

Sons of the American Revolution



2020 ANNUAL REPORT Montana Society – Sons of the American Revolution

Due to the coronavirus, the 18 April 2020 Montana Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (MTSSAR) Annual Meeting was canceled on 17 March 2020 by the MTSSAR Board of Managers (BOM). In lieu of this meeting, the following reports are submitted along with status updates on ongoing efforts:

1. Reports

- a. MTSSAR President – Warren Dupuis provided the President's Report (See Attachment #1).
- b. MTSSAR Vice President (VP) – Steve Armstrong provided the VP's Report (See Attachment #2).
- a. MTSSAR Registrar - John Robinson provided the Registrar's Report (See Attachment #3).
- b. MTSSAR Secretary –John Rice provided the Secretary's Report (See Attachment #4).
- c. MTSSAR Treasurer – Rodney Wheeler provided the Treasurer's Report (See Attachment #5).
- d. MTSSAR Trustee – T.C. Richardson provided the Trustee's Report (See Attachment #6).
- e. MTSSAR Chaplain – T.C. Richardson also provided the Chaplain's Report (See Attachment #7).
- f. Chapter Presidents' Reports
 - (1) Glacier Chapter – Steve Armstrong provided the Glacier Chapter Report (See Attachment #8).
 - (2) Guardian Chapter – Keith Kramlick provided the Guardian Chapter Report (See Attachment #9).
 - (3) Liberty Tree Chapter – Don Murphy provided the Liberty Tree Chapter Report (See Attachment #10).
 - (4) Montana Continentals Chapter – Bob Gunderson provide the Montana Continentals Chapter Report (See Attachment #11).
 - (5) Portage Chapter – Walt Walker with the Portage Chapter did not provide a report.
 - (6) Sourdough Chapter – John Rice provided the Sourdough Chapter Report (See Attachment #12).

2. **Election of New MTSSAR Officers** – On 17 March 2020 the MTSSAR BOM agreed to postpone the election of new officers until the MTSSAR Annual Meeting in April 2021. All of the current elected officers have agreed to serve another year. We greatly appreciate their contributions to our Society. They include the follow:

President – Warren Dupuis, Guardian Chapter

Secretary – John Rice, Sourdough Chapter

Vice-President – Steve Armstrong, Glacier Chapter

Treasurer – Rodney Wheeler, Sourdough Chapter

Registrar – John Robinson, Sourdough Chapter

Trustee – T. C. Richardson, Liberty Tree Chapter

3. Upcoming Events

- a. National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) National Congress in the Seattle, WA Area in 2021 – MTSSAR members are again encouraged to plan to attend the NSSAR Congress in the Seattle, WA area in 2021 since it will be a rare opportunity to have the NSSAR Congress nearby. More details will be forthcoming.

- b. 2020 MTSSAR Fall Meeting in Bozeman, MT – The MTSSAR BOM will decide whether or not to reschedule the 2020 Annual Meeting once the coronavirus no longer poses a threat to our members. If sufficient time passes before then, the BOM may opt to reschedule the Annual Meeting in the September or October timeframe, possibly in Helena, in lieu of the 2020 Fall Meeting. If the Annual Meeting is held sooner, the BOM will decide whether a Fall Meeting is warranted.

4. Old Business

- a. George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest – The George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest is open to all high school students and involves writing an 800 to 1200-word essay on an event, person, philosophy, or ideal associated with the American Revolution, *Declaration of Independence*, or framing of the *U.S. Constitution*. Each chapter's winning entry, if there is one, is entered into the MTSSAR contest. Each state's winning entry is entered into the NSSAR contest. The NSSAR first prize is \$5,000, a medal and recognition certificate, up to \$500 toward travel expenses, and a one-night stay for the winner and a chaperone at the Annual SAR Congress. Second place is \$2,500 and a recognition certificate and third place is \$1,000 and a recognition certificate. As previously stated in the *Minutes of the 2019 MTSSAR Fall Meeting*, neither the Montana Society nor any local chapter offer any additional prizes. Consequently, it has been very difficult to motivate Montana students to enter. While it has not been difficult in the past to win at the Montana level since only a very few students enter each year, it has been difficult to win against 49 other students at the National level. It has again been proposed that the MTSSAR offer a prize at the state level and if enough students enter that chapters could offer prizes at the local level. Enough funds were generated by the MTSSAR Musket Raffle to fund prizes for several years even if additional fund raisers are not held. The contest could be promoted through the Montana Department of Education, local educators and poster, and Jane Lee Hamman, former Montana Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (MSDAR) Regent. Likewise, the NSSAR Poster Contest is open to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. The theme is Revolution War Events in even numbered years and Revolutionary War Persons in odd numbered years. At the National level prizes are ribbons, certificates, and cash prizes of "To Be Determined Amounts." No prizes are offered at the Montana or local chapter level. The same logic and rationale as with the Knight Essay Contest apply to sponsoring this contest.
- b. Education Program Initiatives and Distribution of Raffle Funds – John Rice is working on a *MTSSAR Education Plan*, which discusses the goals of the *Education Plan*, the sources of funding, factors involving the distribution of raffle funds, proposed education initiatives, and proposals for additional fund-raising efforts. The draft *Plan* will be submitted soon to the MTSSAR BOMs and chapter presidents for their review and comments.
- d. Update of Status of USS Montana Submarine – VP Steve Armstrong reported on the status of the USS Montana Submarine construction and staffing in a recent email. Additional information on the USS Montana Committee is available at <https://ussmontanacommittee.us/the-ship/>.
- e. Status of MTSSAR/MSDAR Float – Pete Oakander has constructed a plywood silhouette of the USS Montana submarine for the float, that will be financed by both the MTSSAR and MSDAR. He is now working on painting it. Bob Gunderson is also working with the MSDAR on banners for the float and handouts. Walt Walker of the Portage Chapter has indicated that his chapter has a banner about 3' by 5' that is waterproof.
- f. MTSSAR Logo and Patch – As has been previously reported in the 3 March 2020 MTSSAR Newsletter, Sourdough Chapter Secretary Pete Oakander has designed a MTSSAR logo. The Sourdough Chapter is proposing to sell 3.5" by 2" patches for hats and jackets and 6" by 4" stickers for windows and notebooks featuring the logo but would like MTSSAR members to let their chapter

presidents know if they are interested so that the Sourdough Chapter can decide if there is sufficient interest before proceeding to order them.

