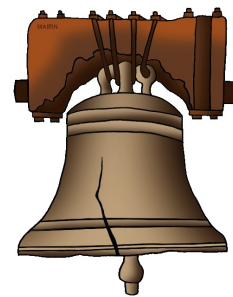




# Compatriot News

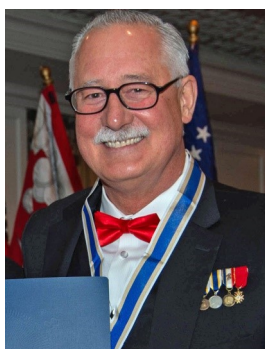
## Philadelphia Continental Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 52 Number 2

www.pccsar.org

Spring 2024



Compatriots,

I am grateful for the trust and confidence you have placed in me to lead our organization. I am also committed to fulfilling our mission and vision and dedicated to making our organization even stronger and more impactful. Together, we can achieve great things and make a positive difference in our community and beyond.

We have accomplished much in the past quarter as you will see in this communication. Our membership is strong, our Color Guard continues to be the face of our organization and the community has benefited from our charitable efforts. I am proud of the hard work and dedication of our members who have made all this possible. It is a testament to the commitment and passion of our team to making a difference in the community and representing our organization with excellence. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to these achievements, and let's continue to build on this momentum in the months ahead. Together, let's make this a successful and fulfilling year.

Once again, thank you for your trust and support.

Steve Kopsick, President, Philadelphia Continental Chapter

### Williamson College of the Trades

February 8<sup>th</sup>-Williamson Founders Day

This Yearsley Award is presented to a junior who has shown outstanding citizenship and the qualities of industry, self-discipline, personal integrity, reliability, and contributions above the call of duty. This year's winner is Jack Gommer, a junior in the horticulture program. A certificate and \$500 was awarded during the Founder's Day program. Photos are on the Facebook page.

### Williamson flag project

The PCCSAR membership was solicited and donations in the amount of \$2,680 were raised. A special thank you to Compatriot Lanny Patton for his generous donation. This, coupled with a donation from PSEG of \$6,500, came to a total of \$9,180. A check for this amount was presented to the

*(Continued on page 2)*

Compatriot News  
Published Quarterly by the  
Philadelphia Continental Chapter  
Editor: Carl Fletcher  
(610) 430-0755  
cfletch514@yahoo.com

President	Steven Kopsick	(267) 242-4219
1st Vice Pres.	Larry Magdy	(610) 789-0803
2nd Vice Pres.	Stephen V. Cassel	(610) 209-5802
Secretary	Francis A. O'Donnell	(610) 356-7770
Treasurer	John P. Mulcahy	(215) 470-1293
Registrar	John Mitchell	(610) 630-1575
Genealogist	Kelsey Brown	(215) 659-1686
Chancellor	Michael Freeland, Esq	(610) 649-0707

senior class of Williamson. Installation is underway and the is expected to be complete before the end of the school year. PCCSAR has committed our Color Guard to provide the honors at the inaugural raising. Date is TBA.

### **Washington's Birthday-102<sup>nd</sup> annual event**

Originally scheduled for February 17<sup>th</sup>, this event was postponed due to snow and held on February 24<sup>th</sup>. The chapter meeting was held at a new venue, Glory Beer Bar and Kitchen and accommodations were very nice. Buglers Across America associate, Sebastian Major, received a Certificate of Appreciation for his support of this event. Ed Kopsick, President of the Continental Congress Chapter, was the guest speaker who presented his traveling patriot chest. Photos are on the Facebook page.

### **March Chapter meeting**

A chapter meeting with, 19 members in attendance, was held on March 6<sup>th</sup> at Charlotte's Restaurant. New members Kevin and Craig Patton were welcomed and inducted. Our membership continues to grow with 4 additional approved applications and Raphael Rispoli transferred from Florida Society. The Color Guard continues to support events including Princeton and the Washington's Birthday event. Our Americanism and website reports were submitted to the National society. The chapter newsletter received an "A" from National. The budget was presented and approved with one amendment to cover the constant contact fees. Compatriot Fred Fonseca was awarded a Betsy Ross car flag for his support of the chapter for chairing several committees and his support of America 250.

