



The Patriot

The Ozark Mountain Chapter Newsletter



January 2025

Volume 45 Issue 1



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MEMBERS

Please notify chapter registrar Steve Perkins Patriotmarcher @ fastmail .com of any recent or anticipated change to contact information: address, phone, e-mail



The Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR Challenge Coins are for sale. These coins are \$5.00 each from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk.

On the Cover
The Induction of the 2025 Officers.



Photographs provided by: Daniel Piedlow, Margaret Swales, James Robinette
Editor: Daniel Piedlow



The President's Message

By President J. Howard Fisk
Greetings Compatriots,

We are entering into the third year of the Decade of the American Revolution featuring the Battles of Lexington and Concord. The Ozark Mountain Chapter will give attention to these seminal events of the Battles of Lexington and Concord due to the impact that they had on the beginning of the War and the important role played by significant Patriots that will come into focus later in the conflict.

We don't require anyone to take part in our educational programs, however I invite each of you to give some thought to making a 3-to-5-minute presentation during one of our upcoming meetings. We have all of the resource information available that you will need to make a presentation. Part of our mission is to inform the public about facts and incidents surrounding the American Revolution by bringing messages into the classroom and meeting rooms informing, youth as well as adults.

The OMC is the most active SAR Chapter in Missouri; serving Southwest Missouri as well as traveling statewide to assist other SAR and DAR Chapters in performing important ceremonial functions. You who are new to OMC or who have not participated ceremonial events may not be familiar with our leadership role in Missouri SAR. Please join us for these events so that you can understand the broad scope of service that we provide the citizens of Missouri. No one will demand that you participate, however, I think that after you become familiar with our service you will become interested in the part that you can play in continuing our excellence, just as I did.

Missouri Color Guard Commander, Steve Perkins, coordinates all of the ceremonial events that are conducted in the State of Missouri; Steve is also our OMC Genealogist, managing over 20 applications in 2024. Steve is the most important member of our organization, through his effort to help new members and his coordination of ceremonial events across. Please keep this in mind the next time you see Steve and give him a well-deserved pat on the back.

The document that you are currently reading, the Patriot Newsletter, is an award-winning publication

that is filled with information each month. You will find useful information through the Patriot about the OMC and a variety of activities that we have conducted over the preceding month. Upcoming events will also be scheduled and explained so that you have an opportunity to understand and attend events.

The activities of the South-Central District (Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas) will also be present reported on so that you know about the larger group of SAR governance. James Osbourne, a Missouri SAR member from the St. Louis area is the current Vice President General. Our SAR member, Dan McMurray, was the most recent VPG from our SAR Chapter.

Dan also reports on the activities of the SAR National events, such as the SAR Spring Leadership meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. The last week in February, 12 or 15 of the Missouri members will be attending with the majority of attendees representing Missouri attending from the Ozark Mountain Chapter.

The OMC Patriot is a big job for Dan, just as is the job of taking photos at each meeting and event. Dan uses these photos for the Patriot and sends them to SAR National for a variety of reports. Dan also records meeting proceedings, as well as ceremonial events and training sessions wherever OMC members are conducting activities. Please thin about Dan's many contributions as you read through the Patriot. Dan is one of the pillars of this organization and I hope that you appreciate Dan and respect his service and work ethic.

I hope to see you at many of our upcoming events.



OMC/SAR Meeting Minutes

18 Jan 2025

1. Regular Business Meeting.
2. Ozark Mountain Chapter
3. 18 Jan 2025, OTC
4. President Charles McMillan was present. The positions of secretary, 1st VP, and 2nd VP are vacant.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
6. The meeting started at 09:30 and ended at 11:15
7. There were 22 members present and 6 guests.

A motion was made by Howard Fisk as discussed in the prior CEC meeting that the OMC give Honorary Chapter Memberships to Retired Senator Roy Blunt and his son Matt Blunt.

Gerald McCoy seconded this motion. The vote was taken, and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15.

Washington's Whiskey

by Hannah Reece



Since the first European settlers reached Jamestown and Plymouth Rock, we have been a nation of drinkers. Libations have played an integral role in our national identity and have played a significant role in many of the most notable events in our nation's history. The early settlers brought their preferred hooch from the mother country, enjoying Caribbean Rum, beer, and hard ciders. As the United States grew, so made the demand for liquor, and this expansion of demand led to development not only of traditional spirit production but also the birth of a decidedly American tradition. This American tradition was not exclusive to the everyday folks of the time, many of our Founding Fathers not only enjoyed

spirits, but were bonified fans of a hard drink. Thomas Jefferson loved wine so much he special ordered it from France to be delivered to Monticello, Samuel Adams was a brew master and still lends his name to a popular American beer, and John Adams drank hard cider with almost every meal. But there was one Founding Father that took the love of spirits to new levels, a man who used his agricultural background to not only build a distillery, but turn that distillery into a money-making machine, and that man was George Washington.

American Colonists loved to drink and to drink a lot. According to the Colonial Williamsburg Association, the average American indeed drank from morning to night. While our modern sensibilities may frown upon this, we must remember that spirits played an integral role in their everyday lives, not just as a form of celebration or drowning our sorrows as many of us are guilty of today. There was also a practical reason for the massive quantities of booze that the ordinary Colonist took in through their lifetime, it was safe.

Safe you say? But today many people paint spirits as a killer, something that ruins your life and kills your liver! Yes, there are adverse side effects of intaking large quantities of alcohol throughout your life, but it beat the alternatives for the American Colonists. Water treatment was unheard of, these people had no idea what a germ was, but they did know that drinking water could kill them. Diseases carried by drinking tainted water could kill, but when it was boiled as when preparing liquor or beer, it was safe to drink. This goes a long way to explaining why even

Important Dates in History

Jan 1: Daniel Morgan is taken prisoner during his attempt to take Quebec City 1776

Jan 3: Washington victorious at The Battle of Princeton 1777

Jan 11: Alexander Hamilton's Birthday 1755 or 57

Jan 15: Paine's "Common Sense" published in 1776

Jan 17: General Daniel Morgan overwhelmingly defeats British Colonel Tarleton at The Battle of Cowpens 1781

Jan 17: Ben Franklin's Birthday 1706

Jan 23: John Hancock's Birthday 1737

Washington's Army was given rum every day, it was safer than drinking water that doubled as the camp latrine.

