

The Liberty Bell

Kansas Society Sons of the American Revolution

July 2022, Volume 131 Issue 3



On the cover:
Winner of the National Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest, Kansas Society's James Shultz representing Delaware Crossing Chapter. Congratulations James, Kansas Society is proud of you.

Table of Contents

On the cover: 2

President’s Message..... 3

132nd National Congress 4

Membership 7

Color Guard Activities 8

 Henry Leavenworth Traveling Chapter 8

 Independence Day Across Kansas 8

 National Congress 10

 Naturalization Ceremony..... 11

 Memorial Day 11

 Honor Flights at Kansas City 11

CHAPTER NEWS 12

 SONS OF THE PLAINS CHAPTER (Hutchinson) 12

 PRAIRIE MINUTEMEN CHAPTER (Ellsworth Area) 12

 BENNINGTON CHAPTER (Salina Area) 12

 CHARLES ROBINSON CHAPTER (Lawrence) 12

 Col. JOHN SEWARD CHAPTER (Liberal) 12

 DELAWARE CROSSING CHAPTER (Kansas City & Johnson County) 13

 FORT SCOTT CHAPTER (Ft. Scott) 14

 FORT HAYS CHAPTER (Hays) 14

 HENRY LEAVENWORTH CHAPTER (Leavenworth) 14

 KONZA PRAIRIE CHAPTER (Manhattan) 15

 MONTICELLO CHAPTER (Shawnee) 15

 THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAPTER (Topeka) 16

 WASHINGTON CHAPTER (Wichita Area).....16

 The Kansas SAR Ladies Auxiliary 16

New Members..... 17

Supplementals 17

Salute to Our Departed Comrades 18

Final Thought..... 19

President's Message

By Vernon Welkner



Compatriots, I recently returned from the 132nd Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution held at Savannah, Georgia, and I witnessed a historic event for the Kansas Society. On Monday night, July 11, Linda and I attended the annual oration contest at the Hyatt Regency. The Kansas Society contestant, James Schultz that had been selected as one of the top six Rumbaugh Oration contestants in the nation. Linda and I sat with Amy Schultz, James' mother and watched as each of the six finalists presented their orations. During the competition round of the Rumbaugh Oration, the contestants' names are not given; they are identified only by the number (one to six)

chosen at random. No applause is allowed during the competition. After the six contestants completed their orations and the judges were conferring to choose the winner, each contestant stood before the audience and told us about their backgrounds and future ambitions. Then the moment came when the judges' decision was ready.

This year, the competition was so close that three contestants shared fourth place. That had never happened before. James was not one of those, so we knew he was in the top three. Then the name of the third place was read, and again, since it was not James, we knew he was in the top two. When the second-place winner was declared, we knew James Schultz from the Kansas Society had won first place in the National Rumbaugh Oration contest. This is a great moment for all Kansas compatriots. Special congratulations are due to Bruce Smith, the Kansas Society's Rumbaugh Oration Committee Chairman for a good job well done. Compatriot Smith guided the oration contest from the state level and prepared James, the state winner, for the national contest. This task included making a video of James' oration and sending it to the National Rumbaugh Oration Contest Committee. By the way, James won \$10,000.00

for his oration, money that will help to pay for his college education.

The Kansas Society also had contestants in the National Elementary School Poster Contest, the Sergeant Moses Adams Middle School Brochure Contest, and the George and Stella Knight National Essay Contest. Each one did very well. Congratulations to all who participated. I am hoping that, in addition to entering into these youth contests, in 2023 we will enter contestants in the National Enhanced JROTC Contest, the Arthur M. and Berdena King National Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest, and the Dr. Tom and Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award.

In addition, former state president Brooks Lyles became a general officer for the National Society as the Historian General. He has also been promoted to National Color Guard Commander. He was also presented in this year's class of Minuteman Award recipients (only six of these are awarded each year). Congrats, Brooks.

Finally, I had the honor of being elected as a general officer for the National Society. I will serve a one-year term as the Chaplain General. I am privileged to serve the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

132nd National Congress

The road to Savannah crossed half of these United States and ended in the splendid city of Savannah, GA. Savannah is one of our most historic cities from the Revolution and we found it a great place for the Kansas Society SAR to shine.