- g. MTSSAR Board of Managers Actions – A summary of the BOM’s actions since the 2019 Fall meeting is provided in Attachment #13.

5. New Business

- a. Cooperation with Cody, WY Chapter – In late December 2019 MTSSAR Secretary John Rice was contacted by Keith Francik, the SAR Wyoming Society Cody Chapter President, who stated that he was interested in having his chapter join the Montana Society since the Wyoming State Society has not been very active. This proposal was forwarded to the MTSSAR BOM and VPG of the Intermountain District Larry Mylnechuk. Larry passed this information on to NSSAR President General (PG) Joe Manning, who had already been in contact with the Wyoming Society Cody Chapter. PG Manning replied to Larry that the MTSSAR should not do anything for now as the Wyoming Society was trying to resolve their problems. John Rice recently spoke with Keith Francik, who stated that for now his chapter is more interested in looking for ways to cooperate with the MTSSAR than becoming members. John has asked Keith to keep him informed on developments with the Wyoming Society and noted that he would pass along this proposal of cooperation to the MTSSAR. He also extended an invitation for Keith or other Wyoming Society members to attend the MTSSAR Annual Meeting, whenever it is held. Keith noted that their planned Annual Meeting in May has not yet been canceled and extended an invitation.



President's Annual Report

Montana Society Sons of the American Revolution

for the Year, April 2019 – April 2020

This report documents activities of the President of the Montana State Society of the Sons of the America Revolution from April 2019 – October 2019.

Activities

The President participated in the following activates throughout the community:

1. On May 22nd, members of the Guardian Chapter, along with members of the Oro Fino Chapter of the DAR, **placed flags on the graves** of “compatriots” in the local cemeteries.
2. On May 27th, members of the Guardian Chapter, along with members of the Oro Fino Chapter of the DAR, **participated in the Annual East Helena Memorial Day Parade** which included the use of the 125th Anniversary Float. The president met with Senator Steven Dains during the activity. Later met with Steve Dains and presented a challenge coin.
3. On June 18th, President attended a luncheon hosted by the mayor of Helena for command and staff of the USS Montana.
4. On July 4th, the President **gave the key note address at the Veteran's Memorial in Ennis, MT.** (Remarks are attached as enclosure 1)
5. On July 26th, members of the Guardian Chapter, along with members of the Oro Fino Chapter of the DAR, **participated in a funeral service for Edward Nulliner**, an Airman who had no family to attend the service. The Chapter President gave brief remarks. (Remarks are attached and enclosure 2)
6. On August 17th, members of the Guardian Chapter, along with members of the Oro Fino Chapter of the DAR, took boats to Cemetery Island located in Canyon Ferry and **cleaned graves and cleared sagebrush from the cemetery**.
7. On August 24th, members of the Guardian Chapter, along with members of the Oro Fino Chapter of the DAR, **participated in the Veterans Stand Down**. This activity presents an opportunity for outreach to veterans who may need assistance in multiple areas.
8. On September 10th, The President and Jane Hamman of the DAR, **participated in a radio interview** on AM950's Coffee Break to discuss the upcoming events at the State Capitol for Constitution Day.
9. On September 14th, members of the Guardian Chapter, along with members of the Oro Fino Chapter of the DAR, **participated in Constitution Day activities at the State Capitol**. The President served as a member of the Color Guard and presented remarks on the Constitution. (Remarks are attached at Enclosure 3.a) The event was

covered by the local paper and the received front page coverage above the fold. (article attached as Enclosure 3.b)

10. On October 20th, the President attended the Montana State Gemological Conference and provided handout on the SAR.
11. On December 9th, the President participated in the Wreaths Across America ceremony in the state capitol. The president served as a member of the color guard and provided remarks. (Remarks are attached as Enclosure 3.c)

Initiatives

- Upon receiving approval for the development and procurement of a MTSSAR “**President’s Challenge Coin**” the President contracted with Crown Trophy in Helena for the initial run of 250 coins. The original quote was as follows: Art Setup fee of \$150.00, Shipping of \$65.00, and Coin Cost for 259 @ 8.25 each, \$2062.50 **for a total of \$2,277.50**. The upfront cost was covered by Warren Dupuis and coins are available for purchase by Chapter Presidents at an individual cost of **\$9.00** (see Encl 4)



- **President's Awards** were established four awards to be presented annually to the chapter(s) who demonstrated exceptional performance in one or more of the following areas
 - Chapter Growth
 - Patriotic
 - Educational
 - Historical



Respectfully submitted,

//S//

Warren L. Dupuis
President,
Montana Society Sons of the American Revolution

What the 4th of July means to me: Colonel Warren Dupuis - Ennis, Montana- July 4, 2019

Major Reynolds, Honored Guest, Distinguished Visitors, I would like to acknowledge my family members here today

My cousin, David Dupuis and his wife Shelly
My brother, Francis J. Dupuis and his wife Sharon
My wife, Colonel Lori Dupuis
(And.....)

FIREWORKS, HOTDOGS, PARADES

these are probably the top three answers to the question “What does the 4th of July mean to you?”

To me the 4th of July means something different. Let me explain....

According to the Old Testament book of Joshua, When The people of Israel entered Canaan, God stopped the Jordan river so that they could cross on dry land. They were instructed to take stones from the center of the dry river where they had crossed and erect a memorial on the shore. These “touch stones” were to serve as a reminder to the present generation and to future generations of this miraculous event and as a testament to God’s presents in their lives.

