



GADSDEN GAZETTE

A quarterly newsletter of the Gadsden Chapter
New Mexico Sons of the American Revolution



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Roger Dombrowski - 04/02 Chris Lauderman - 04/03
Bill Dials - 04/12 Darin Rouse - 04/22
Tom Rigsby - 04/25

Bill Kinsella - 05/01 Dave Curtiss - 05/03
Warren Alter - 05/07 Robert E. Vance - 05/11
Don Berger - 05/25 Don E. Williams - 05/29

Mathew Rigsby - 06/13 TJ Vallejos = 06/28



3rd Quarter Calendar (Full year in Vol.1, Issue 3)

JULY

NO CHAPTER MEETINGS JULY - AUGUST

4th, 1100-1300 - Let Freedom Ring - NM State Fairgrounds
10th-16th, 134th Annual Congress - Lancaster, PA
26th, WWII Soldier (KIA) Burial - Santa Fe, NM

AUGUST

17th, 1000-1800 - NM SAR Member Picnic - Ruidoso, NM

SEPTEMBER

21st, 1200-1400 - Chapter Meeting - Hacienda De Mesilla

OCTOBER

3rd-5th, Fall Leadership - Louisville, KY



JUNE 2024

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2

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Meetings:

3rd Saturday of the month
Noon - 2:00 PM
(Subject to change)
No meetings July, August
Hacienda De Mesilla
1891 Avenida De Mesilla
Mesilla, NM

CURRENT OFFICER TEAM



ROBERT E. VANCE
PRESIDENT



TANNER GUSKEY
2ND VICE PRESIDENT



BILL KINSELLA
SECRETARY



DON BERGER
TREASURER



STEVE GRAVES
CHAPLAIN



ROGER DOMBROWSKI
GENEALOGIST



TJ VALLEJOS
1ST VICE PRESIDENT

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**HACIENDA
DE MESILLA**
GRILLE | INN | CANTINA

President's Soapbox



This quarter has been pretty busy for me. Starting off in April with a couple of trips representing the NM SAR. Starting off in San Antonio for the Texas SAR convention, or annual meeting. This was quite the contrast comparing our annual meeting to this.

Of course the TX SAR has over 50 chapters and about 2500 members, but it makes me think that even though we a small society, we can do better. All it takes is an engaged membership!

The Texas convention was a 3 day event, much like the bi-annual Leadership meetings in Louisville. It was a great event and well attended by not only TX SAR members, but others from around the country. I was very impressed with the entire event and how it was run.

One of the sessions of particular interest was a presentation on the Club Express membership program in which TX SAR has joined. Many of the features of the program were presented and although TX already has an online dues payment program in place, they are interested in making the switch to Club Express. So if it can serve a society with over 2500 members well, it should be of great benefit to us. I have enrolled NM SAR in the pilot program and was given administrator permissions, but there has not been much movement since. Hopefully I will have more to report after Congress in Lancaster in July.

Next, at the end of April, I traveled to Portales and met Compatriot Wheeler for the re-internment service for PVT Homer J. Mitchell, who was killed in action in Germany during WWII. (On this same day, 1st VP TJ Vallejos represented Gadsden at the service at Fort Bayard for PFC Richard G. Pitsor who died in captivity in the Philippines during WWII).

Immediately after this service I was off to Gainesville, TX to march with the TX SAR color guard for the Medal of Honor parade. According to their website, as of last year, since 2001 the City of Gainesville has hosted 56 of the 66 living Medal of Honor recipients. Although the parade attendance was down this year

due to the threat of severe weather, but it was still an extraordinary event and well worth the effort to go.

Also at our April meeting, we brought in our "Patriot Chest" with all the items that have been purchased to date with the grant funds from Americana Corner. Most of these items were not available for our first 2 presentations and we are looking forward to showing these to the students when our presentations resume in the fall semester.