### **Fort Mifflin**

The January 9, 2024 storm wreaked havoc on the Fort Mifflin infrastructure. There was much damage and the roof on the officer's quarters was ripped off. The Fort solicited the public for support in the amount of \$50,000. The membership was solicited for a goal of \$1,000 and raised \$1,530.00. This, and a \$1,000 check from PASSAR, were sent to the foundation.

March 30, 2024. The Color Guard, in coordination with The Regimental Brewmeister and PCCSAR compatriot Michael Carver, supported a fundraiser at the Fort. This included Color Guard training, with some members of the public conscripted into service, as well as a "Purging of the Kegs". This ceremony is where beer was poured "into the Delaware River", in the spirit of the devised floating mines that were made from beer kegs dumped into the Delaware River upstream of Philadelphia by David Bushnell in 1778, with the intent damage British ships. We had good camaraderie and most importantly, Matt Murdo who was manning the gift shop, announced the fort took in about \$1000 that day. Photos are on the Facebook page.

### **Solar Eclipse**

April 7, 2024 (the day before the eclipse) Richard Wall House, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania.

The Regimental Brewmeister and PCCSAR compatriot Michael Carver, dressed as David Rittenhouse, explained this special astronomical event as well as recent computations completed on the size of the solar system. These were derived from the 1769 observations of the Transit of Venus (a similar event where Venus passes between the Earth and the Sun casting a shadow) and the solar eclipse in 1778.

April 8, 2024 (eclipse day and founding Father David Rittenhouse's 292<sup>nd</sup> birthday) Historic Rittenhouse Town

The Regimental Brewmeister and PCCSAR compatriot Michael Carver, as David Rittenhouse, was present in the observatory again, at David Rittenhouse's childhood home in Germantown for the solar eclipse. He demonstrated the observation of this event using period equipment. This event was on television and can be seen on our Facebook page.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## April Chapter meeting

April 3<sup>rd</sup> A chapter meeting at Fellini's Trattoria and Café in Media was held. Our guest speaker was Dave Tatum, History teacher at Upper Darby High School, Vietnam vet, and member of the Pennsylvania Veteran's Museum. A stipend of \$200 was provided to the Veteran's Museum. He spoke of his assignments for his students to do a research paper on Vietnam veterans from Delaware County who paid the ultimate price. These papers were presented to the Delaware County Historical Society. A tour of the Veterans Museum followed.

## ROTC

A Silver ROTC Medal was presented to Jackson Litz, of Drexel University, on March 27, 2024.

Pending:

April 18th 5:30 Owen J. Roberts High School CDT Rhiannon May MacFarlane	April 25, 2:00 Temple University MS1 Cadet Kelden Robinson
April 19 <sup>th</sup> 3:00 University of Pennsylvania NROTC MIDN Michael J. Himes	April 30th 3:00 Villanova University NROTC Midshipman Morgan Spenceley
April 20th 5:30 Coatsville Area SR. High School CDT Elyssa Hernandez	May 9 <sup>th</sup> 12:00 Valley Forge Military Academy and College MSII Cadet Parker Walls
April 23 4:15 Widener University ARMY ROTC CDT Thomas Brantley	

## Social Media. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61554410101780>

Members can find updates on meetings, workshops, and conferences that the Philadelphia Continental Chapter will be participating in. This Facebook page serves as a hub for all our members to stay connected and informed. Not only will you find event details, but we also post important updates and announcements from the organization. This includes initiatives, upcoming events, past events, and any other information that members need to be aware of.

We encourage all members to visit and follow the Facebook page of the Philadelphia Continental Chapter. It's a great way to stay connected, network with other members, and stay up to date with all the happenings within our organization.

