



Utah Society
Sons of the American
Revolution

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Visit the Utah SAR website at:

www.UtahSocietySAR.org

See past issues of Utah Patriot, Calendar of Events and other Utah SAR Information.

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Utah Patriot

Fall 2017

Liberty or Secular Conformity

At the time of the American Revolution the nations of the world were ruled by kings and queens, emperors and empresses, czars and czarinas. Chiefs ruled the world's tribes and clans. Despotism was common, and tyrants ruled absolute.

Almost without exception nations were populated by the privileged ruling class few, and those of the lower-class masses. To control the masses, terror and fear were used; threats of cruel punishment and torture were carried out in ruthless ways by the ruler's enforcers or soldiers.

In those days, tyrant governments expected people to conform to the will of the ruler. Non-conformists, those who did not attend the ruler's approved church, those who spoke out against the ruler and his government, those who held meetings to share their own beliefs and preferences, those who dared to petition the ruler for change, those who printed opposing views, were subject to fines, imprisonment, torture, and even death.

It was in this time of history that American ministers, Founding Fathers, and other patriots determined there was something of great worth, something of tremendous value that should be fought for, something far better than conforming to the will of despotism - this, of course, is liberty.

For several years, many prominent American colonial religious ministers were teaching their congregations that God had given mankind rights, and no one had any authority to take away or limit these rights. One example is Pastor Jonathan Mayhew of the West Church in Boston, who taught that civil and religious liberty

were ordained by God.

Echoing this belief, which was well understood by those of the Continental Congress, the decision was made that having civil and religious liberty would not be possible without Independence, consequently, the great Declaration of Independence was drafted, approved and sent forth to the world:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. --That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed . . ."

At the time of the American Revolution, the Loyalists to the King and his government saw the Founding Fathers as radicals and their ideas of unalienable Rights as absurd. Loyalists were convinced that not conforming to the King's will and obeying his laws was extremist thinking. The Founding Fathers and the patriots fighting for liberty, in their eyes, were hate mongering fanatics.

Is there a parallel in our day? Are modern day patriots being portrayed as radicals or extremists? Are there those who are violently demanding what they should or should not do or say, what they can or cannot even think or feel? Are there those who are working to diminish freedom of religion, and erode other unalienable rights as described in the Bill of Rights? Are there groups fixated on limiting freedom, stamping out liberty, determined to undo what our patriot ancestors achieved for us?



Reverend Jonathan Mayhew
Etching by Giovanni Cipriani, London: 1767
The American Antiquarian Society



John Philpot Curran
Artist Unknown, The National Portrait Gallery, London

Continued on Page 2



Continued from Page 1

In the days of Washington, Jefferson, Adams, Franklin and our patriot ancestors, there lived an Irish philosopher named John Philpot Curran (1750 - 1817). His timeless words, which undoubtedly influenced the Founding Fathers, should have influence upon us. May these words penetrate our hearts and inspire our actions in our day:

“It is the common fate of the indolent to see their rights become a prey to the active. The condition upon which God hath given liberty to man is eternal vigilance; which condition if he break, servitude is at once the consequence of his crime and the punishment of his guilt.”

Sources:

www.loc.gov/exhibits/religion/rel03.html

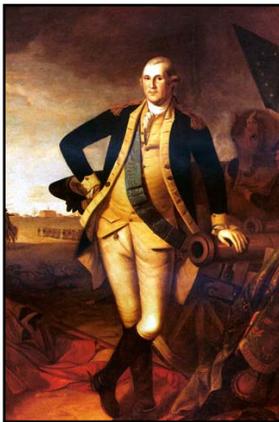
www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript

Jonathan Mayhew, D.D. Pastor of the West Church in Boston . . . Etching by Giovanni Cipriani, London: 1767. The American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts. <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/religion/f0301.jpg>

John Philpot Curran Picture: The National Portrait Gallery, London https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Philpot_Curran#/media/File:John_Philpot_Curran_from_NPG.jpg

The Battle of Brandywine

Unless we have made a study of the American Revolution and General George Washington, we may not have developed an appreciation for the many losses and defeats the General endured throughout the war. A great loss to the American cause - in 1777 - occurred at **The Battle of Brandywine**.



George Washington
By Charles Willson Peale

What is notable is that Washington was resilient, he fought on and fought on, the cause of liberty being sufficient to influence him to remain engaged until Independence from Great Britain was achieved.

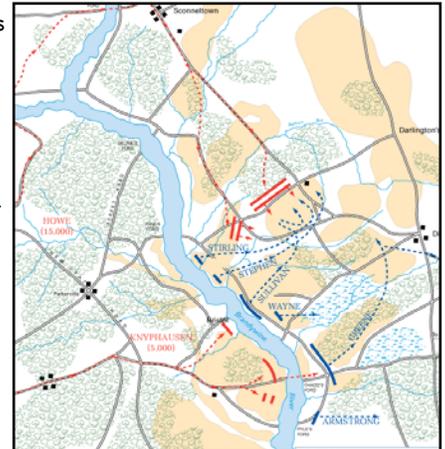
In September of 1777, **240 years ago**, Washington was determined to keep the British from occupying Philadelphia, - the American Capitol. Washington had positioned his troops between Philadelphia and the British forces. In late August British General William Howe had sailed to Head of Elk, Maryland with 18,000 troops.

