



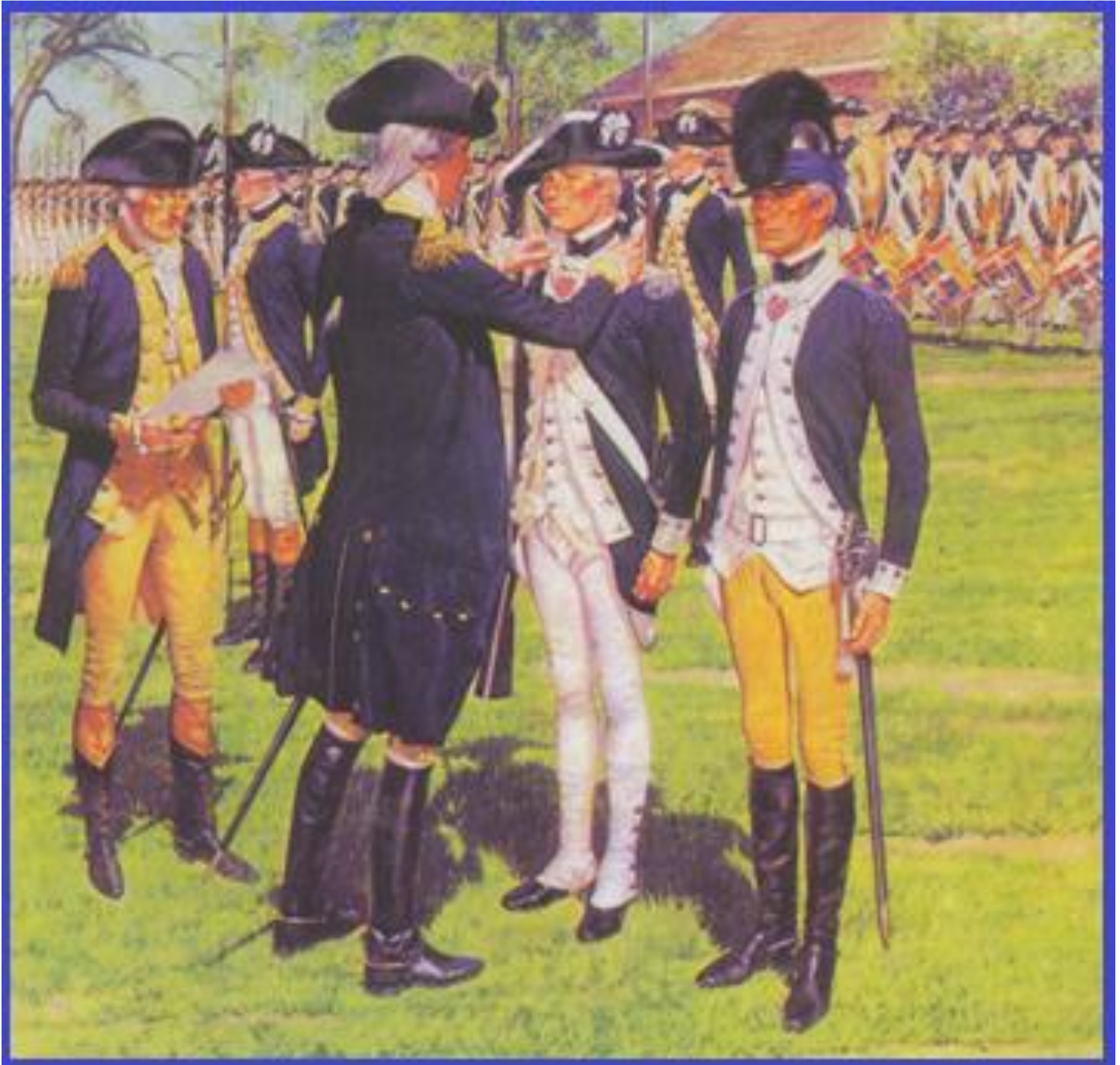
WA State SAR Color Guard

Requirements for:

- Color Guard Bronze Medal
- Color Guard Silver Medal
- Von Steuben CG Medal



Updated 8-9-2022



WA State SAR Requirements for the: Color Guard Bronze, Silver, & Von Steuben CG Medals

1. **The Bronze Color Guard Medal** is for service at the State and/or Chapter levels. Each medal is awarded for at least three years of service at the applicable level. The three years may be broken, not continuous. Award of each medal may be for retroactive service, so that any living compatriot may receive it, even if he cannot march anymore.

