The Delaware Crossing Patriot
Kansas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
November 2026
Metro Kansas City's Oldest & Largest Chapter, Founded 1960

NEXT MEETING:
When: November 21, 2026

Where: Milburn Country Club, 7401 W 69th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204, 9:00am

Reservations & Cost: For reservations, email Secretary@dxsar.org or contact Clay Shropshire 785-521-8122 or winemakerclay@gmail.com by 7:00 PM, Tuesday, November 18, 2026.

Cost: **$23.00/person payable by cash/check**

Program: Anniversary Meeting

CALENDAR & COMING EVENTS

November 2026

11 Leavenworth Veterans Day Parade at 10:00am
18 DX EC Meeting
21 DX Chapter Meeting at Milburn Country Club

December 2026

16 DX EC Meeting
19 DX Chapter Party at Beautiful Savior Lutheran

January 2027

13 DX EC Meeting
16 DX Chapter Meeting at Milburn Country Club

The President's Corner



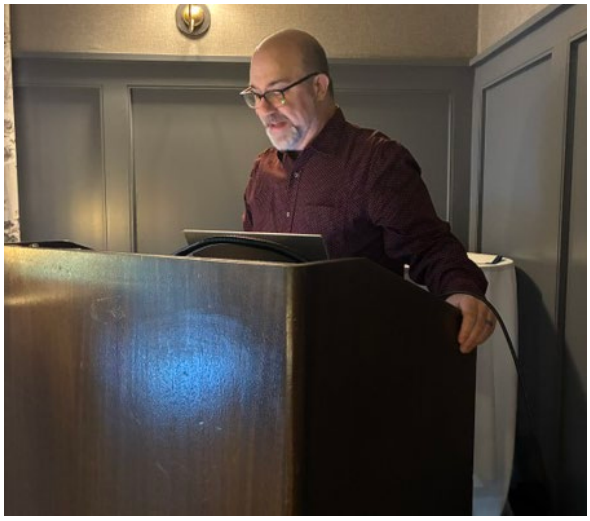
The Battle of Ft. Washington on 11/16/1776

By Clay Shropshire

The 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence is coming to a close. However, there are many more 250th Anniversaries to follow in the next several years. It is up to each of us to help educate our fellow citizens about the Revolutionary War. Many have a false belief that the War started in Lexington in April of 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed in July, and it ended that December at the Battle of Trenton with Yorktown and Valley Forge in there somewhere.

October Chapter Meeting in Review

Our meeting at Milburn on Saturday, October 17 had the attendees enjoying another fantastic program by Dominic DeBrincat, Professor of History from NWMS in St. Joseph, MO. Since this is the 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, he spoke about each of the main sections of the document and what they meant and why each was important. It does contain a list of grievances but each section was carefully crafted to create a document once in a lifetime.



Dominic DeBrincat speaking about the Declaration of Independence

We recently inducted Eugene Malcolm into the DX Chapter. This month we inducted his son, Taylor Malcolm had his mother, Janet Malcolm, do the honors of pinning on his Rosette. Taylor is a Purple Heart recipient from action in Afghanistan.

Taylor Coffey Malcolm became a member of the NSSAR on 30 June 2026. Our October DX Chapter meeting was his first opportunity to become inducted. President Clay Shropshire administered oath and his mother Janet placed his membership on him.

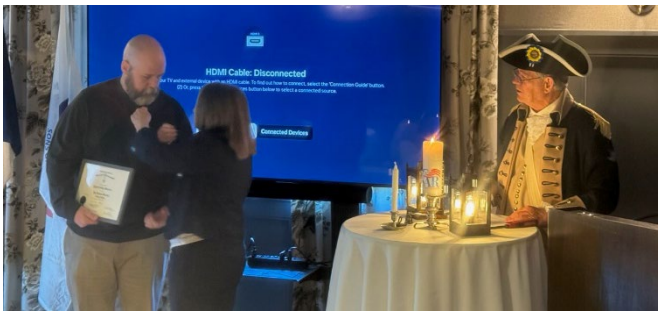


President Clay Shropshire administering the oath to Taylor Mlalcolm



Clay Shropshire presented Taylor Mlalcolm with his framed Certificate

Taylor's Patriot Ancestor was James Coffey who rendered material aid in North Carolina. Taylor's father, Eugene Malcom, is a recent inductee of Delaware Crossing and his brother Grant also became a member on the same 30 June 2026 date.