Both armies maneuvered for two weeks, with a few skirmishes. But when the British army marched north, the Continental Army took up position at Chadds Ford over the Brandywine Creek to oppose the enemy of American liberty.

The intelligence reports were sorely lacking, with little to go on, Washington had to make his battle plans. He ordered detachments to cover all the main bridges for several miles up and down the creek. He kept the strongest portion of his forces at Chadds Ford because it was defensible, and he believed it was where the British would choose to cross.

General Howe had other plans. He did not send his entire force to

Chadds Ford, but split his army into two. 5,000 British Regulars marched on Chadds Ford while the remainder of Howe's army, under the command of Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis, crossed farther up the creek at a place Washington did not know about. Cornwallis marched his troops south to attack Washington's right flank.



The Battle of Brandywine, September 11, 1777

As Howe's forces moved up on Chadds Ford mid-morning on September 11th, the American soldiers opened fire. On the British side there was a group of Quakers having a meeting in their meetinghouse; to their surprise the British took cover on the church grounds!

The British pressed the fight and succeeded in pushing the Americans back beyond the ford. About 2 p.m., completely unaware as to Howe's plan, Cornwallis showed up with his portion of the army and attacked Washington's right flank. There were many casualties



Battle of Brandywine Historical Marker

on the American side. Generals Sullivan, Stephens and Alexander anxiously repositioned their troops. There was fierce fighting, and they succeeded in keeping the British from advancing as the rest of the army slipped away.

At 4 p.m. Washington arrived with General Nathanael Greene and reinforcements. Under cover of darkness, Greene's troops kept the British busy, allowing the rest of Washington's army to retreat to Chester. Here, at midnight, the Continentals regrouped.

One thousand American were dead or wounded, yet the army fighting for the cause of liberty had survived to fight another day. There was maneuvering for another two weeks but, on September 26th, the British took Philadelphia unopposed. Congress had fled from the city to York. The city of Brotherly Love would house the British for nine months, after which they would abandon the city. The Revolutionary War would continue for six more years.

Sources:

<http://www.revolutionary-war-and-beyond.com/american-loss-battle-of-brandywine.html>

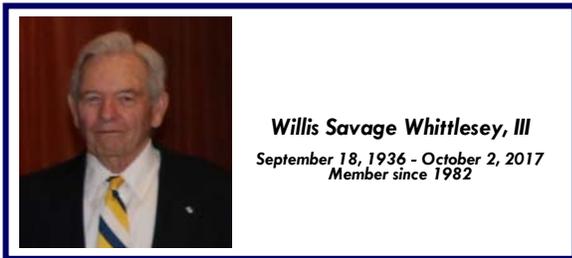
Washington 1779; Charles Willson Peale, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a8/Washington_1779.jpg

Battle of Brandywine, History Department, United States Military Academy; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Brandywine#/media/File:Battle_of_Brandywine.USMA.edu.history.gif



Compatriot Remembered

On Saturday, October 7, 2017 the Utah Society SAR said farewell to Willis Savage "Bill" Whittlesey, III, an active 35 year member of the Sons of the American Revolution, whose funeral and memorial service was attended by his family and many friends. Bill passed away on October 2nd, surrounded by his family. He was currently serving as the State Registrar, a position he had previously held, as well as a Chapter President. He will be greatly missed!



Willis Savage Whittlesey, III
September 18, 1936 - October 2, 2017
Member since 1982

Welcome to Our New Members

It's always a pleasure to welcome new compatriots to the Utah Society Sons of the American Revolution. Here are the new members since our last newsletter:

George Malen Haley
James Alexander Lutz
John Kenneth Carter

WELCOME!

Becoming a Member of the SAR

Do you know someone who has a Revolutionary War ancestor? I'm Layton Patterson and, as the Utah SAR Genealogist, I'd like to assist him in becoming a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Our state website contains the basic information that a prospective member needs to know, including a membership application he can download and begin filling out. I can assist him via email, at patarbarn3@gmail.com, or by phone, at 801-628-2817. I will gladly explain to him the process that's involved and the documentation that's required to be submitted along with his membership application and fee.



Recognizing those who Honor our Flag

Softly draped, with folds unstirred by even so much as a breath of summer breeze, Old Glory, OUR FLAG-the flag of destiny -- rests, waiting! It symbolizes the soul of America, standing in silent prayer before the Father of Light, receiving His strength and wisdom, asking His guidance and protection through another perilous journey. It is the morning prayer of the American people, the prayer that arms them against the problems of the day with courage and cheer. Before it, America stands in reverence, realizing her sacred duty to mankind and her glorious destiny¹.



