



Compatriot News

Philadelphia Continental Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 52 Number 2

www.pccsar.org

Spring 2023

PCC President's Report

Greetings Compatriots! 2023 is continuing to be a most interesting year. In the prior report from a few months back the picture of Ben Franklin was front and center while reporting on the February PASSAR Board of Management meeting. I am including it again because this gentleman was so convincing in his role as Benjamin Franklin that we will be looking for another opportunity to have him (Mitch Kramer) join us at an upcoming meeting or event. Stay tuned.



April Chapter Meeting

I am pleased to report that there is life beyond the SAR! In this case I am thinking about the April Chapter meeting which began with lunch at Lehman's Restaurant in Essington, after which we made our way to the Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum located just west of the PHL Airport. I am including my favorite two cars to give you a taste of what this is all about. Fred Simeone was a well-known neurosurgeon in Philadelphia who passed away just one year ago. After completing residencies at the Mayo Clinic and University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Simeone performed research and neurosurgery as full-time faculty at Harvard University Medical school, later becoming Chief of Neurosurgery at Pennsylvania Hospital for



1936 Bugati 57G "Tank"



1964 Shelby Cobra Daytona Coupe

President	William H. Baker	(248) 701-52671
1st Vice Pres.	Steven Kopsick	(267) 242-4219
2nd Vice Pres.	Larry Magdy	(610) 789-0803
Secretary	Christopher Snyder	(215) 206-3160
Treasurer	John Mulcahy	(215) 470-1293
Registrar	John Mitchell	(610) 630-1575
Genealogist	Kelsey Brown	(215) 659-1686
Chancellor	Michael Freeland, Esq	(610) 649-0707

Compatriot News
Published Quarterly by the
Philadelphia Continental Chapter
Editor: Carl Fletcher
(610) 430-0755
cfletch514@yahoo.com

over 25 years. Yes, he also collected sports racing cars with the theme, “The Spirit of Competition”. You might ask, what does this have to do with SAR? And I would answer that SAR is about History, Education and Education, plus having fun while you’re at it. We had sixteen people for the luncheon, and everyone appeared to be deep in conversation the entire time. If you’d like to learn more about the Simeone Museum, please go to <https://simeonemuseum.org/the-collection/>. Finally, I would like to thank Larry Magdy and Mike Rados for introducing the idea of going to the Simeone Museum and for helping to work out the details, as I was not even aware that the museum existed when we began planning the April meeting last year.

SAR 2024 Congress

As you may know, the National Society SAR has scheduled its 2024 Congress to take place in Lancaster. The hosting hotel will be the Marriott Lancaster Penn Square and the dates are July 11-16, 2024. This Congress provides the members of the Philadelphia Continental Chapter a convenient opportunity to participate in a national meeting and get to know the SAR a little better. For your information the program can be found at:

<http://www.passar.org/2024%20Congress/2024%20SAR%20National%20Congress%20Program.html>

and is shown below. In addition to the various activities, I would like to draw your attention to the First Time Attendees Orientation, which promises to be a good way to learn your way around if this is the first SAR Congress you’ve attended.

State Committee Chair and PCC Compatriot George Clarke says that you need to be aware of the various tours that are associated with next year’s SAR Congress:

Thurs July 11	1. Valley Forge Encampment 2. PA German Heritage Tour
Mon July 15	1. Lancaster Countryside / Kettle Kitchen 2. Strasburg Railroad
Tues July 16	3. York PA Colonial 4. Philadelphia Campaign Tour to Brandywine, Paoli, etc. 5. Philadelphia Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and Museum of the American Revolution

2024 SAR National Congress Program	
Wednesday, July 10, 2024	Executive Committee Meeting SAR Foundation Board Meeting
Thursday, July 11, 2024	Tour of Valley Forge Encampment PA German Heritage Tour Host Society Reception Dinner on Your Own (please see Places to Eat for local options)
Friday, July 12, 2024	Color Guard Breakfast 2023-2024 Board of Trustees Meeting First Time Attendees Orientation

	Memorial Service
	First Lady's Tea
	Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest Finals
Saturday, July 13, 2024	
	Council of State Presidents Breakfast
	Opening Session of the 134th Annual Congress
	Youth Awards Luncheon
	Afternoon Session of the 134th Annual Congress
	Minuteman Award Ceremony
	Annual Society, Chapter, and Individual Recognition Night
Sunday, July 14, 2024	
	District Breakfasts
	Second Session of the 134th Annual Congress
	GWEF Luncheon or Lunch on Your Own
	Ladies Luncheon
	Balloting for 2024-2025 General Officers
	President General's Banquet
Monday July 15, 2024	
	Donor Recognition Breakfast
	Final Session of the 134th Annual Congress
	2024-2025 Board of Trustees Meeting
	Vice Presidents General Meeting
	Lancaster Countryside/Kettle Kitchen Tour
	Strasburg Railroad Tour
	Installation Banquet
Tuesday, July 16, 2024	
	Executive Committee Meeting
	SAR Foundation Board Meeting
	Depart on Post-Congress Tours

