



*The Delaware Crossing Patriot*  
*Kansas Society*  
*Sons of the American Revolution*  
December 2025  
Metro Kansas City's Oldest & Largest Chapter, Founded 1960

*The Revolution is coming!*  
*Seven Months- Four Days*

**NEXT MEETING:**

**When:** December 12, 2025

**Where:** Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
13145 S. Black Bob Rd., Olathe, KS, Happy  
Hour Starting at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00pm.

**Reservations & Cost:** For reservations,  
email [Secretary@dxsar.org](mailto:Secretary@dxsar.org) or call Clay  
Shropshire 785-521-8122 by 7:00 PM,  
Monday, December 1, 2025.

**Cost:** **\$45.00/person**

**Program:** Christmas Party

**CALENDAR & COMING EVENTS**

**December 2025**

- 10 DX EC Meeting
- 12 DX Christmas Party

**January 2026**

- 14 DX EC Meeting
- 17 DX Chapter Meeting

**February 2026**

- 7 BOG
- 18 DX EC Meeting
- 21 DX Chapter Meeting

**The President's Corner**



By Larry Tatum

We all owe a big thank you to Pat and Dewey Fry for making the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration a huge success. Dewey coordinated and planned the entire celebration from top to bottom. And thanks to all of you that helped setup, take down and clean the hall afterward. It goes without saying, that our Chapter events wouldn't be possible without the volunteer help from our members.

Our next meeting is the Annual Christmas Party. This year it will be catered by Garozzo's, featuring their famous Chicken Spiedini, Rigatoni with vodka sauce and the Garozzo House Salad. Also, we will be entertained by a Stringed Quartet as we dine.

I always enjoy socializing with our compatriots and their quests, so bring your appetite and Christmas Spirit to this wonderful annual event.

Please take time to review all that we have to be thankful for and get ready for the special year ahead of us, as we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the United States of America.

I wish all of you a happy holidays and a very Merry Christmas.



*Michael Warren tells about his Patriot Ancestor.*

### **65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Delaware Crossing Chapter SAR**

Thirty-Six Members and Guests celebrated the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of our chapter at Grinter Place on November 15, 2025. The meeting took place in the meeting facility. After lunch and the chapter meeting, the members and guests toured the Grinter House. The chapter was founded on November 1, 1960 in the living room of the Grinter House.

After a tasty catered lunch and special 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cakes for dessert the programs started.

The Speaker for the event was Kirk Rush who presented the history of the Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Contest leaders and winners of our chapter contest. The contest is named after Delaware Crossing Chapter Past President Arthur

M. King and his wife Berdena. Arthur King was an active member at the chapter, state and national level. The first National Contest winner was Kris Kobach, who was the winner of our Chapter Contest and is now the Attorney General of the State of Kansas. Last year's Chapter Contest Winner took 4<sup>th</sup> place in the NSSAR level. The award for an SAR member who has supported the Eagle Scouts with his time, talent and money for several years is named the Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award after past Delaware Crossing member Robert E. "Bob" Burt. The top 15 winners at the National Contest level are present cash awards. First Place is now \$10,000. Fourth Place is \$2000.

Dennis Nelson presented the Moment in Revolutionary War History before lunch and displayed books and a trifold board of some of the chapter's history with photos and articles of past leaders.

Two trifold boards with listings of the founding members, all past chapter presidents and some photos of the interior of the Grinter House on display. They were provided by Dewey Fry.

Michael Lee Warren was registered as a member of the SAR on August 15, 2025 and was inducted at our DX Chapter 65 Anniversary meeting on November 15, 2025. Michael took his oath of membership and was presented his Membership Certificate by President Larry Tatum. After which he was pinned with his SAR Rosette by John Schatzel. He then lite a candle in honor of his patriot ancestor John Gill and told of John Gill's contribution to the Revolutionary War. We look forward to Michael being an active member of Delaware Crossing Chapter.

Dennis Nelson was presented the Liberty Medal for sponsoring 10 new members.

Gary Hicks was presented a Supplemental Application for his patriot ancestor Ledstone Noland.

