



# WASHINGTON TRAIL

NEWSLETTER OF THE WASHINGTON STATE  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



SUMMER

AUGUST 2025

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<b><u>PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE</u></b>	<b>2</b>
<b><u>FROM THE EDITOR</u></b>	<b>3</b>
<b><u>CONGRESS 2025</u></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><u>VISIT TO FORT GRISWOLD</u></b>	<b>6</b>
<b><u>OFFICER REPORTS:</u></b>	
<b><u>SECRETARY</u></b>	<b>8</b>
<b><u>HISTORIAN</u></b>	<b>8</b>
<b><u>REGISTRAR</u></b>	<b>9</b>
<b><u>COLOR GUARD</u></b>	<b>13</b>
<b><u>AMREV FUN</u></b>	<b>16</b>
<b><u>CHAPTER ROUNDUP</u></b>	<b>18</b>
<b><u>C.A.R. UPDATE</u></b>	<b>21</b>
<b><u>GOOD READS</u></b>	<b>22</b>
<b><u>USO WALL TILE</u></b>	<b>23</b>
<b><u>AMREV FUN ANSWERS</u></b>	<b>25</b>



## 135th National Congress Uncasville, CT



Washington Trail is the official newsletter of the WA SAR

Washington Trail Editor:  
Dr. Stanley E. Granberg, Seattle

Send articles, photos, and suggestions to [the editor](#)



*President Viren Lemmer*

Compatriots,

This year's National Congress has just finished as I write this President's Message. The footprint of the Washington Society keeps growing. We had more members from the Washington Society (14 SAR members + their wives) attend the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress than the host Society of Connecticut. In fact, we had more attendees than many

states East of the Mississippi. Our members were elected to national office. Keith Weissinger was elected as the Registrar General. This is the highest position in the history of the Washington Society that any member has achieved. Perry Taylor was elected to his second term as Vice President General of the Pacific District. We had new National Trustees and Alternates elected, Dick Paul (Trustee) and Russ Oliver (Alternate Trustee).

We received numerous state and chapter awards as well. Our state level awards included:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place, President Generals Activity Award – Based on Americanism Report for internal SAR Activities
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Allene Wilson Groves Award – Based on Americanism Report for external SAR Activities
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Franklin Flyer Award – Largest recruitment to Friends of the Library
- Genealogist General Award – For the lowest percentages of pended application for the year. Thanks to our State Registrar John Kraft.
- Matthew Sellers Award – VPG Perry Taylor

We also received recognition for participating in these programs:

- C.A.R. Activity Award
- SAR Youth Video Contest
- JROTC
- George and Stella M. Knight Essay Award
- Eagle Scout Award
- Admiral William Furlong Streamer (Flag Certificate)

We had a couple of winners at the chapter level, too:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place, President Generals Activity Award – Cascade Centennial Chapter
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Ohanesian History Presentations Award – John Paul Jones Chapter

This is an exciting time to be a member of the Washington Society of the Sons of the American Revolution! I look forward to seeing you at upcoming chapter meetings and color guard events.

Together, making Washington Great!

Viren Lemmer

President

Washington Society, SAR



# WASHINGTON TRAIL

## Newsletter of the Washington State SAR

FROM THE EDITOR

(TO P. 1)

3



Stan Granberg, Seattle

Beginnings tend to be characterized by ambiguity and questions. It is through experience and the accumulation of history that the ambiguity lessens and the questions find answers.

So with this second edition of the *Washington Trail* I sit in a good stew of ambiguity and have more than a handful of questions that will need to find their answers.

What does this mean for the *Washington Trail*? It means I'm deep in the process of figuring it out. What should be included? Who are the contributors we need to hear from? How should the various articles and parts go together? And on go the questions. In the meantime, preparing each edition will create the history in which those questions will be answered.

This summer edition comes at a time when most of our chapters are taking a break. We worked actively and diligently through the spring and we are ruminating on what we might do in the fall to gear up again. For now, sit back and enjoy!



April Honor Flight at SeaTac airport.

Color Guard: Stan Granberg (SE), Tim Smith (AH), Neil Vernon (SE), Mike Moore (AH)

USO provides blankets to all the Honor Flight veterans to cap off their long weekend excursion to Washington DC.

### SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Published quarterly—February (Winter), May (Spring), August (Summer), and November (Fall)—for the enrichment of members of the Washington State Sons of the American Revolution.

Submissions for Chapter news must come from the chapter president or secretary. Interest articles may be submitted from any compatriot. Submissions for publication must be in MS Word format; attach JPG or PNG photos separately and reduced in size below 1 MB. Identify compatriots in photos by full name. Please include your name, email, and chapter affiliation.

Submit via e-mail to: [The Editor](#). All submissions must be received no later than the 1st of the month of publication. All articles are included at the discretion of the editor.

## Congress 2025

The National Congress for the SAR takes place each June. This year, our 135th Congress was sponsored by the Connecticut Society at the Mohegan Sun Resort in Uncasville, CT.

We had a strong contingent this year from our State. The photo below is our official

contingent. On the following page are a variety of candid photos of activities.

One of the major events of the week was a visit to Fort Griswold outside of Groton, CT for a bench dedication ceremony. The following report from compatriot Neil Vernon describes the events that occurred September 6, 1781.



### **Washington State Contingent**

**Front:** Fely Hersey, John & Diane Kraft, Charlotte Abbott, Viren Lemmer, Susan & Perry Taylor, Cyndi & Keith Weissinger  
**Back:** Mick Hersey, Beverly & Marshall Anderson, Brian Dorr, Neil Vernon, Tony Abbott, Dick Moody DeeDee Simpson, Bob Doughty, Perry Taylor's son, Tim Doughty, Terry & Jim Lindley

# WASHINGTON TRAIL

Newsletter of the Washington State SAR

CONGRESS REPORT (CONT.)

(TO P. 1)

