

# Prescott Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter

July 2020

Address P.O. Box 10683 Prescott AZ 86301



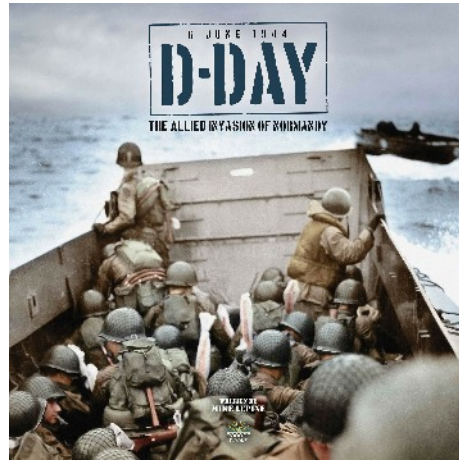
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope this message finds you and yours safe and well. It has certainly been a trying few months for all Americans. Our longstanding meeting venue, Guacamaya's, has closed permanently. Jack Berry and Steve Monez evaluated 17 venues in the Prescott area. They selected 3 for the Board to review. In a teleconference on June 6, the Board unanimously chose the Hassayampa Inn in downtown Prescott. We will usually meet in the Arizona Room. When that is not available, there is a smaller room between the bar and the Peacock Dining Room. Meetings will still be the second Saturday of the month at 12 PM. In recent years we have held our December meeting on the first Saturday. That is the day of the Prescott Christmas parade and tree lighting, and downtown will be crowded. Therefore, we will meet on the second Saturday in December. The state of Arizona has begun re-opening. At this time Covid-19 cases are still increasing, and the progress of the disease is very concerning to me, especially since so many of us are at increased risk. The board scheduled our next chapter meeting for Saturday. Follow Presidents message on page 2

## June 6, 1944



The Normandy landings were the landing operations and associated airborne operations on Tuesday, 6 June 1944 of the Allied invasion of Normandy in Operation Overlord during World War II. This was the largest sea borne invasion in history. The operation began the liberation of German-occupied France (and later western Europe).



**The Story of the Bedford Boys**  
*Bedford Virginia* is located at the foot of the Peaks of Otter in the heart of *Virginia's* Blue Ridge Mountains.

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## Presidents Message from page 1

day, September 12. A teleconference board meeting is planned on August 8 to re-evaluate the situation.

Like many, I have been staying home more than usual. It has given me time for some interesting reading. Whenever I think about the American Revolution I am amazed at how fascinating I find the details to be. I think that many of us remember some key events, but if one delves in more deeply the rewards are great. There is a surprising amount of eyewitness information. June 17 is the anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, a critical battle fought so early that George Washington was not yet commander-in-chief.

After Lexington and Concord the British were confined to the city of Boston, then a peninsula nearly surrounded by water with a narrow neck. On June 13, 1775, Americans learned of the British plan to break out of Boston to seize high ground on the Charlestown and Dorchester peninsulas. American commander of the Army of Observation, the antecedent of the Continental Army, Artemas Ward ordered Israel Putnam and William Prescott to fortify Bunker Hill near Charlestown. It was actually Bunker's Hill, owned by George Bunker. Prescott instead fortified a lower hill, Breed's Hill. Underestimating American capability, British General William Howe elected to make a full frontal assault on Breed's Hill. The Redcoats were staggered by heavy losses in their first attempt. They regrouped and advanced again, this time also with heavy losses. General Howe personally

led the third and final assault. Prescott was now critically low on ammunition and waited until the British were but 20 yards away. A furious volley felled every Britisher in the front line except Lord Howe. He pressed the attack and overran the American position after Prescott's men used the last of their ammunition. Colonel John Stark and Captain Thomas Knowlton covered an orderly retreat. Howe's men were spent and he failed to pursue the Americans. He had bought a hill with over 1000 casualties. The rebellion was not crushed, and once again, the Patriots had proved they could fight. William Prescott believed that one more round per man could have driven the British back. Had that happened the war might very well have been over at that point. Bunker Hill put the nail in the coffin for any attempts at peaceful reconciliation. Three weeks later, the Continental Congress sent an "Olive Branch" Petition to the King. It arrived in London only days after George III had learned of Bunker Hill. He would not receive it, declaring America in full rebellion subject to being crushed by the full weight of the mightiest power on Earth. The Army of Observation became the beginning of the Continental Army created on paper three days before Bunker Hill. Two days after the battle, on June 19, George Washington was named Commander-in-Chief.