To me, the 4th of July servers as a “touch stone” that stands as a reminder of the three principle corner stones that lead to the founding of this nation. Those three corner stones are:

- A Belief
- An Idea
- and A Solemn Responsibility

A Belief —— that We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

An Idea —— That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,

A Solemn Responsibility —— That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

I wear this uniform in honor of my, and my cousin David's, Great(4) Grandfather, Henry Wyman, who along with his brother William Wyman Jr. and his father, the Revered William Wyman, enlisted as a Pvt in Capt. William Hutchins Vermont Detachment, (part of Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boy's), where they took up arms to throw off yoke of a

tyrannical government in order to gain independence and the right of self-determination for the thirteen United States of America.

We know from history how that turned out, but at the time, these men, like the more than 230,000 others who served in the Colonial Army during the Revolution, risked everything on an uncertain outcome. After all, they were ordinary citizens, largely untrained in military tactics, about to take on the most powerful and best trained army in the world. They did this because they believed in an Idea and felt obligated to do something, because it was the right thing to do, not because it was easy. Like soldiers from every generation, they had to face the question - "If not me, Who? If not now, When?"

My favorite 4th of July story was told to me by my Mother about my grandfather, Joe Podgorski, A veteran of the Great War and recipient of the distinguished service cross and the Purple Heart , she told me how she once saw him knock a man to the ground for failing to remove his hat for the passing of the American flag during a 4th of July parade in Butte. Times Change.... His brick is on panel 14, just over there.

Since the founding of this country, only once has it been successfully invaded by a foreign power, whose army managed to capture the nation's capital and set fire to the White House. During the war of 1812, Francis Scott Key observed the British shelling of Fort McHenry in the Baltimore Harbor. He would later write a poem about the experience entitled "Defence of Fort M'Henry" that was later set to the tune "To Anacreon in Heaven" and became known as "The Star Spangled Banner", the national anthem of the United States. All my life, whenever I heard the anthem, I felt that Francis Scott Key was calling to me from the grave, looking for an affirmative response to the question, when he asks: "oh say, does that star spangled banner yet wave, over the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

I think that my revolutionary ancestor Henry Wyman would be proud of his grandchildren, Lawrence Dupuis, Wyman Dupuis, Francis Dupuis, Francis J. Dupuis, Edward Dupuis, Warren Dupuis, and Teresa Dupuis, whose names, among the others on these walls, in this place, face the flag and provide an answer to Francis Scott Key's haunting question: "Yes, that flag does still wave, over the land of the free, because of the brave."

That is what the 4th of July means to me.

Thank You.

(Encl 1)

Veteran's burial

Nulliner, Edward J. 7/26/2019 2:00 p.m. AF Technical Sergeant MSVC
Held at WALL/Shelter

Since 1775 it is estimated that 57 million men and women have stepped forward to serve in all branches of the United States military, to defend this country and its constitution. Many did this without asking what they would get in return but in return they have earned our honor and respect. The Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution are here today to honor Air Force Technical Sergeant Edward J Nulliner for his service to this country.

There are 23 million veterans alive today and Montana has the second highest percent of veterans with 12% of the population having served. We are also here today as a reminder to those veterans that they are not alone and we thank them from their service.

(Encl 2)

Constitution Day Speech, September 17th, 2019 – Helena Montana - Warren L. Dupuis

Otto von Bismarck is credited with saying "**Politics is the art of the possible, the attainable — the art of the next best**"

Our Constitution, therefore, is perhaps one of most artfully crafted documents ever produced by a group of people who did not necessarily agree on the form and function that our new government should take. Reading historical accounts of the time shows that, like today, there were polarizing issues that would require compromise, or in some cases deferment for later discussion and disposition, if the government was to be established.

To fully appreciate the struggle to form a new nation, based on new principles, we must consider the time line of events leading up to the establishment of our government.

The Revolutionary War began on April 18th, 1775 with the Battle of Concord that was precipitated by; the Stamp Act of 1765, issues of taxation without representation, a growing list of punitive legislation, and the perceived violation of "constitutional and natural rights". The neutral parties were driven to take a stand to support the **Patriots** or the **Loyalist**. ***The Nation was divided.***

The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4th, 1776 and established a new principle that would define the nation. That principle was that ***governments derive their powers from the consent of the governed.***

The Revolutionary War ended on September 3rd, 1783. ***It had lasted 8 years,*** and it is estimated that as many as 28,000 British and American Soldiers died in the conflict.

The Constitutional Convention was held in Philadelphia in 1787 and George Washington, the Convention President, was the first to sign it on September 17th, 1787 (***Twelve years after the beginning of the War.***)

Of the 55 delegates, a total of 39 signed. Only twelve colonies were represented at the convention, as Rhode Island refused to send delegates. But we still did not have a government.

That would require the constitution to be ratified by 9 of the 13 states. (***People who supported the Constitution became known as Federalists, while those opposed It, because they thought it gave too much power to the national government, were called, Anti-Federalists.***)

Starting on December 7th, 1787, five states – Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia and Connecticut – ratified the constitution, but other states like Massachusetts, opposed the document, as it failed to ***reserve undelegated powers to the states*** and lacked constitutional protection of basic rights, such as ***freedom of speech, religion, and the press.*** In February 1788, a compromise was reached under which Massachusetts and other states

would agree to ratify the document with the assurance that amendments would be immediately proposed. ***Without the promise of a "Bill of Rights" it is possible that the union under a federal government would not have been realized.***

On June 21st, 1788, New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify the document, and it was subsequently agreed that government under the U.S. Constitution would begin on March 4th, 1789. George Washington was inaugurated as America's first president on April 30th, 1789. In June of that same year, Virginia ratified the Constitution, and New York followed in July.

On May 29th, 1790 - Rhode Island became the last to ratify the constitution, doing so under threat of tariffs being imposed if Rhode Island were to be excluded from the United States.

