



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

NEXT MEETING:

When: September 19, 2026

Where: Antioch Park, Shelter #1, Entrance just north of 67th St. and Antioch, Overland Park, KS 66204, 10:00am gathering

Reservations & Cost: For reservations, email Secretary@dxsar.org or contact Clay Shropshire 785-521-8122 or winemakerclay@gmail.com by 7:00 PM, Tuesday, September 15, 2026.

Cost: **\$16.00/person**

Program: BBQ lunch, Memorial Svc, Flag Svc

CALENDAR & COMING EVENTS

September 2026

- 11-20 Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson
- 12 Old Settlers Days Parade in Olathe
- 16 Naturalization at Fort Scott
- 16 DX EC Meeting
- 17 Naturalization at Eisenhower Library
- 17 Barstow School Event at The Barstow School
- 17 Prairie Center Elementary School Event
- 19 DX Chapter Picnic at Antioch Park, Shelter #1
- 20 Cherry Tree Planting at the American Legion
- 26 DAR Swing Under the Wings Dance in Olathe
- 29 Honor Flight at KCI

The President's Corner

Treaty of Paris

(Front and Signature Pages)



The Treaty of Paris was signed on September 3, 1783

By Clay Shropshire

The Dog Days of Summer are passing, and the kiddos are back in school, ready for another year of learning. The question is, "What are they learning?"

I remember my first experience as a Color Guardsman manning the America 250 booth at the Kansas State Fair. We had candy out on the table for anyone to enjoy a piece as they passed by or stopped to chat. If a small child came up to get one, we said hello and told them that they could have a piece of candy if it was permitted by their parents. However, if a school aged youngster came

up then they would have to answer a question before they could have some candy.

The question to be answered was, "When was the Declaration of Independence signed?" It amazed us that public school students just gave us the deer-in-the-headlights look. One older grade schooler was trying to remember so I told them that in two years it would be the 250 anniversary of that event. They then said with a questioning tone, "1932?" I realized that they did not know history and they could not do simple math.

When a home schooler was asked the same question, they quickly responded with the correct answer and even offered additional information about the event. They were receiving an education because they could read, write, and do arithmetic. They knew history and geography and probably had a good foundation in the sciences.

With public schools the way they seem to be, it is very important for us as members of the Sons of the American Revolution to continue in our traditions of promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and educating future generations, along with honoring Revolutionary War Patriots.



August Chapter Meeting in Review

Our Chapter Meeting on August 15 was led by Clay Shropshire at Milburn Country Club.

Candy Novak, from the Mid-Continent Genealogical Library in Independence, gave a presentation on Genealogical Research.



Candy Novak

She presented a program about the sources and the use of those sources for genealogical research she has developed over 55 years of research and instructing others in seeking their genealogy. It was informative, with clear slides of the sources she reviewed. Those who have done significant research wish they had a printout of this presentation many years ago.

Researching

1. Family sources
2. Previous research
3. U.S. records
4. Emigration & immigration records
5. Naturalization records
6. Relatives and neighbors

Select Website Links

Internet Archive

<https://archive.org/>

Digital Public Library of America

<https://dp.la/>

FamilySearch Digital Library

<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/>

Digital State Archives

<https://sites.google.com/site/statearchives/home>

Steven French, Chairman of the Fire Safety Committee, read the commendation letter for Captain Noel Priefert written by Justin Ducey, Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshal with the Olathe Fire Department. Steven presented Captain Priefert with a framed Commendation Certificate and Medal. He was also given a ribbon that could be worn on his uniform. Captain Priefert was joined by his parents at the meeting.



Captain Noel Priefert receiving the Fire Safety Commendation & Medal from Steven French

Those in attendance at our August Delaware Crossing Chapter Meeting witnessed a very rare moment in our history. Six new members were inducted into the Chapter. The induction of new members, generally one or two at a time occurs very few months in one year. In the nearly 25 years Dewey Fry has been a member of DX, he has never witnessed or heard about six new members being inducted at one time.

Since we were in the smallest room at Milburn, it seemed like we were standing on top of each other but we managed to get everything accomplished.

President Clay Shropshire administered the oath and then presented each new compatriot with their certificate and information packet.



Clay Shropshire leads the new inductees taking the oath



Six new Compatriots in the Delaware Crossing Chapter

Next it was time to pin the Buff and Blue Rosettes onto the new compatriots. The front of the room was full from wall to wall.



Rick Alley and five other Compatriots helped pin the Buff and Blue rosettes onto our new members.

Meet the newest members:



Ben Breazeale



Chad Burke



Eugene Malcolm



Brad Burke

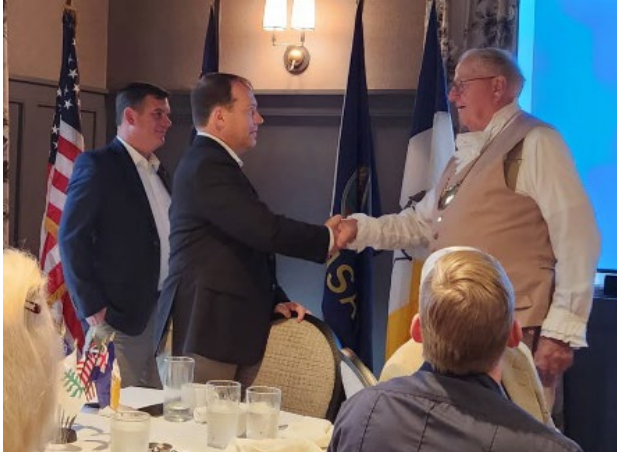


Keith Riggs



Ted Lockwood

The last step was for Dewey Fry to hand out the Challenge Coin and explain what the coin is used for. Just be sure to have yours with you when with this group.