I have prepared a talk on this early battle which I then transformed into a 17 minute video at the following link:

Place your cursor over the link to access it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXD2iMhjDiU>



## Bunker Hill

### June 14 Flag Day

Bernard Cigrand, a small-town Wisconsin teacher, originated the idea for an annual flag day, to be celebrated across the country every June 14, in 1885. That year, he led his school in the first formal observance of the holiday.

Robert G. Heft, a 17-year old high school student from Ohio, submitted his version of the 50 star flag that he created for a class project. It was accepted and remains in use today. On May 30, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation establishing a national Flag Day on June 14.



## The Bedford Boys from Page one

They were teenage buddies in the Depression days, growing up in Bedford, a town of 3,200.

They joined the National Guard together. It seemed like a fun thing to do as it brought the young men together for a couple of weeks each year for training. In their eye's it was like a social club.

They marched in Fourth of July parades. They gathered with their girlfriends at American Legion halls.

They were mostly in their teens. They never expected that the United States would go to war. The news indicated the United States would stay neutral.

This courageous bunch of small-town boys represented a cross-section of the little Virginia community.

Captain Taylor N. Fellers came from an affluent Bedford family. Frank Draper Jr. was a star athlete from the less affluent part of town. John Wilkes was the company's leading sergeant. Lt. Elisha Ray Nance was the son of a tobacco farmer. Twins Ray and Roy Stevens came from a farm family of 14 children.

The National Guard was activated on February third, 1941. They became

part of the 29th Infantry Division, assembled in Company A of the division's 116th Infantry.

The United States declared War in December 1941.

In September 1942 the 29th Division boarded the converted luxury liner *Queen Mary* and sailed for England.

The division's 116th Infantry became the first unit to complete amphibious exercises at the U.S. Army's amphibious training center.

June 6, 1944, the long-awaited Allied invasion of northern Europe got under way. 34 soldiers from Bedford with Company A were among the first infantrymen approaching Omaha Beach.

At 3:30 am they loaded into the landing crafts. The landing crafts were tossed about in the rough water.

The bombers flying overhead had bad weather and dropped bombs inland instead on their intended targets. The heavy guns from the destroyers and battle ships failed to soften up the German gunners in the heights.

The landing crafts were taking heavy fire.

Four Bedford boys were in a landing craft that was hit by German fire and sank. Fished out of the waters, they were the fortunate ones.

Thirty were in other crafts. Ray one of the twins along with eighteen others died almost immediately when they landed on Omaha beach at Normandy.

The family hit the hardest was John and Macie Hoback, both sons were killed.

The town welcomed the survivor's home, but things were never the same again. Those soldiers' memories never went away. The terrible carnage and the still, lifeless bodies. They still remembered the young, smiling faces, boyish laughter and youthful innocence. These are the memories that time cannot diminish or take away. Twenty-Three boys died during that campaign.

Let us remember the Bedford Boys and that war that took so many lives. God Bless all that have given their lives in so many conflicts around the world.

"Freedom is not free".



Memorial in Bedford VA

## JROTC-ROTC updated report:

Our Chapter supported eleven schools with the JROTC-ROTC awards. Two high schools' cadets applied for the enhanced program. This is the first time that has happened.

A Cadet from the Prescott High School won the Enhanced Prescott Chapter award. He was presented with a special enhanced medal and check for \$100. He was in competition with several other State chapter winners and placed first. He will receive a Medallion from the State Society and a check for \$200. He represented our state at the national level.

The second place cadet was from Chinle High School and was presented with a Good Citizenship Medal and a check for \$50.

We supported two Colleges. Embry Riddle has Army and Air Force programs and Northern Arizona University has Army and Air Force units.

The four cadets received Silver ROTC medals. Checks for \$100. and certificates.

Our total cost this year for the program was \$1247.40

Thanks Keith Knotek for your support on this committee.

