



Washington Society
Sons of the American Revolution

Color Guard
Operations Manual WSCG OM1-1.2

Note: This is a living document and is subject to change.

Effective 5-11-2020

Updated: 03/24/2025

[Revision Notes](#)

From the Author

Date: 05/11/2020

Mission: In an endeavor to consolidate several documents created over the past years, I have begun to compile a document to serve as a guide for our Color Guard.

I am often questioned by our members about our organization, processes, medals and many other subjects. I feel that if one member has a question then there are probably others with the same question.

This document is intended to answer these questions for all members of our organization. If a question is not answered by this document, I will research the subject and add the answer to the document if there is one.

At this point it is a living document and subject to change daily and even hour to hour.

Processes:

- In compiling the information in this document, I have tried to remove any data/reference that would date the document.
- Those instances where data is provided by an individual or other source and cannot be generic in date, I have inserted the date submitted in parentheses (**2019**).
- I have tried to depersonalize the document also to prevent dating it, except where data is provided by an individual.
- I have also tried to update all referenced resources i.e. brochures & pamphlets.
- I welcome your input and suggestions for items that should be added, removed, or corrected. Please send via [E-Mail](#)



Dick Motz

*Respectfully submitted, W R (Dick) Motz, Deputy Commander,
Washington State Color Guard, Sons of the American Revolution*

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Note: The abbreviation **CG** in this document will represent “**Color Guard**”.

Chapter 1: History

History of the WASSAR Color Guard Provided by Bob O'Neal (2018)

Origins. The first uniformed CG member was Lee Thomason who first wore his uniform in 2001. His first parade was in 2002 at Logger's Playday Parade in Hoquiam. Stan Wills & Gale Palmer came next in 2008.

In January 2011, the Washington SAR Color Guard was officially founded by the appointment of its first Commander, Robert O'Neal by State President Bob Doughty.

At the initial formation of the WASSAR Color Guard in 2011, we had only five chapters, AH, CC, JPJ, SE, and SP, and only 2 Color Guard units.

We had a Color Guard Commander (Western WA), A Vice Commander (Eastern WA), and 3 Color Guard captains. Lee Thomasson at AH, Doug Nelson at JPJ, and Stan Wills at SP chapter. Two regiments, East and West.

The first parade formation of the WSAR Color Guard was on 5 November 2011 when the State Color Guard unit of five uniformed compatriots marched in their first Auburn Veterans Day Parade. They were led by Bob O'Neal, Lee Thomasson, Doug Nelson, Stan Wills, and Gale Palmer

At the end of 2011 the WA SAR had 12 uniformed color guardsmen who performed in 27 events.

As we grew, we added new chapters FV, GW, MC.

Doug Nelson became State President in 2014-15, and Fred Gilbert became CG Captain at JPJ. Over the next seven years, the Washington SAR Color Guard has grown as shown in the chart at right.

Year	Members	Units	Events
2012	19	3	90
2013	28	4	116
2014	36	4	167
2015	44	5	135
2016	50	5	210
2017	57	5	226
2018	60	6	250+

Change of Command. A ceremony was held Apr 28, 2017 at the WA SAR Annual Conference to pass command from Bob O'Neal to Art Dolan. The entire Washington Color Guard participated. It was led by Col. Doug Nelson as Brigade Commander and conducted according to the SAR CG Handbook. A similar ceremony should take place at the Apr 2020 Annual Conference.

The WA SAR Color Guard Committee was composed of these officers:

Brigade Commander (CG Colonel), CG Commander (CG Lt. Col.) and Vice Commander (CG Major) and the Color Guard Captains. When Viren Lemmer (Drum Major) organized the SAR Fife & Drum Corps, he was added as part of the Committee. Thus, a sort of *Brigade HQs* was formed made up of our senior leaders. A new position, Deputy CG Commander (CG Major) was added in 2016 when Dick Motz was appointed.

NOTE: We also call those Color Guard supporters, our boosters, who are not in uniform, "*committee members*", though they are non-voting. Some of them have been helpful in many ways at parades and events, even though not uniformed.]

WA SAR Board of Directors: The Color Guard Commander was made an ex-officio member of the Board from the very beginning, appointed by President Bob Doughty in 2011. This year the position was made a permanent State officer on the Board.

Brigade Headquarters. When a commander steps down, they usually remain active in Color Guard, as Art Dolan and I are. In order to take advantage of these successive commanders' experience and *institutional memory*, they will become part of the *Brigade HQs*. No real command at Brigade HQs, just an advisory and assistance role. The CG Cmdr., Vice Cmdr., Deputy Cmdr. and Drum Major are the active senior CG leaders. And it is up to each individual leader as to how they want to be uniformed and what rank to wear. *Wearing of military rank is an individual choice.*

New CG Regions. In 2019, with the devolution of authority for Color Guard events to each Chapter Color Guard Captain, the CG Committee approved dividing the State into four *Regions: Northern, Eastern, Southern,*

and Western. This is only to delineate an area of responsibility for each chapter CG Captain. There are no regional commanders. The building block of the WA State SAR is the chapter Color Guard unit.

Lieutenants at the chapter? It is helpful for the CG Captain to have an assistant, normally a CG Lieutenant. It is especially important to have at least one chapter CG Lieutenant since the chapter Captains are now responsible for all the events in their area.

(It is best to have a Captain and a Lieutenant rather than have co-captains or co-lieutenants.)

Fife & Drum Corps. Organized by Drum Major Viren Lemmer in 2017, the SAR-DAR Fife & Drum Corps is approaching 20 members. Early on it was decided to accept associate members from DAR and non-member musicians. They are all primarily members of the WA SAR Color Guard.

Associate CG Members: The CG Committee approved the inclusion of DAR members in period dress to carry their DAR Colors and march with our Color Guard. In addition, we also accept non-SAR members as *unofficial associate Color Guardsmen*. This is especially to include HODARs who are uniformed and take the *Color Guard Oath - just kidding.*

Bob O'Neal

*Past Commander (2011-2017)
Washington SAR Color Guard
Sons of the American Revolution*



Gathering of the Colors Feb 2020

Origin of the Color Guard

The Color Guard of the 21st century is primarily ceremonial in terms of purpose and duty. However, the origins of the Color Guard are based in military practicality. The following is a concise history of the origin of the Color Guard.

During the 18th and 19th centuries, flags were referred to as “The Colors.” These colors were of primary importance to the military regiment or brigade as the line of battle was formed around the colors of the unit, which were placed at the center of the line. These colors were easily seen through the smoke of battle. If the colors advanced, the line would advance. If the colors retired, the line would retire.



As battles would progress and casualties mounted, the line would contract to the colors. In effect, the colors would serve as a rallying point if the line was broken or the men became dispersed. Thus, success 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. This way, each man would see and thus be certain of his colors before taking the field of battle.

Likewise, while there could be many diverse objectives in a battle, one of the most important was capturing of the colors of the enemy unit. This would deprive 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 Washington Society Color Guard is representative of the Color Guard that fought with State and Continental regiments in The American Revolution. We wear our uniforms and carry our Colors with great pride in these United States of America.

Source: pp. 1-2 of the NSSAR Color Guard Handbook, July 10, 2010 The Color Guard of the 21st century is primarily ceremonial in terms of purpose and duty. However, the origins of the Color Guard are based in military practicality.

[Composition of the US Color Guard:](#)

In the U.S., traditionally, the unit's sergeant major is responsible for the safeguarding, care, and display of the organizational colors. The sergeant major is also responsible for the selection, training, and performance of the members. The color guard consists of enlisted members and is commanded by the senior (color) Sergeant, who carries the National Color and gives the necessary commands for movements and rendering honors during drill exercises or parade ceremonies.

Being assigned to the color guard is considered an honor due to the fact that these individuals present and carry the symbols of their unit and country. Depending on the circumstance and subject to the orders of their commander, members may wear full dress or less formal uniforms. It is mandatory for all members of the color guard to wear headgear, for example, a garrison cap, beret, or service cap. On occasion, certain color guards can be horse-mounted.

A US color guard is made up of a "Color Sergeant" carrying the National Colors and serves as the unit commander, a unit or command "Color Bearer", and two "Color Escorts" carrying rifles and/or sabers. If multiple colors are carried, multiple color bearers may be needed.

Chapter 2: Organization

a. Background:

a. The WA State SAR Color Guard (hereafter known as CG) from 2011-2019 has shown tremendous growth with high visibility in Washington State.

As this growth continues, expansion issues have presented themselves to the CG Commander. The issues revolve around distances and time required by the members of the CG to attend events.

For example: For the JPJ chapter members to attend a Seattle Event, the members must endure 2 hours of driving each way to Seattle, arrive 1 hour early, participate and return home. Or if the JPJ members want to take the ferry, they must arrive 1 hour early for the ferry, pay the toll, plan their arrival 1-2 hours early (ferry dependent), participate in the event and return home; approximately 6-8 hours. For an event in Sedro Woolley, a member in Olympia would drive 280 miles (5 hours round trip) arrive 1 hour early, participate in the Ceremonies following the parade and return home (approximately 7.5 hours).

It is due to the expansion that many CG Members are being stretched too thin to attend events which have not been “scheduled” on the WA State SAR CG Event Calendar. For example, the Event Calendar lists 10 annual events yet often times, the number of additional events can grow to 20-25 events annually. With 45 CG members on the West side of the Cascades and 15 members on the East Side of the mountains, each event requesting a minimum number of participants at five, the membership becomes strained to attend every event.

b. **Reorganization:** Due to the above situation the WA State SAR CG is now organized into four (4) regional areas (effective 2019). The CG Captains are now responsible for organizing CG activities within their area. It should be noted that as new chapters are added to the WA State SAR CG, they would be also be added to their appropriate geographical Region.

c. **Geographic Regions:** Responsibility for events within the geographic area is the responsibility of and organized by the chapter in that area. The four geographic regions of responsibility (**Fig 1**) would be:

- Northern: Seattle, Bellevue, Everett, Mt. Vernon, area west of the mountains and N King County¹ north to Canada
- Southern: Tacoma, Federal Way area west of Cascade Mountains, S. Grays Harbor Co (Ocean Shores), S King County¹ south to Oregon.
- Eastern: Area east of the Cascade Mountains, north to Canada, west to Spokane and south to Tri-Cities.
- Western: Bremerton, Silverdale, Port Townsend, Sequim, Port Angeles, N. Grays Harbour Co., Olympic & Kitsap Peninsulas.

<p>Northern Region</p> <p>Chapters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle • Cascade Centennial • George Washington • Ranger <p>Counties included:</p> <p>N. King¹ Snohomish Skagit Whatcom</p>	<p>Eastern Region</p> <p>Chapters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spokane • Mid-Columbia <p>Counties included:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Adams</td> <td>Franklin</td> <td>Pend Oreille</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asotin</td> <td>Garfield</td> <td>Spokane</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Benton</td> <td>Grant</td> <td>Stevens</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chelan</td> <td>Kittitas</td> <td>Walla Walla</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Columbia</td> <td>Klickitat</td> <td>Whitman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Douglas</td> <td>Lincoln</td> <td>Yakima</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ferry</td> <td>Okanogan</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Adams	Franklin	Pend Oreille	Asotin	Garfield	Spokane	Benton	Grant	Stevens	Chelan	Kittitas	Walla Walla	Columbia	Klickitat	Whitman	Douglas	Lincoln	Yakima	Ferry	Okanogan	
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<p>Southern Region</p> <p>Chapters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexander Hamilton • Ft. Vancouver • George Rodgers Clark <p>Counties included:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Clark</td> <td>Pierce</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cowlitz</td> <td>Skamania</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S. King¹</td> <td>Lewis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thurston</td> <td>Pacific</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S. Grays Harbor</td> <td>Wahkiakum</td> </tr> </table>	Clark	Pierce	Cowlitz	Skamania	S. King ¹	Lewis	Thurston	Pacific	S. Grays Harbor	Wahkiakum	<p>Western Region</p> <p>Chapters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Paul Jones <p>Counties included:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Clallam</td> <td>Kitsap</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N. Grays Harbor</td> <td>Mason</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jefferson</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Clallam	Kitsap	N. Grays Harbor	Mason	Jefferson						
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Note 1:
Northern/Southern
Regional area border.
(Fig 1)

[Also see map at end of Manual](#)



2. The WA State SAR Color Guard Committee: *

- a. The President appoints the WASHINGTON SAR Color Guard Commander, subject to the Board of Directors' approval.
- b. The Color Guard Commander is chairman of the Color Guard Committee, and also commands the Color Guard whenever assembled for State events or activities. He evaluates and approves requested changes to the WASHINGTON SAR Color Guard Operations Manual. The Color Guard Commander may appoint one or more Vice Commanders/Deputy Commanders. Chapter Color Guard Captains are appointed by Chapter Presidents.
- c. The Color Guard Committee consists of the Chapter Color Guard Captains, and compatriots selected by the Color Guard Commander and approved by the President. Members of this Committee may be uniformed but are not required to be uniformed. The purpose of the Color Guard Committee is to promote, publicize, and support Color Guard events and activities.
- d. The WASHINGTON SAR and Chapter Color Guard consists of compatriots who come to SAR meetings and events properly uniformed as either Continental Soldiers or Militiamen or attired as Revolutionary-era clergyman. All color guardsmen in Washington are members of the WASHINGTON SAR Color Guard, and may serve at Chapter, State, District and National events.
- e. The WASHINGTON SAR Color Guard is an historically correct ceremonial and living history group whose purpose is to teach the American people the history and ideals of the American Revolution. These men seek to promote the SAR objectives of history, patriotism and education. The WASHINGTON SAR Color Guard is available for parades, ceremonial functions, living history events, school lectures, and other patriotic events.
- f. The WASHINGTON SAR and Chapter Color Guard operate in accordance with the National SAR Color Guard Handbook and the WASHINGTON SAR Color Guard Operations Manual (WSCG 1-1.1) This Manual details certain operations and procedures to help organize, coordinate, and assist the Chapter Captains and Color Guard members perform at public events, and will be in accord with the National SAR Color Guard Handbook.

