



The Iowa Compatriot

The Journal of the Iowa Society, Sons of the American Revolution Oct. 18, 2022

We the descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution, who by their sacrifice established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and solemnly pledge to defend them against every foe.

Iowa SAR Award Presentations

By Mike Rowley

On September 24th, 2022, Randy Lyon of the Iowa Society of the Sons of the American Revolution was awarded the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. Compatriot Lyon has been extremely active awarding many Flag Certificates, Outstanding Citizenship Certificates, and Certificates of Appreciation in his community to deserving individuals. In addition, Randy was the driving force behind the Jean Marie Cardinal Memorial project in Dubuque, Iowa.



Iowa SAR members Ron Rittel, David Lamb, Mike Rowley and Kevin Parmenter present Randy Lyon (middle) a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal at the Iowa Genealogy Society open house in Des Moines.

The Sgt Joseph Plumb Martin award recognizes the service of SAR members under 40 years of age. David Rowley (age 34) has been an active member of the Iowa SAR Color Guard, first appearing in uniform at age of 16. He has taken the devotion to upholding the ideals of the Sons of the American Revolution to

many events including a visit to a memorial to Civil War veterans in Scotland. David was active in teaching members of the Children of the American Revolution about the installation of Veteran gravestones. Tim Rowley (age 35) has remembered our past and honored those who served and their families by assisting in the delivery and installation of over 70 VA gravestones in 4 different states over the last 10 years.



Iowa SAR members David Rowley (left) and Tim Rowley (right) receive Sgt. Joseph Plumb Martin Outstanding Young Member Certificates

There are often people, friends, and spouses that in many ways make what we do possible or, at the very least, easier. Fortunately, there are awards to show our appreciation to them. With that in mind, the Iowa SAR awarded member Danny Krock the Silver Roger Sherman Medal, and his wife Tammy Krock the Martha Washington Medal. For those members that have attended public events with the SAR, DAR, C.A.R., 1812, or SUVCW over the last 10 years (like the DAR Monument Dedication in Springville, Iowa or the Hull Cemetery event), it has often been Danny and his wife Tammy that have planned well in advance to provide the period music and ceremony protocol. They have loaded up their pickup truck with sound equipment and traveled at their own expense to set up the audio equipment. Both have also participated for many years in period clothing for Color Guard events.



Iowa SAR member Danny Krock (left) receives a Silver Roger Sherman Medal and Certificate. Tammy Krock (right) receives a Martha Washington Medal and Certificate.

Crusin' Thru History Event in Denver, Iowa

By Gary Everding

The Bremer County Historical Society has been using fundraisers to gain enough money to repair their "battle of the bulge." The building housing the Historical Society is showing its age with one of the exterior walls bulging. Sorta like our waistlines as we get older!

On Sunday, the 25th of September, the Denver Genealogy and History Club and other city organizations lent their support to the fundraiser for the Bremer County Historical Society. Those participating were the PTOS (Preserving The Old Stuff) Tractor Club serving Denver, Iowa and surrounding communities. From its start (in its hay day) the members numbered about 35 and today that number has dwindled to about 15. PTOS members led the cruisers from each of the locations to the next.



1936 Hudson 4-door

First stop was at Forest Ave Park where Teresa Lenius gave an impressive presentation on "the big woods" of Denver and its Native Americans such as the Winnebago, the Sac and Fox, and the Sioux tribes.

Our second stop was at the Denver Emergency Services building, where author Linda Betsinger McCann gave a presentation on the Cedar Valley Road that covered the Denver Trolley. Linda has authored fifteen books regarding area history.



Model of the Waterloo, Cedar Falls & Northern trolley

The third stop was the Denver American Legion, where brothers Butch and Ron Milius talked about their uncle, Capt. Paul Milius, who was shot down over Vietnam. His body was never recovered. The USS Milius battleship was commissioned in his honor. On a side note, the USS The Sullivans is an Arleigh Burke-class (Flight I) Aegis guided missile destroyer DDG-68 and the USS Milius is an Arleigh Burke-class Aegis guided missile destroyer DDG-69. Note the number sequencing.

The Fairview Cemetery was where three military vets were featured. They were Vernon Louie Seegers, Stephen Guy Wilson, and Carsten Linnevoild Ode. Vernon Seegers was KIA at Iwo Jima. Local residents will recognize Seegers Truck Line, which was started by his brother Fred and has continued to be operated today by his children and granddaughter. Stephen Guy Wilson was in both WWI and WWII, and information on his findagrave memorial claims a Purple Heart in both wars. Last was Carsten Linnevoild Ode, who was born in Decorah and served time in the Army in China. While working as a civilian, he became a Japanese POW for roughly three years at Los Banos in the Philippines with over 2,000 other internees. His time there with malnutrition resulted in meningitis and blindness for the rest of his life. Another Iowan at Los Banos was a Navy nurse from Des Moines named Susan Josephine Pitcher.