Other than being practical, it was an escape, a way to enjoy an otherwise dreary existence. Life was difficult during the colonial period and into the Revolution, it was a constant struggle to survive, to keep the farm producing, to push back from native onslaughts in certain portions of the country, or any other number of difficulties. Walking to their local tavern and throwing back a few drinks with their neighbor was a great way to unwind and forget about their troubles.

As the American Revolution began in 1775, rum was, by far, the most famous alcoholic spirit in the colonies, but that all changed when the Americans broke away. Much as with tea, it was seen as too "British" to drink rum, and besides molasses cost a fortune, so Americans shunned their once beloved Pirate nectar. Enter the fray, whiskey. Whiskey is simple and straight to the point, much like early Americans. Get some corn, mash it up, cook it, distill it and there you have wonderful "white lightning." To make the product more enjoyable, many distillers did, and still, today, aged the concoction in barrels of different wood to give whiskey that wonderful smoky flavor.

Being of Scots-Irish descent, the history of whiskey making runs through my blood and the blood of most in the mid-Atlantic region. In short, I love whiskey, and when I was asked to write this piece on the history of colonial whiskey, I jumped at the opportunity. The story of whiskey is the story of the American spirit, the "nobody tells us what to drink" attitude that fueled the Boston Tea Party also fed distillers throughout the burgeoning United States of America.

George Washington was a jack of all trades, surveyor, Army Officer, Father of a country, Estate owner and a whiskey distiller. When the Revolution ended, and Washington had fulfilled his duties as the First President, he was left with a little problem, lack of reliable income. Today, we think of career politicians who somehow seem to become millionaires by the time they exit office, but that wasn't the case for the founding generation. While he wasn't in dire financial straits, Washington was worried about his later years living on Mount Vernon and searched for a way to procure a steady income in his golden years.

Washington struck up conversations with a number of his employees on the estate, and soon became drawn

to his farm manager, a Scot by the name of James Anderson. Anderson was convinced that Mount Vernon had all that was needed in ready supply, the corn, and the fresh water on site. Soon Anderson and Washington began designing a large stone building to be used as their distillery, and by 1798 it would house five large stills. Washington and Anderson soon had a thriving distillery, becoming not only the largest producer of whiskey in the state of Virginia but one of the top distillers in the entire country.

At its height, by the year 1800, the Mount Vernon distillery was 2200 square feet and produced 11,000 gallons of corn liquor. One of the most surprising aspects of Washington's whiskey was the fact that it was never aged for a prolonged amount of time. Aging whiskey makes it "bite" less, with the wood barrels giving whiskey its trademark brown color and smooth taste. With modern whiskey, the longer it is aged in barrels, the more expensive it is for the modern consumer, and, ideally, the smoother and more enjoyable it is. This was not the case during the late 18th, and early 19th centuries, many distillers never thought about aging whiskey beyond shipping time. Washington was no different, he did put his whiskey in oak barrels, but that was just for transportation, which did little to soften the kick nor change the color of the whiskey.

Washington's whiskey was a hit, people loved the white lightning distilled by the First President, and orders began to pour in from all over the state of Virginia. Washington's spirits were especially popular in the capitol city of Richmond and were sold throughout the city at numerous shops. This new venture provided Washington with two vital aspects to his post-political life, a hobby, and an income. From whiskey alone, Washington earned \$7,500 in 1799 which is roughly \$120,000 in modern coin, quite the tidy income for a side venture. Soon, Washington began to expand his whiskey-making venture and began producing not only corn liquor but an array of different spirits.

According to Mount Vernon, Washington's Rye Whiskey became his most popular spirit by the year 1800, with people all over the country clamoring for the founding fathers homemade spirits. Washington began to spread his booze-making wings when, in

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1800, he moved into the Brandy business. Brandy is like a hybrid between whiskey and wine. Washington's brandy began with fruit he grew around Mount Vernon, namely apples and peaches. To make brandy, the fruit would be crushed into wine like the corn or rye is made into a mash for a whiskey. After the crushed fruit ages, it is distilled, and this leads to a powerful fruit spirit.

To lessen the bite, just like with whiskey, the brandy is aged in wood barrels. Washington's brandies proved to be hugely popular, and by 1800 he was charging almost double his original price, over \$1.00 per bottle.

Washington's distillery gave the man what he so needed in his golden years, a steady income. Never again did Washington worry much about his income, and he was able to retire peacefully on his farm. A story that is truly American, our first President was also one of our greatest Whiskey producers. So, raise a glass to the father of our country, one of the most successful and skilled distillers of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, George Washington.

<https://www.samsonhistorical.com/blogs/reliving-history/washingtons-whiskey>



Remember, you can order your Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR shirts from Missouri Embroidery. Their phone number is: (417) 889-2221 and their address is: 1307 S. Glenstone Ave.

Compatriot Don Higginson's Patriot Ancestor Edward Elley

Patriot Edward Elley is the 4th great grandfather of Ozark Mountain Chapter, SAR member, Donald Higginson. Edward was born near Elleys Ford in Culpeper County, Virginia, on August 8, 1751, and died on February 9, 1851, in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Edward resided in these two counties throughout the 99 and one-half years of his life.

Edward's parents, Henry Elley and Esther Herndon, descended from early settlers of Colonial Virginia. Henry, a Baptist Minister, was a longtime founder of Spotswood Furnace, the first fully equipped iron furnace in Colonial America built by Lt. Governor Alexander Spotswood. Esther was the great-granddaughter of Colonial Virginia Governor Edward Digges.

Like his father, Edward was a large landowner who also became a Baptist Minister, preaching the gospel in the Elleys Ford area for over sixty years following the Revolutionary War. He was the third minister at Historic Wilderness Baptist Church, serving from 1790 to 1827. This church still serves the Elleys Ford area. Edward's daughter, Esther Elley, married Walter Higginson, whose ancestors were also early settlers of Colonial Virginia.

General Marquis de Lafayette crossed the Rapidan River at Elleys Ford on June 3, 1781, to escape British Cavalry, and sent a dispatch to General Baron von Steuben from this location. General Lafayette's river crossing location on that day created a unique interaction between Edward, General Lafayette, and Lafayette's Officers which Edward described in his pension application.

Edward served multiple terms of duty in Virginia Regiments during the Revolution. He served as a Private during one of these terms in a Company commanded by his uncle, Captain Edward Herndon. Edward left a detailed account of his wartime experiences in the pension application he filed with the Spotsylvania Circuit Court in 1846 at the age of 96.

