## THE WASHINGTON TRAIL



# THE WASHINGTON STATE SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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ALLAN WENZEL, EDITOR



### LAST HALF YEAR IN REVIEW

WASSAR President's Podium

### Compatriots,

We have had a busy year with the WASSAR board. As you are aware, we have incorporated and have recently approved a new set of WASSAR Bylaws. The incorporation gives a certain amount of protection to WASSAR and Chapter officers from liability claims. We are a growing and active state and one of the fastest growing states in the National Society from a percentage point of view. We can thank all the civic activities that various chapters and individuals have been involved in state wide for this growth.

The new WASSAR board will consist of the officers elected by the membership and the chapter presidents along with the WASSAR Trustees and three at large members chosen by the board. Most business of the organization will be via the board as it has been in the past. We will plan on an annual membership meeting yearly and that first meeting will be in Bellevue at the Red Lion on the 24th of April of next year. Your attendance is requested and we do have NSSAR President General Lindsey Brock attending.

This is the last year of this boards' operation. You will be electing a new board at the Pacific District Meeting as noted above. Some of the accomplishments of this board have been challenging and very work intensive. This board has been successful in completing the Life Membership issue building upon the work of previous boards. We have secured insurance for the officers. We are now incorporated as a 501(c3) organization with the ability to provide tax deductions to donors under that IRS rule. The WASSAR membership growth is above 400 and will soon move into the medium size society of 500 members. Our Color Guard is very active on both sides of the state. I would like to see a way to increase the cohesion between the Eastside and Westside of our state. This board also has chartered two new chapters in the three years of its operation. We have the George Washington Chapter meeting at Mt. Vernon, and now just recently the Fort Vancouver Chapter located at Battle Ground, Washington.

It has been an honor serving you as president for the last three years and I wish the new board well.

Jim Lindley WASSAR President

### **OFFICER REPORTS:**

## Vice President's Corner

Attended the NSSAR Leadership Meeting at Louisville, Kentucky in late September and found it most enjoyable and a learning experience. National Leadership meetings are a great way to learn what other state societies are doing and how to improve our own state society. Planning is underway for the 2015 Pacific District Conference. We are privileged to have National President General (PG) Lindsey Brock and wife Billie confirmed. Mark April 24-25 of 2015 on your calendars. Washington State is host for this conference of Alaska, Washington and Oregon compatriots. We purchased a 1777 Charleville Musket as a revenue generator and are selling \$5 tickets. To date 135 tickets have been sold. The opportunity drawing for the musket will take place at the Pacific District Conference at the Red Lion Inn Bellevue located at 11211 Main St. Bellevue, WA.

Doug Nelson WASSAR Vice President

## Secretary's Mutterings

In addition to keeping the minutes and official records of our society I have the fun of observing all the great things that are going on.

Our membership in the Washington Society is now 420, with 70 applications at national. This will change in December when I know who has and has not paid dues for 2015, but the fact is we are one of the fastest growing SAR societies in the nation. Since the first of May we have received 37 new members. WOW!

Our color guard is doing parades, school events, presentations to all kinds of organizations, as well as flag retirement ceremonies. Under the leadership of the Cascade Centennial chapter the Wreaths Across America has really caught on. The Spokane chapter is deeply involved in sponsoring, sending off and welcoming home Honor Flights as World War II and Korean War veterans are traveling to Washington D.C. to see the monuments. The John Paul Jones chapter is deeply involved in school presentations, helping children understand their heritage. I could go on and on but SAR here is making a difference. We are honoring our past and helping people understand their patriotic heritage.

Thanks to all who are making this possible.

William B. Ailes WASSAR Secretary

### Treasurer's Vault

### No Increase in WASSAR Dues in 2015

Good news! WASSAR's finances are in good shape now that we have emerged from the painful step of ending the WASSAR Life Membership Program. Our society is financially stable and solvent. We have money in the bank to support our many activities, and our annual budget is balanced.

And this means WASSAR dues are not increasing for 2015. More good news: National SAR dues are not increasing in 2015 either.

**Income**: We receive 60% of our income from state dues, and another 22% from new member, supplemental, and reinstatement fees. We earn 11% of our revenue from dividends on our savings. The remaining 7% comes from donations and the sales of books (e.g. *Patriots Passed*) and medals (e.g. WASSAR Challenge Coin). These donations and purchases are an important source of revenue for our programs and activities.

**Expenses**: Almost 40% of our revenue supports our programs and contests (e.g. Knight Essay), new state chapters, awards and medals, our incredible Color Guard, donations to other organizations (e.g. CAR), and Pacific District meetings. The rest of our budget pays our administrative costs (e.g. insurance) and to reimburse our officers for their expenses. However, while we budget for their full expenses, many officers decline to submit some or all of their expenses, which has often given us a budget surplus. This is great, but officers expenses can be high (e.g. trips to NSSAR meetings and congresses) and we want to make sure the money is there if an officer cannot afford to pay these expenses himself.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the WASSAR budget or finances (<u>craiglawson@comcast.net</u>). Thank you for your support.

Craig Lawson WASSAR Treasurer

## Registrar's Books

**New Chapter** - Fort Vancouver. Since last May I have been successful in establishing a new chapter in SW Washington. The Fort Vancouver chapter meetings will be held in Battle Ground on the third Saturday. The charter date for this chapter is November 16, 2014.

### **New Applications and Supplemental Applications processed (year to date):**

Alexander Hamilton Chapter – 20, Cascade Centennial Chapter – 28, Fort Vancouver Chapter – 7, George Washington Chapter – 0, John Paul Jones Chapter – 25, Mid-Columbia Chapter – 0, Seattle Chapter – 20, Spokane Chapter #1 – 19.

Welcome Letters were sent to 50 (year to date)

New Members for 2014 – 34 (year to date). New Members sponsored (by me) last 12 months – 14.

John E. Ernest WASSAR Registrar/Genealogist

### FROM THE CHAPTERS:

### Alexander Hamilton Chapter

We have had a great year at Alexander Hamilton. Thanks to our chapter genealogist Robert Parrish we have accepted 13 new members more in the pipe- line. Some of these new members were the result of a SAR/DNR booth at the Puyallup Fair. We presented citizenship awards at 28 JROTC award nights. Thanks to Bob O'Neal there have been numerous Colonial history presentations at area schools. Our monthly meetings have been well attended with upwards of 40 members and guests. Once again thanks to Bob O'Neal we have had some great speakers at our meetings including a George Washington impersonator.