Taylor Mlalcolm's mother pinned the SAR Rosette

Dewey Fry took the opportunity to present Janet Malcolm with the Abilgail Adams Medal for referring her husband and two sons for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution, the medal is presented by the Kansas Society of the SAR.

Taylor, welcome to the Sons of the American Revolution

Bradford Johnson Reaches 25-Year Member Milestone

Bradford McClure Johnson Sr became a SAR member on January 17, 2001. He was on extended winter vacation during the first part of the year and had planned on attending our June meeting to receive his 25 Year pin and certificate. However, circumstances prevented that. Therefore, Dewey Fry went to Brad's home and presented it to him there.



Dewey Fry presented Brad Johnson his Certificate

Additionally, Dewey delivered the new membership certificate, packet and lapel medal for his grandson Fredrik Summerau Stevenson-Moser to Brad. Brad had not only sponsored his grandson but also paid for his application. Fredrik is just few months old and lives on the east coast; therefore, grandpa will present it to him.

Special Opportunity for C.A.R. Members
by Dennis Nelson, CAR Liaison

The Sons of the American Revolution is pleased to announce a special membership opportunity approved by the 2026 SAR Congress. Through June 30, 2027, eligible members of the Children of the American Revolution (CAR) may join the National Society Sons of the American Revolution with both the application fee and national annual dues waived. To qualify the approved male member of the CAR must be in good standing with the CAR at the time of submission. This applies to birth through age 22. This program offers an outstanding opportunity for young men in the C.A.R. to continue their patriotic service and family heritage through membership in the SAR. If you need more information, contact Dennis Nelson dnfromkc@swbell.net.

CONTEST TIME!
Bruce Smith
It's the time of the year we all look forward to interacting with students and teachers again in relation to the SAR's Youth Contests and American History Teacher Awards.

Last year, KSSSAR and the Monticello Chapter had the second-place national poster contest entry! Huzzah!

AND second place in the High School-level American History Teacher grant, Thomas Jefferson Chapter. Huzzah!

This continues a great string of top 5 finishes nationally in SAR Contests over the past several years for KSSSAR.

As a reminder, KSSSAR supports entries into all the SAR sponsored scholarship programs:

- SAR High School Essay Contest (Ryan Day, Monticello)
- SAR High School Oration Contest (Bruce Smith, Delaware Crossing)

- SAR High School Eagle Scout Contest (Kevin Walker, Monticello)
- SAR Youth Video Contest (includes both middle and high school) (Bruce Smith, Delaware Crossing)
- SAR JROTC Recognition Program (Brian Vasquez, Thomas Jefferson)
- SAR Elementary School Poster Contest (Bruce Smith, Delaware Crossing)
- SAR Middle School Brochure Contest (Bruce Smith, Delaware Crossing)
- American History Teacher Grant (Bruce Smith, Delaware Crossing)

The chairman for each program is identified above. Please contact them with your specific questions related to each contest. In many cases, they will be reaching out to chapter President's and Chapter Youth Contest designees as fall progresses. Contest chairmen try to be proactive in their communications BUT are met with mixed results in terms of responses to their outreach to chapters. Please give them your full cooperation.

Please welcome Ryan Day who is stepping in as the Essay Contest chairman upon the "retirement" of Stu Conrad from this position after so many great years of service to our Kansas youth. Stu remains engaged with the Essay contest at the national level.

Also, welcome Kevin Walker who is coming in as the Eagle Scout Chair for our long-time chairman Kirk Rush. Thanks Kirk.

First. Deadlines.
The essay, oration, Eagle Scout, JROTC, video, and American History Teacher contestant applications and submissions are due to the applicants local KSSSAR chapters by **12/31/2026.**

The state chairmen will communicate the due dates from chapters to the various state contests, but in general, this is typically due to the state chairmen the third to fourth week in January 2027. BUT, please follow the specific instructions of the individual contest chairmen as they sync with the nation contest due dates.

As always, the poster and brochure contest applications are handled at the chapter level to their own deadlines, **HOWEVER,** all chapter winning posters and brochures must be physically brought by a chapter representative for judging to the KSSSAR Annual meeting in Mid-March 2027.

