



# Compatriot News

## Philadelphia Continental Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



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Winter 2023

Greetings Compatriots!

2023 is starting out to be a great year, especially for the Philadelphia Eagles and their Fans!

What a pleasure it has been getting to know the folks at Williamson College for the Trades. As you may know, PCC began to present a Citizenship Award each year to a select student at Williamson. The award was initiated by Bill Yearsley who served as PCC President in 1998-99, and after his passing, the award was named for Bill. The first picture shows this year's recipient of the William J. Yearsley Award, Alexander Whiteman, along with 1st VP Steve Kopsick, Past President Frank O'Donnell, and Bill Baker, taken at the February 9th Founders Day program. We thought the main event was the presentation of the SAR award, but at the end of the program many of the students got in line to have their picture taken with the man in uniform. The next pictures tell the story, I think:



Photos by Carl Vairo



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Earlier in February, the Philadelphia Continental Chapter hosted the Winter PASSAR Board of Management meeting at the Alloy Hotel in King of Prussia. The meetings were attended by 28 Patriots and 9 LAPASSAR (PASSAR Ladies Auxiliary) on Saturday Feb 4, followed by a luncheon which included an extended visit by Benjamin Franklin, played by actor Mitchell Kramer (more information available at [www.bfranklin.org](http://www.bfranklin.org).) He is quite witty and somewhat disarming as he speaks in the first person about events and people of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Notably he talks about the Twelve Virtues that Ben Franklin is famous for publishing and then trying to live by. He says he was then challenged to add a 13th virtue, Modesty, which he professes to have made little progress on. He also told a very compelling story about the moment that he changed from urging reconciliation with Great Britain to become a proponent of separating from the mother country.



The following PCC Members are supporting PASSAR in the current year as officers and committee chairmen:

- John F. Mitchell – District Deputy #1; Public Service and Heroism Chairman
- Fred Fonseca – Color Guard Commander
- FP Wayne R. Strasbaugh, Esq. – Executive Committee Members-at-Large
- FP Lanny R. Patten – Reserve Fund Managers
- FP Gregory J. Shively – Finance Committee
- Mark E. Burt, PhD – Eagle Scout Scholarship Chairman
- FP Lanny R. Patten – The SAR Foundation Chairman
- George M. Clarke – Education Chairman; 2024 Congress Committee Chairman
- Bill Baker – Patriot Records (Graves and Biographies) Chairman

Next I'd like to mention our chapter's BSA Eagle Scout awards. As you can easily see from Compatriot Mark Burt's article also in this issue, there has been a significant change to the BSA Eagle Scout Awards in that we now allow girls to compete. I find the photo of Lauren Tyree being supported by her three siblings, all three of whom are also Eagle Scouts, to be very compelling. I also find it a matter of pride that Miss Tyree has been selected as the first place winner at the state level.

Finally, we recently received two checks from the Skippack Creek Chapter NSDAR which I would like to bring to your attention. Joan E. Cossman, Registrar and former Regent of the Skippack Creek Chapter, led a project in which they researched the significant number of Patriots who were buried at the Old Goshenhoppen Cemetery located be-





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tween Church Road and Old Skippack Pike in Woxall, PA. One check came with a note indicating their donation was “for all the work Joe Stokes did to get the grave markers for our honored Revolutionary patriots.” The second note with another check said “I don’t know how to thank you enough for your help with the DAR plaque dedication. The Color Guard and muskets helped to make the event so successful.” Congratulations to Joe Stokes, Chairman of Memorials and Revolutionary War Graves, as well as to Captain Fred Fonseca and the PCC Color Guard for a job well done!

Please refer to the PCC website ([pccsar.org](http://pccsar.org)) for our activities.

*Bill Baker*, President

## **PASSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest Winner**

Mark Burt

Philadelphia Continental Chapter received eight SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest applications during the 2022 season. The Chapter’s first place winner from Chester County Council was Lauren Tyree, Troop 19, Marshallton. The Chapter’s winner from the Cradle of Liberty Council was Matthew Schoonyoung, Troop 19, Bryn Mawr. Both of the applications were submitted to PASSAR for judging at the state level. Lauren’s application was judged first place in the PASSAR competition and will be submitted for judging at the National Society level. Lauren’s application is significant in that it was the first application from a female Eagle Scout received by Philadelphia Continental Chapter; and she is the first female winner in the Chapter’s history. Lauren is also the first female PASSAR contest winner. Lauren and Matthew and their parents have been invited to the Chapter Picnic on June 10<sup>th</sup> where they will be presented with the SAR Eagle Scout Medal and a cash award.



Lauren and her brothers at her Eagle Scout Court of Honor -  
Eagle Scouts all

## Color Guard Corner

Fred Fonseca

The final quarter of 2022 was very active for the PCC Color Guard. We had a event on the first day and one on the last day of the quarter with fifteen in between. Our guardsmen were prepared to do three missions on Veterans Day but one was cancelled due to weather. On two other occasions we had two missions on the same day.