President Vern Welkner was elected by a large margin to be the Chaplin General of the NSSAR. Vern was really a fine choice as it was a contested election and our president did a fine job taking the reins in his new position taking over



for CG Dwight Elam. We were all very proud to see him achieve his dream as he and Linda marched down the aisle to the assigned place assigned table in front of us all.

Past President Brooks Lyles was really honored and though he has become a Carolinian we still feel that he is one of our own. Brooks was elected to be Historian General a position that he will be extremely good at.



Compatriot Lyles was also awarded the highest award that a member of the SAR can achieve when he was one of six men selected to be new Minutemen. Congratulations to Brooks for that.



Next was the Changing of Command of the Color Guard and we now have a new National Commander Brooks Lyles taking over for Commander Lou Raborg.



I was honored to be one of Brooks escorts and the other was Roger from North Carolina. Brooks has a lot on his plate for the coming year but we are sure his is up to the tasks.



Now for the real highlight of the Congress. Kansas now has the distinction of being the State home of the National Rumbaugh Orations Champion. James Shultz from the DX Chapter was not to be denied.



His oration was flawless, content captivated the audience and it was the most special event of the congress for those of us who were there. All of the contestants were good but none of them had Bruce Smith for a coach and Ashley Null to sit next to at dinner to get him to totally relax. By the way he also placed 5th in the Knight Essay Contest. What a great young man to represent Kansas in the youth programs.

Our past recording secretary Gary Neal received one of the first Silver Liberty Medals and he is now the Registrar for the Maryland Society.

The congress did, however, end with a tragedy. Host Society Georgia's President passed away the day after Conference from an apparent heart attack brought on by covid. It seems that many others were being affected by this disease including but limited to PG Guzy and Karin, PG Manning and Sheila, our own VP Bryan Wampler, Orations Chairman Bruce Smith and many others so we are told. This really put kind

of a damper on what was the best conference we have attended and hope that this stuff will be gone next year.

Over all it was a great time and hope many of you will go to Orlando next year.



The Kansas Society was well represented at the 132nd Annual Congress in Savannah. Harry Wilklow, former President of the Henry Leavenworth Chapter and his wife were there from Orlando and Kansas Society VP Bryan Wampler and his wife attended the whole Congress before leaving to head home that morning Trustee Bobbie Hulse and his wife Debbie and Tim Peterman were there to see former President Brooks Lyles and Diane inducted as Historian General and President Vern Welkner and Linda inducted as Chaplain General . Kansas has never had two Compatriots serving as General Officers at the same time before. The future is bright for the Kansas Society as they continue to shine brightly in the National Society.

Membership

John Schatzel KSSSAR Genealogist

SAR accepted 7 Kansas applications this week, bringing our membership to 984 with 25 on track for review by Thanksgiving.

Several KS compatriots participated in the Genealogy Committee Zoom on Monday and the Genealogist General's Zoom on Tuesday.

A few notes:

- 1- SAR applications approved after 1 Jan 2012 have the same credibility as DAR applications approved after 1 Jan 1985. In both cases, flagged records are not acceptable if the flag relates to the patriot's service or applicant's line—unless you can resolve the flagged issue.
- 2- All applicants must have a BC listing MALE.
- 3- Do not place on the application any information which is not documented. Two examples: 1) if you list an applicant's wife, you must include documentation such as a birth or marriage record. 2) if a DC lists a person's death in a county (such as Shawnee) do not list the city (Topeka) unless it is on the DC (or other documentation, such as an obit). Likewise, if an obit lists the death in Topeka, do not list the county unless you also include a DC (or will etc) listing the county. Though obvious for Topeka today, some cities, counties and states have changed (West Virginia, Maine etc) and the place listed should match the time of the event (birth, marriage, death).
- 4- The GG is developing a checklist which preparers can use to prepare applications. This may be required at some point, but should not be required until the policy, preparers manual and checklist have the same standards.
- 5- The SAR genealogy staff is full and working to review applications quickly. Though each genealogist can review a complete application

in less than an hour (and family plans, some supplementals and those linked to current DAR and SAR records faster), incomplete packets, illegible documents, unproven entries and poorly marked or sequenced documents delay the process. Consequently, genealogists spend a lot of time looking for information in the packet before bracketing, search online for information to allow approval, write many long notes detailing pending applications, and answer calls and emails from applicants and chapters. As a reminder, if you receive a pending notice, you should communicate with the applicants and Tim rather than the staff, and should not pass the staff's contact information to the applicant.

