

*July 4<sup>th</sup> 2022*  
*Fort Missoula Encampment*



*Above: Eight different reader boards were available to those attending the celebration to learn about the Revolution. Larry Mylnechuk gave a presentation called *The Traitors during the Revolution*.*



*Bruce Taylor was drawing a crowd to his display of the weapons used during the Revolution.*



*The reading of the Declaration of Independence was performed at noon by Bruce Taylor*

# *New Member Induction*

*April 20, 2022*

*Pictured below is the Induction Ceremony for Charles Hinkle into the Sons of the American Revolution.*



*Pictured from left to right are: Chapter Secretary Jim Huthenson, State President Don Reed, Charles Hinkle and Chapter President Larry Mylenchuk.*

## *State Awards*

*State President Don Reed was in attendance at the monthly chapter meeting and awarded Liberty Tree Chapter with two trophies as shown below. The one on the left is the President's Trophy for Chapter Growth. Pictured on the right is for Historic Events for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Encampment.*



## *Liberty Tree Chapter*

*2021-2022*

*The Chapter is staying active with the members we have, without burning the active members out. During 2021, the Chapter participated in the Fourth of July at Fort Missoula. Various flags of the Revolutionary era were used during that time as well as Colonial Weapons that were displayed by member Bruce Taylor. Reader boards with information about the chapter and the Revolution were scattered throughout, as well as articles soldiers would use while in camp. Members available to answer questions that were brought forward by some of the inquisitive people attending. Preparations for the event starts early in the year so the members have the time to prepare for the celebration.*

*On August 6, Don Reed brought the State SAR float to Stevensville for the Annual Creamery Picnic Parade. Members of the Chapter boarded the float and the public gave a great reception to the float and member. Thanks to Don Reed for transporting the float to Missoula.*

*Twenty-five knitted scarves were donated to the chapter in the fall and they were taken to the Poverello facility in Missoula for distribution the Veterans that were there.*

*Currently Liberty Tree has 33 members and of those anywhere from 7 to 9 show up at the monthly meetings that are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Missoula Country Club. Occasionally we have a person interested in joining SAR attend the meetings to see what we are actually doing to see if they want to move forward.*

# *Washington Birthday Luncheon*

*February 15, 2022*



**Liberty Tree held there February meeting by having a luncheon for members and their families. The luncheon was attended by a majority of the chapter members.**



**Chapter member and past President of the Chapter is pictured here giving a presentation on “The Traitors”, which focused on “The Mysterious Death of Meriwether Lewis” (suicide or murder), which was very excellent.**

*December 18, 2021*

*Wreaths Across America*

*Liberty Tree Secretary Jim Hutcheson participated in the Wreaths Across America Function at the cemetery in Missoula, Montana.*

*Pictured below is Jim and the wreath laying by the volunteers at the cemetery.*



*September 6, 2021*  
*Dillon Labor Day Picnic*



*Liberty Tree Chapter member Wayne Bequette participated in the Dillon Labor Day Parade. State President Don Reed transported the float in from Wolf Creek, Montana. SAR member Keith Kramlick represented the Guardian Chapter. Pictured from left to right are Gale and Keith Kramlick, Don Reed, and Barb and Wayne Bequette.*

# Eight Bells In Memory of Flip and TC

(End of Watch)

In the span of a two and a half months, the Liberty Tree Chapter has lost two of its dearest members.



**Flip Jennings** was a real southern gentleman and a self-taught historian. History was not his hobby — it was his passion. In his low Virginia accent, Flip could speak of historic events as though he had been there, recite patriotic poetry from heart, and amaze you with his knowledge of colonial artifacts.

As a member of the Mayflower Society, Flagons & Trenchers, Red Locust, Williamsburg and probably several Civil War societies, Flip brought a rich knowledge of history to our Chapter that cannot be replaced.

Flip was generous with his time and was always willing to share his private library and historic materials with the members of our Chapter.

Flip teaching kids to play "Going to Boston"



**TC Richardson** joined SAR and was inducted into the Liberty Tree Chapter in September of 2017.

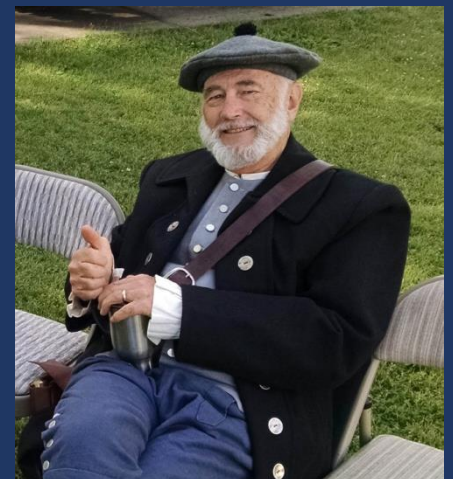
On that same day, he became our Chapter's Chaplain. TC's invocations at the beginning of every meeting were not only spiritual, but included historical references.

TC's counsel was always calm and measured - which is why he was made State Chaplain and State Trustee the following year.

TC was not an ambitious man. He was a man of duty — attending most every Chapter meeting — participating in most every Chapter event. If you needed someone, TC was always there.

Those who knew him on a personal level, knew that TC was a true patriot.

The two empty chairs at our Chapter meetings will be impossible to fill.





