



The Delaware Crossing Patriot
Kansas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
 May 2023
 Metro Kansas City's Oldest & Largest Chapter, Founded 1960

The Revolution is coming!
Three Years – 2 Months - Four Days

NEXT MEETING:

When: May 20, 2023

Where: Hilton Garden Inn. 12080 Strang Line Road, Olathe, KS 66062, 9:00am

Reservations & Cost: For reservations, email Secretary@dxsar.com or call Kevin Dyches (913)-432-9113 by 7:00 PM, Tuesday, May 17, 2023.

Cost: **\$22.00/person**

Program: Dr. Kent Thomas – “Warfare Since the American Revolution”

CALENDAR & COMING EVENTS

June 2023

- 14 DX EC Meeting
- 17 DX Chapter Meeting

July 2023

- 12 DX EC Meeting
- 15 DX Chapter Meeting

August 2023

- 5 BOG Meeting
- 16 DX EC Meeting
- 19 DX Chapter Meeting

The President’s Corner



By Larry Tatum

The activities of the Delaware Crossing Chapter have certainly increased this Spring. Along with our usual Chapter Meetings, the Color Guard has been involved in several Naturalization Ceremonies, the McLouth Patriot’s Day Parade, and four Honor Flight Receptions.

I have never seen more joy and happiness than from the new citizens at the Naturalization Ceremonies or the Veterans responding to our

welcoming them back, upon their return trip from Washington D.C..

A Color Guard bowling day is also in the works. Who wouldn't like to see us bowling in our uniforms?

Two of our Chapter members, Gary Hicks and Bruce Smith, are part of the Kansas Society's Constitution and Bylaws Committee. And the Committee is actually having meetings. They are busy working on correcting errors in the Society's Constitution, Bylaws, and Procedures Handbooks that were approved during the Annual Conference held in March.

To their credit, Gary and Bruce have chosen to include the thoughts of the Delaware Crossing Members in their proposed changes and corrections of the documents.

This healthy interaction should result in our governing documents being such that they will stand for years to come as reasonable, easy to interpret rules for the Kansas Society to follow.

The Delaware Crossing Chapter is active not just with Sons of the American Revolution functions, but with our community. There will be many opportunities for individual members to be involved with the Chapter this coming summer as we continue to foster patriotism and education.



Dennis Nelson, Jerry Vest (Monticello), Federal District Judge Holly L. Teeter, Dewey Fry, and Larry Tatum.

Naturalization Ceremonies at the Robert J. Dole Courthouse

The Delaware Crossing Color Guard participated in two Naturalization Ceremonies on April 20th at the Robert J. Dole Courthouse. Approximately 170 new citizens, from more than 40 countries, were sworn in during the two ceremonies.

The Color Guard, commanded by Dewey Fry, led the new citizens in their first pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. Compatriot Fry has led the pledge of allegiance for thousands of new citizens during the past twenty plus years.

Judge Holly Teeter joined the Color Guard at the receptions that followed the ceremonies, to congratulate and welcome each of the new citizens and their families.

Multiple photos were taken with the Judge and the Color Guard by each of the inductees. We will forever be remembered by them as a part of this special occasion.



Kirk and Lisa Rush perform with the Kansas City Horn Club

10th Anniversary Concert of the Kansas City Horn Club

Compatriot Kirk Rush and his wife Lisa performed with the Kansas City Horn Club at their 10th Anniversary Concert. Kirk told me that this is evidence that he is able to play more than one instrument, the other being the trumpet that he plays for the Delaware Crossing and the Kansas Society Ceremonies.

The concert was immensely entertaining and now I know that the instrument used in most movie scores, especially westerns, is the French horn.

The Kansas City Horn Club was joined in the concert by the University of Kansas Horn Ensemble, the KCHC Youth Ensemble, and the UMKC RooHorns.

The Horn Club performs at least twice a year, next being a Winter concert and we should all try to attend.