Steve Monez Chapter Chairman JROTC-ROTC Committee



Enhanced Medal

Good  
Citizenship

Bronze  
JROTC

Silver  
ROTC



## New Meeting Venue

The Hassayampa Inn, 122 E Gurley St, Prescott, AZ is the new meeting place chosen by your Board. It will be held in the Arizona room. Jack Berry and



Steve Monez considered 17 different venues. This was the best for the size and accommodations. There are three entrances, one from the Gurley Street, two from

Marina. The main entrance and along the side there is a walkway that will eliminate stairs. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 12. This will be confirmed in our next board meeting on August 8. Your board also purchased a speaker system thanks to Richard Melick. This is an excellent system. The price was quite reasonable. This will make an excellent addition for our future meetings.

## Chapter Board Meeting

Our **Board Meeting June 6, 2020** was a virtual one. Some of the items covered:

Our membership is more than 50 and we are eligible to have two Board of Manager representatives. Jack Berry will be our second member.

The **Mary Ann Shuttles Radio** show was quite successful and she will be inviting President Cates and Jack Berry back for another session to discuss the Sons of the American Revolution.

Gene McCarthy our Arizona Society Board of Managers Rep reported that 32 Arizona Society Members participated in the virtual **Board of Managers** meeting on May 30. One of the items discussed was the distribution of **JROTC-ROTC** units in the valley. Robert Hoover the Society Chairman made a motion that a more equitable distribution. Palo Verde has 23 proposed 13, Saguaro has 9 proposed 14, BMG has 8 proposed 13, Phoenix has 12 proposed 13. After

Continued on page 5 Board of Managers



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AZ Board of Managers from page 4

some discussion PPG Alter made the motion that this be tabled for more study. Motion passed. It was also noted that the State could afford to pay for these medals. In preparation for the Societies 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary President Kavenaugh requested a committee be formed. He suggested one member from each chapter be on the committee. VP Bill Barren volunteered to serve on that committee.

AZ Society VP Baran said a medal was approved at the last BOM for this anniversary and one had been submitted and approved by the National. This cost would be \$3000. VP Baran to put out information via constant contact.

A Memorial Service was held for thirteen of our members who have passed in the past year.

Compatriots:

Major Ronald A. McCreery (TUC)  
Judson Stillman Mathis (PV)  
Stoddard Calvin Hamilton III (SAG)  
James Koontz (RIM)  
Robert McCurdy (SAG)  
Richard Lawrence Zeilman (TUC)  
Robert Loren Bobar (TUC)  
James Howard Skaggs (PV)  
George William Welch (SAG)  
James Deming Otis (PV)  
Gary Eugene West (PV)  
Robert Stephen Hodsdon (PV)  
Charles Eugene Hales (SAG)

**For our new members we have eight Chapters in our Society.**

Barry Goldwater=BMG Phoenix area  
Colorado River = CR in Lake Havasu  
Palo Verde = PV Phoenix area  
Phoenix = PHE  
Prescott =PRE  
Rim Country =RIM Payson  
Saguaro =SAG Phoenix area  
Tucson = TUC



**Starts on June 29 through July 4.**

The Prescott Color Guard will be marching in the parade on the Fourth of July. We have eight members signed up at this time. Six Prescott Color Guard, Jack Berry, Tom Chittenden, Ed Lipphardt, Bill Smith, Gene McCarthy, Steve Monez, Christopher Frances from Tucson and Paul Westcott from Payson. In 2017 we led the parade and were joined by many other chapters in the Arizona Society.



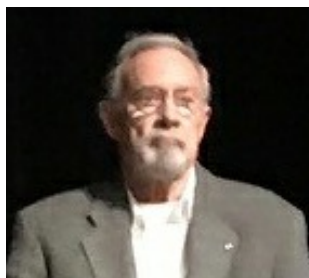
## July 4 1776

Many people celebrate the fourth of July with fireworks and parades and yet very few think of the true meaning of independence day and the reason we celebrate. The meaning to us all should indicate we are a free nation because of the sacrifices of our forefathers. The war for independence had started in April 1775. Many were fighting for their rights as subjects of the British Crown. George Washington had been appointed commander and chief of the Army in June 1775. By the summer of 1776 the revolution was in full swing and the Continental Congress realized a need to make an official declaration.