*August 7, 2021*

*Stevensville Creamery Picnic Parade*



*These MTSSAR Compatriots hitched a ride on Don Reed's Encampment Float during the Stevensville Creamery Picnic Parade this morning, Saturday, August 7, 2021. The smoke cleared for a beautiful day. Reception from the audience was fantastic!*

*Left to right: Francis Weigand, State President Don Reed, Larry Mylnechuk, Don Murphy, Wayne Bequette, Glacier President Steve Armstrong and Bruce Taylor.*

*July 4, 2021*

*Fort Missoula Revolutionary Encampment*

*The Liberty Tree Chapter continued their annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Encampment at Fort Missoula. This was the Chapter's 5<sup>th</sup> year setting up displays from revolutionary weapon displays to what each soldier had to carry in their packs.*



*Early morning and the Raising of the Flag at Fort Missoula with Liberty Chapter members standing at attention.*



*Group picture of the Liberty Tree and DAR members in attendance at Fort Missoula for the 4<sup>th</sup> Encampment.*



*Liberty Tree Historian Francis Weigand showing everything that a Revolutionary Soldier had to carry.*



*Liberty Tree member Bruce Taylor with an assortment of period correct weapons used during the war.*



*Liberty Tree Historian Francis and President Don sharing a bit of humor and resting their feet before the crowd starts to arrive.*



*Don and Don discuss the influx of people coming to the Liberty Tree Encampment.*



*DAR member Barb Bequette and Liberty Tree member Wayne Bequette manning the quilt station.*

*April 21, 2021*  
*DAR Spanish American War*  
*Commemoration*  
*Butte, MT*



*Liberty Tree members in attendance at the commemoration were from left, Jim Hutcheson, Bruce Taylor and Wayne Bequette.*

## *Liberty Tree Officers*

*2021-2022*



*L-R: Register-Bruce Taylor, President-Don Murphy, Vice President-Ron Hamilton, Secretary-Jim Hutcheson, and Treasurer Jim Jasperson (not pictured).*

*April 20, 2021*

*Liberty Tree Chapter Members at Meeting  
(Back together again)*



*February 23 2021*

*George Washington Birthday Dinner*

*Chapter members and guests from as far north as Ronan and as far south as Hamilton gathered at the Missoula Country Club to wish our Founding Father a happy 289th birthday. Liberty Tree Chapter Secretary, Jim Hutcheson, organized and hosted the evening's event. Chapter Historian Francis Weigand entertained the attendees with three videos he had created over the past year — "The Greatness of Washington", "Concord Hymn" and "LTC's 2020 Independence Day Observance".*





*September 15, 2020*

*Pictures shown below are those of SAR State President awarding Presidential Coin of Excellence to Warren Little for delivering the SAR Float to the Ennis and Dillon Parades. Larry Mylnechuk had previously received the medal from Warren at an earlier date.*



*Warren presenting the medal to Warren Little at the Liberty Tree regular monthly meeting.*



*Warren congratulating Larry in person for his work on the project.*

*July 4, 2020*  
*Fort Missoula Independence Day Celebration*



*(Left) Compatriots of the Liberty Tree Chapter stand at attention as the American Flag is raised to start the July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration. (Right) The art of throwing a Tomahawk is demonstrated by a Liberty Tree Compatriot Bruce Taylor. (photos by Francis Weigand)*



*(Left) Compatriots stay in harmony as the singing of Revolutionary Song begins. (Right) A display of Colonial weapons and attire is displayed by Bruce Taylor. (photos by Francis Weigand)*



*Revolutionary War Replica weapons and the necessary equipment for a Colonial Soldier on display. (photo by Francis Weigand)*



*DAR members Jane Rectenwald, Louisa Richardson and two volunteers from the public reading the Declaration of Independence. One of the members signing a replica of the Declaration. (photos by Francis Weigand)*



*DAR member Janet Loren Regiant of the Bitterroot Chapter stands in besides the DAR information exhibit. (photo by Francis Weigand)*

*June 1, 2020*



*The Liberty Tree Chapter, through the generous donation of Warren Little (pictured), has placed the mannequin display of a Continental Soldier, complete with a replica musket, in a plexiglas case at the Fort Missoula Military Museum. Through his efforts, children and adults will now be able to fully grasp the appearance of a soldier of the American Revolution.*

*March 13, 2020*

*The Liberty Tree awarded Veterans Citations to 19 Veterans at the Missoula Manor, a Missoula Senior Living Center. Those receiving the recognition were a combination of WWII, Korea and Vietnam Wars, and those that served during peace time. The Liberty Tree Chapter has now honored 130 veterans. (Photos by Jim Hutcheson)*



*March 6, 2020*

*The Liberty Tree awarded Veterans Citations of Recognition to 4 Veterans at the Riverside, a Missoula Senior Living Center. Those receiving the recognition were a combination of, Korea and Vietnam Wars, and those that served during peace time. (Photos by Jim Hutcheson)*



## February 22, 2020

*Liberty Tree Chapter celebrated George Washington's Birthday by having a dinner in his honor with chapter members and their guests. The celebration was the second time the young chapter has honored the life of Washington. Tate Jones, the Executive Director for the Rocky Mountain Museum of Military History at Fort Missoula, gave a presentation entitled "Making Washington", which provided the attendees an insight of Washington's path from childhood through his Presidency to retirement. (Pictured below are the 23 attendees of the dinner and Tate Jones during his presentation. Not pictured Larry Mylnechuk and his wife Sandy.)*



# Hawthorne Patriots



*On February 20<sup>th</sup>, 300 children gathered in the gymnasium of Hawthorne Elementary School in Missoula for a Patriotic Sing-a-long. Liberty Tree Chapter member, Francis Weigand was invited to attend and present a program on the Historic Flags of the American Revolution.*





## 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Creamery Picnic in Stevensville. The Chapter was able to use the Montana State SAR/DAR 125<sup>th</sup> 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.**