



The Delaware Crossing Patriot
Kansas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
October 2026
Metro Kansas City's Oldest & Largest Chapter, Founded 1960

NEXT MEETING:

When: October 17, 2026

Where: Milburn Country Club, 7401 W 69th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204, 9:00am

Reservations & Cost: For reservations, email Secretary@dxsar.org or contact Clay Shropshire 785-521-8122 or winemakerclay@gmail.com by 7:00 PM, Tuesday, October 13, 2026.

Cost: **\$23.00/person payable by cash/check**

Program: Dominic Debrincat on the "Rights, Rules, and Happiness" (Second US Continental Congress)

CALENDAR & COMING EVENTS

October 2026

- 14 DX EC Meeting
- 17 DX Chapter Meeting at Milburn Country Club

November 2026

- 18 DX EC Meeting
- 21 DX Chapter Meeting at Milburn Country Club

December 2026

- 16 DX EC Meeting
- 19 DX Chapter Party at Beautiful Savior Lutheran

The President's Corner



The Battle of Yorktown on 10/19/1781

By Clay Shropshire

Since I am having trouble typing with one hand, I will keep this short. At least forty compatriots and guests enjoyed a really great BBQ lunch thanks to Dewey and Pat Fry.

We said goodbye to fourteen compatriots who passed away this past year from Delaware Crossing, Monticello, and the Henry Leavenworth Chapters.

We had a great group of DAR ladies from eight Chapters plus the State President and Senior State President for Kansas C.A.R. retiring flags.

It is the best meeting we put on all year. I hope members who have not attended in a while will

consider attending next year to renew old acquaintances.



September Chapter Meeting in Review

On Saturday September 18 the chapter had its Annual Picnic at Antioch Park in Merriam, KS. This is the 22nd picnic at which Dewey and Pat Fry purchased, prepared and delivered the food and amenities to the shelter house where they were assisted in setting up the serving line and covering the tables.

The first picnic for which Dewey and Pat prepared the food was when Dick Nelson was Chapter President in 2004-05. Before then it was catered by a restaurant that dropped the food and cold drinks off at shelter house and left some folks in the chapter to set it up for serving. Coolers were used to attempt to keep the hot food warm and the cold food cool. That was not very successful, nor enjoyable in the HOT August heat.

Dewey learned the first year that cooking hamburgers at a picnic for 40 plus people was not a good idea. The menu was changed to a barbeque thereafter. We learned how to keep the brisket, pulled pork and baked beans hot and the coleslaw, potato salad and drinks cold.

The chapter has managed cost to the attendees to keep it reasonable and not lose funds during the 22-year stretch. The picnic is our mealtime during the Chapter Meeting.

Many thanks again to Dewey and Pat Fry who managed to get all of the food prepared, set out for serving, and then packed back up and stored for the next time.

One thing that was a bit different and very appreciated was the participation in the Color Guard of Alicia Jacques, the young lady President of the Kansas Society of the Children of the American Revolution and a new Junior Member of the SAR and Delaware Crossing Chapter, Weston Parris.



The DX Color Guard was joined by Alicia Jacques and Weston Parris, along with a new Color Guardsman, Jeremy Parris. Alicia is the President of the Kansas Society of the Children of the American Revolution.

During our September Chapter Meeting/Picnic two new members were inducted by President Clay Shropshire. They are Ronald Phillip Shrum and Weston Jamee Parris.



Clay Shropshire administering the Oath to Ron Shrum and Weston Parris

Ronald's Patriot Ancestor was Thomas Coppage a Private in Captain Thomas Gaskins' Company of

the Fifth Virginia Line Commanded by Colonel William Crawford during 1776 and 1778.

Ronald was registered as a new member on July 24, 2026. His NSSAR Number is 239392 and KSSAR Number is 4223. Ronald came early enough to help us set up and stayed to help us clean up and load up after the day's events.

Weston James Parris was inducted as a Junior Member following his father's lineage to become a member. His Patriot Ancestor was William Himphrey who served as a Staff Officer in the South Carolina Weapons troops under Col Campbell and Col. Williams in the South Carolina Militia at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

Weston was registered as a new member on July 31, 2026. His NSSAR Number is 239753 and KSSAR Number is 4234.