Second. READ THE RULES!!!
There have been substantive updates to the essay contest rules (elimination of a bio, youth release form added, title page content updated, more structure to the references used, clarification on word count, and others). There have been updates to the History Teacher rules as well (for example, a lesson plan is now required). These are available on the sar.org website under the education tab which lists each contest.

State PRIZES.
At present, prizes **remain** the same as last year. For example, top prize for essay, oration, Eagle Scout, JROTC, video: $750.

GOOD LUCK.
Have fun and good luck as you contact schools and interact with teachers, parents, and students. The number of chapters engaged in one or more contests last year was encouraging to see. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. Your chairmen are here to support you.

NOTE
The December Meeting and Christmas Party will be held on December 19 at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church like last year. Clay will bring wine and others may bring what they would like.

Wreaths Across America Day
Saturday December 19, 2026

The theme of this years' event is REMEMBER ME. Wreaths Across America day is very quickly approaching. It is again time to give considerable thought and action to sponsoring wreaths for the graves of veterans.

Delaware Crossing Chapter is once again a Sponsoring Group at Johnson County Memorial Gardens in Overland Park. The ceremony there will begin at 11:00 am Central Time.

Each wreath sponsored will cost $17.00. For each wreath sponsored through the Delaware Crossing Chapter the chapter will receive $5.00 which is divided 50% to the chapter Veterans Fund and 50% to the Kesler Youth Endowment Fund.

The Veteran Fund is used to provide gifts to the veterans at the Eisenhower Veterans Center in Leavenworth on Veteran's Day, November 11.

The KYEF is used to pay prize money to Youth Contest participants. SAR Youth Contest are a significant part of educating our youth about the founding and founders of our nation which include many veterans.

In addition to this article, an email will be sent to each member with an email address. To begin the process, search online for Wreaths Across America and open the website. In the upper right-hand corner click on the magnifying glass symbol with Search under it.

Click on the red box SEARCH SPONSORSHIP GROUPS at the top of the page. In the SEARCH box type Delaware Crossing Chapter, Click on KS0027P-Delaware Crossing Chapter KSSAR. Click on SPONSOR. Click on the number of wreaths you wish to sponsor or click on CUSTOM. Then proceed to follow the instructions through payment. Including selecting GRAVE SPECIFIC for individual veterans you wish to have a wreath placed on their grave at our location.

If you wish to sponsor a Grave Specific wreath at another location, then go back to the opening website page and search for the location and proceed. The Chapter will not receive any portion of the sponsoring cost at other locations in which it does not participate.

If you wish to sponsor by Check. On the opening web page. Click on RESOURCES at up top of the page left of center. Then click on VOLUNTEER RESOURCE PAGE, then scroll down to the 10 red lines. Click on ORDER AND NOTIFICATION FORMS. Then Click on Wreath Sponsorship Form Click on OPEN and download the form you in the format you wish. Or contact me and I will email you one.

If you have any questions, please contact Dewey Fry at deweyf@kc.rr.com or 816-223-8559

What is a patriot?
Courtesy of Lisa Rush

A patriot during the American Revolution was a person who believed in or fought for independence from Britain. The Latin word pater, meaning "father," and the Greek word "pater" give us the root pater or "patr", anyone or anything paternalis related to one's father. A patriot is a person who loves his or her fatherland or country, someone who has always been a person who whole-heartedly supports their country and is prepared to defend it against enemies or detractors.

What is the patriot "ideal"? A true Patriot is one who, indeed, loves her or his country, but also one who sees the way things are, and one who works for change to make things better. A patriot possesses this patriotism and is bound to feelings of national loyalty because of an intense and passionate love of country. Patriotism is the ideology of attachment to a homeland. This

attachment can be a combination of many different features relating to one's own homeland, including ethnic, cultural, political or historical aspects. No matter where a patriot is from, "A patriot cares for the well-being of his country. A patriot courageously opposes those who seek to undermine the guiding principles on which America has thrived." (The True Patriot by Christine Smith, The Ethical Spectacle, October 2005).

