Color Guard
National SAR

National Society
Sons of the American Revolution

COLOR GUARD HANDBOOK

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INTRODUCTION

This handbook provides information and guidance for and about the Color Guard of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The National Society Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard Committee acknowledges the many contributions of Color Guard compatriots in providing comments and suggestions for this revision. Without their contributions, this handbook would have been much more difficult to produce.

HISTORY OF COLOR GUARDS

While the Color Guard of the 21st century is ceremonial in terms of purpose and duty; the origins of the Color Guard had an operational military function. During the 18th and 19th centuries, flags were referred to as "the Colors." The "Colors" were of importance to the military regiment or brigade as the line of battle was formed around the colors of the unit. If the colors advanced, the line would advance. If the colors retired, the line would retire. As battles progressed and casualties mounted, the line would center around the Colors. In battle was often dependent on the handling of the Colors.

The importance of the colors was so significant that a ceremony was performed before battle called "The Trooping of the Colors." The men of the regiment or brigade were assembled on the parade ground in camp and the colors were paraded before them. Each soldier would see and ~~thus~~ be certain of *his* Colors before taking the field of battle.

Likewise~~,~~ one of the most important was capturing the colors of the enemy unit. This deprived the enemy of their primary means of control and rallying point during the battle. To prevent this, regiments and brigades would select the most valiant men to protect the colors and color bearer. These men comprised the "Color's Guard," a posting of great honor and source of pride. As in years past, this posting continues to be a position of honor.

THE NATIONAL SAR COLOR GUARD

The National SAR Color Guard is comprised of **ALL** Compatriots who participate in SAR meetings and events properly uniformed as either Continental Soldiers or Militiamen or attired as Revolution-era clergymen.

These compatriots visibly promote the stated objectives of the SAR which are declared to be Historical, Patriotic and Educational. Accordingly, it is essential that a Revolutionary War uniformed Color Guard fielded by the SAR be historically correct and not compromise these objectives.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL SAR COLOR GUARD

The National SAR Color Guard was first formed in 1989 during the term of President General James R. Westlake (GA) as the National Society Color Guard Committee under the chairmanship of Compatriots David Judson Gray and Donald Norman Moran. This first National Color Guard consisted of six compatriots representing five state societies. The initial purposes of the Color Guard were:

- To provide guidance to and coordination of the activities of the various State Society and Chapter Color Guards at National Congresses and Trustee meetings, and
- To aid the various State Societies and local Chapters in establishing their own Color Guards.

Today, the National Color Guard is the most visible public face of the Sons of the American Revolution. Color Guardsmen provide an easily identifiable and colorful focal point at parades and

memorial events. The variety of uniforms and flags invite children, spectators, and potential members to come forward and ask questions about the American Revolution.

THE NATIONAL SAR COLOR GUARD COMMITTEE

The Committee is the largest committee of the SAR as every Color Guardsman is automatically considered a member of the committee. A listing of committee members is published by the National Society whose chair, vice chair and members are appointed by the National Society SAR President General. Members of the Color Guard, not appointed to the committee but who attend a meeting at the National level, are eligible to vote on issues brought before the group during the meeting.

The National SAR Color Guard Committee meets at all Congress and Leadership meetings. The primary order of business at each meeting is to organize the Color Guard for the various events that it must participate in during that meeting. Other items of business include reporting on events the Color Guard has participated in since the previous meeting as well as discussing upcoming events and various safety, procedural and health issues. In addition to this, the committee elects the Color Guardsman of the Year during the Spring Leadership Meeting.

The committee works closely with the National Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee in the determination of the battle commemoration or celebration events that are designated as National Events for earning points toward Color Guard Medals. Coordination with the Chaplain General occurs in terms of planning the National Memorial Service as well as with the Surgeon General and Medical Committee in terms of safety and health regulations.

COMMAND STRUCTURE OF THE NATIONAL SAR COLOR GUARD

The National Color Guard Commander is the head of the National SAR Color Guard and serves as the Chairman of the National SAR Color Guard Committee. While historically, the Color Guard followed a different tradition, with some Commanders serving as many as ten years, pursuant to the Bylaws, all Committee Chairmen are and will be appointed by the President General on an annual basis. The recommendation of the Committee will be given deference; however, the Bylaws will govern.

The Commander shall be assisted by a Vice Commander and at least one (1) but no more than two (2) Adjutants. The Vice Commander and Adjutants shall serve as Vice Chairmen of the National Color Guard Committee. The Commander, Vice Commander and Adjutant(s) are considered the officers of the National SAR Color Guard and as such are considered the Command Staff. The Vice Commander shall command the National Color Guard in the absence of the commander. The Adjutants shall take attendance, take committee meeting minutes and perform other such administrative tasks as assigned by the Commander. In the absence of the Commander and Vice Commander, the first Adjutant will command the Color Guard followed by the second Adjutant.

When the Commander's term ends, subject to the consent of the President General, he shall be succeeded by the Vice Commander. The first Adjutant shall then become Vice Commander. If two Adjutants were serving, the second Adjutant shall become the first Adjutant. The Commander shall then nominate a new Adjutant or Adjutants. In making his selection for new Adjutants, the Commander should consider geographic diversity. For the good of the SAR and as much as it may be practicable, it is recommended that the command structure of the National Color Guard include men from across the country.

By protocol, the Commander, followed by the Vice Commander and each Adjutant in order of seniority, will have command of any Color Guard participating at any designated National Event (See section on *National Events*) or any event where the President General is in attendance. The Commander, or other ranking national color guard officer shall have the right to defer command to a State Society or local Color Guard Commander, but this is not automatically assumed. In the event

command is deferred, the ranking national color guard officer(s) shall march at the head of the color guard along with the acting commander. If command is not deferred, the State Society Commander shall be allowed to march at the head of the color guard with the National Commander or other command staff. When no National Color Guard Officer is in attendance, the Host Society State Commander will act as commander at a National SAR event.

Additional positions have been added to the National Color Guard Committee to form a Support Staff. These positions are appointed by the Commander on an annual basis.