Ron Shrum was presented his SAR Membership Rossette by his sponsor John Shatzel and Weston Parris by his father Jeremy Parris.



John Schatzel pinned a Rosette on Ron Shrum while Jeremy Parris pinned one on his son, Weston

Dewey Fry presented them each with a Delaware Crossing Chapter Challenge Coin and, for the first time, a 2026 minted quarter in made exclusively to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the USA.



Dewey Fry presenting a Challenge Coin to Ron Schrum and Weston Parris. Weston has a few years to wait before he would have to make sure he has his coin with him at a meeting or event.

Weston has submitted a Supplemental Application using his mother's DAR Record Copy.

Compatriots Ronald Shrum and Weston Parris, welcome aboard.

Immediately following our picnic meeting a Memorial Ceremony was conducted by President Clay Shropshire and Chaplain David Yuengert. The names of those members of the Delaware Crossing, Henry Leavenworth and Monticello Chapter who had passed during the past year were read and a bell tolled for each.

Those members were the following:

David William Wolfe – Delaware Crossing
Presley Eugene Patrick – Member at Large
Russell Scott Bayles – Delaware Crossing
David Wilson Gallagher – Delaware Crossing
Dennis Michael Kirby – Delaware Crossing
Dennis Gene Hale – Monticello
Thomas Patrick Gibbs – Monticello
Jack Ellsworth Walker – Henry Leavenworth
Francis Frederick Chambers – Monticello
Stephen Franklin Wright – Henry Leavenworth
David Allen Proffitt – Delaware Crossing Past President
Thomas Eugene Lippert – Monticello

Cameron Eldrege Davis – Konza Prairie & Henry Leavenworth
Michael Wayne King - Monticello

Taps was played by Brad Winters, filling in for Kirk Rush. Many thanks to Brad for assisting the Chapter with this most solemn duty.

The Flag Retirement Ceremony following our Annual Picnic on September 18 was again a success despite the hot weather.



Stephen French helps Cub Scouts Weston Parris, Blake Porter, and Everette Folkert disassemble the flag

Three Cub Scouts helped in the disassembly of the flag. They were Weston Parris, who did the cutting, with Blake Porter and Everette Folkert doing the holding as the words were said by President Clay Shropshire. The stripes and union were held by Color Guard Commander Steven French.

Representatives of 9 DAR Chapters attended the ceremony and placed disassemble flags in the fire. They were as follows:

Tomahawk Chapter - Sue Cowan
James Ross Chapter - Diane Boeger
Prairie Rose Chapter - Linda Frevert
Quivira Crossing Chapter - Kathryn Largent
Shawnee Mission Chapter - Pat Fry
Sagamore Chapter - Janet Alley
Mission Hills Chapter - Barb Shropshire and Jerri Kling
Three Trials West Chapter - Char Ludwig

Olathe Chapter - Charlene Yuengert
The Kansas Society of the Children of the American Revolution President, Alicia Jacques was also a participant.

Each DAR Chapter, The Kansas Society of the Children of the American Revolution, and each Cub Scout were presented a Flag Retirement Certificate.



DAR and CAR ladies show off their Flag Retirement Certificates

This is the first Flag Retirement Ceremony in more than 25 years at which the Senior President and the President of the Kansas Society of the Children of the American Revolution were in attendance. We look forward to participation with them again in the future as well as all local area Kansas DAR Chapters.

Bruce Smith recommended to the President General that Stu Conrad be awardee the Gold Roger Sherman Medal for his many years of service and other substantive support to the national level SAR High School (Knight) Essay Contest. Members of the KSSSAR leadership were aware of and supported this. The Medal was awarded by PG Michael Elston at the SAR Annual Congress in Greensboro, NC. Stu was not present, so Bruce picked up the award and sent it to Stu. Congratulations Compatriot Conrad on recognition long overdue.

NOTE

The December Meeting and Christmas Party will be held on December 19 at Beautiful Savior

Lutheran Church like last year. Clay will bring wine and others may bring what they would like.

***Wreaths Across America Day
Saturday December 19, 2026***

The theme of this years' event is REMEMBER ME. Wreaths Across America day is very quickly approaching. It is again time to give considerable thought and action to sponsoring wreaths for the graves of veterans.