Qualifications: Each State Society shall determine for itself whether to employ one of the following systems for earning the Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals. The first system is based on points; the second system is based on the number of events in which a Guardsman participates.

Note: The Bronze CG medal is issued at the State Level.

When a member meets the requirements for the bronze medal, he will submit a request ([WASSAR Form BCGM-1](#)) to the Chapter CG Captain. The CG Captain will verify the requirements and will then submit the form to the CG Commander for approval. The CG Commander will then forward the request to the Chapter Awards Committee Chairman or the Chapter President for ordering of the Medal.

1. **The Silver CG Medal** requires uniformed participation in **three (3) District/National events** each year for at least three years and is approved by the National Color Guard Commander. It can be earned concurrently during the same three years spent earning the Bronze CG Medal. The Silver CG medal can be awarded immediately following the award of the Bronze CG Medal. (Photo page 5)

There are now nine (9) District/National level events held within Washington State, which will qualify our Color Guardsmen for the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal and later for the SAR Von Steuben Medal:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) George Washington's Birthday | 4) Liberty Tree Planting | 7) Pacific District Meeting |
| 2) Honor Flights | 5) Massing of the Colors | 8) Veterans Day |
| 3) Independence Day | 6) Memorial Day | 9) Wreaths Across America |

Three (3) additional out of state National events also count, as well as other National events listed on event Chart above.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Spring Leadership Meeting
(Louisville, KY) | 2. Fall Leadership Meeting
(Louisville, KY) | 3. National Congress
(Knoxville, TN) |
|--|--|---|

Note: The Silver CG medal is issued at the National level.

SAR Color Guardsmen who believe they qualify for the Silver Color Guard Medal must complete the appropriate form setting forth their qualifications. This form must be submitted to Chapter CG Captain for processing. The CG Captain will verify the requirements and will then submit a request to the State/District Color Guard Commander, The State Deputy Commander, or the State President for review and recommendation. It is then forwarded to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the Silver Color Guard Medal. [Click to download form.](#)

2. **The SAR Von Steuben Medal** requires uniformed participation in five (5) or more National Events each year for at least five years after receiving the Silver CG medal. (photo page 6)

Message from Bob O'Neal , Brigade Adjutant & Past Commander, Washington State SAR Color Guard	28 Feb 2017
While earning your Bronze CG Medal, please consider earning your Silver CG Medal at the same time by participating in 3 national events each year. As of 20 Feb 2017, 13 color guardsmen have earned the Bronze CG Medal and 11 guardsmen earned the Silver CG Medal.	

NOTE:

- SAR Color Guard medals are recorded by and approved by a Color Guard Captain who will complete and submit all medal forms required of this document and usually presented at a suitable ceremony by a state CG commander, CG Captain, or a State SAR Officer.
- **See Clarification of a single event (page 7)**
- **It is recommended that each color guardsmen also record their progress towards completion of above requirements. (See page 7)**

Extract from: OFFICIAL HANDBOOK, VOLUME V (INDIVIDUAL MEDALS AND AWARDS)

Effective: 12 Sep 2020

Bronze NSSAR Color Guard Medal (Note: extracted from the National CG handbook dtd 12 Sep 2020)

- **Precedence:** 47
- **Year Authorized:** 1998
- **Presented By:** State Society President or Chapter President
- **Approved By:** State Awarding Authority (State Color Guard Commander)
- **Summary:** The Bronze Color Guard Medal is for service at the State and/or Chapter levels. Each medal is awarded for at least three years of service at the applicable level. The three years may be broken, not continuous. Award of each medal may be for retroactive service, so that any living compatriot may receive it, even if he cannot march anymore.
- **Qualifications:** Each State Society shall determine for itself whether to employ one of the following systems for earning the Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals. The first system is based on points; the second system is based on the number of events in which a Guardsman participates.



