



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Patriotic ★ Historical ★ Educational

George Washington Chapter – WA SAR

Subject: First Quarter Activity Report of 31 March 2021

To: Dale Harshman, PhD, President George Washington Chapter Washington SAR
From: C. Marshall Eberhart, Historian & Retention

Activities for the first quarter of 2021 are listed below. All physical meetings continued to be cancelled through March due to the Corona Virus (Covid-19). The meetings for January, February and March were virtual meetings held over the Zoom platform. This summary does not address regular housekeeping activities but focuses on those activities addressing our missions of Patriotism, Education and History.

Membership – Chair is Russ Oliver

January – It was reported that due to the hard work of our Registrar, John Kraft our Chapter currently has 44 full members and 3 dual-Chapter members. We have added a pending member, Robert Wall. Bob quickly became interested in the Color Guard, the JROTC committee and the many other missions of the SAR.

February – Registrar Kraft continued his hard work by adding Compatriot Tanner Roach, (member #217694).

March - Registrar John Kraft announced we have added five new members; Bo Franz (206840), Bob Wall (218672), Greg McKee, (member #218728) and his sons, Jonah (member #218729) and Ariaah (member #218730). Due to his hard work and volunteerism, Compatriot Kraft has been advanced in his responsibilities by being accepted as the Washington State Registrar! Compatriot Bruce Bock has volunteered to assume the duties as Registrar for the Chapter in April, 2021. Six new members were added this quarter. Membership currently stands at 53.

Three compatriots did not pay 2021 dues by 31 DEC 2020 and will be transferred to inactive status in SAR:

- John Eric Kraft Jr. National # 214958 State # 2803
- Rex Peter Stickle National # 186200 State # 2188
- Brent Lee Strom National # 210081 State # 2711

Considering transfers plus inactive status members, we started 2021 at 43 members + 3 Dual Chapter members + 1 Dual Society member (total 47).

As of end of January 2021, the GWC had 43 members + 3 Dual Chapter members + 1 Dual Society member (total 47).

As of end of February 2021, the membership increased to 44 members + 3 Dual Chapter members + 1 Dual Society member (total 48).

As of end of March 2021, the GWC boasts 49 members + 3 Dual Chapter members + 1 Dual Society member (total 53).

Boy Scouts of America – Chair is C. Marshall Eberhart

January – Very little was completed this month due to the restricted activities from the local troops.

February – Compatriot Eberhart was contacted by a single Scout and work was completed on a Genealogy Merit Badge.

March – Two local troops were contacted regarding the availability of awards to Eagle Scouts. Unfortunately, nothing resulted from the contacts.

Color Guard Activity – Chair is Color Guard Captain Mike Hutchins

January – Captain Hutchins reported the coverage of a Flag Award to the Crescent Harbor Elementary was well received by the local media. Compatriot Bruce Bock offered videos on the National SAR website for battle reenactments. Planning for the Memorial Day 2021 virtual event Planning has started and is on-going.

February – Captain Mike Hutchins reported Our Color Guard provided virtual support to several recent events, including the SAR memorial celebration of the Battle of Kettle Creek. Planning for the Memorial Day 2021 virtual event continues. The efforts of our Chapters' Color Guard were highlighted in the WA SAR Chapter Notes in the most recent National SAR magazine!

March – Captain Mike Hutchins reported Chapter Trustee Chris Fridley has joined our Chapters' Color Guard and Compatriot Bob Wall was recently inducted. Color Guard Personnel reached out to the community by presenting the Knight Essay awards to our Chapter winners, presented a Bronze Good Citizenship medal to a member of our community, and provided support to multiple Zoom Battle events. Opportunities for potential events in Lynden WA are being explored.

DAR Liaison – Chair is VP Mike Hutchins

January – Compatriot Hutchins had nothing to report this month due to restrictions from the Covid pandemic.

February – Compatriot Hutchins reported he had begun to reengage with local DAR-SAR chapters to develop events in Oak Harbor and in Bellingham.

March – Efforts to develop events continues.

Fire/Safety – Chair is Dave Vandaveer

None noted for this quarter. Efforts were made to refamiliarize the Chapter with the criteria for these awards and to encourage greater efforts on the part of ALL members to recognize the hard work in our local area.