- *Quartermaster.* Responsible for maintenance of all National Color Guard equipment. Will also provide a list of all equipment that is no longer serviceable to the Commander so that it may be replaced.
- *Assistant Quartermaster*
- *Safety Officer.* Responsible for educating all guardsmen on the proper protocols with regards to safety at any event in which the National Color Guard participates. This includes, but is not limited to, inspecting all weapons for proper safety modifications and the ability to require a guardsman to not use unsafe equipment.
- *Assistant Safety Officer*
- *Fife Major*
- *Drum Major*
- *Artillery Commander is* to be used as a guide, when called upon by the State Society, for training proper protocols for the use of and firing of artillery. **The National Color Guard black powder insurance policy does not cover the use of artillery weapons**. It is the responsibility of each State Society to obtain insurance for the use of artillery as part of SAR events. If a State Society uses artillery they must provide proof of insurance coverage to the National Society per NSSAR guidelines.

THE SAR COLOR GUARDSMAN

The SAR Color Guardsman is the official newsletter of the National SAR Color Guard. Publication began in the mid-1990s as *The SAR Guardsman*. Issues were produced through approximately 2005. The newsletter was restarted in 2011. *The SAR Color Guardsman* is distributed quarterly to every State Society Commander for distribution to the various State Society Color Guards. It is also uploaded to the National Society SAR website and can be found on the Color Guard Committee webpage. Articles include reporting on various events that the Color Guard participated in over the previous quarter and items of interest regarding the function of the Color Guard. In addition, announcements of upcoming events and local points of contact are provided.

COMPONENTS OF A COLOR GUARD

The optimum number of men that form a Color Guard unit consists of at least four (4) men: Two (2) Color Bearers who carry the United States National Flag and/or the State or SAR Flag and two (2) Musketeers / Riflemen who escort the Color Bearers. (It is understood that many state and chapter Color Guards do not have Musketeers/Riflemen or color bearers. In these situations, adjustments must be made. Should numbers permit, the Commander can march ahead of the National Colors separate from any other rank.

In keeping with the spirit of the rule, a lone uniformed guardsman may engage in Color Guard activities such as presentation of colors during the Pledge of Allegiance, the Sar Pledge, and the invocation, or carrying an approved SAR flag while marching in a parade. At formal national events such as Congress, the Leadership Meetings, and the National Memorial Service, the National Color Guard will provide all flags and equipment necessary for the event. At other events designated as National SAR events the host state or chapter is responsible for providing the National, State flags, other flags, and the related equipment.

For the sake of uniformity, all chapters within a state should purchase flag poles of the same height as those used by the state society or use adjustable poles. The most common flagpole length is seven (7) feet. While flag poles can be up to nine (9) feet, this length can become too difficult to carry outside in a moderate wind.

In general, uniforms and uniform accessories are purchased by the individual Color Guardsman. Funding of the initial purchase and replacement as needed for the following Color Guard equipment should come from either the chapter or society through an allocation within the annual budget or through donations: Flags, Flag Poles, Flag Stands (Indoor and Outdoor), Medals and other awards to recognize individual service, Parade Banner, and Streamers to be presented for participation in an event.

There are two types of Color Guard units that can be formed based on the type of uniform that the unit primarily uses. The first and most recognizable is the Continental Unit. Typically, this unit is comprised of men who are uniformed in the familiar tricorn hat, blue or regional color coat and knee breeches or fall-front trousers identified with the soldiers of the regular army during the Revolution.

The second type of unit is the Militia Unit. There is no set uniform associated with the Militia. As in the time of the Revolution, the Militia consisted of everyday men who wore the clothes that they wore in normal everyday activity when called to service. As such, there is more leeway in the type of uniform worn. Most national events will have color guard members in a mixture of uniforms – both continental and militia. The common practice, depending upon the area, is that those wearing continental uniforms will be towards the front of the unit while those wearing militia attire will be toward the rear.

With respect to the uniform that is worn, many Color Guardsmen choose to wear a uniform like that worn by their patriot ancestor(s). Recognizing that not all patriot ancestors were Continental or militia, a Color Guardsmen may choose to wear a uniform or other period clothing of the era. However, this requires that the Color Guard member perform the necessary research to determine the details of the uniform or period clothing.

The basic Continental uniform consists of the following:

- A tricorn or dragoon hat
- A blue or other regional color coat with either a buff, red or white facing and trim
- White shirt and waistcoat
- White or buff knee britches or fall-front trousers
- Buckle shoes
- A pair of white gloves.

With respect to the Militia uniform, the basic uniform consists of the following:

- A hat – either tricorn, round, or fur
- A hunting shirt
- A white or checkered shirt
- Long britches or fall-front trousers
- Shoes (not necessarily buckle since the long pants leg will cover the buckle area).

- In the time of the Revolution, the Militia consisted of everyday men who wore the clothes that they wore in normal everyday activity when called to service. As such, there is more leeway in the type of clothing that the Militia Color Guard wears. In 2016, a uniform based on Scottish attire was approved by the National Color Guard Committee and is considered a militia uniform which consists of the following:
  - A hat – either tricorn, round or tam
  - A white or checkered shirt with neck stock
  - A waistcoat
  - A kilt (may be of a modern pattern since the actual tartans at the time are unknown);

- Knee socks with buckle shoes or knee socks with boot/moccasins

The following items were expressly excluded from the Scottish uniform:

- Modern hats
- Modern shirts
- Modern neck wear – long or bow tie
- Modern shoes
- Modern outer wear such as a sports coat or Prince Charlie Coat
- No Continental blue coat

While these are the basics for each uniform, variations will exist, and participation will not be discouraged based on these variations. Another important consideration of the uniform is the type of fabric used in making the uniform and the accessories that accompany the uniform. Due to the time and expense of obtaining a uniform made from natural and more authentic material, many color guard members chose to obtain a less expensive uniform made from modern fabric, most often polyester or gabardine. These uniforms made from modern fabric are acceptable for all events **except** where the guardsman will fire a musket. **For safety reasons, the SAR does not allow guardsmen in modern fabric uniforms to fire a weapon due the danger of melting fabric causing severe burns.** For those guardsmen who wish to fire a musket, the uniform should be made from natural fiber material such as wool and linen. If a spark from a fired musket lands on uniforms made of these materials, the fibers will smolder and can be easily extinguished before causing injury instead of melting quickly. In addition to the uniform, many guardsmen seek to add to their appearance by adding equipment and other accoutrements. What follows is a brief discussion of common items:

Headwear: While many in the public identify the tricorn hat as the exclusive headwear of the Revolutionary era, this was not the case. Many different types of headwear were worn including helmets (predominately cavalry units), woven caps, and flat round hats. If wearing a specific unit uniform, the correct headwear must be worn. For purposes of the SAR Color Guard, a simple black tricorn will suffice.