Russ Pringle, Chapter President

### Cascade Centennial Chapter

At its May 3 meeting, the Cascade Centennial Chapter welcomed Professor Bill Woodward of Seattle Pacific University who answered random questions on history from the floor. Professor William Breitenbach, University of Puget Sound, spoke at our June 7 meeting on the ambivalent response of early 19<sup>th</sup> century benevolent reformers (e.g., temperance, antislavery, women's rights, and peace reformers) to their "patriot sires" and the legacy of the American Revolution. As usual, we did not meet during July, August, and September, but continued great programs in October with Professor William Rorabaugh, University of Washington, who gave a thought-provoking and often whimsical presentation about consumption of alcohol and the temperance movement circa 1820-1850. November's speaker was former Sergeant, WWII veteran, and recipient of the Air Medal in 1944, J. W. Roundhill of the 379<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group. He regaled the group with tales of the engagements of the Eighth Bomber Command in WWII.

New members approved since April 2014 include: Caleb Borg, and Michael Borg (junior members), John Palmer, Michael Stanger, and Dick Paul. Supplemental applications were approved for Jay Bisgard (2) Bob Doughty (1), Greg Emerson (1), and David Raese (2).



New members Caleb Borg, Michael Borg, and John Palmer receive their membership certificates



President Dan Heidt presents David Raese his two supplemental applications approved this summer





Dan Heidt, Jeff, Bob, and Tim Doughty

Bob Doughty, Dick Gonzalez, Jim Lindley, Jay Bisgard, Greg Lucas, and Greg Emerson & Military Certificates.

A certificate honoring Jan Doughty was presented posthumously to her husband Bob and sons Tim and Jeff Doughty in recognition of her years of excellent service as a member of the SAR Ladies Auxiliary. She was a lovely, caring, energetic lady and will be missed by all in the chapter.

CCC is again sponsoring a Wreaths Across America event on December 13 at the Sunset Hills Memorial Park in Bellevue where 2,000 veterans are buried. Last year, 530 wreaths were placed on graves. This year's goal was 800 wreaths. We are proud to report that money has been raised to purchase more than 1,200 wreaths and Governor Inslee has declared December 13, 2014, to be Washington Wreaths Across America Day.

Two of our members, Jim Lindley and Greg Lucas, attended the SAR National Congress in Greenville, South Carolina, July 11-13.

The Chapter presented Flag Certificates to the Hilton Garden Inn in Bothell, Snohomish Fire Station #44 in Bothell, and retired Colonel Jay Crispin Bisgard, MD.

Bronze Good Citizenship medals were awarded to Michael Wanner and Benjamin Anderson, both of the Everett Sea Cadets, and Curtis Russell of the Seattle Sea Cadets. Cadets Wanner and Anderson have congressional appointments to US military academies. Bronze ROTC awards were presented to Stephen Ray of Snohomish High School and Kirsten Batchelor of Liberty High School. Ray joined the US Army this summer. Batchelor is a nationally ranked member of the rifle team.

Dick Calkins for Dan Heidt, Chapter President

## Fort Vancouver Chapter

On Saturday, November  $15^{\rm th}$ , the Fort Vancouver Chapter became official with the presentation of their Charter from NSSAR. The Chapter is now the  $8^{\rm th}$  in WASSAR. It has good support and great leadership, and fills a need the Washington Society has had for some time with a representation in the southwestern portion of the state.

Jim Lindley for Bob Anderson, Chapter President



WASSAR President Jim Lindley (right) presenting the Charter to Chapter President Robert Anderson

## George Washington Chapter

No report received from the Chapter President

## John Paul Jones Chapter

In May and June 2014, the John Paul Jones Chapter recognized several Navy JROTC Cadets with the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal for Excellence in Military Bearing, Training and Academics. One Cadet from Bremerton High School, one from South Kitsap High School, and two cadets each from Oak Harbor High School and Port Angeles High School were so recognized. In addition, as part of the SAR JROTC Enhanced Program, the Chapter selected Cadet Christian Sotebeer of Port Angeles High School as its Chapter winner. This program includes the same criteria, but adds an essay requirement. Cadet Sotebeer was awarded the SAR Outstanding Cadet Bronze Medal, and his application and essay were entered in the Washington State competition, which he also won. His application was then entered in the NSSAR competition, where he placed 6<sup>th</sup> out of 22 entries. Cadet Sotebeer was awarded the SAR Outstanding Cadet Silver Medal emblematic of his Washington State win on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Our Chapter Color Guard events included:

Oct 23: Revolutionary War Soldier presentation at Peace Lutheran Church in East Bremerton for Cub Scouts. Nov 7: Revolutionary War Soldier presentation at Bethany Lutheran Elementary School in Port Orchard. Attending were Conrad Plyler, Bob Smalser, Bob O'Neal, Fred Gilbert and Doug Nelson. Nov 8: The chapter color guard participated in the Auburn Veterans Day Parade. Mick Hersey, David Blevins, Conrad Plyler, David Irons, David Gaddis and Doug Nelson were all there. Nov 9: Place small

place small flags at the Ivy Green Cemetery on all Veterans Graves at 1pm. This allows the Boy Scouts to know where to place wreaths on WAA Day. Nov 10: We manned a booth at the November 11 Veterans Celebration Day at the Kitsap Sun Pavilion. Attendees included Bob O'Neal, Mick Hersey, George Washington and Doug Nelson.

Doug Nelson submitted two articles to the NSSAR Magazine. One on the new John D. "Bud" Hawk Elementary School, and the other on teaching Cub Scout Wolf Pack on Flag Etiquette. These two articles were also submitted to the local Newspaper.

We handed out 6 flag certificates so far this year, and have identified 40 more businesses that we plan on handing out certificates on Veteran's Day in the afternoon (2 were during my trip across the USA. One in the Blue Ridge Mountains of NC, and one at the Trails End Ranch in Ekalaka).

We participated in the retirement and raising new flags at the Veteran's Memorials throughout the County and we laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Ivy Green Cemetery on Memorial Day. After the event we presented over 100 flag retirement certificates to those U.S. Military and civilians who took part in the ceremony.

