



Kansas Society Sons of the American Revolution, a Patriotic, Historical and Educational Non-Profit Organization

116th Annual Conference: A Tribute to Veterans

The Kansas Society SAR 116th Annual Conference was a tribute to veterans. Throughout Saturday, events remembered veterans with a special thought for our patriot ancestors.

Friday evening was a special treat at the historic Uptown Theater. Compatriots, spouses and guests were entertained with a performance of RING OF FIRE, a tribute to the music of Johnny Cash.

The Memorial Service, where recently departed compatriots are honored, took a new direction and one which was very well received. The service took place outside at the Veterans Memorial Park; this is believed to be the first of a kind service for KSSAR.



Congressman Todd Tiahrt of the Kansas Fourth District, at right, receives the NSSAR Silver Good Citizenship medal from KSSAR Pres. Peter Grassl for his assistance in obtaining funding for "Operation Ensign" of the Washington Chapter.

The luncheon was another tribute to those who go the extra-distance. Two Youth Programs winners were honored. Susannah Carter was awarded first place for the Knight Essay Contest and David Pfortmiller for the King Eagle Scout Scholarship. Both
continued



Memorial Service wreath with KSSAR Pres. Peter Grassl, NSSAR Secretary General David Appleby, and Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer.

A wreath with sunflowers was set in place by NSSAR Secretary General David Appleby and KSSAR President Peter Grassl as Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer, SCD VPG Barnett, and the audience observed. At the direction of KSSAR Chaplain Brian Vazquez, in a RW period frock, the Color Guard placed an American flag into the wreath to symbolize each deceased compatriot. The end of the ceremony was highlighted by the presentation of a flag certificate to the Mayor of Wichita.

Upcoming Events

- May 2-4, 2008** – KSDAR State Conference
- May 3, 2008** – KSSAR Board of Governors' Meeting, 10AM (Committee meetings 9:00 AM or as called by chairmen), Best Western, Hospitality House, 3021 W. Highway 50, Emporia, 620-342-7587.
- May 3, 2008** – Ladies Auxiliary meeting.
- May 14-17, 2008** – National Genealogical Society, Hyatt/Crown Center, KCMO. NSSAR will have a booth, need men to staff it. Contact Peter Grassl at 913-268-5469.
- Jun 30, 2008** – Deadline for articles and pictures for the next issue of *The Liberty Bell*.
- Jul 5-9, 2008** – 118th Annual Congress, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Sacramento CA.
- Aug 2, 2008** – KSSAR Board of Governors' Meeting.
- Aug 22-23 2008** – South Central District Meeting, Biltmore Oklahoma Hotel, Oklahoma City.
- Nov 1, 2008** – KSSAR Board of Governors' Meeting.
- Mar 20-21, 2009** – 117th KSSAR Annual Conference, Topeka KS.

The Liberty Bell

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Mike Frisbie, Editor
1508 Ash St.
Pleasanton, KS 66075
913-226-5150
E-mail: mike@async.net
Peter Grassl, President KSSAR
Timothy E. Peterman, Address List
Kes Kesler, Editor Emeritus
Chapter Presidents, Secretaries and
Committee Chairmen, Reporters

MAY BOG MEETING

The Board of Governors will meet on May 3, 2008, at the Best Western Inn, 3021 W Highway 50, in Emporia. Committee meetings begin at 9:00 am and the Board will commence at 10 am. Lunch is \$10.

BOG reports from chapter presidents and committee chairmen are due Monday, April 28. Please complete and send them to Peter Grassl at pogsar@gmail.com.

LADIES AUXILIARY

The Ladies Auxiliary will meet concurrent with BOG session on May 3, 2008. There will be a short business meeting. Lunch will be at the Best Western.

The May Service Project pertains to the basket for the Congress in Sacramento. Please bring "Made in Kansas" items. Due to transportation issues, items should not be too heavy or too large.

The program, weather permitting, will be a visit to Toad Hollow Daylily & Iris Farm. This is a two-acre landscaped rural garden where plants may be purchased. There is no admission fee. You may learn more by visiting http://www.flyoverpeople.net/galleries/toad_hollow/index.html.

PLEDGE TO THE SAR

We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.

*** FREEDOM RINGS***

By Peter O. Grassl
President, KSSAR



Who is your favorite personality of the Revolutionary War era? What makes them special? Did they illustrate qualities which would be relevant today?

As we "remember our obligations to our forefathers," I believe we should look for one or more Revolutionary War heroes to serve as a role model to guide us today. How can the SAR help instill those characteristics in young Americans?

Take the Americanism Poster contest 2007 theme as an example. "Molly Pitcher" was a woman who happened to accompany her husband to the battle area. After he was injured, she stepped forward to take his position behind the cannon. The 5th grade students who participated in the contest learned about a woman who could serve as a role model for young girls and boys. Plus, their parents learned about the SAR and Molly Pitcher.