Our May meeting was filled with Award and Medal presentations. Several members and supporters were presented the Bronze Henry Knox medals for their service to the chapter, and we also presented a Life Saving medal to a member of Dona Ana Fire for his actions, while off-duty, in saving the life of a traffic accident victim. (See "Chapter Happenings")

Our June meeting was our annual combined SAR/DAR meeting with the Dona Ana DAR hosting. The meeting room was packed and our color guard posted the colors to start the meeting off. (Of note, I was finally able to obtain some of the Spanish Presidio soldier uniforms and one of our CG members has chosen to wear one of these). Regent Bissell was gracious enough to allow me to present some of the Henry Knox medals to those who could not attend our May meeting. We also were fortunate to be able to honor an individual with a Heroism medal for his actions in stopping a vehicle driving on highway 70, whose driver was slumped over the steering wheel, unconscious. (Again, see "Chapter Happenings")

Prior to this meeting, myself, Dave Curtis and Don Williams attended the Las Cruces PD's annual awards ceremony and presented 2 Law Enforcement medals to a detective and a school resource officer and our Gadsden Medal to Police Chief Jeremy Story.

President's Soapbox (cont.)

Lastly, as of July 1st, nominations are open for NM SAR officer positions for the 2025 officer elections at our annual state meeting, tentatively scheduled for Saturday February 1, 2025.

With that said, I have enjoyed serving you and representing NM at all the various events I have attended since my election, including the Council of State Presidents at the Spring Leadership meeting in Louisville and the Texas SAR state convention in San Antonio in April. I will be attending the 134th Annual Congress in Lancaster, PA and back to Louisville in October and plan on attending the Council of State Presidents meetings at those events. I have been looking into ways that we can build up our camaraderie, such as the upcoming NM SAR member/family picnic in August and to recognize members for their dedication and efforts to serve our Society. I have also been working with Lee Popham to enroll NM in Club Express for a new membership database program.

Therefore, I intend to forward my name to the nominating committee and ask for your support to serve you for another year as your NM SAR president, if you will have me.

With your help, I believe we can continue to do great things for our Society.

NM SAR NEWS

There hasn't been a lot happening to report on regarding our state. A couple of things that I might note though include something from the "Brand and Engagement Guide" published by National June 15, 2023. As you may have noticed, I have begun referring to our state as NM SAR or New Mexico SAR, not NMSSAR. The brand and engagement guide is "designed to provide the guidelines for consistently representing and promoting the SAR to the public, to our members,

and to our communities."

In the guide, under "SAR Organization Designation Protocols", The word Society is eliminated for District, State and Chapter designations. Hence, we should no longer go by New Mexico *Society* SAR (NMSSAR). It should be New Mexico SAR (NM SAR). Society remains in use for National.

On May 24th, we held a BOM meeting to address 2 items that needed BOM approval. First, we modified our "Dues and Fees Schedule" and eliminated the \$10 fee for reinstatement. We also authorized the treasurer to move our state checking account into an interest bearing account. As noted in the President's Soapbox, a member/family picnic is scheduled to be held in Ruidoso on Saturday, August 17th. The location has changed due to the recent wildfire in the area and another reminder will go out as we get closer to the event. So far, 21 members and guests have indicated their intent to attend, only 2 of those are not from Gadsden. Hopefully we can gin up more interest from around the state.

NSSAR NEWS

There have been some significant changes made in the Genealogy Committee Policies regarding the handling of applications, most notably, you can only replace the patriot on any application 1 time instead of 3. Also the time pended applications are held before being withdrawn has been reduced from 3 years to 2.

There has been discussion about raising the NSSAR application fees \$50, from \$100 to \$150, although there has been some pushback about that amount. It has not been adopted and will probably be discussed at Congress. Whatever the eventual outcome is, you will be notified.

There has not been any movement in the last few weeks with getting the Club Express membership database program up and running for NM.

More to report in the next issue after the 134th Congress in Lancaster, July 10-17.

