



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

*The Revolution is coming!
One Month- Four Days*

NEXT MEETING:

When: June 20, 2026

Where: Milburn Country Club, 7501 W 69th St., 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, June 16, 2026.

Cost: **\$23.00/person**

Program: Virgil Dean – The Story of Kansas' Founding Documents

CALENDAR & COMING EVENTS

June 2026

- 6 Old Shawnee Days Parade (truck & trailer)
- 17 DX EC Meeting
- 20 DX Chapter Meeting

July 2026

- 15 DX EC Meeting
- 18 DX Chapter Meeting

August 2026

- 1 BOG in Hays
- 12 DX EC Meeting
- 15 DX Chapter Meeting

The President's Corner



The Battle of Bunker Hill

By Clay Shropshire

Well, another month has flown by as we speed towards America's 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4. We are a blessed country by God with vast amounts of good land for agriculture, forests for timber, oil, coal, iron ore, and other minerals. We have ample amounts of rainfall and a great climate for growing or raising food.

It is up to all of us what we leave future generations. I hope each of us make wise choices so that our grandchildren's grandchildren are pleased with our efforts during our lifetimes.



May Chapter Meeting in Review

Our Chapter Meeting on May 16 was led by Clay Shropshire, and the program was presented by Rick Blond. He gave a wonderful program on the Lewis and Clark Expedition and his travels along the entire route from Philadelphia to the Pacific Ocean.

Sometimes something potentially very good meets with unforeseen challenges. Rick Blond presented a program on the Lewis and Clark Expedition across the Louisiana Purchase which expanded the territory of the United States. In preparation for the presentation, he and VP of Programs, Richard Woody, visited Milburn Country Club to make certain Rick became familiar with connecting his laptop computer to the projector. That special trip, was for naught as Rick Blond's computer froze when setting it up and it could not activate the slide program. So Milburn Country Club got their laptop, downloaded the program from Rick Blonds computer onto it. Hooked it up and it would not communicate with the projector. Finally, the technician wheeled in a large screen TV and hooked the Milburn laptop to it by cable and it worked but crowded the area a bit.

The slide program was continuous and about 10 minutes in length and was active during breakfast it continued being shown during the verbal presentation. The presentation was very detailed and informative as Rick Blond had actually traversed the route which gave him intimate knowledge of the location and challenges, they faced as well gained knowledge to understand the specific reasons Lewis and Clark had for visiting each location.

The program went well beyond the 45 minutes announced but it covered much detail of the preparation for and the actual challenges met during the expedition both going westward and returning.

Our printed program and Certificate of Appreciation contained a misspelling of the presenter's name, they had Rick Bond, his surname is BLOND. We have corrected the certificate.

Without the technical difficulties, and coordinating the slide show with advancing the slides to match timing of the verbal presentation, I would love see and hear the program again. It had detail I had never known.

I recommend if you become aware of Rick presenting this program at some other venue, you attempt to go and observe it. Dewey Fry



Rick Blond



Commemorative Lewis & Clark coin



Clay Shropshire presented Rick Blond with a Certificate of Appreciation

Congratulations to Scott Crossette for volunteering to be Chapter Treasurer. Kevin Dyches will help out as needed as the Assistant Treasurer,

President Clay Shropshire had the honor of presenting Michael Warren with the Memorial Membership Certificate for his brother James B. Robertson for which Michael had submitted. Their Patriot Ancestor was John Gill who served as a Private in the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment.



Welcome Aboard, David Lee Simmons. The Application of David Lee Simmons was approved and registered on March 25, 2026. He was administered his Oath of Membership by President Clay Shropshire at our May Chapter Meeting.



Treasurer Scott Crossette pinned a Membership Rosette on his coat.



During the induction ceremony he lit a candle in honor of his Patriot Ancestor James Lattrell who served as a Private in the Virginia Militia Minutemen in Captain James Dillard's Company, Colonel Peter Rose's Regiment in 1780 and as a Private in Captain Charles Christian's Company, Colonel John Lynch's Regiment in 1781. He also performed the patriotic act of paying a Supply Tax in 1783.