No one knows with absolute certainty who designed the first stars and stripes or who made it. Congressman Francis Hopkins seems most likely to have designed it and made it, a few historians believe that Betsy Ross, a Philadelphia seamstress, made the first one.

As members of the Sons of the American Revolution, may we stop and remember what the flag means to each of us.



*In our busy day,
let us take some
time and notice
those who fly and
honor our flag,
the beautiful flag
of the United
States of America.*

Whoever it may be, friend, neighbor

or someone you pass by, let's honor that individual with a certificate from the Sons of the American Revolution.

To get more information about how YOU can recognize those in your neighborhood, and with whom you do business, that consistently fly the stars and stripes, you can contact Wade Alexander, wade@rootsoffreedom.com. You can also go to the Utah SAR website and, under Our Programs, select the link to the [American Flag Flyer Recognition Certificate](#).

¹Our Flag (excerpt), Fred Trip, 1940; https://siterepository.s3.amazonaws.com/640/our_flag.pdf

Did you know...

As a result of the American victory in the Battle of Saratoga that began just days after the Battle of Brandywine (September 19 & October 7, 1777), France recognized America's independence, and Spain joined France in the war with Great Britain.



Liberty Trek 2017

An outstanding event occurred on October 6 & 7 at Fort Buenaventura -Ogden, Utah. Partnering with the Constitution Day Committee of Utah, the Trapper Trails Council BSA, and the Utah Society Sons of the American Revolution, over 950 Scouts and their leaders participated in the extraordinary patriotic program, Liberty Trek. Begun in 2014, this is the fourth Liberty Trek to be held, with nearly 4,000 Scouts attending since its inception.

On Friday, Scouts explored the replica Continental Army camp, toured the "Art to Move a Nation" display, and visited the fort. Scouts enjoyed a delicious catered barbeque chicken dinner. At 8 p.m. the Scouts congregated at the main stage. After the invocation, the presentation of the colors, Pledge of Allegiance, the audience was entertained by the Utah Old Time Fiddlers, who played fun, lively music from the 18th and 19th centuries. After, Scout Executive Allen Endicott provided a warm welcome, and then Colonel Gary Stephens (Ret. Army), gave a remarkable speech, part of which told how important making and keeping an oath is. The Colonel shared the oath a Nazi soldier made to Hitler, the oath of a British soldier to the monarch, and the oath he took to administer to American soldiers during his time on active duty:

"I, _____ (SSAN), having been appointed an officer in the Army of the United States, as indicated above in the grade of _____ do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter; So help me God."

(Title 10, US Code; Act of 5 May 1960 replacing the wording first adopted in 1789, with amendment effective 5 October 1962).

"Is there a difference in the oaths? There most certainly is!" He then asked the Scouts to think of their oath:

"On My Honor, I will do my Duty to God and my country . . ."

The Colonel was followed by Lex de Azevedo, the famous composer and producer. Mr. Azevedo gave a stirring, impassioned patriotic presentation. "I am concerned for my country, I am concerned for the future of the United States of America." Mr. Azevedo talked about the decay of morality and the loss of virtue. He reminded the Scouts that *the life of liberty depended on a moral and virtuous people*. He spoke of the attacks on the character of the Founding Fathers, the disregard for basic unalienable rights, and the efforts of the enemies of liberty to cheat us from our birthright and heritage. Boldly, and with conviction, he shared his love for America, and for the American Revolution, for the United States Constitution, and "our American ideals."

Mr. Azevedo provided a music video, shown on two 12'x12' screens - one on either side of the outdoor main stage. In it, Scouts heard Azevedo's original composition "In God We Trust", a magnificent rendition performed by a choir and orchestra.

After Mr. Azevedo, the Scouts went over to a pond, where they watched the Order of the Arrow perform a shadow play on a giant screen that hung between two trees. They watched as a large bird



Utah SAR Compatriot Gregg Hansen and wife, Paula firing the cannon.

was freed from a cage, as the bird flew freely over the pond and saw his reflection, he discovered that he was an eagle.

Saturday, the morning began at 6:00 a.m. with the BOOM! of a cannon and "Paul Revere" riding on his horse through the camp yelling, "The

Regulars are coming!" A bugler played reveille. After the catered breakfast, all of the Scouts gathered at the main stage, where they were organized into five regiments and issued their haversacks of educational material. At 8:00 a.m. the Liberty Trek began.

The five regiments rotated through five 50-minute events staffed by 41 actors and actresses: Liberty and Freedom, Private Virtue, Public Virtue, Education of the Masses, and Preventive Controls.



Utah SAR Color Guardsman Jesse Black

The Utah SAR hosted the Public Virtue event, which featured a flintlock demonstrator, a balloon battle, and learning about the life of



Gary VanDolzer Portrays General Washington

Revolutionary War soldiers, including a dragoon on his horse, a militia courier on his horse, and Continental Army soldiers. There was a meeting with General Washington and his wife, Martha. The General told of the sacrifices of the soldiers, their suffering in pris-

ons ships, the lack of clothing and food - yet they loved their country; *they desired independence, they gave their all for the attainment of liberty*. Martha spoke of the love of a mother, the desire for "her" sons (the Scouts) to *be virtuous men, to love God and their country*.