We presented over 200 certificates to Servicemen and women for their assistance in painting and preserving Veterans Memorials throughout the county, including: WWI & WWII Memorial and Anchor at Poulsbo, U.S.S. Bremerton Mast and Service flag poles at Miller-Woodlawn and Anchor painting at Forest Lawn Cemeteries, the Bremerton and Port Orchard Yacht Club, and the Flag Base Painting at Sunset Memorial Cemetery.

We arranged for the flag of John D. "Bud" Hawk to be presented to the school named in his honor, attended ribbon cutting ceremony, and told of the meeting of "Bud" the year before, honoring him for flying the American Flag. In Compatriot Bud's honor the WASSAR Color Guard assisted in presenting the school their first official flag donated by the John Paul Jones Chapter. WASSAR presented the first flag to be flown over the school. Set up Display case in the front lobby of the school, including Challenge coins in honor of Patriot John D. "Bud" Hawk. Bud's family also presented one of Bud's Medal of Honor Flags for display to the school as well.

Raised and retired the US Flag and Service flags at Ivy Green Cemetery on the following Holidays. Memorial Day, Fourth of July 9-11 (New Patriot's Day), Veteran's Day.

Trained Wolf Pack of Cub Scouts and their parents on flag etiquette and the history of the Ivy Green Cemetery, and placed flags on all Veteran's graves, on Veteran's Day.

Various submitters for Ken Roberts, Chapter President

## Mid-Columbia Chapter

The Mid-Columbia Chapter was busy in May, just before the summer hiatus, presenting ROTC and JROTC Medals. At Central Washington University we presented a medal to Air Force Cadet Alyssa Buck and a medal to Army Cadet George Madden. At Walla Walla High School we presented a medal to Cadet Andrew Jenkins.

In August the Chapter had a SAR booth at the Scottish Highland Games.

Members Stan Wills, Larry Flint, Conn Clark & Dale Ryan (he came down from Spokane) marched in the West Richland Veterans Day Parade, with members Barry Moravek & John Tipton riding in the bannered truck. Stan Wills then presented a program for the local Sea Cadet Detachment.

Stan Wills, Chapter President



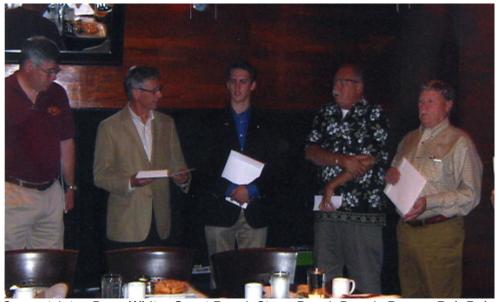
Berry Moravek, Stan Wills & Larry Flint man the SAR booth at the Tri Cities Genealogical Fair.



Stan Wills instructing Navy League Sea Cadet Corps members.

## Seattle Chapter

The Seattle Chapter began the 2014-2015 SAR season with its annual September awards meeting, welcomed and presented new members with their certificate of membership.



New Compatriots: Dean White, Grant Rauzi, Steve Rauzi, Dennis Brown, Bob Rohrberg.

After inducting five new members Chapter President John Berg presented Tony Abbott with the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal for his ten years of editing the chapter newsletter Needle News. Following Tony's award his wife Charlotte was presented with the Martha Washington Medal for her assistance in editing the Needle News. The highlight of the awards ceremonies was the presentation of the SAR Medal For Heroism to, recently married, Jon Christopher Meis. With a packed room watching, including staff of the 13 Coins Restaurant, President Berg read the citation:

On June 5, 2014, Jon Meis, a graduating Senior at Seattle Pacific University in Engineering, while acting in the capacity of hall monitor in the science and engineering building, found himself where no one ever wants to be, confronting an armed gunman, who had just shot four students with a shotgun, killing one. With spent shotshells littering the floor, the gunman stopped to reload. Heroically, and with little consideration for his own safety, Jon Meis placed himself in harms way, confronting the gunman with only a personal protection canister of pepper spray, with which he sprayed the attacker in the face, then

grabing the assalent around the neck and wrestling him to the ground. With the assistance of a couple other students Jon subdued the armed man, pining him to the floor until police could arrive. A couple days after the shootings had taken place on the campus of this small Christian college associated with the Free Methodist Church Jon issued a statement to the news media and public, who had proclaimed him a hero. He asked for people's thoughts and prayers be sent out to the injured and family of the deceased, and forgiveness for the gunman. He ended his statement with, "...a hero can not come without tragedy." Jon Meis's heroics are credited for saving countless lives. His actions represent the best qualities of our citizens who when faced with extreme danger rise to the occasion and perform acts of valor. The Sons of the American Revolution gives the Medal For Heroism to heroic individuals as recognition of their bravery.

President Berg followed up with some very fitting remarks on what it is to be brave, on how it comes from with in, in special individuals. Then Jon's bride, Kaylie, with her mother Kathy Sparks looking on and to a thunderous applause pinned the Medal For Heroism to his chest.



Seattle Chapter President John Berg, Jon and Kaylie Meis

Washington Society Children of the American Revolution State President, Steven Johnson, was the guest speaker at the October meeting. He explained the national C.A.R. program for this year. Following his presentation Steven's grandfather, John Berg, presented him with his SAR (junior) membership certificate, having been inducted by SAR President General Dooley at the Pacific District Meeting in April.

At the November meeting Chapter Compatriot Allan Wenzel gave a presentation on British, German and United States orders, decorations and service medals, most of which were awarded for war service, and passed around pieces from his collection.

Allan Wenzel for John Berg, Chapter President

Spokane Chapter #1

No report received from the Chapter President

### **COLOR GUARD EVENTS**

### **WEST**

No report submitted by the WASSAR Color Guard Commander.

### **EAST**

The Eastern Color Guard started the new SAR season with Constitution Week, September 17–23, 2014. Along with the DAR, we meet at Washington's statue in Manito Park in Spokane.

Then on October 4<sup>th</sup> we presented a Living History program and a Flag Retirement Ceremony in conjunction with the local Lieutenant Farragut Chapter of the DAR and the CAR at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

On the 8th of October we took part in an Honor Flight, both going and returning ceremonies.