A silent auction of items donated by members was held at the event. Unfortunately, Dewey Fry forgot the Bid Sheets and his wife Pat had to drive home during lunch and get them. That shortened the time to make bids at the end of lunch, and during viewing of the Grinter House. Additionally, some picked up their bid sheets a bit early and paid for the items. Kevin Dyches will issue a report on the proceeds from the silent auction at our next meeting.

Photos were taken of Past Chapter President and the Color Guard in attendance.

We now look forward to the our 70<sup>th</sup> Chapter Reunion in 2030 at Griner Place.



Larry Tatum administers the SAR Oath to Michael Warren.



Larry Tatum presents the SAR Membership Certificate to Michael Warren





*John Schatzel pins the SAR Rosette on Michael Warren's lapel.*



*Michael Warren lights his Patriot's Candle.*



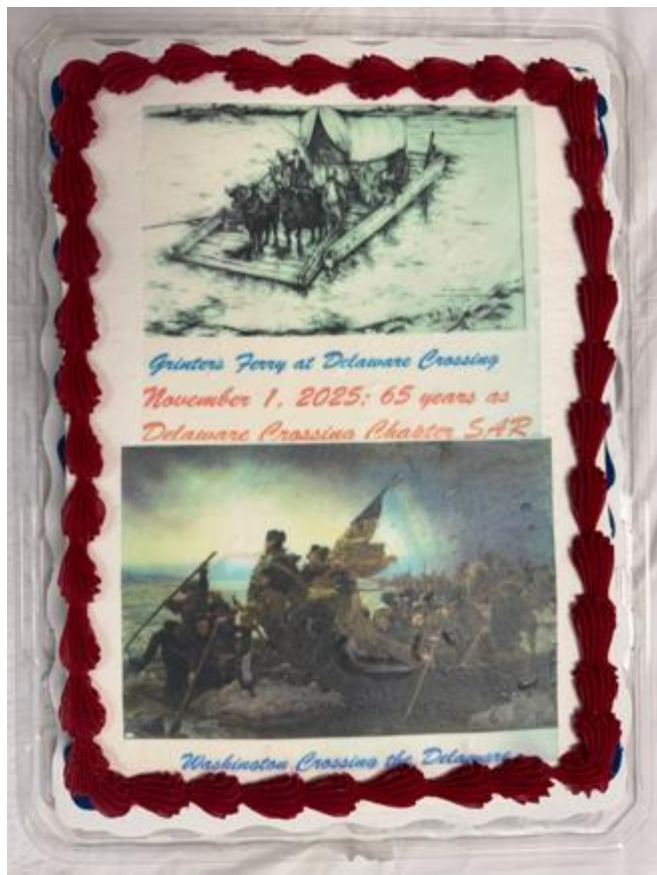
*Dewey Fry presents the DX Challenge Coin to Michael Warren.*



*Gary Hicks tells about his supplemental patriot, Ledstone Noland.*



*Kirk Rush presents the program on the Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Contest*



Color Guard members – Steven French, Dennis Nelson, Kirk Rush, Clay Shropshire, Rick Alley, Dewey Fry, Larry Tatum, Dan Dryer, and Bruce Smith.



DX Past Presidents – Richard Cox, Kirk Rush, Tim Peterman, Dewey Fry, Peter Grassl, Larry Tatum, John Forbes, Dennis Nelson and Dick Nelson.





*Vern Welkner, Jeff Winters, Brian Vasquez, Bruce Smith, Clay Shropshire, Alan Martin and Dewey Fry.*

### **Veterans Day Activities**

On Veterans Day, November 11, DX Chapter members Clay Shropshire and Dewey Fry, and dual members Alan Martin and Jeffrey Winters participated in the Leavenworth County Veterans Day Parade. See the article Your Color Guard at Work.

After the parade, Dewey Fry accompanied by his wife Pat, went to the Community Living Center on the Eisenhower Veterans Center in Leavenworth where Dewey Distributed gifts from the Delaware Crossing Chapter to 12 Veterans and visited with them one on one for 2 ½ hours. When he walked into their rooms about 8 said that George Washington was there.