Dan Dryer presents the JROTC Bronze Medal to Cadet Jade Hernandez.

JROTC Cadets are Awarded

Chairman of the JROTC Awards Committee, Dan Dryer attended three area High School award ceremonies to present Bronze JROTC medals on behalf of the Delaware Crossing Chapter.

His presence at these ceremonies is important for our chapter's goals of history education and

generating publicity for Delaware Crossing and the SAR.



Dan Dryer presents the Bronze JROTC Medal to Cadet Brayden Pedigo.



Dan Dryer presents the Bronze JROTC Medal to Cadet Josiah Long.



Alan Martin (Monticello), Dewey Fry (Delaware Crossing), Tom Chychota (Henry Leavenworth), Jeff Winters (Monticello), Larry Tatum (Delaware Crossing), and Brian Vasquez (Thomas Jefferson)

The McLouth Patriot's Day Parade

The Delaware Crossing Chapter was represented by Dewey Fry and Larry Tatum in the Kansas Society Color Guard's participation in the McLouth Patriot's Day Parade.

Although McLouth is a small town, their appreciation of the Kansas Society Color Guard was overwhelming. The Main Street was lined with McLouth residents, cheering on each of the units in the parade. There were antique cars and trucks, a mounted calvary, farm equipment, a parade marshal, and local dignitaries.

Afterwards, they treated us with a BBQ lunch that was the best.



Assistant Chief Mark Steven Wassom.

Assistant Chief Mark Steven Wassom to be awarded the SAR Fire Safety Medal

Mark S. Wassom-Assistant Chief-Community Risk Reduction Section- Olathe Fire Department is to be presented the SAR Fire Safety Medal at the Delaware Crossing Chapter meeting on May 20, 2023 for his outstanding work in fire safety. Chief Wassom is a graduate of Kansas State University a Licensed Professional Engineer, a Fire Marshall and a Member the Institution of Fire Engineers. After beginning his career Henderson

Engineers in Lenexa he went to work for the State of Colorado in for the Fire Marshall, then in Arvada, Colorado at BCER Engineering becoming a licensed profession engineer, then as engineers do who have worked in Colorado, he returned to Kansas and back to Henderson Engineers as a Senior Fire Protection Engineer.

He then went to work for the Olathe Fire Department and is currently the Fire Marshall, Assistant Chief in the Olathe Fire Department, husband of Jenny Wassom and a father of two teenagers.

Fire Chief David Anderson of the Olathe Fire Department recommended Assistant Chief Mark Wassom for this award as follows:

“Assistant Chief Mark Wassom has made a significant contribution to fire safety in 2022. He represented the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) on the International Code Council (ICC) Fire Code Action Committee this last year. Mark was appointed to the Chair of the Training and Education working group with the ICC Fire Service Membership Council in 2022. While Mark has been part of the Fire Marshal’s Association of Kansas for length of his career as a Fire Marshal, he was recently Elected to President by his peers after serving the last year as the Vice President. Recently the Shawnee Fire Department had a near miss where a residential staircase to the basement failed trapping firefighters in the

basement. This event led Chief Wassom to explore the City of Olathe making a code amendment to the IRC which will require builders to place gypsum board under all stairwells. This was recently approved by our City Council and some neighboring Cities are doing the same.”

The two accompanying photos of Chief Wassom show him in his dress uniform and as he dresses in his daily work.



Assistant Chief Wassom at work.



Compatriot Greg Millican.

Compatriot Greg Millican passed on April 3, 2023.

Greg was active in the Delaware Crossing Chapter for several years first being chairman of the Joseph S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest Committee and the Joseph F. Rumbaugh Orations Contest Committee for a few years then the Patriot Editor and Webmaster until Parkinson’s Decease prevented him from continuing in the manner he felt appropriate.