In 1789, ***Madison had introduced 19 amendments*** to the constitution, as agreed in 1788. On September 25th, 1789, ***Congress adopted 12*** of the amendments and sent them to the states for ratification. ***Ten of these amendments***, known collectively as ***the Bill of Rights***, were ratified and became part of the Constitution on ***December 10, 1791***.

There was no time limit placed on the ratification of the 12 amendments to the Constitution and two hundred years later, ***on May 7th, 1992 one of the remaining two original amendments*** which deals with congressional pay raises ***was ratified by Michigan*** and became the Twenty-Seventh and last amendment to our Constitution.

On ***February 2nd, 1790***, the U.S. Supreme Court held its first session, ***marking the date when the government was fully operational.*** (**14 years** after the declaration of independence and **7 years** following the end of the Revolutionary war.)

This document that establishes a new nation, born of war, established in peace, ***gives unprecedented rights and protection to its citizens.*** Through its 232 years it has withstood many challenges, including a civil war, yet it remains as a model for other Countries wishing to establish a Democratic Republic.

The intent was ***never to form a perfect nation*** but rather, as stated in the preamble, "to form a **more perfect Union**, establish ***Justice***, insure ***domestic Tranquility***, provide for a ***common defense***, promote ***general Welfare***, and secure the ***Blessing of Liberty*** to ourselves and Posterity".

We should ***always remember*** the struggle it took to form this nation and ***never forget*** that the most important words in the Constitution are "***We the People***".

Thank You!

(Encl 3.a)

Helena reflects on US Constitution 232 years after its signing

- Sep 17, 2019



Warren Dupuis, Sons of the American Revolution Guardian Chapter president, posts the American Flag Tuesday in the Capitol Rotunda for the annual event celebrating the anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution.

THOM BRIDGE, Independent Record

Around 100 people gathered in the Capitol Rotunda Tuesday afternoon to celebrate the 232nd anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution.

With Helena's Daughters of the American Revolution coordinating the event, color bearers dressed in Revolutionary War garb posted the United States flag at the beginning of the ceremony.

Warren Dupuis, the president of the Guardian Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, presented a history of the Constitution, calling it an "artfully crafted document" built through the spirit of compromise.

"George Washington was the first to sign it," Dupuis said, and he described how after the 1787 Constitutional Convention, states and people battled over how the country would be created to form a more perfect union.

"The three most important words in the Constitution are 'We the people,'" Dupuis said.

Deputy Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen reflected on what the Constitution means to her personally, calling it a "God-inspired document." She said she believes the Constitution "has never been more challenged" by globalization and social media, and added that English was the "founding language" of the United States and that immigrants are welcome here if they follow "proper" channels and do not try to "change it."

"The Bible and the Constitution are the most important documents of our day," Jacobsen said.

Gov. Steve Bullock shared a statement on the Constitution through his citizens' advocate Tyler Campbell, who came dressed in full George Washington regalia.

"We gather to honor the perseverance and wisdom of the founding fathers who worked so diligently to draft the Constitution and establish the original framework of the American Republic," Bullock wrote. "It will continue to be our moral compass as we sail into the uncharted waters of the future."

Jane Lee Hamman, the Daughters of the American Revolution's Constitution Week chairwoman, said celebrating the Constitution was an important part of keeping its history alive.

"We perpetuate the history of all those who created our independence," Hamman said. "Their spirit is what we try to convey."

(Encl 3.b)

Wreaths Across America – State Capitol December 9th 2019

Distinguished Visitors and Honored Guests,

As the president of the Montana Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, I would like to express my gratitude to you for coming out and participating in the annual “Wreaths Across America” program.

I would like to extend my thanks to the members of the Guardian Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution who provided the color guard today.

Keith Kramlick, Sergeant First Class, US Army (retired) who is also the Chapter President, Doug Fraser, and Don Reed.

Being here today demonstrates that you care enough to Remember and Honor the men and women who have chosen to serve this nation in the armed forces. Today there are approximately 2,142,000 people serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, on Active Duty or in the Ready Reserve. That equates to less than 1% of the population (0.7% to be exact)

Montana has one of the highest per capita Veteran populations in the U.S.; about 9.4% of our residents are Veterans.

When I think of how small a percentage of the general population that is, and realize that they are all volunteers, a Winston Churchill quote come to mind:

"Never was so much owed by so many to so few"

Again, thank you for coming here today to pay part of that debt of gratitude.

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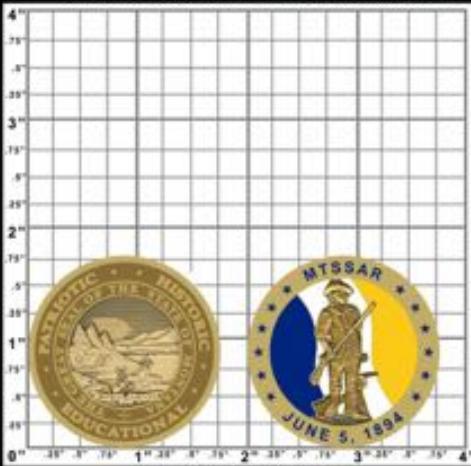
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- COLOR FILL YELLOW 123 C
- COLOR FILL BLUE 280 C

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*Items under 5.5" may be considered a choking hazard and are not recommended for children 12 and under.

(Encl 4)

Vice President's Report, Sons of the American Revolution for the year, April 2019 - April 2020

The Vice-President's role is one of providing assistance as requested by MTSSAR officers and the Board of Managers.

There was plenty of email correspondence among many members of MTSSAR, particularly MTSSAR Secretary John Rice, Chaplain TC Richardson, Treasurer Rodney Wheeler, Registrar John Robinson, MTSSAR President Warren Dupuis and Guardian Chapter President Keith Kramlick and his wife Gale of Oro Fino Chapter – DAR.

