



The Iowa Compatriot

The Journal of the Iowa Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Mar. 13, 2023

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.

Friday the 13th Janesville vs. Tripoli High School Basketball Game

By Gary Everding

The January boys high school basketball game between Janesville and Tripoli was in the 3rd quarter. The excitement of the game was quickly diverted to the stands. A female fan seemed to have passed out and was slumped over. She was quickly checked and found to not have a pulse. Another attendee of the game came out of the crowd and responded. A 9-1-1 call was made. The lady had to be repositioned after both responders agreed that there was no pulse. The lady was at the head of the victim and the male near the feet. The lady began compressions. The male had obtained some scissors and put the AED pads in place. The crowd was respectfully emptied from the gym before calling the game. The victim slowly began to regain consciousness and the AED did not signal for use. Both of the responders remained with the lady until the Waverly Ambulance crew arrived about 10 minutes later. The ambulance personnel transported the victim to a local hospital.

The two people that came forward were identified as Garret Cox, DPT, ATC, a physical therapist, and Karen Eastman, BSN, RN, a SANE and Care Manager at Unity Point Hospital in Waterloo. On February 25th, we (1) recognized their initiative to get involved like our ancestors, (2) emphasized the value of CPR training where two people worked cohesively and (3) emphasized the need for AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators) in public areas, especially in our less populated communities.

The rest of the story: The Friday the 13th game had a very interesting aspect. The victim lives on her own. The decision to visit the cousin on the 14th of January was changed when it was learned that the relative's grandson was going to be playing in the game on Friday. It was that motivation that caused the victim to change plans and come a day earlier to surprise him at the game. What are the odds for everything to fall into place?



Left to Right: David Nation, Karen Eastman, Gary Everding, Garrett Cox, Randy Lyon, and Larry Hoelscher

Iowa SAR Youth Contest Winners

By Doug Frazer



The Iowa SAR invited all Iowa Eagle Scouts interested in the American Revolution to participate in the 2022 Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Contest. The contest was open to all Eagle Scouts who were registered in active Scouting units and had not reached their 19th birthday during the year of application. To enter the competition, an Eagle Scout was required to submit an application form, a four-generation ancestor chart, and a patriotic-themed essay.

Two Eagle Scouts, both from the Illowa Council BSA, entered the competition. Robert Burken, of Troop 29 (in DeWitt), placed first. Trevor Milne, of Troop 89 (in Bettendorf) was runner-up. The Iowa SAR will award a \$500 cash prize and handsome Eagle trophy to Mr. Burken, and a \$250 cash prize to Mr. Milne, at their respective Courts of Honor in the spring. Mr. Burken's winning entry was entered into national-level competition, in which substantial additional cash awards are possible.

The Iowa SAR also invited high school students (9th through 12th grades) interested in the American Revolution to participate in the 2022 George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest. The contest was open to all US citizens and legal resident students attending home schools, public, parochial, or private high schools in that same grade range. Although the Iowa SAR sponsored the Knight Essay Contest, by special arrangement, students from nearby states without contests could also enter.

Each participating student submitted an original essay based on an event, person, philosophy, or ideal associated with the American Revolution, Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution. Essays were judged based upon historical accuracy, clarity, organization, grammar, spelling, and documentation. The IASSAR received entries from five students: one from Iowa, two from Minnesota, one from South Dakota, and one from North Dakota.

Winning the competition was Mr. Connor Anderson, a high school senior from Sheyenne High School, West Fargo, North Dakota. He received a handsome medal and cash award of \$300. His winning essay also was entered into the national competition.



Special thanks go to the 18 Iowa SAR compatriots who volunteered to serve as judges in both contests: Mike Rowley, Randy Lyon, Ryan Yoder, Bob Harris, Randy Robu, Dave Nation, David Lamb, Justin Blood, Don Corrigan, Tom Gaard, Don Richardson, Don Shurr, Merrill Angel, Chris Moberg, Jim Wilkins, Kevin Parmenter, Dan Scot, and Ted Worthington.

