



*The Delaware Crossing Patriot
Kansas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
November 2020
Metro Kansas City's Oldest & Largest Chapter, Founded 1960*

NEXT MEETING:

When: November 14, 2020

Where: Grinter House
1420 S 78th St., Kansas City, KS. 66111

Reservations & Cost: For reservations, email Secretary@dxsar.com or call Steven French (913)-832-6034 by 7:00 PM, Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Attendance limited to 45.

Cost: \$22.00/person

Program: 60th Anniversary Celebration

The President's Corner



CALENDER & COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2020

- 11 DX EC Meeting
- 14 *DX Chapter Meeting – 60th Anniversary Celebration, Grinter House*

DECEMBER 2020

- 16 DX EC Meeting
- 19 DX Chapter Meeting
- 19 Wreaths Across America – Johnson County Memorial Gardens

By Ken Ludwig

November is a busy month!

November 3rd is Election Day. No matter what your political persuasion or how you feel about one candidate or another, our ancestors fought and died to establish this democratic republic, so you would have the right to vote for the leaders of the country. Make sure you exercise that right and get out and vote!

November 1 is the actual 60th anniversary of our chapter formation. We are choosing to celebrate it on November 14th at the Grinter House, where our founding documents were signed. Bill Nicks the site administrator will be presenting a program on the history of the Grinter House and that will follow with a tour of the house. They are actually closed for the season, but they are opening up especially for our event.

We have a nice meal planned but we will need people to commit by November 3rd, so we can get the correct amount of food ordered, unfortunately because of Covid restrictions, we will only be able to accept the first 45 confirmed people for the event, so when the invite is sent out, please be prompt about responding.

The 26th of the month brings us our National Day of Thanksgiving. In these times, I sincerely hope that you will be able to safely gather with your families to enjoy the day.

I would like to put something on your radar screens. Dewey Fry has lined up a speaker for our January meeting that I believe will be very interesting and informative. He has found an individual who served as a guard for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. Just for planning purposes, we want to warn you that his program is 40 minutes long with a question and answer session afterward, so if you plan to attend, it will be a longer than normal meeting.

One final request. January is our annual elections for officers for the next year. I encourage you to consider being more active in the chapter and helping us to fill the vacant slots that we have in our leadership. Kirk Rush is heading up the nomination committee, so if he contacts you, please strongly consider saying YES to his request to help out the chapter.

Ken Ludwig

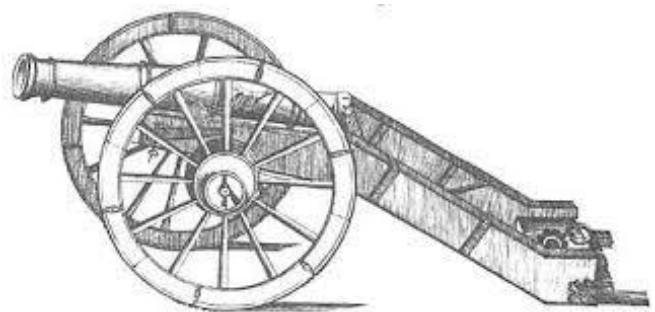


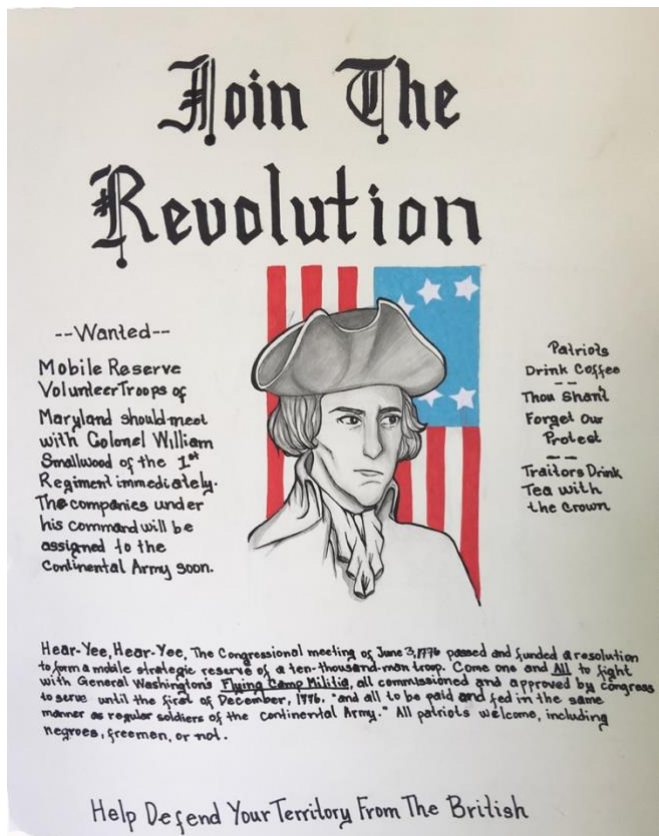
John Forbes

Presentation by John Forbes

At our October 17, 2020 chapter meeting, Compatriot John Forbes presented a program about the origins of the Declaration of Independence beginning with the establishment of the Virginia Colony House of Burgesses.