*(extract from Washington SAR Administrative Procedures, Pg. 14, Par 4 DTD 12-20-19)

3. WA State Color Guard Council

The Counsel serves to assist the Chapter Color Guard Captains with scheduling, recruiting booths, parades, community functions, and other Color Guard events in the chapter regions. They assist with presenting living history to schools, and address other organizations, churches, and community groups about the mission and activities of the S.A.R. All members of the counsel are issued a badge of leadership (right)



- a. The Color Guard Counsel consists of the Color Guard Committee and Past Commanders.
- b. The Color Guard Committee consists of the Color Guard Commander and Chapter Color Guard Captains. The Color Guard Commander is the chairman and may appoint one or more Vice/Deputy Commanders (approved by the President) to assist him in his duties.

Current additional appointed committee members:

- Deputy Commander
- Vice Commander
- F&D Commander

Members of this Committee may be uniformed but are not required to be uniformed. The purpose of the Color Guard Committee is to promote, publicize, and support Color Guard events and activities.

Note: The WA State SAR President appoints the WA State SAR Color Guard Commander, subject to the Board of Directors' approval. Chapter Color Guard Captains are appointed by Chapter Presidents

- c. Past Commanders/Deputy Commanders/Vice Commanders serve as advisory personnel to the counsel. Link to the Color Guard [Member Directory](#)

4. **Mission Statements:**

- **The Mission of the SAR Color Guard** is "To bring History, Education, and Patriotism to the community." What does this mean? The first question people always ask us is, "So, what do you guys do?" Some may have never seen the very [first issue of the WA State CG Newsletter](#) "The Drumbeat", which is a good answer to this question.
- **The Mission of the Color Guard Committee** is to promote, publicize, and support Color Guard Captains and to set protocol, approve of operation & procedures at events and activities. The Committee consists of the CG Commander and the CG Chapter Captains. The CG Commander serves as a voting member of the State Board of Directors.
- **The Mission of the Color Guard Council** is to guide and assist the Chapter Color Guard Captains with scheduling, recruiting booths, parades, community functions, and other Color Guard events in the chapter regions. The council consists of the CG Committee, Past CG Commanders, and others selected by the CG Commander. They assist with presenting living history to schools, and address other organizations, churches, and community groups about the mission and activities of the S.A.R.

5. **Regional Area Responsibilities.**

- Implementation of this change will require each region to provide or have access to the following items. The items may be commonly shared, or the property of each Chapter. This is a Regional decision.
- Active email list of all members within the Region.
- Communication within the region to inform all members of events in their geographical area.
- Communication with the WASSAR State CG Commander for dissemination of event information when additional CG members are required.
- A Patriot Chest for school presentations "A Day in Colonial Life"
- A set of Parade Flags, Parade Flag Poles, Flag Carry Straps, White Gloves, Muskets, (equipped with non-firing flints where applicable), ponchos, loaner uniforms, loaner hats, parade banner and whatever additional items are deemed necessary by the Region.

6. **CG Member Roles and Responsibilities.**

a. **CG Commander: (Some data below extracted from WA State Bylaws & WA-SAR Administrative Procedures).**

- The Color Guard Commander is Custodian of all WASHINGTON State SAR colors, flags, support equipment, and other accoutrements that may be received by or assigned to the Color Guard. He maintains a written inventory of these items and their storage location and presents this inventory to the WASHINGTON SAR Board of Directors at the annual meeting. He will cause the collection of colors, support equipment, and accoutrements to be maintained in excellent condition and available for public display.

(Note: Chapter CG Captains are custodian of Chapter colors, support equipment, and other accoutrements)

- He manages and submits the budget for color guard flags, banners, equipment, loaner uniforms, and their maintenance and recruiting materials. This includes donations of such color guard items and monies as may be received in due course.
- He compiles and disseminates the official Calendar of Events for the WASHINGTON SAR Color Guard. He is alert to additional opportunities for participation in community events as they occur. He assists and supports all Chapter Color Guard events and activities whenever possible.
- He will instruct each Chapter Captain to inspect all firearm used by members in parades and ensure that they are inoperable by removing all Flints prior to being carried by parade participants.

Note: According to the Vice-President of First Underwriters, the use of frizzen covers is acceptable since the muskets are rendered inoperable (the flints would strike only the leather cover). This was approved by the insurance company so we don't have to remove the flint. (Photo at right).

- He evaluates and approves the annual service record of attendance maintained by the Chapter CG Captains on the National SAR Color Guard Reporting Form for each Color Guard member's

participation at official State events. Chapter Captains are responsible for reporting the service of chapter members to the Color Guard Commander. Chapter Color Guard Captains maintain their own Chapter members' service records.

- He prepares a Quarterly report of activities for submission to meetings of the Board of Directors. Chapter Color Guardsmen and individuals performing ceremonial duty in period uniform are requested to frequently report their activities for inclusion in these committee reports.
- Color Guard Medals will be awarded to members who meet the criteria established in the National SAR Color Guard Handbook. The WASHINGTON SAR will employ the Events System; for example, National SAR states, "To earn a SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal, a Color Guardsman must participate in at least 50% of the scheduled Color Guard activities for his State and/or Chapter in each of three years, which do not need to be continuous. A year shall be any period of twelve consecutive months." Color Guard Committee members will be awarded an appropriate certificate of service for each year of honorable service, awarded by the Color Guard Commander.
- Color Guard funds appropriated by the Board of Directors, and those funds collected by the Color Guard itself, may be used for Color Guard needs when approved by a majority vote of the Chairman (Commander) and the Chapter Color Guard Captains. Voting may be done by telephone or e-mail message with approval requiring a majority vote. All Captains must be contacted, and their vote received by the Chairman within five days of the date of the telephone message or e-mail message.
- He serves as a member of the Board of Directors. (see bylaws)
- Monitor the submission of National Event applications, organizing people and materials for their sponsored activity.
- Provide limited financial assistance to each Region for initial equipment and replacement equipment.
- Work with the Deputy Commander to update the CG website, "Events Calendar", membership roster, and CG contact information.
- Approve and submit all Silver medal requests & forms required in the [Medals and Awards chapter](#). This duty may also be performed by the Deputy Commander
- Write and submit State CG news articles to the National SAR Colorguardsman magazine.
- Write and submit the Commanders message to the State CG Newsletter editor.
- Write and submit State CG semiannual reports to the Washington State SAR Board of Directors.
- Coordinate all Annual State Meeting, Pacific District Meeting, and other State functions/ceremonies where the CG is requested to post colors.
- Monitor the submission of National Event applications, organizing people and materials for their sponsored activity.

b. **CG Vice Commander, Eastern Washington:** Establish activities beyond the chapter events in eastern WA State. File semiannual activity reports to the State CG Commander for inclusion in his reports.

c. **CG Deputy Commander:** Is a support role and is responsible for:

- Dissemination of information concerning event schedules, distribution lists, publishes CG newsletter, maintains CG web site, and other support as deemed necessary.
- Assist the CG Commander with administrative tasks that involve the request for the Silver CG medal.
- Assist the CG Captains with event notification and other support.
- Other duties as determined by the State Commander. Maintain the communication with web site provider (*DreamHost*)
- **The deputy Commander must have the following IT qualifications:**

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Have advanced computer skills. | 6. Support the CG Commander in all computing matters |
| 2. Be proficient in the use of HTML. | 7. Able to update all CG documents/manuals. |
| 3. Able to use FTP. | 8. Able to update all web pages. |
| 4. Advanced user of Microsoft Word & Excel. | 9. Maintain communication with web host. |
| 5. Able to update documents on a daily/hourly basis. | |

- d. **Fife & Drum Commander:** Primary duty is to train the SAR/DAR fife & drum personnel. Coordinate the participation of the F&D member at events. F&D Major will also maintain accurate participation records of the members towards promotion and/or award of medals
- e. **CG Captains:** Are determined by their Chapter and each Chapter Color Guard Captain will be responsible for:
- The submission of National, State & Chapter event applications where required in their area of responsibility, organizing people and materials for their sponsored activity, IE: an event accepted in Spokane County would become the organization responsibility of the Spokane Chapter, with assistance from Mid-Columbia Chapter.
- (Note: A parade event requires minimum of three participants).**
- To write and submit Chapter CG news articles to the CG Commander for submission to the National SAR Colorguardsman magazine.
 - To write and submit Chapter CG news articles for each event the chapter attend/sponsors, to the editor of the WA State Color Guard newsletter for publication and to serve as documentation of an event.
 - For transmission of their area schedules to the CG deputy Commander for posting to the on-line event schedule.
 - For sending event announcements via e-mail for their respective areas and requests for participation for those events. If the CG captain deems it necessary to notify the general CG membership, he will request state level assistance from the CG Commander or Deputy Commander.
 - For the determination of the rank (Lieutenants, Sergeants, and Corporals) within their Chapter Color Guard.
 - For the update of accurate participation records or delegate, that responsibility to the individual CG Members to maintain their own records for the purpose of medals qualification. All appropriate records to include date, location, name of event and person present. ([See Medals](#))
 - Other assigned duties deemed necessary by the Chapter President and/or the CG Commander.
- f. **CG Newsletter Editor** (usually the CG Deputy CO)
- Gather CG event data from the Chapter CG Captains and publish them in the Color Guard Newsletter on a quarterly basis.
 - Each article will contain a minimum of a list of all CG participants and a photo if available.

7. All SAR Members:

- Upon joining the Color Guard are issued a Color Guard pin.
- Are welcome to participate in any/all events by all regions. [See map at end of Manual](#)



8. **Each individual** is permitted to choose their own uniform in order to represent the diverse nature of the Continental & State forces (rabble in arms) of 1775-1783. Our color guardsmen each choose a uniform and/or rank in basically three different ways: 1) the rank they held in military service, 2) rank of one of their ancestors, 3) rank they hold in our Color Guard or Fife & Drum Corps. Those who depict a minuteman, militiaman or rifleman, wearing a basic hunting frock or period civilian dress don't wear regimental rank. Militia officers however, could wear an officer or NCO red sash.

Index to authorized (but not required) rank insignia.

- The CG Rank of Colonel will be indicated by the wear of one gold shoulder board on both shoulders.
- The CG Rank of Lt. Colonel will be indicated by the wear of one gold shoulder board on both shoulders.
- The CG Rank of Major will be indicated by the wear of one gold shoulder board on both shoulders.
- The CG Rank of Captain will be indicated by the wear of one gold shoulder board on the right shoulder.
- The CG Rank of Lieutenant will be indicated by the wear of one silver shoulder board on the right shoulder.
- The CG Rank of Sergeant will be indicated by the wear of one red epaulet on the right shoulder.
- The CG Rank of Corporal will be indicated by the wear of one green epaulet on the right shoulder.



Chart 1 Rank Insignia - Illustrated Manner Of Wear

Virtual Events

NSSAR COVID Color Guard Addendum.

NSSAR COVID Color Guard Addendum.

The following procedures and guidelines have been approved and will be added to the national handbook and color guard handbook under: National Society SAR Color Guard Medals at the end of section IV.

In an effort to allow Color Guard members to participate, during the current COVID-19 pandemic and social gathering restrictions, credit for current color guard medals will be given for offsite Color Guard Participation under the following criteria:

~~For Virtual Participation to be considered:~~

- ~~A) The event must require registration for the Virtual Color Guard prior to the event and the paperwork must be completed by the registration date set forth in the registration invitation (just signing in on the day of the event will not meet this requirement).~~
- ~~B) The electronic method of attending the meeting must allow for the Color Guardsman to be actually seen on the screen by the other participants at the event. Just signing in without video will not qualify for Virtual Participation.~~
- ~~C) The Color Guardsman must be "dressed out" in Revolutionary War era Continental Uniform or Militia attire as he would at an onsite, in person event. You will need to stand at times, if able.

 - ~~1) Just watching a pre-recorded event (YouTube, Podcast, or a pre-record event shown at Zoom meeting, etc.– whither watched as an individual or in some type of group setting) will not count as Participation at an Event.~~
 - ~~2) Just being a viewer of a Zoom broadcast of a live event will not count as Participation for Color Guard purposes.~~
 - ~~3) A blanket exception to the historical onsite and in person participation requirement is not contemplated by this Temporary Change.~~
 - ~~4) Parades do not lend themselves to Color Guard Virtual Participation.~~
 - ~~5) In the future many events may supplement their historic activities with a Zoom or other electronic options to increase attendance but that is not what is contemplated by these Temporary Changes for Virtual Participation.~~
 - ~~6) Pre-recorded live events will count, in conjunction with a virtual meeting or event. They however need to be recorded within two weeks before the virtual meeting or event and must be available for viewing during the event or no later than a week after the event with a complete video of the whole virtual event.~~
 - ~~7) Photos submitted of guardsmen in uniform will not be accepted for credit of a virtual event.~~~~
- ~~D) The Color Guardsman must notify the Color Guard Commander or his designee that has signed on and has actively participated in the event. This should be visible to the other participants. This notification would normally be in the form of an email or other method prescribed by the Commander.~~
- ~~E) Color Guard commanders are asked to limit their commands to a virtual color guard, due to the imperfect medium of visual delays in participating virtual events, with audio and broadcasting. However, Guardsmen ought to follow the on-site Color Guard commander commands to the best of their ability.~~
- ~~F) The Color Guardsman must participate for the entire event.~~
- ~~G) These "Temporary Changes" will only be considered for events where a level of government or the owner/manager of a site location imposes requirements where the normal color guard participation in an event cannot be accommodated. However, every attempt should be made for the Color Guard to attend in person, even if it needs to be a small guard that follows CDC and State guidelines.~~
- ~~H) The National Color Guard Commander determines if an event qualifies for the potential Virtual Participation changes as outlined above.~~

These Temporary Changes are for the period 1 March 2020 and will continue until rescinded by the National Color Guard Commander.