Revolutionary War History

On June 13, 1777, a 19-year-old French aristocrat, Marie-Joseph Paul Roch Yves Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, arrives in South Carolina with the intent to serve as General George Washington's second-in-command.

Silas Deane, during his service as the Continental Congress envoy to France, had, on December 7, 1776, struck an agreement with Johann de Kalb and Lafayette to offer their military expertise to the American cause. However, Deane was replaced with Benjamin Franklin and Arthur Lee, who were unenthusiastic by the proposal. Meanwhile, King Louis XVI feared angering Britain and prohibited Lafayette's departure. The British ambassador to the French court at Versailles demanded the seizure of Lafayette's ship, which resulted in Lafayette's arrest. He managed to escape, set sail and eluded two British ships dispatched to recapture him.

Following his safe arrival in South Carolina, Lafayette traveled to Philadelphia. Although Lafayette's youth made Congress reluctant to promote him over more experienced colonial officers, the young Frenchman's willingness to volunteer his services without pay won their respect and Lafayette a commission as major-general on July 31, 1777.

Lafayette served at Brandywine in 1777, as well as Barren Hill, Monmouth and Rhode Island in 1778. Following the formal treaty of alliance with Lafayette's native France in February 1778 and Britain's subsequent declaration of war, Lafayette asked to return to Paris and consult the king as to his future service. Washington was willing to spare Lafayette, who departed in January 1779. By March, Franklin reported from Paris that Lafayette had become an excellent advocate for the American cause at the French court.

Following his six-month respite in France, Lafayette returned to aid the American war effort in Virginia, where he participated in the successful siege of Yorktown in 1781, before returning to France and the further service of his own country.

FLAG DAY

June 14, 1777: During the American Revolution, the Continental Congress adopts a resolution stating that "the flag of the United States be thirteen alternate stripes red and white" and that "the Union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation." The national flag, which became known as the "Stars and Stripes," was based on the "Grand Union" flag, a banner carried by the Continental Army in 1776 that also consisted of 13 red and white stripes. According to legend, Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross designed the new canton for the Stars and Stripes, which consisted of a circle of 13 stars and a blue background, at the request of General George Washington. Historians have been unable to conclusively prove or disprove this legend.



5 Facts For Flag Day - June 14th

- #1 - The US' 50-star flag was designed by 17 year old Bob Heft for history class in 1958. His grade was a B-.
- #2 - There's an official "Flag Code" for displaying and handling the American flag. It's technically federal law!
- #3 - The proper way to dispose of an American flag? Burn it.
- #4 - Always raise your flag briskly, but lower it slowly. And never let it touch the ground.
- #5 - Of the 6 American flags planted on the moon by the Apollo astronauts, 5 are still standing today.



Archaeology of the American Revolution

By: Tanner Guskey

As some of you may know, I received my Masters in Anthropology in May. The degree allows me to conduct Archaeology with a greater knowledge base than my undergraduate. I wanted to take this opportunity to share this knowledge in relation too our common interest in the American Revolution. At the most basic level, Archaeology is understanding people of the past through their material culture (aka their stuff), as opposed to Historians who understand people of the past through their written record. Our membership applications are based on the written record, but Archaeology can provide additional perspectives to those documents. Marginalized peoples, such as Women and People of Color, were less represented in the documentation of the period, but this can be mitigated by excavating their homes and studying the artifacts recovered to give light to domestic and religious practices, health, diet, trade networks, illicit activities, etc. While a range of scientific analyses can determine such things, the context in which the artifacts are found is key. If a button associated with Patriots is found on a battlefield, it may contribute to the knowledge of maneuvers taken during the battle, but if such a button is instead found in the house of a publicly Loyalist person, interesting possibilities begin to form to explain such an unexpected find.

