



The Delaware Crossing Patriot

Kansas Society

Sons of the American Revolution

September 2017

Metro Kansas City's Oldest & Largest Chapter, Founded 1960

CALENDER

NEXT MEETING:

When: Sept 16

Where: Antioch Park, Shelter House No. 1,
6501 Antioch Rd., Merriam, KS (use
South Entrance). 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM

Reservations & Cost: For reservations, email
Secretary@dxsar.com or call Ken
Ludwig (913) 897-0379, As Soon As
Possible (needed for food planning).

Cost of Picnic: \$12.00

Program: Annual Picnic, Flag Retirement &
Memorial Ceremonies

COMING EVENTS

9/27-10/1 Fall Leadership, Louisville

9/13 DXSAR EC meeting, at Oak Park Library,
9500 Bluejacket St.

10/14-15 Shawnee Mission Festival

Editor's Note (Greg Millican)

Send news about your ancestor patriots, special events, career changes, history trips, etc., that may be included in the *Delaware Crossing Patriot*.

You may reach me at

Gregory.millican@gmail.com , and phone number
(913) 268-4932.



The President's Corner

By Stu Conrad

Hummm

This submission will likely be shorter than my usual verbose missive. Most of the day we were traveling from our Kansas home to Santa Fe, New Mexico where we are now. Most of the way I watched a number of emails roll in (including one from your editor reminding me about this submission) concerning the proper role of the "SAR-Officer" mailing list.

Per our President General, the list is to be used only for notifications to SAR officers of upcoming events and the like and should not be used for discussions about destruction or removal of Confederate war memorial statues and the like. It's use is expressly limited to the SAR's mission, which begs the question a bit. PG's admonition was (seemingly) heeded by most if not all. This is obviously a very hot topic and it caused me to again wonder how freedom of speech is being construed in this context. Also, I heard an interesting discussion on talk radio while we were driving making the point that freedom of speech is a right that is protected for all by our Bill of Rights, but it does not "insulate" the speaker from the consequences of their speech or action. Said another way, while the speaker can say or do what

they will, others also have freedom to react to exercise their rights too. And that may not be in accord with the treatment that the original speaker felt their remarks or actions deserved.

A couple of thoughts occurred to my already overloaded brain regarding the real meaning of our statement at the beginning of our chapter meeting, i.e., “... reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.” What would our ancestors think about our reluctance to speak up in defense of first amendment freedoms. The PG’s rationale (with which I essentially agree) was that it was unlikely that the discussion on the SAR-Officer forum could resolve the issue. That said, it took a war and many lives to “resolve” the issue back in the eighteenth century.

The PG also suggested that individual chapters and state societies continue the discussion and formulate resolutions to transmit to the trustees of our society. I’m certainly willing to do that, but it is apparent that the circulation list mentioned may not be the right forum. But what then is the proper forum? Can one be put together somewhat like the “Committees of Correspondence” long ago.

The discussion does raise some interesting issues and they may not be easily resolved as they raise some fundamental issues with the functioning of our society which is essentially genealogical. Is there a place within our society for the discussion of such issues or should SAR be only interested in Revolutionary War issues? If so, should our pledge be revised so that we are not pledging to “defend” those principles but only debate them and then take no action thereon. What should be made of Patrick Henry’s stirring speech? What really is or should be our responsibility in this regard. Certainly, we need to refocus efforts to stimulate the teaching of history and those

principles that have made America different, but does our responsibility end there? What do we tell new Americans as they take an oath of citizenship if they ask? Is there and should there be a distinction between an authorized governmental body determining to remove a monument by law and an unruly mob taking things into their own hands. Where does the Boston Tea Party stand in this regard? Certainly, distinctions can be drawn, but are they valid? A long, long time ago when I studied Chinese history I was schooled of an old Confucian saying that “There are no revolutionaries; only Emperors or bandits.”

Gosh, I wish I had answers to these and other questions, but they are concerning and, yes, even troubling. There is of course the legitimate concern about getting into politics, but what did our celebrated ancestors do?

(End of President’s Corner)

Summary of chapter August 19 meeting:

During the meeting on August 19, Chris Bouck received the SAR oath during the induction ceremony. Chris’ patriot name is Henry Hines. Chris’ father, John was also at the meeting.



I Chris Bouck receives oath during ceremony



2 Chris Bauck receives challenge coins from Dewey Fry



3 Richard Cox (right) receives commendation from Stu Conrad

Dennis Nelson, the current president of the Kansas SAR Society, was the speaker at the August meeting. The title of the presentation was “Patriotism and Long Range Vision for the Kansas Society.” Dennis included a discussion of the current State candidates, Americanism rewards, Kansas State SAR initiatives and long term goals. Patriot grave marking was also discussed. As a noted emphasis, the 250th anniversary of the USA is coming up in 2026. The SAR national goal for 2026 is to increase membership to 64,000 (double the current). This translates to SAR Kansas Society of a membership of 1500 by 2026 (double the current). Referrals

from the DAR to the SAR will play an important part of this increase. Dennis Nelson concluded the presentation with examples (and non-examples) of patriotic acts.



4 Dennis Nelson, August speaker

Don't miss

the Annual Picnic Sept 16, 2017 at Shelter House #1, Antioch Park, 6501 Antioch Rd, Merriam, KS:

Food Served at noon. The menu will be barbequed beef, smoked pulled pork, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, bottled water, lemonade, iced tea, and cookies for desert.

At 1:00 PM there will be a memorial service and Flag Retirement Ceremony. A picnic flyer and map of the park were sent in a separate email.

(End of Patriot News letter)