A. Points System

1. Not used

B. Events System (Used in WA State).

1. To earn the SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal, a Color Guardsman must participate in at least 50% of the scheduled Chapter and/or State Color Guard activities in each of three years which do not need to be continuous. A year shall be any period of twelve consecutive months.
2. A Chapter event shall be defined as an event hosted by a chapter where an invitation to the State Color Guard was not extended. Examples include but are not limited to: school assemblies/programs, presentations at civic clubs, churches and other public organizations, chapter meetings, flag retirement ceremonies, local veterans' events, local Revolutionary War event celebrations, local government proclamation ceremonies and similar local events. The Chapter President should approve a chapter event before the event may be counted.
3. A Color Guardsman must document his participation in the various chapter and state events used to qualify for the SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal. Said documentation must be in written form list the date, the event name and the type of event. Said documentation will be retained by the State Color Guard Commander and passed to any succeeding Commander in the event it is requested as part of the approval of a subsequent SAR Silver Color Guard Medal application.

National/State events that may be scheduled in the state of Washington.

(Note: chart data update per C. Louis Raborg Jr., NSSAR National Color guard commander 12-12-2021)

Eastern Area Scheduled Events		Western Area Scheduled Events	
1	Annual Pacific District Conference	1	Annual Pacific District Conference
2	Annual State Conference	2	Annual State Conference
3	Armed Forces Day Events	3	Armed Forces Day Events
4	George Washington's Birthday	4	George Washington's Birthday
5	Honor Flights	5	Honor Flights
6	Independence Day Events	6	Independence Day Events
7	Labor Day Events	7	Labor Day Events
8	Memorial Day Events	8	Memorial Day Events
9	President's Day Events (1)	9	President's Day Events (1)
10	Patriotic Day (Massing of the Colors)	10	Patriotic Day (Massing of the Colors)
11	Veterans Day Events	11	Veterans Day Events
12	Wreaths Across America	12	Wreaths Across America
13	Liberty Tree Planting	13	Liberty Tree Planting

Chart 1 (Red=National Event)

Note: The Bronze CG medal is issued at the State Level.

When a member meets the requirements for the bronze medal, he will submit a request ([WASSAR Form BCGM-1](#)) to the Chapter CG Captain. The CG Captain will verify the requirements and will then submit the form to the CG Commander for approval. The CG Commander will then forward the request to the Chapter Awards Committee Chairman or the Chapter President for ordering of the Medal.

Silver NSSAR Color Guard Medal (Note: extracted from the National CG handbook dtd 12 Sep 2020)



- **Precedence:** 45
- **Year Authorized:** 1998
- **Presented By:** District Vice President General, State President, or by the District or State Color Guard Commander (as appropriate). Under special circumstances, the President General or the National Color Guard Commander may present this award.
- **Approved By:** State or District Color Guard Commander and National Color Guard Commander
- **Summary:** The Silver Color Guard Medal is for service at the District and National levels. The medal is awarded for at least three years of service at the applicable level. The three years may be broken, not continuous. Award of each medal may be for retroactive service, so that any living compatriot may receive it, even if he cannot march anymore. *An SAR Color Guardsman must have the Bronze Color Guard Medal before he can be awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal.*
- **Special Application Required:** SAR Color Guardsmen who believe they qualify for the Silver Color Guard Medal must complete the appropriate application form setting forth their qualifications. The application is available on the SAR website and must be submitted to the State or District Color Guard Commander for review and recommendation. It is then forwarded to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the Silver Color Guard Medal.
- **Qualifications:**

Each State Society shall determine for itself whether to employ a Points System or an Events System, as defined below, for earning the National Von Steuben Medal.

A. Points System

1. Not used

B. Events System (Used in WA State).

The Silver CG Medal requires uniformed participation in at least **three (3) District and/or National events** in each of three years, which do not need to be continuous. A year shall be any period of twelve consecutive months. It can be earned concurrently during the same three years spent earning the Bronze CG Medal. The Silver CG medal can be awarded immediately following the award of the Bronze CG Medal.

