The Delaware Crossing Patriot
Kansas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
November 2024
Metro Kansas City's Oldest & Largest Chapter, Founded 1960

The Revolution is coming!
One Year- Eight Months - Four Days

NEXT MEETING:
When: November 16, 2024

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

Reservations & Cost: For reservations, email Secretary@dxsar.com or call Clay Shropshire 785-521-8122 by 7:00 PM, Tuesday, November 12, 2024.

Cost: **$27.00/person**

Program: DX Anniversary – Review of Student Contests

CALENDAR & COMING EVENTS

November 2024

2 BOG Meeting
13 DX EC Meeting
16 DX Chapter Anniversary Meeting

December 2024

11 DX EC Meeting
14 DX Christmas Party

January 2024

15 DX EC Meeting
18 DX Chapter Meeting

The President's Corner

By Ken Ludwig

From the SAR website, the Mission Statement of the SAR contains 3 main components:

1. Remembering Our Past ….By honoring those who served or assisted the colonies during the Revolutionary War
2. Promoting Core Values…By protecting our Constitution and perpetuating American ideals and traditions

3. Shaping Young Minds….By educating our youth about the constitution and those who developed the American ideals and traditions.

We are a very active chapter and rank high nationally for chapters our size as Dennis Nelson will share with us in his talk this month,
What I want to spend time talking about this month is our educational programs. Our chapter participates in the following educational programs: Knight Essay Contest, Rumbaugh Oration Contest, Eagle Scout Contest, Elementary Poster Contest, Youth Brochure Contest, and the newest addition a Youth Video Contest. We have had a couple of 1st and 2nd place finishers in the Poster Contest, and a couple of years ago; we had a young man place 5th or 6th nationally in the Essay Contest but won the Oration contest.
This is a timely article since most of these contests are currently going on with the submissions required by the end of the year. You can participate in this process if you have children or grandchildren, neighbors, or other young people you know in these age groups, you can encourage them to enter into the contests.
In addition to supporting the contests, we have also developed a Patriot Chest with artifacts from the revolutionary period or replicas that can be used for educational talks and as conversation starters at fairs and festivals.
Our chapter pays cash awards to the winners of all the above contests which are funded by our Kessler Youth Endowment Fund (KYEF). This fund is invested in an exchange traded fund that contains dividend paying companies. It consistently throws off about $3000.00 in dividends on the roughly $90000.00 invested in the fund that pretty much covers the awards for the year so we do not have to dip into chapter funds. The issue is that our awards are not keeping up with inflation, and with the new video contest, there will be even more pressure on staying within the $3000 yearly dollars available for awards.
So how do we manage this? One path is we change our awards and only pay out for the 1st place winners in each contest. Another path is to change our investment to something riskier, but that would put the funds principal at risk, plus there is a chance that there would be no returns meaning we could only fund the contests out of the chapter coffers. Probably the best solution is to increase the principal in our fund. Just think – if we could double the amount invested from our current $90K to a $180k, the amount available for awards would be in the $6000 range.

Ken Ludwig presents a Certification of Appreciation to John Forbes.

KC Area Revolutionary War Patriots

Compatriot John Forbes presented a program at our October Chapter Meeting about the 16 to 18 Revolutionary War Patriots that are buried in the Kansas City Area. With concentration on Sarah Ruddell Davis. Sarah Ruddell Davis was the mother-in-law of Thomas Johnson the founder of the Shawnee Indian Mission and the namesake of Johnson County, Kansas. She is the only

Revolutionary War Patriot found to be buried in Kansas to date. Her grave is located in the Shawnee Indian Mission Cemetery, Fairway, KS. The SAR had a Grave Marking Ceremony at the cemetery about five years ago when Kirk Rush as DX President presided over it.

It is safe to say, John Forbes is the most knowledgeable person in the Kansas City region on Sarah Ruddell Davis.

SAR Patriot Marker for Sarah Ruddell Davis.

Sarah Ruddell Davis Tombstone.

John Forbes presents the program on Revolutionary War Patriots buried in the Kansas City area.

