



Utah Society  
Sons of the American  
Revolution

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See past issues of Utah Patriot, Calendar  
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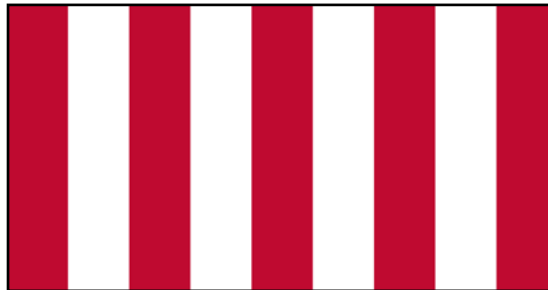
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# Utah Patriot

2023 - Issue 2

## REBELLION!!!

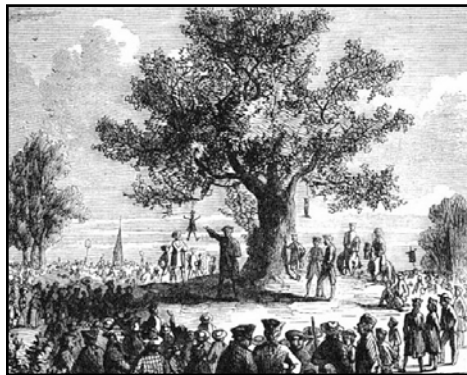
December 16, 2023, marks the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party. This was an act of extreme defiance by colonists living in Boston who were enraged by the actions of the British Crown. The Sons of Liberty by this time had "chapters" in several of the 13 colonies. They became initially disgruntled and over time seething angry at the fact that the 13 British colonies were being taxed by Parliament without representation. "No Taxation without Representation" became a clarion call of the Sons of Liberty as they organized to oppose what they believed were unjust laws and edicts coming from London.



Original Sons of Liberty Flag

The hated Stamp Act of 1765 was the catalyst for the formation of the Sons of Liberty. First organized in Boston, the organization soon spread to New York and then to other colonies. The Stamp Act caused a firestorm of opposition through legislative resolutions (starting in the colony of Virginia), public demonstrations, threats, and occasional destructive losses.

A notable example in Boston of violence could be found in the Sons of Liberty treatment of local stamp distributor Andrew Oliver. They burned his effigy in the streets. When he did not resign, they escalated to burning down his office building. Even after he resigned, they almost destroyed the whole house of his close associate Lieutenant Governor Thomas Hutchinson. Their actions made many of the stamp distributors resign in fear. The Sons of Liberty received the dubious notoriety of commonly using tarring and feathering to punish those who aligned themselves with unwelcome Parliament edicts.



Colonists Under the Liberty Tree

For ten years the Sons of Liberty and other colonists who opposed the manner in which their colony was being governed by Great Britain, utilized violence and destructive acts to make their voices heard.

In 1774 British Crown loyalists published an anti-American propaganda cartoon. The cartoon featured the tarring and feathering of Boston Commissioner of Customs John Malcolm four weeks after the Boston Tea Party. The Sons of Liberty are shown pouring "Tea" down Malcolm's throat. The cartoon depicts a noose hanging on the Liberty Tree and the Stamp Act posted upside-down.

Boston was not alone in having organized opposition to taxation without representation and other "intolerable acts". Many of the inhabitants of other colonies certainly had no compunction with using violence to make their voices heard. When war broke out in 1775 the atrocities between British Loyalists and American Patriots only increased. Homes were burned to the ground. Lynchings, murders, destruction of farms, livestock, and crops were occurring on both sides.



Bostonians Paying the Excise Man



When the war ended and America gained her independence, our Founding Fathers looked back at the violence, the bloodshed, and horrors that had befallen the colonies. They desired to have a nation that could avoid these terrible occurrences in the future. They wanted a government that could effectively address grievances, to prevent tyranny, and sustain and uphold the liberties of the people.

### **Constitutional Safeguards**

Do you remember taking the oath of membership when you became a member of the Sons of the American Revolution? This is the oath:

*"Do you as a descendant of one of the patriots and heroes of the American Revolution, reaffirm your ancestor's faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitution? And will you pledge to support the National, and State Society as well as your chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution? If so say, yes."*

"[A]nd our Constitution". We as Sons of the American Revolution


unabashedly support and sustain the Constitution of the United States. The Constitution is the safeguard of the American citizenry that there will be



checks and balances in government. We have no king; we have no house of lords or a house of commons. Americans are not designated by bloodlines of a minority royalty and all others as commoners. Each citizen has their God given unalienable rights. Among these rights are the guarantee to assemble peaceably, to petition our government, to gather signatures and hold referendums to enact or repeal laws, to elect our representatives and to recall our elected representatives. American citizens have the right to peaceably protest, to make their opinions known, to form political organizations, and to the best of their abilities try to influence outcomes and decisions that affect the citizens of their community.

*"Posterity, you will never know how much it cost the present generation to preserve your freedom. I hope you will make good use of it. If you do not, I shall repent in heaven that ever I took half the pains to preserve it."*

—John Adams

Freedom is our cherished heritage bequeathed to us by our Founding Fathers. Liberty is made available to us by the Almighty — predicated on our righteousness. As we do our part to uphold and sustain the Constitution, and as we do our part to live and exemplify the ideals of our patriot ancestors, there remains hope that freedom will prevail. 

Sources:

[The Constitution of the United States: A Transcription | National Archives](https://www.revolutionary-war-and-beyond.com)

<https://www.bostonteapartyship.com/sons-of-liberty>

<https://constitutioncenter.org/the-constitution/white-papers/the-constitutional-convention-of-1787-a-revolution-in-government>  
[Wikipedia.com](https://www.wikipedia.com)

## **The Boston Tea Party 250 Years Ago – 1773 - 2023**

The Boston Tea Party is a euphemistic name given to an act of rebellious protest perpetrated by the Boston Sons of Liberty. To understand the cause of this escalation in hostilities toward the crown we must go back to May 10, 1773, when Parliament authorized the Tea Act.