Rescinded by the National Commander 10 July 2021

Chapter 3: Uniforms & Sources

Typical Uniform for the Continental Line

Summer Uniform:

- Cocked Hat*
- Neck Stock
- White Shirt (2)
- Knee Britches or Overalls (2)
- Stockings (2 Pair)
- Garters
- Shoes
- Waistcoat
- Regimental Coat
- Gaiters

Equipment:

- Haversack
- Knapsack
- Blanket
- Oiled Cloth (larger than blanket)
- Canteen

Arms:

- Musket
- Bayonet
- Bayonet Carriage and Scabbard
- Flash Guard, Hammerstall, Pick and Brush
- Musket Tool
- Flints (4 each)
- Cartridges (24 each)
- Sword, Scabbard & Slings "**
- Belt or Pocket Knife
- Belt Ax (Optional)
- Muzzle Stopper
- Cartridge Box and Sling

Additions for Winter Service:

- Cloak or Overcoat - Greatcoat or Capote (Blanket Coat)
- Leg Wrappings (Wool, Sheepskin or other with leather Strappings)
- Mittens or gloves
- Extra Blankets
- Extra Shoes
- Wool Sweater or other
- Wool Scarf
- Wool Hat

Personal Equipment:

- Knife, Fork and Spoon
- Cup and Plate
- Candle (3 each)
- Candle Lantern
- Tinder Box - Flint Steel, Charred Cloth
- Sewing Kit - Needles, thread, buttons
- Musket Cleaning Cloths
- Soap

Field or Fatigue Uniform Addition:

- Fatigue Hat*
- Frock or Hunting Coat*
- Hunting Pants or Overalls*
- Moccasins
- Belt
- Apron (linen or Leather)

*As Authorized by Regimental Commander

**Non-Coms or Officers Only



Organized Militia

Uniform

- Cocked Hat no edge
- Cotton Shirt
- Hunting Coat
- Hunting Pants or
- Knee Britches, Stockings and Half Gaiters
- Shoes
- Belt

Arms

- Musket
- Cartridge Box or Powder Horn and Bullet Pouch
- Belt Knife
- Hand Ax or Tomahawk (Optional)
- Bayonet and Carrier (Optional)

Equipment

- As under Continental Line (All items optional)

As Anteriorized by Regimental Commander trim or other



Irregular Militia

Uniform

- No uniform any mix or match of civilian and military clothing.
- Equipment
- Minimum - Whatever the man had on hand.

Arms

- Any musket or rifle and the necessities to use it, flint, powder, ball.
- Any other items the bearer thought necessary.



General

1. **The NSSAR Color Guard Manual** lays out guidelines for regimental and militia uniforms. It also "does not preclude having a mixture of uniform types in a single unit" and permits each individual color guardsman to decide on his own uniform, so long as "the Color Guard member performs the necessary research to determine the details of the uniform." Some compatriots choose to wear a uniform to represent one of their patriot ancestors, others to represent a famous patriot. Some military veterans wear a period uniform of their branch of service, i.e. army, navy, or marines. WA SAR has decided **not** to prescribe a certain uniform but allows each individual to decide. We are not re-enactors, but as living historians, we seek only to represent our patriot ancestors. We have the latitude, within our means, to dress as correctly as possible, but we do not seek to replicate exactly the uniforms of our ancestors. Since we represent our patriot ancestors, we do want to show the many styles and colors of uniforms worn by them as militiamen, riflemen, state troops, seamen or regimental soldiers or officers. This mix of many uniform styles reflects the variety present in the hundreds of units in those 13 original States and all during the Revolutionary War from 1775 to 1783. On parade, we show to the public the great variety of our patriots' historic uniforms. (See attached)
2. **Scottish Dress & Kilts.** Period kilts are permitted at all Color Guard activities. See [Kilt Wear](#)
3. **Sources.** There are many sources to shop local and online, for uniforms, weapons, and accoutrements. Many are found in the list on Pg. 12. Color Guard leaders should help new color guardsmen to get an appropriate uniform.
4. **Rank Insignia.** The NSSAR CG Handbook states, "A variety of items were used to denote rank within the Revolutionary army. Most common were sashes, the gorget, 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." Again, WA SAR leaves this up to the individual color guardsman.
5. **Cockades.** The one piece of insignia that all military men wore, whether regimental, state troops, militia, riflemen or even members of the Committees of Safety, was the black cockade on their hats. Even though Washington favored the use of colored cockades early on, he abandoned the idea. We did however add a small white cockade to our black cockade when the French joined the Revolution in 1778. Most SAR Color Guardsmen in Continental Army regimentals follow the Uniform Regulations of 1779, which specified dark blue coats with different color facings for each State.

A Little History from Bob O'Neal:

In the 18th Century our colonial farmers, homesteaders and hunters wore round hats. Hats with a simple domed crown and a wide brim to keep the sun and rain at bay while working outdoors. It was the custom also, among the gentry, town and city men to wear the round hat cocked up. Cocked up on three sides as a tricorne. During the French & Indian War (1754–1763) and into the 1770s, it became the fashion for military men in Europe and America to add a cockade to their cocked hat as a mark of

the military man. The British and our Colonials wore black cockades, the French wore white cockades. In the Revolutionary War, this military 'decoration' applied to regulars (always), militiamen (sometimes), minutemen (usually), and even members of the committees of safety. There was a short time early on in 1775 where Gen. Washington designated various colored cockades and sashes for various officer ranks, but that was short lived, and insignia of rank was finally designated by use of epaulets. When the French joined us as allies in 1779, we added their small white cockade inside our black cockade and their soldiers added a small black one inside their white cockade. (In the 19th and 20th Centuries the European countries had their military cockades in each nation's colors, put on their military service caps and on the WWI and WWII warplanes.)

As a uniformed WA SAR Color Guardsman, be sure your cocked hat includes a black cockade placed over the left eye.

The white French cockade with the black is optional. Black cockades can be obtained from Rick Haven of www.just2tailors.com for \$4:00. The cockades can be affixed to your hat by using a plain silver metal button from a fabric store affixed by a large paper clip cut in half, and punched through the hat, near the top left side, with the two ends of the half-paper-clip bent back. The fabric stores also have a small, round white cotton "cockade" if you like to make it the French allied cockade.

Piping: militia hats in general had plain black piping, regular infantry wore white piping or silver piping (field officers), and the artillery & navy wore yellow or gold (field officers). Some units wore feathers or plumes. The artillery all wore a red plume on their hats.

6. **Continental Army.** Rank insignia used by officers and sergeants in the Continental Regiments. The silk scarlet sash for officers and red wool sash for sergeants. Most militia officers did not wear rank insignia, but some wore a red or multicolored wool sash. Most color guard officers with Continental Army uniforms follow Washington's Regulations of 1779, which specified colored epaulets for corporal up through colonel. Artillery officers wore gold/brass epaulets, buttons and trim, while infantry officers wore silver/pewter epaulets & trim. See: "[U.S. ARMY RANK INSIGNIA - The Later Revolutionary War Era – 1780](#)"
7. **Continental Marines and Navy** had different uniform regulations but the rank structure was similar. (See attached pictures).
8. **Loaner Uniforms.** Captains should always have a loaner uniform available for those compatriots that show an interest in joining. Ideally, there would be one regimental and one hunting frock with cocked hats. Many compatriots like to march in a parade or two before spending money on their own uniform. It is a great way to entice new color guardsmen to join.
9. **Accoutrements.** Weapons, hatchets, swords, firelocks, knives, swords, belts, pouches, powder horns, wigs, queues, glasses, canteens, and all sorts of accoutrements are available, but are left entirely up to the color guardsman to obtain and wear with his uniform.



[Index](#) to Uniforms of the American Revolution

Proper Wear of Traditional Scottish Attire (By Bob Parish)

During the Revolutionary War, many Americans of Scottish ancestry supported the patriot cause. In fact, 19 of the 56 delegates who signed the Declaration of Independence were Scottish-Americans. On the battlefield, those who fought the Redcoats often did so while clothed in traditional Scottish attire.

Recently, there was much discussion about whether or not Color Guard members should be allowed to march in their kilts. The following material addresses the controversy and the agreed upon solution.

As Presented, the suggested compromise actually is very close to what most supporters were seeking approval to wear. It is a good alternative.

The 1777 woodcut/image of a Georgia Scottish attire Militieman was actually on our Georgia Patriot "Continental" money from 1777 to War's end.



Per Mark Anthony: "The SAR Color Guard is a representative body and NOT historically accurate in presentation of Revolutionary War-era Militia, Army, or other supporting Revolutionary War era materials. As such, as stated, a Representation of these Patriots in question would be sufficient."

1. The kilt uniform would consist of:

- a. A kilt (Modern/Ancient) (long pleat or short waist pleat)
- b. Waist Belt to hold pleats, over or under waist coat
- c. Buckle shoes, boots or moccasins for foot wear
- d. Stockings knee length of wool or cotton, with or without, garters or leg- buckle ties.
A great source for Stockings is www.golfknickers.com/
- e. A colonial shirt (pull over) white - checkered-raw tan cotton-etc.
- f. A neck sock-option, colonial waist coat, a bonnet, flop or TRICOR hat
- g. Ancient Sporrans "only". Sewn skin, leather bags tied at the apex and attached to a waist belt (under coat), or tied around the waist. (These were in lieu of NO pockets on old/ancient pleat kilts or Scottish clothing).

2. Accessories:

- a. Haversack
- b. Broadsword or claymore
- c. Dirks/knife/tomahawk
- d. Musket & cartridge box

3. Not authorized:

Modern sporrans	Ties (bow or long)	Prince Charlie Coats
Modern foot-wear	Day coats	Modern uniform hats

Internet Source Links for Scottish specific uniforms, accessories, weapons, misc.

- [Celtic Studio](#) produces unique Clan crest products for your Clan name. They have six different styles of Clan rings, Clan crest badges, and Clan pendants.
- [Sport Kilt](#) offers a wide range of Universal Tartans & Clan Tartans.
- [Claymore Imports](#) Clan items, Sporrans, Shoes, Kilts, Bagpipes, and More. (Search on [Scottish](#))
- [Etsy](#) Misc. Scottish related items (search on Scottish)
- [Amazon](#) carries many Scottish items.
For Dirks and other weapons, search on [Scottish Weapons](#).

Internet source links for uniforms, accessories, weapons, etc.

• **Uniforms Only:**

- [Patrician Designs](#): Custom uniforms made to order.
- [Sew Sew](#): Sharon Urick specializes in military uniforms an historical clothing for ladies and gentlemen.
- [Costume Discounters](#): Good quality costume to serve as a loaner uniform (\$234).
- [Hong Kong Tailors \(Axis Powers\)](#): Made to measure. Includes coat, shirt, & long pants in polyester. Delivery, 5-8 weeks (\$89). *(Best buy, but not the best quality)*
- [American Heritage Clothing](#) Reenactor wool coats. Prices for American regimentals ... \$495 and up. Good quality but long delivery times
- [Whidbey Sewing Victorian-Edwardian Fashion Antique and Reproduction](#) Custom uniforms

- **Full-Service Vendors:** Uniforms, Accessories, and Accoutrements
 - [Historical Twist](#): Museum quality historical product.
 - [Jas. Townsend & Sons, Inc.](#): Excellent quality period accouterments, clothes and uniforms. Good delivery.
 - [C. & D. Jarnagin Co.](#): A complete source; good quality. Good delivery.
 - [The Sutler of Mount Misery](#): (AKA GG Goodwin) Epaulets, Shoulder Knots, Shoes, Military Eqpt, etc. Good quality *(Beware of long wait for custom made uniforms!)*
 - [Sampson Historical](#): Provide full line of documented items for reenactors, museums.
 - [By The Sword](#): Medieval and renaissance clothing, weapons, collectables and more
- **Militia, Riflemen & Accoutrements**
 - [Dixie Gun Works](#): Good source for hunting frocks & replica weapons kit ([British Brown Bess Flintlock](#), \$995.00)
 - [Crazy Crow Trading Post](#): Native American Craft Supplies & Mountain Man Craft Supply
 - [Smoke & Fire Co.](#): Accessories, accoutrements
 - [Smiling Fox Forge](#): Axes, Knives, Blacksmithing, Buckles, Clothing, Colonial goods, Gun Supplies, Sewing, Tableware, Sewing, & Toys

[Avalon Forge](#): Accoutrements at reasonable prices
[Medieval Collectibles](#): Full line of Clothing, Weaponry, & Accessories.

[NajECKI Reproductions](#): Full line of accoutrements for re-enactors *(do not seem to be anxious to fill orders?)*
[Quarter Master General](#): Full line of accoutrements for re-enactors. Just about everything.
[Etsy](#): Hunting Frocks and Patterns. Also carry many other items related to the [Revolution](#).

• **Weapons**

[Track of the Wolf](#): Specializing in Muzzle loading guns, kits, parts, accoutrements, rendezvous gear, tents & a lot of other 18th century items. ([catalog download-PDF](#)).

[Access Heritage](#): Good source for replica weapons. For those wanting a British (2nd Model) Short Land Pattern Brown Bess Flintlock Musket \$549.00 + shipping \$45.00 (\$594.00).
(Note: This historically accurate musket is in a non-firing state. This allows compliance with various firearms regulations & shipping company policy restrictions. A certified gunsmith may decide to alter it to a firing state by drilling the vent hole and test firing it).

• **Accessories**

[Madame Joan's Wee Wiggies](#): Hairpiece & wigs
 • **Other Sources:** Mountain Man shows: Used items are often on sale at these events.
[WA State Muzzleloader's Association](#)
[Cascade Mountain Men](#)

• **Miscellaneous:**

[Glendale Parade Store](#): Large assortment of items for the parade participant (carriers, swords, gloves, poles, etc.)
[Fun.Com](#): Affordable Tall Black Boots.
[Historical Emporium](#) Another source for Boots and other items.

Below is an additional Vendor Listing by company name. Understand that these vendors are **not** being recommended - just listed.

Before purchasing anything from these vendors check with your fellow color guardsmen for their recommendations. Some may no longer be in business as this list started in 2015.