There were three rotations in the morning, a catered lunch at 11 a.m., two more rotations



Ken Johnson portrays Alexander Hamilton



The Reverend Muhlenberg portrayed by Mark McConkie

the uniform of a Continental Soldier, reminded the Scouts that, as they remain true to the 12 virtues of the Scout Law and live true to honor their oath this will give life to liberty and enable us to remain a free people. "Reverend Muhlenberg" gave the benediction.



Scouts Recite the Scout Law and Oath

All Scouts who completed the Liberty Trek received a beautiful embroidered patch. The patch depicts both a Scout and General Washington raising their arms and swearing an oath.

As part of the Liberty Trek program, an essay contest was held in partial fulfillment of the Journalism Merit Badge. Twelve-year-old Scout Garrett Barker entered the contest and was selected a winner! Here is his essay:

MY LIBERTY TREK EXPERIENCE

By Garrett Barker, Scout

A few days ago, I went to Liberty Trek. While I was there we took time learning about the Revolution and the Founding Fathers. First, we went to the [field by the main] stage and did a reenactment of a battle in the Revolutionary War with balloons as our muskets. This was my favorite part of Liberty Trek. After that we went into a tent to learn about some units of soldiers and we met George and Martha Washington.

Second, after the cannon signaled it was time to rotate we went to another tent with James Madison and John Jay and learned about [choosing], representatives and how the Americans felt about King George, III. We did a [Constitution] quiz and voted on things and did an activity with pushups.

Third, we watched a debate between America and Britain. In it Thomas Jefferson and a redcoat general argued about [how people should be led], and then Benjamin Franklin argued with another Redcoat about how the leader should be chosen. We also heard from some school teachers.

After we ate lunch, we learned about [religious liberty] where people talked about several religions that were in England at the time. We also did an activity where we got cards with a religion on them and we got in a circle and [taught] people about [why they came to America].

and, then, at 2 p.m., the concluding program. Twelve Scouts in uniform joined all the Founding Fathers and Mothers on the main stage. The scouts recited the Scout Law and then led the entire audience in saying the Scout Oath. An SAR compatriot, dressed in

the uniform of a Continental Soldier, reminded the Scouts that, as they remain true to the 12 virtues of the Scout Law and live true to

honor their oath this will give life to liberty and enable us to remain a free people. "Reverend Muhlenberg" gave the benediction.

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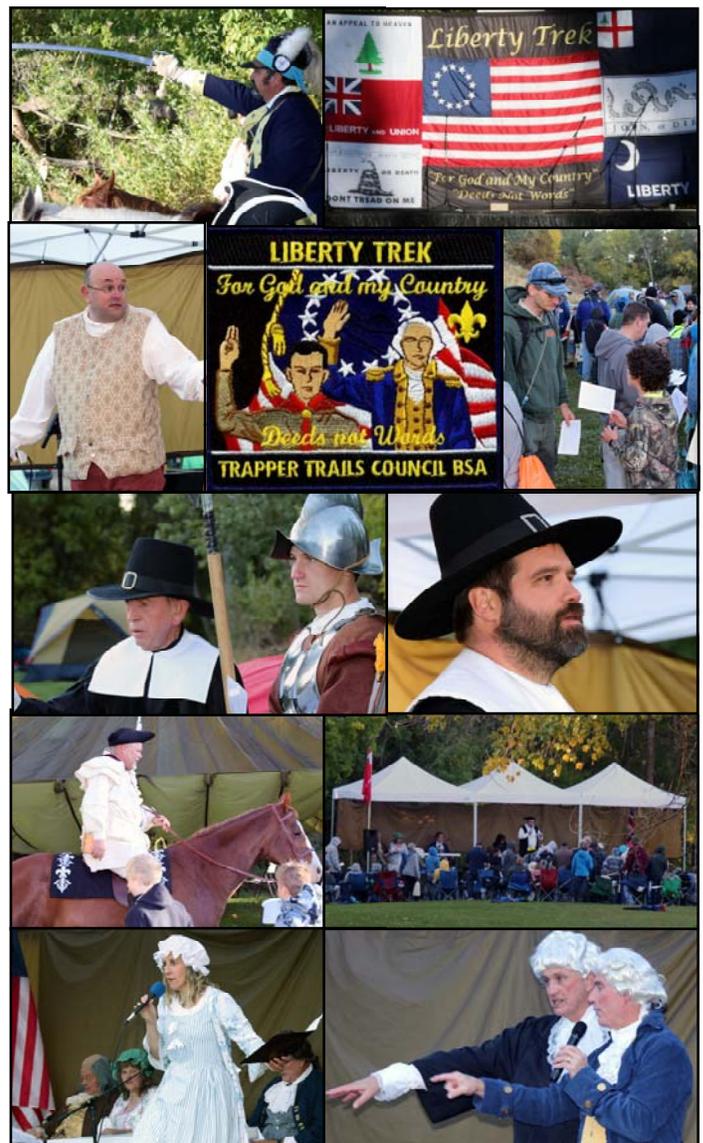
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Last, we learned about Reverend Peter Muhlenberg, a man who was a pastor and also fought in the war, then we did a [concluding] program got our patches and went home. I'm glad I went, because I learned a lot about the Revolutionary War and about the early Americans. *I now know that it is up to kids my age to keep freedom in America.*

CONGRATULATIONS! to Garrett Barker for submitting his essay and being chosen as the winner. As a prize Garrett received from the Constitution Day Committee of Utah a copy of three books: *The Real George Washington*, *The Real Thomas Jefferson*, and *The Real Benjamin Franklin*.