Looking back at 2022, we did something new and something memorable. After obtaining the necessary insurance and training, we performed volley fire in three events. Also, guardsmen Steve Kopsick, Chris Snyder, Spencer Snyder, and myself participated in the annual Crossing of the Delaware at Washington Crossing. We are ordering reenactor grade uniforms through a New Jersey color guardsman. This will allow more PCC guardsmen, if they so desire, to participate in volley fire and cross the Delaware as a tribute to the patriots who did so on Christmas night 1776.

PCC guardsmen participated in three National Color Guard Events and one State Event. We truly have a great corps of guardsmen whose unwavering commitment to the PCC deserves the accolades of the chapter. I wish to recognize our color guard members who put forth a tremendous effort in 2022 and especially the last quarter during the holiday season to ensure every request for our color guard was fulfilled.

### October Activity

**51<sup>st</sup> Annual SAR/DAR Constitution Day Luncheon** – Fred Fonseca, Larry Magdy, Guy Lisowski, Rich Lind, Chris Snyder, Spencer Snyder

**PSSDAR Constitution Day Prayer Service** at Washington Chapel - Fred Fonseca, Rich Lind, Chris Snyder, Spencer Snyder

**Massey House** - Fred Fonseca, Larry Magdy, Guy Lisowski, Rich Lind

**Mount Moriah** Betsy Ross burial site DAR event – Fred Fonseca, Bill Baker, Glenn Tyson, Rich Lind

**Red Bank** - National Color Guard Event - Fred Fonseca, Larry Magdy, Glenn Tyson

### November Activity

**Lions Club at NCC** – (NJSAR) Fred Fonseca – representing Pennsylvania

**National Constitution Center** - Fred Fonseca, Steve Kopsick, Larry Magdy, Rich Lind, Mike Carver

**Merion Cricket Club** - Fred Fonseca, Steve Kopsick, Guy Lisowski



**Old Goschenhoppen Church** plaque dedication  
State Color Guard Event

At Old Goschenhoppen Church Plaque Dedication, L to R - Chris Snyder, PASSAR President Michael Seibert, Fred Fonseca, Larry Magdy, Rich Lind, Glenn Tyson, and Spencer Snyder.



## December Activity

### **Washington Crossing** reenactment.

At Washington Crossing reenactment, L to R - Chris Snyder, Steve Kopsick, Fred Fonseca and Spencer Snyder.



### **Wreath Laying Washingtons Crossing National Color Guard Event** - Fred Fonseca, Steve Kopsick, Chris Snyder, Spencer Snyder

### **St Lucia at Old Swedes Church**

At Old Swedes Church Bridgeport St. Lucia Celebration, L to R - Spencer Snyder, Larry Magdy, Steve Kopsick as General Washington, Fred Fonseca, Chris Snyder, and Glenn Tyson.



### **Wreaths Across America Philadelphia National Cemetery** - Fred Fonseca, Steve Kopsick, Glenn Tyson, Larry Magdy

### **Wreaths Across America Birmingham Lafayette** - Fred Fonseca, Steve Kopsick, Rich Lind, Christopher Snyder, Spencer Snyder

### **Wreaths Across America Boehm's Church** - Fred Fonseca, Steve Kopsick, Rich Serfass (NJ Commander)

### **Villanova women's basketball game** - Fred Fonseca, Bill Baker, Larry Magdy

### **Villanova men's basketball game** - Fred Fonseca, Steve Kopsick, Rich Lind

### **Villanova Men's basketball game**

At the Villanova basketball game, L to R - Fred Fonseca, Larry Magdy, Glenn Tyson, Rich Lind and Steve Kopsick



The American Society of Le Souvenir Francais has awarded LANNY R PATTEN a 2022 “Medaille d’Honneur” in appreciation. The French war veterans organization recognizes support of the French Alliance promoting shared history between our nations though projects of the Washington Memorial Heritage at Valley Forge, The Sons of the American Revolution and the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia.



<b>New Members 10/25/22 to 2/12/23</b>	
<b>New Member</b>	<b>Patriot</b>
Richard Allen Shivers	John Noblet
Mark Andrew Thomas	Henry Lauffer
Ronald Edward Jones	Peter Jones
Matthew Michael Jones	Peter Jones
James William Philbrick, III	David How
Nicholas Joseph Cline	Armiger Lilly
Vincent Michael Cline	Armiger Lilly
James Timothy Gill	John Rowles
Matthew Robert Rue, Sr.	George Hain
<b>Junior Member</b>	
Joshua Michael Jones	Peter Jones
Elijah Joseph Jones	Peter Jones
Ryan Edward Gill	John Rowles
Matthew Robert Rue, Jr.	George Hain
Frank Joseph Rue	George Hain

**PHILADELPHIA CONTINENTAL CHAPTER 2022-2023**

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ROTC/JROTC	Open		
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<b>BOM Class 2023</b>		<b>BOM Class 2024</b>	
		<b>BOM Class 2025</b>	
Dave Mizell	John F. Mitchell	Francis O'Donnell	
Mark Burt	Fred Fonseca, III	Richard W. Lind	
Kelsey Brown	Dean A. Henry	Michael A. Carver	
Steven P. Kopsick	Charles E. Wheeler	Spencer C. Snyder	