In June 1776 a five man committee including Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, were asked to draft the Declaration. The committee felt that Thomas Jefferson was most capable of writing the draft. On July 2 the Draft was presented and voted on by the congress. John Adams wrote his wife Abigail that July 2 would be the date to celebrate this monumental day. After 8 long years of war, with the help of France and Spain the Treaty of Paris was signed and we became a free new nation.

July 4, 1826 Thomas Jefferson died 5 hours before John Adams.

## Getting to Know You



### Paul Sangster:

I was born in 1939 in Washington, D.C., the oldest of three children. My father was in the Navy in Washington in WWII and did not see combat because he was married with three children, but rather worked at the Bureau of Ships, in sonar development. We moved to Springfield, IL in 1946 when he took a job at Sangamo Electric Company.

I went to the University of Michigan, obtaining a BS in Chemistry. I came to Tucson, AZ in January of 1962 for health reasons. I taught high school Algebra and Science at Sunnyside High School in Tucson, and worked as the head of the Clinical Lab at Hahnemann Hospital, then attended Med School at the U of Arizona, graduating in the 4th graduating class in 1974. I did a surgical internship in San Diego, and a residency in Radiology at the U of A, finishing in 1978. I began work at Northern Arizona Radiology in Flagstaff in 1978 and retired from that position in 2006. My wife Sandie and I have 4 children, and we elected to remain in Flagstaff after my retirement.

I entered the SAR based on my ancestor Daniel McCarty, who served as a Justice of the peace in northern Virginia. I think he was moderately well to do, and his wife was the sister of George Washington's mother. My Great Great grandfather was married to Mary Kendall Lee, daughter of Hancock Lee of Ditchley. However, it seems that my line of Lees was of an inappropriate age and didn't participate in the Revolutionary War. My immigrant ancestor, Thomas Sangster, is listed in the archives as having been assessed some 9 pounds sterling as a sort of tax to raise a militia.



### Gene McCarthy:

Chapter Board Member/BOM representative

Born and raised in CA.

Military: US Army 101st Airborne 24th Infantry Division

Los Angeles Police Department 3 years

Los Angeles County Fire Department 29 years

Los Angeles County Department of Health/Metropolitan

Medical Strike Team

Federal Bureau of Investigation Los Angeles Division

Three children: two girls one boy: 3 grandchildren

Married to Jackie Doyle McCarthy

We live in the Village of Oak Creek

Watercolor artist

Elected member of the Sedona Fire Board



## Getting to Know You



**Keith R. Knotek** is a retired American law enforcement official who served as Commander of the San Jacinto Police Department and as a sergeant with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department in California before retiring and moving to Prescott Valley, AZ in January 2015. He is a former soldier in the California State Guard with the 40<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company in Los Alamitos, CA, which is part of the only National Guard MP Brigade, the 49<sup>th</sup> Military Police Brigade.

Knotek grew up in a middle-class neighborhood in Huntington Beach, California, where he graduated from Marina High School. He later received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (Cum laude) and a Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership (Summa cum laude) from

California Coast University in Santa Ana, California, and recently earned his Doctor of Business Administration from William Howard Taft University.

Knotek began his law enforcement career as a nineteen-year-old police cadet with the Huntington Beach Police Department in 1984. He graduated from the basic police academy at the Regional Criminal Justice Training Center at Golden West College in Huntington Beach, California, on May 16, 1986. During his 30-year law enforcement career, he served in almost every division in the various agencies in which he worked. He served as Acting Chief of Police when he was the Police Commander for the San Jacinto Police Department in 2004. The City of San Jacinto eventually contracted with the Riverside County Sheriff to provide law enforcement services to the municipality of 40,000 residents. Knotek is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Law Enforcement Executive Development (FBI/LEEDA) Regional Command College and the California P.O.S.T. Supervisory leadership Institute. He is a frequent guest lecturer at several colleges and universities in Arizona. Knotek is married to his wife, Lily, and has two adult daughters; one residing in Nevada and the other in California.