Footwear: During the Revolution, most shoes were made to fit either foot with the determination of right and left coming only after long wear where the shoe molded to the foot. Obtaining period, buckled shoes can be expensive. As such, many guardsmen elect to purchase buckles that can slide over modern shoes and give the appearance of buckle shoes. Another option is to have the either gaiters made (secured with buttons and garters just above the calf) that cover the lower leg and tops of the shoes thus hiding the fact the shoes have no buckles or by having long pants made as part of the uniform that have facings that extend over the face of the shoe and are secured using either elastic or leather straps below the shoe that also obscure the lack of a buckle of the shoe. An important consideration is both the comfort and safety of the guardsmen in walking or marching in a parade since period correct footwear can cause blisters or may not provide appropriate traction on modern surfaces.

Rank Insignia: A variety of items were used to denote rank within the Revolutionary army. Most common were sashes, gorgets, hat cockades, and epaulettes. As a matter of note, the private in the army did not have any sashes or epaulettes on his uniform coat. Epaulettes denoted rank through both color and placement on a specific shoulder. If the guardsman wishes to include rank insignia, it is highly recommended that this be researched so that historical correctness is maintained.

Gorget: This ornamental metal device is worn suspended from the neck. This alludes back to its original purpose as the component of metal armor that protected the neck of the wearer from swords and other non-projectile weapons. By the time of the Revolution, this had become an ornamental accessory to a military uniform denoting a certain rank or as an indication of performing a certain duty. As such, research should determine if wearing a gorget is appropriate with the type of uniform that is worn. For purposes of the SAR, the gorget is most often worn by either a Color Guard Commander or a past commander.

Belts & Straps: When in the Continental uniform, all belts and straps used for carrying other equipment should be made of white leather or heavy white canvas. Equipment that was supported by a belt or strap included the cartridge box, the haversack, bayonets, and canteens.

Cartridge Box: Continental soldiers used a cartridge box when in battle. The cartridge box should be made of black leather attached to a hanger.

Haversack: The haversack carried the necessities of the soldier including rations, smaller mess kit items, wallet, etc. Today, it is an ideal place for the guardsman to carry his wallet, cell phone, glasses, or other necessary items. It should be made of linen or some similar material. It should be worn on the left of the uniform.

Canteens: Authentic Revolution-era canteens can be made of metal or wood.

Knapsacks: These should be made of linen, canvas or similar material and worn using white leather or canvas straps. While part of the Continental uniform, these are not commonly worn by members of the National Society SAR Color Guard.

Powder Horn / Tomahawks / Knives: These items are not parts of the Continental uniform. They are identified with the Militia uniform and should only be worn or carried by those guardsmen in that uniform. These items can be carried using rawhide or leather strings or other materials. They can also be inserted in belts or other woven sashes. As a matter of personal and corporate safety, edged weapons (including swords above) must have the blades covered or secured within an appropriate scabbard.

Swords (28 to 36 inches in length): The wearing of a sword was a symbol of rank and social standing.

Hangers (25 inches in length): This is a specific type of sword that is suspended from a shoulder belt. It is a safer alternative for those guardsmen who wish to carry an edged weapon while bearing colors. Of note is that many historical belts contain carriers for both bayonets and hangers within the same belt.

Spontoons: Evolved from the much longer pike, the spontoon was used by sergeants or other noncommissioned officers as a both a symbol of rank as well as a signaling device to control the movements of a rank of men. With its edged blade, it was also a means of defending the colors as well as a means of personal defense. As such, only the Commander of the unit should carry this sidearm.

Musket/Rifle: When participating in a primarily Continental unit, the Brown Bess or French Charleville Musket are preferred to maintain historical accuracy. The musket can be either ~~a~~ functional or a non-functional reproduction. In either case, the guardsman should also have a bayonet on their person when carrying a musket as the bayonet was an essential part of that weapon system. Period reproduction rifles can also be carried. When carrying a rifle, the guardsman should not have a bayonet as these were not used with rifles (unless it was a plug bayonet). The usage of vintage heirlooms or antiques is strongly discouraged.

Pistols: Since these were primarily a weapon used exclusively by cavalry or mounted units, pistols should never be carried. Holsters for pistols were attached to the saddle and there are no known examples of belts or other devices for carrying a pistol related to foot soldiers.

FLAGS

The Color Guard should carry the United States National Flag and the flag of the state in which the Color Guard resides and/or the SAR flag. Other flags can be added as the size of the Color Guard increases. The SAR has adopted the following protocol with respect to established flag regulations for usage by a Color Guard unit.:

- United States National Flag
- Hopkinson Flag (See note below)

- Betsy Ross Flag
- State Flag of the Color Guard Unit
- SAR Flag (Banner) (Generic or host state society flag/banner)
- SAR 250th Flag
- SAR Flags (Banners) (other state flags followed by chapter flags/banners)
- Other historical flags of the Revolution

Since the Color Guard participates in many events (such as Cowpens or Yorktown) and three (3) national meetings each year where the Color Guard will be made up of a combination of guardsmen from multiple states or units, the protocol may be slightly different. At NSSAR Congress and Leadership, the SAR 250th Flag, and the state flag of the President General can be made a part of the Command Group of Flags and carried in front of the other state flags and District of Columbia Flag.

- United States National Flag
- French National Flag
- Spanish National Flag
- Hopkinson Flag (See note below)
- Betsy Ross Flag
- State Flag of the Host State Society
- State Flags of other State Societies (carried in order of the state's date of admission to the union);
- SAR Flag (Banner) (Generic or host state society flag/banner)
- SAR 250th Flag
- SAR Flags (Banners) (other state flags followed by chapter flags/banners)
- Other historical flags of the Revolution

If the President General is in attendance, *and if the flag of his state is available*, it is carried prior to the state flag of the host state society.

Note: Any official United States National Flag (Hopkinson up to and including the 49-star flag) would take precedent over the Betsy Ross Flag but would be behind the current 50-star flag. This should be noted when the Hopkinson and/or Star-Spangled Banner (15-star) flags are carried.

COLOR GUARD PARTICIPATION AT EVENTS

Established Events.