On October  $16^{th}$  Barry Moravek, Stan Wills and Larry Flint manned our WASSAR recruiting booth at the Tri Cities Genealogical Fair.

On November 8, 2014 we marched in the West Richland Veterans Day parade.

Stan Wills, Vice-Commander, WASSAR Color Guard



Stan Wills, Larry Flint, Conn Clark and Dale Ryan march in the West Richland Veterans Day Parade.

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING SUMMERIES**

The April 26, 2014 meeting of the Executive Board, which convened during the Pacific District Conference in Eugene, Oregon was attended by the National Society SAR President General Joe Dooley. The hosting by the Pacific District in the Puget Sound region of the 2021 Congress idea was presented. The committee investigating the idea of using Pay Pal for receiving annual dues reported that it was too expensive at this time.

The May 28, 2014 meeting of the Executive Board was held via a conference call. WASSAR Trustees were nominated, a committee investigating the hosting of the 2021 Congress established, a new chapter, the Fort Vancouver Chapter, was officially created, and the process to incorporate WASSAR was discussed.

A special conference call session of the Executive Board met on June 19, 2014 to nominate a replacement candidate for the position of Pacific District Vice President General due to Bob Doughty having to vacate the nomination because of his wife's illness. WASSAR President Jim Lindley was nominated, and concurrence to be sought from the Alaska and Oregon Societies Presidents.

The August 15, 2014 Executive Board meeting was held in Bellevue, Washington. The issue of business was to discuss incorporating the State Society. Lawyer and Compatriot Greg Lucas gave a presentation and answered questions. Parliamentarian and Compatriot John Berg presented his objections/rationale to, what is labeled, the Lucas-Lindley proposal. The Board took three actions: 1. Voted to Incorporate and adopted Articles of Incorporation.

- 2. Voted to form a seven member special committee to look at both sets of proposed bylaws, study bylaws of other societies that are incorporated, and present a set of by-laws for a vote at the October meeting. Greg Lucas, John Berg, Bob Doughty, and Bill Ailes are members. All chapters are represented except the two newest chapters.
- 3. Voted to write a letter to be mailed to all members explaining what and why the change is happening.

The October 25, 2014 Executive Board meeting was held at Ellensburg, Washington. The main issue of business was the presentation of the new WASSAR Bylaws, fine tuning them, and voting to accept them. Also two proposed Standing Rules, about the same issue, on whom and how awards would be dealt with were presented and sent to the Rules Committee.

### PASSING OF COMPATRIOTS

*Michael Sewall O'Halloran*, of John Paul Jones Chapter, passed from our ranks on July 2, 2014. He was admitted to SAR on August 12, 2013. His Patriot ancestor was Edmund Quincy of Massachusetts, who performed Civil Service during the Revolution. Mike served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War.

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION PASSING

Janice (Jan) Ann Doughty, President of the WASSAR Ladies Auxiliary, passed on July 13, 2014. Jan was the wife of Robert Forest Doughty, past WASSAR President, Vice President General of the Pacific District, and current WASSAR Trustee. For several years Jan assisted Bob with the publishing of the Washington Trail Newsletter, then for several more years as the article contributor to the Trail on the Ladies Auxiliary activities. WASSAR presented Jan with: the Martha Washington Medal on June 4, 2005, for her outstanding assistance with the publishing of the Washington Trail. On April 29, 2012, WASSAR presented Jan with the SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal for her outstanding service to the WASSAR, and with an Oak Leaf Cluster to this medal (as a second awarding) on April 15, 2013, for her service to WASSAR through recruitment and the organization of the Ladies Auxiliary. She was presented the SAR Medal of Appreciation by the Cascade Centennial Chapter on January 4, 2014, for her outstanding service and support to that Chapter. Jan was a tremendous asset to the Washington State Society of SAR.

### LOOKING FOREWARD

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**







# PACIFIC DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2015



"Muster" is an old Middle English word meaning "a cause to gather." While we conduct some group business, we also host guest speakers who are experts in a wide range of domestic and military colonial matters. In the days preceding the Revolutionary War, militia would usually muster to drill twice each year, once in the spring and the other in the fall. Following their drill, the militia would be joined by their families and celebrate with good food and drink, music and games.

We have a cause to gather. In the picture is General George Washington looking through his spyglass to see if you've marked your calendar for a gathering of compatriots from Oregon, Washington & Alaska.

Excitement is in the air as the Pacific District Sons of the American Revolution gather for a Conference. Our special guest this year is Tresident General Lindsey Brock

<u>Where</u>? At the Red Lion Hotel Bellevue. 11211 Main Street Bellevue, WA 98004. Phone 425-455-5240 or See <u>www.redlion.com/Bellevue\_WA</u>

When? In 2015 on April 24 and 25 which is Friday and Saturday.

<u>Reservations</u>. Thirty rooms are reserved at \$107 a night. They will go fast! When you call let them know you are with the SAR to get this low rate.

<u>Activities:</u> Seminars, Presentations, Colonial displays, drawings for a \$1,200.00 Charleville musket & other prizes, Fellowship & Fun..!



### **OUR NEW COMPATRIOTS**

Since last May 1st we have added the following new members to the WASSAR:

To the Alexander Hamilton Chapter: John Crawford, Michael England, David Jackman,

John Landis, Viren Lemmer, William O'Neal,

and Joseph Pettit.

To the Cascade Centennial Chapter: Caleb Borg, Michael Borg, John Palmer,
Richard Paul, and Michael Stanger.

To the Fort Vancouver Chapter: Ray Ganner, Gary Schubothe, Michael Seitzinger.

To the George Washington Chapter: no new members.

To the John Paul Jones Chapter: Eric Cairns, Ian Cairns, Robert Cairns, Doug Carson,

David Irons, Lenny Koplen, Warren Polensky Sr.,

Warren Polensky Jr., William Alan Polensky,

William Andrew Polensky, and Dick Porter.

To the Mid-Columbia Chapter: no new members.

To the Seattle Chapter: Frederick Becker, Gregory Becker, Eric Olson, Grant Rauzi,

Steve Rauzi, Robert Rohrberg, Dylan Sweet, Michael Sweet,

Peter Sweet, Theodore Sweet and John Tebou.

To the Spokane Chapter #1: Ronald Hoover, Ciro Molina and Michael Moore.