Gifts of fleece throws, stainless steel insulated mugs, a Thank You Veteran for Your Service Challenge Coin, a pocket planning calendar, a bag of snacks and a bag of candy was given to each. Four sets of the aforementioned gifts were put in storage for future veterans who check in to the CLC plus underwear tee-shirts, tooth brushes and tooth paste, puzzles and books were to be put in storage general use of the veteran patients.

The final gift was \$150.00 of Pizza Hut gift cards for pizza parties which the veterans have loved for years.

The nursing staff was as grateful for us being there as the veterans as it brings joy to the veterans.

That all members who donated money directly to the Veterans Fund or for sponsoring wreaths for the annual Wreaths Across America event from which monies are returned for the Veterans Fund.

That evening Color Guardsmen from DX participated in welcoming back and Honor Flight Sponsored by Jackson Heights High School from Holton, KS. See the those participating in an accompanying article on the Color Guard.



*Alan Martin, Clay Shropshire, Vern Welkner, Bruce Smith, Brian Vasquez and Jeff Winters.*



*Dewey Fry rides with DAR Members on the Float.*



Alan Martin, Dewey Fry, Clay Shropshire and Brian Vasquez.

### **Your Color Guard at Work**

Since the last publication of the Patriot the Delaware Crossing Color Guard Members have participated in several events.

On November 1, the KSSSAR Color Guard Presented the Colors at Revolutionary War plaque dedication at Veterans Park in Shawnee conducted by the James Ross Chapter NSDAR.

Left to right in the photos are Alan Martin of the Monticello Chapter and dual member of DX, Dewey Fry and Clay Shropshire of Delaware Crossing and Brian Vazquez of the Thomas Jefferson Chapter who is the Eastern District KSSSAR Color Guard Adjutant.

On November 7, KSSSAR Color Guardsmen participated at MCI welcoming back from Washington DC , 24 veterans from an Honor Flight sponsored by South Coffey County High School. Color Guardsmen from 'Delaware Crossing were Clay Shropshire and Dewey Fry. Jeffrey Winters of Monticello Chapter and dual member of DX also participated.

On November 11, KSSAR Color Guardsmen participated On Veterans Day, November 11, DX Chapter members Clay Shropshire, Bruce Smith and Dewey Fry, and dual members Alan Martin

and Jeffrey Winters participated in the Leavenworth County Veterans Day Parade in downtown Leavenworth.

This is the largest Veterans Day Parade west of the Mississippi, and maybe America. Clay, Alan and Jeffrey marched and Dewey rode on a wagon decorated with flags along with two Mission Hills Chapter DAR members. The truck and trailer and flags were provided by Clay and Barbara Shropshire.



Alan Martin, Dewey Fry, Clay Shropshire and Brian Vasquez.



Alan Martin, Dewey Fry, Clay Shropshire and Brian Vasquez.





**MOSSAR and KSSAR Color Guard**  
**welcoming returning Veterans home.**







*Dewey Fry delivers gifts to a veteran.*

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*The KSSAR Color Guard ceremonially laying wreaths.*

### **Wreaths Across America**

Compatriots, the time for sponsoring wreaths through our chapter ended Saturday November 29 in order to get them shipped to arrive at Johnson County Memorial Gardens for the ceremony at 11:00 am on Saturday December 13.

We fell short of our goal this year. As of late November 28, we had a Delaware Crossing Group Count of 282 wreaths. Our goal was 360.

Through November 28, 12 DX members and one non-member had sponsored 44 wreaths, that were sponsored for a 1 for 1 match by Wreaths Across America totaling 88 wreaths of the 282. 138 wreaths were sponsored for the \$5.00 per wreath sent back to the Delaware Crossing Chapter for a total of \$690.00 to be divided equally for the Kesler Youth Endowment Fund and the Veterans Fund.

Members of DX and their families are encouraged to participate in the wreath laying at Johnson County Memorial Gardens 11200 Metcalf Ave, Overland Park, KS on Saturday December 13, at 11:00 am. To date JCMG has 1159 wreaths to lay.

Thank you to all who sponsored wreaths for the upcoming wreath laying.