In 1980, Edward's narrative from his pension application was published in a book titled "The Revolution Remembered, Eyewitness Accounts of the War for Independence" as edited by John C. Dann. This book contains eyewitness accounts of

Revolutionary War veterans' experiences during the war. Chapter 7 of the book, *Virginia, to Yorktown*, begins with Edward's narrative. Edward's eyewitness wartime experiences are as follows:

"I entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Volunteered for the term of three months and went into service under Captain Herndon, Lt. James Cunningham, Francis Thornton, ensign, and Hezekiah Ellis, sergeant, and marched to Fredericksburg and took the prisoners brought from the south to that town and carried them over the mountains to Staunton in Augusta County, Virginia. And on our march; with the prisoners we passed through Spotsylvania and Orange counties, Virginia, and crossed the ridge of the mountains called the Blue Ridge at a place called Swift Run Gap. And after crossing the ridge, we came to and crossed a river called the Shenandoah River and crossed said river at a place called Hast Mackett [?] Ford. And after delivering the prisoners at Staunton, we returned to Fredericksburg. Our company numbered about sixty men, and the prisoners were about forty in number and were taken in South Carolina, as I understand. We continued through the remainder of this term about the armory at Fredericksburg. A British fleet was expected about this time upon our waters, and just before this term expired, the enemy's fleet passed along our coast from the south to the north. By reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, I cannot state particularly the date of this term of service as to the beginning or end but recollect that [it] was about the time of General Gates's defeat. This service was performed in the spring season of the year. We were kept out as sentinels on watch, and there were companies in the neighborhood ready to be called out if necessary. Col. Richard Young was commissary at Fredericksburg during this term of service.

I had been, prior to this term of service, a resident of the above-mentioned county, but after returning from the service I removed to Culpeper County, Virginia, and settled near Elley's Ford in said county, where I resided when called into service the second term.

The second term, I was drafted a soldier and called into service under Gen. Joseph[sic] Weedon of Fredericksburg and marched to Hunter's Forge near Falmouth, Virginia, and on our way to said forge, we crossed the Rappahannock River at or near the

junction with Rapidan and soon to the forge and joined General Weedon's regiment at said forge. This regiment or army was, I understood, separated into three divisions, and one division stationed was stationed on the Potomac and another stationed on the Rappahannock River below Fredericksburg, and the third division was stationed at the said forge near Falmouth on the said Rappahannock River. The British fleet was about this time laying on the Potomac waters and threatened an attack upon us. There were in Fredericksburg at this time several disaffected citizens who were tarred and feathered and drummed out of the town, and several Scotch merchants closed their business in Fredericksburg and set off for home to Scotland, as they said.

This term lasted within a few days of three months, but the commencement or end I do not now remember owing to the loss of memory in regard to dates. I recollect the name of John Heall, Joseph Ficklen, John Noe, and Bennet Noe who served with me during this term. The British, after remaining in our water for some time, left and went to the north. At this time we were then discharged, and I returned to my home in Culpeper County, Virginia.

The third term I was drafted for the service, I hired a substitute who filled my place and was in General Lafayette's army when he passed by Elley's Ford in Culpeper County, Virginia, by circuitous route through Spotsylvania County and into Culpeper in order to strengthen his army, and he joined, I think, General Morgan's army at the Fork Church in Culpeper County and crossed over the Rapidan River at the Racoon Ford into Orange County and so on down towards Williamsburg on the James River. And whilst passing Elley's Ford, some fifty or sixty of Lafayette's officers and soldiers called at my house near said ford, and I gave them dinner, it being that time of day when the army passed. A short time after this army passed, another requisition of men was called as a relief, which included me, and having just hired a substitute and not feeling myself able to hire if I could have obtained another substitute, I determined to fill my own place and took my horse and joined Lafayette's army before it reached Williamsburg. I do not recollect the day or month when this term of myself or substitute commenced or ended. The armies halted a short time at Williamsburg to receive reinforcements from the surrounding country and

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then marched down to Yorktown in Virginia. And we had several little engagements with the enemy before they were hemmed in at said town. A council of war was held by our officers, and some were in favor of storming the enemy's fort there under General Wallace [Cornwallis], but General Washington was opposed to that course and recommended a siege, as I was told. The enemy frequently fire upon us whilst engaged in making preparations for the siege and killed a few of our men. The militia officers were at this time employed with the soldiers getting brush, etc., to make wattling required in the fortifications. I was put among the able-bodied men to throwing up bomb batteries, Washington's Grand Battery having been previously finished, and whilst engaged in throwing up the bomb batteries night and day, we were ordered to squat in the ditch when the enemy fired upon us, of which we were notified by the sentinel on guard. And Captain Welch ordered the men to hurry with the work, else they would not sink deep enough to shelter them from the enemy's cannon by morning. And we who were on the front works were industrious and advanced with the work, and in the morning those behind wanted to crowd upon us when fired upon, but Captain Welch ordered them to keep their place as it was their own fault that they were exposed. And, whilst engaged in this work, a cannonball from the enemy came so near me that the wind of the ball blew my hunting shirt from the bank just by me, and another ball came and struck within three feet of us in our work. After throwing up these works, I was ordered to the park where the ammunition was kept, put to swabbing and cleaning the cannons and bombs, to assist in sending off the battery guns, ammunition, etc.

The works of the battery were thrown up by the militia soldiers, and whilst they were cutting brush a cannonball came bounding along the ground, and a youngster put his heel against it and was thrown into lockjaw and expired in a short time. And I recollect another circumstance which occurred near me. A ball came from the enemy, struck a man, and cut off his leg at the thigh, and then struck a stack of arms and rendered them unfit for service. After serving at the park as above stated, I was ordered to the works. The works were thrown up by the militia soldiers. The Continentals at this time were encamped about a mile off towards Williamsburg. I frequently saw

General Washington riding around and directing the operations, and after the siege began my place was at the guns in the battery called Washington's Grand Battery. There were in this battery four twenty-four-pounders, four eighteen-pounders, four twelve-pounders, and twelve mortar pieces, and these were fired in platoons, four at a time, and the mortars three at a time, making four rounds of mortars, in order to keep up a constant fire. And, whilst firing, the elevator of the guns got in a violent passion because the men in assistance dodged when fired upon by the enemy from their portholes and produced a considerable confusion. And General Clinton, coming up just at that moment, put things to rights, and I remarked to the men in his hearing, "Come, my brave fellows, stick to your posts and the day will soon be ours," and for this remark I was very soon rewarded with a good breakfast from the general, which was very acceptable as I had not had a meal for twenty-four hours. And I never saw men more mystified than were these serving with me at the guns when I received the reward. Shortly after the siege began, thirty-three of the enemy deserted and came around in a boat about midnight and joined us, and General Clinton gave them a pass to General Washington. And whilst engaged in firing the guns, it appeared to me as if the earth would sink beneath us.

