



The Delaware Crossing Patriot
Kansas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
January 2021
Metro Kansas City's Oldest & Largest Chapter, Founded 1960

NEXT MEETING:

When: January 16, 2021

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

Reservations & Cost: For reservations, email Secretary@dxsar.com or call Steven French (913)-832-6034 by 7:00 PM, Tuesday, January 12, 2021.

Cost: \$17.00/person

Program: Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

CALENDER & COMING EVENTS

JANUARY 2021

- 13 DX EC Meeting
- 16 DX Chapter Meeting – Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

February 2021

- 6 BOG unknown if in person or virtual
- 17 DX EC Meeting
- 20 DX Chapter Meeting

March 2021

- 19,20 State Conference, Leavenworth, KS

The President's Corner



By Ken Ludwig

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As I write this in mid- December, listening to Christmas music and watching holiday specials, it feels like the media is trying to make us think everything is alright and ok, even though we all know that 2020 has been a terrible year. I do not know anyone who is not ready to put it in their rear view mirror.

But there is hope. We have the rollout of two different vaccines coming that should help us manage this virus better and get things back to a more normal state. We also have a

new president, but I will withhold judgement if that is a good or bad thing for the country until I see what they try to accomplish.

I would really like everyone to consider attending our next chapter meeting on January 16th for a couple of reasons. First, Dewey has lined up what I expect to be an excellent program (see the article elsewhere in the newsletter) that I am sure everyone will find very interesting and informative. The second reason is it is our annual business meeting, with the primary order of business is the election of officers for the next year. Our immediate past president Kirk Rush has worked hard on filling out a roster of candidates.

As the New Year unfolds, please be reassured that the executive committee is committed to continue the chapter activities as permitted by government officials. We will continue to plan monthly meetings and as people get vaccinated that you all will rejoin us for our in-person meetings.

There is something I have been struggling with that I am interested if any of you have suggestions on how to approach or resolve. In the last year, there are two men in my social and business circle that I have talked to about the SAR, one whose father was a member of the SAR (he has passed away), and the other who said he has revolutionary war ancestors. Both are prime candidates to join our ranks. In both cases they asked me why I am a member. My personal reasons are that we learn about history through our programs, we provide scholarship opportunities, provide service to veterans, and that it is a way to honor our patriot ancestors who made this great nation.

My reasons did not move the needle for them. Pretty much zero interest in joining the organization. "Not enough value there to invest my time". Both of these gentlemen are 50+ but their response was more of what I expect from millennials of "What will I get out of this?"

What are the reactions you get when speaking to others about the SAR? What can I do or say differently that may move these men to join us? What do we need to do either on the chapter, state, or national level to make our organization a better value proposition that makes people want to join us? Anyway, please feel free to share your thoughts on this issue.

Ken Ludwig



Dewey Fry, Alan Martin, Ken Ludwig, Gavin Kurtz, Bob Wandel and Steve French.

Wreaths Across America

Thanks to all who have sponsored one of more wreaths and to those who participated in the Wreaths Across America Day at Johnson County Memorial Gardens on Saturday December 19, 2020. There were 661 wreaths sponsored for Johnson County Memorial Gardens, 187 of which were sponsored through the Delaware Crossing Chapter and the remaining 474 were sponsored by 10 additional organizations.

The weather cooperated and the ceremony was successfully accomplished. A child, accompanied by an adult, ceremoniously laid 7 wreaths, one each for the Army, Navy, Airforce, Marines, Coast Guards, Merchant Marines and POW/MIA.

The KSSSAR Color Guard, composed of Dewey Fry, Ken Ludwig, Gavin Kurtz, and Steve French of the Delaware Crossing Chapter, Alan Martin of the Monticello Chapter and Bob Wandel of the Charles Robinson Chapter, Presented the Colors and did a ceremonial laying to the first wreaths at gravesites as the audience observed.

This was Delaware Crossing's 2nd year at Johnson County Memorial Gardens. Last year about 325 wreaths were sponsored. I look forward to future growth in the number of wreaths for the approximately 2000 veterans buried at Johnson County Memorial Gardens.

Dewey Fry
Chairman, Wreaths Across America Committee



The KSSAR Color Guard ceremonially laying wreath. The salute if to a soldier, after laying of the wreath.



Participants laying wreaths in one of several sections in the cemetery.



Kirk Rush laid a wreath at his grandfather's grave.

DXSAR Officer Nominations for 2021

- President - Ken Ludwig
- Exec VP – Bruce Smith
- Secretary - Steven French
- Treasurer - Shawn Cowing
- Asst. Treasurer - Dick Nelson
- Registrar/Genealogist - Tim Peterman
- VP Programs - **No nomination**

Please make an effort to attend the January meeting to vote on these nominations.



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

November 2020 was the 100th year anniversary of the Tomb of the unknown soldier.

Our program for the January 16, 2020 chapter meeting will be presented by Paul Frinsthal, a former Honor Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier serving as such from June 1965 to October 1967 and a member of Society of the Honor Guard of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

He will tell of some history of Arlington National Cemetery, home of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, leading up to history of the Tomb and his experience as a Guard.

The Society of the Honor Guard of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a 501 c (3) non-profit organization. The goal of the Society is to make certain that the individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives for our freedom are not forgotten, and that the general public understands this price of freedom.

The program requires approximately 40 minutes to present to be followed by a question and answer period.

You can read more of The Society of the Honor Guard of the Tomb of the unknown Soldier at the following website <https://tombguard.org/society/>

Mr. Frinsthal is Guard No. 042 on the list of Guards.

Mr. Frinsthal will not solicit or accept money for himself; however, he will accept cash or check for the Society of Honor Guard. If you choose to donate with a check, make it

payable to: **SHGTUS** (Society of **Honor Guard Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**). On the "For" or "Memo" line write **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**. It is your personal choice to donate or not, but every donation will be greatly appreciated.