There are many established events in which the National Color Guard participates. At these events, the event coordinator or host society will issue invitations to other state societies, National SAR officers, and National Color Guard Command Staff as well as respective societies and chapters. On the date of the event, the Color Guard is formed under the National Commander, another National Color Guard Officer, or the color guard commander of the host society (See the *Command Structure* section). Given that many of these events are similar in nature, a generic outline of a program can be found in the *National Society SAR Handbook* and is not replicated here.

Creating an Event.

The National Society SAR Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee is the starting point for the approval process of a new National SAR event. Please see their webpage for more information on this process.

Publicity.

A key component to any Color Guard or other event is publicity. Publicity is very easy since the Color Guard uniform is unique and not often seen by the public except on television and film. A common occurrence is for children and the public to request guardsmen to appear in photographs or talk about the uniform. To build on this natural tendency, the Color Guard should be prepared to both promote a public appearance both before and after the fact.

Prior to an event, the Commander or his designee may coordinate with the host state society or chapter in developing a press release that includes photographs of color guard participation from previous years. This photograph is more likely to be used than a static picture of people in front of wreaths or monuments.

After an event is completed (and in line with preparing the documentation required to be submitted with nominations for Color Guard Medals), a press release may be provided to local media if none attends the event. In both cases, a press release may provide information on date, place, time, and reason for the event. All pictures should have a caption identifying color guard members by name and city of residence. Finally, the press release should have a statement at the end providing basic information on the SAR and Color Guard with contact names and numbers. During events, the Color Guard should be prepared to talk about the event, their uniform, the color guard, and the SAR. In many organizations, a single guardsman should be identified as the primary media contact at the event.

COMMANDS

(Flintlock firing commands are in the Safety Policies and Procedures section.)

While many members of the SAR have a military background, some do not. Accordingly, this section is intended to familiarize all Guardsmen with commands they are likely to hear. The commands given below are a mixture of both modern commands and those commands used during the Revolutionary War. Some units may prefer to use all modern commands while some will use a mixture, and some will exclusively use those commands outlined in the Revolutionary War Drill Manual. A specific standardized set of commands **has not been adopted** as of the writing of this manual.

Training videos are available on the National SAR website and are currently located on the Color Guard webpage that demonstrates many of the commands and safety policies. Please be aware that other videos have been posted on state society websites, chapter websites, Facebook, YouTube, other social media sites, and the SAR 250th anniversary page that are **NOT** official guidelines of the National Society SAR Color guard.

Posting the Colors & Other Indoor Events.

The most common Color Guard activity will be posting of the Colors at a meeting or some other public event that occurs indoors. Given the wide variety of locations, meetings, and other details, there is no specific program that can be provided as an example. However, the basic commands that will be used in such an event are provided. In all commands where direction is given, the command should be timed so that the execution of the command begins on the left foot.

- *Color Guard, Attention*. Guardsmen come to attention with flags and firearms on the floor to their right.
- *Carry Arms*. Flags and firearms are lifted into position so that they can be carried.
- *Color Guard, Mark Time March*. Guardsmen march in place starting with the left foot so that tempo for subsequent commands can be established.
- *Color Guard, Forward March*. Guardsmen move forward starting on their left foot.
- *Color Guard, Mark Time March*. Front rank halts their forward progress and continues to march in place allowing for subsequent ranks to catch up to the final position if necessary.
- *Color Guard, Halt*. All marching ceases within two beats or steps.
- *Color Guard, Left / Right Face*. Guardsmen face the appropriate direction to face the audience as ordered by the Commander.
- *Present Arm/Colors*. All flags except the National are dipped and firearms are brought to the Present Arms position for the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance to the United Staes Flag.

- *Color Bearers, About Face or Prepare to Post*. All color bearers will turn to face toward the flag stands.
- *Post the Colors*. Color bearers place the flags in the flag stands and dress the flags appropriately toward the audience. All colors are posted at the same time. Only the Color Guard Commander renders a salute to the National Colors. Color bearers are free to move forward and back one step as necessary. Musketeers continue to maintain the present arms position.
- *Color Guard, Center, Left or Right Face depending on the position of the guardsmen*. All guardsmen face the appropriate direction to move out of the room in single or double column.
- *Color Guard, Post (*or *To your post).* All guardsmen move to a previously designated location or post. or the Color Guard Commander can march the unit to a location and then Dismiss the unit using command shown above.

The same series of commands can be used for the Retiring of Colors at the end of the meeting except that there will be no Present Colors command and the Post the Colors command would be replaced by a Retrieve the Colors command. The Color Guard Commander should request permission to retire the colors by saying "Sir, request permission to retire the Colors". The host will acknowledge the request and should state, "Retire the Colors".

Additional notes for events:

- Bayonets should not be fixed to flintlocks during **indoor** ceremonies
- The Commander must make all guardsmen aware of obstacles such as lighting fixtures and tripping obstacles
- A drummer can be used to provide timing for commands
- The National Colors should always either lead a column or process on the right of any rank
- If ranks are used, a cross-over maneuver will be necessary after the Color Guard halts since the National Colors are always placed on the left (speaker's right)

Graveside / Outdoor / Other Outdoor Events.

There are two common types of outdoor ceremonies in which the Color Guard most often participate:

- The commemoration or celebration of the anniversary of a Revolutionary War battle or event; and,
- The wreath-laying and/or marker dedication at the grave of a Revolutionary War patriot or a compatriot member of the SAR. The commands used at these ceremonies are the same as those outlined above.
- The soldiers designated to guard the colors would not fire their muskets during battle when the Commander gave the order. Their duty was to protect the "Colors" and only fire upon the enemy when the Ensign or the Colors were in danger of falling.

The differences between the indoor posting of colors and the outdoor ceremony are that there are more program elements associated with the outdoor event, and the Color Guard will often remain in place after the presentation of Colors due to the lack of outdoor flag stands. If the Color Guard remains in place, the Commander should issue the following commands after the presentation of Colors:

- *Carry Arms*. Guardsmen return flags and muskets to the carry position.
- *Order Arms/Colors*. Flags and muskets are lowered to rest on the ground.
- *Color Guard, Rest*. The guardsmen may stand without being at attention.

If the program includes an honorary firing of muskets and/or the Sounding of Taps, the Commander should bring the Color Guard to attention and order the Color Guard to Present Arms using the appropriate commands. In most cases, the master of ceremonies will ask for the Retirement of Colors shortly after this event, so the Color Guard should remain at attention and be prepared for further commands.

Parades.