Type the listed name of the vendor into your browser tab

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Bethlehem Trading Post, | • Flintlocks, etc. | • G. Gedney Godwin Online |
| • Barkertown Sutlers | • My Flintlocks, LLC | • HB Forge |
| • Burnley & Trowbridge Co. | • Ft. Downing Trading Co. | • Black Powder 411 |
| • Cobb Creek - Fine Clothing | • Fort Vause Outfitters | • International Guns |
| • Custom Wig Company | • Fugawee | • Joe's Leather Works, LLC |

- Livonia Smithery
- Loyalist Arms & Repairs
- Military Heritage
- Panther Primitives -
- Samson Historical
- Spring Valley Lodges
- Sutlers of Fort Frederick Market Fair
- Tennessee Valley Muzzle loading
- Turkey Foot Trading Company
- VA Flintlocks
- Clearwater Hats
- Ye Armes Shoppe

Chapter 4: Starting A Chapter Color Guard Unit

Requirement: As chapter CG Captain, you are an enthusiastic leader. Appoint a Volunteer to be your “First Follower”.

- Get a uniform
- Invite a Color Guard Captain from another chapter as guest speaker.
- Develop a Vision
- Write a job description
- Act the persona of a Continental Soldier
- Post chapter colors
- Present & recruit at your chapter (take pictures)
- Present & recruit at other chapters
- Recruit on State/chapter Web Site, Facebook, via email
- Advertise via email with Broadsides with pictures
- Find your first follower
- Find your second follower
- Momentum will follow
- Lobby for a State Color Guard Budget – loaner uniforms, flags, chest
- Help guardsmen get uniformed – loaner uniforms
- Give each one a Color Guard pin & a manual
- Find some local events and do them
- Get involved with the local & state DAR
- Do DAR events, partner with other chapter color guards
- Do living history presentations in schools
- Do history presentations at civic groups
- Create a Color Guard Calendar Schedule
- Muster the troops for each event.
- Take pictures at every event
- Do larger & greater events
- Create a military organization
- Get a drummer & a fifer
- Assign roles & ranks
- Track & recognize their participation. Tracking for medals may be delegated to the member.
- Award your guardsmen for participation.

Chapter 5: Recognition

Recognition:

It is very important to recognize your color guardsmen who are very active and attend many events. They appreciate it. In addition, the captains are tracking the activities.

What the CG has been doing in an informal way, is to recognize active color guardsman, after a year, by awarding a [Certificate of Appreciation](#) for a "good year" counting towards the Bronze Color Guard Medal. This can be printed on a blank SAR certificate form. This can also be presented for the second year. On the third year they would get the Bronze CG Medal.



The Fife & Drum Corps has a separate system to recognize service by 'promoting' with epaulets because all their uniforms are the same. Militiamen and riflemen as a rule do not wear epaulets, but this is up to the individual to decide their own CG uniform.

Chapter 6: Protocol

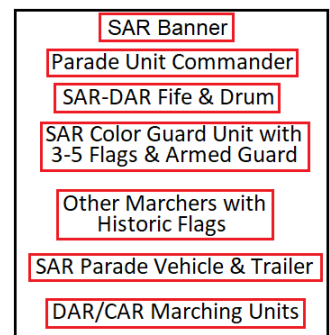
Parades:

WASHINGTON SAR COLOR GUARD PARADE UNIT ⁽¹⁾: Since our Color Guard is the "Face of the SAR", especially at public events, it is important that we adhere to our mission, "to bring History, Education and Patriotism to the community."

Public Events: [\(also see definitions\)](#)

1. All SAR Color Guardsmen must be in period clothing or uniform, such as worn by regimental soldiers, state troops, patriot militiamen, or period correct civilian attire.
2. The [Main Color Guard](#) will carry as a minimum three flags: the U.S. National Colors, the Washington State Flag, and the SAR Flag forward from right to left in that order. Our National U.S. Colors will *always* be on the right and will always be carried ***straight up & never carried at a forward angle***. The U.S. National Colors may be any of the 27 active National US flags (1777-present), but preferably the Betsy Ross flag. Only one U.S. National Flag will be carried in the official Washington SAR Color Guard. All other flags, state, and organizational, will be carried in marching with staffs straight up, perpendicular and only lowered on command.
3. When ordered to *Present Arms*, the staff of the National Colors will remain perpendicular and all other bearers will lower their staffs to a 45-degree angle. ***The US Flag will always remain straight up.***
4. No other modern flags are permitted in our Color Guard or the Color Guard unit. (I.e. modern US military branch colors, or any organizational flags other than the DAR or CAR flags).
5. The SAR Color Guard Unit Commander ⁽²⁾ will lead the SAR Parade Unit including the SAR-DAR Fife & Drum Corps. He should be a Chapter Color Guard Captain or the State CG commander, Vice Commander, Deputy Commander or one of the members of the CG Council members. The unit commander will designate the use of The Von Steuben manual or the modern manual of arms as in US Army FM 3-21.5 (FM 22-5 Drill and Ceremonies).
6. The Color Guard unit ⁽¹⁾ may include the DAR and/or CAR flag if these color bearers are in period uniform or period dress.
7. Armed Color Guardsmen will march on either side of the Color Bearers with preference to guard the National Colors. They should carry period muskets or rifles. If armed color guard carries a sword, it will be held at the carry. The general Order of March for the Color Guard Parade Unit is as follows: (see chart below)

- 1) The SAR Banner carried by two compatriots, 30-50 feet out front to announce the unit, with parade number(s) visible. A DAR banner, if available, should be carried side-by-side with the SAR banner. The Parade Unit Commander should coordinate with the Regent in charge on their preference.
- 2) Parade Unit Commander.
- 3) The SAR-DAR Fife & Drum Corps, led by Drum Major
- 4) Main SAR [Color Guard Unit](#) ⁽¹⁾ with their 3-5 parade flags and armed guardsmen.
- 5) The SAR, DAR, HODAR & CAR marchers in period dress who may carry historic flags.
- 6) SAR parade trail vehicle with/without flag trailer.
- 7) The main color bearers of the DAR/Car colors will be march behind the SAR parade vehicle if present.



Private Events: [\(also see definitions\)](#)

1. Private event rules follow the above but modified for indoor events.
2. At private events held by DAR, CAR or other organizations, the Color Guard unit commander ⁽¹⁾ will coordinate with the DAR President, Regent, or other leader. The SAR **Parade Unit Commander** will defer to the event leader's wishes, so long as it is in accordance in general with the Flag Etiquette, Rules, and Guidelines contained in the U.S. Flag Code and the general rules for Color Guard Public Events (above).
3. A Color Guardsman may wear medals on his uniform only during SAR internal events such as chapter or state meetings where the general public is not present. In any case, the Color Guard Unit Commander ⁽¹⁾ in charge makes the final decision on the permission to wear medals on the Color Guard uniform. SAR Color Guardsmen should get permission from the Color Guard unit commander ⁽¹⁾ in charge before wearing medals at private events.

Notes:

1. [See Definitions.](#)
2. The SAR Color Guard Handbook also applies *as a guide* to these rules. All other questions will be in accordance with the Flag Etiquette, Rules and Guidelines contained in the U.S. Flag Code.

Change of Command

The Change of Command (COC) ceremony takes place during the **annual** WASSAR Conference Banquet. The ceremony takes place after the opening ceremonies¹. **Immediately** after the Invocation, the Color Guard will exit the room, and prepare for the COC. At the same time the Deputy Commander will place the SAR Colors front and center. **The President, & a Past Commander** will then join the **Deputy Commander** at front & center.

The Procedure:

MC: "Proceed with the Change of Command Ceremony".

- **The WA State SAR President, Deputy Commander & Past Commander** at front & center, President presiding.
- **Color Guard: (outside the room)** Forms up in two (2) columns, each headed by two (2) Color Guard Captains,
 - ☆ Two (2) behind the **Incoming Commander** (left column)
 - ☆ Two (2) behind the **Outgoing Commander** (right column).

President:

- **"Commander, Advance the Color Guard"**. WA SAR Color Guard marches in, led by the Outgoing Commander.

Outgoing Commander:

- **Fife & Drums play**
- **"Color Guard, Forward March"**. Formation moves forward and lines up on both sides of main aisle.
- **"Color Guard Halt, Center Face"**. Color Guard faces inward along the center aisle.
- **"Present Arms"**. 3 second pause, then. **"Order Arms"**.

State President:

- **"Deputy Commander, Read the Order"**

Fife & Drum: Drum Roll.

Deputy Commander:

- **"Atten to Orders"** Reads the orders to the assembly, then **"Transfer the Colors"**
 - ☆ **Past Commander** passes the SAR Colors to the **Outgoing Commander**.
 - ☆ **Outgoing Commander** then passes the Colors to the **President**,
 - ☆ **President** passes the Colors to the **Incoming Commander**.

Fife & Drum: (Drum Roll).

Incoming Color Guard Commander:

- Passes the Colors to the Past Commander

Past Commander:

- Posts the Colors to its standard and returns to his post.

Optional: At this point **the President** may make remarks and/or present an award(s).

State President:

- (To Incoming Commander) **"Commander, please lead the Color Guard out"**.

Incoming Commander:

- March to the head of the Color Guard formation to lead out of the room.
- Color Guard Captains follow taking their place at head of their columns, facing inward.

Incoming Commander Faces the President & Outgoing Commander:

- **"Color Guard: Present Arms"**. Color Guard & Incoming Commander presents arms. Then **"Order Arms"**.

Outgoing Commander:

- Draws his sword, faces about, and salutes the **President**. Then slowly and with dignity sheaths the sword in the scabbard, faces about again to be led out of the room by the Color Guard.

Incoming Commander:

- **"Color Guard, Forward Face, Forward March"**. **(Fife & Drums play)**

The Color Guard leads the Outgoing Commander out of the Room.

End of Ceremony: President, Past Commander, and Deputy Commander are dismissed

1. Seating of the Ladies, Advancing of the Colors, Pledge of Allegiance, Posting of the Colors, SAR Pledge, The American's Creed, Invocation

Promotions:

For those color guards that step forward and assume a position as Chapter CG Captain, or as a chapter Lieutenant, there exists a "[Promotion Order](#)", signed by John Hancock. It can be printed on ivory or parchment paper and framed. The commission should be presented at a meeting, with some ceremony and fanfare.

It is all 'tongue-in-cheek' and good fun. The commission is usually presented at chapter meeting to a new captain by the CG Commander, or a senior color guard, and for LT.s by the color guard captain.. It is also recommended to have a lieutenant to help with the chapter activities and events. We also have issued a commission at state level for Commander, Vice Commander, Deputy Commander, etc.

The rank/position conferred does not affect how the color guardsman would be uniformed. For example, one CG Captain remains uniformed as his sergeant ancestor, even though he is a CG Captain.

Wearing of the Hat:

When armed indoors or outside or when in a military formation (armed or not), hats are never removed. During military honors, remain at attention with hat on especially if in formation, unless the commander directs otherwise. During prayer, if armed, remain at attention or at ease, bowed head, with hat on.

If not armed, hats should be removed indoors. However, in other instances, such as posting of the colors, we keep our hats on indoors, armed or not, because we are soldiers in a military formation.

Having stated that, it is good courtesy to remove our hats when seated, and always remove your hat when dining.

It is advised that the color guards remove their hats and place them on a table or hat rack or elsewhere when entering the a church or other such building

**Saluting the Flag:**

All US veterans are now authorized to render a military salute to honor the US National Colors or during other military honors at formations or memorial services. (i.e., Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, at parades, military funerals, playing of taps).

Be aware that some services (US Navy, USMC) do not salute indoors without a cover (headgear).

While we salute our Flag, "12 paces before and 12 paces after" the Flag passes during outdoor parades, we do not salute the US Flag when it is marched forward to be posted indoors.

IE, when the announcement is made, "Please post the Colors", we merely stand to attention as the flag is brought forward and posted. The Color Guard captain/commander will then order "Present Arms". The veterans present may then also render a hand salute, and retain salute during the Pledge of Allegiance or National Anthem. (Again, some veterans - USN, USMC - may prefer to render 'hand over heart' instead.)

Chapter 7: Drill & Ceremonies



— *Color Guard Procedure* —

Posting and Retiring the Colors

Formal assemblies conducted indoors begin with the presentation of the Colors, referred to as Posting the Colors, and end with the Retirement of the Colors. The following instructions outline the procedures for posting and retiring the Colors, with a head table and without head table. Since indoor areas vary in size, configuration, and intended purpose, these instructions do not apply to all situations. Therefore, persons planning an indoor ceremony can modify these instructions based on their specific floor plan.

Posting the Colors

The Color guard forms outside the entrance to the dining area, auditorium, or meeting hall.

The audience is directed to stand until the Colors are posted. If the playing of the National Anthem (or other appropriate music) and the invocation are scheduled, the audience will remain standing until they are completed.

When the arrangements include a head table, the Color guard enters in a line formation, preferably, or forms in a line immediately inside the room and moves to a position centered on and facing the head table. The procedures are as follows:

When the Colors arrive at the predesignated position, the Color sergeant commands **Colors, HALT, and Present, ARMS;** and reports **The colors are present.** The host acknowledges the report and directs, **POST THE COLORS.** The area should be arranged to allow adequate space for the Color guard to move between the head table and the flag stand.

The Color sergeant then commands **Order, ARMS; Right, FACE;** and **Forward, MARCH.** On the command of execution **MARCH,** the Color guard marches to the rear of the head table.

Once the Color guard is centered on the flag stand, they mark time and the Color sergeant commands **Colors, HALT and Right, FACE.** The Color guard should approach the flag stands from the right to position the National Color bearer in front of the flag holder on the right, facing the audience.

The Color bearers, without command, place the colors in the stand.

When the Colors are in the stand, the color sergeant commands **Present, ARMS and Order, ARMS.** The guards return to right shoulder arms; the Color sergeant commands **Left, FACE and Forward, MARCH;** and the Color guard exits the area.