Welcome To All The New Members!

### **AWARDS**

### BRONZE GOOD CITIZENSHIP MEDAL

In 1895 the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal became the first award authorized by the Sons of the American Revolution. The medal was originally designed as a medallion, but a ribbon and clasp were added in 1932 converting it to a wearable medal.

The National Society, a State Society or a Chapter may present this medal in recognizing an adult or minor, whose achievements are noteworthy in their community or school. An individual may be awarded this medal multiple times, receiving an Oak Leaf Cluster in lieu of an additional medal. It is a multi-purpose award serving many functions including:

- 1. For persons who have made important contributions to their community.
- 2. For presentation to members of the U.S. Navy Sea Cadet Corps; this organization being exempt from receiving the Bronze JROTC Medal, but being presented under the same criteria.
- 3. To SAR members for leadership services in a minimum of four local organizations: Church, School, Scouting, Fraternal, Business Associations, Government, Patriotic, Military, Veterans, Conservation, Hereditary, Genealogical, Historical or organized Sports (Little League, etc.), but not for recognizing service to the SAR. Subsequent awards must be for different service than a prior award. 4. To the <u>single</u> most outstanding high school student in his or her school, considering both citizenship and scholarship. The exact criteria are at the discretion of the presenting authority.

The Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was originally intended as a reward by SAR to citizens for acts benefiting the community, which warranted a commendation. Its role as a community commendation award was expanded during World War II to include high school students for their academic achievements as an inducement to remain in school until graduation. The reason behind this was because so many boys were dropping out in order to join the Armed Forces. The Armed Forces had plenty of men to draw upon to fill the enlisted ranks, but the numbers for officer training were dwindling. In order to fill the need for men to put through O.C.S. the government needed high school graduates, preferably men who had at least entered and or completed college. As the war dragged on academically superior high school graduates were being accepted to O.C.S.

A great number of school districts in the United States have always required that students do their best at being academically sound. In some states it is a law, not only expected but also required to be a good student. It's their responsibility as free citizens in this country, freedom won for them by the Armed Forces. The high school student is already amply rewarded for their academics with scholarships and the ability to enter trade schools, colleges and universities. This medal is also not intended as a reward to Boy Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Sea Scouts for doing what is a part of scouting, that being good citizenship. Therefore we should refrain from awarding the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to students and Scouts for doing what is required and expected of them, and concentrate our awards on members of the community for their exemplary service to the community.

The Silver Good Citizenship Medal is awarded for service performed at the state level, and the Gold Good Citizenship Medal is awarded for service performed at the national level.

### SUBMISSIONS OF INTEREST

### GENEALOGICAL INTEREST

### GUNTER'S CHAIN

By Allan Wenzel

In 1620 Edmund Gunter, an English mathematician, devised a system by which an area of land (or distance) could be measured correctly, and duly recorded in land records. His system incorporated the use of chain links and became known as "Gunter's Chain." This system was used well into the 1800's, and from which we get our current understanding of the measurement size of an acre and length of a mile.

Prior to Gunter's creation a distance between two points, or an acre of land, was measured in rods called "Poles," the basic measuring device. For example, one mile equaled 320 poles. One pole was equal to 16.5 feet in today's feet and inches.

Not having tape measures in those far off days something having a reliably standardized length needed to be found. Chain links were the solution. At the time chain was made in various size links, different sizes producing different strengths for different purposes.

By taking 100 chain links, linking them together, and connecting each end of the chain to a long handle Gunter created an early form of a tape measure. People of the period now had a measuring device, which could measure a distance down to a portion of a single chain link.

One chain link made of the number 6, 7, 8, or 9-size wire is equal to 7.92 inches. Combining 100 of these sized links is equal to 66 feet, the equivalent of 4 poles.

One mile (320 poles) would now be represented as 80 chains (66'  $\times$  80 = 5280'), and one acre would equal one chain squared times ten (66'  $\times$  66'  $\times$  10 = 43560 feet). For the most part the "Pole" had now been replaced by Gunter's Chain...a 66-foot tape measure.

When you read in early wills and land deeds of your ancestor's land being recorded with measurements in poles or chains you will now be able to calculate the size and distances.

### NAVAL INTEREST

Senator John McCain III was the son of 4 Star Admiral John McCain II (Jr.), who was the Commander-in-Chief of all U.S. Forces in the Pacific during the Vietnam War. This John McCain (Jr.) was the son of 4 Star Admiral John McCain Sr., who during World War II served under Admiral of the Fleet William Halsey. He was awarded the Navy Cross and Navy Distinguished Service Medal. The McCain's were the only father and son 4 Star Admirals in United States History. Because of his father's position as Commander-in-Chief during the Vietnam War, Senator John McCain III, was treated very poorly by the North Vietnamese during his years in captivity as a POW.

Serving under John McCain Jr., during the Vietnam War was Rear Admiral George Morrison, who was Commander of Naval Forces Marianas. He was the father of legendary singer Jim Morrison of the famous rock and roll band *The Doors*.

### PATRIOT BIOGRAPHY

### PATRIOT VAN SWEARINGEN

### Farmer, Scout, Soldier, Spy

Van Swearingen (referred to in the Swearingen Family as "Kentucky Van") was born November 3, 1754, near Hagerstown, Frederick County, Maryland, the fourth child of John Swearingen and Catherine Stull. His Great-Great-Grandfather, Garrit Van Sweringen, arrived at New Amsterdam (New York City) in early March 1657, as a councilor under Governor Peter Stuyvesant and later as the High Sheriff in Maryland under the British. Van's father John and Grandfather Van both rendered service during the Revolution.

Van moved with his parents to what was known as Monongahela (now Fayette County), Pennsylvania in 1770.

On February 15, 1777 Van was appointed a Lieutenant of militia. In the spring he joined the Company of Captain Daniel Stull, his uncle, and a regular officer in the Maryland Line. He assisted in recruiting 30-40 men over a two-month period of time. With an insurrection of Tories in the neighborhood of his father's residence in Pennsylvania, he quit the service and returned home in the fall, to assist in quelling these Tories. This required two months service. In 1777 he volunteered in Captain James Neill's Pennsylvania Company, serving three months on station at Yellow Creek on the Ohio River.