From Quaker to Commander: The Neglected Story of Nathanael Greene

By Connor Anderson (Iowa SAR Knight Essay Contest Winner)

Throughout history, the American public tends to commemorate figures who have lived long lives, experiencing many events that shaped the United States of America. However, people dispose of crucial historical figures that may have yet to follow suit in living a long life filled with societal advancements and monumental victories in war. Nathanael Greene epitomizes the latter. Despite living a short life compared to the majority of his distinguished comrades, Greene's impact on the battlefield authorized the independence of a fledgling nation, which has now grown to become one of the most incredible superpowers throughout the globe.

On August 7th, 1742, Greene was born into a strict Quaker family in Rhode Island.¹ At a young age, Greene began expressing deviant tendencies by reading secular texts, which opposed the teachings of his father, who was a Quaker minister.² His tendencies to diverge from standard practices and thought would later prevail as a pivotal quality for his military success. In 1773, Greene joined the Kentish Guards, pitching his pacifistic faith behind to fight for the independence of a nation that he adored.³ Greene condemned British soldiers in Boston, stating, "The Solders in Boston are insolent beyond measure."⁴ Despite his lousy spelling and grammar, Greene lobbied to become a general in the local militia. Sadly, he was not selected as a general due to a limp he was afflicted with during his childhood.⁵ This ravaged his confidence, almost presuming his resignation from the militia. Nonetheless, he inhaled his ego and continued his military career. Shortly after, the Rhode Island

Assembly unanimously elected Greene as a Brigadier General for Rhode Island's Army of Observation.⁶ Again, he was appointed as one of sixteen generals of the Continental Army under George Washington after commanding successes in the Siege of Boston.⁷

After the siege, Greene set off with the Continental Army to Manhattan, where Greene was given the command of Long Island.⁸ Greene observed his first battle as a major general at the Battle of Harlem Heights, succeeding the American retreat of Brooklyn after the disastrous Battle of Brooklyn (in which Greene did not fight due to illness).⁹ The American forces won the battle, despite being significantly outnumbered.¹⁰ Washington's secretary noted the excellent leadership Greene displayed in the encounter in Harlem, "Greene is beyond doubt a first-rate military genius, and one is whose opinions the General places the utmost confidence."¹¹ Following the fight, Washington gave Greene command over Forts Washington and Mifflin (also known as Fort Mifflin) to fully recover from his sickness and strengthen the strongholds from British aggression.¹² Disastrously, Greene would lose control over the forts to the British, marking a blemish on his military career.¹³ Greene scribbled a letter to his friend Henry Knox over the loss of the forts, printing, "I feel mad, vexed, sick, and sorry. (...) This is a most terrible event."¹⁴ Greene received enormous backlash from Congress and his peers, with many calling for his removal.¹⁵ Nonetheless, Washington did not relieve him from his position. The major general would redeem himself at the Battle of Trenton and Princeton, victoriously defeating other divisions in these famous battles.¹⁶ Greene is recognized in the notorious "Washington Crossing the Delaware" painting, composed by Emanuel Leutze.¹⁷ Washington and Greene commanded their army to Philadelphia as Great Britain was preparing to attack the colonial capital. The Continental Army would lose twice in the ensuing battles, failing to keep the capital. Regardless, Greene's divisional management prevented a massive defeat. Washington stated that he considered Greene his favorite officer, an honor that Greene embraced.¹⁸ The army would camp in Valley Forge for the winter, where Greene was offered the Quartermaster General position from Washington.¹⁹ Greene initially averted from the proposal, complaining, "Nobody ever heard of a quarter Master in History."²⁰ Eventually, he accepted the position. After a long winter of administrative work, Greene yearned for his return to combat, which Washington granted at the Battle of Monmouth. After another American victory, Greene was given the interim position of commander-in-chief for a brief occasion as Washington set out for Hartford, Connecticut.²¹ A smooth transition of power ensued before the notorious betrayal by Benedict Arnold at West Point.²² The treachery of Benedict Arnold agonized Washington and his army; however, this affair expedited Greene's appointment as commander of the Southern department of the Continental army.²³

Nathanael Greene was named commander of the southern department of the continental army on October 14th, 1780, only seven years after joining the Kentish Guards in Rhode Island.²⁴ The individual who almost resigned from his first military position because he "had a limp" shattered the expectations of many by becoming the second in command of the continental army. He was a true American man. Greene ventured to Charlotte, North Carolina, in December of 1780 to relinquish Horatio Gates from his duties.²⁵ At that time, Gates' southern career ended with a devastating failure at the Battle of Camden, losing over 1,900 troops.²⁶ The American army was already minuscule; however, with the loss at Camden, Greene absolved Gates with only 2,307 men to fight.²⁷ In the Northern theater, a stalemate arose, making every decision Greene produced vital to the cause of the revolution. If Greene failed, America would, too.

