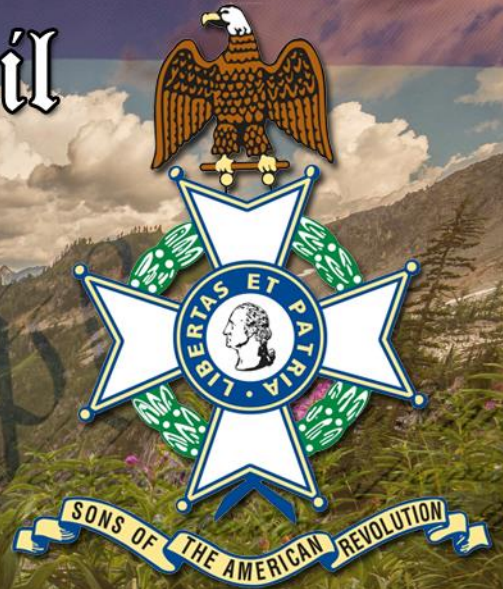


The Washington Trail

Newsletter of the Washington State
Society of the Sons of the American Revolution



2017 J.H. Flathers Award-Winning SAR State Newsletter

2017 - Summer Edition

Volume XXXVII

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Changing of The Guard – *The President's Message*

By Anthony Abbott
Washington SAR President

Greetings Sons,

As your President, I have participated in the following events:

- ❖ WASDAR State Conference in Spokane. As the newly elected and installed WASSAR President I brought greetings as requested by the State Regent. I had a wonderful time.
- ❖ Armed Forces Parade in Bremerton on May 20, 2017,
- ❖ NSSAR National Congress in Knoxville, Tennessee from July 8 through July 12 and Korean War Armistice Memorial Wreath Laying in Olympia on July 22.



WASSAR President Anthony Abbott

See Continuation on Page 3

Washington SAR Elected State Officers

President

Anthony O. Abbott
aoabbott@hotmail.com

Vice President

Craig Lawson
craiglawson@comcast.net

Secretary

Al Pinkham
alpinkham@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Thomas Clark
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Registrar

Dr. J, Cris Bisgard
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Chaplain

Conrad Plyler
grayman@wavecable.com

Historian

Currently Vacant

National Trustee

Robert F. Doughty
doughtybobWashingtonSAR@aol.com

Alt. National Trustee

Doug Nelson
Doug1280@comcast.net

WASHINGTON SAR Chapters

Alexander Hamilton

Tacoma/Fife. WA
Meets: Third Saturday, September to June, at Johnny's at Fife

Cascade Centennial

East Side of Lake Washington
Meets: First Saturday, September to June at the Red Lion in Bellevue, WA

Fort Vancouver

Southwestern Washington counties.
Meets: Third Saturday of each month, Mill Creek Pub & Grill in Battle Ground, WA

George Washington

Skagit and Whatcom counties.
Meets: Third Saturday at the Farmhouse Restaurant, Mount Vernon, WA

John Paul Jones

Kitsap Peninsula
Meets: Fourth Saturday of each month, except July, August and December at Ambrosia Catering

Mid-Columbia

South Central Washington.
Meets: Third Saturday of each month at various locations.

Seattle

Greater Seattle area
Meets: Second Saturday, September to May (excluding December) at Robb's 125th Street Grill on Aurora AVE

Spokane #1

Greater Spokane area
Meets: 2nd Saturday except July and August, at the Timber Creek Grill Buffett

See reports on Page 14, for the happenings for each chapter

The Washington Trail

Published quarterly, for the pleasure of members of the Washington State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and for documenting the activities of each chapter. Please submit content and photos electronically to: emersongregoryd@gmail.com. Photos should be in JPEG format. If you don't have a computer, content and photos can be mailed to:

Greg Emerson
17602 SE 186th Way
Renton, WA 98058

Next Submission Deadline: October 10, 2017



Your chapter news can appear in The Washington Trail. Email your draft prior to the deadline posted on the lower right. Please identify all individuals appearing in your photos. Space is limited; therefore the Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Changing of The Guard – The President’s Message (Continued from Page 1)

National Congress Report:

1. Your President attended the Council of State Presidents breakfast and business meetings.
2. Your President attended the Memorial Service honoring our fellow compatriots, who have passed away.
3. Your President sat in on the Joseph Rumbaugh Orations Contest Finals even though our state winner (Joseph Koppel) did not get past the semi-finals. All contestants were excellent and it was a close call as to who ranked first or second. The Washington State entry was the first in the 60-years of the contest.
4. Your President attended all sessions of the general assembly of the 127th Congress, the President General’s Banquet and the Installation Banquet. I did not see any major changes from the congress sessions except the date for new application cutoff for rolling over NSSAR dues to the next-year has been moved back to September 1. It was announced that our own Greg Lucas has been appointed as the Inspector General. Compatriot Greg is Vice-President General for the Pacific District, as well.
5. Additional staff has been hired for application review and new applications are now down to eight- weeks.



SAR President General Larry T. Guzy

Our new President General, Larry T. Guzy stated during his inaugural speech that he did not have any programs to introduce; however, he does want SAR to grow by 9% per year. The goal is to reach 64,000 members by 2026. In his speech, he addressed the need to recruit more members but he also addressed membership retention. SAR is losing far too many members. There are many reasons. Some of that loss is simply inadequate communication during the renewing of members. Some new members are being hit with dues sometimes before they receive their membership certificate. Hopefully, our state can do the job right and retain the members we have and grow the state with new members and new chapters.