5



AUGUST 2025

SUMMER

5

**FORT GRISWOLD: ALAMO OF THE REVOLUTION**

*Submitted by Neil Vernon*

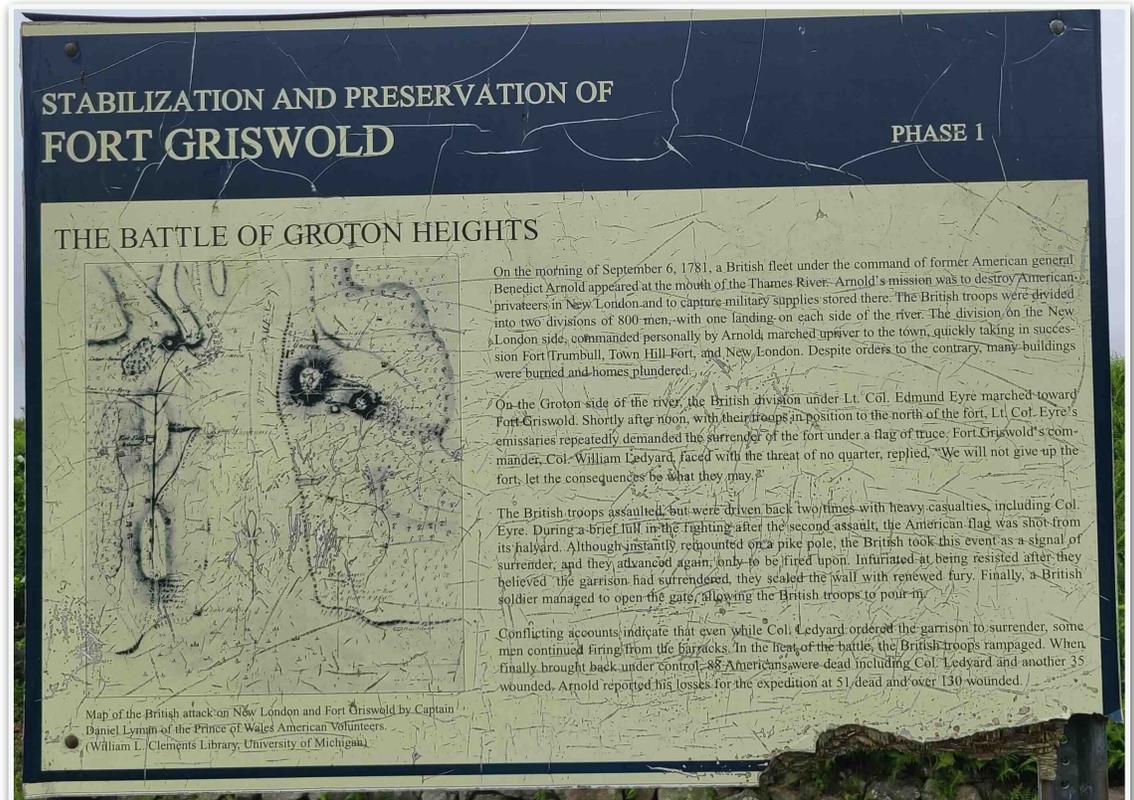
The bench dedication was for celebrating the 250 years of American Freedom and presented by the Connecticut Society with President General Addington presiding. The bench also commemorates the *Battle of Groton Heights* which took place on September 6, 1781.

Fort Griswold, named after Lieutenant Governor Matthew Griswold of Connecticut, was one of just three fortifications guarding the harbor of New London, but of the three, it was the most important.

The fort lay directly across the river from the New London docks. It sat in the town of

Groton, on top of a ridge called Groton Heights, towering some 120 feet above the Thames River.

some two hundred yards from the water's edge.



The fort lay on the southern promontory of Groton Heights,

Griswold's guns dominated the river, three quarters of a mile wide from Groton Heights on the eastern shore to the harbor of New London on the western shore. No enemy ship could attack the harbor without taking a shellacking from the big guns of the fort and the river battery just below the fort.



*Fort Griswold*

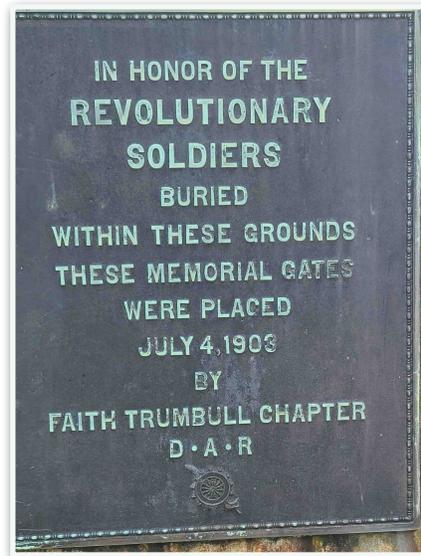
New London was located in the midst of two major occupied British ports, Newport, Rhode Island to the east and New York

City to the west. During the course of the war, Connecticut privateers seized some five hundred ship, with most of those captured being taken to New London.

On the morning of September 6, 1781, a British fleet under the command of former American general Benedict Arnold, appeared at the mouth of the Thames River. Arnold's mission was to destroy American privateers in New London and to capture military supplies stored



there. The British troops were divided into two divisions of 800 men, with one landing on each side of the river. The division on the New London side,

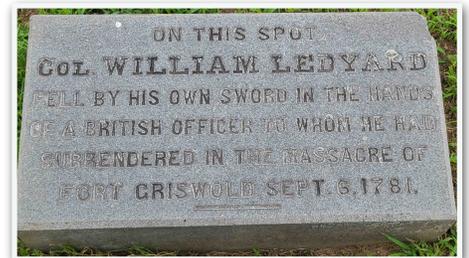


commanded personally by Arnold, marched upriver to the town, quickly taking in succession Fort Trumbull, Town Hill Fort, and New London. Despite orders to the contrary, many buildings were burned and homes plundered.

On the Groton side of the river, the British division under Lt. Col. Edmund Eyre marched toward Fort Griswold. Shortly after noon, with their troops in position to the north of the fort, Lt. Col. Eyre's emissaries repeatedly demanded the surrender of the fort under a flag of truce. Fort Griswold's

commander, Col. William Ledyard, faced with the threat of no quarter, replied, "*We will not give up the fort, let the consequences be what they may.*"

Conflicting accounts indicate that even while Col. Ledyard ordered the garrison to surrender, some men continued firing from the barracks. In the heat of the battle, the British troops rampaged. When finally brought back under control, 88 Americans were dead including Col. Ledyard and another 35 wounded. Arnold reported his losses for the expedition at 51 dead and over 130 wounded.



Legend has it, as inscribed on the marker of Col. Ledyard, "*On this spot Col William Ledyard fell by his own sword in the hands of a British Officer to whom he had surrendered in the massacre of Fort Griswold.*"

This battle is also known as "*The Alamo of the Revolution*"



Col. Ledyard's sword



*Russ Oliver,*

Compatriots,

Summer is upon us. National Congress already occurred, and many chapters take a break from formal meetings over the next few months.

While you relax in the warm summer breeze with your Mai Tai, or [march with the Color Guard in a community parade](#), don't forget to take a

moment to visit the [National website](#) and review your personal information in the new member database,

called the BLUE database. Do you have a new phone number? Did you move to a new address? We can all update our personal information and keep it current. Chapter Secretaries, if your chapter officers have changed, please let me know, and I can help you update the list of your chapter officers on the National website. That will ensure your new chapter leaders get the appropriate access to the BLUE database.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Oliver, Secretary  
WA SAR



*Neil Vernon, Seattle*

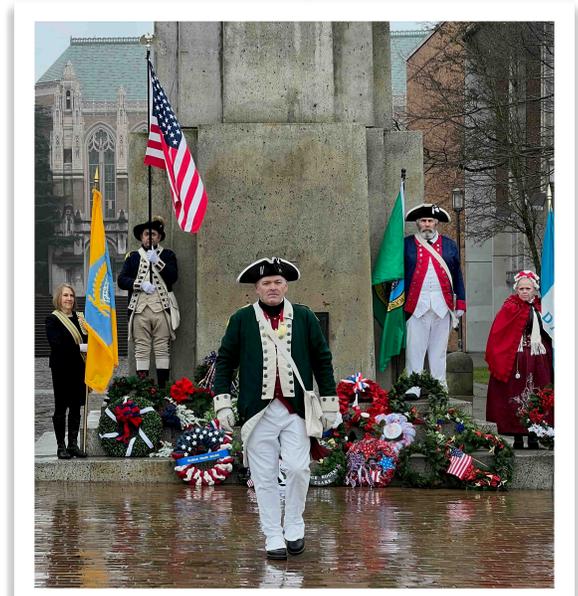
1) The electronic records continue to be maintained and the indices of the State Archive will be distributed to the State President and Vice President.