Knotek's experiences in law enforcement inspired him to write a non-fiction, autobiographical manuscript entitled *From Sorrow to Amazing Grace: One Cop's Journey*.

His Memberships include: Deputy Commander, Civil Air Patrol, Prescott Composite Squadron, Military and Hospitalier Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem (Orléans obedience), St. George Society of New York, New England Society in the City of New York, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Sons of the American Revolution, Military Order of Foreign Wars, Royal Society of St. George, Sons of Spanish American War Veterans, Sons of the American Colonist and The Augustan Society.

### **William Williamson, Jr., PhD** Board Member of Prescott Chapter SAR



Born in RI, grew up in HI and CA. Mayflower descendant of Francis Cooke, Thomas Cooke and Richard Warren. Living in Honolulu during the December 7, 1941 Japanese attack, five to seven miles from Pearl Harbor. Graduated from Lowell High School, San Francisco, CA 1951. Worked in the back country of the High Sierras on blister rust control, fire and rescue, pseudo cowboy for three summer years to put self through college. Participated in the 1956 nuclear tests, Operation Redwing, Parry Island in the Marshall Islands while working as an experimental physicist at the Naval Radiological Laboratory, Hunters Point, San Francisco. Ph.D. in Physics 1958. Fall 1961 Fulbright Fellow to Frascati Laboratories Frascati, Italy.

PhD theoretical High Energy physics (University of Colorado, Boulder 1963). Institute of Science and Technology Fellow at Univ. of Michigan, 1963-1965. Taught Physics and Astronomy at The University of Toledo 1965. Was privileged to meet the Apollo 11 Astronauts, Collins, Aldrin and Armstrong and attend Splashdown Party as VIP in the Astrodome, Houston TX. Member of five professional societies. Primarily taught graduate physics courses (Electrodynamics, Special & General Relativity, Cosmology, and Graduate Quantum Mechanics) while directing MS/Ph.D. graduate/post-doctoral research at University of Toledo Dept. of Physics and Astronomy for thirty-two



## Getting to Know You

William Williamson, Jr., PhD continued from page 7

years. Adjunct Professor of Physics Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (1997-1999, Prescott, AZ). Over the years I have served as President of Arizona Archeological Society, Yavapai Chapter, Summit Pointe Owners Association, Prescott Hiking Club, VP Prescott Mac User Group and member of Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Arizona State Representative of the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors, Organized Prescott Arizona Chapter One of the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors, and various professional societies. Hobbies hiking, fishing, bluegrass banjo music, investment, opal cutting. Wife Dorothy Ann Clement Williamson should equally share in all his accomplishments. Private pilot license in 1970. Married Dorothy Ann Clement August 17, 1957. We have two children Wendy and William III.

### **Captain Leon D. Dame, *United States Coast Guard Reserve*, Deputy Senior Reserve Officer**



Captain Dame, a native of San Marino, California, enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve in 1989. He received his commission at Yorktown, Virginia in 1995. Captain Dame holds four Associate Degrees and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He has studied at the National Defense University and the Naval War College.

He assumed the duties of Deputy Senior Reserve Officer (SRO) for District 11 in October 2018 overseeing all operational reservists for the District. Captain Dame also oversaw the mobilization of reservists to support U.S. Customs and Border Protection during the increased activity of migrants attempting to cross the international border. Previously, he served as the Logistics Officer for MSST San Diego (91109). During his tenure, the unit began a transition into the west coast's Short-Notice Maritime Response/counter-terrorism unit, which includes Direct Action Sections, Tactical Delivery

Teams and all three Regional Dive Lockers in Honolulu, HI, San Diego, CA, and Portsmouth VA. MSST San Diego was renamed Maritime Security Response Team West, on November 1, 2017.

His 30-year career included a variety of operational and staff assignments including SRO of Sector San Francisco, California; Senior Reserve Prevention Officer and Senior Investigating Reserve Officer of Sector Los Angeles/Long Beach, California; Executive Officer of Maritime Force Protection Unit, Bangor, Washington; Operations Officer for Port Security Unit 311, San Pedro, California; Marine Inspector of Sector San Diego, California; Division Officer, Sea Marshal Team, Sector San Diego, California; and tours at Marine Safety Office, San Diego, California; Reserve Unit Phoenix, Arizona and assignment to the Colorado River Patrol, Lake Havasu, Arizona.