From a direction perspective, WASSAR needs to use its committees and resources to engage the Washington state people so we can recruit new members and possibly regain lost members. President Nelson started with trying to

Continued, Page 6

The Washington Trail Masthead Credit

Masthead – Noun – The title of a newsletter or magazine, at the head or top of the front cover or Editorial page.

The image that graces the front page of our state newsletter this month is one of the many majestic views of trails from around Washington State. On the Alternating months that we don’t feature the work of Don Trojani or other significant historical artists, we will feature some of the beautiful scenes the Pacific Northwest features, along the many trails in Washington state.

These scenes will continue to feature the words “We The People” from the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution, to highlight the fact that this publication is the product of a modern version of the Committees for Correspondence.

President General Larry T. Guzy (Georgia) 2017-2018

Reprinted from NSSAR Web Site

"I was drawn to the SAR for the ability to preserve my link to the American Revolution and only later found the joy of friendship and the ability to reach out to others through recruiting and education."

President General's 64,000 Member Challenge

Happy New SAR Year! Yes, our year starts over at the end of Congress, at least for officers, trustees and programs. You may have heard that I was elected to be your President General (PG for short), for the next 12-months. I am truly motivated and excited by the prospect. I plan to communicate ideas and information every two weeks, or till you say stop! Please help the dissemination by passing this on to others who may not be part of this group.

The question everyone asks is what is your initiative? Well, quite honestly it is YOU. You are what makes the SAR great. Individuals and Chapters, where the work and exciting things happen. This next year will be about



NSSAR PG Larry Guzy

YOU and how we can grow. You see, I have issued a challenge to the Society to dedicate our efforts toward reaching 64,000 members by 2026 and that is program enough. *This is about 9% per year.* We can do this!

Yes, every PG I know since I became a member in 1995 has said we must grow; however, except for a few programs that were collateral, none addressed this as a goal. I received the total membership numbers today from Jonathan Toon, staff Registrar, and they are looking good. As of today (7/21/2017), we have 34,667 active members. As a milestone, PG James Calhoun in 1990 stated "We have finally reached 26,000 members." At the end of 2011, 21-years later, we were at 26,129. Okay, not so great. In the following six-years, we added 8,538. If this were really an every year number, that would average 1,423 per year or almost three new members per year, per Chapter (about 500 Chapters). Still not so great.

Well enough of the history of numbers (I do like them, probably why I switched to Math to get my BS—the degree, not the ability). Our website is a great resource of new members. We will tweak it this coming year to make it more effective. PG Tomme's Mentoring Program last year started us on a great path of engagement,

which is what we need at the individual level. *This must continue.*

This introductory communication is to let you know that we can grow to 64,000 by 2026, and *We Can Do This!*

The Delegates at Congress voted to approve basically what was the Indiana By-Law Proposal of having new member dues apply to the following year with registered applications starting on September 1. No more holding till October 31st, causing backlogs that take months to clear. This new-member friendly policy will help with retention, and that is where we will see our most immediate gains—fewer drops.

If the only thing you take away from this communication is the concept of ENGAGEMENT, that will be enough (at least for two-weeks). If you ask he will stay, join, be an officer or committee person. You only need to engage your members to find out who they are, where they were born, what they do, or did, to have them be involved. Just ask. We tend to talk about ourselves. Let's ask our members to talk about themselves, then JUST LISTEN. They will think you are smart, care, and will come back to hear about you next time.

2017 National Congress Report

Compatriot Robert Doughty

127th National Congress was July 6 through 13 at the Holiday Inn, Knoxville, Tennessee adjacent to their classy World's Fair site. The Credentials Committee's final report said there were 347 registered attendees and 331 of those registered were delegates. The head-count of members and guests was over 630. There were 111 first-time attendees, including Rob Sexton (Cascade Centennial Chapter) and Stephen Johnson (Seattle Chapter).

Congress was well attended by fourteen representatives from the Washington SAR - probably a record, certainly the most from our state in recent memory: nine members and five ladies.

- ❖ Washington SAR President Tony Abbott and his lady, Charlotte (Seattle Chapter)
- ❖ Cascade Centennial Chapter President Greg Lucas and his lady, Cindy (Cascade Centennial Chapter)
- ❖ Jim Lindley and his lady, Teri (Cascade Centennial Chapter)
- ❖ Doug Nelson and his lady, Kathi (John Paul Jones Chapter)
- ❖ Bob O'Neal and his lady, Ronnie (Alexander Hamilton Chapter)
- ❖ John Berg (Seattle Chapter)
- ❖ Stephen Johnson (Seattle Chapter);
- ❖ Bob Doughty (Cascade Centennial Chapter)
- ❖ Rob Sexton (Cascade Centennial Chapter)



*SAR Inspector General Greg Lucas and his wife
Cindy at the 2017 National Congress in
Knoxville, TN*

Several of our members were sworn in by the SAR Chancellor General to be National officers: Greg Lucas as Vice President General of the Pacific District; Bob Doughty as Washington SAR National Trustee; Doug Nelson as Washington SAR Alternate National Trustee. Another feather in our cap appeared when Jim Lindley was selected to be on SAR President General Larry Guzzy's Executive Committee and Greg Lucas was also appointed as the SAR Inspector General.

One of the items voted on by Congressional delegates was to not raise National dues. The 2018 National dues will remain the same as the 2017 National dues. There was a National Bylaw change that changed the dues collection month from October 1 to September 1. This means Washington State dues will have to be collected a month earlier than in the past. Another item of business voted on by Congressional Delegates was to sell some investment securities that had appreciated in value and use the gains to pay down the SAR debt.

It was reported more than 8,000 youths have visited the SAR Library in Louisville, Kentucky since last Congress.