The Massachusetts Historical Society states, "Tea sold in America would carry no duty for the East India Company; instead, the tea would be taxed at the point of entry in colonial ports. Consignees, or special agents, were appointed in Boston, New York City, Philadelphia and Charleston to receive and sell the tea."

The Crown gave a monopoly to the East India Company! And the colonists had no say so about it! The colonists in Boston had not forgotten the "Massacre" that had occurred in their city only three years previously, they had fresh in their minds other intolerable acts imposed by Parliament!



Boston Harbor 1774 by Paul Revere

At the end of November, the British ship Dartmouth docked at Griffin's Wharf. It was laden with East India tea. "...thousands of colonists convened at the wharf and its surrounding streets, a meeting was held at the Old South Meeting

House where a large group of colonists voted to refuse to pay taxes on the tea or allow the tea to be unloaded, stored, sold or used," -- History.com.

On December 15, 1773, two more British ships the Beaver and Eleanor laden with East India Company tea docked at Griffin's Wharf. The Sons of Liberty quickly called a meeting. The participants were outraged! That night, December 16, 1773, a large group of the Sons of Liberty — disguised themselves in Indian garb, boarded the docked ships and threw 342 chests of tea into the water. The protesters "were ordered by our commander to open the hatches and take out all the chests of tea and throw them overboard," protester George

Hewes said of the act of rebellion... "We immediately proceeded to execute his orders, first cutting and splitting the chests with our tomahawks, so as thoroughly to expose them to the effects of the water. We were sur-



Boston Tea Party

rounded by British armed ships, but no attempt was made to resist us." -- History.com.

Some reports suggest approximately 100 men dumped 45 tons of tea in less than three hours into Boston Harbor. By today's dollars it is estimated the cargo was worth \$1 million. When John Adams heard of the protest he said, "The sublimity of it, charms me!"



Writing to his friend James Warren, Adams said, "The die is cast [this means there is no turning back]. The people have passed the river and cut away the bridge. Last night three cargoes of tea were emptied into the harbor. This is the grandest event which has ever yet happened since the controversy with Britain opened."




Dr James Warren

In March of 1774 Parliament enacted its most punitive measures to date, the Coercive Acts, closing the port of Boston and with aggressive military action, severely enforced new laws outlawing Boston's open town

meetings. These actions only escalated tensions and rebellion against the British Crown.

There is another result of the Boston Tea Party that many Americans take for granted. John Adams was very vocal in calling tea a "traitor's drink". His and other's disdain for British tea changed an American dietary habit. Instead of tea, Americans became drinkers of coffee!

Each year to commemorate the Boston Tea Party, the protest is recreated. Tradition has the participants march from the Boston Old South Meeting House to the Boston Tea Party Ships and Museum. Spectators cheer as the "Sons of Liberty Indians" throw crates of tea into the harbor. 



John Adams

Sources: [History.com](https://www.history.com), [Wikipedia.com](https://www.wikipedia.com), [masshist.org](https://www.masshist.org)

*"Let Divines, and Philosophers, Statesmen and Patriots unite their endeavors to renovate the Age, by impressing the Minds of Men with the importance of educating their little boys, and girls—of inculcating in the Minds of youth the fear, and Love of the Deity, and universal Philanthropy; and in subordination to these great principles, the Love of their Country—of instructing them in the Art of self-government, without which they never can act a wise part in the Government of Societies great, or small—in short of leading them in the Study, and Practice of the exalted Virtues of the Christian system."*

—Samuel Adams in a letter to John Adams

## Note from the Editors

We have received several inquiries from members asking, "how can I contribute, how can I get more involved." In this issue we will provide "invitations" describing ways that you can involve yourself and your family in patriotic activities. Activities that can benefit you and your family. We will also share suggestions of ways you can become involved directly with supporting and helping the Utah Society Sons of the American Revolution.

## The American Founders and Constitution Month

On March 13, 2023, Utah's Governor Ryan Cox signed into law HB-179. The Bill passed the Utah Senate unanimously, and it passed the House with only two no votes. HB179 has 13 different annual commemorative designations with numbers 11, 1p and 9 being of significance to the U.S. Constitution. These items read as follows:

(1) The following days shall be commemorated annually:

(l) **Constitution Day, on September 17**, to invite all Utah adults and Utah school children to read directly from the United States Constitution and other primary sources, and for students to be taught principles from the United States Constitution that include federalism, checks and balances, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, limited government, and the necessary and proper, commerce, and supremacy clauses;

(p) **Bill of Rights Day, on December 15**.


(9) The **month of September** shall be commemorated annually as **American Founders and Constitution Month** to: (a) encourage all civic, fraternal, and religious organizations, and public and private educational institutions, to recognize and observe this occasion through appropriate programs, teaching, meetings, services, or celebrations in which state, county, and local governmental officials are invited to participate; and (b) invite all Utah school children to read directly from the United States Constitution and other primary sources, and to be taught principles from the United States Constitution that include federalism, checks and balances, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, limited government, and the necessary and proper, commerce, and supremacy clauses.

On August 31, 2023, Governor Cox inaugurated "America Founders and Constitution Month" by holding a special public meeting in the rotunda of the State Capitol. The floor was packed with standing room only citizens from throughout the state. Among them were several men of the Utah SAR including Gary VanDolzer, Wade Alexander, James Harwell, Dennis Leavitt, and Douglas McGregor. Many Utah DAR were in attendance as well as representatives from Freedom's Light, Utah Patriot Camps, and other patriotic educational organizations.

