



J.H. 'Scratch' Thompson Editor  
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# The Prescottian Prescott Chapter Newsletter December 2023

Christmas Lighting Prescott Courthouse

MOMENT OF PERCEPTION PHOTOGRAPHY  
by Heather M. Spencer

Lunch Meetings Calendar  
and Guest Speakers  
January thru April 2024



All Lunch Meetings held at  
Hassayampa Inn at noon  
122 E Gurley St, Prescott

**Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup> Stuart Rosebrook**, Editor, writer, and Historian of the American West. Topic, Arizona: Standing Strong for Freedom since 1846. The Military History of The Grand Canyon State.

**Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> Manuel Lucero, Director of the Museum of Indigenous People.** Topic, Native American Participation in the American Revolution.

**Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> Open**

**Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> Ron Williams**, Topic, Virgil Earp's First Shootout in Prescott, AZ.

*Warning: Dues for 2024 are due December 31, 2023  
January 1, 2024 National & State SAR DROPS all nonpayers.*

## *President's Corner by Jack Berry*



*Fellow compatriots:*

The year 2023 seems to have quickly flown by since the Christmas season has officially arrived. Unfortunately, with the mild weather, it does not appear Prescott will have a white Christmas.

It is hard to believe three years have passed since I was sworn in as president in December 2020. Once again, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as your president of this wonderful Prescott Chapter for the year 2024.

On behalf of the chapter, I want to express my sincere appreciation to our board and committee members for their dedication and participation, especially to Wayne Hood for his decade of service by serving as President, Historian, Registrar and member of the Color Guard. Wish him well in his board retirement.

Finally, as we transition in 2024, I hope everyone has a wonderful and memorable Christmas and a happy New Year surrounded by family and friends.

**In Patriotism,  
Jack Berry**

### **Revolutionary Trivia**

In which **YEAR** did the American Revolution officially start and finish? Answer pg.16

#### *Notice*

*If you participated in the November SAR-DAR luncheon and was sitting at one of the tables 4 -8 and did not get a full meal, contact Ron Castle at the below email address. We discussed the issue with the management of the Hassayampa Inn and in return they offered a partial refund of the meal portion of the event. This offer is good until January 15<sup>th</sup> of 2024.*

*So please email me at [RonCastle@centurylink.net](mailto:RonCastle@centurylink.net). I will add you to the list and after the 15<sup>th</sup> will notify you on the amount of refund and send the checks out by the 31<sup>st</sup>.*



# “The fate of the signers of the Declaration of Independence”

Ron Castle, Chapter Treasurer and part time Historian, speaker for Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup>.



Ron Castle gave a very interesting talk about the individuals and the perils of signing the Declaration of Independence - before, during and after the Revolutionary War.



# Mojave County Fair in Kingman Sept 14<sup>th</sup> though 17<sup>th</sup>



Kingman DAR and Prescott SAR teamed up at the Kingman Fair on Thursday. The booth was streaming with children and adults from the local schools. Plenty of information was on display for the 250th and Constitution day on Sunday.

Ms. Arizona 2023 Christina Robinette dropped by our booth manned by Alan Fitch, Jack Berry and Ron Castle at the Fairgrounds in Kingman on Thursday. It so happens she is a descendant of Betsy Ross.



## Celebrating of Constitution Week



General Crook DAR and Prescott SAR, teamed up and rang in the Celebration of Constitution Week at the Prescott Courthouse on Sunday. Plenty of people came out and were enjoying live music in the courtyard.



## New members sworn in.

Jack Berry swears in new member Raymond Briggs, accompanied by his wife Milly Ann. Raymond Briggs patriot is Christian Shockey



Member Tom Carpenter accepting a new member Certificate and rosette on behalf of his son James Carpenter, who is currently in Japan. James Carpenter patriot is Erza Twitchell

## New supplemental

Hal Reniger receiving a 3<sup>rd</sup> Supplemental Certificate. Hal's patriots are John Streeter, William Campbell Jr. and John Sherwood Sr.

