

**COMING
EVENTS**



The Delaware Crossing Patriot

Kansas Society

September 2016

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

CALENDER

NEXT MEETING:

When: September 17

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 Kirk
Rush (913)789-0975 by 3:00 PM, the
Wednesday before.

Program: Annual barbeque.

Sept 17 Flag Retirement Ceremony after Antioch
Park Picnic

Sept 17 – 23 Constitution Week

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

Stu Conrad, President, DX

The first ten amendments to the Constitution are, as we know, referred to as the "Bill of Rights." I want to focus in this brief discussion on the First Amendment and, even more, on a couple of the prohibitions contained. First, the wording itself is a clue: "Congress shall make no law abridging" It should be obvious that unless a right exists before Congress acts, it cannot be "abridged."

Take, for example, freedom of the press. Why is there a prohibition against its abridgment? Is legislation "abridging" press freedom prohibited because the press has some inherent right to give opinions or reflect their personal bias? My sense is that a free press should be protected because of the people's right, even their need, to know the truth; to have the unvarnished truth about government's activities brought to them without "spin" or bias. It has been well said that "sunlight is the best disinfectant" and, if analyzed, a press that is free is protected because of the people's interest; not so that the members of the working press are able to give their opinions and expose their bias against or for particular policies or candidates. In another time we might call this proper function "journalistic responsibility."

Now, there's nothing wrong with having opinions. We all have them. And another right, freedom of speech, protects the right to express opinions. But good judgment and journalistic responsibility in a choice of occupation should be

the restraint. Because you can do something does not mean that you should.

Not all countries provide protection for their press. It is instructive that whenever a repressive government takes power, one of the first things that they will do is seek to gain control of the press. One might reasonably ask: why? Now I will refrain from commenting on our current experience with our press; it is on display on virtually every so-called “news” channel and many newspapers. Perhaps reporters should discontinue asking candidates about which flowers they prefer.

As far as that goes, SAR members should be remembering that Constitution Week is September 17 through 23. According to some researchers:

The United States Constitution is the oldest federal constitution in existence, ratified on June 21, 1788. The Bill of Rights, which codifies Amendments I through X of the Constitution, went into effect on December 15, 1791.

John Hancock and Charles Thomson alone of the Continental Congress actually signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. Most other forefathers signed on August 2, but the signature of Thomas McKean of Delaware wasn't added until several years later as he was serving in the army in 1776.

(End of President's Corner)

Eagle Scouts Presented Certificate of Recognition



1 Nathaniel Drescher, Ian Boyd, and Dewey Fry for presentation.

Nathaniel Wayne Drescher and Ian Scott Boyd of Troop 123 were each presented the Certificate of Recognition from the Delaware Crossing Chapter for achieving the rank of Eagle by Compatriot Dewey Fry standing in for Eagle Scout Chairman Kirk Rush. The presentation was made at the Court of Honor held at Community Covenant Church in Lenexa on August 6, 2016.

Both are recent high school graduates. Nathan has enlisted United States Marine Corp. His brother shown seated is currently a Marine.

Ian is enrolled at Kansas State University where he is a freshman this fall where he plans to major in Evolutionary Biology and work in research

Trevor Miller awarded Fire Safety Commendation Medal

Trevor Miller, Fire Investigator in the Overland Park Fire Department awarded the SAR Fire Safety Commendation Medal at our August 20 Chapter meeting. See article in August 2016 *Patriot* for Trevor's many accomplishments.



2 Left-to-Right: Shawn Cowing, Dewey Fry, Trevor and Jessy Miller



3 SAR Fire Safety Commendation

August 20 Chapter program, “Losing America”:

"Losing America, 1775-1783; How Entanglements with Indigenous Peoples Doomed the British Empire" by Professor Paul Kelton, University of Kansas.

British failure to cultivate the allegiance of settlers in the southern backcountry played a determinative role in the American Revolution. Assumed to be Loyalists, the masses never rose to defeat the believed to be rebel minority as British officials hoped. Such failure and false hopes, however,

existed within a larger context of Great Britain’s entangled relations with indigenous peoples, particular the Cherokee Nation. Cherokees had engaged in years of trading, diplomacy, and intermarriage with the Britons, creating bonds with each other that neither could escape. The British cultivated Cherokee warriors, but such involvement undermined influence that they hoped to expand in the backcountry; Cherokees chose to strike against settlers based on assumed British support, but their actions put their imperial partner in an unwinnable position. These entanglements on the periphery of empire turned out to be central to one of global history’s most important events.



4 Presentation by Prof. Paul Kelton



5 Shawn presents Certificate of Appreciation to Prof. Paul Kelton after the presentation.