In his remarks Cox said, "the nation's first president understood that extreme partisanship was the only way in which the nation one day could fail. I am asking that each of us study the Constitution and hold each other accountable to its principles."

The Governor also said, "The Founders understood that the nation can never achieve its lofty standards unless people are decent and moral, with strong institutions that include civic organizations and churches."

Governor Cox was passionate in his request that Utahns "fly the flag in September, read and study the Constitution as families, attend patriotic events and pray to God to express appreciation for His hand in the nation's history and for His blessings in its future."

The month of September saw dozens of Constitution readings occurring throughout the state. Next year looks to have even more readings in September! Did your city and schools host a US Constitution reading this past September? Volunteer and help your city, or your child's school organize a reading of the US Constitution to take place in September 2024. 



Governor Cox speaking in the rotunda





## America's Newest Citizens

On July 3rd, the Utah SAR Color Guardsmen: Jesse Black (State Society Color Guard Commander), Gregg Hansen, Josh Elliott, Trent Grandy, and Doug McGregor were privileged to provide the flag ceremony for those who had successfully fulfilled the laws and requirements to become naturalized citizens. This event is an annual opportunity for the color guard and all those who wish to attend the Scera Theater in Orem as audience members. It really is quite sobering to witness the immigrants take the oath of citizenship and be welcomed by dignitaries and leading officials of Utah.



Naturalization Ceremony

A highlight of the ceremony is when a few of America's newest citizens came to the microphone and briefly told their story of escaping totalitarian governments, leaving their lives of oppression and scarcity to come to America, the land of plenty to realize freedom. Hearing their stories helps those who are there to better appreciate the freedoms and life they have in Utah.

Please mark your calendar and save the date of July 5, 2024, to attend and support the Naturalization Ceremony at Orem's Scera Theater. While you are there, you can take in and visit the expansive Colonial Village set up in the adjacent park. Here you will find an exceptionally large tent village recreating a typical colonial town as it would have been during the America Revolution. Bring your family!

## Independence Day Remembered!

Utah SAR Color Guardsmen and their families spent the day at This Is The Place Heritage Park in Salt Lake City. The park provides the



This is the Place Heritage Park Choral Group Singing the National Anthem as part of the Utah SAR Color Guard Flag Ceremony

Color Guard with the schoolhouse building where Revolutionary War displays are provided for the public. The Color Guard provides the morning flag raising ceremony, parades down Mainstreet, flintlock demonstrations, and

docent service with the displays inside the schoolhouse. For their service, Color Guardsmen in uniform, and other participants in colonial attire are provided with a free lunch and complimentary day passes for their family members.

A highlight of the day was the presence of General George Washington (aka Gary VanDolzer). The General provided a reading of excerpts of the Declaration of Independence as well as an explanation of what he read.



Gary VanDolzer as General George Washington

The explanation was specifically designed to be heard by the young people in the audience. Among the lessons taught by Washington to the youth were what unalienable rights are and why they are so very important. He also explained the wrongs that the British Crown had perpetrated on the colonists, and the great sacrifices made by the signers in their pursuit of liberty and freedom.

Washington provided two readings of the Declaration of Independence during the day and spent the remainder of his time meeting with the public, answering their questions and helping them to know better America's most indispensable man.

Special thanks to Color Guard Commander Jesse Black, Russell Black, Gregg Hansen, Josh Elliott, Jackie Elliott, Trent Grandy, Bill Simpson, Doug McGregor, and to his Excellency General George Washington also known as Gary VanDolzer.



Utah SAR Color Guardsmen Jesse Black, Josh Elliott with Russell Black during a Flintlock Demonstration

This is the Place Heritage Park can be an exciting time to spend the 4th of

July. You are invited to mark this date on your 2024 calendar. Bring your family, learn about the American Revolution, experience 1860's Utah and enjoy the sites, activities, food, and other offerings available!

For those who are not shy when meeting with the public, you are invited to volunteer as an "American Colonist" and help us meet with and educate the public. Let the Utah SAR Secretary/Treasurer know of your interest! Email: [UTSAR-Sec-Tre@Outlook.com](mailto:UTSAR-Sec-Tre@Outlook.com)

*"Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude."*

—Thomas Jefferson

## Patriot Summer Camps For 1-6 Graders in Utah

Did you know that most likely in a city near you, each year a group of dedicated moms and dads, and members of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution host a "summer camp" that teaches the principles and truths of America's Founding? Patriot Camps in 2023 were held in: Cedar City, Draper, Farmington, Logan, Midway, Mountain Green, Murray, Pleasant Grove, and River-



Patriot Camp is a way to teach kids about the founding of our country in a day camp setting. Kids have fun while they learn and develop an interest in our history, as well as an understanding of what makes The United States of America unique. The program is 3 hours daily for 5 days, typically:



Compatriot Wade Alexander as Benjamin Franklin at a Patriot Camp held at Muir Elementary School

from 9:00 a.m. to noon, Monday-Friday on the scheduled dates for that year. See the [UtahPatriotCamp.com](http://UtahPatriotCamp.com) website for details.

We know that many kids, especially elementary-aged children, are learning very little about our country's history in school. Parents may not have learned much of our history either (or may be in need of a review.) Patriot Camp involves everyone—kids, parents, and the community—coming together for the common goal of educating ourselves and our children about our great nation.




Color guardsmen Douglas McGregor at Murray Patriot Camp

Child registration for 2023 was \$65.00 and included: a Patriot Camp T-Shirt, Craft supplies and Daily snacks.

The camp is run by volunteers with a fervent

desire to instill a sense of patriotism and respect for the founding of our country. Most of the volunteers have children or grandchildren attending the camp. Each camp has a Director, whose contact information you can find on the relevant camp page.