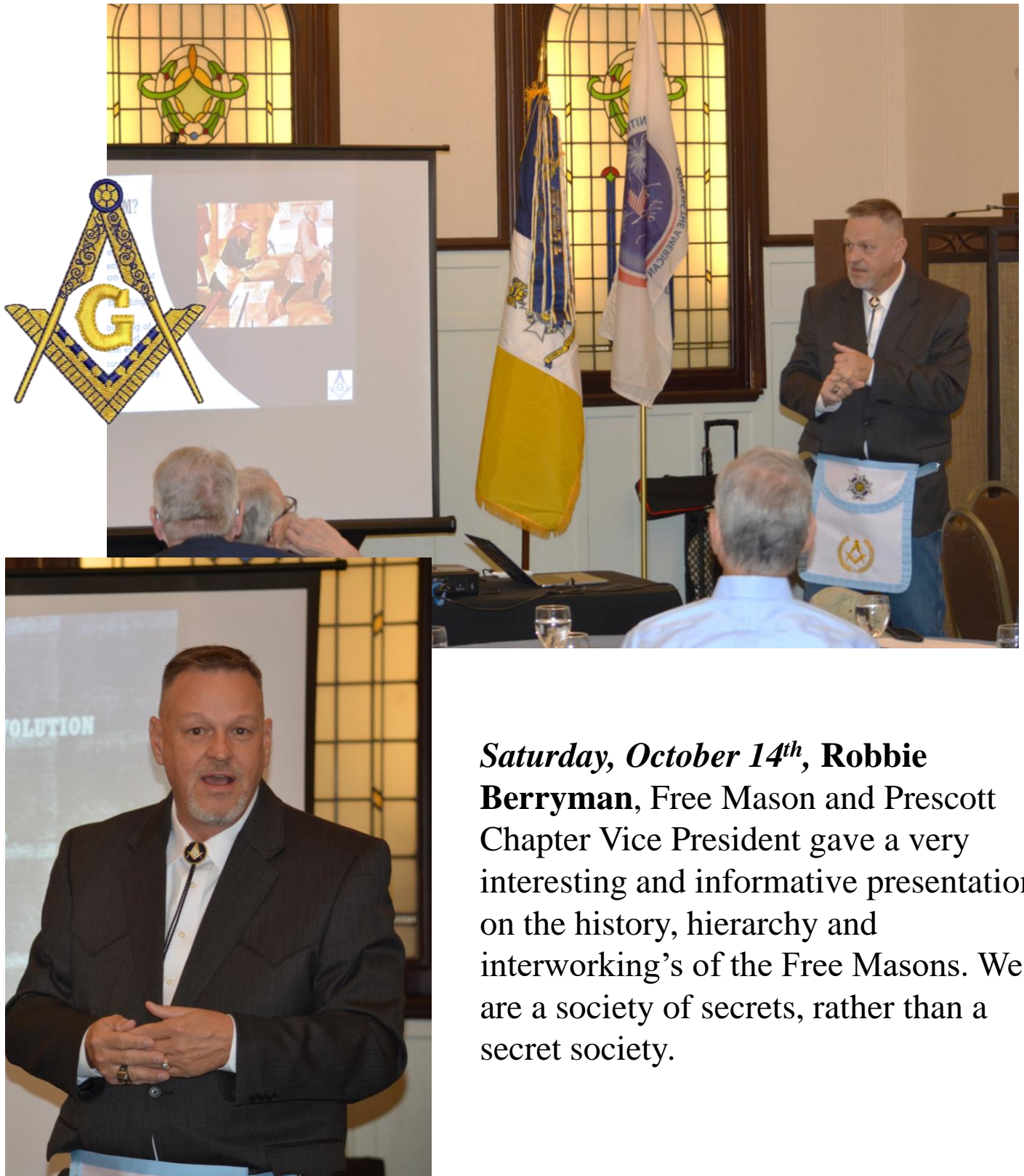


## Frontier Days Recognition



SAR President Jack Berry awards the wooden plaque of recognition to Ron Owsley, President Prescott Frontier Days rodeo for being a sponsor on October 20th.

