

The Liberty Bell

Kansas Society Sons of the American Revolution

Sept 2024, Volume 133 Issue 3



On the cover:
Bennington Chapter meets in their new meeting location Harmony Hideaway outside Salina, Kansas..

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President's Message

By KSSSAR President Bryan Wampler

Greetings Kansas SAR Members,

I am pleased to report that the Kansas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (Kansas SAR) continues to actively support the objectives and mission of the Sons of the American Revolution. Our commitment remains steadfast as we advance our shared goals and values.

Color Guard Activities

Our Color Guard, under the adept leadership of Color Guard Commander Bill Marshall, remains highly engaged. Members are frequently seen representing our Society at events across Kansas and beyond, including notable gatherings on the East Coast. Commander Marshall is currently seeking volunteers to staff the Kansas 250 Commission table at the Kansas State Fair, taking place in Hutchinson from September 6 through 15, 2024. This is a valuable opportunity for us to showcase our Society's work and connect with the community.

Highlights from the 134th Annual Congress

The National Society's 134th Annual Congress, held from July 10 through 16, 2024, at the Marriott at Penn Square in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, was a notable event for our Society. We had a robust representation,



including a first-time attendee, Jerry Gross (HL), who wore the green dot on his name badge, signifying his first Congress. Returning members included Bobbie and Debbie Hulse (SP), Tim Peterman (DX), Bruce and Deb Smith (DX), Bryan and Jennifer Wampler (MC), Vern and Linda Welkner (HL), and Jeffrey Winters. Additionally, our delegation included several dual members: John Burg (WA), former President General Joe Dooley (VA), Gary Neal (MD), Brooks Lyles and Diane Ungvasky (NC), and Harry and Carolyn Wilklow (FL).

The Congress also offered opportunities to connect with leaders from the Descendants of the American Farmers (NSDOAF). We had the pleasure of spending time with National President Janisue Rigel, National Registrar Davina Liepman, and National Vice President Renee Hamilton. For more information on NSDOAF, visit their website at [NSDOAF.org](https://www.nsdoaf.org).



Awards and Recognitions

Our Society earned many prestigious awards at the Congress:

- Streamers: President General's Education Outreach, SGT Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest, Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Orations Contest, The George S. & Stella M. Knight Contest, The Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Contest, The USS Stark Memorial Award, The Genealogist General's Award, and the Society Veterans Service Award.
- The Liberty Bell Americanism Award was presented to the Delaware Crossing Chapter for exemplary implementation of SAR resolutions and principles.

- The Officers' Streamers Award was presented to the Kansas SAR for the active participation of our State Society's President and National Trustees.

Individual Honors:

- Liberty Medal Award: John Schatzle (HL) received six Oak Leaf Clusters, and Bob Hulse (SP) received an additional Oak Leaf Cluster. John Schatzle was also honored with The Florence Kendall Award for his outstanding recruitment efforts.
- Gold Meritorious Service Medal: Awarded to Chaplain General Vern Welkner (HL) for his exemplary service as Chaplain General for 2023 - 2024.



General Officer Positions

Congratulations to our members who completed significant General Officer positions:

- Chaplain General Vern Welkner successfully completed an unexpected term as the 2023 - 2024 Chaplain General and was reelected for 2024 - 2025.
- Historian General Brooks Lyles: Completed his term with notable improvements and was elected as Registrar General for 2024-2025, with candidacy announced for Treasurer General for 2025 - 2026.
- Vice President General Bobbie Hulse: Completed his tenure as South-Central District (SCD) VPG, fostering strong State partnerships and engagement.



Business Session Updates

A photograph of a National Fees and Annual Dues Chart. The chart lists various fees and dues for different categories of members, including new, supplemental, memorial, and junior member applications. The fees are listed in dollars and cents.

A key topic from the Congress was the increase in application fees, which passed with a close vote. The new fees will rise from \$100 to \$150 for new, supplemental, memorial, and junior member applications. The Kansas delegation expressed concerns, given that higher fees may deter potential members. We hope to leverage the membership assistance fund to help offset these costs and are looking for new ideas to enhance membership growth and retention.

New National Society General Officers

Elected at the Congress were:

- President General: Darryl Addington, M.D. (North Carolina SAR)
- Secretary General: Michael J. Elston, Esq. (Virginia SAR)
- Treasurer General: William A. Greenly (Georgia SAR)
- Chancellor General: Edmon H. McKinley, Esq. (Alabama SAR)
- Genealogist General: Gary O. Green (North Carolina SAR)
- Registrar General: T. Brooks Lyles (North Carolina SAR)
- Historian General: Jeffrey D. Thomas (Virginia SAR)
- Librarian General: Keith A. Weissinger (Washington SAR)
- Surgeon General: John A. Turley, MD (West Virginia SAR)
- Chaplain General: John Vernon (Vern) Welkner III, Ph.D. (Kansas SAR)
- SCD Vice President General: James E. Osbourn, Missouri Society 2024-2025 was elected during the 2023 SCD Annual Meeting and installed at the 134th Congress.