Do you have children, grandchildren, nieces, or nephews who are in the first through sixth grade? Plan now to involve them in a Utah Patriot Camp. If you are retired, this is a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time with your relations as they learn about our great country's Founding history. Go to the [UtahPatriotCamp.com](http://UtahPatriotCamp.com) website and make plans to register your kids. Patriot Camps fill up fast so be sure to get your registration done early next year!

Do you want to be a volunteer at a Utah Patriot Camp near you? They can use your help. Contact them. Let them know you are member of the Utah Society Sons of the American Revolution, ask what their needs are and determine if your talents and time would be a match! 

**The Color Guard Needs You!**

**Contact the Color Guard Commander**

☆☆☆ and Volunteer! ☆☆☆

## A Visit from Ben Franklin

To celebrate Constitution Day, the youth of the Crescent Ridge 6th Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints invited a special guest to teach them about how we got the Constitution: Benjamin Franklin. Compatriot Wade Alexander has been portraying Benjamin Franklin for years, and he says he really enjoys slipping into the character and opening the eyes of his audience to the life of this great man and the marvelous events surrounding the founding of the United States of America.

Having previously given 17 presentations in September, seven of which were readings of the Constitution – two at the State



Youth of the Crescent Ridge 6th Ward

Capitol, Mr. Alexander showed up in full costume. He handed out portraits of himself on funny green paper (movie prop \$100 bills) to "satisfy his vanity," he said. The young men and women were surprised at the appear-

ance of their guest, but then quickly realized his strong resemblance to the esteemed Founding Father. They were enchanted by Wade's portrayal as he fell into character.

Benjamin Franklin leaned on a walking stick of gnarled wood and fished in his pockets for his spectacles while he began to address the young people present. As he placed his glasses on his nose, he explained how he got the idea for bifocal spectacles and then launched into a brief history of his younger self. He told them how he had very little formal schooling but that he devoured any book he came across and soon had filled his head with knowledge. This served him as he reached adulthood and practiced various trades, eventually leading him to walk in the circles as the other men who would also become known as the Founding Fathers.

Mr. Franklin spent a great deal of time describing how the people came together for the Constitutional Convention, the struggle of ideas, and how they eventually arrived at the venerated document we have today. He explained the importance of the Bill of Rights which was added later. He reminded his young audience of their patriotic duties by relating his response upon leaving the convention to the question, "What have you wrought?" Benjamin Franklin replied, "A republic, if you can keep it."



Wade Alexander, AKA Ben Franklin

Franklin told them of his family and his travels and how he served the United States after it was founded. He recounted his






experiences in England and France. And then, to the delight of his audience, he opened the floor to questions from the youth.

This normally rambunctious group had been, for the most part, quiet and attentive during Ben Franklin's recounting of his biography, and many of them were eager to ask questions.

The time passed too quickly, and Mr. Franklin offered his apologies as he departed. Meanwhile, the youth prepared root beer floats as refreshments and talked about "how cool" it was to hear from their special guest that day. Some of them were heard to remark how history was dry and boring at school, but what they experienced that night had made this portion of it come alive.

In the hallway, Benjamin Franklin slowly became Wade Alexander again. Leaning on Old Ben's walking stick, he made his way to his car and headed back home to the 21st Century and life in the republic those Founding Fathers had wrought. 

*"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."*  
—Benjamin Franklin

## Freedom's Light – An Event You Will Not Want to Miss!

For several years the annual Thursday, Friday, Saturday Freedom's Light Festival has been held in correlation with Constitution Day in September at the Bountiful City Park 400 N 200 W, Bountiful. The festival is free to everyone, and has many fun and engaging activities to celebrate America, our Constitution and the people

who created it. Each year more than 40 distinctive, interactive activities are provided to have attendees meet the heroes of America's Founding face to face!

Thursday and Friday are dedicated to school children and Saturday is set aside as Family Day. On Saturday, the Sons of the American Revolution con-



Front: Utah SAR Pres. Trent Grandy, Jackie Elliott, Compatriot Josh Elliott Back: Compatriots Bill Simpson, Doug McGregor, Jesse Black (CG Com.), Paul Nichols; James Harwell; Gregg Hansen, Associates Mark & Scott Asay

tribute their volunteers and educational resources to meet and interact with the public.

This year the Utah SAR set up three booths. One booth had Associate Scott Asay dressed in the uniform of a Continental Army soldier. He brought his marvelous collection of replica items commonly carried and used by a soldier during the Revolutionary War. Compatriot Gregg Hansen, also dressed as a soldier, brought his replica collection of Revolutionary War era coins and paper script money. Both met with the public and helped them to understand and appreciate life as a soldier.

Another booth had Heroes of the American Revolution posters

mounted on easels. Several little-known patriots had their stories available for consideration. The public could learn of their valor and sacrifices made in the cause for freedom.

Volunteers Bill Simpson and Doug McGregor sat at an information table and met with curious visitors to answer questions about the Utah SAR and provide membership information to those expressing interest. Jackie Elliott was there in colonial dress adding her cheerful service. Associate Gary VanDolzer was there as General Washington having his own educational station as well as Compatriot Wade Alexander as Benjamin Franklin.

Color guardsmen Trent Grandy, Josh Elliott, Gregg Hansen, Scott and Mark Asay under the direction of Color Guard Commander



On Parade (front to rear) UTSAR Color Guardsmen Jesse Black, Josh Elliott, Gregg Hansen, Scott & Mark Asay and UTSAR Pres. Trent Grandy

Jesse Black provided parades that included children and families marching through the park, flintlock musket demonstrations explaining and showing the use of the soldiers' primary weapon. Associate Cap Cresop was assisted with his cannon demonstra-

tions, including a candy cannon that blasted a load full of taffy to the delight of numerous children!