2) The digitizing of the Historical records has continued to make progress.

To date over 555 hours have been spent digitizing and indexing both the book bond and paper applications, and supplemental applications. At this point, all applications have been digitized and indexed.

- 3) Annual files up from 1894 through 1956 have been digitized, and maintaining the electronic files from 2017 to present.
- 4) Cloud storage has been established and working on structure and security measures for the archives.

- 5) Came across history on the former Bremerton Chapter while processing the historical documents. This has been shared with Brian Dorr, President of the John Paul Jones Chapter.



*Geo. Washington wreath laying*

# WASHINGTON TRAIL

## Newsletter of the Washington State SAR

### REGISTRAR'S REPORT

(TO P. 1)

9



*John Kraft, George Washington*

Applications as of 30 June 2025	2025	2024
Total Applications	57	64 (-11%)
New Apps	29	35
Junior Apps	4	2
Memorials	2	0
Supplementals	22	27

### WASHINGTON STATE MEMBERSHIP

Total membership recorded as of 27 June 2025 is 529 members plus 9 additional dual memberships with WA as secondary, for a total of **538 members**. This is a gain of 11 members since Qtr 1.

- New Members** - Action During 2nd Quarter 2025
  - National Genealogy approved and registered: **12** new members (Attachment 1).
  - Received at National: **24** new member applications were received and logged in during the quarter (Attachment 2).
  - Pended List: **0** new applications is/are on the pended list.
- Supplemental Applications** - Action During 2nd Quarter 2025
  - National Genealogy approved and registered: **12** supplemental applications were approved by and registered during the quarter (Attachment 3).
  - Received at National: **12** supplemental applications were received and logged in during the quarter (Attachment 4).
  - Pended List: **2** supplemental applications are on the pended list. ACNs 110835, 110836, Neil & George Vernon (pended 18 Feb 25). These will be withdrawn on 18 Aug 25 if not resolved.
- National** - Currently, the backlog for review of new applications is 13 weeks. The backlog for review of supplementals is 64 weeks. The date of the oldest New App awaiting approval is 28 Mar 2025, the date of the oldest Supplemental is 01 Apr 2024, as of 27 June 2025.

# WASHINGTON TRAIL

## Newsletter of the Washington State SAR

REGISTRAR'S REPORT (CONT.)

(TO P. 1)

10

### New Applications Approved and Registered - 2nd Quarter 2025

NSSAR No.	Chapter	Applicant Name	Application Type	Received at NSSAR	Genealogy Approved	Registered Date	Patriot Ancestor
233187	GW	Wayne, Thomas Phillip	New	12/11/24	04/02/25	04/04/25	Dixon, Joseph
233188	JPJ	Brooks, Richard Roy	New	12/26/24	04/02/25	04/04/25	Brooks, Levi
233347	FV	Lovell, Richard Harold	New	01/20/25	04/17/25	04/18/25	Gilmore, Thomas
233585	FV	Stark, Jordan Thomas	New	02/18/25	05/08/25	05/09/25	Shortridge, Samuel
233586	FV	Hall, Jeffery Wayne	New	02/18/25	05/08/25	05/09/25	Scott, Calvin
233784	SPK	Ulbright, Daniel Jacob	New	02/28/25	05/28/25	05/30/25	Mallory, Samuel
233854	SPK	Meeks, William John	New	03/10/25	06/05/25	06/06/25	Meeks, John
233856	AH	DePuydt, Steven	New	03/10/25	06/05/25	06/06/25	Boone, Daniel
233855	AH	Morehart, Patrick Edgar	New	03/10/25	06/05/25	06/06/25	Morehart, John
233953	JPJ	LeCato, Joseph Franklin	New	03/28/25	06/12/25	06/13/25	Nelson, Southy
233954	SPK	Loutherback, Rion Lee	Junior	03/28/25	06/12/25	06/13/25	Brown, John
233963	SEA	Sipe, James Glen	New*	06/20/25	06/25/25	06/25/25	Hittel, George F.

### New Applications Received at NSSAR - No Action Taken Yet - 2nd Quarter 2025

ACN	Chapter	Applicant Name	Application Type	Received at NSSAR	Patriot Ancestor
117120	FV	Card, Benjamin	New	04/09/25	Parker, Elisha
117119	FV	Carr, James Michael	New	04/09/25	Lindsay, Ephraim
117313	JPJ	Wynkoop, Paul Alan	New	04/16/25	Mitchell, William
117312	CC	Titterington, Murray	New	04/16/25	Huntoon, Thomas
117314	JPJ	Sperduti, Paul Joseph	New	04/16/25	Prior, Simeon
117316	JPJ	Gilbert, Stephen Anthony	New	04/16/25	Gilbert, John
117317	JPJ	Gilbert, Michael Vaughn	New	04/16/25	Gilbert, John
117318	JPJ	Gilbert, Arthur Benson, Jr	Memorial	04/16/25	Gilbert, John
117315	JPJ	Bandara, Barry Michael	New	04/16/25	Burns, Alexander
117618	JPJ	Harris, William Steven	New	04/24/25	Harris, Ezekiel
117615	AH	Berryhill, Daniel Robert	New	04/24/25	Crumley, William

# WASHINGTON TRAIL

## Newsletter of the Washington State SAR

REGISTRAR'S REPORT (CONT.)

(TO P. 1)

11

ACN	Chapter	Applicant Name	Application Type	Received at NSSAR	Patriot Ancestor
117616	AH	Berryhill, Brian James	New	04/24/25	Crumley, William
117617	AH	Berryhill, Aiden Michael-Scott	Junior	04/24/25	Crumley, William
117786	GW	Davenport, Clifford Ray	Memorial	04/28/25	Poulson, Jasper
117990	JPJ	Booth, Ronald J.	New	05/01/25	Archer, James
117911	AH	Peschek, James David	New	05/01/25	Holton, Jonathan
118463	CC	Little, Stephen Roger	New	06/03/25	Rehrig, John Conrad
118460	FV	Levenick, Christian Edward	New	06/03/25	Brown, Jacob
118461	FV	Levenick, David Christian	Junior	06/03/25	Brown, Jacob
118462	FV	Levenick, Andrew Daniel	Junior	06/03/25	Brown, Jacob
118673	GW	Anthony, John Edward	New	06/20/25	Kimball, Andrew
118622	SEA	Sipe, James Glen	New*	06/20/25	Hittel, George Frederick
118674	AH	McDermott, Dr. Glenn David	New	06/20/25	Stillwell, Joseph
118672	AH	Todd, Brent Michael	New	06/20/25	Todd, John