There are now nine (9) District/National level events held within Washington State, which will qualify our Color Guardsmen for the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal and later for the SAR Von Steuben Medal:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) George Washington's Birthday | 4) Liberty Tree Planting | 7) Pacific District Meeting |
| 2) Honor Flights | 5) Massing of the Colors | 8) Veterans Day |
| 3) Independence Day | 6) Memorial Day | 9) Wreaths Across America |

Three (3) additional out of state National events also count, as well as other National events listed on event Chart above.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 4. Spring Leadership Meeting
(Louisville, KY) | 5. Fall Leadership Meeting
(Louisville, KY) | 6. National Congress
(Knoxville, TN) |
|--|--|---|

Silver CG Medal Notes:

- The State of WA uses the event system.
- **The Silver CG medal is issued at the National level.** SAR Color Guardsmen who believe they qualify for the Silver Color Guard Medal must complete the appropriate form setting forth their qualifications. This form must be submitted to Chapter CG Captain for processing. The CG Captain will verify the requirements and will then submit a request to the State/District Color Guard Commander, The State Deputy Commander, or the State President for review and recommendation. It is then forwarded to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the Silver Color Guard Medal. [Click to download form.](#)
- **Recipients** of the Silver CG medal are qualified to submit a female companion for the [Molly Pitcher Medal](#)

Note: While earning your Bronze CG Medal, please consider earning your Silver CG Medal at the same time by participating in three national events each year. As of 20 Feb 2017, 13 color guardsmen have earned the Bronze CG Medal and 11 guardsmen earned the Silver CG Medal.

The Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard

Precedence: 41

Year Authorized: 2012

Presented By: District Vice President General, State President, or by the District or State Color Guard Commander (as appropriate). Under special circumstances, the President General or the National Color Guard Commander may present this award.

Approved By: State or District Color Guard Commander and National Color Guard Commander

Description: The National Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard is gold in color, and depicts a likeness of Baron Friederich von Steuben.

Summary: The National Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard, authorized 2 March 2012 by the NSSAR Executive Committee, may be awarded for sustained service to the Society as a Color Guardsman at the National or District Levels. Recipients must already have been awarded the Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals.

Special Application Required: SAR Color Guardsmen who believe they qualify for the National Von Steuben Medal must complete the appropriate form, setting forth their qualifications. This form is available on the SAR website, and must be submitted to the State or District Color Guard Commander for review and recommendation, and then to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the National Von Steuben Medal.

Qualifications: A Guardsman must employ one of the following systems for earning the National Von Steuben Medal. The first system is based on points; the second system is based on the number of events in which a Guardsman participates.

A. Points System

1. Not used.

B. Events System (Used in WA State).

1. To earn the National Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard, a Color Guardsman must serve at least five years after the date his application for the Silver Color Guard Medal was approved, and he must participate in at least twenty-five (25) National and/or District Color Guard events. The five years' service does not have to be continuous. Color Guardsmen may take longer than five years to participate in twenty-five (25) qualifying events, but may not be awarded the National Von Steuben Medal earlier than five years after the date his application for the Silver Color Guard Medal was approved. **(Note: See Clarification of a single event on page 7)**
2. The same events that count toward earning the Silver Color Guard Medal shall also count toward earning the National Von Steuben Medal. (See National Color Guard Events under MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION at the back of the Color Guard Handbook.)

Subsequent Presentation NOT Authorized: A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

Retroactive Effectiveness: SAR Color Guardsmen who were active at the time this Medal was approved by the NSSAR Color Guard Committee (July 2011), and who had previously been awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal, may count the points earned from attending any qualifying National or District Color Guard event if using the points system, or the actual number of events if using the events system, in which they participated during the two (2) year period prior to the NSSAR Color Guard Committee approval, or from the date they were awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal, whichever is more recent, toward earning the National Von Steuben Medal.

Note: Clarification of a single event: A single event shall be credited for each Parade, Event Day or Posting of Colors.

Example 1: The DAR Conference Friday dinner is one event. The DAR National Defense Banquet is a separate event. (If we also manned a SAR recruiting table in uniform on Saturday, as we used to do, that day is counted as one event.)

Example 2: The WA SAR Annual Conference is over two days. On one day is the PDM (now the "PDC") Uniformed color guards who participate in both get credit for two events. (If we are asked to post colors for another organization while at the Conference those attending should earn 1 additional "event".)



**Von Steuben
CG Medal**