May 5-6 PASSAR Annual Meeting

As you may have read elsewhere, the Eagle Scout Award for the State was our PCC winner Laura Tyree of Troop 19 in Marshalltown, Chester County Council. She received a \$750 award from PASSAR and then for 9th place at National an additional \$500 award. Lauren was the fifth child in her family to become an Eagle Scout, after her four older brothers.

Also, Philadelphia Continental Chapter was recognized for its assistance in collecting dues for the state. President Mike Seibert explained that after PASSAR had send out the dues notice and the results were not meeting expectation, PCC requested to continue the dues collection with personal telephone and email contacts by the Board of Management which resulted in excellent results for the State. In particular, the state did not allow credit card payments, while PCC results indicated the higher success rate of adding the PayPal option. Many thanks to the PCC BOM for the "end-of-year push".

Finally, Past President John F. Mitchell received a Certificate of Appreciation from PASSAR President Seibert for his success as District #1 Deputy and for following through on the many requests that the PASSAR President made of him during the past year.

Color Guard Corner April 2023

First quarter 2023 saw little activity for the Color guard, which is normally the case during the winter, but we have a busy schedule coming up this spring.

The two events we had in January occurred on January 8th. We split our forces with Sgt Larry Magdy commanding a detachment including guardsmen Bill Baker, Steve Kopsick, and Rich Lind in presenting the Colors at a Villanova Women's basketball game. I, with a detachment including Chris and Spencer Snyder participated in the Princeton Battle reenactment and National SAR wreath laying at Princeton and Assunpink Creek. As Color Guard commander, it is a bit unnerving to commit to multiple events on the same day but our chapter color guard always responds with enthusiasm to complete the mission.



PCC Color Guard & others at Princeton Battlefield

On February 12th we were invited to open the annual training of the American Probation and Parole Association at the Marriot in center city. This Association includes Canadian members, so the Maple Leaf was added to our procession. Guardsmen Bill Baker, Larry Magdy and Rich Lind answered the call, in spite of the fact that the Philadelphia Eagles were playing in the Super Bowl that evening. The PCC Guard performed flawlessly and were much appreciated by the Association.



Fred Fonseca leads the Color Guard at Washington Square

On February 18th, the PCC held it's 101st annual George Washington's Birthday Celebration which is also a National SAR Color Guard Event. After wreaths were laid at Washington Square and Independence Hall, three pipers and two drummers led eight guardsman ahead of an entourage of SAR members, friends, family and guests to The Museum of the American Revolution for a photo opportunity.



Color Guard assembles at The Museum of the American Revolution on the George Washington Birthday celebration

We held a Color Guard training session at Fort Mifflin on April 22nd, and the following Saturday we led the Masons on their march from Christ Church to Benjamin Franklin's gravesite, in honor of Philadelphia's most famous person.

Fred Fonseca, Captain of the Guard

Whatever happened to the flag?

The Scottish monument was dedicated on October 8, 2011, and depicts a scene of a Scottish family arriving in America. It was common for a family or a group of families to send someone in advance to scout out the unknown territory, claim land and do what was necessary to prepare for those who follow. The monument shows a young man, outfitted in frontier dress with his newly arrived wife, children, and father. They are climbing up from the docks to Front Street, where the Tun Tavern was located. Here they will meet with *members of the St. Andrew's Society* who will provide for their immediate needs to help them on their way. The St. Andrew's Society was founded in 1747 to help immigrant Scots in the wake of the failed Bonnie Prince Charlie uprising when many Scots, mainly highlanders, were displaced.

This monument to Scottish Immigrants seeks to provide a broad perspective on the rise and movement of the Scots over many continents and centuries. On either side of the monument, you will find Standing Stones. The standing stones are part of the landscape and history of all the Celtic lands. Many remain in Scotland today. While the original purpose of these stones is not known, it is believed they served a spiritual purpose and may have scientific astronomical significance as well and were added as a symbol of Scotland's ancient past.

On Tartan Day, 2022, both the Saltire and the United States flags were lowered for the final time at the Scottish Memorial, having stood guard for one year. Fresh new ones took their place. One has to wonder what has become of the flags?

Well, as the winner of the secret auction with only one bidder, I felt compelled to appropriately disposition them. The Saltire still graces the sky on special occasions, but the United States standard could not continue her journey.