### Supplemental Applications Approved and Registered - 2nd Quarter 2025

NSSAR No.	Chapter	Applicant Name	Received at NSSAR	Genealogy Approved	Registered Date	Patriot Ancestor
177728	AH	Weissinger, Keith A.	12/27/23	04/03/25	04/04/25	Phelps, Elijah
228587	CC	Schilling, Kevin James	01/29/24	04/17/25	04/18/25	Chapman, Richard
202839	GW	Hutchins, Leland Michael	02/15/24	04/30/25	05/02/25	Terwilliger, Jan/John
228587	CC	Schilling, Kevin James	02/15/24	04/30/25	05/02/25	Bentley, Daniel
206840	GW	Kraft, John Eric	03/04/24	05/08/25	05/09/25	Newell, John
216851	SEA	Marshall, Kenneth Morton	03/15/24	05/29/25	05/30/25	Cooper, William
216851	SEA	Marshall, Kenneth Morton	03/25/24	06/05/25	06/06/25	Kirk, Timothy
216851	SEA	Marshall, Kenneth Morton	03/25/24	06/05/25	06/06/25	Kirk, William
216851	SEA	Marshall, Kenneth Morton	03/25/24	06/05/25	06/06/25	Kirk, Joseph
216851	SEA	Marshall, Kenneth Morton	03/25/24	06/05/25	06/06/25	Knight, William
224965	GW	Davenport, Dennis	03/25/24	06/05/25	06/06/25	Tinker, Silas
217693	CC	Templin, Fred Lambert	04/03/24	06/26/25	06/27/25	Erdman, Andreas

Supplemental Applications Received at NSSAR - No Action Taken Yet - 2nd Quarter 2025				
ACN	Chapter	Applicant Name	Received at NSSAR	Patriot Ancestor
117321	JPJ	Chase, Noah Isaiah	04/16/25	Woodman, Nathan
117620	JPJ	McCracken, Donald Bradley	04/24/25	Harris, Ezekiel
117795	JPJ	Richardson, Francis Ernie	04/28/25	Nuzum, Thomas
118252	JPJ	Peterson, Gary Edward	05/15/25	Pendleton, Benjamin
118316	GW	Kraft, John Eric	05/21/25	Hoffert, Christian
118315	JPJ	Schreiber, Raymond Morris	05/21/25	Swope, Michael
118472	GW	Hutchins, Leland Michael	06/03/25	Terwilliger, Johannes
118473	AH	Starks, Vern Ray	06/03/25	Carroll, Hugh
118471	CC	Dierdorff, Edwin Prentice, Jr	06/03/25	Castle, Daniel
118470	CC	Dierdorff, Edwin Prentice, Jr	06/03/25	Paine, Ichabod
118682	JPJ	Nelson, Douglas Harold	06/20/25	Dennis, Nicholas
118681	CC	Troup, Scott Andrew	06/20/25	Green, Nathanael

Many of us wonder why the application approval process at National takes so long. Here are some numbers I gleaned recently from the [Application Status Report](#) that is available in the Patriot Research System (PRS). These are overall numbers, not just specific to Washington State;

For the one week period of 16 - 21 June 25, there were 71 New applications, 13 Supplementals, and 2 Memorial applications received at HQ.

For the entire month of May this year, there were 415 New, 64 Supplementals, and 3 Memorial applications received at HQ.

The date of the oldest New Application awaiting approval was 28 March 25 (13 weeks), and the oldest Supplemental was 01 April 2024 (64 weeks).

If you aren't familiar with the App Status Report in the PRS, you can access it by logging in to [sarpatriots.sar.org](http://sarpatriots.sar.org), then click the *Extended Access*

button at the top, then on the far left of the screen under *Member Tools*, you can click on the status report. The report is configurable by many different options and can even be narrowed down to specific chapters (this is a new feature that was just added in June). This report is updated on Fridays.

With only 8 staff genealogists, 3 of whom are part-time, it's easy to see why it seems to take so long for approvals, especially on supplementals. I often hear the question "why don't they get volunteers to help clear the backlog?" My answer to this question is very simple, WE ALREADY HAVE MANY VOLUNTEERS, ALL STATE AND CHAPTER REGISTRARS/GENEALOGISTS (AND MEMBERS)!

It is incumbent on all of us to submit only approval ready applications.

Respectfully, John E. Kraft



*Eric Olsen, George Rogers Clark*

Compatriots it is an honor to serve as you and our State Society as our states Color Guard Commander during this exciting time in our nation's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday. 2026 is right around the corner and so is our nation's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday. I remember our nation's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday and all the excitement that was leading up to it. While

I see the excitement in the East Coast states I have yet to see it here in Washington except through organizations like ours. I encourage all chapters to become a partner in America250.org and for all members to look at and use the materials that can be found in america250sar.org. Let's reach out into our communities and get them excited about America's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

## Color Guard Spring Roundup

*By Neil Vernon*

At our State Conference on April 26, a Change of Command Ceremony was performed. Washington State Color Guard Commander Neil Vernon, who served as commander for six (6) years retired. Eric Olsen of the George Rogers Clark chapter assumed command. During the ceremony we were honored to have all of the past commander present.

As a final act of his command, outgoing Color Guard Commander Neil Vernon provides the following round up of Color Guard activities in 2025.

### MASSING OF FLAGS

On March 22, 2024, Neil Vernon, Stan Granberg, and Joachim "Acki" Muller attended the annual Washington State Patriotic Day Massing of Flags in Dupont, Wa. Four Chapters were represented; Alexander Hamilton, George Rogers Clark, George

Our state's color guard has been very fortunate in that we had several years of having a tail wind resulting in growth. Unfortunately, we are now also facing a headwind and have been for the last year at least. After many years of faithful service, we are starting to lose color guard members as they age out. This is where we need you. In order for our state society to flourish and grow we need to get new members into our ranks and retain them. Doing so will also help our color guard grow as we head into our nation's 250<sup>th</sup> and beyond.

The SAR Color Guard is often referred to as the face of the SAR, however we can't function without the rest of the SAR who is the body. Please join your chapter's color guard at events: manning tables, in parades and wherever you can; we can use you and your presence will enhance our visibility in our communities. Think outside the box and I look forward to getting around the state and meeting you.



Washington, and Seattle, along with the State Fife and Drum. This year, the WASSAR Color Guard and Fife & Drum won 1<sup>st</sup> place prize for number of members in the adult organization category, for a prize of \$500. This was split among the participating chapters.

Participants –Front Row (L-R) Jan Lemmer, Viren Lemmer, Michael Bendickson, Charley Frisk, Timothy Smith, Back Row: Eric Olsen, Stan Granberg, Art Dolan, Neil Vernon, Michael Moore, Bill Bentler, Jerry

Bordelon, Acki Muller, Rod Jenny, Johnmark Jenny, Marshall Anderson

### HONOR FLIGHTS

The WA SAR is a regular participant in our SeaTac Honor Flights. These flights honor our oldest serving veterans from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and Cold War periods of service. Veterans are treated to a guided weekend in Washington DC where they get to tour capital sights and are treated as honored guests.

On the April 14, 2025, the WA SAR Color Guard greeted over 80 veterans at SeaTac Airport. This was a large contingent of Veterans who served in the Cold War, Vietnam, Korea, and we were honored with two WWII veterans (a rare breed). Color Guard Attending the Honor Flight included: Stan Granberg (SE), Timothy Smith (AH), Neil Vernon (SE), and Michael Moore (AH).

