



## *The Delaware Crossing Patriot*

### *Kansas Society*

### *Sons of the American Revolution*

August 2018

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

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

**When:** August 18

**Where:** Hilton Garden Inn, 12080 S  
Strang Line Rd., Olathe, KS, 9:00AM

**Reservations & Cost:** For reservations, email  
[Secretary@dxsar.com](mailto:Secretary@dxsar.com) or call Preston  
Washington (816) 444-1198 by 3:00  
PM, the Wednesday before.

**Breakfast price: \$17.00/person**

**Program:** Matt Christiansen, history teacher  
at Blue Valley High School.

#### **CALENDER & COMING EVENTS**

08/4 BOG Meeting – Emporia, KS

08/15 DX EC Meeting, at Pegah's, 2122 W.87<sup>th</sup> St,  
Lenexa, KS; be there at 5:30 PM if eating dinner.

08/18 DX Chapter Meeting

08/24-25 South Central District Annual Meeting,  
Springfield, MO.

#### **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](mailto:Gregory.millican@gmail.com), and phone number (913) 268-4932.



#### **The President's Corner**

By Kirk Rush

#### **A 51<sup>ST</sup> STATE?**

Compatriots,

While vacationing this month in Yreka, CA I started hearing more about a popular movement to form the State of Jefferson mostly out of northern portions of CA and some southern portions of OR. So, I decided to research what the movement was all about. I had heard about the movement before on previous visits to Northern California but had never bothered to research into it, so I assumed it was just a small bunch of extreme right-wing, separatist kooks.

As I read more about it I discovered that they are NOT separatists or anti-government at all. In fact, they are staunch supporters of the US Constitution and the US government but are unhappy with their own state governments in Sacramento, CA and Salem, OR. Without going into detail, they simply do not believe they are receiving fair representation in their states' governments and wish to form a new state so that they may govern themselves as they see fit and to have proper representation in our US government.

This prompted me to look deeper into what it takes to form a new state. The basics are, of course, spelled out in Article IV, Section 3, Clause 1 of the US Constitution. It basically states that a new state cannot be formed out of an existing state or states, **unless** those states' governments consent to it. If the states' governments consent to it, then it is up to the US Congress to determine whether or not to allow the new territory to become a state.

This is precisely what several counties of Northern California (and to a lesser extent, some of southern Oregon) are attempting to do through perfectly legal and constitutional manners. There is certainly historical precedent for this. The states of Tennessee, Kentucky, Maine, West Virginia (and Vermont to some extent) were all formed in this manner. Whether or not parts of California (and Oregon) ever become the State of Jefferson and 51<sup>st</sup> state of our great nation remains to be seen; but it is certainly fascinating to watch the US Constitution, as created by our forefathers over two centuries ago, still be relevant and working in action today.

*(End of President's Corner)*

### **June Chapter Meeting in Review:**

#### **July 21 Program, "Lafayette Annual Flag Exchange":**

The speaker at the July chapter meeting was August Huber. The American Flag that flies over Lafayette's grave is changed annually at Picpus Cemetery in Paris with military pomp and circumstance. The ceremony is also highlighted by speeches of dignitaries including the US Ambassador to France. There are several wreaths

laid including one by the American Friends of Lafayette.



*1 August Huber, chapter program speaker.*



*2 Ken Ludwig (left) presents commendation to August Huber.*

See additional Lafayette information in this news letter.

### **(Article by Ken Ludwig):**

#### **Our Forefathers Flags**

This month, we are talking about the Bennington Flag.

Like many of the flags of the revolutionary war era, there seems to be more legends than facts regarding the history of this flag.

There are some facts that are true about this flag.

1. Each of the stars on this flag is 7 point stars instead of the 5 point stars that all other flags have.
2. This flag has the typical 13 stars and 13 stripes found in other flags. What is different is that the outermost strips are white instead of the typical red.
3. The blue canton is larger – it covers 9 stripes instead of the usual 7.
4. The large “76” is a reference to the signing of the Declaration of Independence



3 Bennington Flag.

Now let's talk about the legends.

1. The first legend is that this flag originated at the Battle of Bennington. Looking at the materials used in the oldest flag that exists, was made with materials not available during the revolutionary war.
2. The second legend is that is that the original flag was carried by Nathaniel Fillmore during the battle of Bennington, and that it passed down through his family (including President Millard Fillmore) until it was donated to the Bennington Museum in Bennington, Vermont. This is

also why this flag is sometimes called the Fillmore Flag.