The Washington SAR tendered their first Rumbaugh Oration Contestant, Joseph Koffel from Republic, WA, sponsored by Spokane Chapter #1. A Kudo to the Washington SAR was made by the Master of Ceremonies at the Rumbaugh Preliminaries, when he acknowledged this was the first entry from the Washington SAR in the sixty-years, since the Rumbaugh Oration Contest has existed. Joseph's speech, although outstanding, did not advance him to the six finalists.



There was a discussion at the Wednesday general session regarding ways to speed-up processing new member applications. The previous “Fast-Tracking” method was again brought-up, but after a trial period was found ineffective due to it creating more sorting work for the Genealogy staff.

At the final Trustees Meeting, the question of “what is a male” was discussed again. The wordsmiths are struggling with how to reword our application form.

New Executive Committee members, left to right, Compatriots Rick Hollis (TN), Jim Lindley (WA), Mike Schenk (MS)

Changing of The Guard – The President’s Message (Continued from Page 3)

get dropped members back. We see how the Color Guard has been a very visible advertisement on both sides of the state. Other committees that can help down the road are the JROTC/ROTC, Eagle Scout and C.A.R. Those committees can help by getting the SAR message into the minds of our young men – the recruits of the future.

Finally, the 2021 National Congress needs to be supported. I am impressed that several future congress committees had tables at the Knoxville congress. They were fundraising by selling their respective congress medals and handling out literature to attract attendees. It is a thought for the Houston Congress next year. It will require additional members attending to staff such a table and make the sales pitch as appropriate. In addition, our immediate event on the horizon is the auction in October and there is still need for more items to be available.

Fraternally,

Anthony C. Abbott

President,
Washington State Society, Sons of the American Revolution

**DID YOU
KNOW...**

A Rhode Island Hero of the American Revolution was Recently Saluted?

Check out this article at:

<http://www.providencejournal.com/news/20170729/saluting-rhode-island-hero>

Oregon Trail Markers Renovation

By Compatriot Marion (Mick) Hersey, John Paul Jones Chapter WASSAR

Well after over a year of working on and off cleaning and restoring the 11 Oregon Trail Monuments in Washington State, we have finally finished them by adding the missing DAR and SAR Medallions that were removed over the years. They are now ready to be viewed and visited for the next 100-years!

Here are the photos of them as we remounted reproduced medallions at the five locations from Kalama to Tenino.





Many thanks to the WSSDAR and the WASSAR chapters, for assisting in funding and helping in the completion of this restoration project! Seven volunteers assisted with this project, with over 70-hours devoted on it.

A companion article was produced for Thurston County News and can be found at:

<http://www.thurstontalk.com/2017/07/07/historical-womens-group-restores-oregon-trail-markers-wins-national-award/>

SAR Mission

The purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution are patriotic, historical, educational and include those intended or designed:

1. To perpetuate the memory of the men who, by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people;
2. To unite and promote fellowship among their descendants;
3. To inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers;
4. To encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution;
5. To acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patriots of the war, as well as documents, relics and landmarks;
6. To mark the scenes of the American Revolution by appropriate memorials;
7. To celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and of the Revolutionary period;
8. To foster true patriotism;
9. To maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and
10. To carry out the purposes expressed in the preamble to the Constitution of our country and the injunctions of Washington in his farewell address to the American people.

Washington Knight Essay Award Winner

By Compatriot Doug Nelson

Nicco Guile is an outstanding academic student and is a senior at Spanaway Lake High School. He is a member of Student Government, National Honors Society, National Society of High School Scholars and this summer he will be a member of the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. Nicco is in the Federal TRIO outreach program implemented by the U. S. Department of Education to help disadvantage students. He is in the top five-percent of his class and is committed to attend Seattle Pacific University this fall. He will be pursuing a major in Mechanical Engineering.

Enlightenment and the American Revolution

For we must consider that we shall be a city upon a hill.”

John Winthrop

The Long 18th Century (1685-1815) brought about change, a shift in consciousness that would be known as Enlightenment. Enlightenment established itself as the inspiration for revolutions, an Age of Reason, individualism, a longing to break away from the past, and skepticism. The American Revolution did not happen instantly, rather it occurred over years of turmoil, political torture, and provocation. The American colonists began their struggle as the French and Indian War ended. Divisions between the colonist and British were beginning to be established. American colonists built a sense of comradery as British soldiers looked upon their colonial counterparts with pretentious disdain. The French and Indian War, like all wars, required money. For Britain to pay off debts and to provide protection to the colonies they imposed taxes without proper colony representation. They enacted the Stamp Act, Lead and Paper Tax, Tea Tax, and the Tea Act. The colonists did not accept these sanctions with lackadaisical resignation. They were inspired by Enlightenment and rose up to disconnect from their virulent tyrant. The Enlightenment movement characterized the American Revolution and made the revolution inevitable, influencing every act of defiance. These ideologies contributed to identifying what it means to be an American and the essence of the American Dream today.