## Scams, hacking, bad emails

We publish our emails on the PCCSAR website for legitimate communications to and from our officers. There are nefarious actors out there who have illegitimate intent and members are requested to remain diligent to emails that seemingly come from our officers. The email may appear to come from us, but if you further investigate the "from" email, you will discover the true origin is not from the perceived sender. Immediately delete these emails and do not respond. We will NEVER ask you for money or gift cards or anything like that.

## Officer's emails

With problems of scams, hacking, and bad emails, we have decided to remove our personal emails from the web site and create g-mail accounts for our positions. Officers should have created an account by now. If not, then in the near future. Committee chairmen are also encouraged to do this as well. This is an attempt for cyber security reasons, to keep personal emails out of the internet realm. Be advised, some emails have already been hacked, so open emails with some caution. Once the

*(Continued on page 4)*

emails are created, inform the president of the login and password to ensure access to the account when the leadership/chairmanship changes. The internet homepage will reflect these newly created emails instead of using our personal emails.

### **Changes to meetings**

I appreciate the efforts of the committee chairs in submitting their reports early and providing us with ample time to review them before the meeting. This allowed us to have a more productive and efficient discussion during the BOM. By sharing the committee reports with members in advance through a constant contact message, we were able to ensure everyone was well prepared and informed. Not all chairmen have submitted reports, and they are encouraged to do so. The smooth flow of the meeting was a testament to the success of this approach. Once again, my sincere gratitude goes out to the committee chairs for their cooperation and timely submissions. Our next BOM is May 7<sup>th</sup> and a call for reports will come soon.

### **Committees and teamwork**

Chairmen have held their positions for some time and are well versed with the ins and outs of these committees. The officer ranks change with our elections and the “new” regime is not as familiar with these activities. So it is incumbent that Committee chairs report all activities to the president and to John Whiteside, Americanism chair, as they happen. This way we can keep track of our activities to keep the membership and the national organization apprised of our activities.

If there are shortcomings, or we are not hitting the mark, that needs to be brought to our attention so we can address and resolve these challenges. So, moving forward, chairs can appreciate the need for this stream of communication to demonstrate to our community and to our membership the value of what we do.

### **June Picnic**

Come celebrate with us. We have secured Fenimore Woods for our picnic on June 8<sup>th</sup> and we have ordered the traditional pig. We look forward to a well attended gathering to close out the first half of the year. More information to follow, so keep an eye out for our constant contact mailing. If you do not get one, please contact the president at [pccsar.president@gmail.com](mailto:pccsar.president@gmail.com).

### **Guidon and New Member certificates**

The Guidon is complete. New member certificates are delivered from PASSAR to the president and are paired with a copy of the Guidon. Members may receive these on the occasion of attending an event. Certificates are mailed to members unable to attend an event.

### **Necrology**

Compatriot Charles G. Moore, Jr. passed on 3/24/2024

Compatriot Colonel Richard Craig Rushmore, passed 4/7/2024

### **Upcoming events**

May 4, PASSAR Annual Meeting

May 5, French Alliance Day

May 7 Chapter BOM

May 18, Pennypacker Mills Patriots Along the Perkiomen Father Judge HS Viet Nam Heroes Memorial event

May 19 Pennypacker Mills Patriots Along the Perkiomen

May 27 Memorial Day Radnor Parade and Washington Sq.

June 2, Malvern Memorial Parade

June 8, Chapter Annual Picnic



## Color Guard Corner April 2024

The Philadelphia Continental Chapter participated in four color guard events during the first quarter of 2024 and two reenactments: two National events, one PASSAR event, and one PCC event. Our color guard season began out of state where two PCC guardsmen and one member of the Lady's Auxiliary participated in the reenactment of the Battle of Princeton. Afterward four guardsmen represented the PCC at the Battle of Princeton National Color Guard Event.

The PASSAR Winter Board of Management meeting on February 3rd was hosted by Conococheague Chapter in Chambersburg. The Colors were presented by PCC/PASSAR Color Guard Commander Fred Fonseca, PCC President Steve Kopsick and former PCC President Bill Baker. Continental Congress Chapter President Ed Kopsick also participated.