I continued in this serviced until within a few days of Wallace's surrender. My wife having hired a man sent him down to take my place, and so I put the man in my [place] and took my horse sent for me and set for home immediately. And before I reached Fredericksburg on my way home, I understood that Wallace had surrendered. Before I left the service,

Birthday's

Donald Higgeson	1-2
Dale Crandell	1-3
Edward Choate	1-8
James Appleby	1-10
Roy Blunt	1-10
Gerald McCoy	1-12
Harold Finch	1-18
Pletcher Rogers	1-19
Gary Yadon	1-25
Peter Rea	1-28
Richard Snelson	1-31

I saw a number of dead horses on the beach which the enemy had drowned. I served myself in this term two months, besides my substitute who served three months and paid him to his satisfaction. The amount paid do not I do not recollect, and my substitute who relieved me from the said siege continued in the service and guarded the prisoners from the siege over the mountains to Winchester and then returned, and I paid him a suit of good clothes, a blanket, a knapsack, a cheese, and a thousand dollars in Continental paper, and thirty silver dollars, the price previously agreed upon by my wife.

France Pays Tribute to Benjamin Franklin

by Bob Ruppert

Benjamin Franklin died at his home in Philadelphia at eleven o'clock p.m. on April 17, 1790; he was eighty-four years old. On June 4, Benjamin Vaughan, a doctor, Member of Parliament and friend of Franklin, wrote to the Duc de la Rochefoucauld, another friend of Franklin. In his letter that arrived on June 10, he informed Rochefoucauld of Franklin's death:

His funeral was attended by every person, public & private of any consequence or description, the procession being $\frac{1}{2}$ an English mile in length, & viewed by such a concourse of people as was



probably never before assembled in America . . . I know no person, among those not belonging to the British empire, who will leave more friends to regret him in it. . . . Your grace will indulge me by communication news of Dr. Franklin's death to the Marquis de LaFayette. Mons. De Mirabeau . . . and such of his friends as it more immediately concerns"[1]

"B. J. Franklin est Mort," France. (Philadelphia Museum of Art)

The three men decided that the Assemblée Nationale[2] needed to be informed; they decided that Mirabeau would speak for them. On the morning of June 11, 1790, the Assemblée Nationale was

about to adjourn when Mirabeau asked to be heard; his request was granted. His first three words were "FRANKLIN est mort." His speech was brief but well prepared. At the end of the eulogy,

The National Assembly decree[d], that their Members shall wear, during three days, mourning for Benjamin Franklin, to commence on Monday next (June 14), – that the discourse, pronounced on this occasion, be printed; and that the President write to the American Congress, in the name of the National Assembly.[3]

That same night the Generale de la Commune de Paris[4] passed a motion that the Assemblée should "consecrate the memory of Benjamin Franklin with a historical eulogy." [5] Abbe Claude Fauchet was chosen to deliver the eulogy and a committee was chosen to select the place where the eulogy would be given. The place they chose was the large hall at the Nouvelle Halle-aux-Bles. The eulogy would not be delivered for another seven weeks; it took Fauchet several weeks to prepare it and the Commune was undergoing a reorganization.

On June 13, the Duc de la Rochefoucauld delivered a speech at the meeting of the Societe de 1789.[6] Rochefoucauld had known Franklin since his arrival in Paris. He described Franklin's humble beginnings and how he rose to become the Sage of Philadelphia. In his eyes Franklin was the prototype of the common man who rose to the highest positions in a democratic society.

Six days later another tribute was organized by the Friends of the Revolution and Liberty. It was a group of philosophers who met in the back room of Cafe Procope. On this day for their meeting the walls of the room were covered in black drapes and a bust of Franklin crowned with oak leaves sat on a pedestal; under the bust was the Latin word VIR, "man." [7]

Jean-Antoine Houdon, a sculptor, presented the Assemblée with a bust of Franklin.[8]

On June 20, Emmanuel Joseph Sieyes, President of the Assemblée wrote, as instructed, to the Congress of the United States; this was his last day in office. He was being replaced by Le Pelletier de Saint-Fargeau. At the heart of the eulogy, he wrote,

The name of Benjamin Franklin will be immortal in the records of freedom and philosophy; but it is more particularly dear to a country, where, conducted by

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the most sublime mission, this verable man knew how very soon to acquire an infinite number of friends and admirers, as well by the simplicity and sweetness of his manners, as by the purity of his principles, the extent of his knowledge, and charms of his mind.

It will be remembered, that every success, which he obtained in his important negotiation, was applauded and celebrated all over France, as so many crowns conferred on genius and virtue.[9]

On May 10, Louis Otto, the French Charge de Affaires, stationed in Philadelphia, wrote to Armand Marc, the Comte de Montmorin, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The letter arrived on July 2; in it he informed Montmorin of the death of Franklin. This was the first



official communication regarding the matter. Within six days, a nearly identical letter appeared in the Moniteur, a Paris newspaper.[10] Otto's letter ended with the words *Peu d'hommes ont ete si completement heureux. Peu d'hommes ontsi bien merite de l'etre* (Few men have been so completely happy. Few men have so well deserved to be).[11]

Allegorical portrait of Benjamin Franklin in a medallion supported by Diogenes after a portrait painted in 1777 or 1778 by Anne-Rosalie Bocquet; published by Honoré-Thomas Bligny, France. (Philadelphia Museum of Art)

On July 21, Abbe Fauchet delivered the civic eulogy (Eloge Civique). The Halle-aux-Bles had been transformed into a quasi-church. The walls were draped in black with funeral decorations, veiled sconces were affixed to pillars, a pulpit was built and in the middle of the hall was a sarcophagus upon which sat the bust of Franklin. Under the bust was a line from Turgot: *Eripuit coelo fulmen sceptrumque tyrannis* (From heav'n the Thunder, his Great Genius bore; and usurp'd Sceptre, from proud Tyrants tore). [12] Unlike Mirabeau's brief speech, Fauchet's eulogy was long; it included the paragraphs:

Venerable old man! august philosopher! legislator of the felicity of thy country, prophet of the fraternity of the human race, what ecstatic happiness embellished the end of thy career! From thy fortunate asylum, and in the midst of thy brothers who enjoyed in tranquility the fruit of thy virtue, and the success of thy genius thou hast sung songs of deliverance. The last looks, which thou did cast around thee, beheld America happy, France on the other side of the ocean, free, and a sure indication of the approaching freedom and happiness of the world.