Left to Right: Compatriot Doug Nelson, Mrs.Elford, U. S. History teacher, Nicco Guile and Mrs.Schwery, literature and composition teacher

The American Revolution was bound to happen with the combination of Enlightenment ideals and British tyranny colonists would eventually repudiate their rulers. With a new sense of individualism, there was a philosophical shift in the western world; a conversion in the colonist's minds from being citizens under the crown to being Americans. In 1774, 55 delegates from the colonies, excluding Georgia, formed the First Continental Congress to petition the "Intolerable Acts" (a set of acts used to punish the colonists for the Boston Tea Party). This First Continental Congress would pave the way for the Second Continental Congress which would lay the framework for the

American Revolution. The formation of these congresses alone signified unification, not as British citizens but as Americans. As the colonies continued to fall away from Britain with their new-found sense of individualism, some colonists were still skeptical that leaving Britain was an action to take. In January of 1776, Thomas Paine wrote “Common Sense”, an argumentative essay explaining that separating from Britain is the only choice. The essay highlighted ideals that tradition is not always meant to be followed, that all men are equal, and the Colonies will suffer deficits due to the British Crown’s violent past. Paine exemplified Enlightenment philosophies to separate from the past and encouraged equality. Later the Declaration of Independence would synthesize these principles to create ideals central to the new nation. The main ideals are that people are entitled to rights simply because they are people, the government only gets its legitimacy from those who they rule, and the goal for a government is to protect the rights of its people. Without Enlightenment principles, there would be no reason to fight. The “Common Sense” essays gave the colonists purpose to fight for their rights. These types of essays revolutionized the colonists thinking. Enlightenment gave colonists a reason to fight, a reason to survive. Without a set of ideals or principles colonists would have dissolved and faded in history.



Penelope Barker

A common theme across all documents during the Revolutionary War exhibited the empowerment of the individual. That being the individual is equal to any other individual. In traditional western culture during the 1700’s women had rigid roles; women were expected to encourage morals, maintain family order, and doing large amounts of house work. Women were also expected to be subordinate to men. Women who sought power were often rejected and made outcasts. The Revolutionary War and progressive ideals encouraged many women to contribute to the denouncement of the British rule. Penelope Barker in 1774 led the Edenton Tea Party, a congress of 51 women who signed a petition to boycott British goods in the wake of extreme taxation. In 1777, at the age of 16, Sybil Ludington rode in the night to alert her father’s fellow minute men that the British were burning Danbury. Molly Pitcher at the battle of Monmouth continued to fire her husband’s cannon after he was mortally shot. Enlightenment encouraged women to contribute to the effort of independence becoming empowered and embodying the very spirit of the revolution. Women contributed greatly to the construction of the country alongside their male counterparts with newfound principles of individual activism.



J. Hector St. John de Crevecoeur

Enlightenment laid the fundamental precepts of our nation in government documents dictating the very way our country is run. Our government is run even today on the progressive ideals like those of the 1700’s forever influencing our nation. This influence eventually led to what the American Dream has become today. J. Hector St. John de Crevecoeur outlined in his essay “What is an American?” the foundation of what would become the modern American Dream. Crevecoeur argued the United States is a place for all peoples, a land of opportunity where new ideologies are welcomed and embraced for peoples of all backgrounds. Without Enlightenment, Crevecoeur’s definition of what an American is would not exist. The American Dream is rooted in the American Revolution; the concept of creating a new future for yourself and abandoning the past with hope and a diligent effort is the very essence of being an American.

Continued Page 14

WASSAR's Joseph S Rumbaugh Historical Oration Winner

By Dale Ryan

Joseph Koffel is a high school senior from Republic, WA and is the first Evergreen State national entry in sixty-six years of the scholarship competition for historical public speaking. He is active in sports as a Captain of the football team, as well as the captain of the school's debating team. He has attained the rank of Eagle Scout in Boy Scouting and has completed a 100+ mile, ten-day trek to Philmont, the National Boy Scout Ranch located in New Mexico. He is a founding member of a local youth substance abuse prevention coalition. He has plans of earning his Bachelor's Degree in Communications or Political Science and/or serving in the United States Marine Corps as an Intelligence Officer.

A Common Man, An Uncommon Tactic

By Joseph Perry Koffel

Americans love the underdog. Tales of bravery and sacrifice of a few strong-willed men litter our country's history. Men like Carlos Hathcock, Chris Kyle, John Basilone, the men at the Alamo or the Doolittle Raiders are all examples of ordinary men doing extraordinary things to change the tides of war or serve as a rallying cry for our nation. The very foundation of our freedoms is cemented in the deeds of unknown men and women, who have fought for our rights from the outset of American's fight for independence. Timothy Murphy is one of those little known American heroes.

The stage is set in Middlesex County, the day is April 19th, 1775. The first engagement of the Revolutionary War is about to commence. The column of well trained, British Army professional soldiers face off with the ragtag Colonial Militia, the first shot rang out. The Revolution had started. While the Battle of Lexington and Concord was a skirmish with minimal casualties on either side, a strategy emerged that would direct the entire style of the war. "During the whole affair, the Rebels attacked us in a very scattered, irregular manner, but with perseverance and resolution, nor did they ever dare to form into any regular body," observed British Brigadier General Earl Percy.

Although the Continental Army would fight in formation, the common American Militia largely did not. This style of warfare – a war of attrition – where each side tries to wear down the other through a series of small-scale engagements, characterized the American Revolution as a group of ragtag citizen soldiers fighting for their freedom in what is best described today as guerilla warfare.

Timothy Murphy, America's first great sniper, is a perfect example of a common man fighting for freedom, in what the British deemed an unconventional manner. Murphy, like so many other Americans was the son of immigrants. When Timothy became of age he was either apprenticed or became an indentured servant to an affluent family by the name of Van Campen, who eventually moved to Wyoming County, Pennsylvania, which was considered the frontier at that time. Consequently, Murphy was raised as an accomplished frontiersman.



Joseph P. Koffel



*Rifleman Tim Murphy Taking the Shot Against General Frasier at the
Battle of Saratoga*

Shortly after the start of the Revolution began, Murphy enlisted in the Northumberland County Riflemen on June 29th, 1775. With his unit, he saw action in the Siege of Boston, the Battle of Long Island, and participated in skirmishes in Westchester County, New York. At this time, Murphy made the move from the militia to the Continental Army as a Sergeant in the 12th Pennsylvania Regiment, where he went on to see combat at the battles of Trenton and Princeton.