She had become weathered too much to grace the skies with her colors. It was only appropriate to retire her in accordance with the codes and standards of the union. This banner of peace and freedom was torn, tattered and soiled from use. Her love no longer afire, but now faded. The white from the purest snow is now tinged from age. The blur from crystal clear waters is now soiled from the elements. She has flown proudly to stand and represent us through times both good and bad. Her replacement of bold solid colors flying proudly over the Scottish Memorial has taken her place.

Life is made of meetings and partings. For those who have honorably served our country and our memorials, there is a special and heartfelt goodbye. A service to honor this Standard was held to solemnly and honorably surrender her to the fire as another has taken her place.

This event started with a selection of 7 bottles of single malt, labels removed. A grading sheet was provided to allow celebrants the opportunity explore their senses without the use of labels to document this experience. One was smoky and peaty. One was very spicy. The remaining exhibited the full flavor the Scottish single malt craft. After two hours of experimenting, the labels were re-

vealed. Grangestone 12 year was a favorite, and all also enjoyed Glenmorangie, Lagavulin, Grangestone (madiera cask), Grangestone (bourbon cask), Ardbeg, and Kirkland, for goodness sake (Islay single malt, oak cask and very spicy).



The ceremony was orchestrated and presided by the Philadelphia Continental Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Old Glory was surrendered to the purging flame with respectful and honorable rites with no grave of soldier or sailor dishonored and unmarked.



As we visit our memorials and monuments, let us reflect upon our allegiance to honor and respect our, and our ancestral flags as they flutter together in harmony in our free skies.

Steve Kopsick, Saint Andrews Society Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
PCC First Vice President

New Members 2/13/23 to 5/5/23			
New Member	Patriot	New Member	Patriot
Roger Grantham Milton	Elijah Fleming	Michael Peter Lease	Frederick Leasure
Earl Lee Pearson IV	Issac Brown	John Joseph Gill	John Rowles
George Wayne Bradley	Corn. Hoffman	Brian Patrick Gill	John Rowles
Mark Andrew Series	Nich. Schweyer		
Horace James Tollett, III	John Tollett	Junior Member	
David Andrew Carr	Ephraim Bidwell	William Perry Gresh III	Ellis Cook
Jack Shinnick	Michael Schenck	Crew James Nelson Freeland	William Niles
Matthew David Shinnick	Michael Schenck	Torin Matthew Freeland	William Niles
Keith John Murray, Jr.	Israel Brush	Andrew David Carr	Ephraim Bidwell
Nicholas Alfred Murray	Israel Brush	Alexander Keith Dennis	Johann Gresh
James Bruce Glennon	John English	Ronan Alexander Daniel Smith Jonsson	John Bliss

Feb 6 Williamson College of the Trades Founder's Day Program

Once a year the PCC President visits the Williamson College of the Trades in Media, PA, to present the William J. Yearsley Award. The award is named in honor of Bill Yearsley who was PCC Chapter President in 1999 and a 1941 Williamson graduate. Bill brought the award to Williamson because he wanted to see Williamson students recognized for their outstanding efforts. When he passed away, the name of the award was changed; originally, it had been known as the Outstanding Citizenship Award.



The Yearsley Award is presented to a Williamson junior who has shown outstanding citizenship and the qualities of industry, self-discipline, personal integrity, reliability, and contributions above the call of duty. He also must have a GPA of 3.25 or higher. This year's award recipient was Alexander Whiteman who comes from Morgantown, Pennsylvania, serves as class vice president, and has a GPA of 4.0.

Annual Patriots Picnic Sunday, June 11, 2023 Fenimore Woods Park, Radnor Twp.

The Philadelphia Continental Chapter Annual Patriots Picnic will be held at Fenimore Woods Park on Sunday, June 11, 2023. Please plan to arrive by 11:30 AM to enjoy the festivities. We hope to feature a 90-pound pig, prepared by Esposito's Porchetta of South Philadelphia, as well as other food offerings. We will have beer and wine and assorted cold soft drinks to satisfy your thirst. Bring your wife, children, and family and friends. All are welcome to enjoy our program. The park is located at 1194 Eagle Road, Wayne, PA 19087.

In addition to Compatriots and families, we also plan to have the pleasure of hosting the Eagle Scout and Greenspan award winners and their families.

Please call or email John Mitchell, or Bill Baker to notify us with your name and number of guests you are bringing.

John Mitchell - 610-630-1575 or 484-557-9270 (cell phone) - e-mail: johnfmtc@aol.com

Bill Baker- 248-701-5267 - e-mail: wbaklava@aol.com.

If you are interested in helping at the picnic, please let John or Bill know this.

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, June 12!

Philadelphia Continental Chapter – SAR
226 WINDING WAY
TELFORD, PA 18969-1851