The United States, looking upon themselves as thy children, have bewailed the death of the father of their republic. France, thy family by adoption, has honored thee as the founder of her laws; and the human race has revered thee as the universal patriarch who has formed the alliance of nature with society, The remembrance belongs to all ages; thy memory to all nations; thy glory to eternity.[13]

Three thousand people attended the tribute. The eulogy was printed and distributed immediately afterward.

Abbe Berniere was directed to inform the Congress of the United States of the eulogy. On July 29, he wrote:

The august Legislators of our nation have hastened to set the example; but the assembly of representatives of the Commons of the Capital believed it their duty to add to this universal mourning a new tribute of honor, in decreeing that the virtues and the talents of this true Philosopher should be transmitted to posterity, in a public and solemn eulogium, the first that has been rendered among us to civic virtue.[14]

On August 10, the Societe des Ouvriers Imprimeurs de Paris (The Society of Printers – Typographers of Paris) met at the Couvent des Cordeliers to pay



Lexington and Concord Challenge Coins are available for purchase for \$15.00 from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk. He has only 10, then you will have to purchase them from the National website: www.sar.org

tribute to the man who was a printer himself and who respected the profession.[15] The bust of Franklin was not present in the hall; instead a printing press was set up on a platform. There were two speakers, an apprenti and a veteran.[16] The two speeches were unlike any that had already been given. They did not adorn Franklin with accolades, but instead spoke about two society-changing decisions that Franklin deeply believed in and advocated for: freedom of the press and freedom of speech.

The apprenti said:

We have once again become, according to the declaration of rights, owners of our industry; freedom of the press assures us of the ease of forming establishments and of improving our lot in proportion to our intelligence and our talents . . . a citizen must not believe that he has fulfilled his duties by paying public contributions, by expressing his wish in the elections; he must also make himself capable of fulfilling the functions to which the trust of his fellow citizens may [require of] him . . . O Franklin! If one of us possessed your conciliatory spirit, your insinuating eloquence, your learned calculation of respective interests he would appease the factions which are tearing our unhappy homeland apart.

The veteran said

You celebrate the freedom of the press, without which there has never been political freedom. But also penetrating the abuses and dangers of license, you have just renewed the civic oath; it must . . . become the most useful, the most important, the most necessary of all in current circumstances . . . What a superb example you will give of the sacrifices of personal interest for the public good. These incendiary writings, dictated by the vilest, the blackest . . . will no longer stain your hands . . . History will tell of your useful coalition; our nephew will learn that printing workers, hitherto regarded as passive and weak instruments, are those who best knew, best felt the price, the use, the true goal of the art they practice . . . And we are old men . . . will be the first to report to the immortal Franklin what the seeds of virtue, of work, of patriotism have produced, the germ of which he took in the same state where you collect it today with such zeal, brilliance and success. [17]

Their memorial to Franklin was not what was said that day but rather what they did going forward.

Like the Society of Printers, Franklin was also closely associated with the Academie de Medecine. In 1778 he had been made an associe etranger (foreign Partner). On March 14, 1791, his friend, Vicq d'Azyr, delivered a eulogy at a public meeting at the Academie. His first line was Un Homme est mort, et deux mondes sont en deuil (One man is dead, and two worlds are mourning).[18] This is considered by some to be the most complete oration following Franklin's death. D'Azyr addressed many of the facets of Franklin's person – his inventions, his discoveries, his political influences, his diplomatic successes and struggles, and his morality. Sadly, because the meeting's proceedings were not published, the eulogy was not made available to the public for more than thirty years.

There were probably a number of Masonic lodges that held eulogies for Franklin but because their proceedings were usually private there is limited information about them.

Thomas Jefferson, the successor to Franklin as the United States Minister to France, may have said it best when describing Franklin's influence in France, and for that matter all of Europe. In a letter to William Smith, dated February 19, 1791, he wrote:

I can only therefore testify in general that there appeared to me more respect and veneration attached to the character of Doctor Franklin in France than to that of any other person in the same country, foreign or native. I had the opportunities of knowing particularly how far these sentiments were felt by the foreign Ambassadors and ministers at the court of Versailles.[19]

- Continued on Page 14, Franklin -



Profiles of Valor: T/SGT

Charles MacGillivray

A New Year's Day Medal of Honor.



Mark Alexander

Charles Andrew MacGillivray was born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada. At age 16, he joined the Merchant Marines and immigrated to the United States to live with a family member in Boston, Massachusetts.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor in January 1942, then-24-year-old MacGillivray joined the Army.

When in boot camp, as he recalled, "An officer asked me and two other immigrants ... whether we wanted to become U.S. citizens. [They took us] to a federal courthouse and [swore us] in before a judge. I thought that if I was going to fight for this country, I should be a U.S. citizen." Notably, today, noncitizens who qualify for military service are eligible for citizenship once honorably discharged.

After basic training, MacGillivray was assigned to Company I, 71st Infantry Regiment, 44th Infantry Division, and went to Scotland to train with British commandos. His unit was part of the D-Day landing in France, and he was involved with many combat actions before reaching Woelfling on the French-German border in mid-December 1944 on the front end of the Battle of the Bulge.

It was in the heat of this battle at Bastogne when Army BG Anthony McAuliffe famously replied to a German demand that the Americans surrender: "Nuts."

On New Year's Day 1945, MacGillivray was a Sergeant serving as commander of the 463rd Battalion's Company I, after his platoon's more senior officer had been killed. On that freezing winter day, he and his men were pinned down during a massive German

attack by the 17th SS Panzergrenadier Division, a Waffen-SS panzer unit.