My Revolutionary War hero is Henry Knox. He was a man with a humble beginning; he worked hard to become a major-general and, eventually, secretary of war. The titles are recognition of his hard work.

What impresses me is his perseverance to get a job done. Whatever the objective, he overcame incredible obstacles. One of his first major tasks was moving the large guns from Fort Ticonderoga to Dorchester Heights in Boston. They were dragged across an almost frozen lake and over mountains in the winter. (Google says it is 203 miles). The result of his efforts prompted the British to leave the port.

The other critical act which impresses me was his efforts to cross the Delaware River. He rounded up a number of boats, organized the crews, and moved 2500 troops in the middle of the night of December 25, 1776. We know his efforts resulted in American troops moving down the east side of the river where they routed the Hessians from a Christmas hangover.

I am attracted to these two events because they made a difference in the outcome of the Revolutionary War. We take for granted Knox's efforts but cannot comprehend how difficult it was to work in the middle of winter. That only doubled the challenge.

But what if Henry Knox didn't step forward? What if Knox had said "I can't do it...can you find someone else General Washington?" What if the commanding general asked several soldiers and he received the same answer - where would we be today?

I recall a program by former Vice President General, South Central District, Dick Robinett in which he talked about "I can't." One of my favorite parts of his presentation was Paul Revere telling his mother that he couldn't get up the day of his famous ride because he was too tired. Sure, it's only story but we know that stuff happens all the time. I'm too...tired...busy... _____ just fill in the blank.

If we are to perpetuate the memories of our ancestors through the purposes of this "historical, educational, and patriotic" society, then compatriots must step up. There is a role for every compatriot in the Kansas Society. When each man takes responsibility for a small piece of SAR programs, then we, the Kansas Society, can make a difference in the lives of our fellow Kansans.

Hey, I'm no Henry Knox. But I do appreciate his tenacity: one pushes ahead against the flow, uphill, or through swift currents to convey the message of our patriotic ancestors. If you don't, who will?

116th Annual Conference *continued*

read their essays to an attentive audience.

Congressman Todd Tiahrt, Kansas 4th Congressional District, was awarded the SAR's Silver Good Citizenship medal for his efforts to secure funds for Operation Ensign.

The business session was kept to a minimum. Reports were quickly scanned and any pertinent comments, which were few, were offered. The key piece of work was the election of National Trustee Edgar Grover of Hutchinson, Alternate Trustee David Comer of Overland Park, Delegate at Large Martin Klotzbach of Topeka, and Kansas Heritage Fund John Saylor (2011).

The afternoon session continued a discussion of raising approximately \$10,000 for the 2013 Congress. A dues surcharge of \$3 per year for five years was authorized and may be added depending on other fund raising activities. This was followed by a Participation Forum. The topics covered were included a discussion on changing the format of the Annual Conference on the off year (when offices are not changed). Perhaps the Conference would be a one-day event with a Memorial Service, a quick business meeting, a local tour or Participation forum, and a lunch. Another topic was developing leadership. It begins with a welcoming handshake when a prospect wants to learn more to asking for help on small assignments. Then there was a potpourri of topics: a greater exchange of chapter newsletters, another Youth Programs update at the August BOG meeting, create and judge chapter scrapbooks, and for newsletters to be posted on web pages in order to drive traffic. The Participation Forum is one aspect of the Annual Conference which adds value for those who attend.

The closing banquet focused again on a tribute to Veterans through the Operation Ensign program. Kansas DAR State Regent Shirley Coupal represented her society at the banquet. Secretary General David Appleby offered encouraging remarks about the state of the Society.

Henry Leavenworth President Oliver West was presented with a State of Kansas flag for the chapter's collection. The flag was secured from the Secretary of State by Martin Klotzbach.

As an "off year," only a few medals and awards were presented. Earlier in the day, Barnett Ellis received a "Kansas Patriot" award for his continuing and tireless work for the SAR. Keith Lindgren was awarded a Bronze Citizenship medal for his extensive work promoting the Americanism contest. Douglas Brady, Washington president (host chapter), was presented with a Bronze Citizenship oak leaf cluster for his efforts organizing the flawless Conference.

Then there was an award for a significant contribution to the SAR and for his work for the benefit of the citizens of Wichita. Reported elsewhere are comments about Veterans Memorial Park. This is a block long affair alongside the Arkansas River. It is really a great asset to the City of Wichita. There is one man who can be pointed to for sheparding this facility: Philip Wayne Blake or "Phil" as he likes to be known.