As a civilian he was Inspector with the United States Department of Homeland Security. Captain Dame also works with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office as a Reserve Deputy Sheriff/Paramedic assigned to the Lake Patrol section. He retired as a Detective with the Arizona Department of Public Safety's Hazardous Materials/WMD Section. Previous highlighted assignments include SWAT, Fugitives, and the Air Rescue Section. Prior to his law enforcement career, Captain Dame was a Fire Chief of a Fire District in Southern Arizona.

Captain Dame's personal awards include four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the 9-11 Medal, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, and various unit and service awards. He has also earned the Advanced Boat Force Operations Insignia and the Permanent Marine Safety Insignia.

Captain Dame is married to the former Marzena Kucio of Ketrzyn, Warminsko/Mazurskie, Poland. They have five children Leon, Natalia, Christopher, Matthew, and Andrea ranging in age from 34 to 26.



## Getting to Know You



**Rob Berryman:** I am a proud member of the Prescott Sons of the American Revolution Chapter. My wife Mimi and I have a daughter and three sons all living in Southern California. My sons are also adult members of the Prescott Chapter.

I was born in a small farming community in central Missouri. William Berryman met my mother when I was born and raised me as his own. I had a somewhat normal Midwest childhood, working in my dad's shop and on the farms of several friends. Having a bit of a flare for public speaking and leadership, I was elected President of my Class my sophomore through senior years in high school. My most notable high school accomplishment was winning the 1984 Missouri State Debate Championship.

I was able to qualify for SAR on my mother's side. My first Patriot was Jacob Rose who served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> New York Regiment. He was at the Siege of Yorktown and the Surrender of Cornwallis. His wife's father, Silas Bowker Sr. served as a Private in the Army, but most notably was a scout and spy as his pension paperwork notes. He was captured by British forces and was a Prisoner of War for 14 months before escaping and returning home. I am descended from Patrick Henry's uncle. My Great Grandfather Patrick was a mentor and close confidante of the famous Patrick Henry.

After high school, I held down a full-time job and attended college full-time. I enlisted in the United States Navy and completed years of Nuclear Power training. I was assigned to the fast attack submarine USS Drum (SSN-677) out of San Diego. During my time on Drum during the Cold War, we completed various missions which resulted in me receiving a Navy Expeditionary Medal. This qualified me to receive the SAR War Service Medal and membership in the SAR Special Operations Veterans Corps. I left military service as a submarine qualified 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Petty Officer.

Mimi was from the Phoenix area and we decided to relocate from San Diego to Phoenix to be closer to her family and a more affordable economy. I have been in the construction safety field for more than 25 years. I am a licensed insurance broker in the states of Arizona and California. I provide comprehensive safety and risk management consultation to several large national contractors.

We recently sold our home in Phoenix and moved to Prescott. Mimi left her job in the valley and will start working for a well-known Prescott based contractor. We are proud to say we are full time residents of Prescott.

I was elected Secretary of the Arizona Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Most of my free time is spent processing applications and certificates for new members. I have enjoyed my time as Secretary. I enjoy learning more about SAR and how it all works. The greatest part of SAR is meeting so many people that I admire and look up to. We have a wealth of knowledge and integrity in our chapter and the state society. I look forward to meeting you all at our next chapter meeting.

I have many hobbies including shooting, golf, playing guitar and working on my 2001 Jeep Wrangler.  
Your humble servant,

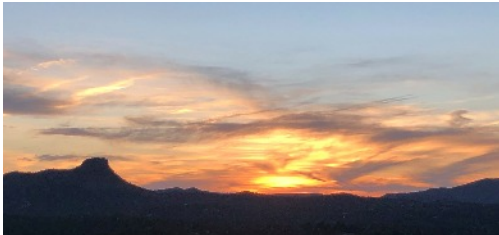
Rob Berryman  
Secretary AZ SAR

## Rock Island Arsenal National Cemetery reopens for Military Services June 15 Prescott member Jack Smith Commands the Honor Guard