While not an official duty of the V-P, I created newsletters that were sent to MTSSAR membership. I also sent numerous batch emails to membership concerning appropriate information about our state society, specific Chapter accomplishments and individual Compatriot accomplishments.

I have agreed to continue to serve as Vice-President up to MTSSAR's April 2021 Annual Meeting. Therefore, MTSSAR will need a Compatriot to step forward to take over this role.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Armstrong
Vice-President – Montana Society - Sons of the American Revolution
President, Glacier Chapter - Sons of the American Revolution
Location Coordinator - Wreaths Across America, Montana Veteran's Home, Columbia Falls

Registrar Report March/April 2020

In this year 2020 I have been Montana SAR Registrar for five years. After I got started working I have been at the job six and seven days a week for 3/4 hours a day. A number of new members have been added along with a no of Supplements. After doing applications and supplements plus my own 25 Patriots I have a good knowledge of what is required. That said there is always more to learn. Plus National making changes to the 70 pages of guide lines and policies manuals that I am required to keep up with.

There has been a few that I could not complete for lack of info required by National. The lack of info can be genealogical or service related.

Up to Sep 2019 I have worked on 95 applications and supplements so that is about 21 a year. Some can go fast or take weeks or even months to acquire the needed documents. I work on only one at a time as I do not have a 25 x 25 office that I need.

Sep 2019 to Mar 2020 I have worked on only 3 to completion. Reason lack of interest in MT and a DNA problem.

PG Joe Dooley got involved in the DNA with me and GG Jim Faulkinbury. GG Jim Faulkinbury Nation wide stopped all DNA applications, even some that were at National because of concerns on legal issues for the SAR. The SAR is looking into the legal issues. The DAR does not recommend DNA, they say find another Patriot.

So things have been slow since Sep 2019. Barb Stem has put together four applications together but I have heard from only two, and they are at National. Plus a supplemental for our VP Steve Armstrong.

As I was elected as Master of the Masonic Lodge here in Big Timber I have been required to provide Masonic instruction each meeting. This is also time consuming. So I have really need the time off from the SAR.

Going on 81 we see more and more doctors as to age and medical issues.

So after 18 years of applications and supplements the job is getting slower. But I am still working on.

For a replacement some day remember that I had 13 years experience before I moved to Montana.

In MT I see only about 25% of the interest in the SAR as I have seen in FL, NC, and NM. Were I have been an SAR member. I can talk my head off and no real interest.

Also my left eye is now 20/45 with correction lenses. Getting worse every year.

In Patriot Service John Robinson Montana SAR REmbrar.

MTSSAR SECRETARY REPORT

April 18, 2020

As of 1 January 2019

Regular Members	84
Dual Members (Montana not primary state)	10
Total Members	94

As of January 1, 2020

Deaths	2
Dropped	13
Transferred out	2
Total Lost	17

New Members	17
Reinstated	2
Transferred In	1
Total Gained	20

As of 1 January 2020

Regular Members Life)	87 (includes 2 Junior and 2
Dual Members	9
Total Members	96

Chapter Membership (January 1, 2020)

Liberty Tree	32
Glacier	7
Portage	11
Guardian	16
Sourdough	25
MT Continentals	5
Total	96

John W. Rice
MTSSAR Secretary

MTSSAR FINANCIAL REPORT FOR OCTOBER 11, 2019 THROUGH MARCH 15, 2020



General Funds	
Beginning Balance/General Fund	
As of October 11, 2019:	\$7,249.93
Revenue	
Dues	\$5,310.00
Donations to MTSSAR	\$100.00
Overpayment/Reimbursement	\$5.00
Applications/Supp.	\$340.00
Registration Celeb.	\$0.00
Raffle	\$0.00
Anniversary Dinners	\$0.00
Auction @ Anniversary	\$0.00
Total Revenue:	\$5,755.00
Expenses	
Anniversary	\$0.00
Dues to Chapters	\$450.00
Dues Reimbursement	\$60.00
Website	\$204.00
National Dues	\$2,845.00
Application to Nat.	\$280.00
Anniversary Dinners	\$0.00
Gifts Given	\$70.00
Medals	\$119.00
Postage and Supplies	\$223.31
Donations	\$0.00
Raffle Expenses (postage)	\$0.00
Bank Fees	\$0.00
Newsletter	\$13.15
Registrar Expenses	\$141.77
Total Expenses:	\$4,406.23
General Fund Total	\$8,598.70
Minus Funds Allocated for Raffle/Educations Purposes	-\$4,372.05
Minus Funds Held in Escrow for The Continentals Chapter (They Do Not Have A Bank Acct)	-\$30.00
General Fund Balance Available for MTSSAR General Use	\$4,196.65

Raffle Funds	
Beginning Balance	
As of October 11, 2019:	\$4,372.05
Revenue	\$0.00
Total Revenue:	\$0.00
Expenses	\$0.00
Total Expenses:	\$0.00
Raffle Fund Total	\$4,372.05
Continentals Chapter Funds	
New Member Dues 10/1/19	\$5.00
Annual Membership Dues 1/29/20	\$25.00
Continentals Chapter Funds Being Held in Escrow:	\$30.00

Rodney Wheeler
Rodney Wheeler, MTSSAR Treasurer

March 19, 2020
Date

TREASURER'S REPORT COMMENTS

LESSONS LEARNED ON 2020 DUES COLLECTION

POSITIVE

1. Payments made at the 2019 Fall Meeting went very well.
2. There were a lot of positive comments made to me regarding the self-addressed stamped envelope and compatriot's information return form.

NEGATIVE

1. If a compatriot is going to pay for another compatriot(s) membership, it would be helpful to let the Treasurer know the name(s) of that compatriot ahead of time. I will then send the appropriate invoices to that compatriot that is paying for another.
2. It seems that each chapter is not advising the Secretary or the Treasurer of any changes to a member's email address and/or contact information for their members.
3. All payments are due by December 31st of each year. We had numerous late payments for compatriots who were dropped due to the fact that they did not pay before the year's end. Invoices were mailed out on October 22, 2019 which provided plenty of time for members to send in their dues prior to the end of the year.