The highest award which can be presented by a state society was pinned on Phil Blake. The SAR's Patriot Medal went to a man who has brought very positive attention to the SAR and who has made a difference for the citizens of Wichita. One man can make a difference.



Susannah Carter (middle right), winner of the Knight Essay contest, her mother and home-school teacher, Rhonda Carter (middle left), KSSSAR Pres. Peter Grassl (left), and Doug Brady, Knight Essay Committee Chairman.



Eagle Scout David Pfortmiller, winner of the King Eagle Scout Scholarship, flanked by KSSSAR Pres. Peter Grassl and Committee Chairman Bob McFarlin

ANOTHER NEW CHAPTER

The Henry Leavenworth Chapter of Leavenworth became the 11th chapter in the Kansas Society SAR. The first official meeting took place 28 February at which time the first three officers were elected. Oliver West, president; Brooks Lyles, VP; and, Jason Auvil is secretary-treasurer and chaplain.

The chapter selected that name because Henry Leavenworth was the son of a Revolutionary patriot. His father was Jesse Leavenworth which is the name of the DAR chapter in Leavenworth.

Interest and membership numbers grew over the past year through genealogy workshops and involvement in community events.

WINNING POSTER



The KSSSAR poster judging for 2007 was held at the state conference in Wichita. The winner, representing DX Chapter is Sydney Jordan of Santa Fe Trail School in Overland Park. Her poster will be entered in the national judging to be held at the National Congress in July in Sacramento. The KSSSAR state award plaque will be presented to the school in Sydney's honor at an assembly this spring.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Peter O. Grassl

Appointed Bob McFarlin to complete Bob Sjolin's term as chair of the Eagle Scout essay program.

Met with Shirley Coupal, Kansas DAR State Regent to discuss "Finder Form" and to invite her to the 116th KSSSAR annual conference. Wrote a story about the Finders Form for the KS DAR newsletter.

Presented genealogy workshop to the Flint Hills Genealogy Club on Nov. 8; Tim Peterman assisted. Received a \$150 honorarium which was donated to the KSSSAR Heritage Fund.

Led a meeting of the prospective Leavenworth Chapter on January 22, 2008. The December 2007 meeting was cancelled due to weather, but it resulted in an announcement on TV stations, which mentioned the SAR in Leavenworth.

VICE PRESIDENT – Martin Klotzbach

Represented the SAR at a planning meeting of the Society for the Preservation of Memorial Day on Nov. 26. Introduced Barbara Dale, DAR, to the organization as they wish to participate.

Represented the SAR in uniform at the US Naturalization Ceremonies at the Dole Federal Building in Topeka. Handed out information to the new citizens.

AMERICANISM – Keith F. Lindgren

A total of 5682 points have been accumulated for the Kansas Society Americanism Contest. The points breakdown by chapter is: Bennington 60, Charles Robinson 180, Delaware Crossing 2211, Fort Hays 100, Fort Scott 60, Konza Prairie 1106, Monticello 355, Sons of the Plains 215, Thomas Jefferson 580, Washington 815.

AMERICANISM POSTER CONTEST – Dick Nelson

The winner of the KSSSAR poster contest is Sydney Jordan of Santa Fe Trail School in Overland Park.

Poster contests were held by the Delaware Crossing, Monticello, and Konza Prairie Chapters.

The 2009 Americanism Poster contest theme will be "Paul Revere's Ride".

CHAPTER NEWSLETTERS – Kes Kesler

The editors of their chapters' newsletters were reminded to mail in their best two copies of the year to the national newsletter chairman, George Thurmond, in order to be judged and the results announced at the annual congress in July.

The best two copies of the KSSSAR *Liberty Bell*, the Sons of the Plains chapter newsletter, the Thomas Jefferson chapter newsletter, and the Washington chapter newsletter have been sent to National.

George Thurmond, national newsletter chairman, strongly suggested at the Fall Leadership meeting that he be added to the chapter's and state society's mailing list. Please enter his name and address on your chapter's newsletter mailing list. His address is: NSSAR Newsletter Committee, 120 Cannonade Drive, Alpharetta, GA 30004.

COLOR GUARD – Fred Kaffenberger

The Color Guard participated in the following events: Ottawa Parade (Fry, Klotzbach and Kaffenberger); Liberty Memorial (Kesler, Grover and Kaffenberger); Vietnam Me-

morial (Kesler, Grover and Kaffenberger); Shawnee Veterans Memorial (Kesler, Grover, Goslin, Fry, Kaffenberger and Amos); Leavenworth Parade (Cox and Kaffenberger); Veterans Hospital (Peterman, Peterman and Kaffenberger); Shawnee Mission Festival (Kaffenberger); Slemmons Funeral (Kaffenberger); November Monticello Chapter (Goslin); and C.A.R. Corp of Discovery (Kaffenberger).