Thank you for your dedication and support of the SAR mission. For any questions or to get more involved at the State level, please feel free to reach out to me at bwampler@kssar.org. Would like to encourage members to attend the upcoming SCD Annual Meeting in Joplin, MO, the Fall Leadership in October 2024 or the Spring Leadership in February 2025 in Louisville, KY, or the 135th Congress in Uncasville, Connecticut July 12 through 18, 2025.

Community Youth Outreach



Kansas Society Youth Coordinator Bruch Smith

2024-2025 YOUTH CONTESTS by Bruce Smith

Yes, the new school year is already upon us!

It is always exciting to have the opportunity to support our elementary, middle, and high school students as they pursue their interest in American History by entering SAR Youth Contests. Youth Contests are open to public, private, parochial, and home-schooled students.

It is a pleasure to announce the launch of a new SAR Youth Contest: the Youth Video Contest. This contest was conceived to provide students with opportunities to utilize technology in a way not available in other programs. The contest will have a national contest winner chosen in the 2024-2025 contest cycle.

This Youth Video Contest is open to middle and high school students (6th-12th grades). They will compete in one combined category, as pilot testing has shown that both groups have similar video production capabilities. The video should be no less than three and no more than five minutes long. Students may enter as individuals or groups, but only one prize is awarded per entry. For more details, including rules, entry forms, and similar information, please refer to the SAR National website at <https://www.sar.org/youth-video-contest/>.

Additionally, the American History Teacher Contest is undergoing revisions to simplify applications and reduce the documentation burden of entry. The prize offerings have been expanded to include second and third place. Please try to identify worthy teachers as applicants. The educational opportunities offered as prizes for first place are exceptional in quality.

The Kansas Society of the SAR will continue our support of:

The Elementary School Poster Contest: Recil Robinson, Chairman

The Sgt. Moses Adams Middle School Brochure Contest: Bruce Smith, Chairman

The King Eagle Scout Contest: Kirk Rush, Chairman

The Rumbaugh Oration Contest: Bruce Smith, Chairman

The Knight Essay Contest: Stuart Conrad, Chairman

The Lawrence American History Teacher Contest: Bruce Smith, Chairman

For current information related to the Youth Video contest, please contact Bruce Smith or Bobbie Hulse.

Please refer to the KSSSAR ([ksssar.org](https://www.ksssar.org)) or National SAR ([education.sar.org/](https://www.education.sar.org/)) website for information related to these contests.

There is a strict December 31, 2024 submission deadline for entries into the Eagle Scout, Rumbaugh Oration, Knight Essay, and Youth Video Contests. For these contests, the turnaround times for chapter and state judging to meet national submission deadlines are very tight. We run into late applications occasionally, and it is tough for contestants when the chairman, in fairness to all contestants, needs to enforce the deadlines. **So, in each chapter, please take ownership of knowing and adhering to the rules.**

Please assist your chapter by encouraging your children, grandchildren, acquaintances, youth or church club, and other students to consider participating. You can also introduce chairmen to

various contacts to speak about these contests, as entrants come from a wide variety of sources.

Your contribution to the State Kessler Youth Fund is crucial. As the number of contests and the cost of education continue to rise, the Fund's capacity to support prizes is being stretched. Your support is vital in attracting motivated candidates and ensuring that Kansas remains a leader in Youth Contests.

Having state contestants in the national finals is a considerable source of pride. It also helps us meet one of the SAR's primary goals: to educate future generations about the American Revolution. We have been fortunate recently to have Essay candidates finish 5th, 5th, and 2nd nationally in the past three years, a national oration winner, and our most recent Eagle Scout contestant placed as a prize winner. Two of our High school contestants have been awarded \$16,000 in combined scholarships over the past three years! So, the effort does have a payoff.

SAR Youth Video Contest

With great pleasure, I want to inform everyone at KSSSAR about a newly approved SAR Youth Contest. This is the Video contest, and submissions will be taken for awards to be presented at the 2025 SAR Congress in Connecticut. The contest committee is headed by Dr. Keith Weissinger (WA SAR). As a member of the working group for this contest, I am pleased to see the effort put into this contest come to fruition and receive such a positive initial response.

The committee's operating mindset has been geared toward stimulating and encouraging creativity and allowing students to express their imagination with as few restrictions as possible.