Through his battle-tested experience, Murphy was deemed an expert marksman and was credited with being able to hit a seven-inch target at 250-yards. Due to his skill with a weapon he was recruited to join General Daniel Morgan's famous Morgan's Riflemen, an elite light infantry unit. Under General Morgan, our hero, Timothy Murphy, created his claim to fame.

Ordered to northern New York with Morgan's riflemen to help stop the British Army's advances in the area, Americans met the British in a series of engagements known as the Battles of Saratoga. As the conflict unfolded, the Patriots pushed back the Redcoats; however, the British Brigadier General Simon Fraser started to rally his troops to resist the Continental attack. Seeing this, Benedict Arnold, still loyal to the American cause at the time, informed General Morgan that Fraser's leadership strength was equivalent to an entire regiment and must be dealt with. Morgan called on one of his most trusted sharpshooters, Timothy Murphy. Morgan pointed and said, "That gallant officer is General Fraser. I admire him, but it is necessary that he should die. Do your duty." Murphy obliged by climbing a tree and taking aim at Fraser who was over 300-yards away.

Murphy fired a total of four shots. His first round was a near miss. The second barely grazed the gallant general's horse. His third round resulted in Fraser tumbling from his horse, shot through the stomach. But what of Murphy's fourth shot? Sir Francis Clerke, another top British officer, was taken from his horse by a well-placed shot from Murphy as he galloped onto the field with a message, killing him instantly. With Fraser mortally wounded and Francis Clerke killed, any attempt to regain the advantage was lost. The day belonged to the Patriots. The victory at Saratoga is considered the major turning point in the American Revolution.

Timothy Murphy is a compelling example of how Americans forged our country's independence through unconventional means. What confounded and ultimately defeated the British military was a strategy that was both unfamiliar and unpredictable.

Guerilla warfare tactics that the British considered cowardly worked, plain and simple. American patriots achieved something that other world powers could not. Unknown men, like Timothy Murphy, fought the greatest empire the world had seen since the Romans and unbelievably, won! Timothy Murphy, a



Brigadier General Simon Fraser

modern-day David, was able to skillfully take down Brigadier General Simon Fraser and with him, the idea of the British Empire, a modern-day Goliath.

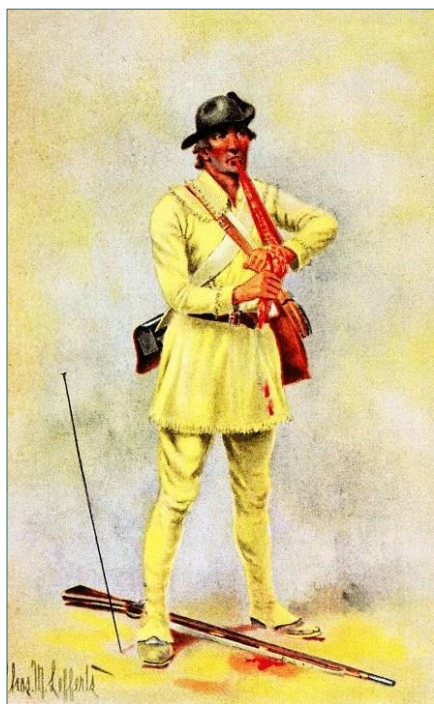
This Age of Reason that occurred over 200 years ago continues today in United States culture influencing icons like John Steinbeck. Steinbeck started with only 100 dollars in his pocket and moved to New York bouncing home to home until he gained his well-deserved fame. Steinbeck held central the American Dream, the very same that American colonists held to their hearts, and that all American citizens hold so dearly. Steinbeck, colonists, activists, and all American citizens help contribute and build upon the American story which was and is the product of a conscious movement, a movement that has not stopped, a movement that embellishes equality, justice, and liberty.

Nicco Gulie

Spanaway Lake High School

Patriot Spotlight

Compatriot Conrad A. Plyler, President, John Paul Jones Chapter



*Traditional Colonial North Carolina
Militia Dress*

James Robertson

Pvt. and Indian Spy 1780-1784,
North Carolina Militia

Ancestor of Compatriot Thomas G. Herwer

James Robertson was born 1759 in Albemarle County, Virginia. In the fall of 1779, the 20 year-old James accompanied his father James Sr. and brother Mathew to Kennedy's Station, Kentucky. The Robertson brothers were among a North Carolina militia, in a Company commanded by Capt. Philip Raiford, whom responded to the Kentuckians' call for aid.

In the winter 1779, James arrived at Paint Lick Creek located deep in the Kentucky wilderness. The following spring, the brothers volunteered to serve with the Kentucky Militia under Captain John Kennedy, a part of Colonel Benjamin Logan's Regiment. James assisted with building Fort Kennedy Station, located in present day Garrard County. He spent three long years guarding and defending this fort serving at various times, as an Indian Spy and Private under Captains John Kennedy, George Adams, John Woods, Lieutenant Joseph Kennedy and Colonel Benjamin Logan in the Virginia Troops. He was called upon to observe Indian activity. When the Indians terrorized local settlers, Fort Kennedy Station militia was ordered to retake any prisoners or property. He was