Given that most parades will only entail simple movements, the commands associated with parades are:

- *Color Guard, Attention*. Guardsmen come to attention with flags and firearms on the floor to their right.
- *Carry Arms*. Flags and firearms are lifted into position so that they can be carried.
- *Color Guard, Mark Time March*. Guardsmen march in place starting with the left foot so that tempo for subsequent commands can be established.
- *Color Guard, Forward March*. Guardsmen move forward starting on their left foot.
- *Color Guard, Mark Time March*. Front rank halts their forward progress and continues to march in place allowing for subsequent ranks to catch up to the final position if necessary.
- *Color Guard, Halt*. All marching should cease within two beats or steps.

If there is a Reviewing Stand during the parade, the Commander should brief the Color Guard of the following additional commands that will be used:

• Eyes ... Right/Left. The command is given when the front of the marching unit is six paces from the Reviewing Official.

At the command "Eyes", drawn swords are brought to the first count of the Present Arms position (i.e., hilt in front of the face and blade at a 30-degree angle off the vertical). Guardsmen in formation do not yet move their heads.

After two paces, the second part of the command, "Right/Left" is given, Swords are brought down smartly so the hilt rests against the thigh, the flat of the blade uppermost and slightly turned to the right. All in formation turn their heads in the direction ordered, except for those guardsmen in the inboard column (nearest to the Reviewing Stand). All flags, except the U.S. 50 star and historic US flags, and foreign national flags, will be dipped. Compatriots marching in formation do not render salutes. Musket men remain at 'Shoulder Arms' or 'Advance Arms', and do not go to Present Arms. A Guardsman carrying a spontoon/halberd/pike will execute period-correct drill and salutes with this weapon. Ready ... Front**.** The command will be given when the last rank of the marching unit is six paces past the Reviewing Official. At the command "Ready" sword hilts are rotated so the edge of the blades now face the ground. All heads remain facing Right/Left. At the second command, "Front" all turn their heads sharply to the front, swords revert to the Carry position, and all flags are raised to the vertical."

COLOR GUARD BEHAVIOR AT EVENTS

Hand Salutes.

As with current military custom, only the Commander of the Color Guard and those members carrying muskets will Present Arms when called to salute. No Color Bearer ever renders a hand salute, unless specifically ordered immediately after the posting of colors, since the Commander is understood to present the salute for the entire unit. The policy of the National Society Color Guard is that if a Guardsman is to render a hand salute, such as when presenting a wreath at an event or grave marking, the Guardsman shall only lift and dip their hat slightly. This more closely conforms with salutes during the Revolutionary Era when there was no accepted form of hand salute used by the Continental Army.

Prayers.

During prayers, Color Guard members only close their eyes. At no time does the Guardsman bow his head or remove his hat.

Wearing Medals.

It is the policy of the National Color Guard Committee that no medals or other decorations will be worn at official National Society events. The Color Guard Commander in charge makes the final decision on the permission to wear medals on the Color Guard uniform during SAR State and Chapter events.

Deportment:

At all times, a Color Guardsman must behave with the utmost decorum. This is interpreted to mean that the Color Guardsman may **not** break ranks even when at rest during a ceremony unless they are going forward to present a wreath / render honors or have a specific additional role during a ceremony. The Color Guardsman will **not** take photographs during an event or ceremony. A Color Guardsman may acknowledge the master of ceremonies if their name is called out for recognition during an event or ceremony.

SAR COLOR GUARD MEDALS

As the National Handbook, Volume V, Individual Medals and Awards and Certificates is the ultimate authority for all SAR Medals and is revised on a regular basis, it is the definitive source for qualification for all medals, including those authorized for Color Guard participation. Rather than enumerating material which may be altered from time to time, its provisions are incorporated by reference. Other medals have been authorized for State Society service but require application and compliance with established standards at the state level. Color Guard Medals include:

Gold Color Guard Medal
Von Steuben Color Guard Medal
Silver Color Guard Medal
Caleb Gibbs Medal
Bronze Color Guard Medal
Molly Pitcher Medal
Sarah Fulton Medal
Youth Color Guard Medal

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ELECTION OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY SAR COLOR GUARDSMAN OF THE YEAR

Nominations for National Color Guardsman of the Year must be submitted to the National Commander by e-mail or U.S. Mail no later than the December 31 preceding the National Congress at which the SAR Color Guardsman of the Year is to be awarded the SAR Gold Color Guard Medal.

To be considered for SAR Color Guardsman of the Year, a Color Guardsman must have completed at least three years of service at the National level. Each State Society and Chapter Color Guard may nominate one compatriot each year for the SAR Color Guardsman of the Year. State Societies and Chapters should consider the Compatriot who best exemplifies both the spirit of the Sons of the American Revolution and the use of Color Guards to display that spirit.

From among all nominations, the SAR Color Guardsman of the Year is elected by the eligible voters attending the Spring meeting of the National Color Guard Committee. Eligible voters shall include:

- All previous recipients of the Gold Color Guard Medal
- One (1) representative from each state society. This representative shall be selected by either the state society President or the state society Color Guard Commander. In the event the state society

has not formally selected a voting representative, the Color Guardsmen from a given state who are attending the Spring meeting of the National Color Guard Committee may decide among themselves who shall vote for the SAR Color Guardsman of the Year.

At the following NSSAR Congress the awardee should be escorted by the National Color Guard Commander and one other Color Guardsman of the awardee's choosing who shall carry the state flag of the awardee.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

The following ceremony is observed at the National SAR Color Guard Change of Command. State societies and chapters may also use this ceremony or revise it for their specific circumstances. This ceremony takes place during the President General's Banquet at the National Society SAR Congress when a Commander completes his term of office.

Color Guard retires after the Posting of Colors and reforms so that the Color Guardsmen from the Outgoing and Incoming Commanders' State Societies are leading each respective column.

Outgoing Commander: "Color Guard: Post."

Color Guard enters and lines both sides of main aisle. Ideally, and if possible, the entire Color Guard will have formed up on the main aisle. The head of one line (Column Right) will be comprised of Color Guardsmen from the State Society of the outgoing commander while the other line (Column Left) will be led by Color Guardsmen from the State Society of the incoming commander.

Outgoing Commander: "Color Guard: Center Face."

