



Compatriot News

Philadelphia Continental Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



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Spring 2021



Greetings to all the members and friends of the Philadelphia Continental Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

Spring has arrived and the chapter is planning to have an outdoor (non-zoom picnic) at our chapter's favorite haunt Fenimore Woods Park at 1194 Eagle Road in Wayne PA . The date is Saturday June 12 2021 from around 11:30AM through 3:30 PM We are considering continuing the roast pig tradition started by Dick Merion. We can use your help. Please see insert notice about the picnic in this newsletter. We will try very hard to follow guidelines for handling of food during a period of pandemic.

We have become acclimated to more and more zoom meetings for chapter events . We are most appreciative to chapter 1st Vice President Bill Baker for setting up the zoom links. A very nice feature of the zoom meetings is we can have the pleasure of having members from across the country join us. Recently I reviewed the roster and learned that our membership includes gentlemen from 27 of the 50 states in the union plus a member from Washington DC and one from France. We have had some members from Arizona, Washington State, Florida, Delaware, California join some of our meetings

On January 11 a zoom meeting was held with guest speaker Sherri Burr, a direct descendant of Aaron Burr. Sherri Burr's presentation was very dynamic and interesting and brought forward many questions and discussions not only about her ancestry but about genealogy research in general.

On Saturday, February 20 2021 the Chapter participated in the annual wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and at Independence Hall in Philadelphia in honor of George Washington's Birthday. Members of the chapter Color Guard, and various chapter members attended and participated. James Hall took several photos and the wreaths were donated by George Clarke. Information was received from Greg Shively, that next year will be the 100th anniversary of Washington Birthday wreath laying by the Philadelphia Continental Chapter

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On March 2 a zoom chapter meeting was held with PCC's very own Lanny R Patten as guest speaker. Lanny spoke on the W3R- Washington Rochambeau Route organization and project. Ellen Von Karajan, the current executive director of the W3R organization as well as some other members of the W3R group, also attended the meeting. Some members of the PCC chapter have expressed interest in working with the W3R program.

Later in March our chapter genealogist Kelsey Brown and prior chapter genealogist Ned Little co-hosted a zoom meeting with Bill Baker on doing supplemental applications for our Revolutionary War ancestors. Over 40 people attended, as was the case with Sherri Burr's meeting and Lanny Patten's meeting). It has been interesting for me to witness how vitally interested many of our members are in learning more about their Revolutionary War era forebears and tracing additional branches. This vital interest is shown among new members and several persons who have been members of the SAR for several years. We will have more meetings such as this

We hope to resume sending, to newer chapter members, the GUIDON, a fact filled booklet on the many facets of the Philadelphia Continental Chapter, its officers and the many special committees and projects of the chapter. We plan to send the GUIDON out electronically. This spring the chapter officers are planning to hold at least two meetings for new chapter members, in which several of the chapter's programs, such as the Color Guard, Flagging of Revolutionary War veterans' graves, among others, will be presented. All chapter members will be invited

The chapter is interested in recognizing persons in the community who have performed actions that could constitute acts of heroism, acts of achievement in law enforcement, fire safety, lifesaving, or EMT work. If you know of anyone or hear of anyone who has performed actions that might qualify for recognition in one or more of these areas, inform chapter Second Vice President Steve Kopsick.

We are also recognizing chapter members who during the course of their lives have achieved notable accomplishments in law enforcement, fire safety or any of the other above fields. Compatriot McRay Bostick Jr was recognized for his 22 year career in Law Enforcement as a Pennsylvania State Police Officer at a gathering on Saturday, April 10 2021 at the Belmont State Police Barracks in Philadelphia. Compatriot McRay Bostick Jr received a Law Enforcement medal and certificate. His brother, Sherwin P Bostick, will be recognized with a Law Enforcement medal and certificate for his 25 year career with the Pennsylvania State Police at the chapter picnic on June 12 2021.

The Philadelphia Continental Chapter worked hard in its role of hosting the Quarterly PASSAR Meeting that was held at the Alloy Hotel in King of Prussia on Saturday, February 6 2021. In appreciation of the chapter's efforts, PASSAR President David J Felts presented a "Certificate of Appreciation" to the Philadelphia Continental Chapter "in appreciation for the hard work and dedication put into arranging and presenting the Board of Management meeting, February 6 2021".