A special addition to this year's offerings was Compatriot James Harwell who brought his family heirloom early 1800s musket to show to the public and tell the story of his ancestor who first owned the musket.

You and your family are invited to attend Freedom's Light in September 2024. Bring the experience of meeting with reenactors who portray those we venerate for obtaining America's Independence to your family. Learn about their life and experiences and how their life's accomplishments blessed America making it a land of liberty. Learn more about this extraordinary festival by visiting this website:

<https://freedomslight.us/field-trips/>.

If you would like to volunteer, we could use your help. Be a docent for the Heroes of the American Revolution poster display, help with the information booth, dress as a militiaman, and participate with




Compatriot Gregg Hansen explains his Revolutionary War era currency.



Flintlock Firing Demonstration (R/L) Utah SAR Color Guardsmen Jesse Black, Josh Elliott, Gregg Hansen, Scott & Mark Asay



the color guard. Help with crowd control during the flintlock and cannon demonstrations. Saturday hours are set up at 7:30am with the festival ending at 3pm. If you have interest email the Utah SAR Secretary/ Treasurer at: [UTSAR-Sec-Tre@Outlook.com](mailto:UTSAR-Sec-Tre@Outlook.com) 

*"To succeed, jump as quickly at opportunities as you do at conclusions."*

—Benjamin Franklin

## Remembering and Honoring Utah's Veterans

### Ride to Zero

On Saturday, August 26th the Utah SAR Color Guard supported by Trent Grandy, Gregg Hansen, Josh Elliott, and Doug McGregor provided the flag ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance for the members of Ride to Zero. Carrie McGregor and Jackie Elliott were in attendance lending their support.

Utah's Ride to Zero organization is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to reducing the suicide rate of U.S. military veterans through the funding of community outreach, therapeutic recreation programs, and mental health research and treatment for veterans and their families.

Sadly "20 Veterans die by suicide each day." Ride to Zero began in 2015 when members of a veterans motorcycle organization decided to take action against the crisis of veteran suicide. The initial goal was modest: to raise a few thousand dollars, through a standard charity motorcycle ride, to donate to local researchers at the National Center for Veteran's Studies at the University of Utah. In its inaugural year, Ride to Zero outperformed all expectations, both in the amount of money raised and attendance. This trend continued over the following years, necessitating the formation of a stand-alone organization.

Due to the important cause, as well as the positive "celebration of a life worth living" atmosphere, the annual Ride to Zero event is often hailed as the most attended ride of the year. It has attracted more than 1,000 riders from multiple states, communities, and organizations over the last four years, with ridership and participation continuing to grow.

### Grace Lutheran School

On Friday, November 10th a special luncheon and program was held for Veterans at the Grace Lutheran School in Sandy. Members of the Utah SAR Color Guard received a complimentary lunch and enjoyed the school's program of appreciation to Utah's attending veterans.



UTSAR Color Guardsmen Jesse Black, Josh Elliott & Utah SAR President Trent Grandy

The Color Guard helped get the meeting started by presenting the colors for the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of the National Anthem. Compatriots Jesse Black - Color Guard Commander, Josh Elliott, and Trent Grandy provided the flag ceremony.

The keynote speaker was Mr. John Taylor, Chairman of the Board for "Hunts for the Brave Guard." This organization provides outdoor sporting activities for veterans, especially disabled veterans. His remarks were very positive and uplifting as he talked about veterans helping veterans and the gratitude Hunts for the Brave Guard has received.

The school's bell ringers, advanced band, and children singing provided patriotic songs. The younger children had handmade thank you cards that were given out to the veterans in attendance. Reverend Masinelli, the schoolteachers and staff, Randi Frausto with the Utah Children of the American Revolution, and the Salt Lake Valley Chapter of the DAR are all to be complimented for designing a patriotic program to recognize and give thanks to our veterans!

### Veterans Day Parade

This year the parade fell on Veterans Day November 11th. At 11a.m. the parade, held in Layton City, began. The parade was sponsored and coordinated by the Northern Utah Veterans Association. Participating Utah SAR color guardsmen this year were Gregg Hansen, Josh Elliott, Mark Asay, and Adam Reeder as Men at Arms, with Jesse Black as the flag bearer, and Trent Grandy serving as drummer. This was Compatriot Adam's first time serving with the color guard. He was dressed as a militiaman and carried a flintlock. Those watching the parade were reminded that un-



Compatriot Adam Reeder, newest member of the Utah SAR Color Guard and Jesse Black (CG Com) converse prior to the Veterans Day Parade


trained men stepped up to join the ranks of the regulars to defend their liberties and fight for America's Independence. Both boys and men took up arms to defend themselves against the onslaught of the mighty British Army and Navy.

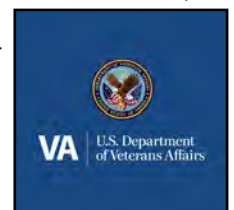
The weather was absolutely beautiful. Parade watchers could be heard to shout at the color guard members "nice job!", "you guys look great!", "way to go!". The color guard, portraying veterans of the American Revolution, was very well received by the spectators that lined the streets. A special thanks to Adam's parents for their support and attendance at the parade!

### Serving Our Utah Veterans

Compatriots and Associates of the Utah SAR have several opportunities to serve Utah's Veterans. Not only should you consider being a member of the Utah SAR Color Guard, but individual service is welcomed by the VA. You can inquire about providing service to the Ogden VA Clinic, Major Brent Taylor Veterans Center Ogden Outstation, George E. Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home, the Salt Lake Veterans Administration Medical Center, Cache Valley VA Clinic, Salt Lake VA Hospital Blue Clinic, South Jordan VA Clinic, Orem VA Clinic, the Veterans Cemetery in Bluffdale, Provo Veterans Center, or the Central Utah Veterans Home in Payson. (A quick Google search will show you other VA facilities not listed in this article.)