Learn more about Liberty Trek at: www.UtahSocietySAR.org - Liberty Trek



Liberty Trek Photos taken by Utah SAR President Bill Simpson and Lydia Nuttall



Eagle Scouts Receive Recognition

In last Fall's issue of the Utah Patriot, there was an article titled "You Can Inspire an Eagle Scout." It explained how, as compatriots of the Sons of the American Revolution, we may become engaged in recognizing those Young Men in our neighborhoods, those who have earned the rank of Eagle Scout, with a Utah SAR "Certificate of Recognition" for their accomplishment.

There was another article on the same page of the newsletter

about two Scouts who were recognized by the Utah SAR for their achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America.

As a result of these articles, former State Secretary, Larry Florence, received an email from a Peter M. Hansen, who is an Associate Advisor to a Scout Venture Crew in Washington, Utah. He made the request that we recognize seven of his Scouts who had recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Larry contacted Compatriot John Arnold, who lives in St. George. Arnold arranged for, and made the presentation of Utah State SAR Certificates of Recognition to the seven new Eagle Scouts. Here is Compatriot Arnold's report of this event:

An Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held for Parker Lynn Hansen, Jackson Condie Whalen, Mitchner Condie Whalen, William Michael



Eagle Scouts William Harrison, Parker Hansen, Jackson Whalen, SAR Compatriot John Arnold, Eagle Scouts Carson Hansen, and Mitchner Whalen

Harrison, Benjamin Chandler Hansen, Carson Thor Hansen, and Christian Grant Blatter (all from the Washington, Utah area). The Scouts had just returned from the National Scout Jamboree in the State of West Virginia. On

Wednesday, August 2nd, Compatriot Arnold attended a special ceremony to recognize these new Eagle Scouts and presented each one with a certificate of recognition. Compatriot Arnold said, that these were a "...great bunch of young men. [It] makes you feel better about our future seeing them."

On September 16th, another Eagle Court of Honor was attended in Sandy, Utah by Utah SAR President, Bill Simpson. Bill presented Dallin Matthew Moon, a member of his church, with a Certificate of

Recognition for his achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Dallin was also presented with his first Bronze Eagle Palm during the ceremony that was held in the back yard of the Moon family. Dallin and his parents expressed their gratitude that the Utah SAR would take the time to recognize their son.

This is an activity that all Utah SAR compatriots can become involved in doing. Here are the details on how to become involved, from the Fall 2016 issue of the Utah Patriot. Additional information and a contact form are available on the UtahSocietySAR.org website by clicking Youth Section on the menu and then selecting Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate. (<http://utahsocietyсар.org/wordpress/home/youthsection/eagle-scout-recognition-certificate>).



Eagle Scout Dallin Moon and Utah SAR President Bill Simpson

When you learn of a Scout who will be receiving his Eagle Award, you will want to obtain his name and the date of his court of honor. Ask the Scout master if he will grant you about five minutes time during the court of honor to make a presentation on behalf of the SAR. Then send this information to Wade Alexander, Utah SAR Eagle Scout Recognition Committee Chairman (Wade@rootsoffreedom.com), who will arrange for the certificate to be printed out and sent to you, along with a short presentation speech that you can deliver at the Eagle Court of Honor. Ask for the Scout master or parent to send you the photo(s) of your presentation, which you will forward on to our state historian, Trent Grandy (tgrandy@utah.gov), for our historical records and for our semi-annual newsletter. Presenting the Eagle Scout certificate and briefly speaking of the American Revolution can have a lasting impact on the young man who is being recognized. *In addition to the certificate, you'll receive a pocket-size booklet of the Declaration of Independence and US Constitution, and an informational brochure on who we are and what our purpose is in the SAR, to give to the Scout.* (be sure to remind Compatriot Alexander to include these items with the certificate that's mailed to you).

Here is some additional information that may help you find a local scout troop. Utah is divided into three scouting councils: Utah National Parks Council – South of Salt Lake County and Northeast Utah – (<http://www.utahscouts.org/districts>); Great Salt Lake Council – Salt Lake County to Farmington (<http://www.utahscouts.org/districts>); and the Trapper Trails Council – North of Farmington (<https://www.trappertrails.org/files/2846/District-Boundary-Map>).