But there are some rules of the road. These are:

1. The video contest is open to **both** middle and high school students. At this point, they will not be separated by age or grade level. This subject will be reviewed in the future based on participation rates.

2. Entries must be submitted in MP4, MOV, WMV, or AV1 format.
3. **Videos should be no less than three minutes and not more than five minutes long.**
4. **Two versions** must be submitted: a. one with full titles, end credits, and references to the creator(s)/contestant(s) and actors (if applicable); b. another version with full titles and end credits but **no** reference to the creators/contestant(s)
5. Entries must be original in content and based on scholarly research. Patent and copyright laws cannot be violated. For example, you cannot lift and insert pieces of already developed videos by others to be part of the submission.
6. The style, approach, and perspective are not limited (documentary, dramatization, interview, advertisement, reenactment, animation, live actors, and others).
7. A minimum of three references are required, and these need to appear in the video's end credits.
8. Entries may be by an individual or group, but only one prize is awarded. Groups will need to determine how the prize will be split, as only one check will be made to one payee.
9. Judging will be blinded to the contestant(s).
10. Contestants agree to allow display at SAR meetings or other events and posting on SAR media. All contestants and individuals appearing in the video must complete the Youth Programs Release Form.
11. Entries are submitted at the chapter level, and chapter winners are submitted at the state level. The state winner is submitted to the national contest. This is the same process for all youth contests.
12. **State-winning entries must be submitted to the national contest by February 15, 2025.**

13. The first and second-place prizes are \$1500 and \$500, respectively.

14. The national winner will be invited to the SAR Congress, and a travel stipend of up to \$1500 will be provided. The winner will participate in the Youth Award Luncheon at Congress. Next year's Congress is in Connecticut.

Participating chapters will establish their due dates and prize levels. **Chapter-level submissions are recommended to be submitted no later than December 31, 2024.** Consider any technical requirements for receiving and distributing videos locally. Hopefully, your webmaster can help guide this.

The deadline for submitting chapter winners to the state contest is January 26, 2024, the week before the February BOG meeting.

The KSSSAR prize levels approved by BOG will follow those of the High School Youth contests: \$750 for first place, \$300 for second place, and \$100 for third place.

Additional information and the required forms should be forthcoming soon in the SAR National Newsletter and posted on the SAR National website.

In the interim, information and forms can be obtained by contacting me at bsmith@ksssar.org.

As a new contest, learning is expected over time, and adjustments to the rules or processes will be made as needed.

I hope you will encourage your students to consider participation.

KC Monarchs Baseball

July '24 – Nearly 20 Compatriots and friends of Henry Leavenworth, Delaware Crossing, Monticello and Jesse Leavenworth (DAR) joined together in fellowship at a late July baseball game between the Kansas City Monarchs and the Lake Country Dockhounds.



We watched the Monarchs defeat the Dockhounds in a thrilling 8-7 victory that was decided in the 10th inning. After the visitors tied up the game in the top of the 9th with a grand slam homerun, the home team went down in order to send the game into extra innings. Returning the "favor", KC retired the visitors in the top of the 10th and then connected on a base hit single to drive home the winning run in the bottom of the 10th.



To kick off the gametime festivities, five jumpers parachuted into the stadium and the Monarchs defense took up their positions in the field.

Candidates for National Office

T. Brooks Lyles, Jr.

Candidate for

Treasurer General

2025-2026

National Society Service

Registrar General 2024 to Present

Historian General 2022 to 2024

Vice President General, International District: 2017

National Color Guard Commander: 2022-2023

National Trustee, Kansas: 2017-19

Alternate Trustee, Kansas: 2019-21

George Washington Endowment Fund Board: '19-23

Museum Board: 2019-2022; 2024 to Present

Nominating Committee: 2015

11 Congresses and 24 Leadership Meetings

Current Committees: Museum Board; America 250 SAR; Americanism; National Color Guard; Strategic Planning; Ex Officio/Liaison: Membership, Veterans, Young Members, Veteran's Recognition, Operation Ancestor Search, Patriotic Outreach.

Former Committees: Education (C 2016-2023); History (C 2020-21; VC 2016-18, 2020); Congress Planning (2022-23); Council of State Presidents (2014-17); Veteran's Recognition (2014-17); JROTC (2016-21); Partners in Patriotism (2016-18); Patriotic Outreach (2016-21); and Social Media (2018-VC 21).

Society Memberships: Kansas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, International, Georgia, Texas, and German Societies.