As a reminder, from the article in US Patriots United July 4, 2005 "Ten Characteristics of A True US Patriot", #2 holds the founding principles of the Declaration of Independence to be self-evident, and defends the Constitutional rights of others even when those rights conflict with personal and religious beliefs; believing that all men are created equal, even in times of war, the basic principles of humanity apply not only to one group of people or nation, but to all." And last but not least, A true Patriot "...loves what his country stands for, not necessarily what his country does, and will not shrink from holding America to her ideals." (Eric Zorn, The Chicago Tribune, "Durbin should have stood up for his opinion", June 23, 2005.)

Things a patriot can do on a daily basis:

- One thing is to fly and properly maintain a flag on your house.
- A patriot can demonstrate a deep, active love for their country by fulfilling civic duties and participating in community life. Constructive patriotism involves staying informed, working to improve society, and defending democratic principles—distinguishing it from nationalism, which often requires uncritical loyalty.

Key actions of a patriot include:

- Civic Engagement: Exercising the right to vote in local and national elections, participating in local town halls, and contacting elected representatives to hold them accountable.
- Community Service: Volunteering, serving in the armed forces, or working in local government to directly improve the lives of fellow citizens.
- Respecting Institutions: Upholding the rule of law and respecting the country's foundational documents, such as the U.S. Constitution and the rights it guarantees.
- Advocating for Change: Acknowledging the nation's flaws and actively working to address injustice to build a more equitable and prosperous society. Engage with your community and local government to address issues and help your country live up to its core principles.
- Honoring Heritage: Respecting veterans and those who have served the nation, as well as preserving and learning from the country's history.
- Voting in every election: Participate in the democratic process at the local, state, and national levels. In some countries, people refrain from voting since they believe none of the candidates are worthy of the office. While that may seem like a method to make your voice heard, it actually does nothing to keep the government honest. Rather, going to vote and encouraging honest people to fight elections will be the healthy alternative. Vote for the lesser evil, I guess. And then work towards finding and electing good politicians who will serve for the welfare of the masses.
- Supporting veterans and active-duty military: Volunteer at a local VA Facility Locator or donate your time and resources to veteran-focused non-profits. In my school, we used to have an event to celebrate the army men. We used to invite a particular regiment and celebrate their contribution to our country with a cultural program and some gifts. This inculcated in me a respect a reverence for the armed officials from a very young age. Being

proud of them and showing you care means a lot as community support is a collective effort. Actively signing up for duty is an excellent way to literally fight for your country and show patriotism in its truest form.

- Buying local and American-made: Support the domestic economy by purchasing goods produced by local artisans and American manufacturers. Buying locally produced goods increases the revenue of the district and contributes to the economy of the country as well. Small scale industries grow and provide employment to the local men and women. This directly increases the viability of a country. Also, such products are good quality and the food crops are generally pesticide free and healthy.
- Learning your nation's history: Educate yourself on your country's heritage by visiting historic landmarks and monuments.
- Flying the US flag correctly: Display the flag respectfully on your porch or house, following proper flag etiquette (like illumination at night). The most literal way of being patriotic is to hoist the flag of your country – in the right manner of course. Every country has rule book about how you can fly the flag. It might be hard to believe but not a lot of people do this anymore, even though it is so simple and swells the heart knowing you belong to your country.

Some of these points were also about how all of us can be good people AND good citizens, and I believe that goes hand in hand. Always take the children along for these activities so that they grow up with these values always in them. It makes them more patriotic too, seeing their elders or communities indulging in such practices. Even in places where there is tumult of any kind, one man can set aside his differences and set an example with patriotic acts. It brings people together, binds them for the common cause.

Patriotism does not have to be brief and bright, it has to be like the sun, always burning steady and lighting the way. In some way, all your actions can be motivated in the direction of patriotism and you'd never go wrong. Just remember what patriotism truly is and what are the associated meaningful act. Simple tips, and if nothing else, you can always feel patriotic in your heart, because the blood that runs in you is true to the country.

Volunteering in your community: Give back to your local community through food banks, neighborhood cleanups, or civic programs. Participate in marches to protest, to demand and to bring about change. Volunteer at night shelters, or soup kitchens or whatever it is locally called in your city. Share resources that you can spare, and devote a few hours at a home for veterans or for the elderly. Along with their blessings, you get a feeling of happiness and satisfaction that is really special. You can see the results instantaneously and the smiles that you brought to every life that you touched.