When a head table is not used, the Color guard enters and moves to a predesignated position centered on and facing the audience. This may require the Color guard to move in a column and use facing movements. The movement must be planned so that the National Color is always on the right when in line and is leading when in column. The procedures are as follows:

When the Colors arrive at the predesignated position, the Color sergeant commands **Colors, HALT; LEFT (right), FACE;** and **Present, ARMS.** If music or the Pledge of Allegiance is scheduled, it occurs at this time. The Color sergeant then commands **Order, ARMS.**

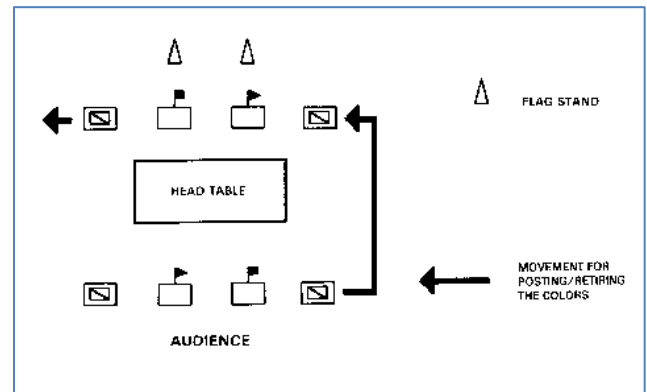
The Color sergeant commands **Right (Left), FACE and Forward, MARCH.** On the command of execution **MARCH,** the Color guard marches to the flag stand where the actions of the Color guard are the same as described above.

Retiring the Colors

The audience is directed to stand for the retiring of the Colors.

When a head table is used, the Color sergeant moves the Color guard to the head table.

The Color sergeant commands **Color guard, HALT; Present, ARMS,** and reports to the host, **"Sir, Request permission to retire the colors."** The host acknowledges the report and directs **RETIRE THE COLORS.**



The Color sergeant commands **Order, ARMS; Right, FACE; Forward, MARCH;** and moves the Color guard until they are centered on the flag stand where they mark time.

The Color sergeant commands **Color guard, HALT; Right, FACE; Present, ARMS;** and **Order, ARMS.** Upon completion of Order arms, the color bearers, without command, retrieve the colors and assume the carry position.

The Color sergeant commands **Left, FACE** and **Forward, MARCH.** The Color guard exits the area.

When the head table is not used, the Color guard moves directly to the flag stands where the Colors are retrieved, and the Color guard exits as described above.

NOTE: The above procedures will vary when the command sergeant major is in charge of the Colors during a formal dining-in.

Present Arms

The Color Guard executing the command "Present Arms".

[21 sec Video](#)



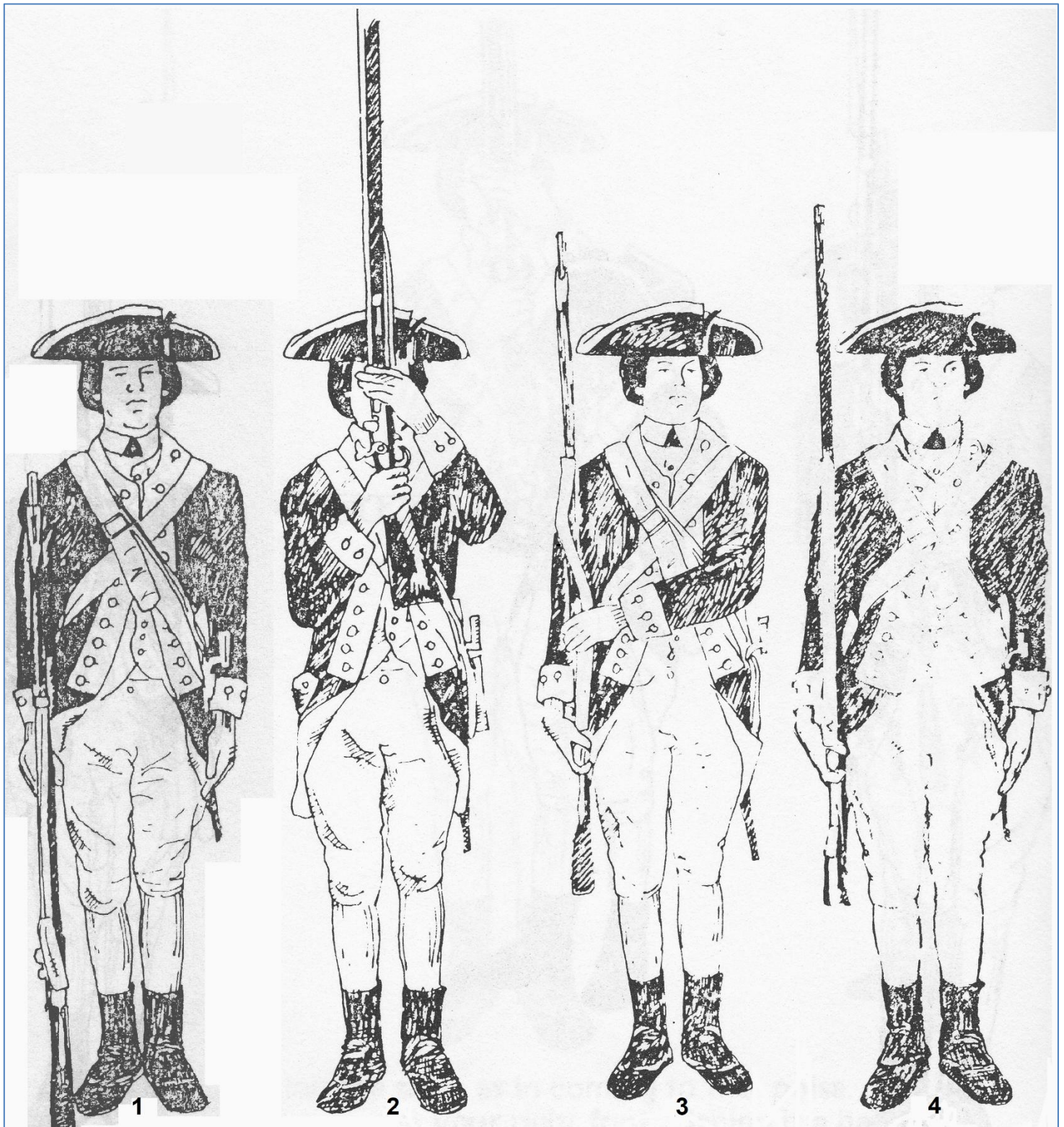
Execution of the command: All but the **American Flag** are dipped to a position of 45 degrees and the musket bearers come to the position of present arms.



At the command "Present Arms", The musket is brought from the position of carry arms to the position of present arms in one fluid motion.

[\(also see definitions\)](#)

Shoulder Firelock



Shoulder Firelock from grounded position
(4 Motions)

1st & 2nd Bring the firelock up smartly to the poise.

3rd & 4th Shoulder firelock holding by gripping the trigger guard

This Topic is In Work!!!

Reverse Arms (From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

Reverse arms and the related rest on **arms reversed** are military drill commands used as a mark of respect at funerals and on occasions of mourning, especially in the armed forces of Commonwealth nations. When marching in reverse arms the soldier's weapon is held pointing behind them and grasped behind their back. When resting on reversed arms the weapon points towards the ground and the eyes are lowered.

History

Reverse arms is a marching movement in which the weapon is held reversed (pointing backwards) as a mark of respect or mourning. Rest on arms is a similar position for use when halted in which the weapon is rested pointed to the ground (as opposed to upwards as when stood at attention for example). The practice is said to have originated in Ancient Greece, though the earliest documented cases are from descriptions of 16th-century military funerals. It is known that a New Model Army soldier carried out the movement at the execution of Charles I and was later punished for rendering such an honor to the king. A unique reverse arms drill was devised as a special sign of respect for the 1722 funeral of John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough at Westminster Abbey. This drill became the basis for the modern-day movements. The drill was known in former times as "club arms" (for reverse arms) and "mourn arms" (for rest on arms reversed).

The movement was used in the US Army by the time of the American Civil War and one veteran of the time noted that the movement was tiring to perform. An 1889 article in the Journal of the United States Cavalry Association opined that "reverse arms and rest on arms are bits of fancy drill that never were of any use, and should have been eliminated from the tactics long ago". The article also stated that the movement was not used in the German military, which marched in the conventional manner at the funeral of Emperor Frederick III. The movement was dropped from US Army practice some time before the First World War. A 1886 article in the Journal of the Royal United Service Institution suggested that the movements could be dropped from British practice without affecting the solemnity of funerals. The movements do not seem to have been commonly practiced and there was some confusion at the 1901 funeral of Queen Victoria among soldiers who had not been taught the drill.

Movements

In the Canadian Armed Forces drill manual the movement for reverse arms is carried out before stepping off. The same movement is used for rifles, carbines and swords. The soldier is ordered to shoulder arms, the butt of the rifle is brought upwards, the muzzle is turned underneath the right arm and grasped with the left hand from behind the back. There is also a movement prescribed to switch the rifle from the right arm to the left. If parades are halted for a long period the drill manual specifies that soldiers should be ordered to return to the shoulder arms position. Arms are then to be reversed again before stepping off once more.

Rest on your arms reverse

The movement to rest on arms is carried out from the present arms position. The rifle is swung downwards so that the muzzle rests on the soldier's left foot, the right hand is placed flat on the butt of the rifle and the left hand on top of this. The soldier's head is then lowered to rest on the chin. The whole movement should take ten seconds.

In the British Army drill manual reverse arms is ordered from the shoulder arms position and is carried out before stepping off. The soldier's right hand reaches across to take hold of the butt of the rifle. The rifle is switched to the right side and the left hand grabs the rifle stock. The rifle is then swung downwards and turned under the right armpit to a 45-degree angle to the ground whilst the left arm reaches behind the back to grasp the barrel.

Reversed arms is always carried out at slow march initially but may transition into quick march if there is a significant distance to be covered. In quick march the left hand releases the rifle which is gripped solely by the right hand, forearm and elbow. The left arm is held as far to the rear as possible. Arms can also be changed in the reverse arms position, to provide rest to the soldier or as a spectacle for onlookers.

With swords the transition to reverse arms is made from the carry position. The sword is placed under the right armpit, with hilt and blade uppermost, and the left hand passes behind the back to grasp the blade. With swords the order is only two movements long (when compared with four movements for the rifleman) so is carried out simultaneously only with the last two movements of the rifleman's command. The sword is switched to the opposite side if change arms is ordered.



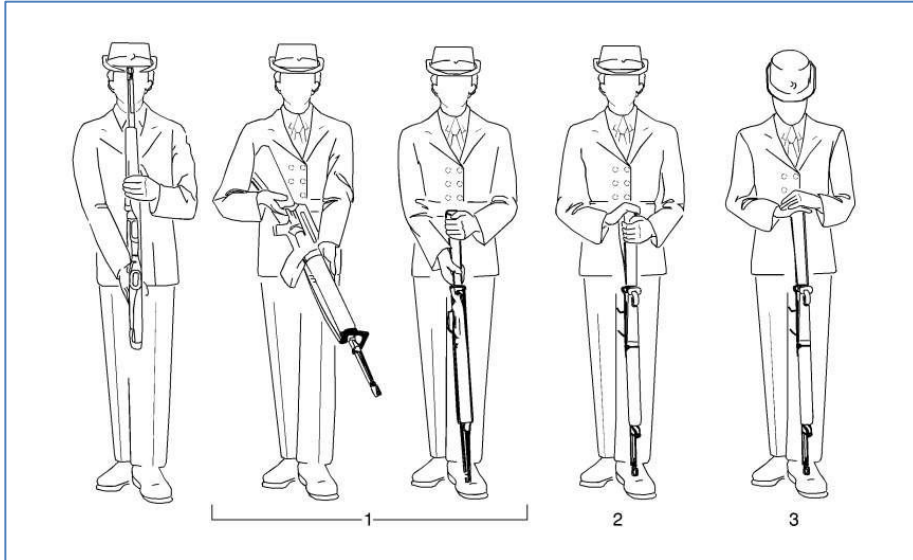
Australian guard of honor on Remembrance Day 1943, resting on arms reversed

Lower on your arms reversed

In the British Army drill manual rest on arms reversed is known as "lower on your arms reversed". The rifle is brought upwards, with the left hand on the stock and the right hand taking hold of the pistol grip. The rifle is then rotated downwards to point down the right side of the body while the left hand moves from the stock to the butt. The head is then lowered to look at the ground in a movement lasting four seconds; the entire command takes ten seconds. In this position the rifle, being shorter than that used historically and being held by the pistol grip and not the butt, does not touch the ground.

The order for swords is carried out from the present arm position. The sword is brought to the recover position from which the point is swung downwards, with the edge pointing to the soldier's right. The tip is placed on the ground between the soldier's feet while the right-hand rests on top of the sword pommel with the left placed over it. This takes six seconds. As with the rifle command the final four seconds are for the soldier to lower his eyes.

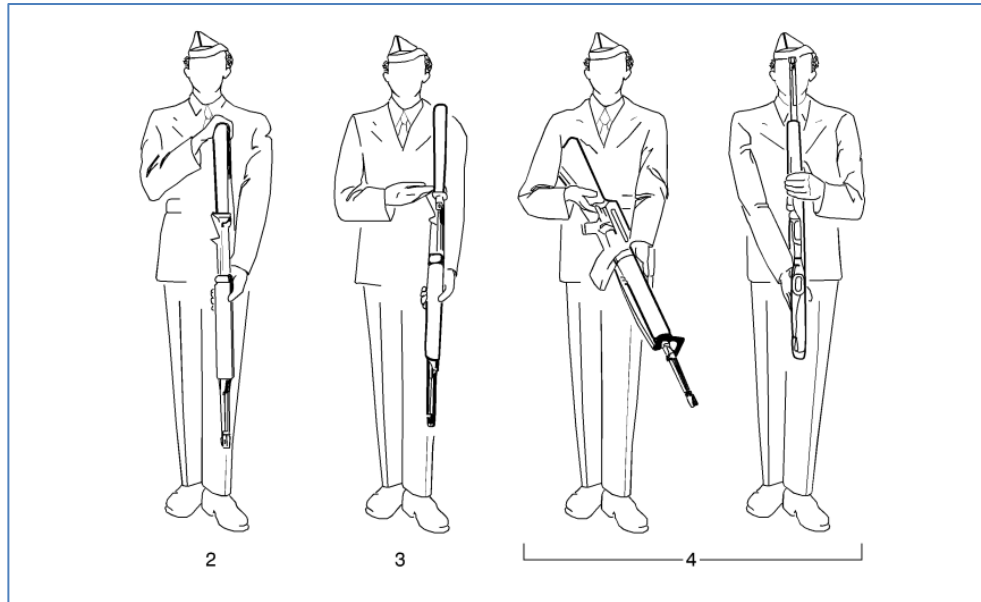
REST ON YOUR ARMS REVERSED FROM PRESENT ARMS



From Present Arms to Rest on our Arms Reversed

1. On the command **COLOR GUARD, REST ON YOUR ARMS REVERSED**: Members shall force the weapon forward to the full extent of the arms and simultaneously rotate the butt under the right arm pit, lower the barrel forward and downward onto the left boot, grasping the butt below the heel with the left hand. The muzzle shall be placed on the toe crease of the left boot. The entire movement is executed to a count of ten seconds.
2. On the command **SQUAD – TWO**, squad members shall place the right hand on the butt plate with the thumb around the toe of the band and the fingers together.
3. On the command **SQUAD – THREE**, squad members shall place the left hand over the right, drop the elbows to the sides and lower the head until the chin touches the chest.
4. On the command **REST ON YOUR ARMS – REVERSED**, the three movements are combined. All movements shall be executed without pause and with smooth and solemn dignity. A count of 10 seconds shall be used to complete the entire sequence as follows:
 - a. 8 seconds, **SQUAD-ONE** completed,
 - b. 9 seconds, **SQUAD-TWO** completed, and
 - c. 10 seconds, **SQUAD-THREE** completed.