Ken Ludwig presents Richard McClellan with his Certificate of Membership.

Welcome Aboard – Richard Lee McClellan

Richard Lee McClellan became a member of the NSDAR, KSSSAR and Delaware Crossing Chapter on September 13, 2024. His NSDAR Member No. is 230986 is KSSSAR No. is 4067.

Richard was administered his Membership Oath at our October 19th Chapter Meeting by President Ken Ludwig.

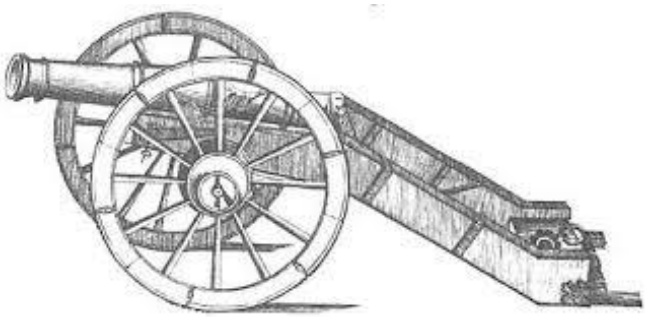
Richard's Patriot Ancestor is George Holt who joined as a Private in the North Carolina Militia from Town of Hillsboro in 1778. He served for 3 months in the Company of Captain Gwinn and Captain Murray. He was promoted to Sargent and served 3 months under Captain Gwinn under the Command of General Butler.

Richard's Sponsor was Dennis Nelson. The two first met at the Farmers Market in Lenexa while Dennis was taking a break from the seminar of the Johnson County Genealogy Society. Richard identified Dennis as a member of the SAR due to the Color Guard uniform he was wearing.

Richard McClellan lights his Patriot Candle.

Richard McClellan presents a history of his Patriot Ancestor.

Dennis Nelson pins the SAR Rosette to Richard McClellan's lapel.



Dewey Fry demonstrates the Brown Bess Musket to Scott Nelson and his sons, Dennis and Francis.

Your Color Guard at Work

On Saturday October 12, three of your Color Guardsmen worked at the Sons of the American Revolution Booth from before 9:00am until after 5:00 pm in significant heat at the Shawnee Indian Mission Fall Festival in Fairway, Kansas. It was warm enough we had to remove our coats to keep from soaking them with perspiration.

The Color Guardsmen were Larry Tatum, Dennis Nelson and Dewey Fry. They were joined most of the day by KSSSAR Vice-President Timothy Peterman. Of course, Pat Fry was there assisting as needed in set up and tear down of the display tables. The Color Guardsmen are an initial drawing factor of spectators for the purpose of outreach.

Several children visited the booth during the day to see the artifacts and attempt playing with the toys of the Revolutionary War Period from the Delaware Crossing Chapter Patriot Chests.

The outreach purpose was somewhat fulfilled as three prospects signed up to be contacted with respect to membership. One of those would be a Junior Member, a fifth-grade student.

The photo is of Dennis Nelson's son, Scott, and Scott's sons, Dennis D. Nelson II and Francis

Nelson, being shown a Brown Bess Third Edition Musket by Dewey Fry. The musket is approximately 215 to 220 years old, just a bit new to be a true Revolutionary War artifact.

Color Guard Participation Reaps Dividends.

Members of the Delaware Crossing and Charles Robinson Color Guard presented the Colors at the Douglas County, KS Courthouse for the annual reading of the U.S. Constitution.

Taking Dewey Fry's lead, the Color Guard participants interacted with students from the Raintree Montessori. Dewey's natural ability to converse with the students and teachers has made a lasting positive impression of the Kansas SAR.

The following letters were written by the Raintree students, expressing their appreciation of the Color Guard's presents at the event.

Dear Sons of the Revolution

Thank you for giving us high fives and for holding the flags for us while we said the pledge of allegiance

From Thea

Dear Sons of the Revolution

I loved your uniforms. They were cool

It was very cool that your guys are the relatives of actual soldiers.

And I thought that your hats were very cool

From Gabi