Color Guard at Washington Square (above) and the Museum of the American Revolution (below)



On February 24<sup>th</sup>, our Washington's Birthday National Color Guard event was held in Old City Philadelphia. Philadelphia Continental Chapter Color Guard participants were Fred Fonseca commanding, SGT Rich Lind, Chris Snyder, Scott Willson, Dave Mizel, Spencer Snyder, Mike Carver, Larry Magdy, and PCC Chaplin Glenn Tyson. Continental Congress President Ed Kopsick traveled from York Pa. and fell in with the PCC color guard. At Washington Square, PCC President and guardsman Steve Kopsick presided over a wreath laying at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Afterward we marched to the sound of the pipers to Independence Hall. There, President Kopsick presided at the second wreath laying at the statue in honor of George Washington. From there, the guard led an entourage of PCC members and guests to the Museum of the American Revolution, where Lady's Auxiliary member Randi Fonseca took the traditional photo of the Guard posed behind the cannons. From MOAR, it was off to the reception at Glory Beer Bar for victuals and libations. Continental Congress Chapter President Ed Kopsick was gracious enough to fill in at the last minute to be the guest speaker and gave an informative and inspirational talk on how he works the SAR Traveling Chest program.



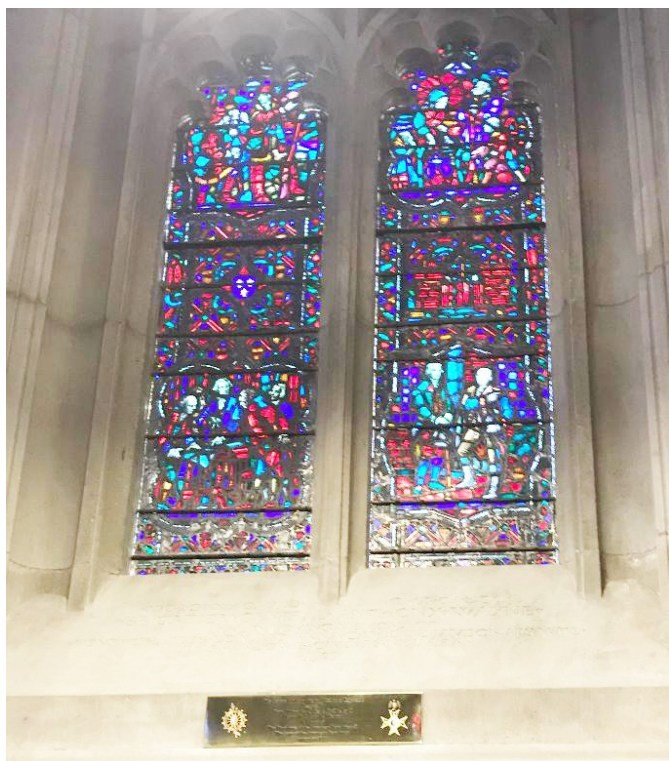
Our annual Color Guard training was held for a third time at Ft. Mifflin, with the help of the Fort Brewmeister, guardsman Mike Carver. Mike created a "Dumping of the Kegs" program, and enlisted the help of the PCC Color Guard to fundraise for the badly needed repairs of the officer quarters roof, that was blown off by a storm.

*(Continued on page 6)*

For new guardsman Arlo Duff, this was his first event.

And finally, there may be color guard members who have uniforms but do not foresee participating in color guard events. If this applies to you, please consider turning in your uniform. You may email me at [fredfons@msn.com](mailto:fredfons@msn.com) and I will be happy to pick it up.

### Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge



The stained glass windows in Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge had been untouched since the 1950's, outside protected by plexiglass that clouded over the years, shutting out sunlight through the beautiful stained glass. Windows on the chapel walls, left and right, tell the story of the nation's founding and high over the front doors tell the life of George Washington. Over the altar is the biblical story. Through its charity organization, Washington Memorial Heritage, support to restore the windows was sought. Each side window was removed, re-leaded and repaired, and external thick clear glass was added for protection, at a cost of about \$100,000 per window. Artisans did the lead and glass work in a professional laboratory. The effect is striking now as the sun lights the windows. Various organizations like PSSR, its Color Guard, Huguenot Society, the Cincinnati, and individuals stepped up and the work is almost finished. It took several years.

