



Capitol Area Patriot Newsletter

Springfield IL SAR Chapter

ILLINOIS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
SPRINGFIELD CHAPTER Established February 22, 1897 August 2015

Chapter Officers

President: **Dick Chamblin**
Vice President: **Drew Robinson**
Recording Secretary: **Cletis Underwood**
Treasurer: **Stephen Bradley**
Registrars: **Karl Reed/Lou Myers**
Chaplain: **Stephen Bradley**
Past President: **Dan Hrenko**
Past President: **Toby Chamberlain**
Past President: **Lou Myers**
Chapter Newsletter: **Toby Chamberlain**

Emeritus: Members

Lou Myers
Cletis Underwood

Chapter web site: www.springfieldsar.org

Upcoming Events

August 13, 2015 Illinois State Fair Parade – ILSSAR Color Guard, Springfield. Meet at 5:00 p.m., EPA parking lot, North Grand & 10th Street.

August 14 & 15, 2015 ILSSAR Board of Managers Meeting, Springfield Hilton Hotel.

August 16, 2015 Illinois State Fair Veteran's Day Parade – Springfield Color Guard.

September 16, 2015 Chapter meeting, 11:30 a.m. at MCL Cafeteria, 2151 Wabash Ave.

September 25 & 26, 2015 NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY, Brown Hotel. Call 502-582-1234 for reservations.

October 2015 Springfield Chapter annual

Family Day Picnic. Day and time has not been determined.

October 30 & 31, 2015 Great Lakes District SAR Annual Meeting, Lisle, IL, Hyatt Hotel, \$109.00 plus tax. Call 888-591-1234 for reservations.

November 6 & 7, 2015 ILSSAR Board of Managers Meeting, Peoria Marriott Hotel, \$124.00 plus tax includes breakfast for two. Call 800-338-9200 and ask for the SAR rate.

November 21, 2015 Chapter meeting, 11:30 a.m. at MCL Cafeteria, 2151 Wabash Ave.

December 18, 2015 Chapter Holiday Dinner, 6:00 p.m., Panther Creek Country Club.

Chapter Meetings

Springfield Chapter meetings for 2015 have been scheduled for September 16th and November 21st at the MCL Cafeteria in Springfield. New this year is a Holiday Family Dinner on December 18th at the Panther Creek Country Club.

Spouses and guests are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

Dead Line September 15, 2015

Please notify **Toby Chamberlain**, email saichamb@comcast.net or call 217-483-6267 (home), 217-299-1966 (cell) of any Springfield Chapter news and events you would like included in the October 2015 Springfield Chapter Newsletter not later than September 15th.

President Richard Chamblin

Chapter compatriot **Dick Chamblin** was installed as the Springfield Chapter President at the May 9th chapter meeting. Other chapter officers installed by Springfield Chapter compatriot **Toby Chamberlain** were **Steven Bradley**-Treasurer, **Cletis Underwood**-Recording Secretary, **Steven Bradley**-Chaplin, **Karl Reed & Lou Myers**-Registrars.

Chapter Vice President **Drew Robinson** was installed at the June 13th chapter meeting.



Springfield Chapter President Dick Chamblin speaks to chapter members and guests after his installation.



Swearing in ceremony of Springfield Chapter Officers for 2015-16. LtoR Cheryl Chamblin, Dick Chamblin - President, Toby Chamberlain - ILSSAR Vice President, Cletis Underwood - Recording Secretary, Steven Bradley - Treasurer & Chaplin, Lou Myer - Registrar and Dan Hrenko - outgoing Chapter President.



Toby Chamberlain (center) issued the Oath of Office to Springfield Chapter Vice President Drew Robinson as Springfield Chapter President Dick Chamblin looks on.



LtoR Dan Hrenko and Cletis Underwood, who received the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal at the May chapter meeting.