On May 19, we greeted the second Honor Flight contingent. Color Guardsmen included: Stan Granberg (SE), Timothy Smith (AH), Neil Vernon (SE), John Herr (AH), and Michael Moore (AH).

### SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

Several of our western Washington chapters participated in Seattle area school Presentations were given on *History of the American Flag*, *A Day in a Life*, and *An Overview of the Battle of Lexington*.

Here is a list of the schools served and the Color Guardsmen involved:

- Whittier Elementary in Everett, April 2: Neil Vernon (SE), Bill Bentler (GW), Grant Rauzi (SE), and Richard Seeder (SE) (Color Guard debut).
- St. Brendans, April 4: Neil Vernon (SE), Bill Bentler (GW), Grant Rauzi (SE), and Michael Moore (AH).
- West Mercer Elementary, April 22: Neil Vernon (SE), Bill Bentler (GW), Grant Rauzi (SE), and Michael Moore (AH).

- Lakeridge Elementary School on Mercer Island, April 28: Neil Vernon (SE), Stephen Clayton (SE), Michael Moore (AH), with a special guest speaker, Washington State C.A.R. President Danika Bendickson.
- Island Park Elementary, Mercer Island, May 8: Neil Vernon (SE) and Grant Rauzi (SE).
- Eagle Creek Elementary, May 29, Arlington, WA: Neil Vernon (SE), Bill Bentler (GW), John Kraft (GW), and Lee Schuirman. We gave presentations to 5 5th grade classes comprising 143 students.

### SPEAKER'S BUREAU MOMENT

On May 16, Neil Vernon (SE) presented the "*History of the American Flag*" to 53 residents at the Wesley Retirement Community in Des Moines, WA.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

On April 25, 2025, as part of our State Conference community engagement, members of the WA SAR Board of Directors toured the USO office at SeaTac Airport. The SeaTac USO office serves our military as they receive orders for Guam, Japan, and Korea and provides a place to rest during their travels. One significant feature, among many, is that the walls are covered with tiles of honor, from purple heart recipients to USO donors. The WA SAR was honored to place a tile on the wall of honor for our support of Past, Present, and Future Veterans. If you or your chapter wish to order a tile, the order form is available on p. \_\_\_\_\_



## CALLING ALL WASSAR MEMBERS!

By Eric Olsen

Many folks call the SAR Color Guard the face of the Sons of the American Revolution. But the face can't function without the body which is all of you. And right now, we need you more than ever. You don't have to be a member of the SAR Color Guard to make a difference at an event like a parade and you can even work towards earning the bronze, Silver or Gold 250<sup>th</sup> Medal like many of our states Color Guard members have done. Non-Color Guard Members who show up wearing a blazer with a SAR logo or medal on it can carry a banner or even a historical flag. Carrying a banner frees up Color Guard members for other tasks like carrying muskets to guard our nations colors.

At a recent parade a Color Guard Captain and myself had brought around 30 something historical flags but we had no-one to carry them. Now imagine if we had WASSAR members wearing a blazer attend the parade to carry those flags. What a site that would have been! At just 3 SAR members abreast carrying a flag our group would have had around 10 more lines adding over well over another 60' in length to our group. That would send a very powerful message to the public that **The Sons of the American Revolution** is very much alive and a group to join and become active with. Check the [Color](#)

[Guard schedule](#) at the WA SAR website.. If you see an image of a trailer that will be a clue that the WASSAR CG Commander will be at the event. You can also check with your chapters CG Captain to see if I will be at an event or not or not. Often times they reach out to see if I will be there. If I am there and it's a parade, I



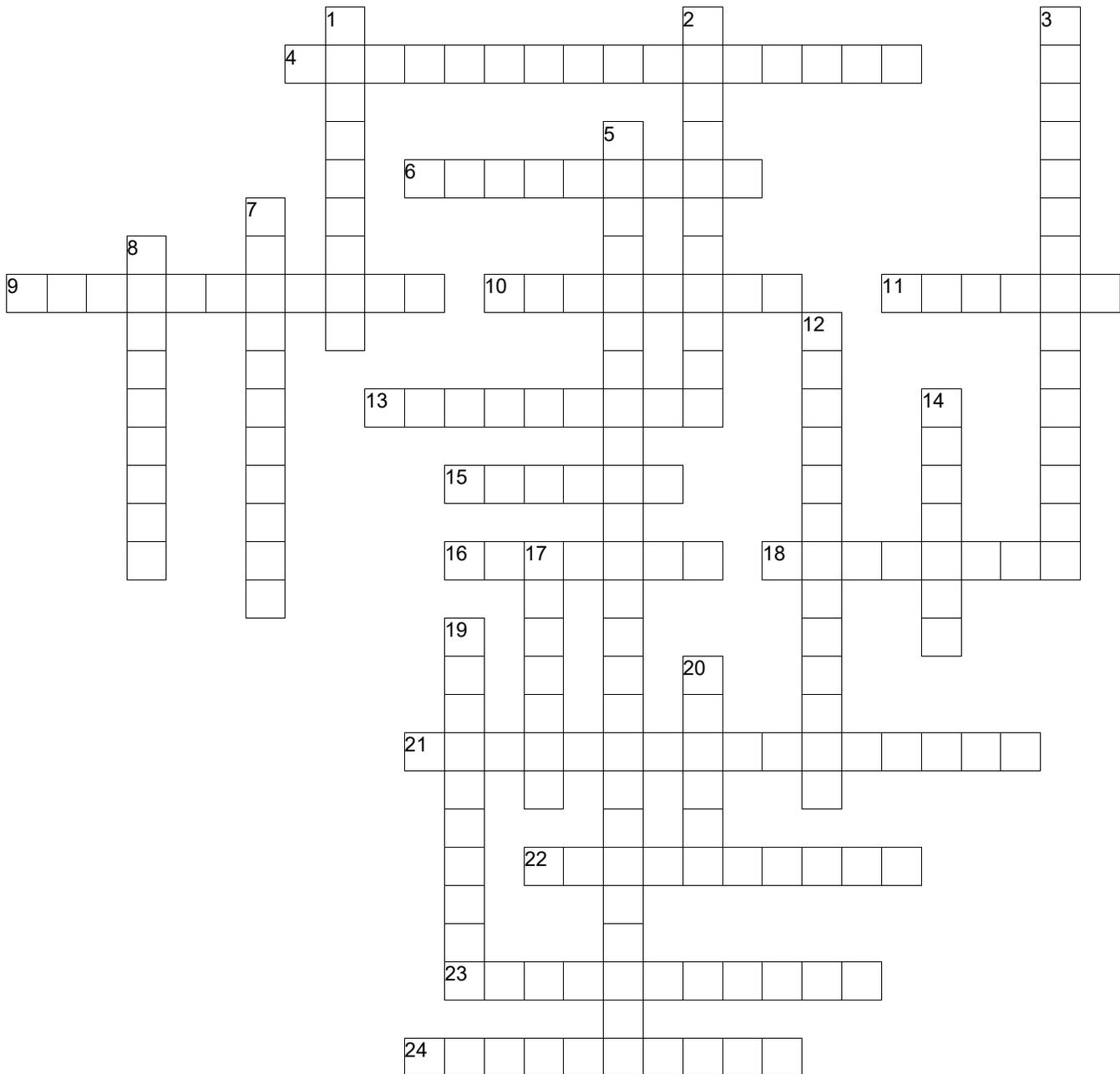
Woodinville Parade, August 9, 2025

guarantee you that I will have some historical flags for you to carry.

