

Springfield Chapter SAR

Newsletter

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

October 2009

Upcoming Calendar:

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

Oct. 17, 2009 - Springfield Chapter meeting at *Springfield Motor Boat Club* on Lake Springfield; call to order at 11 AM, Dutch treat lunch follows.

Oct 24, 2009 Grave marking for Patriot Reuben Ross. Ceremony begins at 2PM at the Rogers Cemetery, west of Waverly, IL.

Oct 30- Oct 31, 2009 Great Lakes District Meeting, Lisle, IL (Wyndham)

Nov. 11, 2009 –Veteran’s Day Activities Downtown & Camp Butler

Nov. 13-14, 2009 - State BoM meeting Petersburg, IL (RiverBank Lodge) 9 AM

Jan 16, 2010 Springfield Chapter meeting at *Location TBA*; at 11 AM

Feb 5-6, 2010 State BoM meeting Bloomington, IL (The Chateau) 9 AM

Mar 4-6, 2010 Leadership/Trustee Meeting Louisville, KY (Brown Hotel)

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

May 14, 15, 2009 119th Annual Meeting Springfield, IL (Hilton) 8:30 AM

July 4-8, 2010 – 120th Annual Congress Cleveland, OH

Springfield Chapter Meeting

Our October 17th 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.

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.

Once again, the Illinois Society Color Guard was one of the honor guards leading off the Illinois State Twilight Parade.

In the past, crowds viewing the twilight parade have been estimated at 10,000 to 12,000. Estimates this year ran 20,000 to 25,000. The significantly larger crowd may have been due to unusually cool August temperatures and by people looking for inexpensive family entertainment. Regardless, the parade turnout was outstanding.

In addition to the increased crowd, the Illinois Society Color Guard received a lot of recognition, many positive comments and standing ovations during the parade. The Color Guard also received many **hand salutes** by veterans in the crowd. It has been a fairly recent development whereas **veterans are given the option of saluting the flag** as it passes by instead of putting their hands over their hearts as done in the past or as still done

by people who have not served in the armed forces. Joe Smith returning the veterans' hand salutes seemed to be especially appreciated.

The Illinois Color Guard and the ladies who joined us deserve a well done and thank you.



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



Front row L-R Joe Smith, Janet Smith, Audrey Dawkins, Bill Dawkins, Bob Dennison, Dave Askbrook, Lori Osborne, Wendy Herder, (with fan Megan Osborne)

Back row L-R Richard Moldenhauer, David Jackson, Franz Herder and Karl Reed

A salute to Lou Myers, President of the Springfield Chapter, for driving his van from Petersburg (50 miles round trip) and providing rides back to the start line for those that needed rides back to their cars.

The Springfield Color Guard is also helping increase public awareness about SAR. Currently, eleven (11) men in the Springfield Chapter have uniforms. Members of the Springfield Chapter participating in our chapter color guard are: **Stephen Bradley,**

Stephen Bradley II, Toby Chamberlain, Bob Dennison, R. Garey Hodge, David Jackson, Sam Kirby, Jeff Kirby, Richard Moldenhauer, David Preston & 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.

Reuben Ross Grave Marking

You are cordially invited to attend the Grave Marking Ceremony for Reuben Ross, Revolutionary War Patriot, on Saturday, October 24th, at Roger's Ceremony, near Waverly, IL starting at 2 PM. A reception will follow immediately after the ceremony at the Waverly American Legion.

David Jackson's Membership Approved

David Jackson's membership in SAR and the Springfield Chapter was approved recently. David's patriot was George Bryan, a Kentuckian who fought against the British and Indians during the Revolution. David has been interested in American History and the Revolutionary War for many years. David works as a mechanical designer at IHI Turbo America, a manufacturing facility in Shelbyville. David is married to his wife, Alena. They have two daughters, Hannah & Alice.



L-R David Jackson and President Lou Myers

David has become active in the Springfield Chapter events. He borrowed a uniform and

marched with the ILSSAR Color Guard in the Illinois State Twilight Parade.

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 2009.

Harland 'Hop' Conner Receives Flag Award From Don Blessman



L-R Hop Conner and Don Blessman

On September 2, 2009, this picture along with an article about Hap Conner was featured in the *Tuscola Journal*. The article read in part "Tuscola resident Harland "Hop" Conner is presented with a certificate of appreciation from Don Blessman of Camargo, representing the Springfield SAR Chapter. The award was in recognition of Conner's long-held dedication to the American Flag. The 88-year old Conner has for the last 60 years, raised and lowered the flag at home football games and any other public observances and events."

On September 11, 2009 Hop Conner was honored by the entire community at the Tuscola football game for his 60 years of caring for and presenting the flag at their football games. Both Hop Conner and Don Blessman are longtime members of several

veterans' organizations and have proudly flown the flag for many years.

Do you know of anybody who has faithfully cared for the flag at public events for a longer than 60 years? I don't. I believe Hop has set the record!

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 2009 or the last 12-month period of activity), please turn the forms in at the October 17, 2009 meeting or the January 16, 2010 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.

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, 2010 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 the Springfield chapter 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.

General Myers Meets with Supreme Allied Commander in Europe



BG Myers thanks General Craddock for his service and his candid remarks.

Springfield's own, Brigadier General, ILARNG (Ret) Lou Myers, recently attended a briefing hosted by the Reserve Officers Association of the US, Defense Education Forum (DEF) and The Heritage Foundation at the ROA Headquarters at 1 Constitution Ave

in Washington, DC. BG Myers is Chairman Emeritus of the Defense Education Forum Board. The DEF hosts these briefings and seminars on National Defense matters and also publishes "The National Security Report" monthly in the ROA magazine "The Officer"

General Bantz J. Craddock, the Supreme Allied Commander Europe and the Commander of United States European Command from December 7, 2006 – July 2, 2009 spoke at the Reserve Officers Association on "*NATO and Afghanistan: Equitable Burden Sharing.*" General Craddock called for major changes in the way the alliance works, to require political leaders to provide the resources to carry out the missions they order. He suggested including the development of shared resources and the expansion of the NATO mission to include non-military, nation-building activities as ways the alliance could help members become more active.

"The vast majority of the new and emerging threats that we face collectively -- transnational terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, piracy, energy security, mass migration, cyber attack -- these cannot be defeated by military means alone," he said. Those threats to national security call for international solutions built on international partnerships and cooperation.

Ultimately, Craddock said, operations in Afghanistan need more support from NATO countries if the goals of the alliance are to be met.

"The ISAF (International Security Assistance Force, NATO) mission, in Afghanistan in particular, needs increased commitment by individual NATO allies and partners to enable meaningful progress toward objectives," Craddock said.

General John Craddock's distinguished military career also includes command of deployments to Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm and Kosovo.