SAR Compatriots David Humphrey, MD and Lanny Patten, with their DAR wives, dedicated the Anthony Wayne window officially to the national organizations,

NSDAR and NSSAR as the brass plaque describes. The bottom panel shows then VP Thomas Jefferson commissioning George Rogers Clark to open the West (years before the Lewis and Clark mission). The restored window was dedicated at a service two years or so ago. Those who visit the Chapel at the Lancaster SAR Congress in July should see it. There usually is a brochure in the back of the Chapel that tells the story of the windows, which are each one a magnificent work of art.

New Members 1/21/24 to 4/11/24			
New Member	Patriot	Junior	Patriot
Matthew Barry Lauver	Zachariah Rice	Casey Wade Morton, Jr.	John Gearhart
Mark John Huckel	Wilhelm Huckel	Grayson McKelvey Leming	John Fowler
		Hunter James Leming	John Fowler
		Casey Thomas Huckel	Wilhelm Huckel
		Brady Clark Huckel	Wilhelm Huckel



## Lanny Patten Presented with the DAR Hannah White Arnett Medal!

At the DAR Fashion Show, gentlemen from both the SAR and SR were presented with a new DAR Medal -- the Hannah White Arnett Medal!



NSDAR has created the Hannah White Arnett medal to be awarded to a member in good standing of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) or Sons of the Revolution (S.R.) for unselfish devotion, tireless efforts, and assistance to the DAR; and who has dedicated his time, energy, talents, and/or resources to the organization in support and furtherance of the DAR mission of historic preservation, education and patriotism.

Lanny Patten (left in the middle) fits this criteria and then some: Lanny has been supportive of the DAR Jephtha Abbott Chapter for decades and is a member of SAR and S.R., and has served as Past president of the SAR Philadelphia Continental Chapter and of the SAR Pennsylvania State Society; a national SAR society officer and Executive Committee member; and international trustee for the SAR France Societe. Lanny also served as Secretary and Board member for the PA Society, Sons of the Revolution and its "Let Freedom Ring" events. He has been active supporter of the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia since its inception and recently a supporter of the Washington Memorial Heritage for the Valley Forge Washington Chapel. He is a past General Anthony Wayne C.A.R. Grandparent of the Year recipient. And last but not least, "first husband" of a Jephtha Abbott DAR Honorary Regent and Past DAR state officer Ann Patten.

### **Annual Patriots Picnic Sunday, June 8, 2024 Fenimore Woods Park, Radnor Twp.**

The Philadelphia Continental Chapter Annual Patriots Picnic will be held at Fenimore Woods Park on Saturday, June 8, 2024. Please plan to arrive by 11:30 AM to enjoy the festivities. We hope to feature a 90-pound pig, prepared by Esposito's Porchetta of South Philadelphia, as well as other food offerings. We will have beer and wine and assorted cold soft drinks to satisfy your thirst. Bring your wife, children, and family and friends. All are welcome to enjoy our program. The park is located at 1194 Eagle Road, Wayne, PA 19087.

In addition to Compatriots and families, we also plan to have the pleasure of hosting the Eagle Scout and Greenspan award winners and their families.

If anyone needs a certificate of any kind, please contact the President ASAP.

Please call or email John Mitchell, or Bill Baker to notify us with your name and number of guests you are bringing.

John Mitchell - 610-630-1575 or 484-557-9270 (cell phone) - e-mail: [johnfmtc@aol.com](mailto:johnfmtc@aol.com)

Bill Baker- 248-701-5267 - e-mail: [wbaklava@aol.com](mailto:wbaklava@aol.com).

If you are interested in helping at the picnic, please let John or Bill know this.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, June 8!