Chapter of the Year and More

At the May 15, 2015 Illinois Society Annual chapter and individual awards night, the Springfield Chapter received a special honor when we were named ILSSAR Chapter of the Year. The only other known time Springfield received ILSSAR Chapter of the Year recognition was 2012.

Additionally, Springfield received three other chapter awards – Perfect Board of Managers meeting attendance (Springfield was one of eight ILSSAR chapters to receive this award), an ILSSAR Flag Award streamer (Springfield was one of eight ILSSAR chapters to receive this award) and the **Joe Willis** Newsletter Award (Springfield was one of four ILSSAR chapters to receive this award),

Individual Awards

It was quite a night for individual chapter compatriot recognition with 10 chapter members, three SAR spouses and two children receiving 20 awards.

National Society Service

Compatriots **Stephen Bradley** and **Dick Chamblin** were presented SAR National Society Certificates for service rendered to the National Society.

Life Member

Lou Myers received an ILSSAR Life Membership Certificate.

Meritorious Service Medal

Dick Chamblin was award the Meritorious Service Medal for service to the state and chapter.

Silver Color Guard Medals

Dick Chamblin and **Bob Dennison** were awarded the SAR Silver Color Guard medal for participating in ILSSAR and chapter color guard events.

Service to Veterans

George Selby received the SAR Service to Veterans Medal for appearing in multiple Veterans Day ceremonies and placing over 250 flags on veteran's graves for Memorial Day.

Bronze Good Citizenship

Springfield Chapter Compatriot **Ken Griffin**, who serves as the ILSSAR Sergeant At Arms, received a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.

Silver Good Citizenship

Lou Myers received the Silver Good Citizenship Oak Leaf Cluster signifying his second award.

Roger Sherman Medals

Five Chapter members – **Stephen Bradley**, **Dick Chamblin**, **Dan Hrenko**, **Karl Reed** and **Cletis Underwood** all received the Roger Sherman award. The award, one of the newest NSSAR medals, may be awarded in place of the Meritorious Service Medal.



LtoR ILSSAR President Tom Ashby presents Stephen Bradley the Roger Sherman Medal.

Patriot Medal

Toby Chamberlain was awarded the Patriot Medal for service at the National, State and Chapter level. The Patriot Medal is the highest medal that is awarded by the state. Currently only two Patriot Medals are awarded each year by ILSSAR and a compatriot can only receive the medal once.

DAR – WOSAR

Polly Myers received the SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal Oak Leaf Cluster that indicates multiple awards

Cheryl Chamblin and **Sue Chamberlain** both received the SAR Medal of Appreciation for their service to the Springfield Chapter. This was Cheryl's first Medal of Appreciation. Sue received an Oak Leaf Cluster.

Good Citizenship

Sadie and **Cora Brillhart**, granddaughters of **Dan Hrenko**, were presented Good Citizenship Oak Leaf Clusters for their multiple appearances with the Springfield and ILSSAR Color Guard.

Grave Marking

On April 18th members of the Springfield Chapter Color Guard (**Dick Chamblin**, **Bob Dennison**, **Dan Hrenko** and **Richard Moldenhauer**) plus **Jim DeGroff** - General **George Rogers Clark** Chapter, presented the Colors at the DAR Captain **William Penney** Chapter grave marking of Revolutionary War Patriot **Jacob Henry Shutt**. Shutt is buried in the Historic Wimmer Cemetery in Auburn, IL. Springfield Chapter Compatriot **Lou Myers** furnished the sound system for the program. ILSSAR Senior Vice President **Toby Chamberlain** presented a SAR Wreath at the grave of **Shutt**. **Shutt** served in the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment

The Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment wintered at Valley Forge and saw action Brandywine, Paoli, Valcour Island and Yorktown. The regiment also served in the defense of Northern New Jersey and Philadelphia.



LtoR Richard Moldenhauer, Bob Dennison, Dan Hrenko, Jim DeGroff and Dick Chamblin.