DAVID M MIZELL TRIBUTE: In reference to his outstanding work at the February 6 PASSAR Meeting, the Philadelphia Continental Chapter presented a Distinguished Chapter Service Medal and Certificate of Appreciation to former Chapter President David Mizell "in recognition of his insight, technical expertise, and forethought in setting up and overseeing the Zoom call that permitted all attendees, whether in attendance or joining remotely, to participate in PASSAR's Winter BOM meeting"

IN MEMORIAM: We wish to remember Patricia Burt, wife of Philadelphia Continental Chapter member Mark E Burt, who passed away March 28. We also wish to remember James Darwin Seagers, former chapter genealogist and Color Guard member, who passed away February 21

John Mitchell, President

Color Guard Corner

The PCC color guard participated in three events in the first quarter of 2021. On January 6th several members joined in uniform via zoom a National Color Guard event sponsored by the Princeton/Cranbury Chapter in cooperation with the New Jersey Society Color Guard. The event, a Wreath Laying, took place in Princeton Battlefield State Park on a cold wind-swept field in front of the Mercer Oak. It was a personal pleasure for me to participate live bearing our chapter's First Pennsylvania Regimental Colors, under which my ancestral uncle served as a company commander during the Battle of Princeton. During the event, New Jersey Society SAR President Robert Meyer presented a check for \$2,500 to the Princeton Battlefield Society. Robert Meyer, New Jersey Society Color Guard Commander Rich Serfass, and the coordinator of the event, Princeton Cranbury Chapter President Roger Williams are to be commended for a fine National Color Guard event, and making the Pennsylvanian feel at home. Also attending was National Color Guard Commander Lou Raborg of the Maryland Society, his Excellency General Washington (Sam Davis) and a cadre of local officials.

Two members in attendance at the February 6th PASSAR Quarterly meeting in King of Prussia assisted PSSAR Color Guard Commander George Clark in presenting the colors.

On February 20th, seven uniformed members participated in PCC Wreath Laying events led by President Mitchell at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier in Washington Square and at the statue of George Washington in front of Independence Hall. The color guard wishes to express its gratitude to George Clarke for pro-



At Princeton Battlefield State Park



Color Guard at Washington Square (above)
Color Guard with John Mitchell at The Museum of the American Revolution (below)



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curing wreathes, guardsman James Hall for photo recording the events of the day and to President Mitchell and his leadership team who made it possible to continue our Washington's Birthday tradition in Philadelphia. Unfortunately, City Tavern fell victim to the virus and was closed, so after photos were taken at the Museum of the American Revolution, the Guard was dismissed.

As we head into the 2nd quarter of 2021 the winter covid surge is in retreat. Vaccinations are being administered by the millions each day giving us hope that we can all get back to a semblance of normal activity soon.

The Combined Activity Schedule reflects the present state of uncertainty concerning when social distancing and crowd capacity limiting mandates will be lifted in Pennsylvania. The guard is beginning to receive requests for tentative events later in the spring. We remain hopeful that color guard events will resume in earnest as we move into summer and fall.

Fred Fonseca, CPT of the guard

Compatriot Bob Hoyt received the Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal. This commemorative medal is an expression of appreciation from the Korean government to United States service men and women who served in the Korean War. Bob also received his SAR War Service medal and certificate. The certificate states that the member has been awarded the War Service Medal *in grateful recognition for service in the Armed Forces during an armed conflict.*



PCC History 1989-90

The Annual Meeting and installation of officers for 1989-1990 was held at the Bala Golf Club on Wednesday evening November 8, 1989. There was a reception at 6:30 PM with entertainment by the University Glee Club and was well received. The following officers were elected for year 1990 and installed by Former President General Warren G Hayes, Jr: President LTC James M Anders, 1st Vice President Leon Solis-Cohen, Jr, 2nd Vice President LTC Herbert T Armstrong, Secretary William G Dorwart and Treasurer Richard R DiStefano. Following his acceptance talk President Anders presented Past President Hyberg with his ribbon and Past Presidents pin. The first luncheon meeting under the new officers was held at the Engineers Club Monday, Dec 4th. The Club's kitchen will be shut down the month of January and the Franklin Inn Club will host the January 8th board and luncheon meetings.