His NSSAR No.188329 was and his KSSAR No. 2972. Greg's Patriot Ancestor was Leonard Farrar, Pvt in the North Carolina Militia for 3 months in 1778 in the Company of James Frost in Colonel Hampton's Regiment. Then in 1780 he served for more months in the in Virginia in the Company of Capt. Cowden in Col. Tucker's Regt. and in 1781 he served another three months in the Company of Capt. Joseph Morgan in Gen. Lee's Regt. Leonard Farrar served at the Seige of Yorktown.

Dewey and Pat Fry attended the Visitation and Funeral for Greg. Compatriot Steve French attended the Visitation. At the Visitation Dewey presented Carol with and SAR Memorial Certificate. Carol sent a letter of thank you to Dewey and Pat asking Dewey to pass to the chapter her extreme appreciation for the Memorial Certificate and here appreciation to Dewey and Pat Fry and Steve French for attending.

The following is the obituary of Greg Millican

Gregory Allen Millican (77) of Overland Park, Kansas, went to his heavenly home on April 3, 2023. He was born in Amarillo, Texas on July 25, 1945, to Laura Lynnette Farrar Millican and Dennie Edward Millican. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Dennis Michael Millican.

A visitation will be held at the Lenexa Baptist Church (15320 W 87 St Pkwy, Lenexa, KS) on Saturday, April 8, 2023, from 9 – 11 AM followed by a celebration of life service at 11 AM. The

burial will be at Shawnee Mission Memory Gardens (K7 and 75th street.)

Greg enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1969 and served until 1973. During his enlistment, Greg was stationed at Edwards Airforce Base and the Royal Air Base in U-Tapao, Thailand during the Vietnam Conflict. After his military service, Greg received his Master's of Electrical Engineering from Kansas University. Greg's professional career spanned many years in the avionics industry at Bendix, Wilcox Electric Company, and Honeywell. In Greg's personal life, he enjoyed woodworking, having built numerous pieces of furniture and musical instruments. Greg also enjoyed playing a variety of music including ragtime, hymns, and classical compositions on the piano.

Greg gave his heart to his Lord Jesus Christ at age 9 at the First Baptist Church of Overland Park, and has faithfully served the Lord since that time. He was the pianist for his military group during his time at Edwards Air Force Base and most recently has served the Lord as a deacon and in several other capacities at Lenexa Baptist Church.

Greg is survived by his wife Carol Sue Millican, of 43 years. He is also survived by his sons Lucas Ethan Millican and Jared Lowell (Liz) Millican, his grandchildren Nathaniel Joel Millican, Glenn Ethan Millican, and Sarah AniaMarie Millican. He is survived by sisters Christine (Larry) Lewis, Lynise (Steve) Keller, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and other extended family and friends.



Dewey Fry presents the First Place Certificate to Carley Anderson.

Awards Presented to Students for Chapter Elementary School Poster Contests

On Friday April 14 the three 5th Grade students who won the first three places in the Elementary School Poster Contest at Pioneer Ridge Middle School (PRMS) were presented awards of Certificates and also Certificates and checks for also winning the first three places in the Delaware Crossing Chapter Contest.

I, (Dewey Fry) arrived before the start of school to be ready to present the students with their awards in the teacher's classrooms. While still outside and arriving student as if I was there for another poster contest.

The first to be presented her award was Cadence McGuire in Mr. Daniel O'Neil's classroom.

She was the first student to arrive. Kindly said hello, she proceeded to straighten her already quite neat desk. She then sharpened pencils, acquire a form from her teacher's desk, filled it out and returned to the teacher's desk. She was very courteous and talk with me and my wife Pat until other students began to arrive.

Cadence was very pleased to receive her certificate for her 3rd Place poster at PRMS and even more pleased to receive a Certificate and check for 3rd Place in the Delaware Chapter contest.