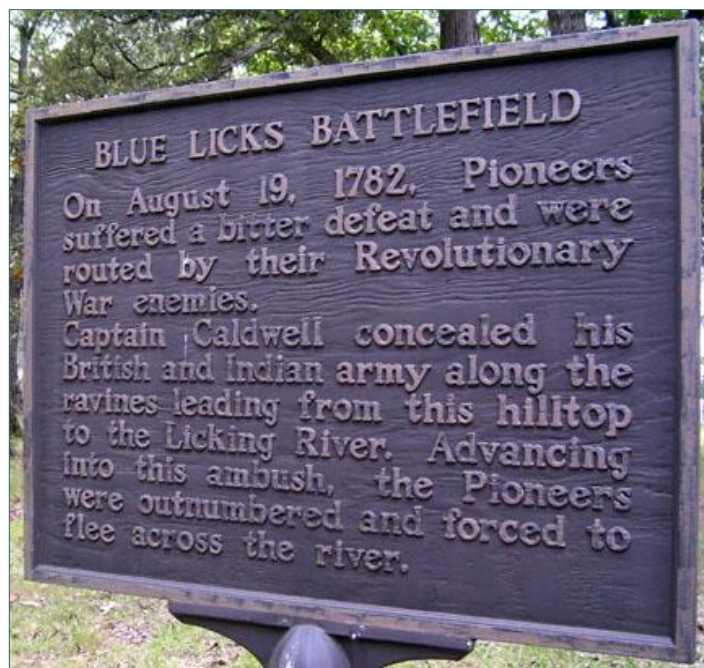
in two expeditions (and engagements) against the Shawnee Indians on the Miami River and across the Ohio River, under General George Rogers Clark.

In August 1782, James accompanied Logan's regiment to Bryan Station in Lexington, Kentucky. The regiment was to assist Col. Trigg and Col. Todd with a looming confrontation with the British at the Battle of Blue Lick. The British Commander, Capt Caldwell and the "British Indians" ambushed and killed 177 Kentucky soldiers. James joined the defeated militia during the retreat to Bryan Station and stayed among many brave soldiers including Col.

Daniel Boone. James later joined General George Rogers Clark's 1,000-man campaign against the Shawnee in the Miami River Valley. The Militia decimated the Shawnee and destroyed all the villages.

Indian spy Robertson was ordered back to Fort Kennedy Station and took his post until relative peace with the British. In 1784, he was released from service without a formal discharge. Afterwards, the Robertson brothers and father remained in Lincoln County, Kentucky and engaged in farming and working for the County in various capacities.

On May 20, 1789, James married Elizabeth "Betsy" Nicholson at Madison County, Kentucky. To their union were 13 children. During the year 1812, James moved his entire family by flatboat down the Ohio River, landing at Stevenport in Breckinridge County, Kentucky where he purchased 200-acres of land near Lodiburg. James was appointed as a surveyor and paid to oversee various road projects for Breckinridge County. James and Betsy lived in Lodiburg for the rest of their lives. At the age of 73 James was granted pension of \$60.00 for service in the Revolutionary War. James died in 1836 and Betsy in 1845. They are buried at the old Robertson Cemetery marked with fieldstones.



Historic Marker at the Blue Licks Battlefield

Washington SAR Chapter Trails

Alexander Hamilton

No report was received for the Summer edition.

If you want to learn more about the activities of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter, contact Chapter Secretary: [Paul Adan](#).

Captain John Paul Jones

At the April Chapter meeting, the John Paul Jones Chapter honored Cadet Lieutenant Junior Grade (LTJG) Erin Edwards of Roughrider Company, Port Angeles High School, as both the chapter and state winner of their JROTC Enhanced Essay Contest. Erin received both a silver medallion on a neck ribbon and a bronze medallion on a neck ribbon for being the Washington State SAR and John Paul Jones chapter winner respectively, plus a check for \$300 as the Chapter Award. Additionally, she will also receive an honorarium of \$500 cash award from the Washington SAR and was recognized at the Port Angeles High School JROTC Awards Ceremony by the WASSAR. Erin advanced to the national SAR competition. Chapter President Conrad Plyler told the more than 50 members and guests in attendance that her essay package had an excellent chance to be a national winner. Cadet LTJG Cassandra Middlestead, the second-place chapter winner, received the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.

In May, Compatriot Doug Nelson went back to Poulsbo Elementary School and presented "Young Patriot Writer Certificates" to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place essay winners. The students wrote essays on our presentation that was

given in their classes. The parents came and took pictures. The John Paul Jones Chapter has been making presentations at this school for five-years or longer. The teachers and kids love it. Doug gave the first place winners a book on the Revolutionary War. Today's books were one on Paul Revere and the other on the Revolutionary War itself written at a 5th grade level. These two books were donated by Compatriot Mick Hersey.

If you want to learn more about the activities of the Captain John Paul Jones Chapter, contact Chapter Secretary: [Al Pinkham](#).

Cascade Centennial

No report was received. The chapter's next scheduled meeting is the first Saturday of October 2017.

If you want to learn more about the activities of the Cascade Centennial Chapter, contact Chapter Secretary: [Mark Griswold](#).

Fort Vancouver

At a recent meeting, Major General Scott Spellmon was the guest speaker. MGEN Spellmon assumed command of the Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on July 16, 2015. In this position, he oversees an annual program of more than \$3 billion in civil works, environmental restoration and military construction in more than a dozen states, primarily within the Columbia and Missouri river basins.