Compatriots who provide service to Veterans can qualify for National SAR awards and recognition. If you are involved with serving our veterans, please report your activities to Bill Simpson, State Society Veterans Committee Chairman by emailing: [simpsonwpcssar@gmail.com](mailto:simpsonwpcssar@gmail.com)

Did you know that the National SAR publishes an online SAR Veterans Newsletter called the SAR Veterans Bugle. You can find it and other SAR Veterans information at: <https://www.sar.org/committees/veterans-recognition-committee/> 



*"The advancement and diffusion of knowledge is the only guardian of true liberty."*

—James Madison





## Utah DAR's Sparkling Summer Soiree


Utah Society President Trenton G. Grandy, Vice President Wade C. Alexander, and Secretary/Treasurer Douglas R. McGregor were the



Seated - L/R: Pamela Rouse Wright, DAR President General; Utah Society Regent Katie B. Madsen. Back - Utah SAR President Trent Grandy, VP Wade Alexander & S/T.Doug McGregor

guests of the Utah DAR at their Sparkling Summer Soiree held at the Salt Lake City Sheraton on Saturday, August 12th. Vice President Alexander received a Patriotism Award at the banquet.

The three gentlemen stood in the greeting line and welcomed DAR ladies and their partners to the Soiree. They were then invit-

ed to walk the red carpet and be formally introduced to all the attendees in the banquet hall. It was a joyous evening as several individuals were recognized by the Utah DAR for their community service, and notable accomplishments. Utah SAR's three State Society officers felt very rewarded for having attended this outstanding event, representing their fellow Utah SAR compatriots and associates. 

## Welcome New Members!

We are happy to welcome the following seven new compatriots of the Utah Society SAR:

Anthony E. Anderson	Randall L. Brimhall
Shaun M. Cassidy	Roger J. Dodd
William S. Fehlhaber	Stephen C. Leonard
Marvin J. Mosley	

# WELCOME!

## 2024 Events Calendar

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Utah SAR events:

2/17/2024	George Washington Birthday Celebration Banquet
2/19/2024	President's Day - Grizzlies Hockey
3/30/2024	Fort Buenaventura Rendezvous - Ogden
4/19/2024	The Shot Heard Round the World—249th Anniversary
5/11/2024	Annual Member Meeting/Celebrate America Banquet
5/27/2024	Memorial Day at This is the Place Heritage Park
6/8/2024	Cedar Hills Family Days Parade
7/4/2024	Independence Day at This is the Place Heritage Park
7/5/2024	Immigration Naturalization Ceremony - Orem
9/14/2024	Freedom's Light - Bountiful
11/8/2024	Veterans Day Program, Grace Lutheran Church
11/9/2024	Layton City Veterans Day Parade
12/2024	Wreaths Across America

National SAR Event:

7/11-15/2024 134th Congress, Lancaster, PA

## Utah SAR President's Message

Greetings Fellow Compatriots, Associates and Friends,

As we come to the close of another year and the start of a new one, I have been reflecting on all of the great things that we have accomplished. Just look at what has taken place in the last six months since our last newsletter. It's an important era to be alive. I truly believe that we were each assigned to be on this earth at this important juncture in time to sustain our ancestors whose DNA that we bear, and who sacrificed so much so that we could continue to be a bastion of freedom in this world. We owe it to them and to future generations to continue to carry on the struggle. It seems that we are losing a little ground every day. But all is not lost. Fortunately, there are still people willing to make sure America's true history is retold and our holidays celebrated. We just need to take those occasions and use them as teaching lessons. With the upcoming 250th anniversary of the founding of our country, and the anniversary of the Boston Tea Party on Dec 16, 1773, we have a wonderful opportunity. We need to take this time to remind those around us. Whether by direct action and speaking out verbally, indirectly such as with banners, buttons, or flags, or in passive ways just being examples of patriotism with our actions!

I am also excited to see that our Red Cliffs of Zion chapter has been busy reorganizing for their new chapter executive board. There are some terrific compatriots who will be continuing in their various positions, and some new faces that will be joining in. We are excited for their continued success in the southern regions of our state! In addition, I am aware that they will be looking for new volunteers to help them continue to advance their amazing chapter. We in the state society are looking for volunteers as well. **Some service opportunities include: New Wasatch Front Chapter Leadership, ROTC/JROTC Contest and Awards committee members; Eagle Scout Contest committee members; Color Guard Service members; Flag Flyers Committee members; 250th 1776-2026 Anniversary committee members; Utah SAR Commemorative Source Book committee members; Financial Fundraising committee members; as well as this Semi-annual Newsletter - "The Utah Patriot" committee members and article contributors.** Should you feel that you can volunteer and assist with any of these positions that may be of interest or where your talents may align, please contact a member of your state society or local chapter leadership.

In our recent past we had our amazing Red Cliffs of Zion Chapter President Jeff McKenna, who authored a book and gave us a presentation of one of the great lost patriots of history, Dr. Joseph Warren. What an incredible amount of research and time it took to share this very important patriot with the world. I recently read another article about an outstanding little-known patriot from the Revolution who has been lost to many of us. The author is O. E. McDougal, and the title of the article is "An American Patriot You Never Heard Of: Haym Salomon". Haym was a Jewish businessman who immigrated from Poland to New York. He became a broker and joined the Sons of Liberty later in the war. He was instrumental in persuading many of the Red Coats and Hessian soldiers to join the patriot cause. He also helped many of the American and French prisoners of war to escape and was arrested himself and sentenced to death in 1778 but was able to escape from his jailers.