To many of us who have not studied that perspective it was both educational and enjoyable. 'Thank you, John, for preparing and presenting the program.





Audrey Gainer Makes History

Congratulations to Audrey Gainer for being the Second-Place national level winner of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest for the 2019-2020 school year.

For the 2018-2019 school year, Paige Noth of Pioneer Ridge Middle School won Second-Place at the National Contest. Paige was the first national level winner from Pioneer Ridge Middle School in the Garner-Edgerton School District and our Delaware Crossing Chapter.

Audrey Gainer's win was a rare accomplishment; for two years in succession the Second-Place National Contest Winner came from Pioneer Ridge Middle School, the Delaware Crossing Chapter SAR, and the Kansas Society Sons of the American Revolution.

The Americanism Chairman, Louis Raborg, has a special interest in Audrey's poster and wishes it to tour his home state after being displayed at NSSAR headquarter until June 2021.

What is even better is that the two young ladies know each other and are teammates on the same socker team.

The announcement of the first three places was to have been made at the NSSAR Annual Congress in July. Corona Virous 2019 caused the Annual Conference to be canceled. The President General of the NSSAR ordered the announcement to be not made until an in-person meeting at the Fall Leadership Meeting in Louisville, KY on September 28, 2020. That meeting was also cancelled. The announcement was made September 12, at an Americanism Committee Meeting.



Presentations at October 17, 2020 Chapter Meeting

COVID-19 hindered the timely presentation of certificates and awards at both the Delaware Crossing March meeting and the Kansas Society SAR Annual Conference in March. As a result, that have been presented at various times and locations. At our chapter meeting last month, Ken Ludwig and Kirk Rush were presented their Life Membership certificates. The member must purchase a Life Membership, they are not awarded free to members. This means both will not pay annual dues to the KSSSAR or NSSAR in the future.

Another member, Dan Berry, also purchased a Life Membership. He was not in attendance, nor was his certificate in the possession of Ken Ludwig to be included in the photo.

Yes, Ken presented his certificate to himself, another unorthodox happening caused by COVID-19.

Congratulations Ken, Kirk and Dan and thank you for your continued dedications and planning to be a member for life of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Jim Mozena was presented the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal by immediate Past-President Kirk Rush for his service as Vice-President of Program for two years ending March 2020. After the presentation, Jim just stood there for a few seconds posing for a photo, then he exclaimed “Isn’t anybody going to take a photo? Dewey Fry had already taken 3 by then and Steve French had taken some; but we each took another so Jim could witness it.



Kirk Rush presents Jim Mozena the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal.



Ken Ludwig and Kirk Rush with their Life Membership Certificates.



Dewey Fry presents Danny E. Hoefer the Certificate of Commendation.

Certificate of Commendation Presented to Danny E. Hoefer

On Saturday October 17, 2020 Danny E. Hoefer of Stilwell was presented a Certificate of Commendation for in Recognition of Exemplary Patriotism in display of The Flag of the United State of America by Compatriot Dewey Fry.

Danny flies two flags, one in his front yard and one in his back yard, both are adequately lighted.

On the 4th of July he flies additional flags. 16 more 3 ft X 5 ft flags on special poles made by Danny that swivel and align all flags in the same direction with a slight breeze or any wind.

The flag in his front yard flies year-round and is monitored by Dewey Fry when the Hoefer's are on vacation. Dewey Fry had thought he had presented Danny with a certificate in the past, a check of records and of Danny's walls revealed he had not. Sometimes you're just too close; the Hoefer's have lived across the street from Dewey for the past 23 years. A lighted flag has been in his yard ever since a couple days after they moved in.

THE CHAPTER FOUNDING

ONE WOULD THINK

The Delaware Crossing Chapter of the Kansas Society of The Sons of The American Revolution. Located in Johnson County Kansas was chartered in 1960. Some would think the chapter was named in honor of George Washington's crossing of the Delaware River, which occurred on the night of December 25-26, 1776, during the American Revolutionary War was the first move in a surprise attack organized by George Washington against Hessian forces (German auxiliaries in the service of the British) in Trenton, New Jersey, on the morning of December 26. Planned in partial secrecy, Washington led a column of Continental Army troops across the icy Delaware River in a logistically challenging and dangerous operation. Other planned crossings in support of the operation were either called off or ineffective, but this did not prevent Washington from surprising and defeating the troops of Johann Rall quartered in Trenton. The army crossed the river back to Pennsylvania, this time laden with

prisoners and military stores taken as a result of the battle.

Washington's army then crossed the river a third time at the end of the year, under conditions made more difficult by the uncertain thickness of the ice on the river. They defeated British reinforcements under Lord Cornwallis at Trenton on January 2, 1777, and defeated his rear guard at Princeton on January 3, before retreating to winter quarters in Morristown, New Jersey.