Delaware Crossing Chapter is once again a Sponsoring Group at Johnson County Memorial Gardens in Overland Park. The ceremony there will begin at 11:00 am Central Time.

Each wreath sponsored will cost \$17.00. For each wreath sponsored through the Delaware Crossing Chapter the chapter will receive \$5.00 which is divided 50% to the chapter Veterans Fund and 50% to the Kesler Youth Endowment Fund.

The Veteran Fund is used to provide gifts to the veterans at the Eisenhower Veterans Center in Leavenworth on Veteran's Day, November 11.

The KYEF is used to pay prize money to Youth Contest participants. SAR Youth Contest are a significant part of educating our youth about the founding and founders of our nation which include many veterans.

In addition to this article, an email will be sent to each member with an email address. To begin the process, search online for Wreaths Across America and open the website. In the upper right-hand corner click on the magnifying glass symbol with Search under it.

Click on the red box SEARCH SPONSORSHIP GROUPS at the top of the page. In the SEARCH box type Delaware Crossing Chapter, Click on KS0027P-Delaware Crossing Chapter KSSAR. Click on SPONSOR. Click on the number of

wreaths you wish to sponsor or click on CUSTOM. Then proceed to follow the instructions through payment. Including selecting GRAVE SPECIFIC for individual veterans you wish to have a wreath placed on their grave at our location.

If you wish to sponsor a Grave Specific wreath at another location, then go back to the opening website page and search for the location and proceed. The Chapter will not receive any portion of the sponsoring cost at other locations in which it does not participate.

If you wish to sponsor by Check. On the opening web page. Click on RESOURCES at up top of the page left of center. Then click on VOLUNTEER RESOURCE PAGE, then scroll down to the 10 red lines. Click on ORDER AND NOTIFICATION FORMS. Then Click on Wreath Sponsorship Form Click on OPEN and download the form you in the format you wish. Or contact me and I will email you one.

If you have any questions, please contact Dewey Fry at deweyf@kc.rr.com or 816-223-8559



Color Guard and Members at Events

The first event of September was on the 12th for the Johnson County Old Settlers Days Parade in downtown Olathe. Dewey Fry drove the truck while Steven French tried to look good on the trailer with the ladies. Jeffrey Winters, John More, and Clay Shropshire carried flags in front of the truck. We even had a DAR-to-be named Sylvia riding with her grandmother Some of the more energetic ladies handed out trinkets to attendees.



SAR and DAR participants at the Old Settlers Days Parade



Sylvia with her DAR grandmother

Next up was a Naturalization Ceremony at the Fort Scott National Historic Site in Fort Scott. Brian Vazquez led Dewey Fry, John More, Bruce Smith, and Clay Shropshire in the Presentation of Colors for the 25 new citizens.

While others in the Kansas Color Guard were in Abilene, Dewey Fry, Steven French, and Clay Shropshire Presented Colors at two elementary school events. Ladies from the DAR performed a skit about the creation and ratification of the US Constitution on Constitution Day, September 17th. The first event in the morning was at the Barstow School in KCMO.

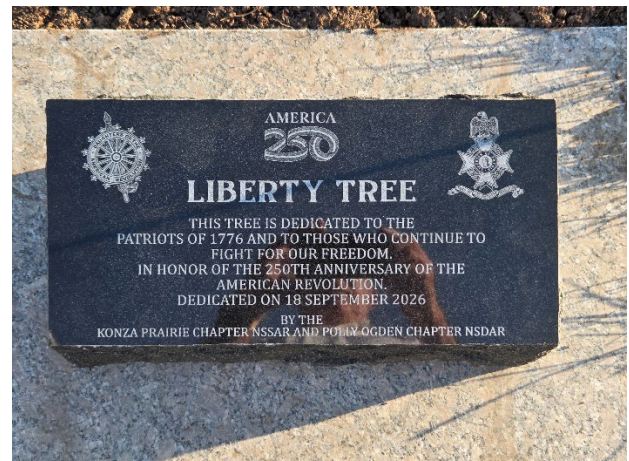
A second performance occurred in the afternoon at Prairie Center Elementary School in Olathe. All the kiddos really enjoyed seeing the ladies dressed

up in colonial garb and three 250-year-old veterans of the Revolutionary War carrying flags.