The President General, the Outgoing Commander, the Outgoing First Adjutant, the Incoming Commander and the Incoming First Adjutant take positions. The Outgoing Commander, with the Outgoing First Adjutant by his side, they are on the PG's lefts on the left facing the Incoming Commander, with the Incoming First Adjutant by his side. The President General stands in the middle, with his back to the head table. (The incoming Second Adjutant will be with the musicians which should be toward the front of the room and to one side)

Outgoing First Adjutant: "Color Guard: Attention to Orders. The Command of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard is transferred from Compatriot _____ to Compatriot _____, effective the __th of ____ 20__.

The spontoon is slowly and with much dignity passed from the Outgoing Commander to the President General and then from the President General to the Incoming Commander. The Incoming Commander shall carry the spontoon for the remainder of the ceremony and shall carry it out of the room.

The Outgoing Commander passes his cover to Outgoing First Adjutant and then removes the Commander's Gorget. Incoming Commander passes his cover to incoming First Adjutant (Incoming Commander retains the spontoon). The Outgoing commander places the Commander's Gorget around the neck of the Incoming Commander. Both Commanders replace their respective covers,

Outgoing First Adjutant: "The NSSAR Gold Color Guard Medal is hereby awarded to Compatriot _____. NSSAR Executive Director is to bring the Gold Color Guard Medal forward to incoming Second Adjutant who will deliver it to the President General. The President General presents the Gold Color Guard Medal to the Outgoing Commander. The Outgoing Commander passes the Gold Color Guard Medal and/or case and Certificate back to the Outgoing First Adjutant to carry items out. Outgoing Commander faces Color Guard and draws saber silently.

Incoming Commander: "Color Guard: Present Arms. Three Huzzahs for Commander _____."

The Outgoing Commander, slowly and with much dignity, marches to the end of the aisle of Color Guardsmen. Upon reaching the end of the aisle, he about faces, salutes the Color Guard with a saber salute, about faces, and waits to lead the Color Guard slowly out of the Banquet Hall.

Incoming First Adjutant: "Three Huzzahs for Commander

Incoming Commander: "Color Guard: Order Arms. *Forward March."

Incoming Commander leads the Color Guard out following the Outgoing Commander. The Color Guardsmen remain facing center until passed by the Color Guardsmen from closer to the head table, whereupon they will turn and follow the other departing Color Guardsmen out of the Banquet Hall.
(If the President General wishes to make any remarks about the Color Guard Change of Command, he should do so at this time.

SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The following Safety Policy and Procedures for the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution have been adopted by the National Color Guard to promote uniformity for multi-state event. National liability insurance has been acquired for Color Guard events, including black powder firings of flintlocks by compatriots; however, state participation is optional, and State Societies may in their discretion adopt more stringent standards if desirable or required by the laws of their states.

A. Insurance Safety Policies and Procedures:

1. *Black Powder firings by compatriots can only occur at National Society SAR events if the event has been covered by insurance.*
2. *It is strongly encouraged that all color guard events be covered by liability insurance.*
3. *It is recommended that the liability insurance be carried by the highest organization level practicable (National, State, or Chapter)*
4. *If a liability policy is carried at the State Society level or the Chapter level then the policy must name the National Society Sons of the American Revolution as an additional insured.*
5. **The National Color Guard black powder insurance policy does not cover the use of artillery weapons**. It is the responsibility of each State Society to obtain insurance for the use of artillery as part of SAR events. If a State Society uses artillery they must provide proof of insurance coverage to the National Society per NSSAR guidelines.

B. Training:

1. Before carrying a weapon at an SAR event, all compatriots will be trained in the safe handling of that weapon even if they are not firing.
2. Any compatriot who will be firing shall be additionally trained in the safe operation and firing of their firearm.
3. The recognized standards for training shall be (1) the National Park Service *Manual of Instruction for the Safe Use of Reproduction Flintlock Rifles & Muskets in Interpretive Demonstrations (1/21/2010)*, (2) the NRA NMLRA Basic Muzzle Loading Shooting Course or (3) an equivalent training course taught by an instructor who has been certified by the appropriate State Color Guard Commander. If the color guardsman receives training from an outside source such as the NRA or NPS, the State Color Guard Commander or his designee will examine the color guardsman for familiarity with SAR uses of a firelock and provide additional training as necessary.
4. Weapons training is the responsibility of the State Society with competencies certified by the State Color Guard Commander or his designee based on the following criteria:
    a. Demonstrated knowledge of and compliance with the recognized safety standards for carrying a weapon
    b. Demonstrated knowledge of and efficiency in safely loading and firing a weapon

C. Firearm(s):

1. Only muskets and rifles of the Revolutionary War era, including but not limited to the British Brown Bess Musket, the French Charleville Musket, the Spanish M1752 Musket and American Long Rifles, are permitted.
2. Only reproductions that are manufactured for black powder shall be fired.
    a. Firearms shall have a flash protector and frizzen cover/hammer stall.

b. Firearms shall always be pointed in a safe direction and never at another person.
c. Firearms shall remain unloaded until instructed to load. Charged weapons shall be carried at half-cock.
d. A finger shall never be on the trigger unless firing the weapon.
e. A safety inspection shall be performed prior to any event and, if the weapon has been fired, immediately after an event.
f. Members of the public shall not be allowed to handle a weapon that has been fired until the barrel has been swabbed out and the weapon has undergone a safety inspection.
g. Members of the public may handle a weapon that has not been fired or has been cleared after a firing provided that the compatriot maintains positive control of the weapon by keeping in positive contact with the weapon or its shoulder strap.

D. Powder:

1. Paper cartridges are preferred to maintain the appearance of historical accuracy; however, other materials used by reenactors may be utilized. ~~at the discretion of the local commander~~.
2. Powder loaded into a weapon shall not exceed the limits established by the National Park Service manual as follows:

"Brown Bess" Musket .75 Caliber	125 grains FFg
Charleville Musket .69 Caliber	125 grains FFg
American Musket .69 Caliber	90 grains FFg
Kentucky Rifle Variable	90 grains FFg
Pistols & Horse Pistols Variable	35 grains FFg
Fowler & Trade Guns .62 Caliber	80 grains FFg

3. Nothing but commercially manufactured black powder (per the instructions detailed above in item 2) shall be put in the barrel of a flintlock.
4. Subject to the above paragraph, wadding/patches are not to be used for Color Guard purposes. Ramrods are not to be withdrawn unless part of a safety check, and no other objects shall be inserted into barrels.
5. Compatriots participating in a gun salute shall keep the powder cartridges in a leather covered pouch or box with a flap that completely covers the opening. The pouch or box should be worn external to the compatriot's clothing (i.e. no cartridges should be kept in pockets or under coats).