I review many pending applications for the Committee of Assistance and am proud to say that we have very few pending applications.

Applications are often pending in groups, putting lots of money on the line. A few suggestions:

1. Do not submit family plans for questionable lines. (get one approved and then submit the rest as a family)
2. Do not submit more than one supplemental for a questionable line. (prove the questionable point using one supplemental and then submit other related supplementals)
3. When possible, submit the longest line for questionable applications (submitting for a grandson may give many more replacement patriots if the application to the original patriot is pending)



Color Guard Activities

Henry Leavenworth Traveling Chapter

On June 16th, Henry Leavenworth SAR Chapter President Jerry Gross and four other members joined the Monticello SAR Chapter at their monthly meeting in Lenexa as part of the HLC Traveling Chapter. The purpose is to build esprit de corps, share lessons learned and continue to fulfill the mission of the SAR. Compatriot Dewey Fry presented "The History of our Nation's Flag" and our Chapter displayed the Patriot Chest.



Sons of the Plains chapter marched in Hutchinson's parade.



The Patriot Chest is an educational aid for presentations to schools and civic organizations on topics relating to the founding of our great country.

Independence Day Across Kansas

Washington chapter participated in three parades celebrating Independence Day. The first parade was in Haysville followed by Derby and closed out the day's festivities in Mulvane.



The Col. John Seward Chapter of SAR decided last fall of 2021 to initiate organizing a July 4th Parade and Celebration in Liberal, Kan., since one hadn't been organized in nearly a century, according to the owner of the local newspaper, Earl Watt, who found newspaper in his archives in the 1930s was the last July 4th parade. Members of CJS brought the Cimarron River Valley Chapter of DAR onboard to help in December 2021 at their joint Christmas Luncheon. It was DAR suggestion to make the theme of the parade, "Liberty and Justice for all." It was approved by all and plans firmed up after the new year. As word got out, volunteers with the Liberal City Parks and Rec Dept., took over planning of activities at Light Park, where the parade ended. The parade fell to CJS members with Parade Chair Earl Watt taking over command. The event went off with a smashing success on July 4th, with SAR and AR member riding on a float and giving talks between entertainment segments of singers and music at the park.

Fifty floats participated in the first ever (since 1930s) July 4th Parade and Celebration in Liberal, Kan., on July 4, 2022. The event was planned and organized by the Col. John Seward Chapter of SAR in Liberal with help from the local DAR Chapter and the City of Liberal Parks and Rec Dept. volunteers.

PS: SAR and DAR had a booth at the park celebration and passed out hand-held U.S. flags and Declaration/Constitution booklets to those passing by.



Kansas Colorguard was awarded Best Representation of Theme at the Lenexa Independence Day parade. Picture left to right are: Gavin Kurtz (DX) Dewey Fry (DX) Jeff Winters (MC) Tom Chychota (HL). Gavin is Dewey's grandson.



National Congress

As mentioned earlier Compatriot Brooks Lyles was sworn in as National Colorguard Commander at the 132nd National Congress. Attending Brooks was Kansas Trustee Bobbie Hulse.



Brooks and Bobbie attended many of the activities at Congress in Colorguard regalia including the Memorial Mass.



Brooks discussing colorguard arrangements before the memorial Mass.



Bobbie and other National Colorguard members line up outside St. John's church in Savannah.

Kansas Society President and newly installed Chaplin General Vernon Welkner spoke at the Memorial Mass.



Vern reads a prayer to begin the Memorial Mass.