Some of the flags which are available to carry include: The Bedford Flag, The Green Mountain Boys, The Rhode Island Regiment, The Taunton Flag, and Washington's Cruisers. I am also adding to this list on a regular basis. I hope to see you at a parade soon.

Together we can increase our presence at events and grow our society by attracting new members and retaining more existing members. Let's Roll!

# Crossword Puzzle



**Across**

4. What style of fighting was used by southern Patriots like Francis Marion to resist the British army during the Revolutionary War
6. Group of colonial militia who bragged about how fast they could get ready to fight
9. After the war, Britain agreed to recognize the United States as a free and \_\_\_\_\_ nation
10. At what battle did the Americans prove once and for all that they could fight toe-to-toe with the British? This battle caused another country to join the American side...
11. Don't Fire Until you see the \_\_\_\_\_ of their Eyes
13. The Marquis de \_\_\_\_\_ represented France and helped the Continental Army
15. The British under general Howe abandoned this city without a fight, an early victory for the Continental Army
16. Town where colonial militia was storing its weapons before the war
18. What was the final major battle of the Revolutionary War, in which the American troops and French navy surrounded the British and forced surrender?
21. Leader of the Continental Army
22. At this battle, which was incorrectly named after a nearby place, the British army suffered heavy casualties despite eventually taking control of the location
23. George Washington sent troops to raid what old British fort in northern New York? (Fort \_\_\_\_\_)
24. This Prussian military officer helped train the Continental Army in successful battle tactics - Baron \_\_\_\_\_

**Down**

1. The Americans ultimately lost at Bunker Hill because they ran out of \_\_\_\_\_
2. Where did the Continental Army spend a freezing cold winter in 1777-78, low on supplies and with many dying of disease?
3. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?
5. What document officially declared to the world that the 13 colonies were fighting to be their own country?
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ Army fought to gain independence from Britain
8. Town where first shots were fired between Britain and colonial militia
12. What treaty ended the American Revolution?
14. What battle saw Washington cross the Delaware river and surprise the Hessians on December 26?
17. At what battle, which took place in a major city, did the Continental Army suffer huge losses and almost lost the war?
19. According to the declaration, the consent of the people is the ultimate source of power for the \_\_\_\_\_
20. What country provided money, supplies, troops, and naval support to the Continental Army?

## SEATTLE

April 19, the 250th anniversary of Lexington/Concord, was a big day for the Seattle chapter. We began the day at Seattle's historic, pioneer Lake View Cemetery where we hosted a Grave marking ceremony to honor the First Washington State SAR President, Simon Winfield Scott. We dedicated a memorial bench at Scott's gravesite inscribed with Scott's name as well as the seven other WA SAR presidents buried in the cemetery.



*Grave marking for 1st WA SAR President: Col. Simon W. Scott and bench dedication*

Compatriot Stan Granberg (SE) conducted the ceremony, which included posting of flags with the WA SAR Color Guard and the Fife and Drum. A wreath laying ceremony included wreaths from NSSAR Librarian General Keith Weissinger, Washington State Color Guard Commander Neil

Vernon, and other SAR and DAR chapters. More than forty participants attended the ceremony.

The day continued at the the DAR Rainier Chapter House where the Seattle SAR and DAR chapters jointly held an Open House to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord.

We were honored to have several speakers. Doug Webb (SE) spoke on the *Battle of Lexington* and his ancestors response to the events. Washington State C.A.R. President, Danika Bendickson delivered a speech on the *Children of the Revolution* and her annual program of *Operation Battle Buddy*, which is focuses on active duty and first responders. Compatriot Kent Troy (AH), who over zoom from North Carolina, presented more detail facts of the Battle of Lexington and Concord. Our last speaker was DAR Jane Ritchey, who spoke on the *Women of the Revolution*.



*Lexington-Concord 250th Commemoration*

Several organizations set up display and recruiting tables, including SAR, DAR, C.A.R., Military Order World Wars, Blue Angel Squadron JROTC, VFW, the Evergreen State Chapter of the 82nd Airborne, and the American Legion.

More than 60 guests attended this event, to witness and remember the 250<sup>th</sup> commemoration.

Finally, on May 22, 2025, Stan Granberg (SE) and Neil Vernon (SE) attended the Joint Service Review at the University of Washington. Awards were presented to CDT Connor Frans, MIDN Noah Leland, and Cadet Abigail Blythe for their outstanding contributions to the ROTC program.

### CASCADE CENTENNIAL

The highlight of our chapter's summer was receiving the first-place award of the President General's Chapter Activities Competition Award at the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress in Uncasville, CT. The award is based on involvement in a wide range of activities conducted by the chapter over 2024 as documented via the NSSAR Americanism Report.



*Chapter president Dick Paul receives award from PG Darryl Addington*

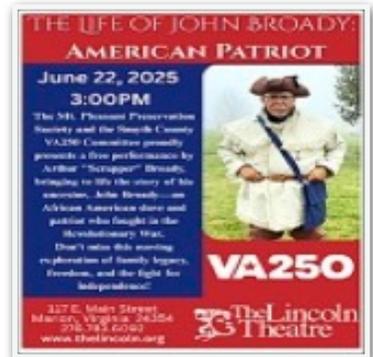
top award for State Societies in the category of 200-499 state members. Cascade Centennial's award was presented by NSSAR President General Darryl

Addington to Cascade Centennial Chapter president Dick Paul as shown in the photo below.

In other news, our chapter sponsored our first-ever recruiting booth at the Mercer Island Summerfest on July 12. We were located adjacent to the DAR Cascade Chapter's booth, making a nice tandem. Hundreds of people attended the event, with dozens picking up chapter tri-fold brochures. A highlight was participation by Compatriot Greg Emerson in militia attire and Compatriot Ken Graalum in Colonial Marine uniform.

### MID-COLUMBIA

Compatriot Arthur Broady gave a performance at the Lincoln Theatre in Marion, Virginia, about the history of his Patriot Ancestor, John Broady, who was an African-American Slave. It was presented to a packed house, that included members of the public, a couple of historical societies, the local newspaper, (2) local DAR Chapters, and the members of the Col. William Campbell Chapter SAR (his second chapter) in attendance. He met afterwards with representatives of PBS Television.



*Arthur Brody*

Compatriots Larry Flint and Cody Huls discuss Revolutionary tactics while representing the Mid-Columbia Chapter at the Prosser Scottish Fest, which was held on 6/21/25 in Prosser, WA.



We communicated with numerous attendees, while our Color Guard participated in the opening ceremonies.

**FORT VANCOUVER**

The Fort Vancouver Chapter was honored by the presentation of an Education Outreach Streamer for our chapter banner, as well as additional star recognitions for our Flag Recognition Certificate achievements, which were awarded during the April WASSAR State Conference.