He shared his story of catching the winning touchdown in the 1985 Cotton Bowl, against Univ. of Illinois. His commands have included leading Marines in Afghanistan and told of the 185,000 soldiers deployed right now in 140 different countries. As head of the Northwest Division of the Army Corps of Engineers, he is responsible for the area from St. Louis to Seattle – 17 states in all – with 1,500 miles of levees, 29 hydroelectric plants and 588 recreation sites. The Corps was founded in June of 1775 to build forts during the War for Independence. From that immediate need they expanded into what we know today. He then shared that they are actively involved in construction projects in Colorado, Seattle and Portland Veterans Affairs hospitals. Many members asked questions and genuinely enjoyed the General's visit. A certificate of appreciation was presented to the General by Pres. Van Houten.



Major General Scott Spellmon and Chapter President Neal Van Houten

Flag Certificates have been ordered and the suggestion of giving one to every fire department in Vancouver was suggested and received well. Vaughn Henderson, chapter Flag Chairman, will present the results of his contact the Fire Department. Also, the Ridgefield Parade of Flags was mentioned as a great place to make the chapter's presence known and felt.

Recent awards presented include:

- ❖ ***Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and Certificate*** - Presented to John Graves, Battle Ground, WA Police Department's Officer of the Year in 2016. The Medal is given to a person who has served with distinction and devotion in the field of law enforcement. John is a former US Marine and has been with the Battle Ground Police Department since 1999. He has been both a SWAT Team member and Field Training Officer and is currently a department firearms instructor. John is one of the "good guys," a neighbor and a man committed to protect and serve his community.
- ❖ ***Military Service Certificate to Chapter Members*** - In grateful recognition for service in the United States Armed Forces certificates were proudly presented to the following Compatriots:
 - Harry Percy Justice – United States Coast Guard
 - Jeffrey Caldwell Lightburn – United States Air Force
 - George Robert Vernon – United States Army
 - Timothy Martin Van Houten – United States Army
- ❖ ***Bronze Good Citizenship Award and Certificate*** – The SAR recognizes an outstanding high school student in his or her school considering both citizenship and scholarship. The Ft. Vancouver chapter of the SAR presented the Medal to Ricky Torres, graduating senior at Seton Catholic High School in Vancouver. Ricky's scholastic Grade Point Average is 4.19, he is President of his school's chapter of the National Honor Society, Captain of his school's track team and has donated over 200-hours of Community Service throughout his high school career. Ricky will be attending the University of Portland on a US Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) scholarship. His family was in attendance to witness his receipt of the honor. Ricky is an extraordinary young man and the product of an extraordinary family. The SAR recognized the highest ranked Young Marine of the 108 youth in the Lewis and Clark Young Marine unit, Young Marine Sergeant Logan Nelson. He has been a Young Marine for seven-years and has given more than 345-hours of community service, participated in 15-honor guards, 115-hours of drug demand reduction training and is a certified instructor in the program. Additionally, he has also raised funds to participate in two church missionary trips to build homes for families in Mexico, is active in five sports and maintains a strong scholastic record. His unit commander writes of him: "While I expect to see many great things from Young Marine Sergeant Logan Nelson, he has already proven to me and his peers that he is setting the example for all other youth to follow and has brought great credit upon himself and the Young Marines.
- ❖ ***Flag Certificate*** - Was presented to Mike and Crystal Harden of Battle Ground, WA and to Battalion Chief Drew Tracy of the Vancouver Fire Department, Station #4.
- ❖ ***Continental Army Enlisted Man's Uniform Buttons*** – Are replicas of the original uniform buttons worn by enlisted members of the Continental Army from 117 to 1783. They were presented to chapter members who have talked to us about their Patriot Ancestor and/or submitted a ancestor biography to the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. They are: Tom Boardman, Gary Clark, Harry Justice, David Overmyer and Dick Swart.
- ❖ ***Bronze Junior ROTC (JROTC) Medal and Certificate*** - Was presented by Gary Clark, Chapter Vice-President earlier in the month at high school JROTC ceremonies to Taylor Harpe at Battle Ground High School and to Phillip Moulton at Prairie High School. Both schools have outstanding programs and remarkable Cadet Corps full of accomplished students. Numerous national and local organizations recognized various Cadets for their individual achievements.



*GW Chapter Guest Speaker Mike
Hutchins*

If you want to learn more about the activities of the Ft. Vancouver Chapter, contact Chapter Secretary: [George Vernon](#).

George Washington

At a recent meeting, Chapter Vice-President Dale Harshman introduced our guest speaker, Mike Hutchins, who presented “Colonial Militias - 1607-1774.” Mr. Hutchins, who was in period dress, began his presentation with a timeline of his own family history that in itself is littered with former military personnel from the Colonial States. This presentation was given in detail, based upon years of research.

Vice President Harshman also has updated the Chapter regarding the Knight Essay Contest. Additionally, Dale voiced his concerns on how future history will be remembered while much of it is being erased today, for example, the removal of Civil War monuments. Dale states, “These great people are only totally being remembered for some negative aspects instead of what contributions they gave our nation overall.”

If you want to learn more about the activities of the George Washington Chapter, contact: Chapter Secretary [Chris Fridley](#).

Mid-Columbia

Pasco had a significant Memorial Day celebration this year with several events, from May 24th through 30th. Compatriot Kelly Schultz participated at the Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall display. Compatriot Brian Smith also attended. Kelly talked to people about SAR and added a couple of people to our friends List. The Prosser Scottish Fest was held on June 3rd this year. Thanks go to Compatriot John Tipton for getting us registered this year! John was joined by Compatriots Larry and Kelly who manned our information table all day. Ken and Carol Powe attended for a few hours and Carol took several pictures during their “opening” ceremonies. Richard Roddy and friend also stopped by for a few hours. The event scheduled Color Guard had to cancel at the last minute so we agreed to fill in to Post the Colors.

If you want to learn more about the activities of the Mid-Columbia Chapter, contact Chapter Secretary: [Larry Flint](#).