COLOR GUARD SUPPLEMENTAL – Kes Kesler

We can't compliment our Color Guard Commander, Fred Kaffenberger, too much for the service he is performing.

CONGRESS 2013 – Peter O. Grassl

Peter Grassl met with Richard Bryant of MOSSAR to transfer the proposed medal for consideration and approval at their Jan 26 meeting.

Future meetings with Richard Bryant will start targeting a hotel for the opening reception and determining an estimate of the cost, which will determine how much needs to be raised by each Society.

EAGLE PROGRAM – Bob McFarlin

Eagle Scout David Pfortmiller was selected winner of the King Eagle Scout Scholarship. The following chapters submitted entries: Charles Robinson, Delaware Crossing, and Monticello.

Chapters in eastern Kansas have received an OK from the Heart of America Council (BSA) to include information on the SAR scholarship program in their e-mail newsletter to the units. We need to see if we can advertise with the other councils this way. Information could be sent out in August (Troop Planning), September and November.

ESSAY CONTEST – Douglas Brady

Susannah Carter is the winner of the KSSSAR Knight Essay contest. Entries were received from the following chapters: Konza Prairie, Delaware Crossing, and Monticello.

All chapters are encouraged to submit their chapter's Essay Chairman's name and contact information after the annual KSSSAR conference but no later than July of each year.

GENEALOGIST – Timothy E. Peterman

The spreadsheet for tracking prospect and application progress is complete. As of Jan. 2008, the spreadsheet contains 332 names and addresses, with assigned chapter and sponsor and with columns to track progress. A new prospect is added every time I receive an inquiry or learn about a prospect. The assigned sponsors are asked quarterly for a progress report. Status categories for prospects are: "Applied" (app. submitted to state membership secretary), "Complete" (app. complete & sent to prospect for signature & check), "Active" (prospect has worked on app. since last BOG), "Inactive" (prospect hasn't worked on app. since last BOG), "Unknown" (no report has been received since the last BOG), "Hold" (prospect is interested but is deferring to a later day), and "Removed" (prospect has demonstrated that there is no longer any interest). Removed prospects are kept in the database in hopes that we can rekindle their interest. Of the

Reports

332 names of prospects, 24 have applied for membership since November. Once a prospect is marked "Applied", he is kept in the Prospect Master worksheet until the next BOG report; then his record is moved to the Applied worksheet.

The second copy of "From Kansas to Concord" is being distributed to prospects.

Outreach booths were staffed at Ottawa on Nov. 10. Genealogy workshops were held at Emporia on Nov. 8, Ottawa on Nov. 28, and Fort Scott on Jan. 12.

HANDBOOK – Roger Johnson

The KSSSAR handbook has been converted from PDF format to MS Word format to enable updating of the handbook.

ORATIONS CONTEST – Lyle Gibson

Chapters have been contacted requesting updates on potential or participating contestants. Chapter events should be held in March; the State event is at the May BOG.

A motion was passed at the February BOG to establish an at-large district for contest participants who are outside a 75-mile radius of any and all state chapters. The at-large district would be administered by the state chairman.

THE LIBERTY BELL – Mike Frisbie

725 newsletters were printed on glossy enamel at a cost of \$635.56. 710 newsletters were mailed from the Shawnee Mission Post Office on Jan. 28, at a cost of \$106.16. The balance in the mailing account prior to this mailing was \$260.65. The mailing permit is current through Feb. 3, 2009.

The glossy version of newsletters and accompanying inserts increases the newsletter thickness requiring the use of labels and increases the costs and time-frame. I am planning to change the style of folding from tri-fold to bi-fold to reduce the thickness and eliminated the need for labels.

TREASURER – David Comer

The collection of the 2008 dues went well. Thanks to all the chapters and to Tim Peterman.

WEBMASTER – Robert Capps

Information on the website has been received from Dick Hodgeman. The website content has been reviewed for completeness and accuracy. The look and feel of the new website has been designed. The launch of the new site is awaiting additional information.

Editor's note: The new site has been launched.

LADIES AUXILIARY – Cathy Grassl

40 gift bags were assembled for Leavenworth Veterans Hospital at the November BOG. The gift bags were delivered to the veterans by Wanda and Fred Kaffenberger.

Worked on planning of Ladies Auxiliary events for the SAR annual meeting during the interim. Will have a presentation from WIN, Women's Initiative Network, and a female re-enactor impersonating a man during the Revolutionary War, and a tour of the Treasures World museum.

Supplies are being collected for a gift box for the 4/3 CAB at Camp Striker, Baghdad.



The Fort Scott Chapter participated in ROTC Spring 2008 Awards Banquet on April 3, 2008, at Pittsburg State University. President Gale Beck (left) and VP Darren Couch (right) presented a certificate and medal to Cadet Andrew Webster.

