



THE DRUMBEAT

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



Mar 2025 (1st Qtr. Jan/Feb/Mar)

YOUR COLOR GUARD



WINTER 2025

(1st Quarter)

IN THIS ISSUE

[From the Commander](#)

[Color Guard Patches](#)

[From the Deputy Commander](#)

[Color Guard Events Throughout the State](#)

[WA State Color Guard Event Schedule](#)

AMERICA'S FIRST VETERANS

AND THE FACE OF THE SAR

From The State SAR CG Commander

Compatriots,

As mentioned in my last message to the troops, during the April State Conference, there will be a Change of Command Ceremony during the Saturday night Banquet. With that, I would like to introduce Eric Olsen of the George Rogers Clark chapter. He will be the new Commander following the State Conference. All future communications regarding events, publications, etc., are to be sent to him at eolsen.sar.grc@gmail.com.



Over the past six years, serving as the Washington State Color Guard Commander, we have weathered through COVID, hosting a National Congress, and increasing the number of events attended by the Color Guard and have reached several thousand students through our education outreach. We have seen Color Guard come and go, yet our numbers have increased. One of the points I need to make is that we need younger recruits as many who have served between 5-10 years are aging out of being able to march.

With the growth we have also taken the opportunity to recognize the service rendered by the Color Guard for the Washington State Society. When I started, there had only 1 Von Steuben medal awarded to Washington State. Today, we have 7 recipients of the Von Steuben, 28 have been awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal, and 36 awarded the Bronze. At each State Conference I reinstated the years of service certificates.

Compatriots, I wish to thank you all for your service. I appreciate all of the sacrifices that you make for the purposes of promoting the ideals of the SAR. It cannot be said often enough, "We are the Face of the SAR".

Thank you for the journey, your support, guidance, persistence and comradery. We are about to embark on a period when our services will regularly be requested as we commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War events. Thank you for allowing me to be your Commander and State representative over the last 6 years, serving 3 State Presidents. It has been an honor and I look forward to seeing you in the field. With that, farewell.

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

Notice of Retirement: Deputy Commander (and NL editor)



Dick Motz
Deputy Commander
WA St Color Guard

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 for the good of the organization. I will be donating the "Flag Trailer" to the CG. I will remain available for assistance as needed...

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. |

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



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 Jan, Feb, Mar

Northern Region

15 Feb: Honor Guard at the services for Compatriot John Earnest at St Briget's Church, Seattle.

Members present were: Grant Rauzi, Thomas Barham, Eric Olsen, Priest, Neil Vernon, Lawrence Bowman, Dick Moody, Art Dolan.



17 Feb: President's Day: UW Campus Seattle. The WASS Color Guard/Fife & Drum, posted the Colors for the 116th Anniversary of the George Washington Statue at the University of Washington. Color Guard members from chapters throughout the Puget Sound, including the Alexander Hamilton, George Washington, Seattle, and George Rogers Clark, in addition to nineteen D.A.R. Chapters, four S.A.R. chapters and the State Society C.A.R. who laid wreaths, there were eight other Patriotic and Service organizations that took part in the ceremony.



Members attending were: (L-R) Thomas Barham, Christopher Clayton, Bill Bentler, John Herr, Alonde Droege, Charley Frisk, Mike Bendickson, Viren Lemmer, Skip Stephen, DAR, Neil Vernon, Tim Smith, Melonie Liening, Rod Jenney, Lawrence Bowman, Jim Carpenter, Stan Granberg, Art Dolan, Dick Moody, (Top) Eric Olsen, Mike Moore

Southern Region

4 Mar: Members of the WASSAR Color Guard (Eric Olsen, Perry Taylor, Dick Moody) and a student from the Olympia High School (Tyler Jones) on drums, posted the colors in the Washington State Senate.



22 Mar: WA State Patriotic Day (AKA Massing of the Colors). There was a great turn out for the event.

The CG won first place in the adult category.

At Right Neil Vernon accepts the award.



The **Flag bearers** were (photo below) 1) Neil Vernon, Dick Motz, 2) Jerry Bordelon, John Herr, 3) Mike Moore, Bill Bentler, 4) Eric Olsen, Lawrence Bowman, 5) Rod Jenny, Johnmark Jenny, 6) Dennis Case, Acki Mueller, 7) Stan Granberg, Art Dolan. **The Fife & Drum** consisted of: 8) Viren Lemmer, Jan Lemmer, Mike Bendickson, Alonde Droege, Charley Frisk, Melonie Lienen, Stephanie Conroy, Terry Barker, Skip Stephen, Marshal Anderson, Tim Smith.

Other CG members present were: Ralph Leaning (HODAR)



Flag Bearers and Fife & Drum [Video Highlights](#) of the CG Members (6:55).

28 Mar: Memorial Service for Frank Pearce at the Tahoma National Cemetery

CG Members attending were: Dick Moody, Thomas Barham, Mike Moore, Jerry Bordelon, Eric Olsen, Lawrence Bowman. Also, in attendance was Edwin Dierdorff



Eastern Region

No activity reported

Western Region

15 Mar: The John Paul Jones Chapter WSSAR attended the Military Appreciation Day event at the Kitsap Sun Pavilion. It was a great turnout, a few leads, and lots of flags given out to families.

Members present were: Fred Gilbert, Mick Hersey, Brian Dorr, Pat Burch, Noah Chase, Doug Nelson, Mark Whiteaker, & Ray Schreiber.



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

No activity reported

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 20th day of the last month of the edition quarter (below)

Edition	Qtr	Published on	Period covered	Deadline
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



Dick Motz
WA St Color Guard
Newsletter Editor

Thank you