Seattle

No report was received. If you want to learn more about the activities of the Seattle Chapter, contact Chapter Secretary: [Craig M. Lawson](#).



Mid-Columbia Chapter Color Guard at the Prosser Scottish Fest

Spokane

The Chapter continues to be VERY busy (which is a good thing in our Society). Mike Bendickson, age 9, was sworn into the Youth SAR. His grandfather is the Spokane Registrar, Compatriot Mike Moore. After swearing him in, he put on a program entitled, The History of the Blacksmith in the Revolutionary War. After watching a show on TV "Forged in Steel" he and his father started forging items from the colonial era and the time of the American Revolution. They have produced a Pike, several tomahawks, a fork and spoon and several knives for Chapter members.

Compatriot Greg Riehl presented the SAR JROTC medal to Kyle Abramamson of Wellpinit High School. Wellpinit is the only Native American JROTC school in Washington State. You may notice the yellow streak in Kyle's hair. The school does that to honor the students who qualify for the State Track Tournament.

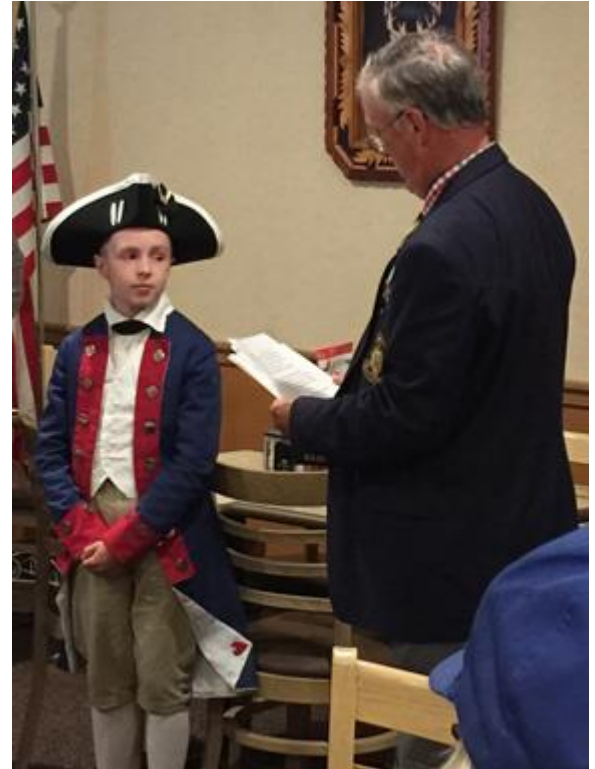
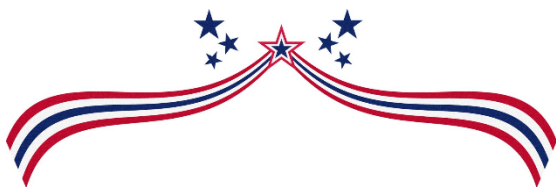
Compatriots Dale Ryan, Lane Elliott and Stan Wills recently presented flag pins to 101 new citizens from 41 countries. They were assisted by the four DAR chapters and one Sons of Union soldiers from Spokane. Afterwards, cookies and punch were served as each new citizen was assisted with signing up to vote.

The chapter's color guard have participated in the following Eastern Washington events:

- ❖ DAR State Conference in Spokane
- ❖ Fairfield Flag Day Parade
- ❖ New Citizen Ceremony
- ❖ Lilac Veterans Day Parade
- ❖ Spangle Day Parade
- ❖ Dedication of a new monument for a Civil War General Tannatt and wife (Both DAR & SAR)

If you want to learn more about the activities of the Spokane Chapter, contact Chapter Secretary:

[Dennis Shaw](#).



Compatriot Mike Bendickson being sworn into Youth SAR



Compatriot Greg Riehl and Cadet Kyle Abramamson of Wellpinit High School

Where Will Tomorrow's 'Sons of Liberty' Come From?

Reprinted from Summer 2017 SAR Magazine



"Freedom is never more than one-generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream.

It must be fought for, protected and handed on for them to do the same, or one-day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States, where men were free."

President Ronald Reagan

By supporting the NSSAR programs and Center for Advancing America's Heritage, we are enhancing our ability to provide educational programs that will pass on the values and principles of America's founding to the next generation of Americans ... the generation that will produce tomorrow's Sons (and Daughters) of Liberty. Our efforts can and do make a difference. Your support is vital to making our message heard. The SAR Foundation asks for your continued support.

Checks may be made payable to the SAR Foundation and mailed to:

809 West Monroe Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Or you can donate online using your debit or credit card at:
www.sarfoundation.org/donate.htm.

The SAR Foundation is recognized by the IRS as a 501c(3) non-profit organization. All donations are fully tax deductible.

National Recognition for Our Newsletter

The Editor

The Washington Trail was awarded the 2017 Jennings H. Flathers Award as the best small state society (less than 500 members) news publication. To extend this winning streak, I need the active participation of the readership. As we move into fall and winter, chapters will once again start meeting. I NEED the chapter Secretaries to provide content of what's taking place around the state society and reports for the various committees. This is the only way we can go for two consecutive awards.

The Washington Trail

Greg Emerson, Editor

Washington State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

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Renton, WA 98058

<https://www.WashingtonSARtoday.org>

DID YOU KNOW...

You can help promote SAR recruiting at your local library?

Print a few copies of the Washington Trail and ask to place them with other special interest flyers



Left to Right - Compatriots Lane Elliot, Stan Wills and Dale Ryan pose with new citizens at a recent citizenship ceremony in Spokane