# Free Masons during the Revolutionary War



*Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Robbie Berryman, Free Mason and Prescott Chapter Vice President gave a very interesting and informative presentation on the history, hierarchy and interworking's of the Free Masons. We are a society of secrets, rather than a secret society.*



# ***SAR Muzzleloading Safety Class***

Over the October 21-22 weekend, members of various chapters of the SAR in Arizona participated in a muzzleloading safety class organized by Compatriot Alan Fitch of the Prescott Chapter. Both sessions were held at the Compass Training Center in Chino Valley.

The sessions were led by Mark Kramer, past California Society Color Guard Commander and former National SAR Color Guard Safety Officer, and by Brandon Villardi, the current California Society Color Guard Commander. Both of these experienced men are nationally certified instructors for the NRA-NMLRA Muzzleloading Shooting Course which is approved by the National SAR Color Guard Committee. All participants received a certification in this course which allows chapter members to fully participate in SAR Color Guard activities while firing muskets at the chapter, state and national level. This course was offered at a greatly reduced rate and the chapter sincerely appreciates Mark and Brandon's generosity. One day was dedicated to classroom instruction and the second day was on the range where participants loaded and fired a muzzleloading pistol, shotgun and musket. To complete this course, participants were required to take a written test and fire at least one round from a musket/rifle, pistol and shotgun on their own, with supervision. It was a fun weekend of learning and experiencing what it was like to fire a weapon used by our Patriot ancestors during the American Revolution.



Prescott SAR members Alan Fitch , Ron Castle, Jack Berry, Hal Reniger and Bob Filler



Jack Berry shooting a Brown Bess



Hal Reniger shooting a pistol



Prescott SAR members along with other Chapters SAR member participants



# Veterans Day Parade November 11<sup>th</sup>



Staging Color Guard(L-R) Jack Berry, Rob Filler, Ron Castle, Steve Monez, Steve Bigelow, Dennis, DeAtley and Wayne Hood

## Annual DAR & SAR Luncheon

**Morgan Elliott, National DAR Vice President General speaker**

*“The Irish Immigrants participation in the Revolutionary War”* was a very informative talk that spoke to the Scotch-Irish who were descendants from Ulster, Ireland (Northern Ireland) and Scotland before that and the Scotch-Irish’s involvement in our American Revolution.





# Annual DAR & SAR Luncheon

The annual SAR/DAR luncheon held in the Hassayampa Inn on November 4<sup>th</sup> had 61 people in attendance including members of three DAR chapters from General Crook Chapter, Rim Rock and Yavapai. The speaker was DAR Vice President General Morgan Elliott.



SAR Prescott Color Guard (L-R) Steve Bigelow, Paul Kerper, Bob Filler, Bob Berryman, Steve Monez and Ron Castle



SAR Prescott Chapter President Jack Berry and DAR Vice President General Morgan Elliott with DAR members from the Yavapai, General Crook and Oak Creek Chapters.





Hal Reniger and Karon Larsen



Prescott Mayor Phil Goode and  
Eagle Scout recipient  
Peyton Weber



Martha Ferreira &  
Morgan Elliott



Lee and Jack Nelson



Rick Spargo and Steve Monez



Joanne Haubrick  
and Ron Castle



Steve and Ginny Bigelow



Rob Berryman and Martin Bennett



Dennis DeAtley, Bill Oden and Charles Shorkey.



Mary Feist and Lee Nelson



# Awards



General Crook DAR Regent April Hay on left with General Crook Chapter members.



Tim Prater: 10 year Membership Pin/Cert.



Paul Kerper: Bronze 250th Anniversary Medal/Cert.