2013 CONGRESS

Progress continues to be made towards the preparation of a formal proposal for the joint Kansas Society - Missouri Society hosting of the NSSAR 2013 Congress in Kansas City.

A key feature of the Congress is the host reception on Saturday evening. This event would be hosted and paid by both Societies. Based on the experiences and projections of other host societies, the estimated cost of the reception would be approximately \$20,000 or \$10,000 for each Society.

What are the possible sources of funds for the reception?

- Compatriot contributions: men could contribute amounts or make pledges. The goal would be to have this amount to \$10,000 by December 31, 2008.
- Supplemental dues increase: by action of the men at the Annual Conference, dues could be increased by up to \$3 per year through 2013. This temporary dues increase would cease after 2013 or when the goal is reached.

Hotels in the Kansas City, MO, area are being interviewed. The proposed Congress medal will be presented for review to the Awards and Medals committee at the Congress in Sacramento this year.

AROUND THE SOCIETY

- The National Genealogical Society is holding its 2008 convention in Kansas City at the Hyatt/Crown Center on May 14-17. The NSSAR will have a booth and need men to staff it. Contact Peter Grassl at 913-268-5469 or pogsar@gmail.com.
- This year's South Central District Meeting is scheduled for Aug. 22-23 in Oklahoma City at the Biltmore Oklahoma Hotel. For more information and registration form, check the web site, www.ksssar.org or www.KansasSAR.com.
- If spouse, sister, mother, grandmother is a member of the Kansas DAR, ask them to read Peter Grassl's story on page 2 of their current newsletter. He outlines the "DAR Finder Form" and how the DAR can win \$500.
- The Kansas Society nomination of I. Barnett Ellis for the Minute Man award has been approved. Compt. Ellis will receive this prestigious award at the 118th Congress in Sacramento and he will be escorted by Minute Man recipient Edgar Grover of the Sons of the Plains Chapter. Please send your congratulations to Barney.

* CHAPTER NEWS *

BENNINGTON CHAPTER (Salina)

George W. Easter, President

*Meets at noon in Salina Senior Center, 249 North 9th Street,
(Dates and Times as announced)*

The January chapter meeting was cancelled due to bad weather. All chapter members' dues has been collected. The Chapter is working with a local high school to secure a contestant for the Orations contest.

CHARLES ROBINSON CHAPTER (Lawrence)

Jeffrey H. Richards, President

*Meets 3rd Monday of September, November, January, March,
May, 6:00 PM, Perkins Restaurant, 1711 23rd St, Lawrence*

DELAWARE CROSSING CHAPTER

(Kansas City & Johnson County)

Timothy Peterman, President

*Meets 3rd Saturday monthly for 9:00 AM Breakfast
Holiday Inn, 87th & Highway 69, Overland Park*

November Chapter meeting: Col. Jeffrey R. Witsken gave a presentation on Fort Leavenworth's involvement in Iraq and in the War on Terror. Ginny Klein was presented with the Medal of Heroism for her actions in saving the life of a chimney sweep who was electrocuted on July 12, 2007.

December Chapter meeting: The Blue Valley High School "Classic Sound" provided musical entertainment for the Christmas brunch. Nandini Sarma was presented a medal for being the third place winner of the Knight Essay contest at National. Compt. Charles Hyer was inducted as a new member. Supplemental certificates were presented to Compts. Phil Barbour and Robert Capps. Membership certificates were mailed to Compts. Charles Floyd, Matthew Floyd, and Martin Aaron.

January Chapter meeting: Compt. Richard Cox presented the program "A B-29 Goes Down in Georgia" about his uncle and namesake, Richard E. Cox, and a number of others who perished when a B-29 on a secret test mission in 1948 crashed near Waycross, GA. Compt. Cox took part in a 2007 trip to Georgia, in which families were involved in locating and placing a permanent marker at the crash site. Compt. William Ferleman was inducted as a new member.

Elections were held on Jan. 19, 2008. The 2008-2009 Chapter Officers are: Robert N. Capps, President; Richard H. Wright, Vice President Programs; Richard A. Cox, Secretary; Dennis D. Nelson, Treasurer; Don Ireland, Registrar-Genealogist. Kyle Kesler was elected to a three-year term as trustee of the Kesler Youth Endowment Fund.

FORT HAYS CHAPTER (Hays)

Ralph Burns, President

Date, Time and Place of Meetings as announced

The Fort Hays chapter met on Saturday, April 12, 2008. Peter Grassl presented "After Induction - Now What?" a PowerPoint presentation which reviews history, structure, and activities of the SAR. Additional leadership positions were filled. Ralph Burns, Jr. continues as president, Car-

roll Christian as VP, Mike Stamm as treasurer, and John McCabe is secretary. The next chapter meeting is May 8.