Participating in public service: Consider giving back to your country through public service or civil duties.

Respecting national symbols: Stand or place your hand over your heart during the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance.

Supporting civic organizations: Get involved with community groups, such as the American Legion, to actively foster patriotism and community service.

Knowing what patriotism is: A patriotic attitude is an understanding of a nation's history, accomplishments, and positive contributions to culture. It also recognizes a nation's failures and negative influence. So, knowing what patriotism includes will help conclude if your directed actions are patriotic or not.

Being proud of/campaign about the pros of your country: This will increase tourism and general interest towards the country. The positive reviews of tourists and citizens alike improves the rank of the country on the basis of viability as a place of travel. Before travelling, everyone nowadays checks for first hand online reviews of the living conditions, safety and dining offerings of the place they're visiting. An all over happy vibe makes country better in the happiness index and contentment. Celebrating the diversity of your country. Each country is made up of people of varied ethnicities, the religions and follow different cultures. But they all bring something to the table. The country is a beautiful amalgamation of the richness of each community that is unique in itself, yet a part of something big. The progress of each country is visible only when everyone feels safe, welcome and happy in that country. The feeling of patriotism rises automatically when you love your country unconditionally.

Environmental Responsibility: Adopting eco-friendly habits and protecting the local environment, which serves as an active investment in the nation's future.

In Closing: What makes you patriotic? It is remembering that patriotism is founded on the principle that the country upholds values such as freedom, justice, nonviolence, and equality.



Color Guard and Members at Events

Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard Leads 38th Annual Applefest Parade in Weston, Missouri

The Missouri and Kansas Societies of the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard proudly led the 38th Annual Applefest Opening Day Parade in historic Weston, Missouri, on October 3, 2026.



DOWNTOWN WESTON WELCOMES VISITORS FOR ANNUAL APPLEFEST

Supported by the S.A.R. Auxiliary in elegant period costume, the color guard featured nine marchers bearing colors, muskets, and a traditional sword. Following the marchers, a beautifully decorated, apple-themed S.A.R. float carried three additional guardsmen through the cheering crowd.

Sponsored by the Weston Chamber of Commerce, Applefest stands as one of Missouri's premier fall celebrations. The beloved, family-friendly festival transformed Main Street with more than 80 vibrant arts and crafts booths, alongside an abundance of seasonal treats ranging from fresh apple pies to warm apple dumplings. Thousands attended the weekend-long festival from across the region.



SAR and DAR marchers at the Applefest Parade to include Brian Vasquez, Jeffrey Winters, and Clay Shropshire from KS



Dewey Fry drove the truck with Alan Martin and John More as float riders. Pat Fry and Stacey Winters also rode along.



Flag and musket bearers in formation led by Mark Parks followed by the decorated truck and trailer



Compatriot John More entertains the crowd from the float

Tim Peterman and Bruce Smith attended Fall Leadership Conference in October in Louisville, KY.



Bruce Smith attending Fall Leadership

On Saturday, October 10, Dennis Nelson, Dewey Fry, Tim Peterman, Gary Hicks, John Forbes, and Clay Shropshire attended the Shawnee Indian Mission Fall Festival in Fairway, KS. Some manned the booth while others helped keep the show on the road as members of the Historical Society.

Later that day, Bruce Smith and Clay Shropshire Presented Colors at a Liberty Tree Planting in Gardner, KS. Two DAR Chapters, Where the Trail Divides Chapter and The John & Hattie Possum Chapter combined to dedicate the newly planted tree with a plaque.



Bruce Smith and Clay Shropshire at the Liberty Tree dedication



The plaque to commemorate the tree planting

On Sunday, October 11, Dewey Fry, Bruce Smith, Steven French, Clay Shropshire, John More, and Commander Brian Vazquez attended an America 250 Celebration of Veteran Heroes who reside at Addington Place in Prairie Village. The event was hosted by Janet Alley's Sagamore DAR Chapter.



Residents of Addington Place enjoying the celebration

There was a large Honor Flight hosted by Heartland Honor Flight that landed on October 14. Dewey Fry and Clay Shropshire attended from DX. Jeffrey Winters attended from MC along with a large contingent of Color Guardsmen from Kansas and Missouri.