Quick Quiz - Decipher the Code

:E = USC 1789



Patriotism at the Stadium of Fire

Members of the Utah SAR Color Guard were invited to provide color guard service for the 37th annual Stadium of Fire extravaganza held at the LaVelle Edwards Stadium in Provo Utah, held on the Saturday closest to the 4th of July. This year, color guard members, joined by four cadets from the Utah Military Academy - American Revolution Patriots 4H Club, gathered on Friday evening to attend the mandatory rehearsal. On Saturday, at 8:00 p.m., they joined with color guards from the mili-



Gregg Hansen, Jaden Brouck (UMA), Sean Smith (UMA), Ace Horne, Jesse Black, Doug McGregor, Gary England, Ben Horne, Korin Blue (UMA), Colebie Smith (UMA), Trent Grandy

tary, law enforcement, Boy Scouts, city fire departments, and others including motorcycle police, and horse mounted posses to present our Nation's colors. After the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of the Star-Spangled Ban-

ner, those attending were treated to the musical talents of Hunter Hayes, comedian Brian Regan, and the Country Western band Little Big Town. The program's concluding fireworks were spectacular! The Stadium of Fire is telecast to over 1,000 U.S. military bases across the globe, with more than one million military personnel and their families having access via the American Forces Network.

Utah Patriot Camp 2017

There are now ten Utah Patriot Camps operating in the state (<http://www.utahpatriotcamp.com>). The patriotic educational camps are held during the Summer break and are designed for kids K-6. Utah SAR Associate Gary VanDolzer, Aka, George Washington, provided service to several of the camps this year. Dressing as his Excellency General Washington, Gary meets with youth and shares inspiring stories concerning Washington and the pursuit of America's Independence and Freedom.



Utah SAR Associate Gary VanDolzer portraying George Washington

Compatriot Gregg Hansen supported the Kaysville Patriot Camp this year. Spending time with the Kaysville youth, he helped them understand what it was like to be a soldier fighting for liberty.

It's difficult for most of the Utah SAR membership to support this worthwhile program as it is held on weekdays; however, if you can

spare a morning sometime in June, July or August of next year, please step forward and let us know. The Utah Patriot Camp organization is always looking for support from the Utah SAR membership. *Your service would be most appreciated. You don't need to have a uniform or learn a script, we can help you join in the fun and provide this much appreciated patriotic service.*



Compatriot Gregg Hansen

NSCAR Regional Conference

July 18-19, the National Society Children of the American Revolution - Rocky Mountain Region, held their 46th annual meeting at the Red Lion Hotel in Salt Lake City. Youth and adult representatives



UT SAR Color Guard Members (L/R) Gary England, Jesse Black, Gregg Hansen, and Trent Grandy

from Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah gathered to share reports, learn from keynote speakers and fellowship with one another.

This year, their primary focus is in raising funds for the creation of "James Monroe Online."

JMO will be a free-and-open, online portal to access images and searchable transcriptions of the archival collections devoted to our nation's fifth President, James Monroe.

Monroe, the last Founding Father U.S. President said, *'It is by a thorough knowledge of the whole subject that our fellow-citizens are enabled to judge correctly of the past and to give a proper direction to the future.'*

In support of the regional meeting, 1st Vice President Douglas McGregor provided greetings at the 7:00pm Wednesday banquet. The Utah SAR Color Guard with Trent Grandy-drummer, Jesse Black-flag bearer, and Gregg Hansen and Gary England, men-at-arms, provided the presentation of the colors.

Join the Color Guard and inspire others to remember and cherish their heritage of



LIBERTY AND FREEDOM



Visit our website UtahSocietySAR.org
Click Color Guard on the Menu Bar or
Call the Utah SAR Color Guard Coordinator Today!
801-201-7731



Constitution Day Commemoration Service

For the past ten years, always near Constitution Day in September, the Freedom's Light organization holds a three-day program at Bountiful City Park. For the past several years, requests have been sent to the Utah SAR to provide support for this program. The Utah SAR decided this year, in lieu of a Constitution Day banquet, we should provide patriotic service to the Freedom's Light program.

The Utah SAR membership and associates were invited to bring their



Utah Military Academy Noelle Falaschi points out the assorted food items telling the story of the life of a Revolutionary War soldier

families and come to Bountiful on Saturday, September 16th to have a picnic and see the many displays and to experience the many patriotic events available at Freedom's Light. Some of the events included a large detailed model of the ship Mayflower, where people heard the story of the Pilgrims' hardships and struggle for religious liberty. There was a working 18th century printing press, a blacksmith, and performers portraying Joan of Arc, Thomas Jefferson, and several other patriots who told their moving true stories.

SAR compatriot Wade Alexander portrayed Benjamin Franklin and told inspiring stories to youth of the Declaration of Independence. Compatriot Gregg Hansen brought assorted items to tell the story of the life of a Revolutionary War soldier. There was an enlisted man's tent, a tripod and cooking pot, a table displaying a soldier's food rations, and examples of the arms used by soldiers. Utah Military Academy Cadets Korin Blue, Jaden Bouck, Noelle Falaschi and Sean Smith, from the Utah SAR sponsored American Revolution Patriots 4H Club, were on hand in uniform to interact with the public, explain the food table, and life in a "mess" (the basic Revolutionary War military unit).