PRESENT ARMS FROM REST ON YOUR ARMS REVERSED

**Present Arms from the Rest on your Arms Reversed**

1. On the command PRESENT ARMS BY NUMBERS, SQUAD – ONE, squad members shall raise the head and eyes and look to the front.
2. On the command SQUAD – TWO, squad members shall lift the weapon 10 cm outwards from the body with the right hand until the left hand grasps the handguard, the back of the left hand to the rear with the thumb pointing down the handguard and the left arm kept straight.
3. On the command SQUAD – THREE, squad members shall place the right hand between the weapon and sling with the palm up and the first knuckle of the index finger at the small of the butt.
4. On the command SQUAD – FOUR, squad members shall move the butt between the body and the right arm and rotate the weapon to the present arms position.
5. On the command PRESENT – ARMS, the four movements are combined. A standard pause shall be observed between each movement.

Chapter 8: Fife and Drum Corps

The WA State Fife & Drum Corps (F&D) was organized by Drum Major Viren Lemmer, of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter, in 2014 and is now (2109) approaching 20 members.

Major Lemmer indicated, “When I became a member of the SAR, I was approached by the CG Commander about marching with the Color Guard”. He asked if I wanted to carry a musket in the next parade. I looked at him and asked, “What if I carry a drum instead?” At that point the Fife and Drum Corps was born.



Early on, it was decided that membership would include persons from the SAR, DAR, and other non-associated member musicians. Most however are members of the SAR with other members being DAR, HODAR (husband of a DAR), or other non-associated members.

Due to the inclusion of non-SAR members, the Fife & Drum Corps is considered a support unit associated with the CG but not an actual part of it.

During the Revolutionary War, the musician’s uniform was the opposite color of his regiment. This resulted in the F&D wearing a red coat with blue facings. Members are however authorized to wear any uniform worn during the revolution.

Participation in the F&D are recognized with a system based upon number of events attended. Members are promoted in rank with epaulets which are worn on the left shoulder.

- 10 Events - Green, **Corporal**
- 20 Events - White, **Sergeant** (normally red but not on a red uniform.)
- 35 Events - Silver, **Lieutenant**
- 50 Events - 2 Silver, **Captain**



Chapter 9: Recruiting and Retention

Recruiting Activities:

Since our Color Guard is the "**Face of the SAR**", it follows that they would be the ones to recruit for new chapter members. To "beat the bushes" in their community to find prospective members. Every time the Color Guard appears, is a recruiting opportunity.

Where? At public events, state fairs, festivals & gun shows, at civic clubs, fraternal groups, educational conferences, genealogy seminars, historical societies, churches, schools, veteran's organizations, and other patriotic clubs, the SAR Color Guard can find a few good men.

DAR Recruiting.

Every DAR male relative, father, son, brother, cousin, and even husbands are already familiar with SAR and usually easily recruited and approved for SAR membership. Your chapter color guard should have an SAR Recruiting table or booth at every DAR regular event or function.

Where? At DAR Board of Management meetings, state conferences, National Defense luncheons, and don't forget to have someone from your chapter at your local DAR chapter meetings.

Tables, Booths, and Displays.

- Who: Just one or two SAR compatriots are necessary, dressed in coat & tie, or color guard uniform.
- Where: Try for a prominent place where attendee traffic will pass by.
- When: Set up your table or booth display an hour or so in advance to maximize opportunity as attendees arrive.
- What: Hang your SAR banner or parade sign on the wall or table and a historic flag (Betsy Ross) to call attention to your display.
- Have on hand the SAR recruiting Brochure. (See below)

Types of activities and events:

The WA State CG has participated with great success at the following type of events and will help you recruit:

- Living History in the schools, public, private, parochial, and home schools.
- Posting of Colors at SAR meetings and other civic organizations.
- Public Ceremonies. Dedications, patriotic holidays, community events.
- Recruiting booths. Conferences & seminars, genealogy & historical societies.
- DAR meetings, conferences, memorials, and joint SAR-DAR events.
- Parades. Veterans Day, Independence Day, local town parades.
- Citizenship ceremonies. Hand out flags, pins, welcome new Americans.
- Funerals & Memorials. Deceased compatriots, veterans, war memorials.
- State Fairs, Festivals, & Gun Shows. These reach many new people.
- Boy & Cub Scouts, Sea Scouts, Girl Scouts and JROTC events.
- Historic Places & Monument Dedications, Massing of Colors.

The Washington SAR [Recruiting Brochure](#) is available for download.

The [CG Recruiting Poster](#) is also available for download

The Washington Society has doubled in membership and our Color Guard has increased 10-fold since 2011.

Chapter 10: Medals and Awards

The Bronze Color Guard Medal

- **Precedence:** 47). **(Note: extracted from the National CG handbook dtd 12 Sep 2020)**
- **Year Authorized:** 1998
- **Presented By:** State Society President or Chapter President
- **Approved By:** State Awarding Authority (State Color Guard Commander)
- **Summary:** The Bronze Color Guard Medal is for service at the State and/or Chapter levels. Each medal is awarded for at least three years of service at the applicable level. The three years may be broken, not continuous. Award of each medal may be for retroactive service, so that any living compatriot may receive it, even if he cannot march anymore.
- **Qualifications:** Each State Society shall determine for itself whether to employ one of the following systems for earning the Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals. The first system is based on points; the second system is based on the number of events in which a Guardsman participates.



A. Points System

1. Not used in state of Washington

B. Events System

1. To earn the SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal, a Color Guardsman must participate in **at least 50% of the scheduled Chapter and/or State Color Guard activities in each of three years** which do not need to be continuous. A year shall be any period of twelve consecutive months.
2. A Chapter event shall be defined as an event hosted by a chapter where an invitation to the State Color Guard was not extended. Examples include but are not limited to: school assemblies/programs, presentations at civic clubs, churches and other public organizations, chapter meetings, flag retirement ceremonies, local veterans' events, local Revolutionary War event celebrations, local government proclamation ceremonies and similar local events. The Chapter President should approve a chapter event before the event may be counted.
3. A Color Guardsman must document his participation in the various chapter and state events used to qualify for the SAR Bronze Color Guard Medal. Said documentation must be in written form list the date, the event name and the type of event. Said documentation will be retained by the State Color Guard Commander and passed to any succeeding Commander in the event it is requested as part of the approval of a subsequent SAR Silver Color Guard Medal application.

National/State events that may be scheduled in the state of Washington.

(Note: chart data update per C. Louis Raborg Jr., NSSAR National Color guard commander 12-12-2021)

Eastern Area Scheduled Events		Western Area Scheduled Events	
1	Annual Pacific District Conference	1	Annual Pacific District Conference
2	Annual State Conference	2	Annual State Conference
3	Armed Forces Day Events	3	Armed Forces Day Events
4	George Washington's Birthday	4	George Washington's Birthday
5	Honor Flights	5	Honor Flights
6	Independence Day Events	6	Independence Day Events
7	Labor Day Events	7	Labor Day Events
8	Memorial Day Events	8	Memorial Day Events
9	President's Day Events (1)	9	President's Day Events (1)
10	Patriotic Day (Massing of the Colors)	10	Patriotic Day (Massing of the Colors)
11	Veterans Day Events	11	Veterans Day Events
12	Wreaths Across America	12	Wreaths Across America
13	Liberty Tree Planting	13	Liberty Tree Planting

Chart 1 (Red=National Event)

Note: The Bronze CG medal is issued at the State Level.

When a member meets the requirements for the bronze medal, he will submit a request ([WACG Form BCGM-1](#)) to the Chapter CG Captain. The CG Captain will verify the requirements and will then submit the form to the CG Commander for approval. The CG Commander will then forward the request to the Chapter Awards Committee Chairman or the Chapter President for ordering of the Medal.

The Silver Color Guard Medal

- **Precedence:** 45 (**Note: extracted from the National CG handbook dtd 12 Sep 2020**)
- **Year Authorized:** 1998
- **Presented By:** District Vice President General, State President, or by the District or State Color Guard Commander (as appropriate). Under special circumstances, the President General or the National Color Guard Commander may present this award.
- **Approved By:** State or District Color Guard Commander and National Color Guard Commander
- **Summary:** The Silver Color Guard Medal is for service at the District and National levels. The medal is awarded for at least three years of service at the applicable level. The three years may be broken, not continuous. Award of each medal may be for retroactive service, so that any living compatriot may receive it, even if he cannot march anymore. *An SAR Color Guardsman must have the Bronze Color Guard Medal before he can be awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal.*
- **Special Application Required:** SAR Color Guardsmen who believe they qualify for the Silver Color Guard Medal must complete the appropriate application form setting forth their qualifications. The application is available on the SAR website and must be submitted to the State or District Color Guard Commander for review and recommendation. It is then forwarded to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the Silver Color Guard Medal.
- **Qualifications:**



Each State Society shall determine for itself whether to employ a Points System or an Events System, as defined below, for earning the Silver Color Guard medal.

A. Points System

1. Not used in State of Washington

B. Events System.

The Silver CG Medal requires uniformed participation in at least **three (3) District and/or National events in each of three years**, which do not need to be continuous. A year shall be any period of twelve consecutive months. It can be earned concurrently during the same three years spent earning the Bronze CG Medal. The Silver CG medal can be awarded immediately following the award of the Bronze CG Medal.

There are now **thirteen (13)** District/National level events held within Washington State, which will qualify our Color Guardsmen for the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal and later for the SAR Von Steuben Medal:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Massing of the Colors | 6. George Washington's Birthday | 11. Armed Forces Day |
| 2. Memorial Day | 7. Wreaths Across America | 12. Liberty Tree Planting |
| 3. Veterans Day | 8. Pacific District Meeting (PDM) | 13. Flag Day, 14 Jun |
| 4. Honor Flights | 9. Any Event Attended By The PG | |
| 5. Independence Day | 10. Fields of Honor/Healing Field | |

Three (3) additional out of state National events also count, as well as other National events listed on event Chart above.

1) **Spring Leadership Meeting**
(Louisville, KY)

2) **Fall Leadership Meeting**
(Louisville, KY)

3) **National Congress**
(Knoxville, TN)

Silver CG Medal Notes:

- The State of WA uses the event system.
- **The Silver CG medal is issued at the National level.** SAR Color Guardsmen who believe they qualify for the Silver Color Guard Medal must complete the appropriate form setting forth their qualifications. This form must be submitted to Chapter CG Captain for processing. The CG Captain will verify the requirements and will then submit a request to the State/District Color Guard Commander, The State Deputy Commander, or the State President for review and recommendation. It is then forwarded to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the Silver Color Guard Medal. [Click to download form.](#)
- **Any Recipient** of the Silver CG medal is qualified to submit a female companion for the [Molly Pitcher Medal](#)

Note:

- While earning your Bronze CG Medal, please consider earning your Silver CG Medal at the same time by participating in three national events each year.
- The same events used for a Bronze Medal may be used for the Silver Medal including any National events during the required 3-year period.

As of 1 Jan 2024, 32 WA Color Guardsmen earned the Bronze CG Medal, 25 have earned the Silver CG Medal, and 2 have earned the Von-Steuben CG Medal.

The SAR Von Steuben Medal

- **Precedence:** 44 **(Note: Extract from Volume V: Individual Medals & Awards 2-6-2022)**
- **Year Authorized:** 2012
- **Presented By:** District Vice President General, State President, or by the District or State Color Guard Commander (as appropriate). Under special circumstances, the President General or the National Color Guard Commander may present this award.
- **Approved By:** State or District Color Guard Commander and National Color Guard Commander **Presented By:** District Vice President General, State President, or by the District or State Color Guard Commander (as appropriate). Under special circumstances, the President General or the National Color Guard Commander may present this award.
- **Summary:** The National Von-Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard, authorized 2 March 2012 by the NSSAR Executive Committee, may be awarded for sustained service to the Society as a Color Guardsman at the National or District Levels. Recipients must already have been awarded the Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals.

Special Application Required: SAR Color Guardsmen who believe they qualify for the National Von Steuben Medal must complete the appropriate form, setting forth their qualifications. This form is available [HERE](#) and on the SAR website and must be submitted to the State or District Color Guard Commander for review and recommendation, and then to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the National Von Steuben Medal.

- **Qualifications:** A Guardsman must employ one of the following systems for earning the National Von Steuben Medal. The first system is based on points; the second system is based on the number of events in which a Guardsman participates.
 - A. Points System**
 1. Not used in state of Washington
 - B. Events System (Note: The WA State Color Guard uses Event system only)**
 1. To earn the National Von-Steuben Medal for Sustained Achievement in the NSSAR Color Guard, a Color Guardsman must serve at least five years after the date his application for the Silver Color Guard Medal was approved, and he must participate in at least twenty-five (25) National and/or District Color Guard events. The five years' service does not have to be continuous.
Color Guardsmen may take longer than five years to participate in twenty-five (25) qualifying events but may not be awarded the National Von Steuben Medal earlier than five years after the date his application for the Silver Color Guard Medal was approved.
 2. The same events that count toward earning the Silver Color Guard Medal shall also count toward earning the National Von Steuben Medal. (See [National Color Guard Events](#)).