On Thursday, October 15, a contingent of Color Guardsmen Presented Colors at the Traveling Vietnam Wall and Cost of Freedom Tribute in Leavenworth, KS. The unit was commanded by Brian Vazquez with Vern Welkner, Dewey Fry, John More, Bruce Smith, and Clay Shropshire.



A2 THE LEAVENWORTH TIMES SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

OPENING CEREMONY

Representatives of the Kansas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution present the colors Thursday during the opening ceremony for the Traveling Vietnam Wall and Cost of Freedom Tribute from American Veterans Traveling Tribute. The traveling displays will be available for public viewing on the grounds of the Eisenhower VA Medical Center until Sunday. John Richmeier

Walt Schley speaks Thursday during the opening ceremony for the Traveling Vietnam Wall and Cost of Freedom Tribute from American Veterans Traveling Tribute. Schley is the president of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 75. He served as the master of ceremonies for Thursday's event. John Richmeier

Tyleen Caffrey performs taps Thursday during the opening ceremony for the Traveling Vietnam Wall and Cost of Freedom Tribute from American Veterans Traveling Tribute. John Richmeier

DEAD WEEK

The Leavenworth Times will enter into what is known as a dead week from Oct. 27 through the Nov. 3 election. During this time period, the newspaper will not publish any opinion column or letter to the editor concerning the election.

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Program
Continued from A1

time, calculating costs and processing payments, they experience firsthand what it takes to operate a food service business.

Their entrepreneurial efforts extend to a print shop, where students weed vinyl designs, heat-press shirts, verify order details and deliver finished products.

Both businesses provide valuable lessons in financial literacy as students calculate material costs, set prices and manage budgets. Because their operations are self-funded, they also make decisions about how to spend their earnings.

Last month, those efforts helped fund a trip to Deanna Rose Farmstead, and this month, they're saving for a visit to the Fun Farm.

Students have also taken responsibility for the Third Avenue Library, sorting and shelving books while strengthening organizational skills that carry over into everyday life and future employment.

Under the guidance of Jeanne Gray and her team, these eight young adults are gaining more than work experience. They're building confidence, practicing independence, developing problem-solving skills and discovering the value of their contributions.

Program participants debone chicken for wraps.

CherryRoad media
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sunday, Oct. 18
WHAT: Traveling Vietnam Wall Tribute
WHEN: All day
WHERE: Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center, 4101 S. 4th St.

Monday, Oct. 19
WHAT: Open Board Game Day
WHEN: 1-5 p.m.
WHERE: Gators Games and Hobby, 720 Shawnee St.

WHAT: Tween Vibes
WHEN: 5-7 p.m.
WHERE: Leavenworth Public Library, 417 Spruce St.

Tuesday, Oct. 20
WHAT: Live Music: 'Classically Me' Fall Concert
WHEN: 7 p.m.
WHERE: Xavier Theater - University of Saint Mary, 4100 S. 4th St.

If you would like your event to appear in What's Happening, email the information to tlawson@cherryroad.com.

Article in the Leavenworth Times



Color Guard at the Traveling Vietnam Wall



Major General Patricia Wallace talking with Dewey Fry



Upcoming Events:

The Leavenworth Veterans Day Parade will be held on Wednesday, November 11. The truck and trailer will be in the area of the Leavenworth Courthouse at 4th Street and Custer by 9:00am. The parade begins at 10:00 with a pause at 11:00 for the playing of Taps and a flyover. Walkers and riders are welcome to join in the celebration.



Truck and decorated trailer for parade riders

We all have patriot ancestors that should be honored by us today. As I have stated for the past several months, we are in the midst of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the American Revolution, and the founding of the United States of America. All SAR members should be proud of the sacrifice their ancestors made, not just Color Guardsmen.

We are still in need of a Chapter Executive VP who would be willing to become President in about 1-1/2 years, a Chapter Secretary, and a Patriot Newsletter Editor. When my term is completed, I will continue as Webmaster, Past President, KYEF Trustee, and Color Guardsman but I will be stepping down from the other positions to allow others an opportunity to show off their talents and abilities. We also need Compatriots to assist with various committees before Chairs become too old to continue. If anyone is able to help out the Chapter at this time, please contact Clay Shropshire at 785-521-8122 or winemakerclay@gmail.com.