With less than 2,500 men ready to fight against the great Lord Charles Cornwallis, Greene made an abnormal decision; he divided his army in half, giving one to Daniel Morgan and keeping one for his command. Historians note that this decision "defied all the laws of warfare."²⁸ Nonetheless, Greene began attacking Cornwallis' posts throughout the south. He conquered the interior of the south through small-scale assaults. The decision to establish Daniel Morgan as commander of a division of the southern army was utterly brilliant. Morgan won the Battle of the Cowpens, a minor skirmish that deferred the advancements of the British, enabling Greene to resupply in Virginia.²⁹ Following the resupply, Greene's army was ready to take on the suffering army of Lord Cornwallis at the pivotal Battle of Guilford's Courthouse. The British would victoriously take the battle; however, Cornwallis' army was so depleted that they withdrew to Wilmington, Virginia.³⁰ Throughout the next few months, Greene would drive the British out of the south, successfully conquering the southern theater. Scholars express that Greene's campaign was "a brilliant, unorthodox, campaign orchestrated by a thirty-eight-year-old man."³¹ His efforts in commanding the south turned the tide for the Americans. In fine, he was a significant reason why the Americans received their independence.

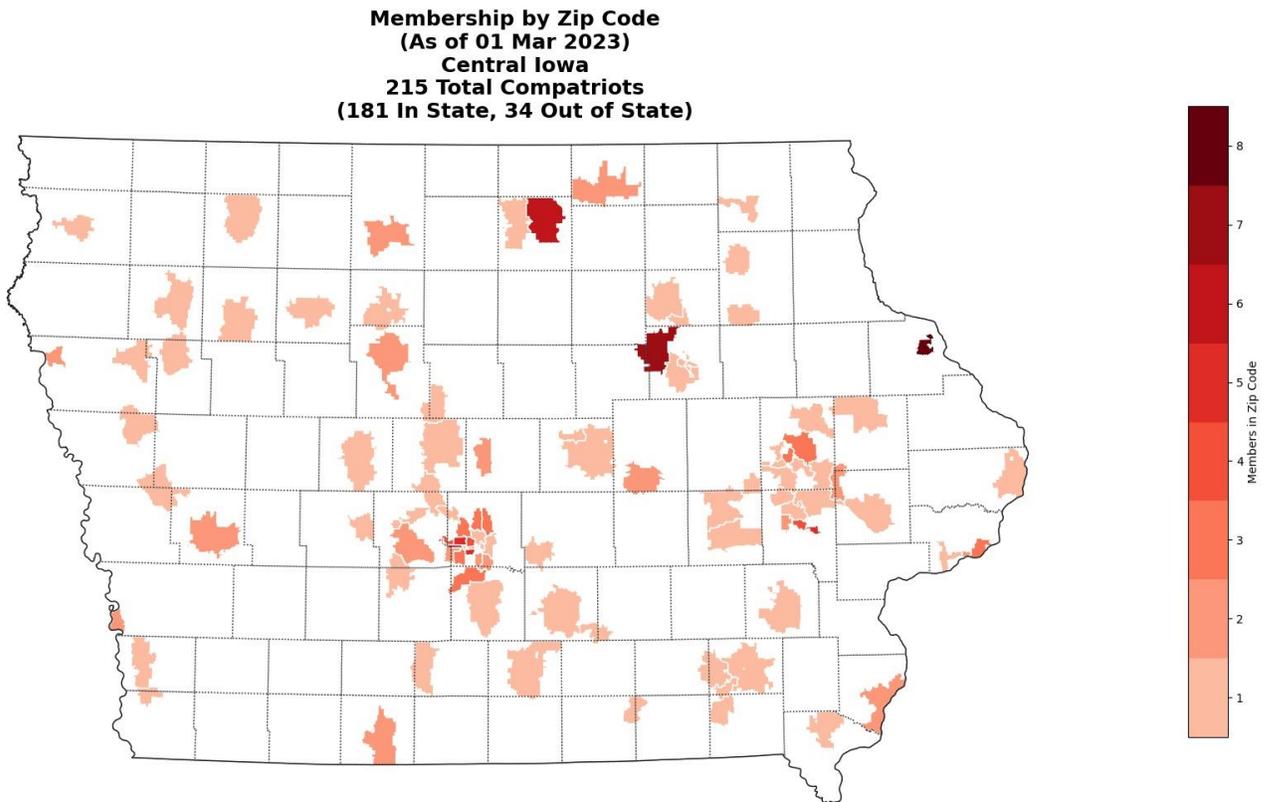
Succeeding his final battle, Greene returned home to his wife, Caty, and his five children.³² Due to debts he incurred throughout his lifetime; he struggled to restore his financial prosperity as a civilian. Greene would move to Mulberry Grove, Georgia, where he would tragically pass at the age of forty-four due to sunstroke.³³ Despite his phenomenal military career, Greene did not aid the shaping of the American government, debarring his presence in many American textbooks taught throughout the country. Nonetheless, his historic feats remind Americans that dedication to a craft and perseverance through obstacles can permit success within any field.