Naturalization Ceremony

After two years of Covid restrictions the Kansas Colorguard were once again honored to attend naturalization ceremonies swearing in new United States citizens.



Memorial Day

Memorial Day honoring Patriots from our Nation's founding until today. Sons of the Plains members VP Bit Roberts, VFW Commander John Harper and Kansas Trustee Bobbie Hulse, Bennington Chapter member Pat Crawford all played a roll.



The event was very well attended and Ceremony led by John was very well done with flags standing straight out in the wind.

Honor Flights at Kansas City

Members of the Kansas Colorguard welcomed home WWII veterans returning from Washington DC as part of the Honor Flights program.



CHAPTER NEWS

SONS OF THE PLAINS CHAPTER (Hutchinson)

Dean Burns President *Pizaacos Restaurant in
Hutchinson, 112 So. Main St. 9AM 2nd Sat. Sept-May*



Sons of the Plains chapter meets for the Hutchinson Independence Day Parade in front of Compatriot Mark Buckley's Toy Depot store in down town Hutchinson.

PRAIRIE MINUTEMEN CHAPTER (Ellsworth Area) Ron Svaty President

Kevin Lockwood, Great Bend, was installed as the newest member of the Prairie Minutemen Chapter by Western Vice President Justin Engleman and chapter president Ron Svaty, at a recent meeting held in Great Bend. Lockwood is a descendant of Joseph Thornburgh, who provided material aid during the Revolution. Compatriots from the Prairie Minutemen Chapter are working to charter another new chapter, this one in Great Bend. With several recent application approvals and several applications ready to be signed, should allow this to happen in the near future.



BENNINGTON CHAPTER (Salina Area)

Bobbie Hulse , President *Meets 9:30 AM on the 3rd
Saturday of the month Sep to May at location to be announced. .*

Bennington chapter continues to operate while working on applications for new members and a new president.

CHARLES ROBINSON CHAPTER (Lawrence)
Peter Grassl, President *Meets 3rd Wednesday of
September, November, January, March and May, 6:00
PM , Perkins Restaurant, 1711 23rd St, Lawrence*

Col. JOHN SEWARD CHAPTER (Liberal)

Larry Phillips, President *"Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the
Month (except December) at 7:00 PM at the Leader and
Times Newspaper Office, 16 S. Kansas Avenue, Liberal,
Kansas*

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"Liberty and Justice for all." It was approved by all and plans firmed up after the new year. As word got out, volunteers with the Liberal City Parks and Rec Dept., took over planning of activities oot Light Park, where the parade ended. The parade fell to CJS members with Parade Chair Earl Watt taking over command. The event went off with a smashing success on July 4th, with SAR and AR member riding on a float and giving talks between entertainment segments of singers and music at the park.



DELAWARE CROSSING CHAPTER (Kansas City & Johnson County)

Larry Tatum, President Meets 3rd Saturday monthly for 9:00 AM Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn 119th St. Overland Park, KS

Stephen Sullins, President of the Independence Pioneer Chapter of the SAR, gave a well presented program about the little-known activities of a woman Pinkerton agent during the Civil War.



Stephen Sullins

Delaware Crossing Rumbaugh Oration winner, James Schultz, has not only taken First Place at the State level, but he is also one of six finalists for the National Contest.



James Shultz

James traveled to Savanah, GA where first place in the Rumbaugh Oration contest at the National SAR Congress.

Bruce Smith received the Thomas Jefferson Medal for his support of the Knight Essay Contest. Congratulations Bruce.



FORT SCOTT CHAPTER (Ft. Scott)

Jim Gilpin, President Meets 2nd Saturday in January, April, July and October at 10:00 AM at Nate's Place, Fort Scott, KS At 7



Martin Dupslaff and John Gilpin have been working hard to recognize Crawford County groups with SAR flag certificate presentations. In addition to the one pictured, which is Sunflower Kiwanis club, Pittsburg, KS, the June 11th meeting of the Fort Scott Chapter was held at the Girard American Legion Flag Day weekend.