RESEARCH OF THE NON-PROFIT STATUS FOR THE STATE AND CHAPTERS

After doing many hours of research, talking with the NSSAR representative, and the Internal Revenue Service, this is our status as of this date:

- The State Account is recognized as current and a non-profit with the IRS.
- Two Chapters are recognized as current and a non-profit with the IRS.
- One Chapter was revoked as a non-profit with the IRS and I am in contact with the President of that Chapter and working on getting the Chapter's non-profit recognition back.
- Two Chapters are not listed as non-profits with the IRS and I am working with them to get their non-profit status.
- One Chapter does not have an EIN number at this time, which is required to file with the IRS as a non-profit.



Rodney Wheeler, MTSSAR Treasurer

March 19, 2020

Side Note: This is the 400th Anniversary of the Mayflower Landing at Plymouth Rock. Many of our compatriots were descendants from those 102 pilgrims. Let's give thanks to our ancestors.
Rodney Wheeler, Deputy State Governor, Montana Mayflower Society.

Trustee Report AK

Application fee: As of Congress the Application fee for new apps and supplementals will be \$100 if passed by Congress in Richmond. Junior and little kids will be \$40. Apply fast!

Pallets were lost and broken into and sold on Ebay after Costa Mesa. \$4000 loss that was deemed not worth suing the carrier.

Mission Data Base: The new data base will be turned on in a couple of weeks. The old yellow membership data base will go away. The new blue data base and website will have a cool side bar for ease of use. Medals awarded by chapters and states will be handled by states without the need for NSSAR contacts.

Genealogy: The one computer application process will be the only one in town soon if not already. The work sheet will be removable for homework by applicants.

Museum: Work goes on as the money needed for Phase 2 step 3 is available. \$390000 needed and raised with \$29000, give or take, raised at Leadership.

New Minutemen: Tony Vets, Darrell Addington, John Thornhill, Cliff Olson, Lou Carlson, Roger Coursey.

Headquarters Maintenance: Windows frames, floors, paint, awnings and much more to be done. \$75000 outlay approved to complete. Some \$25000 of this will be held for major projects e.g. roof.

Congress Richmond: 384 compatriots plus a bunch of wives and girlfriends for a total of 500. May wives and girlfriend never meet.

Members: 38087 members gross, but after the reconciliation we have 35375. About the same, as we seem to be holding at that number.

Congress Lake Washington: Huge interest in the post congress cruise to Alaska. Magic Tours will be contacted to set dates and prices. This is a priority. I think the National Society was happy to hear the Alaska Compatriots agree to allow cruisers to stay with them overnight in Anchorage.

Boy Scout Youth Protection: If you are doing anything with children you need to take the Boy Scout Course on youth protection. Forewarned if forearmed.

Investments: The society runs about a 60/40% stocks over bonds and fixed income. Personally, the society should be 100% in securities. Nothing is gained in bonds and fixed income in the last many years.

Knight Essay: 22 State winning essays have been received by yours truly as the Committee Chairman. I will be sending these soon the judges. The endowment fund has increased by between \$25000 to \$27000 since Fall Leadership. This is a new record. This is my last year as Chairman and Ernie Coggins of VA will, pending approval by the new PG, take over. Ernie was a speech writer for Senator Strom Thurmond back in the day. Ernie will do a great job.

Museum Board: 63 original artifacts have been donated to the Museum and 63 will be de-accessed ad being from the wrong era of just fake. Two muskets made of 1812 parts will be among the above.

2020 Montana State Chaplain's Report

Looking back at the history of our Montana SAR, I am reminded of our Number 1 Compatriot, Cephas Bateman, who was stationed in Washington State, where he joined the Sons of the American Revolution. As an Army Chaplain he served at Fort Assinniboine, near Havre and became the first member of our MTSSAR. Several other dignified individuals joined, and May 15, 1894 State newspapers stated, "By authority of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, a convention is hereby called..." And the MTSSAR was born, under God, with the guidance of a Chaplain.

As a Christian serving in the capacity of Sunday School, Christian School teacher, School Administrator, Missionary, Mission Director, Liberty Tree Chaplain and Montana State Chaplain, I remain, thankful to God.

I continue to encourage each of our chapters to appoint a chaplain to serve as originated by Chaplain Bateman. I have attained information (private phone # and email) of our chapter chaplains and host a quarterly Chaplains Corner communique for to all members.

As in the case of recently promoted compatriot, Bully Butts, your Montana State Chaplain will contact any needy SAR members, meet with the families of our hospitalized, sick or deceased and offer encouragement if requested by the chapter.

As requested in my last report to National Chaplain General Rev. David J. Felts, he is now reaching out our Montana Chaplains by email weekly. To all our chapters, officers and members, the chaplaincy remains open to suggestions, comments, criticism and, by all means, encouragement.

Joyfully,

TC Richardson
Your Montana State Chaplain

**Glacier Chapter
by Steve Armstrong, Glacier Chapter President
April 18, 2020 MTSSAR Annual Meeting**

Glacier Chapter had a very successful Wreaths Across America celebration on December 14, 2019, at the Montana Veteran's Home in Columbia Falls. Our keynote speaker was state Sen. Mark Blasdel of Somers, who is a strong supporter of veterans in the Montana Legislature.

We raised a record 670 wreaths this year and are hopeful that we will achieve the over 900 wreaths needed to honor all of the veterans interred at the Montana Veteran's Home Cemetery. We had community support from throughout the Flathead Valley, with a few wreath donations of 40-60 at a time, to many, many donations of one wreath.