A genealogy workshop was held at 1:00 PM. Assisting were KSSSAR VP Martin Klotzbach and Genealogist Tim Peterman.

FORT SCOTT CHAPTER (Ft. Scott)

Gale D. Beck, President

*Meets 2nd Saturday in January, April, July and October
At 10:00 AM at Fort Scott Community College*

The January 12 Chapter meeting was held at Fort Scott Community College and included a Genealogy Seminar that was open to the public. The Seminar was presented by Peter Grassl with assistance from Barnett Ellis and Timothy Peterman. There were 19 in attendance, including local members from the DAR and the Genealogical Society.

The April 12 Chapter meeting was held at Fort Scott Community College. Chapter officers were elected; they are: Gale Beck, President; Darren Couch, Vice President; and Craig Hart, Secretary/Treasurer.

The Chapter participated in the ROTC Spring 2008 Awards Banquet on April 3 at Pittsburg State University and presented a certificate and medal to Cadet Andrew Webster.

KONZA PRAIRIE CHAPTER (Manhattan)

Donald D. Hettinger, President

Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM

Meadowlark Hills Retirement Center, 2121 Meadowlark Rd.

The Chapter will give special SAR recognition to 13 new Eagle Scouts in the Pawnee District at the 2008 Baden-Powell Banquet on February 10.

One-hour "Living History" presentations on the life and times of our soldiers in the Revolutionary War were made to six (4th/5th grade) classes. One of the schools is participating in the poster contest. The Chapter has made a significant 'breakthrough' with the Living History program in the schools. This has taken three years to accomplish.

MONTICELLO CHAPTER (Shawnee)

David Comer, President

*Meets 3rd Thursday monthly for 6:00 PM dinner
and 7:00 PM meeting at Yarborough's Family Restaurant*

November 15 Chapter meeting: Compt. Charles Goslin gave a program on "The Pennsylvania Navy". David L. Comer was installed as the new Chapter President.

December 13 Chapter meeting: The Chapter celebrated its first anniversary. Dennis Owens spoke on "How Washington Created the American Nation at Valley Forge". Robert Mellott, Jackson Hedrick, Robert Bowman, Bruce Bowman and Craig Dillavou were inducted as new members.

January 17 Chapter meeting: The Chapter started the new year with 33 members. Compt. Phil Barbour gave a program on "The Pilgrims - First Settlers at Cape Cod". Eagle Scout Jonathan Harms read his winning essay and was presented a certificate and \$100 cash award. Patrick Hosty, Douglas McDuff, James McDuff and Brian Mellott were inducted as new members.



VP Mark Naughton, Pres. Gary Groh, and Cliff Meloan (right) with eight of the Pawnee District Eagle Scouts recognized by the Konza Prairie Chapter, Feb. 10, 2008.

KONZA PRAIRIE CHAPTER

The Konza Prairie Chapter was chartered at Manhattan, KS, on August 2, 1997. The name was taken from the Konza Prairie Natural Prairie Park to the south. Our Founder and first President is Robert Brandenburg. From the beginning we have had low membership and meeting attendance due to this area being a highly "mobile" community of university and military professionals.

By 2002 the chapter began to languish due to poor attendance and was basically defunct by the spring of 2003. After considerable prodding by then KSSAR President Barney Ellis, we finally convened a reorganizational meeting in December, 2004, with only five members present, and a new slate of officers was installed. It was a critical point of our new beginning. We arranged to meet at the same place, day and time each month, at the Meadowlark Hills Retirement Center. This was important in order to accommodate elderly members unable to move around town freely.

Our top priority was to involve more of our members in our meetings so that meaningful activities could be undertaken; the second priority was to actively recruit new members. We now have 28 members, five of which are Life Members, but we still only get an average of 6 members at our regular meetings. Every member that attends has at least one continuing program responsibility to help keep things moving, and these six have dedicated themselves to implementing the SAR's youth programs.

Since reorganization we have gradually increased the Chapter's involvement in many of the activities sponsored by the SAR. Some are listed below.

- Formed our own provisional Color Guard for local festivities and marched in the Manhattan Veteran's Day parade.
- Instituted our locally sponsored Eagle Scout recognition program presenting each Scout with the Eagle Scout medal and certificate.
- Developed our Chapter website, www.kpkssar.org, to help publicize our activities and attract new members.
- Encouraged our members to sponsor their own sons and grandsons into SAR, and enrolled six as youth members.
- Successfully reinstated the SAR grade-school Living History presentations. All presentations are made in full uniform with period muskets, which the students enjoy. Our team of Gary Groh and Cliff Meloan has visited 28 classes of 4th and 5th graders (or nearly 600 students) since October 2007. These presentations are a great way to increase students understanding of their American heritage.
- Started an "associate membership" classification for men who are interested in joining SAR, but have not 'proved up' on their lineage to the War.
- Worked with 14 area high schools to encourage students to become involved in the Orations and Essay contests. In 2007 our contestants placed first in the state Orations contest and second in the Essay contest; in 2008 our contestant placed second in the Knight's Essay.
- We routinely put reports of our meetings and activities in local newspapers.