State and Chapter Service

President, Kansas Society: 2015-17

Vice President, Kansas Society: 2013-15

President, International Society: 2017

Secretary & Registrar, International Society: 2018-21

President, Henry Leavenworth Chapter: 2009-13

Vice President, HLC: 2008 (Founding)-2009

SAR Supporter

NSSAR Life Member: 2014; George Washington Fellow: 2015; JROTC Endowment Medal: 2016; King's College London SAR 18th Century Archivist: 2016; DAR Founder's Circle: 2017; Bronze Lamplighter Award CAAH 2013; Museum Artifact Donor Program 2019-2024; and an annual Friend of the Library since 2021. Pledged \$100,000 to the SAR Education Center and Museum at Lancaster Congress.

SAR Awards

Minuteman Class of 2022, War Service Medal with Global War on Terror Bar, Kosovo Bar and Special Operations Oak Leaf, Meritorious Service Medal (20lc); Gold Roger



Sherman Medal (10lc), Gold Henry Knox Medal; Gold Color Guard Medal; Liberty Medal; Silver Color Guard Medal; Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal; Silver Council of State Presidents Medal; Patriot Medal; Silver Medal of Distinguished Service; Silver Meritorious Service Medal; Silver Roger Sherman Medal (10lc); Bronze Color Guard Medal; Bronze Medal of Distinguished Service; Bronze Roger Sherman Medal; and Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.

Personal and Community

Lieutenant Colonel, Armor, U.S. Army, Retired.

Graduate of James Madison University, BA History '80 and Central Michigan University, MA Administration '91.

Married for 31 years to Diane Ungvarsky, Diane is the First Vice President of the NSSAR Ladies Auxiliary.

Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Silver Order of St George, US Armor Association.

Chairman of the America's Founding Era Education Forum. Member of the American Friends of Lafayette; Overmountain Victory Trail Association; American Battlefield Trust; Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Preservation Society; Princeton Battlefield Preservation Society; South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust; the York County 250 & SC 250 Commissions; and the Artist Preservation Group.

Honorary Order of Kentucky Colonels.

Pi Kappa Phi National Fraternity.

Living History Interpreter, Reenactor, and Speaker on Revolutionary War and Colonial American History topics.

Please send endorsements by February 1, 2025
to Past PG John L. Dodd at johnldodd@twc.com

Gary R Neal
CANDIDATE FOR GENEALOGIST GENERAL 2025-2026

PO Box 1
Cockeysville, MD 21030-0001
(443) 824-8103 | grneal@earthlink.net

National

- Member since 1999
- Life Member (2023-Present)
- Attended 7 National Congresses
- First line signer of 191 members
- George Washington Fellow
- 3-Supplemental Patriot Stars

District

- Atlantic Middle States Medal (silver)
- Certificate of Appreciation (2014), Atlantic Middle States Conference

Maryland Society

- State Secretary (2011-2014), (2023-Present)
- State Treasurer (2014-2022)
- State Registrar (2021-2024)
- State Genealogist (2023-Present)
- Assistant State Secretary (2010-2011)
- Col. Nicholas Ruxton Moore Chapter, President (2014-2015), Registrar
- Col. John Eagar Howard Chapter, Registrar
- Charles Carroll of Carrollton Chapter, Registrar

Kansas Society

- State Recording Secretary (2007-2010)
- Life Member (2023-Present)

Texas Society

- Treasurer – Paul Carrington Chapter
- Eagle Scout Chairman – Paul Carrington Chapter

Awards

- Silver Liberty Medal with 1 Silver & 3-Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters
- Lafayette Volunteer Medal, National Society (2019-Present) – over 4900 hours
- Patriot Medal 2013, Maryland Society
- State Distinguished Service Medal 2017, Maryland Society
- SAR Meritorious Service Medal (silver) 2014, Maryland Society
- Roger Sherman Medal (silver) with 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Maryland Society
- Henry Knox Achievement Medal 2024, Maryland Society
- Chapter Distinguished Service Medal 2020, Col. Nicholas Ruxton Moore Chapter, Maryland Society
- SAR Meritorious Service Medal (bronze) 2004, Paul Carrington Chapter, Texas Society
- Roger Sherman Medal (bronze) with 4 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters
- Bronze Good Citizenship Medal, 2009, Kansas Society
- Arthur M King Eagle Scout Contest Medal w/Bronze Palm
- Dr Joseph Warren Medal for Orations Medal
- Thomas Jefferson Medal for Support of the Essay Contest Medal
- Americanism Youth Award Medal
- Maryland 400 Fund - Colonel
- Texas Chapter Service Medal