FORT HAYS CHAPTER (Hays)

Garry Baxter, President, Meeting Dates and Location- Meet on the 3rd Tuesday of Jan, May, July, Sept, Nov. at 7:pm (March is the State SAR Meeting) at the Rooks County Museum, 921 S. Cedar St, Stockton, KS.

Joe Leroux from the Fort Hays chapter presented Sergeant Jason Bonczynski with their Life Saving Award (Certificate & Medal) June 7, 2022, at the Hays Police Department in recognition of Sgt. Bonczynski's life saving efforts of CPR on baby Brixton.



HENRY LEAVENWORTH CHAPTER (Leavenworth)

Jerry Gross, President Meets 4th Thursday monthly at June's Northland, 614 Pottawatomie St, Leavenworth, KS 66048

On July 16th, Henry Leavenworth SAR Chapter President Jerry Gross along with other members joined the Delaware Crossing SAR Chapter at their monthly meeting in Lenexa as part of the HLC Traveling Chapter. The purpose is to build esprit de corps, share lessons learned and continue to fulfill the mission of the SAR. Mel Carney presented his story in Vietnam, "Command at Dawn" and our Chapter displayed the Patriot Chest.

The Patriot Chest is an educational aid for presentations to schools and civic organizations on topics relating to the founding of our great country.



The Henry Leavenworth Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) presented Leavenworth County Sheriff Andrew Dedek the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal. The SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal is presented to those who have served with distinction and devotion in the field of law enforcement.



The Henry Leavenworth Chapter presented Sharlet Untereiner, Regina Buttron, Kathy Stafford, Rex Loewen, Tommy Herken, and Bryan Herken with the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. They earned the medal by their outstanding and significant contributions to our community.



Wendy Dedeke, Director, Support Services at The Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office, received the Sons of the American Revolution Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Commendation Medal from the Henry Leavenworth Chapter. The EMS Medal was awarded to Wendy for her significant contributions to the EMS field.



KONZA PRAIRIE CHAPTER (Manhattan) Mark Naughton, President Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM, Meeting location TBD

MONTICELLO CHAPTER (Shawnee) Jeffery Alan Winters, President Meets 3rd Thursday monthly, 6:00 PM at Pegah's Restaurant 12122 W 87th St, Lenexa, KS 66215

CORRECTION from April Liberty Bell:

Monticello colorguardsman Alan Martin received the Kansas Colorguardsman of the year award at the state convention in Abilene Colorguard commander Dewey Fry presented the award.



THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAPTER (Topeka)

Brian Vazquez, President *Topeka Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Ave. – 9:00 a.m. (3rd Saturday of month during September to November and February to June) HyVee. 29th & Wanamaker, Topeka, KS 3rd Saturday of July, Aug, Dec, and Jan, @ 9:00 am.*

Vern Thomas, our 2nd oldest member at 96 (the oldest is about 2 weeks older), recently received his 30 year pin from Rich McReynolds, our membership chair. Vern is in assisted living.



WASHINGTON CHAPTER (Wichita Area) Randolph Colby, President *Meets 3rd Friday except January & July at 6:30 pm at Spear restraint, 4323 W Maple St, Wichita, KS*

Washington Chapter celebrated Independence Day with our annual picnic at OJ Watson park in Wichita, KS on July 2. On the fourth we participated in three parades in the Wichita area. The parades were hosted by the towns of Haysville, Derby and Mulvane.



In May Compatriot Steve Hamlin had the first chance to use his new musket in the Abbyville parade.



The Kansas SAR Ladies Auxiliary
Linda Welkner, President *Meets at the Quarterly Board of Governors*

Supplementals

*memorial

<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>	<i>NSSAR</i>	<i>Ks</i>	<i>Ch</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
None							