SONS OF THE PLAINS CHAPTER (Hutchinson)

Robert D. Haneke, President

Meets 2nd Saturday at 9:00 AM September through May at Hutchinson Community College, Student Union, Walnut Room

On Dec. 19 Compt. Edgar Grover presented a framed copy of the Declaration of Independence to Mrs. Hulse's third grade class at Roosevelt Elementary School in McPherson.

THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAPTER (Topeka)

Brian Vazquez, President

Meets 2nd Saturday monthly except July & August for an 8:00 AM Breakfast at Aldersgate Village, 7220 S.W. Asbury Dr

The Chapter presented donations of soap, shampoo and other toiletries to the Colmery-O'Neil VA center.

A supplemental certificate for Robert Slemmons was presented to his widow, Dorothy, in Jan. 2008.

Certificates were mailed to new inductees, Michael Brenerman and Joseph Fleury.

The Chapter received the Avery Washburn award for membership renewals. The Chapter approved the creation of a life membership for the Chapter in Jan. 2008. The Chapter will receive a new flag closet as an Eagle Scout project.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER (Wichita Area)

Douglas Brady, President

Meets 2nd Saturday monthly except July & August at 11:30 AM at Hometown Buffet, 6820 West Central

At the November Chapter meeting, Compt. Thomas E. Smith provided members with an interesting pictorial history of his ancestors beginning with his Revolutionary Patriot.

In December the Chapter awarded the Annual Law Enforcement Award to Wichita Police Sgt Bruce W. Watts.

In January, the Chapter welcomed three new members, one of which was awarded posthumously and presented to his son who expressed an interest in joining. Chapter Officers were elected for 2008-10: William 'Bill' Carroll, President; Lawrence Skelton, Vice President; Gary R. Neal, Secretary/Treasurer; Douglas Brady, Chaplain; Everett E. Mulkey, Registrar.

The Chapter participated in the rededication of the Chapter's second "Operation Ensign" Project, the John Stevens Memorial Flag Pavilion at Veterans Memorial Park in Wichita.

Welcome to These New Compatriots of the Sons of the American Revolution!

Last	First	Middle	Address	City	St	Zip	NSSAR	Ks	Ch	Sponsor	Approved	Ancestor
Breneman	Robert	Michael	735 W 1st St	Junction City	KS	66442	170850	2614	KP	Ellis, IB	01/15/08	Melchior Breneman
Sloan	James	Marvin	1819 Lewis	Salina	KS	67401	170851	2615	BN	Ellis, IB	01/15/08	Christian Frantz
Frusher	Thomas	Albert	RR 1 Box 85	Ness City	KS	67560	170852	2616	FH	Ellis, IB	01/15/08	Christian Frantz
Westfall	Micahel	Dale	306 Mitchell Blvd	Weatherford	TX	76087	170952	2617	FH	Ellis, IB	01/30/08	William Graham
West	Oliver	Ilan, Jr.	108 Pine St	Leavenworth	KS	66048	170953	2618	Leav	Ellis, IB	01/30/08	Hanchrist Carlock
Mick	Thomas	Gene	5617 N Robinhood Ln	Kansas City	MO	64151	170954	2619	Leav	Ellis, IB	01/30/08	Peter Helphenstine
Coover	Alan	Dee	PO Box 943	Beeville	TX	78104	171109	2620	TJ	Coover, KW	02/20/08	John George Coover
Calvin	David	Allen	416 N 1st	Stockton	KS	67669	171147	2621	FH	Ellis, IB	02/25/08	Thomas King
Calvin	John	David	1020 N Bayshore	Wichita	KS	67212	171148	2622	WA	Ellis, IB	02/25/08	Thomas King
Bideau	Edwin	Hale, Jr.	102 S Main St	Buffalo	KS	66717	171149	2623	DX	Ellis, IB	02/25/08	John Hedrick
Bideau	Edwin	Hale, III	14 S Rutter Ave	Chanute	KS	66720	171150	2624	DX	Ellis, IB	02/25/08	John Hedrick
Bideau	Scott	Edwin	PO Box 880977	Steamboat Springs	CO	80488	171151	2625	DX	Ellis, IB	02/25/08	John Hedrick
Bideau	David	James	1820 Arolyn Dr	Chanute	KS	66720	171152	2626	DX	Ellis, IB	02/25/08	John Hedrick
Bideau	Heath	Tarpley	1820 Arolyn Dr	Chanute	KS	66720	171153	2627	DX	Ellis, IB	02/25/08	John Hedrick
Matthews	Robert	Cobbs, Jr.	10512 W 142nd St	Overland Park	KS	66221	171204	2628	MC	Ellis, IB	03/03/08	Charles Gwatkin
Cox	Clarence	Brown, III	400 Liberty Dr	McPherson	KS	67460	171205	2629	SP	Ellis, IB	03/03/08	Samuel Trask, Jr.
Sultz	David	Lee	9311 W 81st Ter	Overland Park	KS	66204	171259	2630	MC	Ellis, IB	03/11/08	Samuel Phipps, Sr.