Then Pat and I processed to Mrs. Cusick's classroom. I was quickly introduced by Mrs. Cusick. I first presented a certificate to Ruby Ellis for her poster winning 2nd Place in the PRMS contest. Then I presented her the certificate for winning 3rd Place in the Delaware Crossing Chapter Contest. Then I gave her an envelope and told her to open it. She opened saw the \$35.00 check and tears began to well up in her eyes and tear drops formed. She looked at me and acted like she wanted a hug, I asked her if she wanted a hug, she stepped toward me and gave me a big hug for several seconds. That he the first time in the many years that I have been involved in youth contest that a student wanted a hug. Ruby Ellis was so grateful for her awards. Mrs. Cusick was very busy taking pictures of the moment.

Pat and I then proceeded to the classroom of Mrs. Von Fosson, a substitute teacher was there as Mrs. Von Fosson was out sick as well as two more of the six Fifth Grade teachers. One had gone home

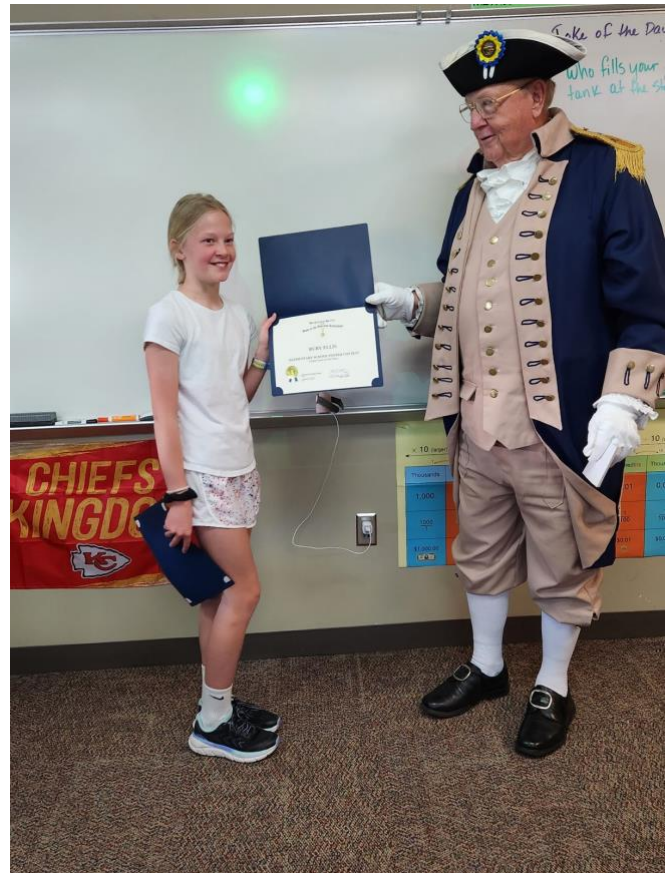
the day before and two others did not report to work.

The final presentations were for Carley Anderson. Carley and her family were at our March Chapter meeting where Carley was presented a certificate and a check for in the amount of \$50.00 for 1st place in the Delaware Crossing Chapter contest. At PRMS she was first presented a certificate for having the 1st Place Poster in the PRMS contest and then presented a certificate for 2nd Place in the Kansas Society SAR contest on March 18 at the KSSSAR Annual Conference.

I then gave her an envelope; she opened it looked at the check in the amount of \$100.00. She rolled her eyes, I asked her to tell the students the amount, she very quietly said \$100.00. Many wanted to have another contest.

During the presentation, the substitute teacher was busy taking pictures; she said “these are for her mother”.

It is always an incredible pleasure to walk into PRMS and be warmly greeted by the Principal, the teachers, the staff and all the students who may see me in the hallway. I am blessed.



Dewey Fry presents Ruby Ellis with the 2nd Place Certificate.



Ruby is overwhelmed when Dewey Fry presents the 2nd Place Cash Prize to her.



Cadence McGuire is presented the 3rd Place Certificate and cash prize award by Dewey Fry.



Carley Anderson is presented with the 2nd Place Kansas Society SAR Certificate and cash prize by Dewey Fry.