The Washington Birthday Celebration was marred this year by high winds and rain. A hundred patriots and guests braved the bad condition of weather and set a wreath at the Washington Monument at Independence Hall. A benediction was pronounced by Chaplain Hockensmith, after which the party retired to the Down Town Club for an early reception and luncheon. James W Gallagher, costumed as George Washington, spoke on Washington-Man of Destiny. The weather having cleared during luncheon, the party moved to the Tomb of the Unknown Rev War Soldier for its annual commemoration. The Monday March 5th luncheon meeting was held at the Racquet Club on south 16th St. and was preceded by the BOM Meeting. After some discussion, it was voted to meet at the Racquet Club at least through June 1991. Also, the annual Church Service was held at Valley Forge Military Academy Sunday April 22. Following the service, the party witnessed the parade of the entire corps of cadets after which a reception and luncheon was held in Eisenhower Hall

The chapter participated in the Radnor Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 28, 1990. Compatriot Joe Cannon performed his swan song as Color Guard Captain and Compatriot Alex Atkinson participated as the designee Color Guard Captain. Richard DiStefano drove his open convertible car loaded with compatriots. Records indicate the performers did a really great job. At the June 4th BOM Meeting, VP Herb Armstrong requested authority to purchase 4 leather slings for carrying flags at \$18 each. Request granted. Allegiance Sunday was celebrated July 1st at several area churches. The President of the United States has joined the Sons of the American Revolution and other patriotic groups in encouraging the churches to give thanks for our American heritage on this day.

The chief action at the September 10th meeting at the Racquet Club was a 26 minute video tape on the 100th anniversary of NSSAR presented by VP Herb Armstrong to the delight of all. The 21st Annual DAR-SAR Constitution Week Celebration was held at the Stouffer Valley Forge Hotel on September 15th. Wilson Stradley, Director of the Valley Forge Historical Society, spoke on Views of Recent Interpretations of the United States Constitution. The BOM Meeting of October 1st was called to order by President Anders, with the important matter being the location of future meetings. By a majority vote, future meetings beginning January 7th 1991, for a trial period of 6 months, will be held at the Mile Post Inn in Strafford. Substantial savings in cost of meals, parking and bar expense will be realized.

The Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers was held on Wednesday, November 7th at The Bala Golf Club. The Rev James M Murrey, President of PASSAR and PCC Past President, was the speaker. The officers elected for 1990-91 are: President, Leon Solis-Cohen, 1st VP, Herbert T Armstrong, 2nd VP, Rev David Hockensmith, Secretary, William G Dorwart, Treasurer, Richard R DiStefano.

Jim Willis-Historian of the Chapter

Ladies Auxiliary of PASSAR

Thanks to the dedication and diligence of LAPASSAR President Becky Moyer, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Pennsylvania Society Sons of the American Revolution has approved a design of its own pin, a sample of which is featured below. The sample design, with modifications made by the LAPASSAR board and members, is presently being constructed by artist Jose Flores. In the final design, the flower will float, the setting will be gold with clear crystals, the stamens will be silver, and the flower ends will curl as the flower does. Becky has been in touch with point person, Pamela Wright, to express our hope that the pin will be available to sell at future PASSAR board of management meetings and at the 2024 Congress. Before this initiative, LAPASSAR has used the National Ladies Auxiliary pin for its members and as a logo on its communications, so our auxiliary is delighted to have such a beautiful pin representing our state flower, the mountain laurel in this lovely setting.

Concept only for customer approval

color and shading might differ from actual colors and will need to be adjusted by the factory during production



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See the PASSAR web site for information about joining LAPASSAR

http://passar.org/Layouts/ladies_aux.htm

PHILADELPHIA CONTINENTAL CHAPTER COMBINED ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

May	2nd	French Alliance Day , Washington Chapel, VFNHP	2:00 PM
	6th	Chapter Meeting on Zoom	7:00 PM
		TBD - Masons March to Franklin's Grave	
	31st	Radnor Memorial Day Parade & Veteran's Program	9:45 AM
June	6th	Malvern Memorial Day Parade	12:30 PM
	12th	Chapter Picnic Fenimore Woods Park	11:30 AM
	14th	TBD - Stars and Stripes Celebration	
	14th	TBD - DAR Flag Day Program - Lansdowne	6:30 PM
	18th	TBD - March Out - Valley Forge NHP	10:00 AM
July	4th	TBD - Flag House Let Freedom Ring	1:00PM
	5th	East Vincent Revolutionary Grave Ceremony	9:00 AM