Personal

- Treasurer General – General Society of the War of 1812 (2017-Present)
- Assistant Treasurer General – General Society of the War of 1812 (2014-2017)
- Treasurer – Maryland Society War of 1812 (2010-Present)
- Senior Treasurer General – National Society Children of 1812 (2023-Present)
- Senior Treasurer – Maryland Society Children of 1812 (2019-Present)
- Treasurer General – Plymouth Hereditary Society (2017-Present)
- Treasurer – Maryland Branch Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims (2021-Present)
- BS in Electrical Engineering and Master of Business Administration - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY
- MS in Petroleum Engineering – University of Houston, Houston, TX
- Eagle Scout (1968)

Goals

- Work to eliminate pended applications
- Reduce cycle time for Applications and Supplementals

*Please send endorsements by Feb 1, 2025, to
PG John L Dodd, Esq at johnldodd@rwc.com*

Chapter Spotlight

Bennington Chapter, in the Salina area, stands as a great example of resilience. Bennington is a small chapter and as with all chapters has seen their membership wax and wain over the past few year. Along with the ups and downs of chapter membership, they have also had several changes in leadership and meeting locations.

With the help of past Vice President General and past Kansas Society president Bobbi Hulse, Bennington Chapter is poised to enter the 250th celebration as an active and vibrant chapter.

Bennington Chapter's most recent development was announcing a new meeting location. Harmony Hideaway, located in Salina, Kansas.



With Covid behind us the Bennington Chapter has a new venue. **Harmony Hideaway**, a fantastic venue under the management of Compatriot Milt Allen and Nancy Steele has graciously been offered to us to hold our meetings in the Salina Area. During the pandemic we were unable to secure a location to meet in Salina and found a home for the time being in Abilene at the American Legion Hall but now starting this fall we will begin the meetings at Harmony Hideaway. The address is:

3488 N. Crystal Springs Rd.,

Salina, KS, 67401

This is outside of town to the north east and the best way to get there is by google maps. If you do not have

that Email Bobbie for directions. It is a really nice place and take a look at the pictures of our last meeting for evidence. We thank Milt and Nancy for being so gracious in sharing their place with us.

We will begin meeting on the fourth Tuesday in September at 7PM and will do so each month for the foreseeable future.

All of us hope to get attendance back up as we celebrate America's 250th going on during the next few years and we hope to get back into the Salina Schools as well as we kind of got shut out there as well. Any help with that would be great as personnel changes have really had an impact on our contact teachers.



250th Memorial Bench Dedication

Sons of the Plains Chapter in response to the NSSAR 250 Committee, the Sons of the Plains embarked on a mission to fund a bench in honor of America's 250th Anniversary. The Chapter collaborated with the CAR and the DAR in funding the project. The Edgar Grover Family also made substantial donation in honor of Edgar and Emmaline Grover longtime leaders, not only in the Sons of the Plains Chapter but on the National level as well.

Society CAR, and the Dodge City Chapter DAR for their contributions and all of the committee for staying positive and following through on the Project



The funding was acquired and the monument company is now engraving the bench which we hope to dedicate on Governor's Day at the Kansas State Fair. The tentative time for the dedication is 10AM on September 12th. That is not as yet been totally cleared but we hope to have the Governor there as she is to attend the breakfast with the Chamber of Commerce in the 4H building just a few yards from where the bench will be unveiled.

This should be a great event if you wish to attend. If things change, we will do our best to notify. Thanks to Austin Esslinger for the idea of putting it on the fairgrounds, Mark Buckley for the initial contacts with the administrator, David Parks for consistent follow through, Patty Winger for her contributions, Ken Grover and Family, the Uvedale Chapter DAR, the Buffalo

Colorguard Activities

DAR and American Battlefield Trust joint project is really great. Unveiled in Abilene yesterday. It is at the Abilene library for a short time, catch it quick



but it was a great time to reflect on patriotism and historic education.

The Kansas Society colorguard presented the colors for the event.



On July 24, a special ceremony was held to commemorate the addition of a plaque on the base of our Statute of Liberty in the Veterans' Memorial at Main and Avenue D. This plaque commemorates the upcoming 250th anniversary of our nation's independence.



Kansas Society East Vice President Jeffery Winters represented Kansas in the South Central District colorguard at the Liberty Tree dedication in Webb City, Missouri.



The Mary Draper Chapter of the Kansas Daughters of the American Revolution graciously sponsored this special recognition. It was quite warm for the festivities,

CHAPTER NEWS

SONS OF THE PLAINS CHAPTER (Hutchinson) Bit Roberts President *meetings Reno County Museum 100 South Walnut Hutchinson Ks 7PM Tuesday Sept-May*

Met with the Kansas State Fair director and the site for the bench has been selected. We will get to dedicate it during the Fair with a ceremony on site. We have a couple of speaking spots available and we need as many CG as possible. This will come while we are assisting with the Kansas 250 booth so we have a chance to promote it from there as well. Should be a super event.