SAR Youth Registrants (under 18)

Last	First	Middle	Address	City	St	Zip	Youth	Age	Ch	Sponsor	Approved	Ancestor
Warnick	Dylan	James	7609 Bradshaw	Shawnee	KS	66216	965	16	MC	Grassl, PO	12/17/07	Samuel Wear
Frusher	Thomas	William	RR 1 Box 85	Ness City	KS	67560	971	12	FH	Ellis, IB	01/15/08	Christian Frantz
Bideau	Adam	Carl	1820 Arolyn Dr	Chanute	KS	66720	999	17	DX	Ellis, IB	02/25/08	John Hedrick
Reimer	William	James	12529 S Acuff Ct	Olathe	KS	66062	1007	17	DX	Ellis, IB	03/03/08	William Donaldson

COMPATRIOTS' SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Last	First	Middle	NSSAR	Ks	Ch	Yrs	Anniversary
Symms	William	Forester	96554	903	SP	40	02/08/08
Wilbert	Dennis	Paul	96558	907	MAL	40	03/27/08
Beck	George	Warren	96563	912	DX	40	04/24/08
Seymour	Paul	A., Jr.	104926	1000	WA	35	04/17/08
Hanna	Gary	John	121818	1506	KP	25	03/08/08
Karnes	Gerald	Ray	121819	1507	BN	25	03/08/08
McClain	James	Russell	121936	1513	TJ	25	03/17/08
Reffner	Jack	Franklyn	130735	1790	WA	20	03/03/08
Iverson	Michael	Scott	130849	1791	MAL	20	03/21/08
Hollyman	Burnes	St. Patrick	140194	1980	MAL	15	02/09/08
Roupe	Mark	Steven	140249	1982	MAL	15	02/24/08
Yockey	Wendell	Eugene	140369	1985	TJ	15	03/05/08
Ellis	Michael	Shane	140536	1986	MAL	15	03/29/08
Hinchman	James	Madison	140562	1989	DX	15	03/30/08
Powers	Ramon	Sidney	140563	1990	TJ	15	03/30/08
James	Evan	Ralph	149928	2138	DX	10	03/11/08
Smith	Carl	Olipphant	149929	2139	TJ	10	03/11/08
Mahin	Duane	Ross	149956	2361	MAL	10	03/20/08
Todd	Geoffrey	Alan	159804	2344	WA	5	03/13/08
Martin	Robert	Earl	159805	2345	DX	5	03/13/08
Smail	William	Tyler	159806	2346	KP	5	03/13/08
Smail	Robert	Louis	159807	2347	KP	5	03/13/08
Auvil	Huey	Cline	159854	2588	Leav	5	03/14/08
Auvil	Huey	Jason Stein	159855	2589	Leav	5	03/14/08
Guesnier	Jerome	"Rene" Delano	160192	2358	SP	5	04/22/08
New	Robert	Dean	160193	2359	DX	5	04/22/08

PROVEN SUPPLEMENTAL ANCESTORS

Last	First	Middle	NSSAR	Ks	Ch	Approved	Ancestor
Barbour	Philip	Clarke	108715	1114	DX	12/17/07	Ephraim Hubbard

FAREWELL TO OUR DEPARTED COMPATRIOTS

Last	First	Middle	NSSAR	Ks	Ch	Member	Died
Chain	Philip	Wesley	103396	1298		1973	03/13/07*
Weber	Emery	Francis	165952	2478		2005	02/15/08+

*inactive
+demitted

UPDATE YOUR EMAIL

The Kansas Society recently sent an email to members, and a number bounced due to invalid emails. If you have changed your email recently, please send a correction to Membership Secretary Tim Peterman at tepter100@aol.com. If you want your email put on file for special announcements, please let Tim know.

The electronic version of *The Liberty Bell* is on the KSSAR web site at: <http://www.kssar.org/>. Click on "Documents".

The Kansas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
 11315 Applewood Dr.
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