Utah SAR President Trent Grandy





Later, he was instrumental in finding financing for much of the war. General Washington relied heavily on him for this aid, particularly in being able to keep the troops that had not been paid in months from quitting just prior to marching on Yorktown held by Lord Cornwallis. It was this battle that was eventually the turning point in the war. Haym, had put up much of his own money in these financing endeavors, but was never reimbursed. He ended up dying almost penniless.

It is stories like these, laced with many miracles, that I feel are an important part of our history. Many of these stories have already been lost or are being revised. Probably, we will never know even a tiny fraction of the amazing feats that happened, possibly even to those of our own ancestors. My hope is that one day we will be able to meet them and hear these stories from their own mouths. But when and if we do, let's not let them down. May we be able to tell them how we kept their sacrifices from being lost! We owe it to these brave patriot ancestors and our future generations to continue the fight!

Thank you as always for your participation and continued support of this worthy cause. And as always may the Lord bless and keep you and our nation in the coming year!

As always, may the Lord bless and keep you and our nation!

Yours in Liberty,

Trent Grandy  
President, Utah SAR



*"Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning."*

—Benjamin Franklin

## Utah SAR Officers

**Trenton G. Grandy, President**  
**Wade C. Alexander, Vice President / Chaplain**  
**Douglas R. McGregor, Secretary / Treasurer**  
**Paul D. Nichols, Registrar / Genealogist**  
**Regan G. Grandy, EdD., Historian**  
**Paul L. Child Sr., DDS, National Trustee**  
**William P.C. Simpson, Alternate Trustee**

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

For Utah Patriot Newsletter contributions please contact our [Utah Patriot Editor](#).

To join our Facebook group go to: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/utahsocietysar>



## Red Cliffs of Zion Chapter News

### Awards and Recognition

In September a Certificate of Appreciation was presented by Chapter President McKenna to the Commanding Officer of the Southern Utah University Army Reserve Officer Training Program, Major Jeffrey Quarnberg.

President McKenna presented the Bronze Good Citizen Award to Associate, Peter Hansen. Peter has participated in Color Guard activities, chapter community activities, and Liberty Week functions. He has quietly funded youth and religious activities and been a source of support and enthusiasm for the Red Cliffs of Zion Chapter, SAR.

President McKenna announced the Boston Tea Party July 4th Parade Float that was a joint project of CAR, DAR and SAR won the Best Parade Theme Float Prize!

### Liberty Week

Compatriot Dennis Leavitt gave a recap of all of the Liberty Week activities and said that they were a resounding success. The Glenn Beck Display/Museum was a complete sellout. The Prayer for Freedom event had over 2000 attendees. Between the auction and other Liberty Week activities over a million and a half dollars was raised for Liberty Village. Gratitude was expressed to all those who volunteered and supported these events.

Color Guard Commander Mark Woodbury told of a number of occasions where patrons of the various events approached members of the chapter Color Guard and asked to have pictures taken with them. Color guardsmen enjoyed sharing what the SAR is, what the SAR does and the benefits of membership.

### Recognition from the DAR

The Daughters of the American Revolution, Color Country Chapter represented by Valerie King and Karen Mangano, made a special presentation of the new DAR Hannah White Arnett Silver Medal of Distinction to Compatriots Steve Sorensen and Mark Woodbury recognizing them for their efforts in the construction of the CAR, DAR and SAR Fourth of July Parade Float.

### Patriot Day-Field of Heroes

Patriot Day-Field of Heroes ceremony was held on September 9, 2023. Town Square was the location for the Saturday morning Patriot Day event. Approximately 700 people attended. Victor Guzman was the featured speaker. He was in the North Tower when the plane struck the tower on 9/11. He spoke of the tremendous physical shaking of the tower before the fire and smell of jet fuel enveloped the building. Guzman said it seemed like hours for him and others to get down the stairs. As the building occupants were headed down, the first responders were heading up. Guzman spoke of their heroism and selfless acts of bravery.

### Flag Retirement Ceremony

In the evening of September 9th, a Flag Retirement Ceremony was conducted at the Field of Heros. Mr. Victor Guzman was asked to speak at the gathering. He talked about what the flag meant to him.

### HOW TO CONTACT US:

Do you have an interest, a request or need? Please go to the website: [www.UtahSocietySAR.org](http://www.UtahSocietySAR.org); In the menu bar click "Contact Us". You can copy and paste the Secretary's email address in your email "To", and send your message. If you have a Yahoo or Gmail email you can click the email address in blue to send an email.



and shared his impressions of the show of patriotism he had experienced in Washington County. He stated that there probably had not been as large a crowd even in New York City.

Several worn and tattered flags were retired by Boy Scouts from Troop 509, sponsored by the St. George Elks Club. The City of St. George donated a plot at Tonaquint Cemetery for the burial of the flag ashes.

### Constitution Week Observance

On Friday, September 15, 2023, The Red Cliffs of Zion Chapter of the Utah Society SAR, DAR, CAR, United We Pledge, and community members gathered at the County Commissioners' Chambers and read the



Constitution Readers - SAR, DAR, CAR, United We Pledge Organization and St George community members


entire Constitution, Bill of Rights and Amendments for a special tele-recording. In addition to the reading done this day, various elementary and middle schools with charter and home school students read these historical documents, which were also recorded. All the recordings are going to be processed and made available through the United We Pledge organization located in St George, Utah. United We Pledge is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan, and nondenominational organization established to celebrate our shared responsibility and allegiance to the traditional American values of freedom, family, and faith. These three values were central to the founding of the United States of America and to its continued success as an independent Constitutional Republic. The organization's hope is to preserve these principles for future generations by establishing an educational platform and Liberty Village that contains accurate history and seeks to enhance unity, inspiration, and patriotism; instilling a love for our deeply rooted American heritage and values within our youth and citizens.