PRAIRIE MINUTEMEN CHAPTER (Ellsworth Area) Ron Svaty President

BENNINGTON CHAPTER (Salina Area) Joe Black , President *Meeting place; Harmony Hideaway, 3488 N Crystal Springs Rd, Salina Kansas Meeting time: 4th Tuesday at 7PM September-May.*

CHARLES ROBINSON CHAPTER (Lawrence) Jim Cooper, President *Meets 3rd Wednesday of September, November, January, March and May, 6:00 PM , Perkins Restaurant, 1711 23rd St, Lawrence*

Col. JOHN SEWARD CHAPTER (Liberal) ,Dr. Ray E. Allen President *"Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the Month (except December) at 7:00 PM at the Leader and Times Newspaper Office, 16 S. Kansas Avenue, Liberal, Kansas*

DELAWARE CROSSING CHAPTER (Kansas City & Johnson County) Larry Tatum, President *Meets 3rd Saturday monthly for 9:00 AM Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn 119th St. Overland Park, KS*

During or after this August Delaware Crossing Chapter meeting, you may have heard or seen me running out to get to my car and on the road. Where to? Lexington, KY!

As mentioned in the Revolutionary Minute by compatriot Alan Martin, the weekend of August 17-18 was the annual commemoration of the Battle of Blue Licks. This is a national SAR event. Blue Licks was one of the last engagements in the war (August 19, 1782) and a British, or should I say, Tory, victory. Against Daniel Boone's warning that he felt they were walking into a trap, the militia leaders moved their men through a series of ravines as they advanced uphill from a ford on the Licking River, only to be halted by Tory militia holding the high ground. This was a fairly even fight, but while the Tories held the American militia advance in check, flanking attacks by their Indian allies created a rout. Many of the American fallen were buried in a mass grave on the site, which is now in Blue Licks Battlefield State Park. There were about 100 American casualties out of about 180 engaged, compared to about 20 out of 350 deployed by the Tories and their allies.

A number of the survivors retreated to Lexington. Outside Lexington is the Bethel Church. The current Church, built in the 1840s, is the third church on the site. At least ten known patriots are buried in the cemetery, and research is ongoing to identify others. In fact, during the memorial service, two

more were named as recently identified. This is a painstaking process as many graves were lost to time, and ground penetrating radar and other studies were needed to find grave locations. This included a mass grave from a cholera epidemic. Many of those patriots buried were church founders and veterans of Blue Licks.

Five patriots were remembered in this service: Thomas Dinwiddie, James Duncan, Thomas McClure, Robert Marshall, and Joseph Patterson.

This was a national event, with PG Addington, several state presidents, and VPGs present. National Commander Collins led a color guard of 26 and a rifle squad of 18 compatriots. A large number of commemorative wreaths were placed, including one for Kansas. Delegations from TX, FL, GA, NC, VA, OH, KY, and TN were noted.

The service ended with the unveiling of a monument containing the names of the current ten patriots, with two more now needing to be added. Refreshments were served (thankfully, as 94% humidity made it feel like 100 degrees). Those attending were then invited to Sunday Church services.

An opportunity was also presented to visit Fort Boonesborough State Park. This faithful reproduction of the original fort is set about three hundred yards farther uphill. It was made using information from archeological excavations and maps of the original site as sources. The original fort location is marked with a monument and is along the Kentucky River. Besides Blue Licks, the siege of Boonesborough (September 1778) was the other major Revolution Military event in Kentucky. In this case, the inhabitants successfully repelled attacks and a siege lasting 11 days against great odds: 40 KY militia versus 450 Tory militia and allied Shawnee Indians. Boone had been a prisoner in the Shawnee Village and overheard the plans to attack the fort. He escaped in time to warn the settlers to prepare.

All in all, it was a very enjoyable weekend, even though I had no time to make any stops on the Bourbon Trail between Louisville and Lexington. Maybe next time.



FORT SCOTT CHAPTER (Ft. Scott)

Jim Gilpin, President Meets second Saturday in February, April, June, August, October and December at Lucci's Cafe at 11 am

FORT HAYS CHAPTER (Hays)

