



The Delaware Crossing Patriot Kansas Society

January 2016

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

NEXT MEETING:

When: Jan 16th 9:00 am
Where: Hilton Garden Inn, 12080 S Strang
Line Rd. Olathe, KS

Program: Overland Park 9/11 Memorial

Reservations & Cost: For reservations, e-mail
reserve@dxsar.com or call Stu Conrad at 913-
897-3351 by 3:00 PM, the Wednesday before

COMING EVENTS CALANDER

Jan 16 Chapter Meeting – Elections!
Feb 13 Chapter Meeting plus Knight Essay
and Eagle Scout Presentations
Feb 20 George Washington Birthday
Celebration Luncheon – Ritz
Charles
Mar 12 Chapter Meeting – Awards &
Medals
Mar 18/19 KSSSAR Annual Conference

2016/17 Slate of Officer Nominations

President: Stu Conrad
Exec VP: Shawn Cowing
VP Programs: Matt Brady
Secretary: Kirk Rush
Treasurer: Shawn Cowing
Asst. Treas.: Dick Nelson
Reg/Gen. : Tim Peterman
KYF Trustee: Scott Larson

VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE IN JANUARY



The President's Corner

Brian Revard, Pres. DX

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a enjoyable holiday season. 2015 was a busy year for our chapter with several outstanding informational programs, numerous color guard activities, youth contests, picnic, Christmas Dinner, and our 55th anniversary celebration. We also lost some dear friends in 2015.

I am excited about what 2016 will bring. The Executive Committee is working with the VP of Programs to bring some high quality programs to our monthly meetings. The George Washington Birthday Celebration is coming up in February. The youth contests, awards, and chapter elections are all happening this spring.

I hope to see you at some or all of these activities. If you haven't been to a chapter meeting in a while, come check it out and say hello. You are a member of the oldest and largest chapter in Kansas, don't be a stranger.

Let's have a great 2016 together

Farewell to a Beloved Patriot and Member

In December of this year, we said farewell to one of our fondest patriots and long standing member of the Delaware Crossing Chapter, Compatriot Frederick Kaffenberger.



Fred was a long time member of the chapter and state Color Guards, a former Chapter Commander and State Commander as well as a mentor to many.



I recall that my very first participation in uniform outside of a chapter meeting was with Fred as we presented the colors at the theater in Shawnee Mission Park. I was pretty green, needing instruction on everything from stepping off on the correct

foot, to performing a proper salute – but Fred was patient and I was proud to later receive my Major General's stars from this great man.

Fred passed away on December 13th. Fittingly and I am sure to his soul's great satisfaction – doing what he loved to do, participating in Wreaths Across America in full uniform and serving the organization and the veterans that he so dearly loved. Fred never sought the limelight nor craved

recognition for the things he did – but it's fitting that the story of his passing went viral on the internet.

Fred was the very definition of a dedicated volunteer. Among the many things he did, he was probably most respected for his love of the flags of this great nation and using his personal collection of historical flags to provide presentations not only to the chapter, but to school groups and others.

No matter the weather or the length of the parade – Fred could be counted upon to be there with his beloved Brown Bess often with bayonet attached (we joked, to keep us in step). Fred will never be replaced and will be sorely missed.



Fred Kaffenberger and beloved wife, Wanda

Jean Kesler Passes December 19th

This December we also note the passing of a long-time supporter and friend of the chapter, Jean Kesler.



Jean, wife of compatriot Kes Kesler for 67 years, was a beloved friend of the chapter and a DAR member. Jean and Kes were an inseparable team and Jean was always right there beside (and sometimes in front) of Kes in helping the chapter anyway she could. Jean was a teacher and artist; an accomplished silversmith as well as a talented stained glass artist.

Jean designed and produced the Kansas Memorial Cockade for the DX Colorguard, proudly worn by this writer and many others.



Jean is survived by her husband Kes, son and DX member Greg and daughter Amy, and also nephew and DX member Kyle Kesler.

Poster Contest Generates Over 100 Entrants

Every year the SAR holds a Poster Contest for young students with posters being created by the students and judged by teachers and ultimately the chapter. It has been increasingly difficult to get local schools to participate in the contest as lessons plans and curricula become more and more regulated and controlled. In past years we had excellent participation with Poster Chairs such as Fred Kaffenberger and Dick Nelson, before it became more difficult to gain access and time at the schools. Much of the success of the program turns on the participation and buy-in of the teachers.

This year, Chair Dewey Fry has had outstanding success with Pioneer Ridge Middle School in Gardner. On February 5th we will be hosting the results and presenting winners among the more than 100 posters created by students. Teachers, including coordinating teacher, Vickie Chandler will be selecting 12 finalists to be judged by DX members.

The program will be held at 8:15 at Pioneer Ridge located at 16200 Kill Creek Road, in Gardner. That is on the South side of Gardner north of 191st St and west of Gardner Rd. Exit I-35 at Gardner Rd go north a very short distance, first left, then west on 191st St to Kill Creek Rd, north to the school.

Color Guard members in uniform are invited and requested to attend. Please arrive no later than 0800 and plan to mingle with the students and teachers until about 1100.