VITA School Presentation Team (left to right): FV Compatriots Jeff Lightburn, Harry Barber, Mike Fitzpatrick, DAR Sister Pat Barber, FV Compatriots Doug Barber, Paul Winter, L&C Compatriot Dave Witter

Jeffrey Lightburn at Columbia Elementary School in Woodland, WA

President Paul Winter administers the SAR Membership Oath to new Compatriot Richard Harold Lovell

Our Education Outreach programs closed out this school year with two strong presentations — one to VITA School at Vancouver, WA, on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, and one to Columbia Elementary School students at Woodland, WA, on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Both “Day In The Life – 1776” educational events were supported by strong presentation

*FV VITA School Presentations and swearing in of Richard Harold Lovell*

two-mile parade route by 11 SAR representatives and 7 DAR representatives.

During the last quarter, the Fort Vancouver Chapter qualified five new Compatriots: Messrs. Carr, Card, Stark, Hall, and Lovell Two new Dual Memberships were added; Messrs. Witter and Simmons. Fort Vancouver now has a total of 7 Dual Memberships across 3 State Societies.

Sadly, on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, we lost a longtime SAR Compatriot and past Chapter Secretary, Dr. Charles Horace Craig. Dr. Craig contributed decades of service to a number of state societies and local chapters.



*Russ Oliver presents education streamer to FV President Paul Winter*

teams made up of local Fort Vancouver and nearby Lewis & Clark (Beaverton, OR) SAR Compatriots as well as ladies from the Vancouver and Mary Richardson Walker (Longview WA) Chapters of DAR. We have moved to a modular delivery format that provides more focused presentations for smaller groups of students.

The Fort Vancouver Chapter teamed up with the Fort Vancouver DAR Chapter to participate in the annual Ridgefield, WA, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. Over 2200 American stick flags were distributed from an American Revolution themed float throughout the



2025 SAR / DAR Ridgefield WA July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration Parade Team (left to right): Larry Heckethorn, Kent Gosman, Garry Carpenter / SAR, Jeff and Jan Hall / DAR, Julie Byler / DAR, Bryan Carlson / DAR, Jeff Lightburn / SAR, Barbara Jacobs / DAR, Paul Winter, Jimmy Norris, Jeanne Norris / SAR, Greg Vernon and Linda Korum / DAR, Darren Swift, Doug Barber, Lincoln Swift, and Mike Fitzpatrick / SAR

# WASHINGTON TRAIL

## Newsletter of the Washington State SAR

C.A.R. UPDATE

(TO P. 1)

21



Steilacoom July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade. 1<sup>st</sup>: Viren Lemmer, Eric Olsen, Kevin Smith, Charley Fisk, Mike Bendickson. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ralph Liening, John Herr, Mike Moore, Danika Bendickson, Keith Weissinger, Matt Bendickson, Jan Lemmer



Meeker Mansion



Seattle Lexington-Concord Commemoration



she attended the **Meeker Mansion DAR Patriot Plaque Dedication**, in Puyallup, hosted by the Eliza Jane Meeker Chapter DAR.

On July 2nd, Danika presented the C.A.R. State Project, "*Battle Buddies*," to the Seattle Police Guild. She

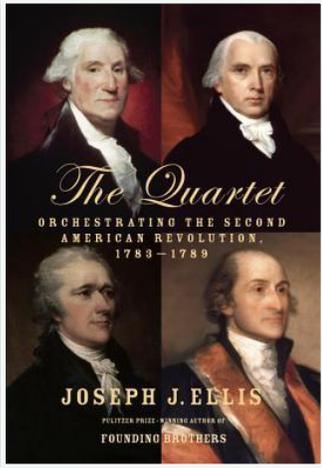
It was a busy Spring for the Washington State Children of the American Revolution President, Danika Bendickson. On April 19th, she attended the **Bench Dedication for Simon Winfield Scott**, the first WASSAR President, at Lakeview Cemetery, hosted by the Seattle Chapter SAR. Seattle also hosted the **Commemoration of the Battles of Lexington and Concord** at the DAR Rainier House where Danika gave her presentation on *Remarkable Children of the Revolution* and introduced the 2025/2026 WA State C.A.R. Project: *Battle Buddies*. F

Danika's service continued April 28<sup>th</sup>, when Neil Vernon, Seattle Chapter SAR, invited her to speak at **Lakeridge Middle School** on Mercer Island. She also gave C.A.R. Greetings at SeaTac, at the annual **WA State DAR Convention** on May 2nd. On May 26<sup>th</sup>, she attended the **Memorial Day Ceremony at Maple Leaf Cemetery**, in Oak Harbor. Her brother, Michael B., and her grandfather, Michael Moore, joined the George Washington Chapter SAR Color Guard and the WA State DAR-SAR Fife & Drum Corps and fought through the drizzle to perform impressively at the event. Finally, on May 31<sup>st</sup>,

explained that the plastic face pocket on the doll allows a picture of the child's First Responder parent to be inserted, so the child has a buddy when their parent is out saving people from harm at the risk of their own lives. When Danika returned home, she got a phone call from the Guild pledging \$3,000 toward the purchase of First Responder Battle Buddies. This generous donation will make it possible for Danika to give out 150 Battle Buddy dolls to First Responders' children at Christmas. If you wish more information or to donate to this project, please go to [C.A.R. 2025-26 State Project: Operation Battle Buddy](#)

The WA State C.A.R., is very grateful to the SAR community for their constant support and encouragement in our quest to learn from our mentors how to honor the past, celebrate the present, and serve our communities as the leaders of tomorrow. C.A.R. is a wonderful opportunity for SAR members to extend their love of Country and family by involving their children and grandchildren in our organization.

Respectfully submitted, Mike Moore, WA State SAR Liaison to the WS C.A.R.



Joseph Ellis. *The Quartet: Orchestrating the Second American Revolution, 1783-1789*, 2015.

Joseph Ellis has an established reputation as Pulitzer Prize-winning American storyteller. His 2016 book, *The Quartet: Orchestrating the Second American Revolution, 1783-1789*, is the story of what he terms the “revolution after the Revolution.” *The Quartet* tells

the history of how the confederation of thirteen independent states, operating under the insufficient Articles of Incorporation, transitioned to a true national government incorporated through the United States Constitution.

Ellis relates the writing and ratification of the Constitution through the quartet of four indispensable American leaders: George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay and James Madison.

- Washington, the military hero, was the indispensable man; his public stature provided the absolutely necessary central, unifying force.
- Hamilton, primary author of the *Federalist Papers*, brought his brilliant, energetic advocacy of federalism.

### MARCHING WITH ARNOLD - W. DORR'S JOURNAL 250 YEARS LATER

By Brian Dorr

Join me on [Facebook](#) as I follow the footsteps of my 5th great-grandfather, William Dorr, a patriot from Roxbury, MA, who marched with Benedict Arnold on the grueling 350 mile expedition through the wilderness of Maine to capture Quebec.

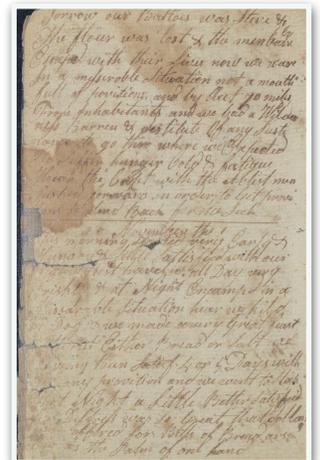
- Jay, first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, was the consummate diplomat.
- Madison, with his mind for detail and history, was the smooth persuader who massaged the complex differences of the congressional delegates into a palatable compromise.