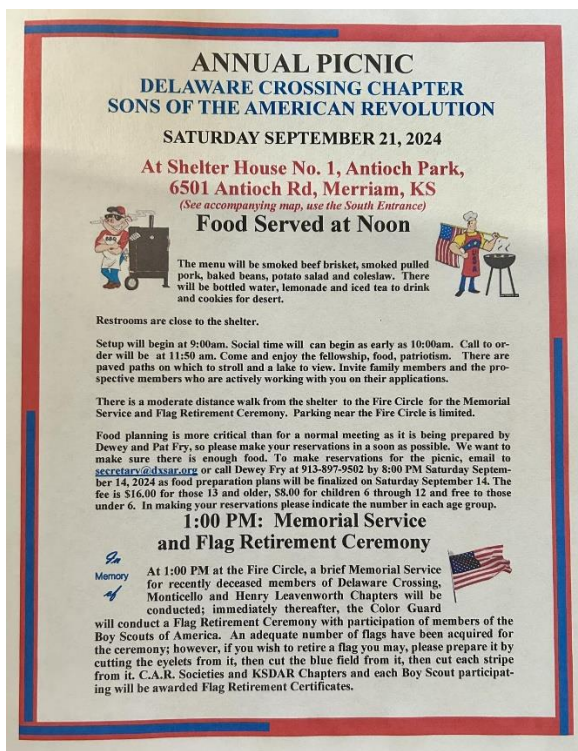
Doak Doolittle, President, *Meeting Dates and Location-* Meet on the 3rd Tuesday of Jan, May, July, Sept, Nov. at 7:pm (March is the State SAR Meeting) at the Rooks County Museum, 921 S. Cedar St, Stockton, KS.

HENRY LEAVENWORTH CHAPTER (Leavenworth)
Bennett Dickson, President Meets 4th Thursday
monthly at The Heritage Center, 109 Delaware St.,
Leavenworth, KS 66048

Miss Lilliane Warhurst won the Henry Leavenworth Chapter's George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest. She is pictured with her family and Compatriot Doug Darling.



The Delaware Crossing Chapter Sons of the American Revolution have invited our Henry Leavenworth Chapter to their Annual Picnic on Saturday, September 21, 2024. Attached is more information on their flyer.



KONZA PRAIRIE CHAPTER (Manhattan) Doug Brabb, President Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM, Meeting location TBD

MONTICELLO CHAPTER (Shawnee)
Jake Cox, President Meets 3rd Thursday monthly,
6:00 PM at Pegah's Restaurant 12122 W 87th St,
Lenexa, KS 66215

THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAPTER (Topeka)
Brian Vazquez, President Topeka Public Library, 1515
SW 10th Ave. – 9:00 a.m. (3rd Saturday of month during
September to November and February to June) HyVee. 29th &
Wanamaker, Topeka, KS 3rd Saturday of July, Aug, Dec, and Jan,
@ 9:00 am.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER (Wichita Area) John Schwartz, President Meets 3rd Thursday except January & July at 7:00 pm at Good Shepherd Church Wichita, KS

Little Balkans Chapter (Pittsburg) Dustin Strong President

Little Balkans Chapter is the states newest chapter, they continue to increase membership.

The Kansas SAR Ladies Auxiliary
Jennifer Wampler, President Meets at the Quarterly Board of Governors

New Members

<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>	<i>NSSAR</i>	<i>Ks</i>	<i>Ch</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
Unruh	Donald	Ray	229827	4053	SP	Hulse, BA	04/26/24	Benjamin Beeson
Giese	Brett	Leslie	229828	4054	SP	Hulse, BA	04/26/24	Jeruel West
Giese	Brit	McKenna	229829	4055	SP	Hulse, BA	04/26/24	Jeruel West
Stanford	Luke	Alexander	229830	4056	KP	Hulse, BA	04/26/24	Ellis Adkisson
Towsley	Matthew	Stuart	229971	4057	JS	Schatzel, JA	05/10/24	Daniel Coolidge
Puzzuoli Eisenhauer	Albert	John	229972	4058	FSJ	Schatzel, JA	05/10/24	Frederick
Addis Eisenhauer	Dempsey	Ryan	229973	4059	FSJ	Schatzel, JA	05/10/24	Frederick
Murphy	Michael	Lee	230046	4060	SP	Hulse, BA	05/17/24	Jesse Clothier
Hulse	Joseph	Dalton	230140	4061	BN	Hulse, BA	05/31/24	Richard Hulse
Aspedon	Sean	Thomas	230231	4062	WA	Hulse, BA	06/14/24	Christopher Winter