SAR Compatriot Wade Alexander portrays Benjamin Franklin

Use of the flintlock was explained and hourly demonstrations of firing



Utah SAR Color Guardsman Jesse Black and Utah Military Academy Cadets Korin Blue demonstrate the firing of a flintlock

a flintlock were given, to the public's delight. *In all of the Utah SAR presentations and messages, an emphasis was given for the reason the Revolutionary War was being waged - the importance of liberty, freedom, and eventually, creating a Constitution, the supreme law of the*

land to safeguard our unalienable rights.

Color guardsmen Jesse Black, Gary England, Trent Grandy, Gregg

Hansen and Doug McGregor were in uniform, assisting with demonstrations and meeting the public. State President Bill Simpson and State Society Genealogist Layton Patterson manned a table, under a canopy surrounded by Revolutionary Flags, answering questions about the SAR and inviting individuals to receive a free "cursory search" to determine if they may have a patriot ancestor. At least six individuals signed up to participate in this offering and expressed interest in learning more about Utah SAR membership.

American Revolution Patriots 4H Club

After enjoying a Summer break, the Utah SAR sponsored club started up again in September of this year at the Utah Military Academy in Riverdale City. The club picked up three new members and continues to work to recruit those youth who are interested in the American Revolution and providing patriotic service to the community. In the Spring 2017 issue of the Utah Patriot, we reported that four Continental Army uniforms were made during the 2016 Christmas break. We are happy to report that those uniforms are being put to good use as members of the club participate in color guard service or historical presentations. If funds can be raised, we are looking to make more uniforms this December.



L/R Jaden Bouck, Sean Smith, Lyle Gingery, Doug McGregor, Gregg Hansen, Colbie Smith, and Korin Blue

In the photo, four youth members of the club pose in the uniforms made during Christmas break, with their three adult club advisors.

Message from Intermountain VPG Gary Pettett

As your Vice President General for the Intermountain District for 2017-18, I look forward to visiting each of our State Societies and interacting with fellow compatriots. It's my goal to make your voices heard at the National level and to help make your individual experience in SAR as enjoyable and rewarding as possible.

As you think about planning future vacations, you might be interested to learn of the timing and place of future NSSAR Congresses. Below are the locations and time for the next four Congresses. Of note are the two that will be held in Newport Bay, CA and Seattle, WA.

These may be great opportunities for you, who have not yet attended a Congress, to do so.

- 2018 - July 11-19, Houston, TX
- 2019 - July 5-10, Newport Bay, CA
- 2020 - July 9-15, Richmond, VA
- 2021 - TBA, Seattle, WA



Intermountain Vice President General Gary Pettett



Something you may find of interested is that in, 2015 NSSAR was one of several organizations that entered into a contractual agreement with the Kings College in London for exclusive rights to examine the newly discovered papers of King George III. That agreement now covers a 5-year period during which NSSAR can nominate historians to examine those papers. During this 5-year period of exclusivity, the papers will not yet be available to the general public.

Our first reviewer (2016) was Andrew Jackson O'Shaunessy, author of "The Men Who Lost America". This year (2017) our reviewer is Gabriel Paquet, a Professor of History at Johns Hopkins University, whose area of interest is the involvement of Spain in revolutionary era diplomacy. Reports from each of the examiners will be forthcoming.

As information is made available to public media, NSSAR will be prominently mentioned as a charter sponsor of the Georgian Papers Project.

One of NSSAR's priorities includes records digitization. Under an agreement with the FamilySearch organization (Salt Lake City, UT), digitization of SAR Magazines, from 1905 to the present, is underway. The process should be completed by late summer 2018 and available to members shortly after that. Discussions about the digitization of applications continue, issues about privacy being of prime importance.

Again, I look forward to visiting with you in the near future. But, in the meantime, please feel free to share any questions, concerns, suggestions and other thoughts with me. I shall respond to the best of my abilities.

It is a privilege to serve.

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our annual membership meeting last June. He was referred to as a "Renaissance Man" by one of his friends and, after having spent just a short time serving with Bill on the state board, I couldn't agree more with that label. I have reflected on one of George Washington's mottos that I believe applies to Bill, "Deeds, not words," because he was a man of action. He will be greatly missed!

I mentioned in my first President's Message in the Spring Utah Patriot that, after my dad died in September of 2011, I decided to join the Sons of the American Revolution. Dad had been quite active in his local Georgia chapter and, as the editor of the chapter newsletter, he would send me each of his finalized issues to read, perhaps hoping that I would take a subtle hint and become a member myself. Being a member of SAR in a state like Georgia certainly provides a myriad of opportunities for individual members to become involved with their local chapters and on the state level. Perhaps Utah's lack of active chapters may be a major reason why many who have joined the SAR through the Utah Society find it difficult to find an active role in promoting the noble goals of this special organization. Since I joined, there have been 197 others who followed. This number suggests that Utah should have enough active members to have chapters fully functional in cities like Ogden, Salt Lake City, Provo, and St. George, bringing the opportunities to serve with fellow compatriots closer to home.

