



**The Delaware Crossing Patriot  
Kansas Society  
Sons of the American Revolution**

**January 2026**

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

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

**NEXT MEETING:**

**When:** January 17, 2026

**Where:** Milburn Country Club, 7501 W 69<sup>th</sup>  
St., Overland Park, KS 66204, 9:00am

**Reservations & Cost:** For reservations,  
email [Secretary@dksar.org](mailto:Secretary@dksar.org) or call Clay  
Shropshire 785-521-8122 by 7:00 PM,  
Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

**Cost:** **\$23.00/person**

**Program:** Isaias McCaffery – Last Stand at  
Rebel Creek

**CALENDAR & COMING EVENTS**

**January 2026**

14 DX EC Meeting  
17 DX Chapter Meeting

**February 2026**

7 BOG  
18 DX EC Meeting  
21 DX Chapter Meeting

**March 2026**

18 DX EC Meeting  
21 DX Chapter Meeting

**The President's Corner**



By Larry Tatum

A “Happy New Year” to all and it is going to be a year to remember. The 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our country’s founding will be celebrated thru out the year with every event imaginable.

The Delaware Crossing Chapter will participate in every way possible and all members are encouraged to become involved. We will strive to send out notices of events and announcements will be made at the Chapter Meetings. Meeting attendance would be a good starting point for keeping informed of 250<sup>th</sup> celebration news.

I would like to thank everyone for helping with the DX Christmas Party. Especially, Ken and Charlene Ludwig for reserving, setting up and cleaning the room, Dewey and Pat Fry for booking the stringed quartet, Richard Woody for obtaining Garozzo's catering, Dick and Ruby Nelson for the Starbucks coffee and the cupcakes, and Clay Shropshire for providing his wonderful wine.

It was a truly wonderful party that wouldn't have been possible without such a large group effort.

Once again, I wish a safe and prosperous "Happy New Year" to all of the Delaware Crossing Members and their families.



## DELAWARE CROSSING

Our Chapter's name,  
Is rich in historical lore,  
It has two actual meanings,  
And so much more.

George Washington led the crossing,  
Of the River Delaware,  
To lead to victories at Trenton and Princeton,  
Which during the War were rare.

One of the most iconic paintings,  
Of the Revolutionary War,  
Is Washington Crossing the Delaware,  
With the Continental Army Corp.

The Delaware Crossing Post Office,  
Was established in the Kansas Territory,  
And it was located,  
In the Grinter house next door.

Named for the Delaware or Lenni Lenape Indians,  
Who settled here after the war,  
Who were allies of the Americans,  
In that Revolutionary War.

Moses Grinter was a grandson of a patriot,  
And his wife Annie was from the Delaware tribe,  
They lived in the house nearby ,  
That has been described.

And in an 1855 local newspaper,  
There was "Delaware Crossing"  
news,

A steamboat the “Emma Harmon” had broken a rudder in a snag,  
At the Delaware Crossing while headed to Lawrence on a cruise.

So, our chapter founded here in 1960,  
Has a name with quite a story,  
Of the Revolutionary War,  
And the Kansas Territory.

Dennis Nelson, Delaware Crossing Chapter Historian

65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Founding of the Chapter

Grinter Place Kansas State Historic Site



### **December Chapter Meeting in Review**

Our Chapter Meeting came a bit early in December but was successful. Thanks to Richard Woody's initiation of arranging catering from Garozz's, Larry Tatum's laborious task of communicating with Garozzo's to keep the number of meals and delivery straight, and Ken Ludwig's arranging the event space at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Olathe. We were able to enjoy good food, visiting with members and their spouses, and nice music in a spacious facility.

The four students from the orchestra at Blue Valley Northwest played for a good while and enjoyed the meeting and each other. Dewey Fry sent photos and a video of their playing during the meeting to their Orchestra teacher as they performed and shared his responses with the students. They all enjoyed that, as well as being presented a certificate and a check from the chapter.

One thing the students very much enjoyed was that each was given by John Forbes, a \$2.00 bill with an image of the signing of the Declaration of Independence by John Trumbull engraved on the back. They had never seen a such a bill and were fascinated.

It was interesting to learn that the leader of the string quartet was a sophomore, the other two boys were juniors and the girl was a senior. She very much enjoyed the evening.





Bruce Smith, Vern Welkner, Alan Martin, Tom Chychota, Brian Vasquez, Dewey Fry, Kirk Rush, Clay Shropshire, and John More.

### Your Color Guard at Work

During the month of December 2025 your Delaware Crossing Color Guardsmen participated in a few events.

On December 11, Bruce Smith (far left), Dewey Fry (center behind award with eagle), Kirk Rush (to Dewey's left) and Clay Shropshire (to Kirk's left) participated in the annual Henry Leavenworth Chapter annual Muster as part of the KSSAR Color Guard. Also participating were DX dual members Alan Martin and Jeffrey Winters. The muster is a program in which the thirteen original colonies and the country of France is presented and all attendees who have a patriot ancestor from that colony may name one of their patriot ancestors from that colony or country by citing their name and service.

Also intermittently during the program, awards are presented to persons of the community, DAR and SAR. Dewey Fry was a recipient of two of the awards.

On December 12 Color Guardsmen presented, posted and retired the colors at the Delaware Crossing Holiday Meeting.

On December 13, Delaware Crossing Color Guardsmen participated in the KSSSAR Color Guard at the Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Johnson County Community Garden Cemetery. Participants were, from left to right in the photo of the color guardsmen holding the flags, Dewey Fry with the US Flag, Steven French with the Betsy Ross Flag, Clay Shropshire with the SAR Flag, Kirk rush with the Bunker Hill Flag, Kenneth Ludwig with the Sons of Liberty Flag, and Dan Dryer with the SAR 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the USA Flag. The Color Guard presented the colors and during the ceremony placed each wreath on the stands for the USA Armed Forces of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Forces, Space Force, Cost Guard, and POW/MIA. After retiring the colors, the Color Guard ceremonially placed wreaths on graves of veterans before the general public placed them on many other graves of veterans.

On December 16th, the Delaware Crossing Chapter Color Guardsmen participated in a Naturalization Ceremony at the Robert J. Dole US Courthouse in KCK. 72 applicants took their Oath of Allegiance during the ceremony and one late arrival was administered her Oath of Allegiance after the ceremony. This is the first after ceremony administering of the Oath observed by the Color Guardsmen in the 15 years of Color Guard participation. That applicant was grateful to become a US citizen even if it occurred after the ceremony.

Color Guardsmen were, left to right in the photo, Dennis Nelson and Clay Shropshire from DX, Jerry Vest from Monticello, Dewey Fry from DX, Alan Martin from Monticello dual with DX, Steven French from DX and John Moore from Charles Robinson. Missing in the photo is Bruce Smith from DX and Brian Vazquez from Thomas Jefferson.



Alan Martin, Dewey Fry, Steven French, Jeffrey Winters, Clay Shropshire, John More, Kirk Rush, Ken Ludwig, and Dan Dryer.



Dan Dryer, Ken Ludwig, Kirk Rush, John More, Clay Shropshire, Jeffrey Winters, and Steven French.



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Dan Dryer, Steven French, Ken Ludwig, John More, Dewey Fry, and Clay Shropshire.



Dennis Nelson, Clay Shropshire, Jerry Vest, Dewey Fry, a New U.S. Citizen, Alan Martin, Steven French, and John More.