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED

In January of 1831 a twenty-one-year-old Kentuckian by the name of Moses Grinter was sent to establish a ferry crossing at the Kansas River near the present location of 78th and Kaw Drive. The ferry was to serve as a vital link in the supply lines of the Leavenworth Cantonment, established in 1827 by Colonel Henry Leavenworth. At that time, the area north of the Kansas River was part of the Delaware Reserve established in 1829 and hence the crossing was to become known as the ‘*Delaware Crossing*’

On November 1, 1960, in the house built by Moses Grinter, the Delaware Crossing Chapter, Kansas Society of the Sons of the American was chartered.

The chartered members included:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Hugh Means | Byron Beery |
| Donald Little | |
| Frank Thompson | William Thomas Little |
| Frank Lorin Banks | |
| Frank Edwards | Caryl D. Sinnet |
| John Breidenthal | |
| Christopher Thomas II | John Billingsly, Sr. |
| Danial Anthony III | |

Over the years, many members have served with great distinction in not only at the chapter level, but at the state and national levels of the society.

Notables include:

- Arthur Mansfield King -President General 1980-81, Secretary General 1978-80
- Donald Campbell Little -Chancellor General 1967-68
- Robert Eugene Burt -Genealogist General 1988-89
- George Arthur Luther -Historian General 1980-82, Registrar General 1982-84
- Charles Frederick Bragg -Genealogist General 2006-08, Treasurer General 2008-09
- Ralph Goodell, Jr. -NSSAR Executive Secretary

- 8 Vice President Generals – South Central District
- 15 Trustees and Alternate Trustee
- 8 Minute Man Recipients
- 11 Kansas Society Presidents

The chapter grew rapidly from 20 to about 80 members in 1976. In 1980 there were 104 members. In 2006 the membership reached a highpoint of 232.

Many of the new members were from Missouri, and in succeeding years they went on to form other chapters; these include Alexander Majors and William C. Corum.

In 2006 several members became charter members of a new chapter, Monticello, formed in Shawnee, Kansas.

Soon thereafter, chapter members lead the reestablishment of the Henry Leavenworth Chapter.

Preston Washington, *Chapter Historian*

DELAWARE CROSSING CHAPTER

HISTORY

Reprint from the 50th Anniversary.

The Delaware Crossing Chapter was chartered November 1, 1960, at the historical Grinter House at what is now 78th Street and Kaw Drive, Kansas City, Kansas, near where the Delaware Indians crossed the Kaw (aka Kansas) River. The meetings were social affairs and it was rather a "gentleman's" society. Observance was largely military, due to the military leadership. The chapter celebrated its 50th Anniversary at Grinter Place in November 2010.

In 1975 Judge Donald Little called a meeting to select a new president. Those attending included John Duncan, "Fritz" Amos, Arthur M. King, Jack Bayne, and Willard B. Snyder. King was chosen as President and Bayne as Vice President. Immediately, there was a drastic change. Meetings were held more frequently, and the membership was opened up. The chapter grew rapidly from 20 to about 80 members in 1976. In 1980 there were 104 members. In 2006 the membership reached a highpoint of 232.

Eventually, regular meetings on Saturday mornings were instigated and the meeting locations moved to Johnson County. Many of the new members were from Missouri, and in succeeding years they went on to form other chapters; these include Alexander Majors and William C. Corum. In 2006 several members became charter members of a new chapter, Monticello, formed in Shawnee, Kansas. Soon thereafter, chapter members lead the reestablishment of the Henry Leavenworth Chapter.

The chapter has produced many distinguished compatriots in state, regional, and national offices. Presidents of the Kansas Society from the Delaware Crossing Chapter (aka DX) include Judge Donald C. Little, C. Y. Thomas, Arthur M. King, Ralph H. Goodell, Jr., Robert O. Dickey, Robert E. Burt, Dr. Lee W. Patrick, Jack Bayne, Herrick "Kes" Kesler, I. Barnett Ellis, Peter O. Grassl, Robert "Bob" Capps, Jr, and Dennis Nelson. Among those who went on to national office were Robert Burt who became Boy Scout Chairman and Genealogist General; G. Arthur Luther, who was Historian General, Orations Chairman, and Registrar General; and Judge Donald C. Little, Chancellor General. Those attaining Vice President General include Judge Donald C. Little, C. Y. Thomas II, Robert O. Dickey, Herrick "Kes" Kesler and I. Barnett Ellis, Peter Grassl, and Robert Capps, Jr. The one compatriot that stands out is Arthur M. King, who was elected President General of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Some notable events:

- Led the founding of the George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee.
- Created the Eagle Scout Scholarship program which became the Arthur and Berdena King Eagle Scout Scholarship.
- Formation of a "period" Color Guard, which has received national awards.
- Created the Kesler Youth Endowment Fund to support youth programs.
- Educational programs about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.
- Recognition of the role of the Delaware Indians in the Revolutionary War.