The following day, Clay Shropshire drove to Manhattan to Present Colors with Brian Vazquez, Bill Marshall, and Doug Brabb at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery where ladies from the local Polly Ogden DAR Chapter dedicated a Liberty Tree that was newly planted.



Color Guardsmen Doug Brabb, Bill Marshall, Brian Vazquez, and Clay Shropshire behind the Liberty Tree at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery in Manhattan



The plaque in front of the newly planted Liberty Tree in Manhattan at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery

On Monday afternoon, September 21st ladies from the Shawnee Mission and Mission Hills DAR Chapters dedicated a newly planted Cherry Tree at the American Legion Post on West 75th Street in Overland Park. The SAR Color Guard was led by Brian Vazquez with Dewey Fry, Steven French, Bruce Smith, and Clay Shropshire. Members of the American Legion Honor Guard also participated.



Ladies from the Shawnee Mission and Mission Hills Chapters attending the Cherry Tree Dedication



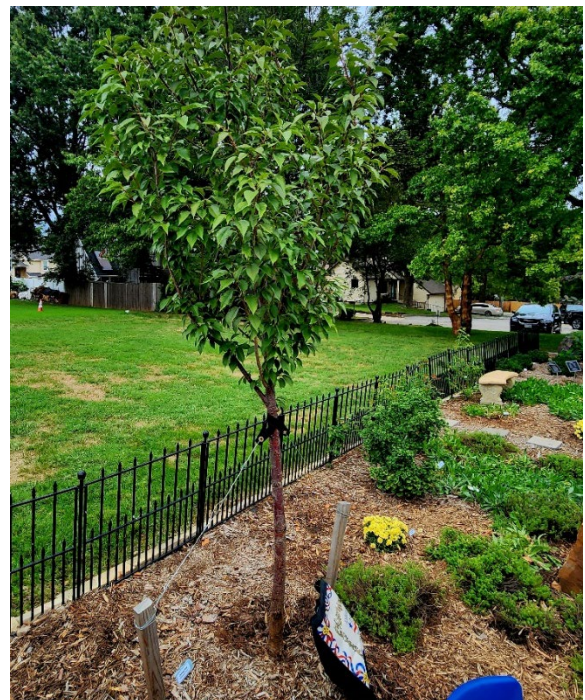
Color Guardsmen Brian Vazquez, Clay Shropshire, Steven French, and Dewey Fry with members of the American Legion Honor Guard



The plaque in front of the Cherry Tree



The plaque for the Never Forget Garden



The newly planted Cherry Tree

On Thursday, September 24th Clay Shropshire attended a Memorial Bench Dedication in Eisenhower Park in Abilene. The bench was placed near the Liberty Tree that was dedicated the previous month. Even though it was a rainy dedication, several members of the Kansas Color Guard and ladies from DAR attended.



The plaque for the Memorial Bench in Eisenhower Park



The new Memorial Bench near the Dee Marshall Liberty Tree

We ended the month on a high note welcoming home 120 veterans at Kansas City International Airport on the night of September 29th. Our own Bruce Orner was among the veterans who traveled to Washington DC with the Heartland group. Dewey Fry and Clay Shropshire were joined by Jeffrey Winters, John More, Brian Vazquez, and a host of Color Guardsmen from Missouri.



Clay Shropshire and Dewey Fry welcome home veterans



Heartland Honor Flight is always a Big Deal at KCI



Dave and Charlene Yuengert were also there to greet the veterans upon their arrival home

We all have patriot ancestors that should be honored by us today. As I have stated for the past several months, we are in the midst of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the American Revolution, and the founding of the United States of America. All SAR members should be proud of the sacrifice their ancestors made, not just Color Guardsmen.



Truck and decorated trailer for parade riders

We are still in need of a Chapter Executive VP who would be willing to become President in about 1-1/2 years, a Chapter Secretary, and a Patriot Newsletter Editor. When my term is completed, I will continue as Webmaster, Past President, KYEF Trustee, and Color Guardsman but I will be stepping down from the other positions to allow others an opportunity to show off their talents and abilities. We also need Compatriots to assist with various committees before Chairs become too old to continue. If anyone is able to help out the Chapter at this time, please contact Clay Shropshire at 785-521-8122 or winemakerclay@gmail.com.