We had a very successful partnership with Parkside Credit Union and a girl's club basketball team, which both combined accounted for 160 wreath donations. We were particularly pleased with the young girls (all age 11 and 12), who learned more about the role our veterans have contributed.

The goal of our Wreaths Across America celebration is both educational and patriotic. It is educational in that community members learn of the many sacrifices veterans have made throughout American history. It is also patriotic for this very reason. We had well over 200 community members in attendance at our indoor ceremony and dozens who came out in the cold weather to place wreaths on veteran graves after our indoor ceremony.

Glacier Chapter also participated in flag placement ceremonies at the Montana Veteran's Home Cemetery, which include Memorial Day, July 4th and Veteran's Day.

Beyond this, Glacier Chapter has not held a meeting in nearly three years. I have communicated with Chapter members asking when they would like to meet. There have been no responses to my inquiries.

Therefore, I operate Glacier Chapter alone and being the lone officer. While this may seem shocking to some, this continues to work well for me as I am able to continue a commitment to Wreaths Across America that Glacier Chapter started in 2012. That tradition continues.

Guardian Chapter News

On September 17, 2019 two members of the chapter, along with two members of the Oro Fino DAR chapter presented the colors and MTSSAR president and chapter secretary, Warren Dupuis, brought greetings at the Constitution Day Ceremony.

On November 11, 2019 four members participated in the East Helena Veterans Day parade.

On December 9, 2019 four members presented the colors at the Wreaths Across America ceremony held in the Capitol Rotunda. President, Keith Kramlick, presented the ceremonial wreath along with BG Jeff Ireland. MTSSAR President, Warren Dupuis, brought greetings from MTSSAR.

On December 14, 2019 two members attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony held at Fort Harrison in Helena and helped place nearly 800 wreaths along with the POW/MIA organization, Oro Fino Chapter DAR and other members of the community. Chapter president, retired SFC Keith Kramlick had the honor of posting the US Army wreath at the ceremony with retirees posting the wreaths representing their branch of service.

On January 8, 2020 chapter treasurer, Pat Duncan and chapter president, Keith Kramlick painted the room at the Willis Cruse House that the chapter is sponsoring.

At our February meeting, War Service Medals were presented to Greg Kneedler for service in the Vietnam War and Kevin Kramlick for service in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Keith Kramlick was presented the Military Service Medal for his 21 years of service in the U.S. Army.

Our chapter will participate in the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Ceremony being held on Monday, March 30 in Helena.

Upcoming events for the remainder of the year include: Memorial and Veterans Day parades, Military Stand Down, Constitution Day and Wreaths Across America. We will also continue to support the Willis Cruse House as needed.

As of today, our chapter has 16 members.

State of the Liberty Tree Chapter

2020

As we leave 2019 the year proved to be an interesting year for the chapter with the number of new chapter members that were inducted, and the events it was involved in. Regular chapter meetings that are held each month, except for July and August, always had a contingent of members present. The meetings were filled with lively discussions about upcoming events or, what was going on with the SAR.

The year was filled with events, which included the following:

In April, the Chapter finalized the Revolutionary War display at the Fort Missoula Museum, which included a full-sized mannequin completely dressed in a Revolutionary Uniform. Two members of the Chapter donated the uniform and mannequin. The Chapter provided other replica Revolutionary articles on display.

In May, the Chapter had their first large presentation of Veteran Recognition Citations to 29 Veterans at a Senior Living Center in Missoula.

The July 4th encampment at the Fort Missoula Military Museum proved to be very successful. Everything from the early morning raising of the American flag to Colonial games being played, poster sized reader boards, and the interactive display of what a Continental Soldier had to carry with them were all on display.

The first weekend of August the Chapter participated in the 107th Annual Creamery Picnic in Stevensville. The Chapter was able to use the Montana State SAR/DAR 125th Anniversary float and had four members, in uniform, riding the float. The reception of the crowd was overwhelming as the float made its way down the route.

October brought the annual fall picnic for the chapter, which was attended by many of the chapter members and their guests.

November was a busy month. At the Chapter meeting, it was decided that due to the increase in the number of Veterans being recognized in different facilities, the Chapter needed to have a Veterans Committee to oversee the pursuit of the Veterans in the area. All the Veterans of the chapter volunteered to be on the committee. Veteran's Day took the chapter to the Springs Senior Living center where 39 Veterans were honored in front of a crowd of approximately 200 people. This large of presentation, made the Chapter members look at the presentations themselves and how they are to be presented. Members of the Veterans Committee attended the University of Montana ROTC Awards Ceremony where they presented the Montana State Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Silver Medal Award.

To finish 2019 the Chapter awarded 15 Veterans citations at the Grizzly Peak Senior living center.

To date, including the 15 Veterans recognized on January 9, 2020, at the Auberge Senior living center, the chapter has recognized and awarded citations to 107 Veterans.

In conclusion, the Liberty Tree Chapter is trying to stay busy without trying to burn out the members. With that said, the Chapters members know they must stay the course in order to find the older Veterans who are quickly disappearing.

Remember,

**The Sons of the American Revolution was instituted to perpetuate the memory of
the men who, in the Continental Army, Navy, Militia and civil services of the
colonies and of the Continental Congress by their acts or counsel, achieve the
Independence of this great Nation.**

MTSSAR 2020 SOURDOUGH CHAPTER REPORT

Members of the Montana Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (MTSSAR) Sourdough Chapter have been over the last year and continue to work hard to not only grow the chapter's membership. In April 2019 the MTSSAR Sourdough Chapter had twenty-two (22) members including one junior member, Grady Grandfield, and one dual member, James Lindley.

From April 2019 to the end of 2019 the chapter added five new local members with Matt Henningsen, John Miller, Zeb Miller, Pete Oakander, and Thomas Platt. At the end of 2019 we lost three inactive members with Thomas Hogg, Walter Murdock, and Richard Scott due to non-payment of dues. The Sourdough Chapter currently has twenty-four (24) members.