They were trapped in deep forest snow, and his men had been discussing surrender for a week. "The Germans were promising Americans Christmas dinner if they surrendered," he recalled, "but they'd just march the Americans with hands over their heads in front of a tank and shoot them."

Low on ammunition and virtually surrounded, MacGillivray knew, "As the head of my company, I had a duty to do something."

And what he did was single-handedly attack multiple German machine gun positions with grenades and enemy machine guns he picked up along the way: "I thought that this was the only way we were going to get out."

According to his Medal of Honor citation: "Knowing the position of the enemy, Sgt. MacGillivray volunteered to knock out one of the guns while another company closed in from the right to assault the remaining strongpoints. He circled from the left through woods and snow, carefully worked his way to the emplacement, and shot the two camouflaged gunners at a range of three feet as other enemy forces withdrew."

Then, as his Company "was being opposed by about six machine guns," "he voluntarily embarked on a lone combat patrol."

His citation continues: "Skillfully taking advantage of all available cover, he stalked the enemy, reached a hostile machine gun, and blasted its crew with a grenade. He picked up a submachine gun from the battlefield and pressed on to within 10 yards of another machine gun, where the enemy crew discovered him and feverishly tried to swing their weapon into line to cut him down. He charged ahead, jumped into the midst of the Germans, and killed them with several bursts. Without hesitation, he moved on to still another machine gun, creeping, crawling, and rushing from tree to tree, until close enough to toss a grenade into the emplacement and close with its defenders. He dispatched this crew also, but was himself seriously wounded."

The "serious wound" MacGillivray suffered when taking on that last machine-gun position occurred when a wounded German hit him with a nearly fatal shot. He returned fire, killing the German, but then, "I looked down, and my left arm wasn't there."

As he recounted, “When you get hit by a machine gun, it’s like somebody put a hot poker in you. I stuck the stump of my arm into the snow, but the warm blood melted the snow. I kept scooping snow around it till my hand was freezing. I figured I was dying. When they rescued me, my arm had a cake of bloody ice frozen around it, sealing the wound. If it had been summer, I’d be dead.”

His citation concludes, “Through his indomitable fighting spirit, great initiative, and utter disregard for personal safety in the face of powerful enemy resistance, Sgt. MacGillivray destroyed four hostile machine guns and immeasurably helped his company to continue on its mission with minimum casualties.” In the process, he killed 36 German soldiers manning those machine-gun positions.

Almost 19,000 Americans were killed over the course of the bloody six-week Battle of the Bulge.

On August 23, 1945, MacGillivray was one of 28 World War II service members who received Medals of Honor in a White House ceremony. The War Department noted the reason so many men were decorated in a single ceremony was because most had been severely wounded, which delayed their award ceremonies.

MacGillivray also received a Purple Heart with three oak leaf clusters, the Distinguished Service Cross, a Bronze Star, the Soldier’s Medal, and the French Croix de Guerre.

In retrospect, MacGillivray said: “All I was doing was fighting for my life. The guys were freezing to death, and my main ambition was to get us out of there. The real hero is the person who lays down his life.” He added: “I was very honored to have been included among so many distinguished recipients. I was also very proud that I, as an immigrant, had been selected to receive this award.”

After the War, he returned to Boston and married his sweetheart, Esther, and they would have three daughters. He became an agent for the United States Customs Office of Investigations, conducting special investigations. He retired from the Customs Service in 1975. He also served as president of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society from 1973 to 1975.

Charles died at age 83 on June 24, 2000. Esther preceded him in death a year earlier.

T/SGT Charles MacGillivray: Your example of valor — a humble American Patriot defending Liberty for all above and beyond the call of duty, and in disregard for the peril to your own life — is eternal.

“Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one’s life for his friends.” (John 15:13)

Live your life worthy of his sacrifice.

Semper Vigilans Fortis Paratus et Fidelis

Pro Deo et Libertate — 1776

https://patriotpost.us/alexander/113205?mailing_id=8934&subscription_uuid=b6666ccb-7d37-4607-b40f-88d0603e9482&utm_medium=email&utm_source=pp_email.8934&utm_campaign=snapshot&utm_content=body



Lexington and Concord Medals are available for purchase for \$35.00 from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk. He has only 10, then you will have to purchase them from the National website: www.sar.org



Awards and Events



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Compatriot Gerald McCoy with a Certificate of Appreciation for his talk about the Battle of Trenton.



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Compatriot Spouse Margaret Swales with a Certificate of Appreciation.



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Compatriot Don King with a Certificate of Appreciation.



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Compatriot Dan Philbrick with a Certificate of Distinguished Service.



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Compatriot Keith Jones with a Certificate of Appreciation.



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Compatriot Dan Piedlow with a Bronze Henry Knox Medal and Certificate.



Awards and Events



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Compatriot J. Howard Fisk with a Liberty Medal and Certificate.



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Compatriot Don Higginson with a Supplemental Patriot Certificate.



OMCSAR President Charles McMillan presenting Compatriot Linda McMillan with a Certificate of Appreciation.



Compatriot Dan McMurray presiding over the installation of new officers for 2025. The officers are (L-R): J. Howard Fisk, President; Gerald McCoy, 1st Vice-President; Keith Jones, 2nd Vice-President; Don King, Secretary; Dan Philbrick, Chaplain; Ben Edmondson, Treasurer; Steve Perkins, Genealogist and Registrar; and Dan Piedlow, Sargeant at Arms and Newsletter Editor.



“Revolutionary War Rarities”
Great Trivia in 10 to 20 Minutes

[Click Here for Fast Fun History!](#)



- From Page 9, Franklin -

[1] Gilbert Chinard, "The Apotheosis of Benjamin Franklin," The Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, Vol. 99, No. 6 (December 1955), 441.

[2] The Assemblée was the Revolutionary Assembly of France formed by the Third Estate (the commoners) of the Estates General between June of 1789 and July of 1791.

[3] Chinard, "The Apotheosis of Benjamin Franklin," 452.

[4] The established Revolutionary government of Paris after the storming of the Bastille.

[5] Recueil des Procès-verbaux de l'Assemblée générale de la Commune de Paris 7, séance du 11 Juin, 1790, Paris, 1791.

[6] The Société was a club formed in 1790 from the moderate members of the Jacobin Club; it met at the Palais-Royal-Galerie de Beaujolais.