So, a question I've been mulling over since joining the SAR is how can the Utah Society be better organized to offer more opportunities for all who want to become engaged in such a good cause? As a board we began addressing some of these concerns, primarily in developing a **Chapter Guide**, which will help those who are interested in becoming involved in a chapter, primarily in one of the various leadership roles, to learn their duties and how a chapter is expected to operate. The **Guide** provides an initial step in the direction I'd like to see the Utah Society go; that is, to have active chapters in one or more of the cities listed above. The next step is to find individuals who have the desire to accept the call to serve.

To help the board of officers with this next step, we've develop a membership survey that will let you see what activities you might have an interest in. There is a hard copy of this survey, that's accompanying your dues renewal letter, that I'd like you to take 10-15 minutes to complete and return it with your 2018 dues. The survey is also available on the Utah SAR website at <http://utahsociety.org/wordpress/home/member-resources>; then enter the password **utsar1895** and click the link to the **Survey**. This information will help the board discover what activities and programs are of interest to you. We'll seek to assist you in finding the perfect niche for your talents and interests.

As your State President, I am committed to having one or more active chapters, located in areas convenient for you to gather and promote the ideals and goals of the Sons of the American Revolution. But you don't have to wait to start getting involved in your local areas. There are two programs mentioned in this newsletter in which you can individually recognize others: 1) the young men in your area who have earned the rank of Eagle Scout, and 2) those in your community who honor and display the Flag of the United States. These are excellent programs that chapters can support, but they may also be done as individual members of the SAR. Our website has more details about these programs and provides the means for you to contact the right person who will help get you started.

Those patriots, upon whom our very membership in the Sons of the

Utah SAR President's Message

Fellow Compatriots,

On Monday, October 2nd, the Utah SAR lost one of its faithful, longtime compatriots. **Willis "Bill" Savage Whitelsey, III** passed on after a long but silent personal battle with cancer. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend. The chapel, in which his memorial service was held, overflowed with his family and the many friends he had made over his 81 years on this earth. Bill's obituary informs the reader of the rich life he led, the activities and adventures he enjoyed, and, most importantly, his love for his family, and his dedicated efforts to be of service to anyone whom he felt could use a helping hand. Bill was a 35-year member of the Sons of the American Revolution and served as a Chapter President and Utah State Registrar, a position to which he was recently re-elected to fill at



Utah SAR President Bill Simpson



Continued from page 9

American Revolution is based, each made the decision to act and serve the needs of this budding new nation. Many gave their all to "the cause of Liberty and Freedom" from an oppressive government. Through their dedication and sacrifice they prevailed against an enemy far superior in numbers, training, and experience on the battlefield. Throughout history, the army with the greatest numbers often prevailed on the battlefield. I believe our patriot ancestors ultimately triumphed because of their belief in the cause before them. They were willing to act to preserve their family, home, and community.

Think about what motivated you to submit your application for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution. Take a moment to review the service your patriot ancestor chose to give to help forge this new nation. *Ask yourself, "What am I willing to do to demonstrate my commitment to this organization? How can I be of service to the SAR? What would my patriot ancestor think about my service?"*

I look forward to working with those of you who are anxious to become involved in the work of patriotism, freedom and liberty, as promoted by the Sons of the American Revolution. Together we can make some positive things happen that will have a lasting impact within our organization but, more importantly, within your community.

Yours in Liberty,

Bill Simpson, President

Mark Your Calendar - Upcoming Events

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Utah SAR events

2018 Membership Renewal: Begins 11/1/2017

Veterans Day Parade: 11/11/2017; Layton, UT; check the Utah SAR website for more details.

George Washington Birthday Celebration: 2/24/2018; Sons of Utah Pioneers Hall, 3301 E Louise Ave, Millcreek, UT; more details will be sent out in January.

Annual Membership Meeting & Celebrate America Awards & Recognition Banquet: 5/19/2018

128th Annual SAR Congress: 7/11 to 7/19, 2018; Houston, TX; see the [SAR.org website](http://SAR.org) for more details.

State Officers

William P. C. Simpson, President
 Douglas R. McGregor, 1st Vice President
 Jason I. Henderson, 2nd Vice President
 Gary A. England, Secretary
 Larry D. Florence, Treasurer
 Trenton G. Grandy, Historian
 E. Layton Patterson, Genealogist
 Larry D. Florence, Registrar
 Wade C. Alexander, Chaplain
 Regan G. Grandy, EdD., National Trustee
 Paul L. Child Sr., DDS, Alternate Trustee

You can contact your state officers by going to our website, UtahSocietySAR.org and from the Home page click the About Us on the Menu bar, then [Utah Society SAR Officers](http://UtahSocietySAR.org). For Utah Patriot Newsletter contributions please contact our [Utah Patriot Editor](http://UtahPatriotEditor.com).

Photo Montage