Color Guard and Members at Events

On Saturday, May 2, compatriots attended the quarterly BOG meeting in Leavenworth, KS. That same morning four Leavenworth PEO chapters were having a Circles of Sisters meeting at the Heritage Center. Their theme was, "Party Like it is 1776". The Color Guard led by Commander Bill Marshall presented the Colors for their meeting along with the BOG.



Color Guard at the PEO Circle of Sisters event led by Bill Marshall, Brian Vazquez, Alan Martin, Clay Shropshire, John More, and Bruce Smith

After the BOG was concluded, several compatriots headed to Manhattan, KS. The Kansas DAR was conducting their State Convention starting that Saturday evening. Tim Peterman was a guest speaker who offered greetings from KSSSAR.



Tim Peterman and Bruce Smith attended the Saturday DAR State Convention Dinner.

On Sunday, May 3 the DAR conducted a grave marking ceremony at the Manhattan Sunset

Cemetery for five daughters and granddaughters of patriots of the American Revolution. Tim Peterman was asked to speak and the Color Guard presented the Colors at the ceremony. Each of the Color Guard members was presented a Certificate and the Bronze DAR Harriet White Arnett Medal by the DAR for their service.



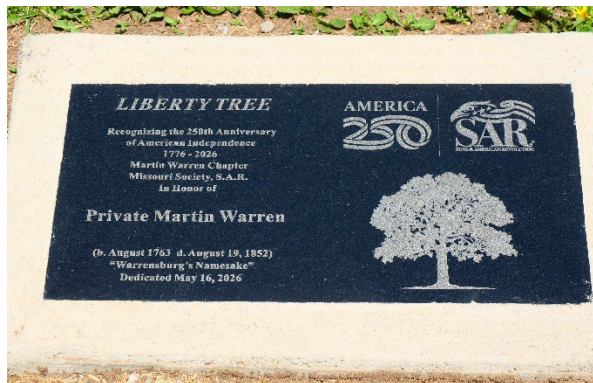
Commander Bill Marshall led the Color Guard to their post. Alan Martin, Clay Shropshire, Brian Vazquez, David Dean, Bruce Smith, and John More carried Colors.

At the conclusion of the speaking part of the ceremony, Bill Marshall and Alan Martin assisted in the laying of a wreath and presenting arms at each of the five graves.



Bill Marshall and Alan Martin presented arms while a DAR member laid a wreath

After the May Chapter meeting, there was a Liberty Tree planting in Warrensburg, MO. The town was founded by Private Martin Warren on land he was deeded for his service in the Revolutionary War.



Mark Parks led a Color Guard comprised of members from both MO and KS to include Bruce Smith and Clay Shropshire from DX and Jeffrey Winters from Monticello.



Sunday evening, May 17, Dan Dryer and Clay Shropshire attended the Shawnee Mission North HS JROTC Banquet and Ball held at the Lodge at Ironwoods Park. The event was hosted by Lt. Col. (Ret) Rick Hayek and Sgt. Maj. (Ret) Sarah Bickel. Cadet Kyndall Terrell was unable to attend.



Clay Shropshire and Dan Dryer presented a certificate to Sgt. Maj. Bickel on behalf of Cadet Kyndall Terrell.

Compatriots Bruce Smith and John More traveled to Vincennes, IN to participate in the annual Vincennes Rendezvous on May 23.



Buce Smith and John More from the Charles Robinson Chapter at the Vincennes Rendezvous in Indiana.

On Monday, May 25th members of the DX Color Guard, led by Steven French, joined members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to lay a wreath at the grave of Sarah Ruddell Davis in Fairway, KS. Sarah is the only recognized SAR Patriot buried in Kansas. She died just after the surrender at Appomattox Courthouse to end the Civil War.

Color Guard members included Steven French, Kirk Rush, John Forbes, Clay Shropshire, and Bruce Smith. Attendees to the wreath laying included the Mayor of Fairway, members of several DAR chapters, Tim Peterman, Greg Sippel and David Simmons from DX, Jeffrey Winters from Monticello, and reporters from Channel 5 and Channel 9.



Sarah Davis's daughter married Rev Thomas Johnson



Steven French commanded the combined Color Guard



Tim Peterman offered greetings from the KSSAR. The event was hosted by James Thornton of the SUVCW.



