

Springfield Chapter SAR

Newsletter

ILLINOIS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
SPRINGFIELD CHAPTER Est Feb. 1897

October 2008

Upcoming Calendar:

Chapter Meetings are usually held the 3rd
Saturday in JAN-APR-JUL-OCT

Oct. 18, 2008 - Springfield Chapter
meeting at *Springfield Motor Boat Club* on
Lake Springfield; call to order at 11 AM,
Dutch treat lunch follows.

Oct 31- Nov 1, 2008 Great Lakes District
Meeting, Madison, WI (Crown Plaza)

Nov. 7-8, 2008 - State BoM meeting
Bloomington, IL (The Chateau) 9 AM

Nov. 11, 2008 –Veteran’s Day Activities
Downtown & Camp Butler

Jan 17, 2009 Springfield Chapter meeting
at *Location TBA*; at 11 AM

Feb 6-7, 2009 State BoM meeting
Bloomington, IL (The Chateau) 9 AM

Mar 5-7, 2009 Leadership/Trustee Meeting
Louisville, KY (Brown Hotel)

April 18, 2009 Springfield Chapter
meeting at *Location TBA*; at 11 AM

May 16, 17, 2009 119th Annual Meeting
Springfield, IL (Hilton) 8:30 AM

July 4-8, 2009 – 119th Annual Congress
Atlanta, GA (Marriott)

Message from President Lou Myers

Welcome to all our members. I know that these
are busy times, but we do need to see you at our
Chapter Meetings. We need your input and ideas
to help carry out the purposes of the SAR:

We are a historical, educational, and patriotic non-
profit, United States 501(c)3, corporation that
seeks to maintain and extend

- * the institutions of American freedom
- * an appreciation for true patriotism
- * a respect for our national symbols
- * the value of American citizenship
- * the unifying force of *e pluribus Unum*
that has created, from the people of many
nations, one nation and one people.

We do this by perpetuating the stories of
patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy, and triumph
of the men who achieved the independence of the
American people in the belief that these stories are
universal ones of man's eternal struggle against
tyranny, relevant to all time, and will inspire and
strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is
called upon to defend our freedoms on the
battlefield and in our public institutions.

I don't think there is a more needed time,
than now, to really push for a reawakening of our
population and especially our youth to the
sacrifices that have been made, both in the past
and today, by those who gave us our freedoms and
those who are trying to maintain them.

We can only accomplish this if all of us
join in the process of working with our programs
to promote these causes and every day work with
our schools, churches and social organizations to
bring this vital information to their attention. We
must emphasize that we as citizens have
responsibilities to carry on, if we really want our
children and grandchildren to continue to live in
the land of freedom and the home of the brave.

At our last meeting, we included a 30
minute program. I wish to continue to have
something of current affairs that affects our
country's freedom as well as bringing you items of
interest on the SAR.

Please come and join us in helping us wake
up America.
Lou Myers

Springfield Chapter Meeting Time

Our October 18th meeting will be at the Springfield Boat Club at 17 Club Area on Lake Springfield at **11:00 AM**. We will be in a private room with a view of Lake Springfield. The plan is for everyone to order off the menu shortly after 11AM. Then, the chapter will begin its business meeting as restaurant personnel prepare our meal for serving at Noon. The business meeting will either conclude by noon or break for lunch at noon. After lunch, we will either be finished or we can reconvene and finish our business meeting.

The meeting time and location are designed to give our members more selection at lunch and conclude earlier to give people more time for themselves on Saturday afternoon.

Springfield Officers and Committee Chairmen for 2008-2010

The Springfield Chapter officers elected for April 2008 through March 31, 2010 are:

President - Louis (Lou) Myers
Vice President - Karl Reed
Secretary - Cletis Underwood
Treasurer - Stephen Bradley
Registrar - TBA

Committee Chairmen for 2008-2010

Carrol C. Hall - TBA
Color Guard - R. Garey Hodge
Eagle Scouts - Dave Preston
Flag Awards - Stephen Bradley
Law Enforcement - Tim Krell
Newspaper Editor - Karl Reed
Outstanding Citizenship - Randy Jones
Veterans - Edwin Decker

Gene Abney

Long-time compatriot, **Arthur Eugene “Gene” Abney** passed away September 17, 2008. Gene joined SAR and the Springfield

Chapter in 1992. He was active in chapter events for many years.

Gene was a true gentleman and patriot. He served as a naval aviator during WW II specializing in sea planes. Gene and his wife were active in the Springfield community where among other things they served as volunteers at Memorial Hospital. Gene was 89. He will be missed by the Springfield Chapter.

Bob Dennison Application to National

Recently, **Bob Dennison** applied for membership in SAR and the Springfield Chapter. Bob’s patriot was James Dodds, a Dragoon serving in South Carolina. Bob’s family is one of the first families coming to Illinois and has lived in Sangamon County for nearly 200 years.