- ¹ Saba, Nataile D. "Nathanael Greene - New Georgia Encyclopedia." *New Georgia Encyclopedia*, 2004.
<https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/nathanael-greene-1742-1786/>.
- ² Golway, Terry, *Washington's General: Nathanael Greene and the Triumph of the American Revolution*, 21. New York, New York: Owl Book, 2006.
- ³ Carbone, Gerald M. "War, War Boys!" Essay. In *Nathanael Greene: A Biography of the American Revolution*, 15–17. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.
- ⁴ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 13.
- ⁵ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 16-17.
- ⁶ American Battlefield Trust, ed. "Nathanael Greene." American Battlefield Trust, 2022.
<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/biographies/nathanael-greene>.
- ⁷ Saba, "Nathanael Greene – New Georgia Encyclopedia."
- ⁸ Golway, *Washington's General: Nathanael Greene and the Triumph of the American Revolution*, 90-93.
- ⁹ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 29-40.
- ¹⁰ Stockwell, Mary. "Battle of Harlem Heights." *George Washington's Mount Vernon*, 2015.
<https://www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/digital-encyclopedia/article/battle-of-harlem-heights/>.
- ¹¹ Golway, *Washington's General: Nathanael Greene and the Triumph of the American Revolution*, 96.
- ¹² McCullough, David G. "The Lines Are Drawn." Essay. In 1776, 137–39. London: The Folio Society, 2005.
- ¹³ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 43-44.
- ¹⁴ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 44.
- ¹⁵ Golway, *Washington's General: Nathanael Greene and the Triumph of the American Revolution*, 100-103.
- ¹⁶ Saba, "Nathanael Greene – New Georgia Encyclopedia"
- ¹⁷ *Portraits in Revolution*, ed. "Washington Crossing the Delaware, 1851." *Washington Crossing the Delaware, 1851 | Portraits in Revolution*, 2009.
https://www.americanrevolution.com/gallery/other_images/legacy_images/emanuel_leutze/washington_crossing_delaware.
- ¹⁸ Golway, *Washington's General: Nathanael Greene and the Triumph of the American Revolution*, 140.
- ¹⁹ American Battlefield Trust, "Nathanael Greene."
- ²⁰ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 89.
- ²¹ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 134-135.
- ²² Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 135.
- ²³ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 137, 142-144.
- ²⁴ Saba, "Nathanael Greene – New Georgia Encyclopedia"
- ²⁵ Golway, *Washington's General: Nathanael Greene and the Triumph of the American Revolution*, 230-239.
- ²⁶ American Wars US, ed. "Battle of Camden." *American Revolutionary War*. *American Revolutionary War*, January 15, 2018.
<https://revolutionarywar.us/year-1780/battle-of-camden/>.
- ²⁷ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 154.
- ²⁸ Golway, *Washington's General: Nathanael Greene and the Triumph of the American Revolution*, 241.
- ²⁹ Golway, *Washington's General: Nathanael Greene and the Triumph of the American Revolution*, 244-250.
- ³⁰ American Battlefield Trust, "Nathanael Greene"
- ³¹ Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 198.
- ³² Carbone, Nathanael Greene: *A Biography of the American Revolution*, 221-222.
- ³³ Wallenfeldt, Jeff, ed. "Nathanael Greene." *Encyclopædia Britannica*. *Encyclopædia Britannica, inc.*, 2022.
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Nathanael-Greene>.