One impact of the corona virus was a March 23 shutdown of military services at the Illinois Rock Island Arsenal National Cemetery. Therefore, Moline, IL American Legion Post 246 Honor Guard, which includes Prescott SAR member Jack Smith, and at the families request, performed military services at the local Funeral Homes. On Monday June 15, families were able to resume their funeral for their Military Veteran at the National Cemetery. Jack Smith, one of fourteen Honor Guard members, served as the "presenter" for one of those services. He is on the far right waiting for the funeral procession to show. Jack said " that at least 95% of the mourners were wearing face masks that day." The National Cemetery is now expecting a surge in post funeral services, for those veterans who were buried the last 90 days with no service.

Article By Bill Smith Jacks Brother



Sunsets by Bill Williamson

### Recognizing the Heroes in our Community

Thanks Tim Prater and your committee Jack Berry and Gene McCarthy for recognizing our heroes in the community even during the Corona Virus Pandemic.



Sergent Chad Beyea



Officer Nicholas Cerda

On August 4, 2019 at approximately 9:47 AM, Officer Chad Beyea and Officer Nicholas Cerda were dispatched to a residence in Prescott upon the report of a 74 year old man with an apparent accidental gunshot wound to the upper thigh. Upon arrival, Officer Beyea and Officer Cerda located the

victim lying in the living room of the residence, bleeding heavily from the wound. Officer Beyea quickly applied direct pressure to the wound while Officer Cerda retrieved a tourniquet from his medical kit. The tourniquet was applied above the wound which stopped the bleeding. Officers Beyea and Cerda continued to apply pressure to the wound until relieved by responding medical personnel. Prescott Fire Department personnel confirmed that the tourniquet was applied appropriately and effectively to the victim. The victim was transported to Yavapai Regional Medical Center and later flown to Honor Health Deer Valley Medical Center for further treatment. Trauma Medical Director, Joseph Suchder, MD, FACS, said the victim stable when he arrived. The Sons of The American Revolution presented Life saving Medals and certificates to both officers. With the Corona Virus we were not allowed into the precinct and officer Lt. Kasun presented the Awards.

## American Money of the Revolutionary War

by Wayne Hood Chapter Registrar/Genealogist

There were precious few coins circulating in America prior to and during the Revolutionary War. Gold and silver bullion were also scarce. A shortage of money was a significant problem for the American colonies since England did not supply its colonies with sufficient coinage, and prohibited any coin or paper money production requiring colonist to barter for goods or use currency such as nails and tobacco. Over time, some Spanish, Portuguese, and French coins appeared in the colonies as a result of trade with the West Indies. The most trustworthy of these was the Spanish Milled Dollar, also known as pillar dollars, because of its consistent silver content. In fact, the Spanish Dollar was legal currency in the United States until 1852. These coins were often cut into eight pieces of “bits” to make change and came to be called “pieces of eight.” The denominations are ½, 1, 2, 4, and 8 reales, which are the predecessors of America’s 5, 10, 25, 50 cents, and one dollar.

Interestingly, in 1652, Massachusetts violated England’s ban on manufacture of coins by producing a series of silver coins, including the “Pine tree Shilling.” These were produced and used for many years, but were all dated 1652 to minimize England’s reprisals if the illegal coinage was discovered.

So, this begs the question; how could the Americans pay debts incurred from fighting the Revolutionary War? The only feasible solution for the Continental Congress was to issue paper money. Beginning on May 10, 1775 paper money was released in a wide variety of denominations, ranging from one-sixth dollar to 85 dollars. The Continental Currency notes were to be redeemable at a later date in Spanish milled dollars, or in some other precious metal specie. Initially, the public readily accepted the Continental Currency, helping the notes to hold their face value. But as the difficulty of defeating one of the best militaries in the world began to manifest itself, the worthiness of the notes started to plunge. After all, how securely could a neophyte government back the paper money it printed? To worsen the situation, Congress over-issued the currency, far in excess of any potential metal reserves, while British counterfeiters further contributed to the inflationary spiral. By March 1779, Continental Currency was valued at a 10:1 ratio against the Spanish pillar dollar. By 1781, the ratio had fallen to 75:1. The expression "Not worth a Continental" became slang to refer to anything having no redeeming value.