3. The flag most likely was developed during the war of 1812, to recall the spirit of the revolution.
4. It may also have been developed for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

*(End of Bennington Flag article)*

**Web addresses and information provided by August Huber from his presentation:**

There were several references in my talk about Lafayette. Here are the ones that I believe are important.

The 'you tube' video of the annual ceremony at Lafayette's tomb in Paris at the Picpus Cemetery.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2w1ALvJNdQ>

There are many other videos, but I believe this is by far the best.

Another is my references to Lafayette's participation in crafting the "Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen". He, along with Thomas Jefferson, crafted this document which in many respects parallels our Bill of Rights, they were both adopted within a few months of each other in 1789.

<https://www.marxists.org/history/france/revolution/rights-man.htm> I know it is an odd source, but it is one of the few clean references. A better, and more scholarly discussion is here:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=umn.31951002970991z;view=1up;seq=25>

An obvious one is the Wikipedia page about the cemetery.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Picpus\\_Cemetery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Picpus_Cemetery)

And finally, I have attached the copy of the Remarks given by the Chargé d’Affaires, Uzra Zeya, at the Flag Changing Ceremony at the tomb of General Lafayette

June 30, 2017 at the Picpus Cemetery. She was in charge after the departure of the Obama era ambassador, Ms. Jane Hartley, and prior to the current ambassador’s appointment, Ms. Jamie McCourt.

[Remarks given by the Chargé d’Affaires a.i. Uzra Zeya Flag Changing Ceremony at the tomb of General Lafayette June 30, 2017 at the Picpus Cemetery](#)

Brigadier Général Grégo,  
Mr. President of the Sons of the American Revolution,  
Mr. President of the Society of the Cincinnati in France,  
Ladies and gentlemen,  
Dear friends,

Today, we gather here on this hallowed ground to honor a great French leader and recognize the friendship between two nations that he helped build. As the annual celebrations that honor the founding of our respective republics approach, it is fitting that we take time now to remember a man who was instrumental in the birth of both countries.

General Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, born into a renowned and noble French family, saw at a young age that the newly emerging United States and the ideals being put forward there were worth supporting, and he travelled to

the New World to be part of it. After fighting alongside American Forces in two important battles and building strong friendships with George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, Lafayette returned to France to lobby for increased support of the American Revolution. He returned to the colonies with 5,500 French troops and 5 Frigates, assuring the Americans that more would be coming. His unwavering support and his inspired military leadership were instrumental in the success of the American Revolution, and it is safe to say that without his support and leadership, the United States of America might not exist as we know it.

After his return to France, General Lafayette played pivotal roles in both the French Revolution and the formation of the Republic. Inspired by the Constitution of the United States and assisted by his friend Tomas Jefferson, he wrote “The Declaration of the Rights of Man,” which was a core statement of the values of the French Revolution and has had a major and continuing impact on the development of freedom and democracy in Europe and Worldwide. General Lafayette was an inspiration for freedom and democracy in France and the United States, and across the globe. The bonds he helped created between our nations hold strong to this day.

One hundred years ago, France was under siege in “The Great War,” having already suffered three years of brutal combat on its own soil. In its time of need, France turned to an old friend, the United States, who answered the call.

With 14,000 US Troops arriving at Saint Nazaire and other locations in the summer of 1917, Colonel Charles Stanton, aide to General Pershing, came here to Lafayette’s Tomb to declare “Lafayette, we are here!” With those words, he signaled to France and the world that the United States was committed to democracy and freedom, and that it also stood ready to repay its debt to its closest ally.

Again and again, the United States would commit its sons and daughters and its national treasure to help our allies resist tyranny and oppression and to help free those already trapped by these evils.

As we remember General Lafayette's support to our new nation over 200 years ago, as we also remember the arrival of the first US troops in Saint Nazaire 100 years ago to aid France during World War One, it is fitting to reaffirm our mutual solidarity now and for the future.

Our nations stand united to combat the myriad challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century; our defense and security forces and organizations train together and work together at home and around the world every day, in defense of liberty. In Africa, the Middle East, the Pacific, and across Europe, French and US Forces train and fight alongside one another in total solidarity. This modern-day cooperation highlights the resilience of the partnership Lafayette started, indeed America's oldest alliance. We are committed to working with the nation of France and its people as friends and allies in the future as in the past, to ensure that our nations and our freedoms remain strong and secure.

Today, to echo the statement made here almost 100 years ago, we say "Lafayette, we are still here!"

*(End of Uzra Zeya remarks)*

*(End of Patriot newsletter)*