DAR ladies presented a wreath for Sarah's grave



Greg Sippel and David Simmons. Greg's 5th Great Grandmother was Sarah's cousin and captured with Sarah for the long march to Ft Detroit. We used to attend Old Mission Methodist Church for many years with David Simmons and family.

Here is a link to the Channel 5 report:

https://www-kctv5-com.cdn.ampproject.org/v/s/www.kctv5.com/2026/05/25/kansas-only-revolutionary-war-patriot-honored-memorial-day/?amp_gsa=1&_js_v=a9&outputType=amp&usqp=mq331AQIUAKwASCAAgM%3D#amp_tf=From%20%251%24s&aoh=17798325392197&referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com&share=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.kctv5.com%2F2026%2F05%2F25%2Fkansas-only-revolutionary-war-patriot-honored-memorial-day%2F

On Wednesday, May 27, before I had surgery on my broken radius at the left wrist, several members attended a Naturalization Ceremony at Johnson County Community College where we welcomed new citizens to our great country.



Brian Vazquez led the Color Guard Presenting Colors. Steven French, Dennis Nelson, Dewey Fry, John More, and Clay Shropshire welcomed a new citizen.

On Sunday, May 31, Clay & Barb Shropshire traveled to Sainte Genevieve, MO for the commemoration of the 246th anniversary of the Battle of Fort San Carlos. It was sunny for the grave marking ceremony but rainy for the end of the memorial service.

During the French and Indian War (Seven Years War in England), France gave Spain the west side of the Mississippi River. The Treaty of Paris in 1763 gave all French lands east of the Mississippi to the British. The French found St Louis on the west side in 1764 near the Spanish fort of San Carlos.

In 1780, the British decided to launch an offensive against the American Colonies by attacking the eastern seaboard and coming in from the west via the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and down from Canada from the northwest. The Spanish garrison got wind of an attack, and with the help of five cannons and militia from Sainte Genevieve, repelled the British on May 26. Several militia members stayed behind to defend their town to the south should the British attack them after taking the fort.

The British were defeated at Fort San Carlos and never mounted another campaign up the Mississippi until the War of 1812. The Third Treaty of San Ildefonso gave the Louisiana Territory back to the French in 1800. On March 9-10, 1804, at the Ceremony of the Three Flags, the Spanish flag was lowered and replaced by the French flag. Twenty-four hours later the French flag was lowered, and the flag of the United States of America was raised, marking the Westward Expansion of the United States.



The DX Wreath was presented at the grave marking ceremony by President, Clay Shropshire.



Wounded warrior Clay Shropshire with fellow Color Guardsman. You will notice Clay is wearing the official buff and blue (buff colored Ace bandage and blue sling).



The SAR musket and rifle men exchanged a three-volley salute with the French Milice contingent

The SAR participates in various events throughout the year. These include grave markings, parades, DAR events, civic events, Naturalizations of new citizens, and Honor Flights. Yes, the Color Guard members Present the Colors or march out in front of a vehicle and trailer. However, all members are welcome to attend and support the event. If it is a parade, then members can ride in the truck or on the decorated trailer to show attendees there are more in the SAR than just a few men in uniform carrying flags.

We all have patriot ancestors that should be honored by us today. As I stated last month, we are in the midst of the 250th anniversary of 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.

With that said, an upcoming event is the annual Old Shawnee Days Parade on June 6. We will have a truck and decorated trailer for compatriots to ride instead of having to walk. Put on comfy clothes, an SAR shirt or hat, and wave to the crowd. We will be joined by ladies from Barb's Mission Hills DAR Chapter.



Truck and decorated trailer for parade riders

When each of us joined SAR, we took an oath stating we would pledge to support the National and Kansas Societies as well as the Delaware Crossing Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Thank you all for continuing to pay your dues to build up the Chapter finances. However, we are still in need of a Chapter Executive VP, a Chapter Secretary, and a Newsletter Editor, just to name a few. If anyone is able to help out the Chapter at this time, please contact Clay Shropshire at 785-521-8122 or winemakerclay@gmail.com.