Sadly, these important contexts are often lost by the looting of archaeological sites by souvenir hunters, metal detectorists, collectors, etc. While there are laws to protect such places on public lands, private property is not protected and is thus subject to contextual loss. There is a greater understanding among the Archaeological community that such losses are unpreventable and there are moves to collaborate with such collectors on an equal footing since both groups are interested in the past and wish to preserve it for future generations. Thank you to President Vance for providing me with this opportunity to ramble on my profession. Please find a short list of recent exciting Revolutionary War discoveries and feel free to discuss Archaeology with me.

Recent Discoveries

“The World Turned Upside Down: Revisiting the Archaeology of the American Revolution”

“Archaeology at the Site of the Museum of the American Revolution”

“Meeting at Headquarters: Public Archeology at Valley Forge”

1776-1781 Barracks at Colonial Williamsburg

“AmRev360: Digging into New Discoveries with Archaeologist Wade Catts”



PVT Jacob Alter - Warren Alter
 PVT John Anderson - William Rice
 PVT Philip Peter Baker - Chris Lauderman
 PVT Henry Baugh - Tom Rigsby
 CAPT Thomas Beale - Warren Alter
 SOL Herber Berger - Don Berger
 PVT William Blakely - Wayne Mitchell
 PS Ratliff Boone - Darin Rouse
 PS John Cantrell - Dale Cantrell
 PVT Samuel Covey - Bill, Bennett Dials
 PS John Curtiss - Dave Curtiss
 PVT William Daniel - TJ Vallejos
 CORP Daniel Driggs - Roger Dombrowski
 PVT Charles English - Tom Rigsby
 PVT Elijah Fenton - Dave Curtiss
 PVT Stephen Francis - Robert Francis
 PS Christopher Gwinn - Don, James Williams
 PS Thomas Hamilton - Steven Graves
 SURG David Holmes - Bob Clark
 PVT Daniel Hough - Dave Curtiss
 PVT Abraham Huntsberger - Paul Huntsberger
 PVT Thomas C. Jones - John Hill
 Thomas Kelly - Tom Rigsby
 SGT Ebenezer Landers - Russ Wilson
 SOL Samuel Leidy - George Richards

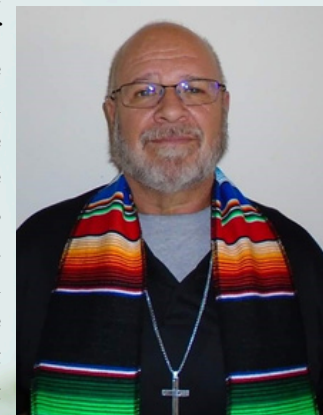
PS Nathan Lewis - Dave Curtiss
 PS John LLOYD - Tom Rigsby
 LT Alexander McClellan - Jim Libbin
 PS William McClure - Tom Rigsby
 PVT William McFerrin - William Baker
 CS Colin McKenney - Tom Rigsby
 MAJ John T.W. Medearis - Coty Wheeler
 PS Anacleto Bernardo Miera Y Pacheco - Bill Kinsella
 PS Bernardo Pascual Joachim Miera Y Pacheco - Bill Kinsella
 MAJ John Moore - Bob Thum
 PVT Isaac Newell - Dave Curtiss
 PS James Northrup - Bob, James Northrup
 PVT Stephen Northrup - Bob, James Northrup
 PVT William Patterson - Eric Randler
 PVT Gad Pomeroy - Bob Sherman