E. Edged Weapons:

1. All edged weapons, including but not limited to swords, bayonets and tomahawks/hatchets, shall be kept in their scabbards until appropriate time for use.
2. At no time shall edged weapons be pointed at an individual.
3. Bayonets shall only be placed on muskets during outdoor ceremonies and parades.
4. Spontoons, halberds and pikes shall always be carried in the upright position and only pointed at the ground during a salute.

F. General Safety

1. Consistent with National Park Service Policy, natural fiber fabrics or leather should be worn if a color guard member is firing or is next to a member that is firing. No clothing shall contain any materials that are flammable or can easily melt.
2. Eye protection, to protect against flashes or sparks, may be worn at the discretion of the Compatriot and may include either period or modern glasses.
3. Hearing protection may be worn at the discretion of the compatriot.

G. Record Retention

1. All required paperwork, including but not limited to, copies of insurance policies, list of trainers and lists of trained compatriots, shall be maintained by each State Society and shall be provided to the National SAR upon request.
2. Lists of trainers and those trained should be updated annually by each State Society.
3. The National SAR will maintain all National Color Guard Staff documentation.

Event Procedures

A. General:

1. The Color Guard Commander, or his designee, shall be responsible for enforcing all policies to the extent possible; however, each compatriot is ultimately responsible for his own health and safety.
2. It is the compatriot's personal responsibility to be aware of their physical limitations and to excuse themselves from parades or events exceeding their capabilities.
3. The Color Guard Commander, or his designee, shall be responsible for ensuring that proper permits and permissions for Color Guard activities have been obtained.
4. At no time shall a compatriot participate in black powder activities while under the influence of alcohol or medication that may impair judgement.
5. Provisions for adequate water for Color Guard participants should be made by the sponsoring State Society or Chapter in the event of high heat and/or humidity.

Site Safety:

1. The Commander, or his designee, shall inspect the assembly area, route of march, and ceremonial area and take such steps as might be appropriate to mitigate any existing hazards.
2. A minimum 150 feet buffer zone free of observers is in front of the firing team shall be established.
3. Careful consideration should be made when firing between buildings or structures that will contain the blast and resonate the sound.
4. A Safety Officer, who may be the commander, must be present at every event where firing occurs.

Firearm Inspection:

Pre-Event: The Color Guard Commander, or his designate, shall perform a musket safety check prior to any use of a weapon in a SAR Ceremony. Such safety check shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Weapons shall be confirmed to be in a safe and functional state with all parts being free of visible defects (including, but not limited to stock cracks or splits, secure bands and pins, etc.) and that all appropriate safety equipment is attached such as flash guards and frizzen covers / hammer stalls.
2. If the weapon will be fired, the lock must not fail in the half-cock position and the hammer not catch at half-cock when the trigger is pulled. If the lock fails, the weapon will not be allowed to fire.
3. During the safety check, weapons shall be confirmed to be unloaded by using Secure Firelocks followed by Search Firelocks.
4. Pre-event commands (See Color Guard Safety Inspection Video)
    a. Take Care
    b. Attention
    c. Shoulder Firelock
    d. Secure Firelock
    e. Open Pan
    f. Shoulder Firelock

g. Search Firelock
h. Return Rammer
i. Shoulder Firelock
j. Poise Firelock
k. Shoulder firelock
l. Order Arms

Some state societies also add a command to Hang Firelocks to doudle check the working mechanism and another command to check to make sure that the flint will spark. If added this should be after the above commands are complete.

Event Firing Commands

1. Firing commands (See Color Guard Firing Drill – Training 1 Video)
    a. Take Care
    b. Attention
    c. Shoulder Firelock
    d. Prime and Load
    e. Make Ready
    f. Take Aim of Present
    g. Fire (hold weapon in firing position for a minimum of 5 but preferably 10 seconds)
    h. If more than one volley, then go back to Prime and Load command above to repeat
    i. After all volleys go to Order Arms and follow Post Event Commands
2. **Parades - Due to safety concerns the firing of muskets during a parade is prohibited.**

Post Event/Misfire Safety Check

1. After a firing event and before the compatriot leaves the line, the weapons shall be confirmed to be unloaded by using Secure Firelocks followed by Search Firelocks.
2. Post firing commands (See Color Guard Firing Drill – Training 1 Video)
    a. Shoulder Firelock
    b. Secure Firelock
    c. Open Pan
    d. Shoulder Firelock
    e. Search Firelock
    f. Return Rammer
    g. Shoulder Firelock or Order Arms as the occasion dictates
3. If Mourn Muskets is to be conducted after a firing, then at a minimum the weapon shall be confirmed to be unloaded by using Secure Firelocks.
4. If the weapon still has a charge, then that weapon shall be taken away to a point of safety. A safety officer will watch the clearing to ensure that all safety precautions are observed.
5. The pan shall be re-primed, and the musket fired.
6. If the weapon still does not fire, the charge will be removed from the barrel. Once the weapon has the charge removed, another ramrod check shall be done to assure there is no latent powder remaining in the barrel.

Appendix A: National Color Guard Events

The National Events listed below count toward earning the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal and National Von Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement (See the *NSSAR Color Guard Medals* section). Dates published below are of the actual battle / commemoration date or the approximate meeting date. Guardsmen should confirm the actual date of the event listed below with published event invitations on the National Society SAR website or with the host state society or chapter.