Ellis argues that this Quartet managed the behind the scenes forces necessary to create a federal government strong enough to hold the nascent union together yet flexible enough to be acceptable to the competing provincial interests of the 13 independent American states. He brings compelling insight into the forces and ideas which ultimately formed the Constitution and the political agendas that were appeased, massaged, and sometimes even manipulated in order to accomplish the framing and approval of a national Constitution and its accompanying Bill of Rights.

Americans today are too often unaware of just how pervasive was the public's distrust of a centralized political power coming out of the Revolutionary War and how pathetically weak was our first national government. Our country did not enter the post-war years as a nation. In Ellis's words, it took a second American revolution to rise above the fragmenting examples of European states and jealously guarded State independence to become a nation.

Adapted from [Nut Free Nerd](#), February 22, 2018.

He kept a detailed journal - around 120 near-daily entries —spanning from September 13, 1775, to September 6, 1776. His writings recount the march, the failed assault on Quebec, his capture, nine months of imprisonment, and his eventual return home.





# WASHINGTON TRAIL

Newsletter of the Washington State SAR

USO COMMEMORATIVE BRICK (CONT.)

(TO P. 1)

24

**PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:**

USO Northwest  
17801 International Blvd, PMB 313  
Seattle, WA 98158

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

As indicated on the front of this flyer, for \$25 more, you can add a **commemorative logo** to your brick (**8" x 8" Bricks only**). Check the box of the symbol listed below (additional veteran organizations and religious symbols may be available (contact USO-NW for assistance).

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you add a logo, you are limited to 4 lines of text.

<input type="checkbox"/>	 US Air Force	<input type="checkbox"/>	 US Army	<input type="checkbox"/>	 US Marine	<input type="checkbox"/>	 US Navy
<input type="checkbox"/>	 US Coast Guard	<input type="checkbox"/>	 US Veterans of Foreign Wars	<input type="checkbox"/>	 A.L. US	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Purple Heart

Other logo: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name or description)

**Order a Replica Brick or Commemorative Certificate  
for yourself—or for a gift:**

- \$40 – 4" x 8" Replica Brick (includes all mailing costs to the above provided address) subtract \$10 if picking up your brick from USO
- \$50 – 8" x 8" Replica Brick (includes all mailing costs to the above provided address) subtract \$10 if picking up your brick from USO
- \$15 – Commemorative Certificate

For more information, contact **Susan Schlaitzer** at [usonwbrickorders@gmail.com](mailto:usonwbrickorders@gmail.com)

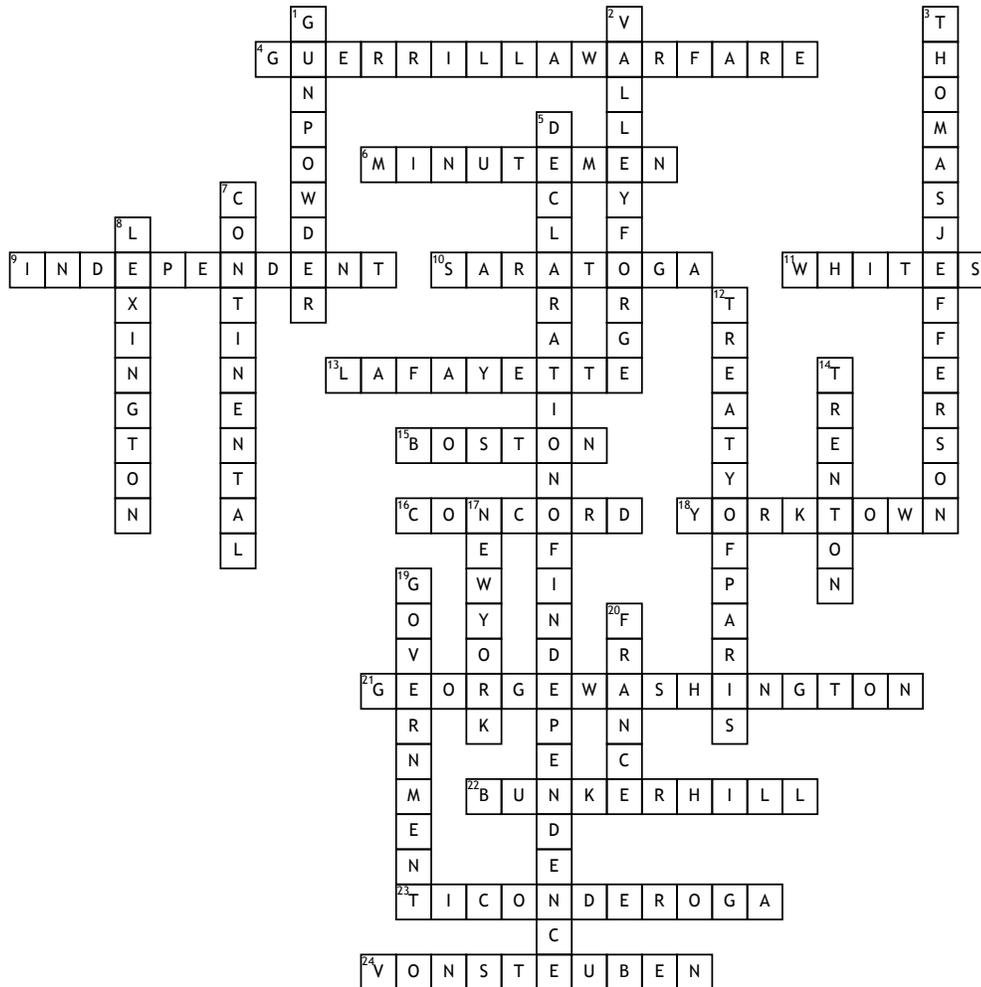
# WASHINGTON TRAIL

## Newsletter of the Washington State SAR

AMREV FUN ANSWERS

(TO P. 1)

25



**Across**

- 4. What style of fighting was used by southern Patriots like Francis Marion to resist the British army during the Revolutionary War
- 6. Group of colonial militia who bragged about how fast they could get ready to fight
- 9. After the war, Britain agreed to recognize the United States as a free and \_\_\_\_\_ nation
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- 20. At this battle, which was incorrectly named after a nearby place, the British army suffered heavy casualties despite eventually taking control of the location
- 21. George Washington sent troops to raid what old British fort in northern New York? (Fort \_\_\_\_\_)
- 22. This Prussian military officer helped train the Continental Army in successful battle tactics - Baron \_\_\_\_\_
- 23. The Americans ultimately lost at Bunker Hill because they ran out of \_\_\_\_\_
- 24. Where did the Continental Army spend a freezing cold winter in 1777-78, low on supplies and with many dying of disease?
- 25. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

- 5. What document officially declared to the world that the 13 colonies were fighting to be their own country?
- 7. The \_\_\_\_\_ Army fought to gain independence from Britain
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- 13. What country provided money, supplies, troops, and naval support to the Continental Army?