LT COL Thomas Posey - Tanner Guskey
 CAPT Adrain Proveaux - Harry Murray
 CAPT Samuel Ransom- Daniel Samples-Thieman
 PS John Reese - Tom Rigsby
 CAPT Henry Rhoads - Shannon Franks
 PVT Jesse Richardson - Tom Rigsby
 PS John Robinson - Bob Northrup
 SGT John Rockett - Robert E. Vance
 PVT Phillip Stickleman - Carl, Don Connor
 CAPT John C. Stoever - Wesley Shumaker
 PVT John B. Stovall Sr - Tom Rigsby
 PS John Stryker - Greg Whited
 PS John Swearingen - Tom Rigsby
 PVT William H. Taulbe - Tom Rigsby
 SOL John Tyree - David Minton
 PVT Isaac Van Bibber - Daniel Samples-Thieman
 PVT John Van Gieson - Robert Middleton
 PVT David Vance - Robert, Paul Vance James Lee
 PS Aaron Warner Sr - Bob Northrup
 PVT Jonathan Warner - Bob Northrup
 LT COL William Washington - Harry Murray
 PVT Jesse White - Tom, Jacob, Mathew Rigsby
 PS Samuel Whitehead - Tom Rigsby
 PVT Michael Young - Tom Rigsby

Chaplain's Corner

Fearless in Fulfillment of His Duty

One chaplain, Baptist minister David Jones, also served as a missionary to the Indians of the Ohio Valley for two years. He was so outspoken about his views on the Revolutionary War that "he became obnoxious to his Tory neighbors" and was compelled to leave the Freehold Baptist Church where he served as pastor. After this episode, David Jones moved to Chester County, Pennsylvania, to become the pastor of the Great Valley Baptist Church. He soon realized, however, that he needed to help the colonial struggle for freedom. He entered the army as a chaplain and served in this position until the end of the war. It was Chaplain Jones' custom to preach as often as possible before entering battle, and he preached to the troops at Valley Forge, following the arrival of the news that France had recognized American independence. Jones served under the command of General "Mad Anthony" Wayne, a Chester County native. General Wayne earned his nickname for the bravery and fearlessness he displayed on the battlefield. David Jones was a good fit with his commanding officer in this regard. He was so heroic on the battlefield that British General Howe offered a reward for his capture, and many plots were laid to capture him. In addition to his military and chaplain's duties, Jones also served as courier for General Wayne from time to time. In a letter to Benjamin Franklin, written from Ticonderoga on July 29, 1776, Wayne writes: We are so far removed from the seat of Government of the free and independent states of America, and such an Insurmountable Barrier, Albany, between us that not one letter, or the least intelligence of anything that's doing with you can reach us. Through the medium of my Chaplain (David Jones) I hope this will reach you as he has promised to blow out any man's brains who will attempt to take it from him.



*Steven Graves
 Gadsden Chapter
 Chaplain*

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS!



Bronze Henry Knox Medals

Top: TJ Vallejos, Don Williams, Dave Curtiss, Donna Curtiss, Bill Kinsella
Bottom: Harry Murray, Don Berger, Tanner Guskey, Erin Baker, Steven Graves
(Not pictured: Robert E. Vance, Coty Wheeler)



Life Saving Medal
LT Thomas Ontiveros

Heroism Medal
David A. Hernandez



Gadsden Medal
Ch Jeremy Story

Law Enforcement Medal
Det Kenneth Davis

Law Enforcement Medal
Off Jose Prado

EMS Medal
Allison Stoner
(Presented by:
James Williams)