Tom Chittenden: 15 year Pin/Certificate



Charles Walker: 15 year Pin/Certificate



Wayne Hood: Certificate of Appreciation



Ron Castle: Roger Sherman Bronze Medal/Certificate



Dick Melick: Roger Sherman Bronze Medal/Certificate



# Awards



Bill Oden:

Military Service Medal/Certificate



Roger Williams:

Military War Medal/Certificate



J.H. 'Scratch' Thompson:

Military War Medal/Certificate

Prescott City Mayor Phil Goode assisted Past Prescott Chapter Vice President Tim Prater with handing out handmade scarfs to veterans and to persons whose family members served or are serving in the military

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to Sandy Combs, Mary Hallford, Jean Hood, Joanne Haubrick, Karon Larsen, Fernando Mendigutia, Randy and Melodie Passmore and Amy Stack for their assistance during the rodeo fund raiser.

Certificate of Appreciation awarded to Wayne Hood for his years of service to the chapter as a board member.

Ten-year Anniversary Pin/Certificates were awarded to Roger Kent Clow, Timothy D. Prater and Charles M. Scott Jr.

Fifteen-year Anniversary Pin/Certificates were awarded to Thomas D. Chittenden, Jimmie Lee Rodenhamer and Charles R. Walker.



# Installation of Board Members for 2024 – December 9th



President  
Jack Berry



Sec./Treas.  
Ron Castle



Registrar  
Alan Fitch



Chaplin/Color  
Guard Captain  
Steve Monez,



Chancellor/  
Eagle Scout  
Coordinator  
Hal Reniger



Historian  
Bill Walters



Genealogist  
Wayne Hallford



Info. Off.  
Paul Kerper

## President Jack Berry swearing in new member and newly elected Historian William Walters



I was born in Tucson, Arizona in 1951. Graduate of Amphitheater Public High School in 1969. I joined the US NAVY at 17. Served in Vietnam aboard the USS Long Beach CGN9. In 1973, I became involved in my local Church in Tucson working with young Christians, and a Radio Program. Attended Pima College on the GI bill. Worked as auto mechanic, truck driver, and custom home builder. Became an employee of Southwest Gas Corp in 1985, and worked there for 21 years, and retired at 55. Worked as a Handyman, and Interior Designer for Midway Mercantile, and Mitchell Design. Married Judy Steiner in 1980 and we traveled around Europe, Hawaii, Canada, and Mexico. Our daughter Jackee was born in 1989. She now lives in Central France. Built my first home in 1985 just outside of Tucson. Sold it in 2020 to move to Prescott. After moving to Prescott I joined the Scottish American Military Society Post 1297, and then SAMS post 1314 in PV where I'm a Board member, and Vice Commander. I'm also a Charter Member of the St Andrew Society of Prescott. I'm a Board member, and V.P. I've been researching my family genealogy in the USA, and Scotland for 25 years.



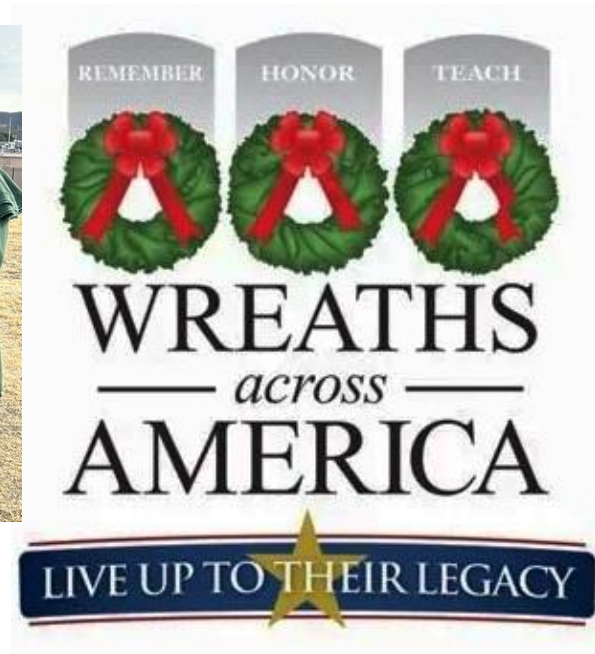
# Wreaths Across America



Lee Nelson and Tim Prater  
at the Citizens Cemetery



Ron Castle, Mayor Phil Goode  
and Jack Berry at the Citizens  
Cemetery



Prescott SAR attended Wreaths Across America here in Prescott at the National and Citizen Cemeteries on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December