In the spring of 1778 Van enlisted in Captain William Harrod's (Monongahela County) Company, Colonel William Lynn's Pennsylvania Regiment. In April they rendezvoused at a place called Muddy Creek in western Pennsylvania. From there they marched, under the command of General George Rogers Clark, on expedition against the Illinois Indians. He was at Fort Saint Pierre and Fort Kaskaskia when they were forced to surrender to Clark. On the return trip Van remained at the Falls of the Ohio River (now Louisville, Kentucky) for two months and assisted in the building of a fort, and as a spy. This term of service comprised a total of ten months.

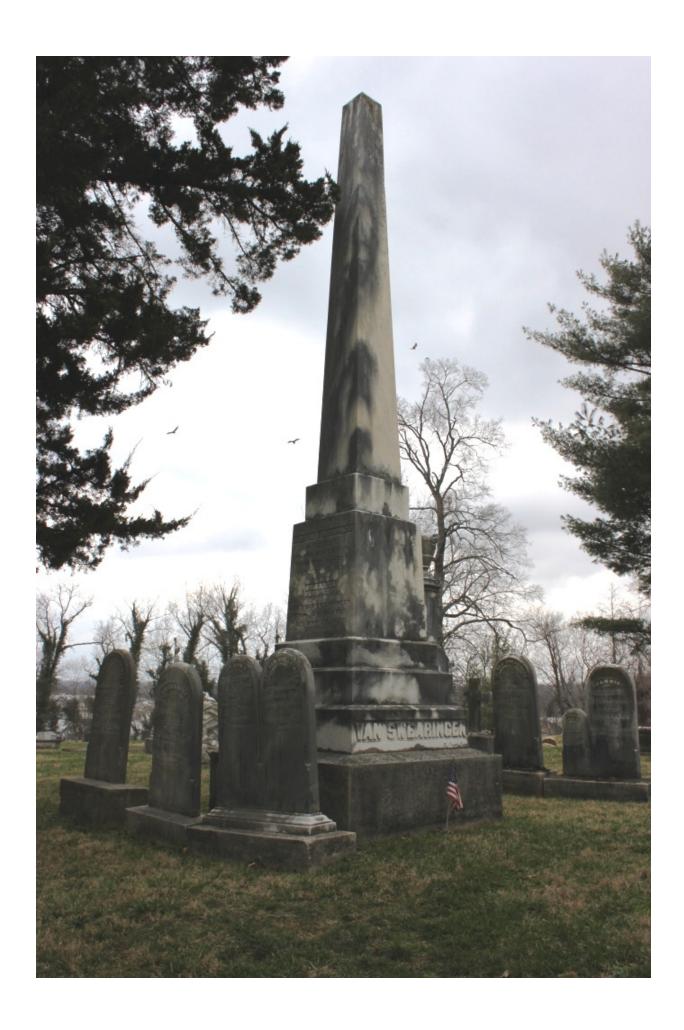
In the spring of 1779 Van again volunteered in Captain Harrod's Company, Colonel Bowman's Regiment. They rendezvoused at Louisville and marched to the Little Miami River, in what is now Ohio, where they fought the Shawnee Indians at Shawneetown, in what became known as the Battle of the Little Miami. This period of service comprised three months.

Van returned home and was married February 24, 1780, in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, to Susanna Greathouse. He received a discharge dated March 16, 1780.

After returning home he joined a company of volunteers and rendered service as a scout upon the frontier settlements until the fall of 1783, when the war ended. Two months of this time, in 1782, was spent at Forts Pricketts and Evans.

Van received a lot of 100 acres of land lying near Louisville, Kentucky as compensation for his service in the Illinois Indians expedition, and was granted a military pension September 17, 1832.

Van returned to Pennsylvania residing in Fayette County until moving his growing family to Shelby County Kentucky in 1790. His daughter Rachael married David Van Cleave, the son of John Van Cleave and his second wife Rachel (Demaree) Ryker. Van remained in Shelby County until his death, which occurred July 18, 1839. He was buried in the Swearingen Family plot in the Grove Hill Cemetery, at Shelbyville, Kentucky. His headstone and the family monument mention his Revolution service.



## Honoring Irish Heroes

## By William B. Ailes, WASSAR Secretary

Last May Virginia and I traveled to Ireland with President General Joe Dooley and eighty others to honor Irish ancestors who fought in our Revolutionary War. Since Virginia and I had never been to Ireland it was a good chance to see this interesting island.

We flew into Dublin and were bused to Belfast, the capitol of Northern Ireland which is still part of Great Brittan. That evening we attended a private reception with the Lord Mayor in the city hall. Surprisingly we were welcomed like very distinguished visitors. The Irish look to our revolutionary war as their model in their continuing struggle for independence from Great Brittan.

In Belfast, we saw not only the shipyard where the Titanic was built but also toured both the Catholic and loyalist parts of the city. Houses in both areas were covered with murals setting forth their beliefs. We crossed a wall that demarked the two sections, freely crossed now because of an uneasy truce.

Traveling to the village of Maghera we honored Charles Thompson. An unsung hero known by few Americans. Charles Thompson served as the Clerk of the Continental Congress. His detailed journals are the best record of that significant group. Thompson carried the news of Bunker Hill to the congress, saw to the printing of the Declaration of Independence and read the declaration to the assembled masses for the first time. He brought the news of the victory of

Yorktown to the congress and as his notified George Washington that he elected the first President of the under the newly adopted We arrived at the town's hotel light lunch but were treated to a After presenting a plague to the journeyed to the Thompson farm.



**1**Thompson farmhouse

Thompson's father was a small flax his wife died he took his four sons to

farmer. After immigrate to

final duty he

United States

expecting

town.

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Charles

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America. The father died during the voyage, the ship's caption stole their money and put the four penniless boys ashore at the first port. Thompson was befriended by Benjamin Franklin and became a trusted officer of the Continental Congress. At the farm, we were treated to an historical speech by the descendent of the family that bought the Thompson farm and still own it. We dedicated a plague to be put on the farmhouse.

Journeying on to the St. Patrick's country we visited St. Patrick's grave noticing that it is now covered by a large boulder. In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries people immigrating to America tried to take a handful of dirt from St. Patrick's grave. Fearful that the grave would finally be desecrated the large boulder was placed on the grave.