ROTC / JROTC

NMSU

Cadets Adam Sierra, Luke Patterson
Bill Kinsella



NMMI

Cadet Rodrigo M. Vasquez
Robert E. Vance



Clovis HS

Cadet Joshua Steig
Coty Wheeler



Alamogordo HS

Cadet Reilly Quinn
Robert E. Vance



Hot Springs HS

Cadet Nicholas West
Robert E. Vance

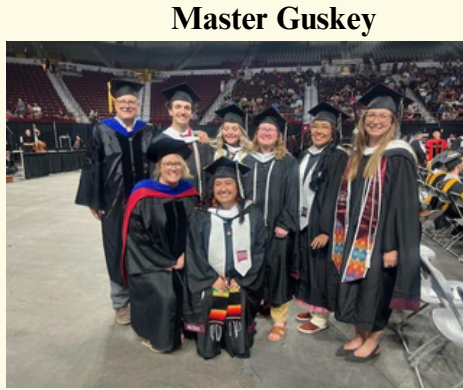


COMPATRIOT ESCAPADES

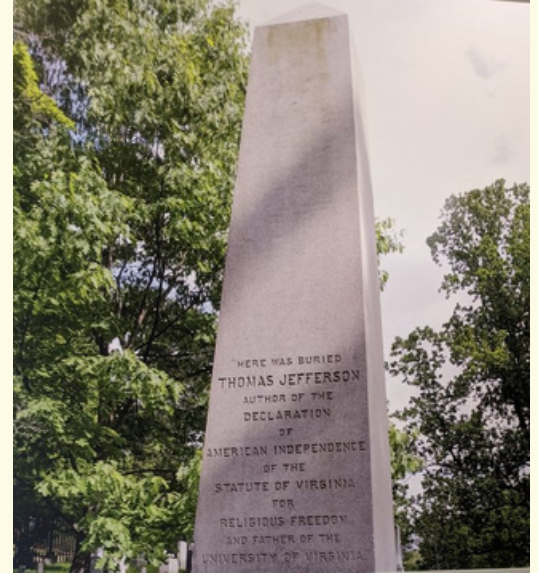
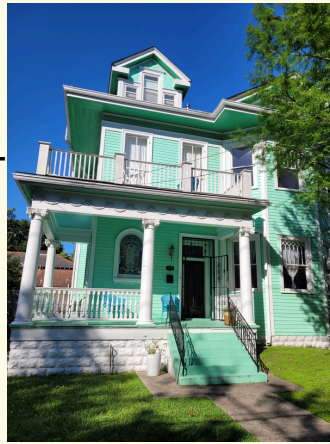
This is your newsletter, let fellow compatriots know that there is life outside the SAR!



Tanner & Phoebe Guskey
Posey ancestor home -
New Orleans, LA



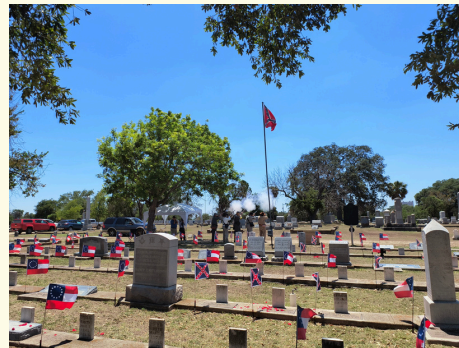
Master Guskey



Thomas Jefferson's Monticello
Dave & Donna Curtiss



Harry Murray and sister Sydney
Virgin River - Zion NP
Sunrise - Bryce Canyon NP



Sons of Confederate Veterans
Memorial Service
San Antonio, TX - June 7, 2024
Robert E. Vance



South Fork Fire
Ruidoso, NM
June 17, 2024



Color Guard



TX SAR State Convention - San Antonio, TX
April 11-13, 2024



Re-interment service :
PVT Homer J. Mitchell
Portales, NM
April 26, 2024



Medal of Honor Parade - Gainesville, TX
April 27, 2024



Patriot Grave Markings
Maud - Clarksville (Pictured), TX
June 1, 2024

Posting the colors at the combined SAR/DAR meeting
June 15, 2024



FUNDRAISING MERCHANDISE



Front

Back

Chapter Challenge Coins
Companion coin to the Gadsden Medal
(Members Only)
\$10

All prices are for pick up at a meeting.
If you want it shipped, additional
shipping charges will be added.

Contact:

Robert E. Vance
revance58@gmail.com

or

Don Berger
berger.don@gmail.com

15 oz. Coffee Mug
Chapter Logo on both sides.
\$10



White Polo Shirt
Embroidered Chapter Logo
\$30
(Price subject to change)

20 oz. Stainless Steel
Insulated Tumbler
(Customizable)
\$25