Iowa SAR Density Chart

By Jim Engler, NSSAR Americanism Chair

The chart below shows the concentration (also known as a heat map) of members on a zip code basis. The darker the color, the more members in that zip code. Areas for the zip codes are based on a national source; some zip codes are only a building, in which case the nearest locality with a zip code area available is assigned. The information may be useful for identifying areas for meetings, potentially increasing attendance by local members. It may also be helpful in identifying areas for recruitment and new chapter formation. For the image below, the date of the roster and the state/chapter name is shown, as well as how many members total there are and how many are in and outside of the state.



YouTube: It's Revolutionary

By Randy Lyon

Let me introduce you to the Revolutionary War is an entirely new way! The American Battlefield Trust has been on the forefront of protecting America's sacred lands for decades. Contributions have led to the preservation of thousands of acres of battlefields from the Revolutionary War through the Civil War and the Indian Conflicts. According to the American Battlefield Trust, "The newest resources to enter the Trust's collection lean on a combination of eye-catching animation and clever dialogue, as well as immersive virtual reality (VR) footage."

Soldier Life of the American Revolution (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtLogf3ezd8>) places you in a 360-degree perspective of daily life during the American Revolution, an inside-look at a military encampment, the chaos of woodland fighting, and the perilousness of late 18th-century medicine.

This is one of dozens of YouTube experiences from various contributors, such as the following:

- Enduring Winter During the Revolutionary War (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xfxUMrhmX4w>)
- The Revolutionary War: Animated Battlefield Map (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JLvRJzvOic>)
- Now or Never: Yorktown Campaign of 1781 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tXmplp6_7c)
- 2020 Boston Massacre Reenactment 250th Anniversary (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W6Eqkg1fZpw>)
- Cannons: The Patriots' Not So Secret Weapon (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLX6XWm4JCQ>)
- What Hygiene Was Like in Colonial America (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vgC7CFbSW0>)

Thinking of Our Vets: Housing

By Randy Lyon

In 2022, the Veterans Administration housed more than 40,000 homeless veterans. 110 of 140 VA Medical Centers (VAMCs) achieved their local goals through VA leadership, implementation of “Housing First” practices in all VA programs, dedicated training and technical assistance, and the support of pandemic-era funding and flexibilities granted by Congress. Nevertheless, homelessness among veterans continues to be a problem, and ending veteran homelessness must remain a top priority.

It’s pretty difficult to find charities which specifically address the housing needs of veterans. There are, however, two such charities that deal with veterans and their families. The first offers free temporary housing, while the second is a one-of-its-kind in providing permanent housing. Ratings for both charities are provided by Charity Navigator.

Fisher House Foundation in Rockville, MD (97% Charity Navigator rating)

- Maintains 92 comfort homes where military and veterans’ families can stay at no cost while a loved one receives treatment.

Building Homes for Heroes in Island Park, NY (97% Charity Navigator rating)

- The organization builds or modifies homes and gifts them, mortgage-free, to veterans and their families.

Please consider these charities in your charitable giving this year. If you wish, you may forward to me the amount of your gift for inclusion in the Stark Report. This information will not be shared.

Working in a Veterans Hospital

By Randy Lyon

In December of 2022, I accepted the challenge of volunteering to work in a VA hospital. I recognized from the Stark Report that the Iowa Society had an opportunity to make a difference.