Our next stop was at Wexford, a small seaport on the Atlantic Ocean. We were there to honor Commodore John Barry, the founder of the US Navy. Like most others, I assumed that John Paul Jones held that honor. However, we learned that Barry sank the first ship in the war, and fired the last shot in the war. After the Continental Navy was disbanded John Paul Jones moved to France where he

served France and Russia with his naval skills. When George Washington decided our new nation needed a navy he called on Barry to head it up. Barry's number on the list of naval officers is #1. We came to lay a wreath at the statue of Barry. The statue was a gift from the people of the United States, delivered by a US navy ship and dedicated by President Dwight Eisenhower. Later President John F. Kennedy visited. It was a very moving day.

In this beautiful country we were treated to seeing many interesting sites, ancient cathedrals and churches some dating back to the 600's AD.

Out tour ended in Dublin, the capitol of the Republic of Ireland. A beautiful city, it provided many unforgettable sights. We flew back to the United States with a renewed appreciation for those Irish who played such a significant role in the founding of the United States.

## What's New with the fadies Auxiliary by Jeri findley

In May of this year, Janice Doughty asked me to take over her duties as the administrator of the Ladies Auxiliary in Washington State. As most of you already know, Janice passed away on July 13th, 2014. Jan was so dedicated to the SAR and to the NLA that it would be difficult for anyone to take her place in this role, but I will do my best to continue her work and honor her commitment and dedication.

I would like to welcome our newest member. Cindy Lucas, wife of Compatriot Gregory Lucas, Cascade Centennial Chapter. Our state membership is now comprised of 16 ladies. In Washington State, the primary function of the NLA is to assist both the local SAR chapters and the Pacific District as a whole with organizing and conducting raffles and opportunity drawings to raise funds for programs and awards.

In April of this year, the Pacific District Meeting was hosted by the Oregon Society and held in Eugene at the Valley River Inn. President General Joe Dooley attended this meeting. The Ladies Auxiliary held a successful raffle at the event. Janice Doughty, Kathi Nelson and I were helped by Lynn Wight, wife of Compatriot Bennet Wight, Republic Chapter, with setting up the raffle. Many thanks to all of the Oregon and Washington members and spouses who contributed to the raffle by donating items and by purchasing raffle tickets!

In July, Cindy Lucas and I attended the NLA Business Meeting and the Ladies Luncheon at the 124<sup>th</sup> SAR Congress in Greenville, SC, as well as the Ladies Tea, which was hosted by President General Joe Dooley. At the Business Meeting, NLA President Robin Townes introduced the special guest speaker, Nancy Burch, who presented an informative program on the South Carolina Governor's Mansion Collections. The Ladies Luncheon was held at the exclusive Poinsett Club. Dr. Loey Krause PhD., portrayed Mrs. Joel Poinsett and fascinated us with the History of the Poinsettia. Additionally, we had a private tour of the historical art collection at Bob Jones University, which included the Old Master Painting Collection that traces the artistic, cultural and religious history of Western Europe from the 14<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

At the Greenville Congress, Valerie Wilkie provided 25 boxes for Project Patriot which were packed and shipped to deployed military service members. Please remember to bring donation items such as individual snacks, toiletries, hard candy, patriotic stationary, paperbacks, and magazines to future congresses or to spring and fall leadership events to help with this important task of remembering our deployed service members. Second Vice President, Laura Devenney, presented a

beautiful quilt which a lucky raffle ticket holder will win at the 2015 Louisville Congress, as well as other fun and imaginative fundraising opportunities for the NLASAR to aid in funding for the Center for Advancing America's Heritage, for which the NLASAR has now raised funds in excess of \$100,000 in support of the center.



Pacific District Attendees, 124<sup>th</sup> SAR Congress, Greenville, South Carolina. Left to right: Robert Bogardus (Oregon Society), out-going Pacific District VPG and new Minuteman; Ken Betterton, Oregon National Trustee; Teri Lindley; James Lindley, Washington State President and in-coming Pacific District VPG; Gregory Lucas, Vice-President of the Cascade Centennial Chapter; and Cindy Lucas.

At Fall Leadership in Louisville, Kathi Nelson, wife of Compatriot Doug Nelson, John Paul Jones Chapter, attended the Ladies Auxiliary meeting with me, held at the beautiful Brown Hotel. Compatriot Mark Authory of South Carolina was the guest speaker and gave an interesting and educational flag presentation program. Kathi also accompanied me to the lovely Ladies Luncheon, hosted by First Lady Billie Brock, at the Louisville Boat Club.

Our Ladies Auxiliary will again be serving refreshments at the upcoming Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Sunset Hills Memorial Park in Bellevue on Saturday, December 13th at 10am. The Cascade Centennial SAR Chapter is organizing and hosting this important and special event.

The next Pacific District meeting will be held at the Bellevue Red Lion Hotel on April 24th, 25th and 26th, 2015. President General Lindsay Brock is planning to attend this event and if

his wife, First Lady Billie Brock accompanies him, our Ladies Auxiliary will host a luncheon in her honor. Additionally, this meeting will be an opportunity for our Ladies Auxiliary to raise much needed funds for the Pacific District through our raffle and opportunity drawings. I encourage all of our NLA Ladies to assist in this effort either by donating raffle items or by helping with set-up, ticket sales, etc., at the event. Thank you ladies, and I hope to see you at an upcoming event!

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## What's New with the CAR by Jennifer Lundberg, Senior State President

The young ladies and gentlemen of the Washington State C.A.R. extend their appreciation to the Washington State SAR in supporting our members and our projects. In addition to local society events, the State Society has participated in a number of events around the state this summer and fall.

The State Society was a co-sponsor of the Veteran's Day Celebration in Kitsap County, sharing a booth with the SAR and DAR. State President Steven Johnson led our packet meeting to learn more about the state and national project of replacing and preserving the flags at the Star Spangled Banner House in Maryland.

Ten percent of the State C.A.R. membership attended the C.A.R. Western Regional meeting in Oregon last summer. The regional meeting is similar to an SAR District Meeting.

State President Steven Johnson presented a program on the state project to the Seattle Chapter SAR and attended the National Defense Luncheon sponsored the Greater Seattle DAR Regents' Council.

Please feel free to contact me at **shatartulip@gci.net** or 360-265-1582 if you have any questions about C.A.R.