Bob has been interested in the Revolutionary War period for many years and is active as a reenactor in Bowmen’s Company of the Gen. George Rogers Clark’s group.

Bob worked as a plumber for 36 years before he retired and went to work for the city of Springfield as a plumbing inspector. Bob is married and has two children and one granddaughter.



L-R President Lou Myers, Bob Dennison, V-P Karl Reed

Bob has been active in the Springfield Chapter events even before his membership has been officially approved. He and another reenactor, Bob Murphy, marched with the

ILSSAR Color Guard in the Illinois State Twilight Parade. Bob also attended the July chapter meeting.

Increase public awareness of SAR

SAR is working hard to increase public awareness of our organization. The Illinois SAR Color Guard helped to increase public awareness about SAR, by participating in the Illinois State Fair Twilight Parade in August. The parade was seen by 10-12,000 people in Springfield.



ILSSAR Color Guard State Fair parade ILSSAR Color Guard @ State Fair – Note Banner

The ILSSAR Color Guard was one of the lead units in the Illinois State Fair Parade held August 11th. The color guard did another great job. It received a lot of recognition and many positive comments during the parade.

The Springfield Color Guard is also helping increase public awareness about SAR. Currently, eight (8) men in the Springfield Chapter have uniforms. Members of the Springfield Chapter participating in our chapter color guard are: **Stephen Bradley, Stephen Bradley II, R. Garey Hodge, Sam Kirby, Jeff Kirby, Richard Moldenhauer, David Preston and Karl Reed.**

The Springfield Color guard needs even more members. If you are interested in getting a uniform and participating in the Springfield

Color Guard please contact **R. Garey Hodge**, Color Guard Commander.

On September 20th three members of the Springfield Color Guard led the historical portion of the Sherman Sesquicentennial.



Springfield Color Guard men @ Sherman, IL
S. Bradley II, S. Bradley, K. Reed

Flag Awards

Stephen Bradley remains our chapter's Flag Award Chairman. Members of our chapter are encouraged to give Flag Awards to their friends and neighbors who fly the flag regularly. Please submit any flag award names to Stephen for 2008.

Rita Jones Receives Flag Award



Rita Jones has proudly displayed the flag on a regular basis for many years. Rita is seen here displaying both the flag and the certificate from SAR. Her husband, Richard retired from

the Springfield Air Guard after 37 and ½ years of service including service in Korea.

Military service is a long-standing tradition in the Jones family. Richard's father fought in the Spanish American War. His three brothers served in World War II and his oldest brother Chester Grant Jones was awarded three Battle Stars for campaigns in Europe as a Tank Gunner. Rita also had ancestors who served and died in the Civil War.

Rita was fortunate to have a record of her Grandmother's relatives back to Edward Richards who was a patriot in the Revolution serving in Virginia. These records helped establish the lineage for her son, **Randall W. Jones** to become a member of the SAR.

Outstanding Citizenship Committee

As most of you know, the Springfield Chapter's premier event is our Citizenship Award Luncheon which takes place in the Spring of each year. At that time, we honor 22 outstanding students selected by the Sangamon and Menard County high schools with a luncheon and Bronze Good Citizenship Certificates and pins.

The luncheon is always attended by the students, parents, grandparents, DAR representatives and our chapter members.

The Outstanding Citizenship Committee under the direction of Chairman **Randy Jones** met October 11th to begin planning the event. More workers are needed to help on this committee. If you are interested in helping please contact Randy at 525-5083.

Springfield Chapter Service to Veterans

Springfield Chapter members are encouraged to support veterans and veterans programs. Chapter members make visitations, collect money, magazines and clothes and

participate in as many veteran activities as possible.

An USS Stark award form is enclosed in this mailing. Once completed (use either calendar 2008 or the last 12-month period of activity), please turn the forms in at the October 18, 2008 meeting or the January 17, 2009 meeting at the very latest.

Each year, Springfield Chapter members cumulate veteran points for their activities supporting veterans, and then they fill out the service to veterans form (included) and turn those points in to **Ed Decker**, Chairman of the Veterans Committee.

E-mail Addresses Needed

The newsletter editor has been sending chapter newsletters via email for some time to several of our chapter members. Sending newsletters by email saves the chapter printing and postage. If any of you gentlemen are currently receiving the newsletter via US mail and have email and would like to receive your newsletters via email please let Karl Reed know at kreed4609@comcast.net Thanks!

Dues Deadline Now December 31st

Several years ago, the Executive Committee of NSSAR has adopted December 31st as the end of the NSSAR fiscal year. You can expect to receive an invoice for national and state dues before Thanksgiving. The \$15 Springfield Chapter dues will be due at the January 16, 2009 meeting. You can bring your chapter dues to the January meeting or mail them to Treasurer, Stephen Bradley at 18 Roosevelt Rd Springfield, IL 62703-5342.

Your Springfield chapter dues make these programs possible. You make a difference whether you are active in the chapter or participate in SAR events. We need the support of every one of you if we are to continue our successful programs.