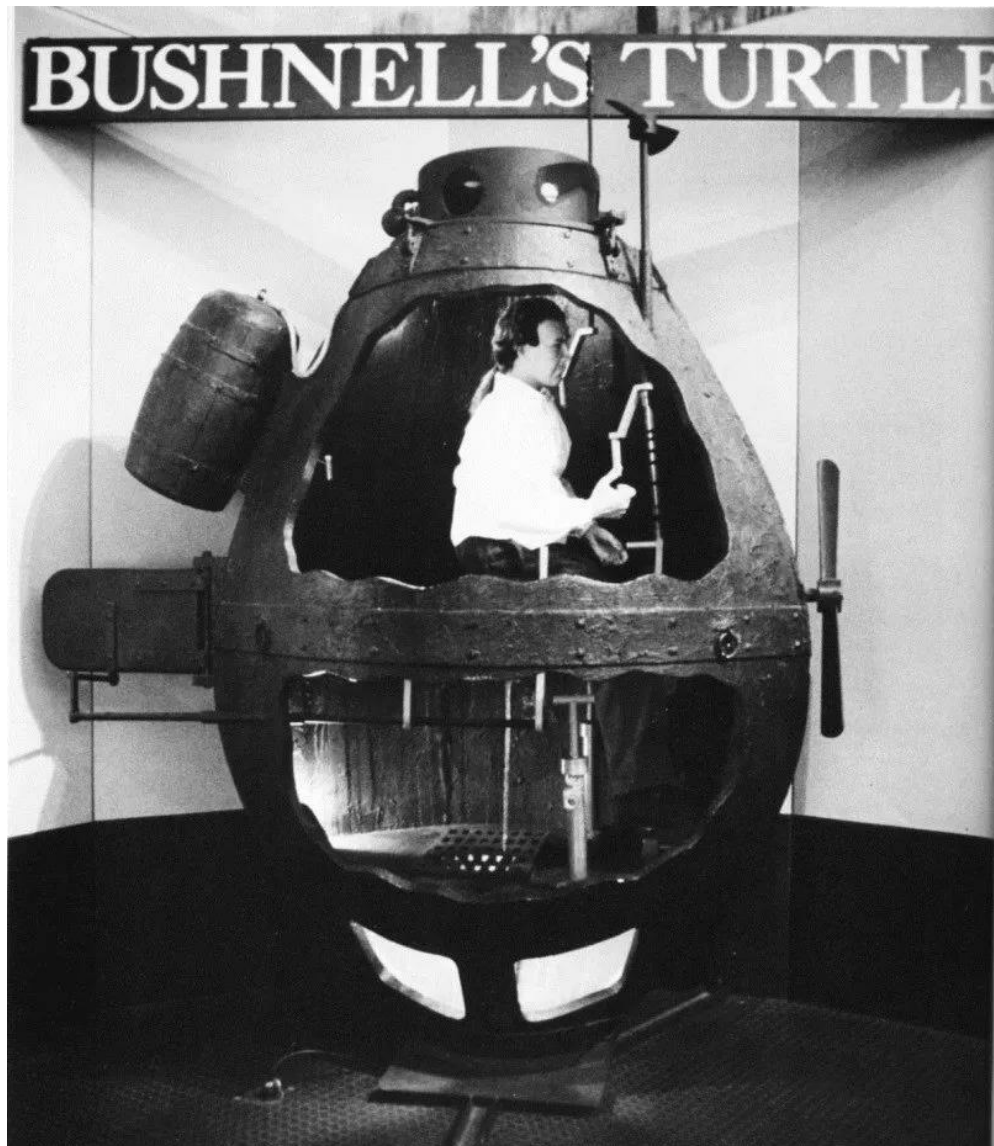
Supplementals

Last	First	Middle	NSSAR	Ks	Ch	Approved	Ancestor
Martin	John	Charles, Jr.	216247	3682	DX	05/03/24	James Halley, Sr.

Salute to Our Departed Comrades

Last	First	Middle	NSSAR	Ks	Ch	Member	Died
Caywood	Mason	Ross, Jr.	154862	2336	MAL	2000	02/22/24
Koenig	Richard	Dean	178084	2781	MAL	2010	02/29/24
Hyer	Charles	Henry	170542	2596		2007	03/28/24*
Daugherty	Dennis	Allan	96568	917		1968	05/03/24*
Forsyth	Terry	Lee	227445	4005	HL	2023	05/14/24
Jones	Schuyler	Mead	217734	3745	WA	2020	05/17/24
Lowenbruck	Sylvan	Francis	168658	2542		2007	06/02/24*
Reno	Stanley	Joseph	141139	1995	WA	1993	06/04/24
Raines	Richard	Dean	176809	2755		2010	06/06/24*
Potter	Marvin	Matthew	159498	2332	DX	2002	06/19/24

Final Thought



September 7, 1776, the American Turtle attacks HMS Eagle in the first naval attack ever made in a submarine. The Turtle, also called the American Turtle, was designed by David Bushnell of Westbrook, Connecticut in 1775.

The Editor of the Liberty Bell is Steve Hamlin of Washington Chapter. The Publisher is Bryan Wampler of the Monticello Chapter, President of the Kansas SAR. You can reach the Editor at unclehammy@sbcglobal.net This is your Society News Letter, if there is something you want to see in it please contact me or Vernon and we will see what we can do!