### Liberty Village – Green Dragon Tavern

The chapter has been highly committed to supporting the Liberty Village project under construction in Hurricane. A significant milestone was reached when the chapter members raised the final portion of their financial pledge for the construction of a replica of the Green Dragon Tavern.

### Important Chapter Dates in 2024

- January 8th Installation Ceremony of Elected 2024 Chapter Officers
- February 20th - Red, White and Blue Dinner and Auction

Chapter Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month starting at 10 a.m. 

### Intermountain District NSSAR Holiday Message

As 2023 comes to a close, I thank you, the membership of the Intermountain District, for your continuing support of the patriotic, historic, and educational programs of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. I read the reports of the many events which you promote or participate in to keep the sacrifices and accomplishments of our patriot ancestors in the forefront of the public's eye.



VPG Ellis Rail

As I view the snow-covered landscape outside our home here in Idaho, and consider the warmth inside, I cannot help but reflect on how very different life was for my patriot ancestor. The winter encampment in bitter cold with inadequate food, clothing, and shelter, with little or no compensation for the service they were rendering to procure the blessings of liberty for themselves, and their posterity, seems so distant to me. It is not what they had, but what they gave of themselves, even their very lives, to others that made freedom both possible for us and worthy of preserving for our posterity.

The motivation to stay the course in such unfavorable circumstances is an admirable attribute as is the selfless nature of that service. For that, I hold them in great honor and respect. It is my hope that, while I enjoy more comfortable circumstances, I can honor their memory by incorporating the practice of staying the course and serving others selflessly in whatever endeavor I undertake, in particular, the fulfillment of my membership obligations as a member of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

I wish you and your families a joyous, healthy, and prosperous holiday season filled with the celebration of your favorite family traditions, and with thoughts of gratitude for the freedoms we enjoy here in the United States of America because of the sacrifices of our patriot ancestors.

Warm regards,

Ellis Rail

Vice President General 2022-2024  
Intermountain District NSSAR  
909.238.1787 Cell/Text  
ecrail42@gmail.com

*"Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing."*

*--Benjamin Franklin*





## The Honored Dead

When you think of a Veteran what goes through your mind? Do you think of someone who may have been drafted or perhaps they volunteered to serve and in serving they made the ultimate sacrifice by putting their life on the line. And for many they gave the last full measure of devotion to the cause of our country.

Perhaps the words Patriotic, Disciplined, and Loyal to America come to mind. Certainly, we as Americans have learned to have gratitude for our Veterans and appreciate those who gave of their time and talents to America's military forces. It is fitting that in America we honor Veterans both living and dead.



Bountiful, Utah Veterans Park

December 16, 2023, was an extraordinary day. The sun was shining, not a cloud in the deep blue sky, the temperature was in the 40's. The air crisp and clean with vistas of Utah's majestic snowcapped mountains serving as a backdrop. The Sego Lily Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution hosted a Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Bountiful City Veterans Monument. Wreaths Across America began more than 30 years ago and is held annually on the second or third Saturday of December. The mission and purpose of Wreaths Across America is to remind our fellow citizens how "important it is to remember, honor, and teach".

In 2022 Wreaths Across America and its national network of volunteers placed more than 2.7 million sponsored veterans' wreaths on headstones of our nation's service members at 3,702 participating locations. This was accomplished with the support of more than 5,000 sponsorship groups,

corporation contributions, and in-kind donations from the transportation industry across the country.

The Bountiful program began with an invocation, followed by the Utah SAR Color Guard consisting of State Society President Trent Grandy, Gregg Hansen, Josh Elliott, and Doug McGregor. Compatriots Paul Nichols and Bill Simpson were there lending their support.

Approximately 50 spectators joined in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a solo of "God Bless America". Lisa Nichols spoke. In her remarks she talked about our veterans and their sacrifices. She talked about the Boston Tea Party and fact that December 16th was the 250th anniversary of this significant protest.

Mrs. Nichols was followed by Mr. Ron Mortensen, PhD and member of the Bountiful Veterans Park Foundation Board. He spoke of love of country, appreciation for our blessings and the importance of never forgetting those who served our country in the military. Mrs. Bronwyn Evans, Regent Sego Lily NSDAR gave concluding remarks and thanked everyone for attending.

After the program many wanted to take pictures of the American Revolution Color Guard. One lady said, "it's just like being at Lexington!" Another spectator said, "You guys look great! Thank you for being here." Members of the color guard felt gratified to having been invited to perform at this event and represent the Utah Society Sons of the American Revolution members and associates. *Libertas Et Patria!*

Source: <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org>



Utah SAR Color Guardsmen (L/R) President Trent Grandy, Gregg Hansen, Josh Elliott, Doug McGregor



## Photo Montage





*The Winter of Valley Forge*

*"It is better to offer no excuse than a bad one."*

*—George Washington*

Those on the battlefield during the American Revolution were always a small minority. It has been estimated that at no time was more than 3% of the colonists who supported the Declaration of Independence on the battlefield engaged in fighting.

George Washington, his generals, and men at arms could have decided to no longer be involved in the conflict. In fact, there were numerous occasions when abandoning the cause could have been chosen. The enormity of the British threat, the shortage of food, clothing, and other resources, the inexperience and lack of training of the troops, the unavailability of money to pay the soldiers as promised. The excuses that could be made to stop being engaged, to no longer participate, to not be involved were plentiful. But instead, our patriot ancestors, the men, and women we call grandparents persevered.

Through the misery of Valley Forge, devastating battles, the plague of smallpox, families operating farms and businesses without soldier fathers and husbands who were away fighting the war, our ancestors "fought the good fight" and did their part to ensure liberty would be secure and freedom established for you and me, their posterity.

As we consider the New Year, may we resolve ourselves to find a way to venerate and give gratitude to those we esteem as our American Revolution patriot ancestors. God Bless You and Yours, God Bless America.