The last stop was at the Messinger Cemetery, which is a mile south of town. Civil War, War of 1812, and other notable people buried in the cemetery were introduced. They were:

Jacob Bevard (War of 1812 veteran)
James M. Bevard (Civil War veteran)
Jacob B. Michael (Civil War veteran)
John Rector (Civil War veteran)
Isaac Connor (Civil War veteran)
John James Foutch (Civil War veteran)
Charles & Cynthia McCaffree
John Hill & Mary Martha Miller Messinger

It is estimated that we had 50 to 55 people attending the Denver Cruisin' Thru History event. We attracted people from as far as Cedar Rapids, Brooklyn, Newton, and Carlisle, Iowa



Iowa SAR members Dave Nation and Gary Everding (center) with committee members

Iowa Genealogical Society Lineage Society Showcase

By Randy Lyon



The Iowa Society was well represented on Saturday, September 26th, at a convention of societies, including the Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, and Mayflower Descendants.

Attracting a lot of attention was a display table covered with items, including miniature medals of genealogical societies, family histories, SAR uniforms and hats, a family Bible, and a photo collection dating to the 1850s.

Opportunities to collect names of potential members were well utilized and are being pursued.

2nd V.P. Kevin Parmenter represents the Iowa SAR at the Lineage Society Showcase in Des Moines.

Flag Certificate Presentation in Mason City, Iowa

By Bob Harris



Steve O'Neil was very pleasantly surprised and proud to receive a flag certificate. He properly and patriotically flies the flag both outside of his office and outside of his home. Steve will be retiring soon after a career as a former fire fighter and long-time county emergency management coordinator. He was named the Iowa Emergency Management Coordinator of the Year in 2020.

Eagle Scout Project at Glendale Cemetery in Des Moines, Iowa

By Mike Rowley



On Saturday, October 1st, many volunteers joined together to assist Jasper Countryman of the Boy Scouts of America Troop 50 with his Eagle Scout project. His project was to clean WWII veteran's marble gravestones in Glendale Cemetery in Des Moines, Iowa.

Charters of Freedom Dedication in Manning, Iowa

By Mike Rowley

On Friday, October 14th, I participated with the local VFW, American Legion, Boy Scouts, National Guardsmen, mayor, high school band, high school photography and video club, and nearly 250 attendees at the Charters of Freedom Dedication Ceremony at Heritage Park in Manning, Iowa. Charters of Freedom is a permanent display of replicas of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights. The setting is built to last 500 years. It is the first in Iowa, the second west of the Mississippi River, and the 43rd in the country.



IASSAR Color Guard Commander Mike Rowley with Iowa National Guard members at the Charters of Freedom Dedication.

Veteran Grave Marking

By Mike Rowley



Volunteers have continued with the veteran grave marking project of the Iowa SAR and Iowa War of 1812.

Seven more stones were installed on the graves of Civil War veterans in the last month; three in Woodland Cemetery, three in Union Cemetery in Newton, Iowa, and one in Glendale Cemetery.

In addition to these installations, two more stones, one for Elisha Lee (War of 1812 veteran) and one for Benajah S. Hurford (Civil War veteran) have been approved by the VA for delivery soon. Another three applications have been completed and sent to the VA for review and hopefully approval.

Descendants of these men have expressed their appreciation of the work of our organizations and volunteers. Thanks for your membership and continued support of our veterans and their families.

Remembering Iowa SAR Member James Brennan Fitzpatrick



James Brennan Fitzpatrick, 75, died at home while being cared for and surrounded by family on May 3, 2022. Jim was born to Leo L. and Elizabeth “Betty” Fitzpatrick on March 9, 1947 in Urbana, Iowa. He married his high school sweetheart, Anne Marie Penne on July 1, 1967.

From 1967-1969, Jim served as a medic in Korea during the Vietnam Conflict. After returning from Korea, Jim specialized in cement finishing and contracting for more than 50 years at E & F Cement and Asphalt and Concrete Inc., as well as F and E Paving Company Inc. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. During those years he served in many roles. He was an integral part of ensuring both businesses were successful.

Jim was a member of many affiliations. He was proud to be a descendant of the Mayflower and belonged to the Sons of the American Revolution. Because of his service to his country, he was a 50-year member of the American Legion and a lifetime member of Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Your IASSAR Board of Managers

President	Chris Moberg	moberg.chris@gmail.com
1st V.P.	Randy Lyon	randylyon1915@gmail.com
2nd V.P.	Kevin Parmenter	mail@parmenter.com
Secretary	Doug Frazer	dlfrazer@yahoo.com
Treasurer	David Nation	davenation@gmail.com
Registrar	Randy Breese	iassar.registrar@randybreese.com
Chancellor	Lance Ehmcke	ldehmcke@gmail.com
Historian	Doug Frazer	dlfrazer@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Chris Moberg	moberg.chris@gmail.com
Webmaster	Chris Moberg	moberg.chris@gmail.com



*Let us remember our obligation to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution,
The Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court, and a nation of free men.*