Dewey Fry handing a Challenge Coin to Chad Burke

We inducted another new compatriot in a special ceremony at his home. Jeremy Harding works in the Communications Department for the Johnson County Sheriff's Office. He normally works Thursday through Sunday at this time so attending a meeting on Saturday morning is next to impossible. When he is home he is busy with a son and daughter while his wife is at work.

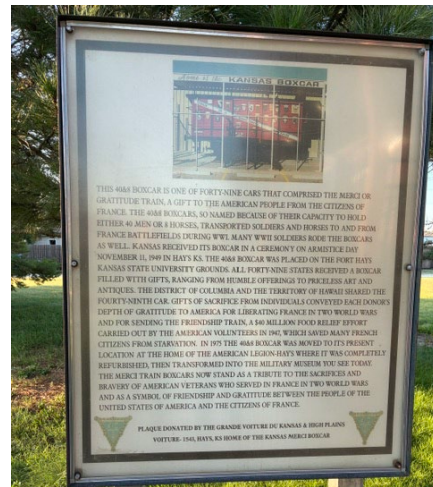
Clay Shropshire attended in Color Guard uniform, complete with lanterns, for the induction.



Jeremy Harding with assistance from his daughter

Color Guard and Members at Events

Activities started early for the month of August with the Board of Governors meeting on the first in Hays. The evening prior to the meeting, we toured a Merci boxcar that was gifted to us by France after WWI. Each box car would carry either 40 soldiers or 8 horses so they were called 40 & 8 box cars. Very few still exist in decent condition in the US of all the ones we received.





Personal tour guide explaining the contents inside



Tim Peterman, Bruce Smith, Alan Martin, Jeffrey Winters, and Clay Shropshire attended the BOG meeting



The Color Guard with the Ladies Auxilliary

The local newspaper featured a story about the group coming to town. Hopefully the publicity will help the Hays Chapter, and others in central and western Kansas, to add new members. I am sure there are lots of future compatriots living in the area who could help enrich the Kansas Society.



On Friday evening, August 21, Dennis Nelson and Clay Shropshire listened as Rick McClellan entertained the crowd at Mr. P's BBQ in Overland Park



Rick McClellan aka Ricky Rick

Donations to NSSAR by Dennis Nelson Americanism Chairman

Many members have made cash donations to NSSAR funds but there are also non-cash donations that can be made to the Library or Museum.

To make book donations to the NSSAR Genealogy Library select the "Library" tab on the sar.org website. Select the "Wish List" tab and then select a book the Library wants and Amazon will ship the book directly to the Library. The purchase is made with your credit card which is the value of your donation.

We all have genealogical or American Revolution books that we no longer want. Donate those books to the chapter at a monthly meeting and I will compile a list of books to see if the NSSAR Library would like them. If they want some of these donated books, we will deliver them to the

Library every six months at Spring and Fall Leadership meetings in Louisville. If the NSSAR Library does not want a book, the chapter will donate it to the Johnson County Genealogical Society or the Johnson County Library.

The NSSAR Museum Curator has identified selected historic artifacts that are available for purchase for the SAR Museum Collection. The Artifact Donor Wish list can be found under the "Museum" tab on the sar.org website.

The Delaware Crossing chapter earns one point for each dollar of value of non-cash donations made by the chapter or its members to the NSSAR Library or Museum. We can earn up to 10,000 points annually. Please email me at dnfromkc@swbell.net or call me at 913-522-3867 so I can keep track of our donations.

Final Results of the 2025 Contest by Dennis Nelson, Americanism Chairman

The NSSAR has posted on its website the details of the 2025 Americanism /President General's Streamer Award contest. Delaware Crossing Chapter competed with 56 chapters that submitted reports for the category of 91-150 members. There were four membership categories and a total of 387 out of about 600 chapters submitted reports.

Americanism recognizes chapters that participate in outreach education efforts and who acknowledge community leaders for their efforts to perpetuate the goals of the SAR. In the Americanism contest DX finished 4th (2024 – 3rd). Third place scored 24 more points than DX. Compared to all chapters, DX ranked 5th out of about 600 chapters, which ranks Delaware Crossing in the top 1%.

The President General's Streamer contest recognizes chapters for their efforts to achieve the administrative goals of the SAR and who

contribute to the success of the SAR. In the PG Streamer contest, DX was 8th (2024 –4th). The President General's Cup recognizes chapters that best achieves the goals of both Americanism and President General's Streamer award contest. In the President General's Cup contest, the points for Americanism and PG Streamer are combined and divided by the number of members in the chapter to arrive at an average of overall points per member. DX scored in all 13 categories. DX finished 4th (2024-3rd).

Congratulations to all chapter members for their efforts whether it is active participation in the chapter and/or providing financial support through dues and donations. These results clearly demonstrate that Delaware Crossing is one of the best SAR chapters in NSSAR for both outreach and administrative support of SAR programs.

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.

Speaking of a parade, on Saturday, September 12, the truck and trailer will be at the Old Settlers Days Parade in Olathe. The Kansas Society Sons of the American Revolution members will be joined by the Mission Hills Chapter of DAR. The parade begins at 10:00 but we generally gather up around 9:00. More information will be forthcoming as they let me know what our position is in the lineup.

The official parade route is just over one mile starting at the intersection of Kansas and Loula and working its way north and east to the

intersection of Park and Buchanan. Let Clay Shropshire know if you would be able to attend either as a rider or as a walker (785-851-8122 or winemakerclay@gmail.com).



September 10, 11 & 12 2026
Johnson County Old Settlers 2026

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.



Truck and decorated trailer for parade riders

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.