Jennifer

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

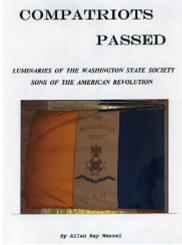
### The publication deadlines for newsletter submissions are as follows:

Summer/Fall Edition by December 1st Winter/Spring Edition by May 1st

### NEEDED! Articles on your Patriot Ancestors and historical interests

Article submissions should be in Microsoft Word 2000 or an earlier version, but not in docx or Word Perfect, which isn't! You can also either type or cut and paste the text as an email. Photos need to be as jpegs, with identifying information (who, what, when, where). I reserve the right to alter and re-word officer and chapter submissions as space requirements necessitate. Send to: stsporto@q.com

Compatriots Past, Luminaries of the WASSAR, a book on 25 of our state society history makers, war heroes, and politicians. Copies can be purchased at \$10.00 each plus \$4.25 for packaging and postage, from Jim Lindley (j.m.lindley@msn.com) and Allan Wenzel (stsporto@q.com). Contact them directly for availability. Your Chapter may also still have some available.



The General Society of the War of 1812, Washington State Chapter is new and accepting members. To date nearly every member is also a member of the WASSAR. For membership information contact: Allen Gray (cpm12@comcast.net).

General Society of The War of 1812



Information
for
Prospective Applicants

Congratulations to our lucky 2014 opportunity drawing winner, Dave Gaddis of the Washington Society, who won the flintlock Pennsylvania rifle. The drawing fundraiser names were mixed together in a covered bucket and Teri Lindley drew the winning name out of the mix without looking at our April 26 Saturday evening banquet dinner.

Thanks to all who supported the Pacific District Conference opportunity drawing through your recent donations. Thanks to you, we raised an incredible \$1,676 from 96 compatriots and friends. We had overwhelming support for the opportunity drawing and want to take this occasion to thank everyone who submitted their name or donated prizes for the general opportunity drawing. As a result of this campaign's success, we'll be launching another drawing to support the 2015 Pacific District Conference in Bellevue, Washington. Thanks to you we can carry on our important work in the Pacific District.



**SAR "Patriotic Appeal" will attract new members.** There are many thousands of fine, eligible prospective members in this great country of ours who, if acquainted with the SAR at all, probably think of it as just a genealogical and historical society.

We have all encountered people who ask, "I've heard of the SAR, but just what do you fellows do?" It is of the utmost importance that every member become familiar with the Societies objectives and purposes as outlined in its charter. In this way, each of us can answer these simple questions effectively, and thus, "inspire the community at large" with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers.

As you spread the word, you will find patriotic men becoming interested in joining the SAR. Keep informed, that you may speak on the issues of the day. Tell others that the SAR is fighting for those principles and freedoms for which our forefathers fought. Let them know we are a "live," vigorous organization. And, that to join the SAR is to become a vital part of our determined efforts for the glory of this great sovereign nation!

It is of far greater importance than some may realize to secure as much publicity for your chapter's functions and observances as possible through the newspapers, TV and radio and other social media, for as men learn of our activities and agree with our purposes, they will desire to affiliate with us.

We urgently need more members. Admittedly, mere numerical strength is not in itself our object. But, every time we can gain a new member who cherishes the same patriotic viewpoints and objectives as we do, we have gained a fresh recruit in our ranks to spread our message. It is just as imperative that we have dedicated citizens in 2014 as those who met their countries need in 1776. The call is for men with the courage of our Revolutionary sires who were willing to face the strongest military power in the world and fight for freedom, to step forward and become an active recruiter.

Every Washington State chapter, numbers in its members, informed, capable speakers on issues of the day, American history, the Constitution, the Revolutionary Soldier or other kindred subjects, whose talents should be made available to civic and service clubs, schools, patriotic occasions or wherever they can bring our Society objectives to the attention of the public.

The "patriotic appeal" of SAR has a greater potential than we may realize. If we give our Societies exalted aims greater exposure, we will attract patriotic men, men of integrity, men of honor, men of courage and men with the will to keep our nation great, sovereign and proud! WE NEED THESE MEN.

Don't delay. The time is NOW! Let's dramatize the SAR's "patriotic appeal" with every dignified means at our disposal. If you are not at present an active, "doing" member, resolve to become one as of this minute. The rewards of wholehearted participation in so worthy a cause will soon be realized as other men of stature add their names to our roster and their power for good to our resources. ACT!

## Douglas H. Nelson, WASSAR Vice President

Spokane Chapter #1 announces the opening of their Flag Museum, located at the Pines Cemetery, 1402 South Pines Road, Spokane, Washington.



For those of you who have not yet purchased one of the NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION 125 Years Commemorative Medal's I urge you to do so. This medal marking the  $125^{\rm th}$  year of the SAR is a great companion to you membership medal. Only those Compatriots being members by December 31, 2014 can properly wear it, and you must supply your National member number to purchase one. It bears a portrait of General George Washington in uniform, in stunning gold tone, and comes with a miniature medal for formal dress. Package price for both full size and miniature from the SAR store is \$30 plus \$7.50 postage.



### LASTLY

### Editor's Desk:

Since the SAR was founded to honor our forefathers and our Founder's visions of Independence and Freedom I see it fitting to editorialize on those issues which attack our very foundations. Therefore: It's not my call to lean one-way or the other on the issue of racism. It is my call to openly find fault with the public school system for their punishing students over the past six months for what students say in the privacy of their own homes, even if using national and international web sites. They call that Freedom of Speech. The public school systems have no right going into our private lives and homes and passing judgment. And, why is it OK for the news media to reveal private conversations in which objectionable words and phrases are being used? The exposure and then condemnation by punishing people for private conversations, expressions of thoughts, when not resulting in chaos (yelling "Fire" in a theatre) is a violation of the First Amendment in the Bill of Rights to the Constitution regardless of how you may feel about the use of inappropriate words. If a limitation is added to an established Bill of Rights Amendment, by law, by the schools, or by the news media, you watch just how fast limitations or a complete removal will start to occur with the rest of the Amendments. There's enough anti-democracy in this state as it is.

Allan

## From the Assistant to the Editor:

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!



...IS THIS ONE MINE?

**ELLIOT**