Flag Recognition Awards – Chair is Russ Oliver

Efforts were made to refamiliarize the Chapter with the criteria for these awards and to encourage greater efforts on the part of ALL members to recognize displays of flags in our local area.

JROTC – Chair is Randy Wall/Bo Franz

January – Chairman Randy Wall has asked to step down from this position.

February – Two Compatriots have stepped forward to assume the duties of this position.

March – Compatriot Bo Franz was selected to fill this position and was placed in contact with the departing Chairman Randy Wall.

Knight Essay – Chair is President Dale Harshman

January – The Chapter received two submissions for this award. Preparations were made to recognize the first- and second-place winners, Zachary Badaouie and Noah Meffert.

February – Weather delayed the presentation of the awards to the authors of the essays selected by the Chapter. Our first-place winner's essay did not win the state competition.

March – The first-place winner, Zachary Badaouie, was present at our meeting. The reading of his essay was very well received by the Chapter.

Ladies Auxiliary – Chair is Bonnie Jonson

January – Chair Bonnie Jonson reported the visits and the donations of toiletries to Veterans organizations are still being curtailed due to the pandemic.

February – Chair Bonnie Jonson reported the Ladies Auxiliary were making preparations to assist with the National Congress to be held in Renton, WA this summer.

March – Nothing was reported for this month.

Law Enforcement awards – Chair is Kevin Coyne

None noted for this quarter. Efforts were made to refamiliarize the Chapter with the criteria for these awards and to encourage greater efforts on the part of ALL members to recognize displays of superlative officers in our local area.

Retention – Chair is C. Marshall Eberhart

January – Efforts were made to reach out to Compatriots who have avoided the Zoom platform. 15 phone calls were made and individual letters were sent to those members offering alternative methods of participation were highlighted. One member resumed participation on the Zoom platform. VP Mike Hutchins has organized and created Membership Orientation book for the new members to read and gather a better understanding of the organization and the opportunities available to them as the Chapters newest members.

February – Individual members reported the efforts made were appreciated. A report of the findings was forthcoming and will drive improvements to the Chapter in the future.

March – The report on the data gathered was delivered to the Board. Efforts to incorporate the best practices of other, strong chapters was received from the WASSAR. These practices will be reviewed and developed for use in our Chapter.

Service to Veterans – Chair is Bo Franz

February – This is a new Committee to be chaired by Bo Franz upon approval of his membership application.

Speakers – Chair is VP Mike Hutchins

January – WA SAR State Vice President Keith Weissinger reported that 2021 National Congress planning is in full swing – WA SAR will be hosting the National SAR Congress for the first time, and there is a lot of pressure to have the National Congress as an in-person event in July 2021. Just in case, a National meeting in March 2021 will consider amending National bylaws to allow for a hybrid National Congress with remote or virtual options. Our upcoming WA SAR Annual State meeting in April 2021 will be entirely virtual over Zoom. We set aside each chapter meeting in January as our Patriot Ancestor Theme Month. All members, pending members, and honored guests in attendance shared their knowledge of the service and biography of their Patriot Ancestor.

February – This month we welcomed Compatriot Doug Nelson to our meeting. Doug is the WSSAR Board of Directors, At Large Director, Member of John Paul Jones Chapter and the George Washington Chapter. He gave a program focusing on the “Fourteen Forgotten Presidents”, those gentlemen who were elected to lead the sessions of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789, before George Washington was elected as the President of the United States.

March – Lorraine Zimmerman, Founder & President of the Veterans Memorial Wreath Foundation. She presented her program on the efforts of the Foundation and the Wreaths Across America. Our Second speaker was Zachary Badaouie. He presented his essay “The Reasonable Revolutionary”. Zach was the winner of our Chapters’ Knight Essay contest for this year!

Veterans Recognition – Chair is Chris Fridley

January – A Certificate for Compatriot Glenn Orr is now on hand and will be framed and presented in the near future. Members were encouraged to relate their military service to Chris for addition to the state rolls.

February – A Certificate for Compatriot Glenn Orr fully prepared. Presentation is to be finalized in the near future. Members were encouraged to relate their military service to Chris for addition to the state rolls.

March – Arrangements are still being developed to deliver his military Service certificate to Glenn Orr and Jacque Hutchins WW2 Certificate.