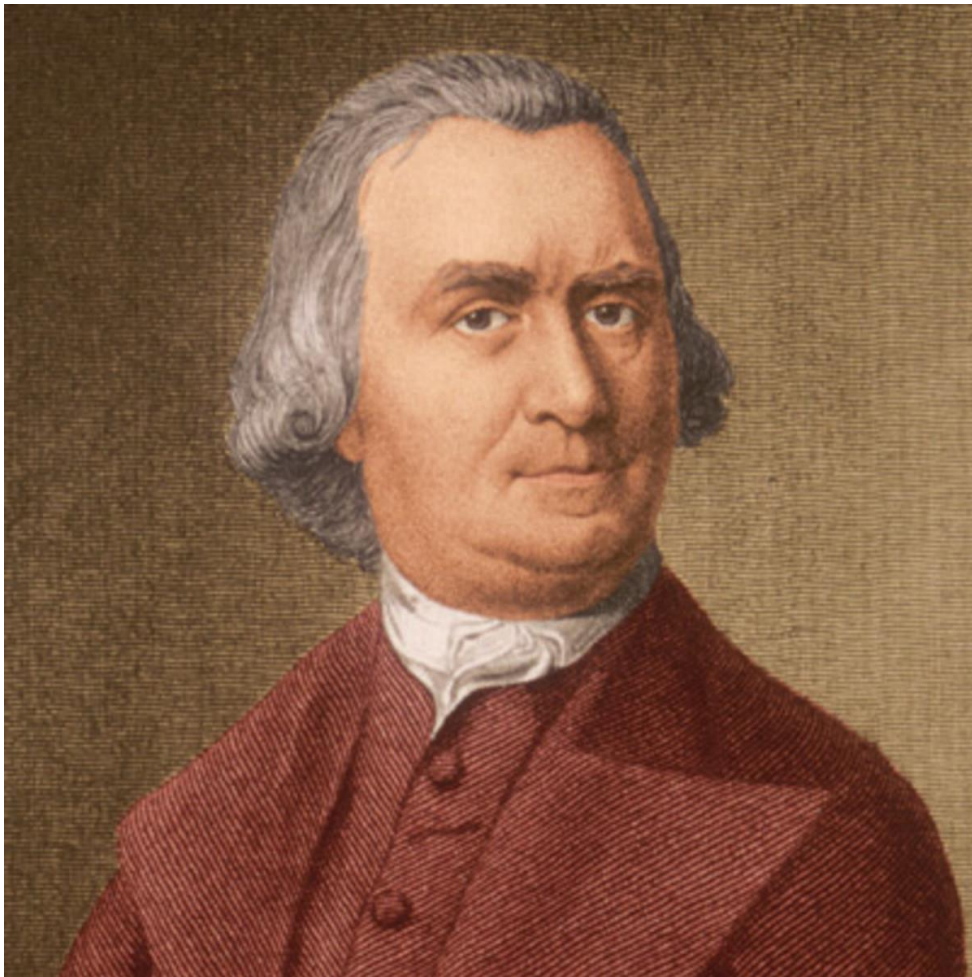
Salute to Our Departed Comrades

<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>	<i>NSSAR</i>	<i>Ks</i>	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Died</i>
Potter	Joshua	Gregory	222958	3868	WA	2022	12/07/06+
Goodell	Jon	Carl	109881	1130		1975	03/03/21*
Halloran	Lawrence	Manon	197727	3166	WA	2016	01/25/22
Cox	Joseph	Lawrence	161120	2370		2003	02/25/22*
Allison	Arlen	Keith	171942	2650	SP	2008	03/03/22
Neil	David	Enloe	184543	2907	MAL	2012	03/07/22
Towner	John	Eugene	168795	3012	CR	2007	05/07/22
Allen	Ralph	Cloyes	82364	738		1959	05/12/22*
Hart	Craig	Wynn	126482	1690		1985	06/21/22*

*inactive

+memorial

Final Thought



Samuel Adams

"If ever a time should come, when vain and aspiring men shall possess the highest seats in Government, our country will stand in need of its experienced patriots to prevent its ruin." -- Samuel Adams

The Editor of the Liberty Bell is Steve Hamlin of Washington Chapter. The Publisher is Vernon Welkner of the Henry Leavenworth Chapter, President of the Kansas SAR. You can reach the Editor at unclehammy@sbcglobal.net This is your Society News Letter, if there is something you want to see in it please contact me or Vernon and we will see what we can do!