LtoR Toby Chamberlain and Dick Chamblin

Vice President General

On July 1st, Springfield Chapter Compatriot **Dick Chamblin** was installed as the Vice President General of the Great Lakes District at the 125th National Congress in Louisville, KY.

Dick will serve a one year term in this SAR National Officer position. He will host the 2015 Great Lakes District meeting which will be held in Lisle, IL October 30 and 31.

Flag Award Certificate

Do you have a friend, neighbor or family member who displays the United States Flag? If you would like to nominate them for a NSSAR Flag Award Certificate, send their

names as they want it printed on the certificate to Springfield Chapter President **Dick Chamblin** (rhamblin1931@comcast.net or call 217-428-8856).

Wyoming Massacre

On July 3, 1778, the Wyoming Massacre took place on the Pennsylvania frontier. After the American Revolution began, the British army in Quebec rallied Loyalists and Native Americans in the New York area to make attacks on colonial settlements. The Iroquois federation, made up of six separate tribes, split its loyalties. Four tribes fought with the British while two sided with the colonists.

Major John Butler recruited Loyalists into a regiment known as "Butler's Rangers." Along with a large group of mostly Seneca Indians, he launched an attack on the Wyoming Valley in northeastern Pennsylvania in the vicinity of modern-day Wilkes-Barre and Scranton. The Wyoming Valley at the time had around 3,000 settlers in small villages and farms. A string of "forts," many of which were merely fortified houses or blockhouses, guarded the valley.

The invading force arrived on June 30, 1778. Settlers had received word that the invasion was coming and gathered into the forts. The largest group gathered at Fort Forty with the local militia, comprised of about 300 untrained farmers. The valley had sent most of its able bodied men away to fight in the Continental Army and the remaining militia was mostly made up of the old, the young and feeble.

Major Butler quickly captured Fort Wintermute and Fort Jenkins with no resistance from the settlers. The militia at Fort Forty was in a quandary. Should they attack the invaders now, before their forces swelled even larger? Or should they wait for reinforcements to come? A vote was taken and 300 men marched out of Forty Fort on July 3.

When Major Butler learned of the approaching continental militia, he ordered

Forts Wintermute and Jenkins to be set ablaze and ordered his forces to take up battle positions. When the patriots saw the smoke rising from the burning forts, they believed the attackers had begun a retreat and marched onward

all the more quickly - right into an ambush. Butler had ordered his Native American allies to lie flat on the ground to conceal them and not to attack until the patriots were on top of them.

The patriots fired several rounds, but the Seneca attacked from their hiding places when the militia was only a hundred yards away. Trapped between the Seneca on one side and the Loyalists on the other, the militia quickly fell apart and a complete rout ensued. Over 200 of the soldiers were killed in the chase and some were tortured. Major Butler boasted that 227 scalps were brought to him after the battle.

The settlers at Fort Forty quickly surrendered under favorable conditions. After signing the agreement, Major Butler left the area, but the Native Americans broke the agreement and plundered the entire valley. Over 1,000 homes were destroyed. Crops were burned. Clothing and goods plundered. Some settlers were killed if they resisted, but most were allowed to leave if they went peaceably. Nearly all the settlers fled the valley, with some dying from exposure or starvation in the wild.

The Wyoming Massacre and other attacks provoked a full military invasion by the Continental Army the following year. General George Washington sent the Sullivan Expedition under General John Sullivan, which destroyed numerous Iroquois villages. The attacks continued and many Native Americans starved or were forced to flee to British Canada and never really recovered from General Sullivan's invasion.

From SAR Officer News

Photos from the 125th Congress



LtoR Dick Chamblin, Cheryl Chamblin, General George Rogers Clark (portrayed by Ted Wright) and Sue Chamberlain.



LtoR Illinois WOSAR members Jane Bradly, Sue Chamberlain, Cheryl Chamblin, Linda Ashby and Marlene Campbell at the NSSAR Society Memorial Service. Not pictured is Polly Myers.



Presenting the Colors at the grave of General George Rogers Clark.