Steve Monez, Bob Filler, Ed Lipphardt, Jack Berry, Ron Castle and Bill Walters at the Prescott National Cemetery



# Patriot's Stories by J.H. 'Scratch' Thompson

Col Smith Hugh Hastings 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry, US Army my Great Grandfather



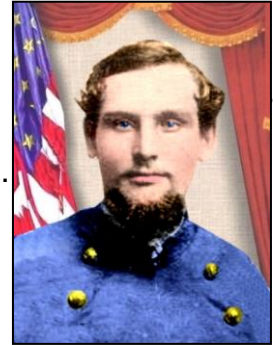
## Background

The Hastings name comes directly from Norman Knight Robert 'the Marshall' de Hastings, Bailiff of Hastings b.1037 in Normandy, France. Robert and brother fought in the Battle of Hastings along side William 'the Conqueror', Duke of Normandy and defeated Anglo-Saxon King Harold II in 1066. William I was crowned King of England Christmas day later that year.

## Smith Hugh Hastings

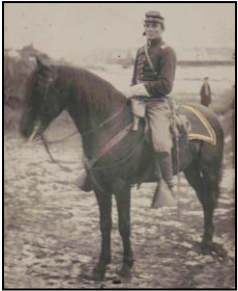
Was born Dec 17, 1843 in Quincy, Michigan. The great grandson of Major Jonathan Hastings of the Revolutionary War and Great-grandson<sup>6th</sup> of Puritan Deacon Thomas - Immigrated from England 1634 on the 'Elizabeth'

His father Zina Henry Hastings died when he was 4 and was raised by his mother Angelina. At 17, quit school and enlisted as a Private in 'C' Co. Mich. 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Apr 24, 1861. Civil War broke out Apr 12<sup>th</sup>, 1861. He was Commissioned 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Co. 'M', 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry Aug 14, 1862.



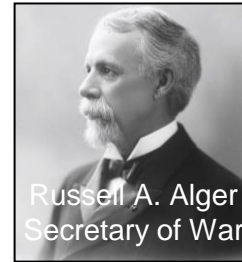
## 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry

Lt Hastings rose quickly through the ranks, made Capt. Jan 10, 1863 Capt. Hastings disobeyed orders to abandon guns (cannons) at Newby's Cross-Roads, Va. July 24, 1863, repelling the attack and saved the guns. He was wounded with shot and shell at Sheridan's Battle of Trevillion Station, Va. June 12, 1864. He made Major Aug 9, 1864. Had four horses shot out from under him at; Bucklin Mills, VA '63, Richmond, Va '63, Winchester, Va. '64 & Ashby's Gap, Va. '64. He made Lt Colonel Nov 10, 1864 he was made the youngest Colonel in the 5th Michigan Cavalry at 21 years old Dec 17, 1864. Young Hastings was in fifty five Battles and Engagements from the 1<sup>st</sup> Bull Run Jul 21, 1861 to Lee's Surrender at Appomattox Court House Apr 9, 1865. He accepted Lee's Flag of Truce (a white towel) and later personally presented it to Mrs. Grant.



## Secretary of War Russell A. Alger awards CMH

Capt. SH Hastings for "Most Distinguished Gallantry in Action" at Newby's Cross-Roads, Va on Jul 24, 1863 and was presented the Congressional Medal of Honor - Jul 19, 1897.



## Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

Col Hastings was a member of Military Order of the Loyal Legion. It's purpose was to Prevent a Confederate Conspiracy to overthrow the legally constituted government of the United States by assassinating it's government heads. *Members included:* nearly all notable general and flag officers and several future presidents: U.S. Grant, William T. Sherman, Philip H. Sheridan, George B. McClellan, Rutherford B. Hayes, Chester A. Arthur, Benjamin Harrison and William McKinley.