[7] Journal de la Municipalité de Paris, June 19, 1790 and Moniteur, June 15, 1790. Some historians think this was an allusion to the statue that had been erected to King Louis XIV in the Place des Victoires. Under that statue were the words VIR IMMORTALI.

[8] He also presented the Assemblée with a bust of Washington on this day. One of his most famous works was the full statue of Washington that stands in the rotunda of the Capitol building in Richmond, Virginia.

[9] "To George Washington from the National Assembly of France, 20 June 1790," in The Papers of George Washington, Presidential Series, Vol. 5, 16 January 1790 – 30 June 1790, Dorothy Twohig, Mark A. Mastromarino and Jack D. Warren, eds., (Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 1996), 540-42.

[10] According to the records in the Ministère des Affaires étrangères, Montmorin shared the letter with Gerard de Rayneval, who annotated it and most likely submitted it to the Moniteur.

[11] Chinard, "The Apotheosis of Benjamin Franklin," 448.

[12] "To Benjamin Franklin from M – L – , 12 March, 1781," in The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, Vol. 34, November 16, 1780 through April 30, 1781, ed. Barbara B. Oberg (New Haven, Conn: Yale University

Press, 1998), 450-51. It was the first line of a sestet by Turgot.

[13] Abbe Claude Fauchet, Eloge Civique de Benjamin Franklin (Paris: J.R. Lottin & G.L. Bailly, 1790).

[14] Julian P. Boyd, ed., The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, Vol. 19, 25 January – 31 May 1791 (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1974), 107-08.

[15] Franklin opened a printing shop near his residence in Passy, a suburb of Paris – it had three printing presses. He used it to print passport blanks, loan certificates, witty satire, bagatelles, and pamphlets.

[16] Pierre-Jean-Baptiste Nougaret, Anecdotes du Règne de Louis XVI (Paris: 1791), 4:445.

[17] Chinard, "The Apotheosis of Benjamin Franklin," 472-3.

[18] Eloge de Vicq d'Azyr, March 11, 1791 in the Revue Retrospective, Second Series, 1836.

[19] The Papers of Thomas Jefferson (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1974), 19:112-14.

<https://allthingsliberty.com/2024/06/france-pays-tribute-to-benjamin-franklin/>



The Missouri 200th Anniversary SAR Medals are for sale. They are \$30.00 if you get them from Compatriot J. Howard Fisk and \$35.00 if he has to mail it to you.



Awards and Events



OMCSAR 1st Vice-President Gerald McCoy presenting Past President Charles McMillan with his Past President pin.



OMCSAR President J. Howard Fisk presenting Past President Charles McMillan with a Distinguished Service Medal and Certificate.



OMCSAR Color Guard Commander Steve Perkins presenting New Compatriot Eric Sampson with his membership Certificate.



OMCSAR 1st Vice-President Gerald McCoy (L), and Steve Perkins (R) after Gerald McCoy pinned the Rosette onto Compatriot Eric Sampson.

On This Day

On January 21, 1954, the USS Nautilus launched from Groton, Connecticut. It was the first nuclear-powered submarine in the U.S. Navy.

Awards and Events



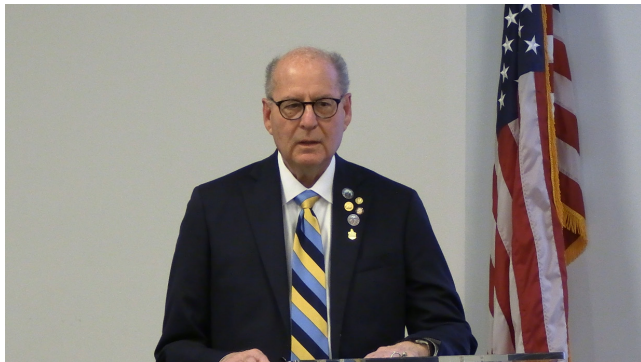
Color Guard presenting Colors at the beginning of the MOSSAR quarterly meeting.



OMCSAR and MOSSAR Color Guard Commander Steve Perkins (center) presenting Compatriot Brad Frazier (L) with a Silver Color Guard Medal and Certificate, and Compatriot Kavan Stull (R) with a Bronze Color Guard Medal and Certificate.



OMCSAR Color Guard Commander Steve Perkins (L) presenting James Durigan with a Bronze Color Guard Medal and Certificate.



OMCSAR Compatriots Ken Lawrence (L), Dan McMurray (R Top), and J. Howard Fisk (R Bottom) talk about Josiah Danforth at the History Explorers event on January 28.

Upcoming Events



Tuesday, February 4 at 6:30 P.M., the Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR will be having their Chapter Development Meeting at Steve Perkins home. All members are welcome to attend.



Saturday, February 15 at 9:30 A.M., The Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR will be having their monthly meeting at Ozark Technical College, in the Artium. The College is located at: 1001 E. Chestnut Expy., Springfield. All are encouraged to attend.



Saturday, February 22 at 11:00 A.M. the Ozark Mountain SAR Color Guard will be participating in the George Washington Lunch and Ceremony at the Hilton Garden Inn Independence, located at 19677 E. Jackson Dr., Independence, MO 64057.



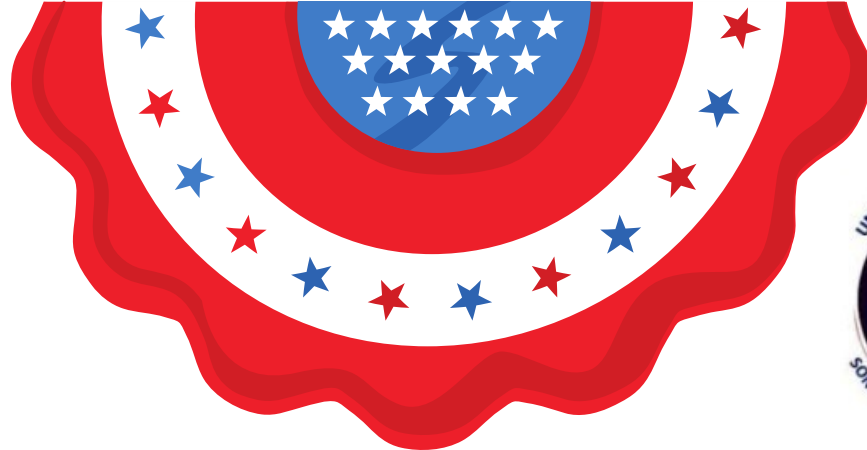
Saturday, February 22 at 1:00 P.M., the Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR will be assisting the DAR in a ceremony marking a grave of a Patriot. This is on a private cemetery and only a couple of Compatriots are allowed.