Subsequent Presentation NOT Authorized: A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

Retroactive Effectiveness: SAR Color Guardsmen who were active at the time this Medal was approved by the NSSAR Color Guard Committee (July 2011), and who had previously been awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal, may count the points earned or the events attended, depending on the system used, in which they participated during the two (2) year period prior to the NSSAR Color Guard Committee approval, or from the date they were awarded the Silver Color Guard Medal, whichever is more recent, toward earning the National Von Steuben Medal.

Von Steuben Medal Notes:

- **SAR Color Guard medals** are recorded by and approved by a Color Guard Captain who will complete and submit all medal forms required of this document and usually presented at a suitable ceremony by a state CG commander, CG Captain, or a State SAR Officer.
- **It is recommended that each color guardsmen also record their progress towards completion of above requirements.**
- **Clarification of a single event:** A single event shall be credited for each Parade, Event Day or Posting of Colors.
 1. **Example (one Event):** The DAR Conference Friday dinner is one event. The DAR National Defense Banquet is a separate event. (If we also operated a SAR recruiting table in uniform on Saturday, as we used to do, that day is counted as one event.)

2. **Example (Two Events):** The WA SAR Annual Conference is over two days. On one day is the PDM (now the “PDC”) Uniformed color guards who participate in both get credit for two events. (If we are asked to post colors for another organization while at the Conference those attending should earn 1 additional “event”).

- **Charts are available** to track your event attendance for the Bronze/Silver and the Von Steuben Medals at this [LINK](#).
NOTE: When you click on one of the files a window will open asking where you want to save the file.
- **Recipients of the Silver CG medal** are qualified to submit a female companion for the [Molly Pitcher Medal](#)

The Gold Color Guard Medal

- Precedence: 42
- Year Authorized: 1998
- Presented By: National Society
- Approved By: National Color Guard Committee
- **Summary:** The SAR Gold Color Guard Medal may be awarded for SAR Color Guard service at the National level. The National Color Guard Committee will be the final judge of who is qualified to be awarded the Gold Color Guard Medal. Waivers to these requirements will be granted only under very special circumstances, and requests for such waivers must be submitted in writing to the National Color Guard Commander for committee consideration.
- **Authorized Presentations:** The Gold Color Guard Medal is awarded as follows:
 - To the SAR Color Guardsman of the Year. Each year, there shall be no more than one (1) SAR Color Guardsman of the Year. He shall be selected pursuant to procedures set forth by the National Color Guard Committee. An SAR Color Guardsman must have both the Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals before he can be considered for SAR Color Guardsman of the Year. The Gold Color Guard Medal should be presented by the President General during the Annual Congress Awards Night Program. To be considered for SAR Color Guardsman of the Year, a Color Guardsman must have completed 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 that Compatriot who best exemplifies both the spirit of the Sons of the American Revolution and the use of Color Guards to display that spirit. The SAR Color Guardsman of the Year must attend the SAR National Congress at which he is awarded the Gold Color Guard Medal, and is expected to attend the subsequent National Congress as well. For the year following his election, the Color Guardsman of the Year will carry the National SAR flag at all National events.
 - For service in a leadership capacity at the National level. The Gold Color Guard Medal is usually presented to the outgoing National Color Guard Commander by the President General at the Color Guard Change-of-Command Ceremony. To qualify for the Gold Color Guard Medal for service in a leadership capacity, a Color Guardsman must have served at least one year as Vice Commander and two years as Commander of the SAR National Color Guard. If the National Color Guard Commander has not served at least one year as Vice Commander, he must serve at least three years as Commander in order to qualify for the Gold Color Guard Medal.



Subsequent Presentation NOT Authorized: A Compatriot may receive this medal only once. Oak leaf clusters or other ribbon attachments are not authorized.

SAR Medals and Order of Precedence

Precedence: (Extract from SAR Official Handbook, Vol V: Individual Medals & Awards DTD 6 Feb 2022)

General Comments on Precedence:

The position of honor is on the wearer's right and on the top. The general rule of precedence when SAR medals are worn with other medals follows, but an individual should refer to the relevant publication for specific precedence for his military branch, governmental department, or the specific requirements of the individual award. Miniature medals are not worn without their ribbons as the ribbon forms an integral part of the decoration.

1. **Federal Decorations:** Consult the most current relevant publication for medal precedence for proper sequence.
2. **Federal Campaign Medals:** Consult the most current relevant publication for medal precedence for proper sequence.
3. **Foreign Military and Civilian Decorations:** *For foreign campaign decorations*, consult the most current relevant publication for medal precedence for proper sequence. *For foreign civilian decorations*, consult the relevant publication or the specific requirements of the decoration, honor or award. If no relative order of precedence is available, foreign civilian decorations should be ordered from right to left by the date on which they were awarded.
4. **U.S. State Decorations, U.S. State Campaign Medals and U.S. State Organizational and Long Service Medals.**
5. **SAR Insignia and Insignia of Other Hereditary, Patriotic and Veterans Societies:** Insignia are worn in chronological order of precedence according to the year of establishment of such organization. Medals awarded for service to a

particular organization (such as the medals described herein) should be placed immediately following the insignia of the respective organization in the order of precedence established by that organization.

NSSAR medals are worn in the following order of precedence from the wearer's right to left:

1.	SAR Badge <i>[unless on neck ribbon]</i>
2.	Minuteman Award <i>[unless on neck ribbon]</i>
3.	Good Citizenship Medal (Gold)
4.	War Service Medal or
	Military Service Medal
5.	Medal for Heroism
6.	National Medal of Distinguished Service
7.	SAR International Medal
8.	Daughters of Liberty Medal
9.	Patriot Medal
10.	State Medal of Distinguished Service
11.	Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service
12.	SAR Meritorious Service Medal
13.	Roger Sherman Medal (Gold)
14.	Roger Sherman Medal (Silver)
15.	Good Citizenship Medal (Silver)
16.	Florence Kendall Medal
17.	SAR Life Saving Medal
18.	Law Enforcement Commendation Medal
19.	Fire Safety Commendation Medal
20.	EMS Commendation Medal
21.	C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation (Gold)
22.	C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation (Silver)
23.	C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation (Bronze)
24.	Liberty Medal
25.	Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal
26.	Roger Sherman Medal (Bronze)
27.	Good Citizenship Medal (Bronze)
28.	ROTC Medal (Silver)
29.	ROTC Medal (Bronze)
30.	Eagle Scout Medal
31.	Robert E. Burt BSA Volunteer Award Medal
32.	William C. Westmoreland Award Medal

33.	Service to Veterans Medal
34.	Patriot Grave Marking Medal
35.	Compatriot Grave Marking Medal
36.	SAR Medal of Appreciation
37.	Martha Washington Medal
38.	Lydia Darragh Medal
39.	SAR Color Guard Medal (Gold)
40.	Samuel Adams Congress Medal (Gold)
41.	National Von Steuben Medal
42.	SAR Color Guard Medal (Silver)
43.	Samuel Adams Congress Medal (Silver)
44.	SAR Color Guard Medal (Bronze)
45.	The Molly Pitcher Medal
46.	Samuel Adams Congress Medal (Bronze)
47.	Council of State Presidents Medal (Gold)
48.	Council of State Presidents Medal (Silver)
NSSAR Specialty Medals	
49.	SAR 125 th Anniversary Medal
	SAR 250 th Anniversary Medal
50.	NSSAR Fundraising Medals
51.	NSSAR District Service & Membership Medals
SAR State Society Medals	
52.	1. WA State Superior Service Medal
	2. WA State Medal of Achievement
53.	Annual Congress Attendance Medals

Chapter 11: DAR/CAR Relations

[\(WA DAR Web Site\)](#)

SAR/DAR Liaison:

This position is responsible for but not limited to: **1)** establishing contact with the DAR WA State Regent **2)** supporting DAR activities as appropriate **3)** for assuring that the appropriate DAR representative(s) is/are invited to attend the WASSAR Annual and Semi-Annual Meetings and other observances **4)** for recommending NSSAR/WASSAR awards, as appropriate.

SAR/CAR Liaison:

This position is responsible for but not limited to: **1)** establishing contact with the appropriate senior CAR officers **2)** supporting CAR activities as appropriate **3)** for assuring that the appropriate CAR representative(s) is/are invited to attend the WASSAR Annual and Semi-Annual Meetings and other observances **4)** recommending NSSAR/WASSAR awards, as appropriate.

DAR Chapters in the State of Washington

Western Washington Chapters

Auburn-[Lakota](#)

Bellevue-[Cascade](#)
 Bellingham-[Chief Whatcom](#)
 Black Diamond-[Mary Fell Stevenson](#)
 Bremerton-[Elizabeth Ellington](#)
 Des Moines-[Tillicum](#)
 Edmonds-[Peter Puget](#)
 Everett-[Marcus Whitman](#)
 Friday Harbor-[San Juan Islands](#)
 Hoquiam-[Robert Gray](#)
 Kelso and Longview-[Mary Richardson Walker](#)
 Lake Forest Park-[Lady Stirling](#)
 Langley-[Whidbey Island](#)
 Mt. Vernon-[Ann Washington](#)
 North Bend-[Annie Pulliam](#)
 Ocean Park-Ocian in View
 Olympia-[Sacajawea](#)
 Port Angeles-[Michael Trebert](#)
 Port Townsend-[Admiralty Inlet](#)

Redmond-[David Douglas](#)
 Seattle-[Mercer Girls](#)
 Seattle-[Rainier](#)
 Tacoma-[Mary Ball](#)
 Tacoma-[Elizabeth Forey](#)
 Vancouver-[Fort Vancouver](#)
 Woodinville-[Susan Woodin](#)
Eastern Washington Chapters
 Kennewick-[Kennewick](#)
 Moses Lake-[Karneetsa](#)
 Richland-[Columbia River](#)
 Spokane-[Esther Reed](#)
 Spokane-[Jonas Babcock](#)
 Spokane-[Spokane Garry](#)
 Spokane Valley-[May Hutton](#)
 Wenatchee-[John Kendrick](#)
 Yakima-[Narcissa Whitman](#)

Medals Presented to DAR Members by the SAR

The Martha Washington Medal:

Summary: The Martha Washington Medal may be presented to a woman over 18 years of age in recognition of outstanding service to SAR. A DAR may receive the Martha Washington Medal and the SAR Medal of Appreciation (on separate occasions) if her service warrants it.

Subsequent Presentation Authorized: A lady may receive this medal multiple times. Presentation and wear of oak leaf clusters shall follow NSSAR policy.



The Lydia Darragh Medal

The Lydia Darragh Medal may be awarded by the incumbent President General, Vice President General, State Society President or Chapter President to the lady who has provided significant service to him during his term.

The medal will recognize the assistance of the ladies who work behind the scenes supporting SAR programs, but whose service does not meet the requirements for the Martha Washington Medal. It may only be presented once per year at the discretion of the President General, a Vice President General, State Society President or Chapter President. The medal should be presented at the annual society by the outgoing President General, Vice President General, State Society President or Chapter President, and the service citation should be read at the time of presentation.

This Medal is named after Lydia Darragh (1729-1789), who crossed British lines in 1777 during the British occupation of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to deliver information to George Washington. As did Lydia Darragh, many ladies have had to courageously adapt to various circumstances in an effort to work side by side with Presidents General and State Society and Chapter Presidents.

Presented By: National Society, District, State Society or Chapter, Approved By: President General, Vice President General, State Society President or Chapter President (depending on conferring authority)



The medal is gold in color and bears on the obverse a colonial woman passing military information to a colonial officer mounted on horseback somewhere on a country road. Around the top edge of the medal will read "LYDIA DARRAGH MEDAL" and at the bottom edge of the medal will read "SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION." It is suspended from a chest ribbon of light blue.

Subsequent Presentations: A lady may receive this medal only once from a chapter, a state society or a district; however, the National Society (through the incumbent President General) may make multiple presentations of the medal to a lady without referral to any committee.

Special Note Regarding Oak Leaf Clusters: Although a lady may receive the award multiple times from the National Society, and once from each of a district, a state society or a chapter, only one Darragh Medal is worn. Once a lady has received the Darragh Medal, subsequent awards by additional conferring authorities are represented by oak leaf clusters (regardless of the conferring authority).

Retroactive Effectiveness: Former presidents general, vice presidents general, state society presidents, and chapter presidents who have not made a presentation of this award would be eligible to present the medal to a lady upon the presentation of a letter to the incumbent President General, Vice President General, State Society President or Chapter President describing the assistance provided by the lady.

Medal of Appreciation

The SAR Medal of Appreciation may be presented to a member of the DAR in good standing in recognition of and in appreciation for outstanding services rendered to the SAR. The award may recognize assistance in forming new SAR chapters, obtaining a specific number of new SAR members or otherwise significantly aiding the SAR programs.

The medal is gold in color and bears on the obverse a relief of Molly Pitcher and is inscribed, "Medal of Appreciation." The medal is suspended from a chest ribbon of the SAR colors. The medal is accompanied by a certificate, which should be engrossed and presented with the medal. The medal is available in miniature.

It is presented by: National Society, State Society or Chapter.

Approved By: NSSAR Executive Committee, State Society or Chapter (depending on presenting authority). Subsequent Presentation Authorized: A lady may receive this medal multiple times. Presentation and wear of oak leaf clusters shall follow NSSAR policy.



The Molly Pitcher Medal (awarded by recipients of the [CG Silver Medal](#)):

Many women who are the wives, daughters, sisters, girlfriends, other relatives and companions of SAR Color Guardsmen routinely and with great dedication support their SAR Color Guardsman and the SAR Color Guard. The Molly Pitcher Medal may be earned by women who have supported the SAR Color Guard at qualifying State, District and National Level Events. The Medal is silver in color and depicts a likeness of Molly Pitcher. The Molly Pitcher Medal may be awarded only once; oak leaf clusters are not permitted.