**"The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States is noblest of all American Orders"** Douglas MacArthur

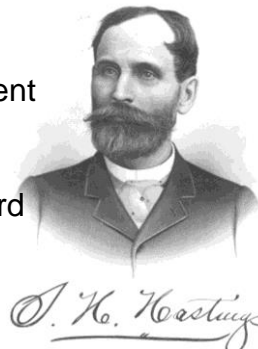
## The Custer Medal

At the close of the War, General Custer commissioned Tiffany & Co. of New York to create gold medal badges designed by Custer for his cavalry officers. They are highly prized and valued. Col Hastings was a recipient.



## Mustered out Jun 22, 1865

He was Involved with several successful companies: President of Equitable Ins. Co., Pay Rock Mining Co. and Commercial National Bank of Denver. He married Miss Celia Witter May 18, 1870. They 5 daughters including my grandmother Lucile Howard Hastings Thompson the eldest. Smith died Oct 13, 1905 at 61 in Denver, Co. Celia died Jan 22, 1943 at 98 in San Diego, Ca.



Celia Witter



Send me your story: [scratchthompson@msn.com](mailto:scratchthompson@msn.com)



# Prescott SAR Sponsors



Prescott Evening  
Lions Club



Trivia answer: **1775 to 1783**

## Suggestion Box



Send your ideas and suggestion to me at: [scratchthompson@msn.com](mailto:scratchthompson@msn.com) and I will share me with the other members. You can remain amomums.

*Stick-on name tags for guests at annual luncheons.*  
Submitted by: Scratch Thompson





# America's 250th Anniversary

**The 250th Anniversary** is a celebration of our fight for Independence from the end of the French and Indian War in 1763 to the Final Treaty of Paris on September 3, 1783. This is highlighted by the Declaration of Independence in 1776. As members of the Sons of the American Revolution it is our responsibility to tell the stories about those times our patriots fought to gain freedom from British control over the 13 colonies, later called the United States of America.

This link takes you to a valuable tool that will help you set up your events and programs. Share these events with your chapter, DAR, Service Clubs, and the community. Share our story with as many groups as you can:

[https://america250sar.org/\\_static/75c32156ec6f9e02ed1a7c913743f264/america-250-sarprogramtoolkitmar-23\\_22.pdf?dl=1](https://america250sar.org/_static/75c32156ec6f9e02ed1a7c913743f264/america-250-sarprogramtoolkitmar-23_22.pdf?dl=1).

This tool kit has a road map for our members to get the message to the people who may have never heard the story of our beginning. There are many ways you can participate. The color guard can participate, members can use the Patriot Chest with children in the schools. Members can dress in uniform if possible.

Schedule events in the community and invite all that would like to take part. Send out announcements in the newspaper. Make your event special. Hold it at a special venue.

The Declaration of Independence and Constitution can be given to each person. Make a handout that the community can take with them. You can pick a patriot and tell their story.

The National organization has examples of forms, letterhead, news releases, cards, and certificates to help each chapter.

## **Awards are based on activity and the awarding of points for each type of activity:**

- a. Directing, chairing, or co-chairing an event or sub-committee for the duration of the event. (20 points)
- b. Participation in the planning, financing, promotion or conduct of an event other than directing, chairing, or co-chairing an event. Those that do direct, chair or co-chair an event and also serve as a regular member of a committee or sub-committee in a non-leadership role, may also earn points. (10 points)
- c. Attending an Event (3 points)
- d. Attending an event in Colonial Attire (5 points)

## **SAR Members may be awarded the Medals for achieving the following levels:**

- a. Bronze Medal: 25 promotion points as certified by his chapter, state, district, or national society.
- b. Silver Medal: Compatriots who earn 60 promotion points as certified by his chapter, state, district or national society.
- c. Gold Medal: Compatriots who earn 150 promotion points as certified by his chapter, state, district, and national society. They will receive a letter authorized by Gary Gift Chairman 250th Gold Medal

Committee to purchase the medal. Steve Monez and Jack Berry have qualified for the Gold. Paul Kerper has qualified for the Bronze.