURCE EXPO), Southridge Sports Pavilion, Kennewick. This event was attended by the Mid-Columbia chapter. CG members were: Randal Roach, Brian Smith, Richard Roddy, and Auxiliary Member Jan Hughes. Several other members of the Mid-Columbia Chapter were also present. Vendors and attendance doubled from last year.

The photo below represents less than half of those that attended.



**14 Dec: Wreaths Across America:** The Mid-Columbia Chapter supported both Sunset Gardens in Richland and Desert Lawn Memorial Park in Kennewick. Tom Mattis (brother of member James Mattis) was the featured speaker at Sunset Gardens. Kelly Schultz attended the ceremony in Kennewick with Karen Schultz and Color Guard members Randal Roach, Arthur Broady, Jerry Noor. Larry Flint, Conn Clark, and Jan Hughes attended in Richland attired in uniform, to lay service wreaths during the indoor ceremony and of course outdoors on our veteran's graves. Following Sunset Gardens several members adjourned to Rest Haven Cemetery, also in Richland to lay a wreath on the grave of Civil War Veteran William Johnston.



**14 Dec: Wreaths Across America:** Spokane #1 assisted in laying over 750 wreaths at Pines Cemetery in Spokane Valley. They also performed the 13 folds of the flag ceremony. The weather was unseasonably good in the low 40's and the first time we haven't had snow on the ground in 5 years.

(l-r) Dale Ryan, Willy Palmer, Tracey Prock, Stan Wills, Denny Shaw, and Rob Scott.



**Western Region**



**11 Nov: Veterans Day Ceremony:** The JPJ chapter continued the tradition of honoring our Veterans at the Kitsap Pavilion. Founders Bob O'Neal and Doug Nelson were missed but there were lot of our JPJ Chapter there: Perry Taylor, Mick Hersey, Bob Schneider, Brian Dorr, Fred Gilbert, Noah Chase, Bob Smalser, Hugh Tucker and Mark Whitaker. They were even graced with George Washington (Vern Frykholm). Our DAR Sisters of the Elizabeth Ellington Chapter next to the SAR.

**14 Dec: Wreaths Across America.** The JPJ Chapter Color Guard participated in the WAA event at the Ivy Green Cemetery in Bremerton. President Perry Taylor presented the Army Wreath, Vice President Mick Hersey was Master of Ceremony, Chapter Secretary Bob Schneider presented the Marine Wreath, Member Brad McCracken presented the Air Force Wreath, Chapter Treasurer Brian Dorr was Tomb Guard along with Pat Burch. Education Chair Fred Gilbert presented the Space Force Wreath and Member Hugh Tucker presented the First Responders wreath. Mark Whitaker was here supporting the chapter and many scout groups, and my Location Coordinator assistant Noah Chase. A second Ceremony was held in the afternoon at Bethel Cemetery.



**Presentations (Summary) (Note: photos are no longer provided)**

**Seattle Chapter**

**7 Nov Madrona Veteran's Day Assembly:** The Madrona School in Edmonds invited the Seattle SAR Color Guard to their Veterans Day Assembly. Neil Vernon, Steve Clayton, and Acki Muller presented the History of the American Flag and the American Armed Forces to a student body of 600 ranging from K-8. **12 Nov DAR Presentation:** Grant Rauzi and Neil Vernon of the Seattle chapter were invited to the Cascade DAR Meeting in Bellevue. They presented the "14 Forgotten Presidents" to 24 DAR members and guests.

**Spokane #1 Chapter**

**22 Nov:** Today we did a Living History program for 70 kids at Pioneer Elementary School in Spokane. I love doing programs for kids. Stan Wills.