The Sourdough Chapter also has twelve (12) potential new members with Christopher Avenski, Bob Boyd, Jim Del Duca, Bill Gould, Mark Hawkins, Tanner Jones, Mike McCormick, Matt Runhela, Brandon Smith, Steve Swinford, Zeph Thorning, and Matt Williams. Chapter President and MTSSAR Secretary John Rice, has reached out and continues to do so to each of these potential new members and provided/offered them assistance in completing their applications and learning about the SAR. He has also strongly encouraged other Sourdough Chapter members to do likewise.

John Rice has flown the American on every flag day, as designated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and has encouraged others to do the same. The Sourdough Chapter has approved three Flag Certificate Awards for the Pioneer Medical Center, C. Sharps Arms, and the Sky Federal Credit Union in Big Timber. John Rice asked other members to identify organizations flying the flag in their home towns.

The Chapter celebrated the 47th Anniversary of its founding in October 1972 and the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the MTSSAR in 1894 with a meeting/luncheon at the Riverside Country Club in Bozeman on Saturday, 21 September 2019. The meeting attendees included eleven (11) members, two (2) potential new members, and six (6) other guests including Larry Mylnechuk, NSSAR Vice President General of the Intermountain District. Larry gave an outstanding speech on Meriwether Lewis. John Robinson, MTSSAR Registrar, also provided advice on how to recruit new members. The attendees celebrated with an anniversary cake.

The Sourdough Chapter hosted and provide lunch for the MTSSAR 2019 Annual Fall Meeting and Celebration of the 238th Anniversary of the Victory at Yorktown at Hope Lutheran Church in Bozeman on Saturday, 19 Oct 2019.

The Sourdough Chapter held a meeting/luncheon on 22 February 2020 to celebrate Washington's Birthday. Attendees included eight (8) Sourdough Chapter members, perspective new member Mike Merwin and his wife from Miles City, and four (4) other spouses. John Rice pointed out a good article about George Washington in the latest *Sons of the American Revolution* quarterly magazine. The members also discussed the recent three-part television mini-series on Washington. John Rice briefly described the new business agenda items for the upcoming 18 April 2020 MTSSAR Annual Meeting and encouraged everyone to attend. Pete Oakander

discussed the MTSSAR logo, that he has created, and described his proposal for selling patches and stickers with the logo as a Sourdough Chapter fundraiser. John Rice discussed the plans for a black powder musket demonstration this spring.

John Rice also wrote an article on *MTSSAR Supports Local Communities*, which was published in two local magazines. The Chapter will be awarding the SAR ROTC Certificate and bar to Montana State University (MSU) Army ROTC Cadet Andrew Lingle on Friday, 6 March 2020, at the MSU Army ROTC Dining Out at the Bozeman Senior Center.

Sourdough Chapter members John Rice, Pete Oakander, and Rodney Wheeler have contributed to the discussion on how the MTSSAR raffle funds should be used for educational purposes. John Rice and Pete Oakander are also working on getting a model of the USS Montana Submarine for the MTSSAR float.

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BOARD OF MANAGERS ACTION (SINCE FALL 2019 MEETING)

1. At the 19 Oct 2019 MTSSAR Fall Meeting John Rice asked a question about whether reimbursement for MTSSAR Registrar and Webmaster expenses had been approved. Rodney Wheeler stated that they had not yet been submitted and made the point that no one gets reimbursed for money spent out of pocket without a receipt to back up the claim. It was decided that the MTSSAR Board of Managers would vote on approving these expenses after the appropriate vouchers and receipts had been received. John Robinson submitted the voucher and receipts for his expenses right after the meeting and a voucher and receipt were provided by the Don Murphy shortly thereafter. The MTSSAR BOM subsequently approved the vouchers.
2. Shortly after the 19 Oct 2019 MTSSAR Fall Meeting a motion was made that the MTSSAR pay for certificates for War Service Medals and Military Service Medals. The Board of Managers (BOM) vote was as follows:
Warren Dupuis – Aye, Don Murphy – Aye, John Robinson – Aye, T.C. Richardson – Aye, Steve Armstrong – Aye, and John Rice - Aye
A quorum having voted the motion passes.

Furthermore Warren Dupuis stated “As to the question of the additional cost for the calligraphy for the certificate: This was not presented as a motion but I support it and consider it part of the certificate as voted on in the motion passed above as a cost associated with the certificate as would be with postage, etc. I don’t see a reason to have another motion and vote on this. If someone disagrees, I would ask them to put forth a motion by close of business today or it will be considered as having passed as an inclusive part of the motion as stated above.

As to the presentation date on the certificate Warren added “I don’t know that this requires a motion as it is a process question rather than a business one. I would think that the date that the recipient is recognized but the approving authority, having presented the necessary documentation, would be the default date. that would give the greatest latitude for presentation when the actual certificate is received and not require waiting for a future date. Those are just my thoughts.”

3. At the 19 October 2019 Fall Meeting it was agreed that the 2020 Annual Meeting would be held in Helena on Saturday, 18 April 2020. Keith Kramlick subsequently agreed to find a place to hold the meeting. Later Keith presented the MTSSAR BOM with three choices to hold the meeting and the pros and cons associated with each. The MTSSAR BOM vote to hold the meeting at Jorgenson’s Inn and Suites.
4. On 12 March 2020, MTSSAR Secretary John Rice informed the MTSSAR BOM that there were a few errors in Addendum B to the MTSSAR Bylaws dealing with fees and dues. He also noted that there were a few additional clarifications that could be made. Steve Armstrong made the changes to Addendum B to correct the errors and provided the recommended clarifications. These changes were subsequently approved by the BOM.

5. On 17 March 2020, the Board of Managers in recognition of the problems created by the coronavirus and in order to protect the MTSSAR members, voted to cancel the planned 18 April 2020 MTSSAR Annual Meeting in Helena. No date has been set yet for a rescheduled meeting.