Tuesday, March 4 at 6:30 P.M., the Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR will be having their Chapter Development Meeting at Steve Perkins home. All members are welcome to attend.



Saturday, March 15 at 9:30 A.M., The Ozark Mountain Chapter SAR will be having their monthly meeting at Ozark Technical College, in the Artium. The College is located at: 1001 E. Chestnut Expy., Springfield. All are encouraged to attend.



Battle of Fort San Carlos Festival and Grave Marking

**SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025
STE. GENEVIEVE, MISSOURI**

Plan your stay now in beautiful, historic Ste. Genevieve, the first organized European settlement west of the Mississippi River in present-day Missouri.

Event Schedule

11:30 a.m.

Registration at Guibord-Valle House

Challenge coins & medals available for purchase.

12:30 p.m.

**Militia and Color Guard muster at
Guibord-Valle House**

1 p.m.

Memorial Cemetery Ceremony

Rain location: Ste. Genevieve Catholic Church

**SAR members must
register online to receive
credit. Scan below to visit
the event website:**

**[www.mossar.org/battle-
of-fort-san-carlos/](http://www.mossar.org/battle-of-fort-san-carlos/)**



**Bring your own wreath and receive
a commemorative flag streamer.**

National Color Guard Event - Sons of the American Revolution

Participating Color Guard members must contact State Commander Steve Perkins
to review safety requirements and eligibility for medal qualification: patriotmarcher@fastmail.com



Celebrating America's 250th Birthday

EXECUTIVE ORDER

January 29, 2025



By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in anticipation of the 250th anniversary of American Independence on July 4, 2026, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Purpose. It is the policy of the United States, and a purpose of this order, to provide a grand celebration worthy of the momentous occasion of the 250th anniversary of American Independence on July 4, 2026. It is also the purpose of this order to take other actions to honor the history of our great Nation.

Sec. 2. Establishing the White House Task Force on Celebrating America's 250th Birthday. (a) There is hereby established the White House Task Force on Celebrating America's 250th Birthday (Task Force 250).

(b) The President shall be the Chair of Task Force 250 and the Vice President will serve as Vice Chair. The Chair shall appoint an Executive Director, who shall administer and execute the day-to-day operations of Task Force 250, and who shall report through the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy. The Chair, the Vice Chair, or a member of Task Force 250 designated by the Chair, shall convene regular meetings of Task Force 250, determine its agenda, and direct its work, consistent with this order. The Executive Director and the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy shall assist in the performance of these duties. The Chair may designate any member of the Task Force to preside over meetings of the Task Force.

(c) In addition to the Chair and Vice Chair, Task Force 250 shall consist of the following members:

- (i) the Secretary of State;
- (ii) the Secretary of the Treasury;
- (iii) the Secretary of Defense;
- (iv) the Secretary of the Interior;
- (v) the Secretary of Agriculture;
- (vi) the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;
- (vii) the Secretary of Education;
- (viii) the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy;
- (ix) the Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislative Affairs;
- (x) the Cabinet Secretary and Deputy Chief of Staff;
- (xi) the Director of Speechwriting;
- (xii) the Chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities;
- (xiii) the Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts;
- (xiv) the Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services; and
- (xv) the heads of such other executive departments, agencies, and offices that the Chair or the Vice Chair may, from time to time, designate or invite to participate.

(d) The Chair and the Vice Chair, as they deem appropriate, shall invite the Executive Director of the United States Semiquincentennial Commission to provide recommendations and advice to Task Force 250.

(e) Task Force 250 shall coordinate with the executive departments and agencies (agencies) to plan, organize, and execute an extraordinary celebration of the 250th Anniversary of American Independence and shall coordinate agencies' communications with the United States Semiquincentennial Commission. In addition, the Executive Director may seek information or advice from such other agencies as Task Force 250 shall direct.

(f) For administrative purposes, the Task Force shall be housed in the Department of Defense, which shall provide funding and administrative support for Task Force 250, to the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(g) Agencies shall provide a report to Task Force 250 regarding their respective planning and activities with respect to the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of American Independence. These reports should be submitted to the Executive Director of Task Force 250 no later than March 1, 2025.

(h) Task Force 250 shall terminate on December 31, 2026, unless extended by the President.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/celebrating-americas-250th-birthday/>

2025 Missouri Society SAR

April 25th and 26th

Holiday Inn Earth City

BOOK YOUR GROUP RATE of \$134.00 per night!

START DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025

END DATE: SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

LAST DAY TO BOOK: **APRIL 1st, 2024**

Link is [Here!](#)

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Lafayette We are Here!



The 2025 Convention of the Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

April 25 — 26th , 2025 sponsored by Fernando de Leyba Chapter

SAR MEMBER NAME & TITLE:

CHAPTER :

ADDRESS :

PHONE:

E-MAIL :

GUEST NAME & TITLE:

Guest may Join or renew Missouri SAR Auxiliary Membership below

EVENT REGISTRATION-----DUE DATE: APRIL 7th, 2025

Conference Registration Fee: Members Only \$45.00 \$ _____

NO Registration Fees for Guests

Auxiliary Annual Dues \$5.00 \$ _____

Friday Dinner-Opening Session \$45.00 X _____ = \$ _____

Roasted Pork Loin _____ OR Chicken Modiga _____

Saturday Breakfast Buffet \$20.00 X _____ = \$ _____

Saturday Awards Luncheon Buffet \$35.00 X _____ = \$ _____

Saturday Evening Banquet/ Installation Ceremony \$60.00 X _____ = \$ _____

Roasted Prime Rib _____ OR Seared Salmon _____

*Dietary restrictions: ___Diabetic___Gluten Free ___Vegan (advise — Compatriot or Guest) _____

Additional State Convention Support--Optional Donation — to help host chapter cover expenses = \$ _____

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make Checks payable to: Fernando de Leyba Chapter

Hotel Reservations must be made by

Mail to: Daniel Evans Secy/Treasurer FDL

April 1st 2025

2817 Royallvalley Way, O'Fallon MO 63368-6992

Holiday Inn Riverport, 3400 Rider Trail South

314-406-8466

Earth City, MO 63045 314-291-6800

SEE REGISTRATION FORM