The closest VA hospital in Iowa is located 70 miles south of Dubuque in Iowa City and close to the University of Iowa Hospitals. I applied through the NSSAR Veterans Committee, was accepted, and began my experience being fingerprinted, photographed, and meeting my teammates.

These are amazing volunteers. Their lanyards from which hang their identification pictures are covered with VA awards for time on the job. 1,000 hour pins for volunteering are as common as grains of sand. Several of the group have reached 3,000 hours and more.

The phone ringing at the desk indicates the need for an “escort.” I shadowed one of the others for the entire first day just to find my way around the miles of hallways. Those who work a full shift from 8:00 a.m. until 3:25 p.m. nearly always manage to meet their 10,000 step goals.

Being an “escort” is an eye-opening experience. On one occasion I moved a patient from Urology to the pharmacy, then to Audiology, up to the dining room for lunch, and then picked him up when it was time to again go to the pharmacy. Requests are generally less circuitous. Samples destined to the lab are frequent, as well as moving wheelchairs from where they are to where they are needed. It’s not unusual for all five of us to be gone at the same time with a request waiting when we return.

Our patients really appreciate the help we give and tell us how much it means. The staff makes it a practice to thank the person in the chair for their service. The atmosphere is one of warmth, honor, and respect.

I want to thank the Society for making this opportunity available to me and to you for supporting, through membership, such a grand organization.

Spreading the Word

By Randy Lyon



It's a common situation. You walk into a restaurant wearing your Revolutionary War uniform and heads turn, eyes open wide, and smiles appear.

Such was the case recently when Larry and I visited the McDonald's east of Waterloo on our way to Janesville for a life-saving award presentation.

This group continued to glance in our direction all the way through our coffee and snack. On our way out the door, we stopped at their gathering for a chat and an explanation of our Society and its work. It was fun for everyone, and Larry once again proved his skill in photography.

Looking for Vets!

By Randy Lyon

Are you a veteran of military service, whether it was during wartime or not? I'm trying to put together a list of names of vets who have not yet been acknowledged by the SAR. Please take a moment and send me your name, address, and years of service. We already have two people for this honor list. Make sure we have your name too. Contact me at randylyon1915@gmail.com! Thank you.

Flag Certificate Presentations in Dubuque, Iowa

By Randy Lyon



Thomas Weber enjoys flying his flag year-round, although he admits the windy weather this year has really been rough on it. As with the other recipients, he was very surprised and pleased by the presentation.



Timothy J. Rink thanked the Society and me for taking the time for "such good work."



Thomas J. and Mary B. Reeg were a great couple to meet. They were both enthusiastic about our program and eager to discuss his hobby of making flagpoles. The one in his yard features a release at the bottom. When he wants to lower it to install a new lightbulb, he attaches a long rope to the pole and his garden tractor. He throws the release at the bottom of the pole leaving it held in place by the rope. Backing the tractor up slowly, he lowers the pole to the ground. The process is reversed to put the pole up and the release catches. This allows him to untie the rope. (His wife refuses to watch!)



Jon D. and Dawn McCoy were not scheduled to return from vacation for a couple of weeks. Her mother was attending the house and their two huge dogs (which were "fine" unless the doorbell rang). She promised to show the McCoy's the certificate as soon as they returned.



Jeffery Oberhoffer, his father, and three friends were helping him paint when I visited. It looked like there was a lot of work to do, plenty of people to do it, and no big rush. They were all impressed by the uniform and thought the certificate was "great."

Your IASSAR Board of Managers

President
1st V.P.
2nd V.P.
Secretary
Treasurer
Registrar
Chancellor
Historian
Newsletter
Webmaster

Chris Moberg
Randy Lyon
Kevin Parmenter
Doug Frazer
David Nation
Randy Breese
Lance Ehmcke
Doug Frazer
Chris Moberg
Chris Moberg

moberg.chris@gmail.com
randylyon1915@gmail.com
mail@parmenter.com
dlfrazer@yahoo.com
davenation@gmail.com
iassar.registrar@randybreese.com
ldehmcke@gmail.com
dlfrazer@yahoo.com
moberg.chris@gmail.com
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.*