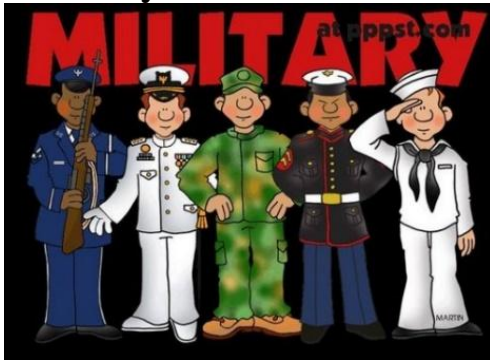
**John Paul Jones Chapter**

**26 Nov:** Master Rifleman Johann "Michael" Neuhardt 1713-1793 of the Northampton County Militia Ranging Company teaching living history to seven classes at Central Kitsap Middle School and eight classes at Klahowya Secondary School this week. The teachers bought us lunch but we missed it because we were swarmed with kids handling the exhibits. Bob Smalser

**10 Dec:** One hundred thirty students at Ridgetop Middle School in Silverdale received a dose of Improvise-Adapt-Overcome from a textile professor, a space shuttle scientist, and an infantry officer. Seniors make the best history teachers. Separating truth from lore is easier when you've done that evolution a hundred times in your career. Bob Smalser



# Military Humor & More



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



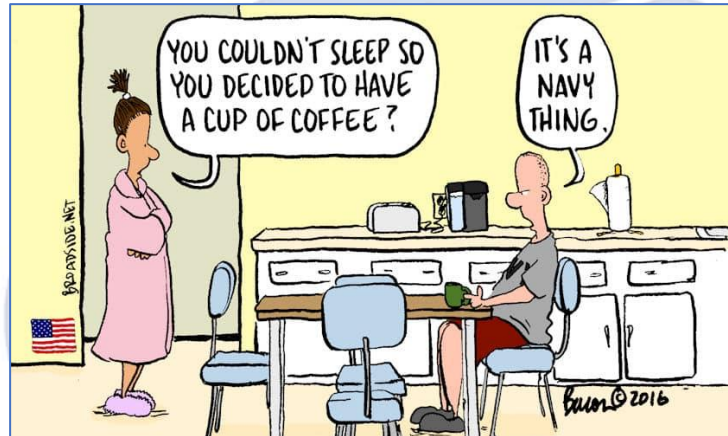
**THERE IS NO "I" IN TEAM...  
JUST REMEMBER...WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER!**

In-Country

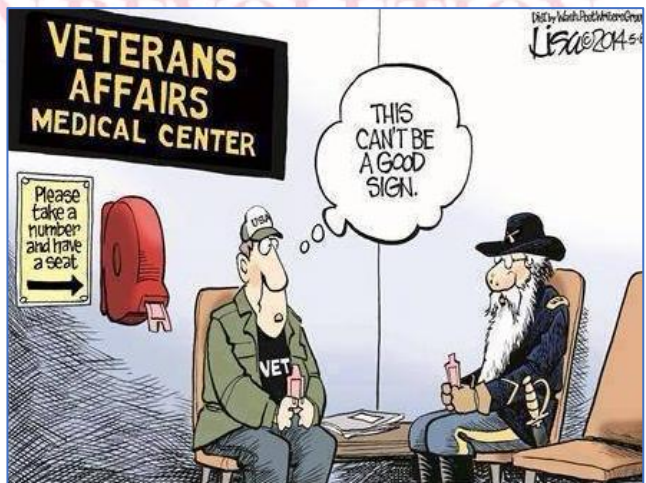
## IN-COUNTRY



**POTLUCK, VIETNAM STYLE**



*"I had no idea we had this kind of technology."*



Publication Schedule  
The Color Guard Newsletter Will Be Published Quarterly

**Publication/Article submission/Deadlines**

**The Plan:** Publish quarterly.

**Format Requirements:** Each article must be in Word format (text only) preferred font is **Calibri**.

- Any related photos are to be in **JPG** or **PNG** format.
- Formatting of the article is not required as it will be reformatted to fit space available.

**Deadline:** Articles are to be submitted to the **Newsletter Editor** no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the last month of the edition quarter (below)

<b>Edition</b>	<b>Qtr</b>	<b>Published on</b>	<b>Period covered</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Winter	1	31 Mar +/-	1 Jan to 31 Mar	No later than 20 Mar
Spring	2	30 June +/-	1 Apr to 30 Jun	No later than 20 Jun
Summer	3	30 Sep +/-	1 Jul to 30 Sep	No later than 20 Sep
Fall	4	31 Dec +/-	1 Oct to 31 Dec	No later than 20 Dec



Thank you