Requirements for the Molly Pitcher Medal

Before a woman may be awarded the Molly Pitcher Medal, her **husband or other male companion** must have been awarded the **SAR Silver Color Guard Medal**.

To earn the Molly Pitcher Medal, a woman must be present at, and support, the SAR Color Guard at qualifying SAR Color Guard events.

The same events that count toward earning the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal for SAR Color Guardsmen shall also count toward earning the Molly Pitcher Medal. In addition, participation in and support of SAR State events, such as a State Society Annual Meeting or a Board of Managers Meeting shall also count toward earning the Molly Pitcher Medal.

A woman may be said to 'support' the SAR Color Guard by participating in SAR Color Guard events wearing Revolutionary-era attire, or by bringing refreshments for participating SAR Color Guardsmen, or by providing some other tangible support. Merely attending an SAR Color Guard event shall not be deemed as 'support' for the purposes of earning the Molly Pitcher Medal.

The Molly Pitcher Medal should be presented, as appropriate, by the District Vice President General, by the State President, or by the District or State Color Guard Commander. Under special circumstances, the Molly Pitcher Medal may also be presented by the President General or the National Color Guard Commander.

Women who believe they qualify for the Molly Pitcher Medal must complete the appropriate form, setting forth their qualifications. This form is available on the SAR website and must be submitted to the State or District Color Guard



Commander for review and recommendation, and then to the National Color Guard Commander for final authorization to award the Molly Pitcher Medal.

The state of WA uses the "Event System" to qualify for this medal. To earn the Molly Pitcher Medal, in WA state, a woman must participate in at least three State, District, or National events in each of three years. The requisite three years do not need to be continuous; a year shall be any period of twelve consecutive months.

Recommended by the Author: A great source for medals mounting materials is the [Armed Forces Super Store](#).



Definitions, References, and Resource

Definitions:

Color Guard Unit (Chapter) Commander:

The **Color Guard Captain** responsible for the area in which an event takes place or one of the CG Council members.

Color Guard Unit:

The total assembly for a parade or other event.

The Minimum Number in a Color Guard

1. **Optimum:** minimum number of men that form a Color Guard consists of **four (4)** men:
 - a) Two (2) Color Bearers who carry the United States National Flag and the State or SAR Flag.
 - b) Two (2) Musketeers or Riflemen who escort the Color Bearers.
2. **Minimum:** number of men that form a Color Guard unit consists of **three (3)** men with at least one Musketeer or Rifleman marching to the right of the National Colors. The left side of the National Colors should be covered by either a second Musketeer or Rifleman or another color bearer who would carry another flag (most often the state flag). In either situation, the Color Guard Unit Commander⁽²⁾ will be the Musketeer guarding the National Colors, the Guardsman carrying the National Colors, or will march ahead of the National Colors separate from any other rank.
3. **Optional:** May include the DAR or CAR Flags carried by DAR and/or CAR members

SAR Color Guard:

Three to five uniformed SAR color guardsmen carrying 3'x5' full size parade type flags that include the US Colors, State Flag, and SAR Flag, and may include the DAR or CAR Flags and two additional armed color guards that lead the SAR or SAR-DAR Color Guard Unit.

SAR Parade Unit Rules at Public Events.

1. All SAR Color Guardsmen must be in period uniform.
2. The Main Color Guard will carry as a minimum three flags: the U.S. National Colors, the Washington State Flag and the SAR Flag forward from right to left in that order. Our National U.S. Colors will *always* be on the right and will always be carried *straight up*. The U.S. National Colors may be any of the 27 active National US flags (1777-present), but preferably the Betsy Ross flag. Only one U.S. National Flag will be carried in the official Washington SAR Color Guard.
3. All other flags in the Color Guard, national, state and organizational, will be carried in marching with staffs straight up, perpendicular and never carried at a forward angle.
4. When ordered to *Present Arms*, the staff of the National Colors will remain perpendicular and all other bearers will lower their staffs to a 45-degree angle. *The US Flag will always remain straight up.*
5. No other modern flags are permitted in our Color Guard or the Color Guard unit. (such as modern US military branch colors, or any organizational flags other than the DAR or CAR flags).
6. A SAR Color Guard commander will lead the SAR Parade Unit. He should be a State Color Guard commander, officer or chapter Color Guard Captain.
7. The parade unit commander may include the DAR and/or CAR flag *provided that these color bearers are in period uniform or period dress*.
8. Armed Color Guardsmen are encouraged to march, with preference to guard the National Colors. They should carry period muskets or rifles. The commander will designate the use of *The Von Steuben* manual or the *modern* manual of arms as in US Army FM 3-21.5 (FM 22-5) *Drill and Ceremonies*. If a sword is carried by an armed color guard, it will be held *at the carry*.
9. The general *Order of March for the Color Guard Parade Unit* is as follows:

- a) Our SAR Banner carried by two compatriots, 30-50 yards out front to announce the unit, with parade number(s) visible. A DAR banner, if available, is carried side-by-side with our SAR banner.
- b) Parade unit commander with SAR-DAR Fife & Drum Corps, led by Drum Major
- c) Main SAR-DAR Color Guard with 3-5 flags and armed guardsmen
- d) DAR or CAR flags with the bearer NOT in period uniform or period dress
- e) SAR, DAR & CAR regular marchers who may carry historic flags
- f) Military members in uniform and & military veterans invited to march with us
- g) SAR parade vehicle with or without flag trailer followed by other parade vehicles.

10. References: The SAR Color Guard Handbook also applies *as a guide* to these rules. All other questions will be in accordance with the Flag Etiquette, Rules and Guidelines contained in the U.S. Flag Code.

SAR Color Guard Rules at Private Events

1. In general, the above rules apply.
2. At such events held by DAR, CAR or other organization, the Color Guard commander will coordinate with the DAR President, Regent, or other leader. The SAR commander and defer to the leader's wishes, so long as it is in accordance in general with the Flag Etiquette, Rules and Guidelines contained in the U.S. Flag Code and the general rules for Color Guard Public Events (above).
3. A Color Guardsman may wear medals on his uniform only during SAR internal events such as chapter or state meetings where the general public is not present. In any case, the Color Guard Unit Commander in charge makes the final decision on the permission to wear medals on the Color Guard uniform during SAR internal events. SAR Color Guardsmen should get permission from the commander in charge before wearing medals at private events.

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). All dates are approximate. SAR Color Guardsmen, other SAR Compatriots and other interested persons should confirm the actual date of the event listed below with the calendar on the National Society SAR website or with the host state society.

Apr		Pegasus Parade (KY Derby)	Louisville, KY	Mar	5	Last Naval Battle of the Revolution	Cape Canaveral, FL
Apr	18	Battles of Lexington & Concord	Concord, MA	Mar	14	Flag Day	Various****
Aug		National American Legion Parade	Various	May		Armed Forces Day	Various***
Dec	12	Wreaths Across America	Various	May		Memorial Day	Various*
Feb		Washington's Birthday	Various**	May	28	Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous	Vincennes, IN
Feb	14	Battle of Kettle Creek	Washington, GA	May	30	National Memorial Day Parade	Washington, DC
Feb	14	Crossing of the Dan	South Boston, VA	Nov	11	Veterans Day	Various*
Feb	22	Washington's Birthday Parade	Laredo, TX	Oct	1	Point Pleasant Battle Days Point	Pleasant, WV
Feb	22	California Massing of Colors	Los Angeles, CA	Oct	19	Yorktown Day Parade	Yorktown, VA
Jan	16	Battle of Cowpens	Chesnee, SC	Oct	7	Battle of Kings Mountain	Blacksburg, SC
Jul		Battle of Fort Laurens	Bolivar, OH	Sep		Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN
Jul		NSSAR National Congress	Various	Sep		NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting	Louisville, KY
Jul		Let Freedom Ring	Various	Sep	19	Battle of Saratoga	Stillwater, NY
Jul		Independence Day	Various*	Various		Field of Honor / Healing Field	Various
Jun	11	Battle of Ramseur's Mill	Lincolnton, NC	Various		Honor Flights	Various**
Jun	17	Battle of Bunker Hill	Bunker Hill, MA	Various		Liberty Tree Planting	Various**
Mar		NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting	Louisville, KY				
Mar	12	Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Greensboro, NC				

* Any local event celebrating Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day may be counted as a National Color Guard event. 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 vent 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. (Extract from Color Guard handbook dtd 8 Nov 2016)

Events in **red** may take place in the State of Washington and are available to WA CG members.

** Added 2021 *** Added 2023 **** Added 2024

References:

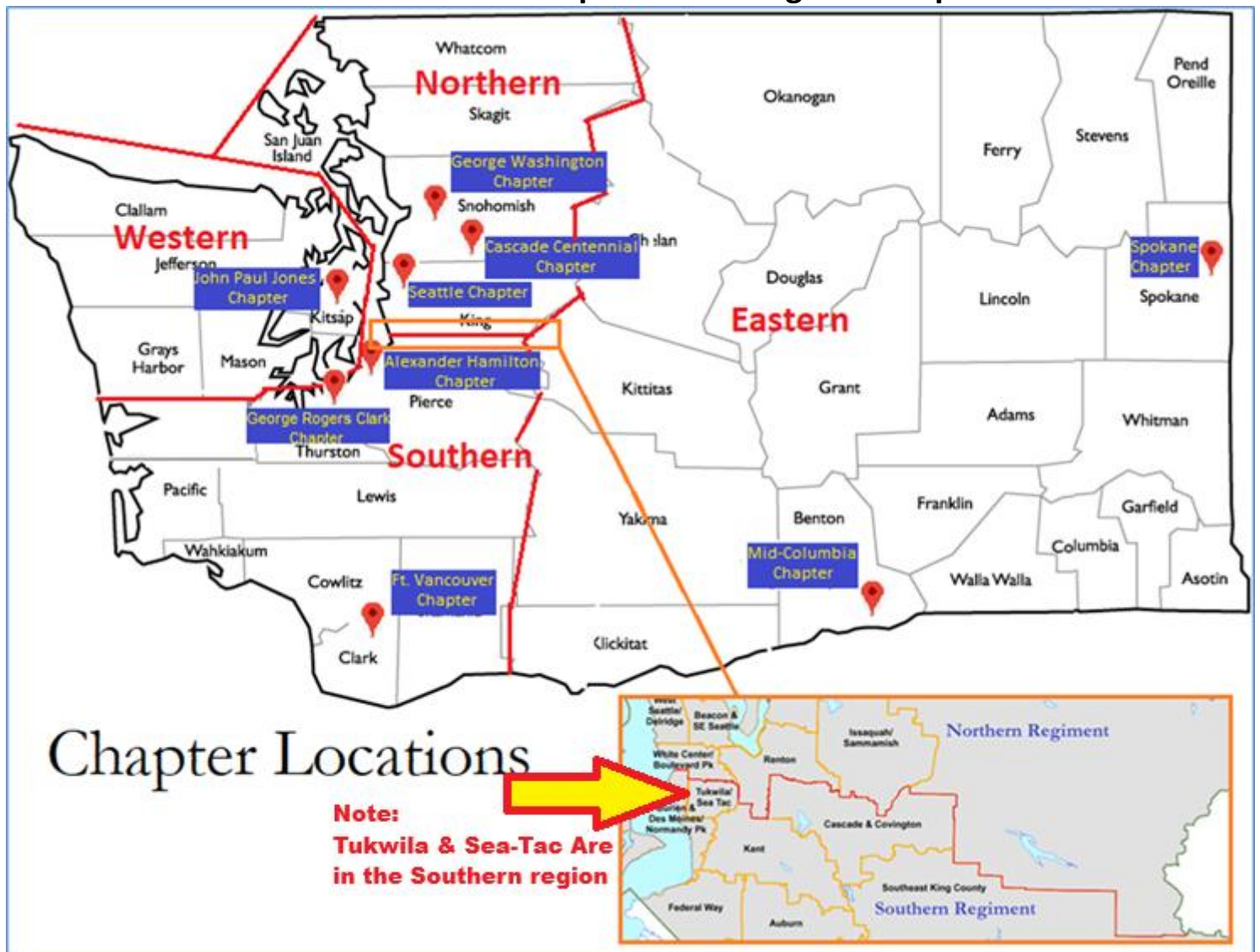
- National Color Guard [Handbook](#)
- National [SAR Web Site](#)
- WA State [SAR Web Site](#)
- WA State [Color Guard Web Site](#)

Resources:

- Chart to track the [Bronze & Silver Medal](#)
- Chart to track the [Von Steuben Medal](#)
- WA SAR 2019 [Recruiting Brochure](#)
- WA CG 2019 [CG Recruiting Poster](#)
- WA CG [Certificate of Appreciation](#)
- Promotion Order (at right) ([Click here to download](#))



WA State SAR Chapters & CG Regional Map



Respectfully submitted, W.R. (Dick) Motz, Deputy Commander, WA State Color Guard
 For updates/corrections, please send via [E-Mail](#)



Revision Notes

1. Section added: Virtual Events (NSSAR COVID Color Guard Addendum)	9-29-2020
2. Clarification of Medals Requirements	11-30-2020
3. Correction to history section	12-3-2020
4. Addition of the leadership pin	12-3-2020
5. Addition of the membership pin	12-3-2020
6. Addition of the Martha Washington Medal	12-3-2020
7. Addition of New Commander 2020	12-5-2020
8. Updated Uniform Resources	1-20-2021
9. Added Gold Color Guard Medal	6-4-2021
10. NSSAR COVID Color Guard Addendum – Rescinded	7-10-2021
11. Washington’s Birthday added as a National event	10-8-2021
12. Updated number of National events (per National CG Commander)	12-12-2021
13. Shoulder Firelock	4-11-2022
14. Updated Medal Requirements	4-15-2022
15. Update broken LINKS to attendance record download	7-24-2022
16. Bronze & Silver Medal requirements update	8-6-2022
17. Reallocation of Western& Southern regimental areas of responsibility	8-16-2022
18. Updated the National Event listing	7-26-2023
19. Fixed broken links on page 42.....	12-8-2023
20. Added clarification to the Bronze/Silver medal requirements	1-1-2024
21. Added 1310/13/2024th National Day to list	10/13/2024
22. Updated the Change of Command procedure	3/4/2025