Historic Date	Event	Location
January 17	Battle of Cowpens	Chesnee, SC
February 1	Battle of Cowan's Ford	Huntersville, NC
February 14	Battle of Kettle Creek	Washington, GA
February 14	Crossing of the Dan	South Boston, VA
February 22	Washington Birthday Celebration*	various
February 22	Washington's Birthday Parade	Laredo, TX
February 27	Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge	Currie, NC
March 3	Battle of Brier Creek	Sylvania, GA
March 10	Last Naval Battle of the Revolution	Cape Canaveral, FL
March 15	Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Greensboro, NC
April 12	Halifax Resolves	Halifax, NC
April 13	Battle of Bound Brook	South Bound Brook, NJ
April 19	Battles of Lexington & Concord	Concord, MA
April 19	Patriots Day*	Various
April 19	Frederica Naval Action	St Simmons Island, GA
May 8	Battle of Pensacola	Pensacola, FL
May 16	Armed Forces Day*	various
May 17	Battle of Thomas Creek	Jacksonville, FL
May 28	Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous	Vincennes, IN
May 30	Memorial Day *	various
May 30	National Memorial Day Parade	Washington DC
May 29	Battle of Fort San Carlos	St Louis, MO
May 29	Buford's Massacre	Lancaster, SC
June 5	Battle of Ramsour's Mill	Lincolnton, NC
June 11	Action at Machias	Machias, ME
June 14	Flag Day	various
June 17	Battle of Bunker Hill	Charlestown, MA
June 26	Battle of Springfield	Springfield, NJ
June 28	Battle of Monmouth	Monmouth, NJ
July 4	Independence Day *	various
July 4	Let Freedom Ring*	various
July 18	Fairfax Resolves	Alexandria, VA
August 2	Siege at Fort Laurens	Bolivar, OH
August 19	Battle of Blue Licks	Carlisle, KY
August 27	Battle of Long Island	Brooklyn, NY
September 5	Battle of the Capes	Virginia Beach, VA
September 6	Battle of Groton Heights	Groton, CT
September 8	Battle of Eutaw Springs	Eutawville, SC
September 17	Vigil at Washington's Tomb	Mt Vernon, VA
September 25	Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN

October 4-6	Point Pleasant Battle Days	Point Pleasant, WV
October 6	Battle of Chestnut Neck	Little Egg Harbor, NJ
October 7	Battle of Kings Mountain	Blacksburg, SC
October 17	Battle of Saratoga	Stillwater, NY
October 19	Yorktown Days	Yorktown, VA
October 22	Battle of Red Bank Battlefield	Fort Mercer, NJ
November 11	Veterans Day *	various
November 25	Siege of Fort Morris	Midway (Sunbury), GA
December 9	Battle of Great Bridge	Norfolk, VA
December 15	Wreaths Across America*	various
December 26	Ten Crucial Days	Princeton/Trenton, NJ

** A local event celebrating such as Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day may be counted as a National Color Guard event for the purposes of applying for a Color Guard Medal. Only a single event on each day may be counted. Multiple events on the same day cannot be counted multiple times. If the event is on a weekend nearest the actual holiday, that can be counted with respect to the single event limitation. For example, if a Veterans Day Parade occurs on a Saturday such as the 8th, then an event on the 11th does not count.*

The following National events can occur on any date and at any location:

Massing of Colors
Fields of Honor / Healing Field
Honor Flight
Liberty Tree Planting / Dedication
Washington Birthday (February)

The following National Meetings are considered National events by Color Guard Policy due to the attendance of the President General:

NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting
Annual NSSAR Congress
NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting

Note: As of the 2020 Spring SAR Leadership Meeting, a policy was adopted by both the National Color Guard and National Historic Sites & Celebrations Committees formally establishing that only the National Historic Sites & Celebrations Committee may designate National Historic Events based on that committee's established criteria. The only exception being that established Color Guard policy of recognizing President General, or his designated SAR General Officer representative, attendance at an otherwise unrecognized event will make that event a National Event.

Appendix B: National Society SAR Color Guardsmen of the Year

The National Society SAR Color Guardsman of the Year is elected at the Spring Color Guard Committee meeting (See the *Election of the NSSAR Color Guardsman of the Year* section). The Gold Color Guard Medal is presented at the subsequent National Congress. In addition, the Color Guardsman of the Year will carry the National Society SAR Flag at the subsequent Fall Leadership Meeting, Spring Leadership Meeting and Annual Congress. The following compatriots have been elected as the National Society SAR Color Guardsman of the Year.

1998	Lowell Nichols	Indiana SAR
1999	Edgar Grover	Kansas SAR
2000	Robert Grover	Missouri SAR
2001	George Lamp	West Virginia SAR
2002	James McCafferty	Maryland SAR
2003	Ray Zimmerman	Maryland SAR
2004	CDR Charles R. Lampman, USN (Ret)	California SAR
2005	Lester Foster	Maryland SAR
2006	Col. Andrew M. Johnson, USA (Ret)	Virginia SAR
2007	George Thurmond	Georgia SAR
2008	Charles F. Bragg	Indiana SAR
2009	Charles Newcomer	Georgia SAR
2010	John H. Franklin	Ohio SAR
2011	Paul I. Prescott	Georgia SAR
2012	Thomas B. Green	Texas SAR
2013	Gerald R McCoy	Missouri SAR
2014	Dr. Samuel C. Powell	North Carolina SAR
2015	Robert P. Cunningham	Indiana SAR
2016	Karl Jacobs	California SAR
2017	Paul Wilke	Ohio SAR
2018	Dr. Edward P. Rigel, Sr.	Georgia SAR
2019	Lt Col Gary O. Green, USAF (Ret)	North Carolina SAR
2020	Robert Alvyn Sapp	Georgia SAR
2021	Paul Callanan	Michigan SAR
2022	George Strunk	North Carolina SAR
2023	Allen Greenly	Georgia SAR
2024	Brett Osborn	Virginia SAR
2025	Scott Giltner	Kentucky SAR
2026	William Schwetke	Virginia SAR

Appendix C: National Society SAR Color Guard Commanders

1989 – 1990	Donald N. Moran	California SAR
1990 – 2000	CAPT David J. Gray, USN (Ret)	Massachusetts SAR
2000 – 2002	Garrett Jackson	California SAR
2002 – 2004	Edgar Grover	Kansas SAR
2004 – 2006	COL Peter K. Goebel, USA (Ret)	Empire State SAR (New York)
2006 – 2007	CDR Charles R. Lampman, USN (Ret)	California SAR
2007 – 2009	Larry Perkins	Ohio SAR
2009 – 2011	Joseph W. Dooley	Virginia SAR
2011 – 2013	J. Michael Tomme, Sr.	Georgia SAR
2013 – 2015	Michael J. Radcliff	Texas SAR
2015 – 2017	David W. Hoover	Maryland SAR
2017 – 2019	Mark C. Anthony	Georgia SAR
2019 – 2020	James Fosdyck	California SAR
2020 – 2022	Lou Raborg	Maryland SAR
2022 – 2023	T. Brooks Lyles, Jr.	North Carolina SAR
2023 – 2025	K. Scott Collins	Georgia SAR
2025 –	Robert C. Meyer	New Jersey SAR

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