Continental Currency

*This 1775 seven-dollar note is typical of the paper money issued by the Continental Congress to pay for the costs of the American Revolution. Image courtesy of EarlyAmerican.com.*

The Continental Congress recognized early on the need for more coins. They planned to mint a Continental Dollar to symbolize American sovereignty and to serve as backing for Continental Currency, but the exact nature of their monetary role is unclear.

A limited number of pattern Continental Dollars made of brass, pewter, and silver were struck. Silver bullion from France, sufficient to produce large quantities of the Continental Dollars, was promised soon. Because

Congress was so certain the introduction of the Continental Dollar would be a success, printing of one-dollar notes was canceled for 1776 and 1777. Unfortunately, the silver shipments never arrived, so very few Continental Dollars actually reached the general population. The Continental Currency system was plagued by many shortcomings. It's a miracle the American patriots were able to finance an army at all during the Revolution. Nevertheless, Continental Currency notes represented the first unified currency system to be established in America.



## American Money of the Revolutionary War

by Wayne Hood Chapter Registrar/Genealogist

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A reproduction of a Continental Dollar

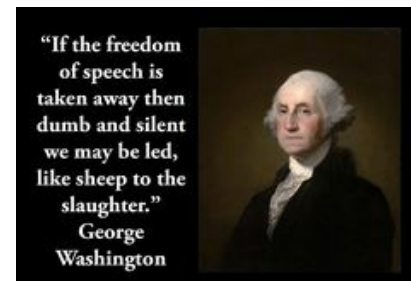
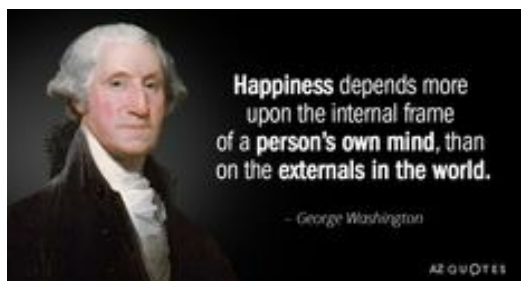
*Continental Dollar reproduction (c. 1960) in brass. The obverse shows the sun's rays striking a sundial. Obverse legend includes FUGIO (Latin for "I Fly") and MIND YOUR BUSINESS. Reverse has an endless chain, each link encircling the name of one of the colonies. Reverse legend states: AMERICAN CONGRESS: WE ARE ONE. Very few actual coins exist, and are worth thousands of dollars today. Reproductions using the original dies cut in 1776 by Elisha Gallaudet, New York engraver, are worth several hundred dollars. Images courtesy of EarlyAmerican.com.*

After the Revolution, the United States focused on its war-ravaged finances. This process included solving the problem of a national coinage system. Under the Articles of Confederation signed by the states in 1778, both Congress and the states had the power to coin money. However, the country's leaders believed that an exclusive national coinage was essential to establishing national sovereignty. In 1787, the Constitution gave Congress exclusive power to coin money. Congress passed its first coinage act in 1792, establishing a national mint in Philadelphia and outlining a coinage system.

## George Washington Commissioned On June 19, 1775

George Washington was commissioned Commander and Chief of the Continental Army. This was based on his previous military experience and the hope that a leader from Virginia could help unite the colonies. Washington left for Massachusetts within days of receiving his commission and assumed command of the Continental Army in Cambridge on July 3, 1775. After eight years of war, Washington resigned his commission as Commander in Chief on December 23, 1783 and returned to Mount Vernon.

Washington's Prayer June 8<sup>th</sup> 1783  
[https://youtu.be/f\\_wGAp2T9HI](https://youtu.be/f_wGAp2T9HI)



## Meeting Dates/Speakers

09/12/20: **Stan Goligoski**, Army Veteran Afghanistan/Iraq War, The Army of Today

10/10/20: **Richard Rice**, Retired School Teacher, ~ Life & Times of Teddy Roosevelt (In Uniform)

11/14/20: **DAR/SAR Luncheon** ~ Richard Burke, Jamestown

12/12/20: **Prescott Chapter Business Meeting, Board Elections & Luncheon** (No guest speaker)