



Sons of the American Revolution Prescott Chapter Newsletter Special Edition December 2017



Merry Christmas



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Compatriots & Friends – Thank you for your terrific support of the SAR and the Prescott Chapter! Thanks to all your support, this year has been most productive. Most recently, the Board of Managers Meeting along with other events (e.g., parade, SAR/DAR Dinner & Colonial Ball) during Veteran's Day weekend was held in Prescott. Our State President, Steve Monez, was instrumental in convincing SAR and DAR compatriots across the state to attend these important events in our neighborhood. It was a very positive and extra special weekend with the President General Larry Guzy and 1st Lady Karin in attendance along with several other dignitaries.

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Christmas is about the birth of Christ. Let us remember him at this time. God Bless all of you and God Bless America.

“I am sure that never was a people, who had more reason to acknowledge a Divine interposition in their affairs, than those of the United States; and I should be pained to believe that they have forgotten that agency, which was so often manifested during our Revolution, or that they failed to consider the omnipotence of that God who is alone able to protect them.”
–George Washington



Thanks to all who attended the Parade, Dinner, Colonial Ball and the Board of Managers meeting on the eleventh and twelfth of November.. We were so fortunate to have our President General, Larry Guzy and his lovely wife Karin with us. I can't thank them enough for accepting our invitation so quickly. Thanks Christopher Francis for sharing his talents and showing all of us how to do some of the steps of the Virginia Reel as well as performing with Princess Sherrie a minuet. Pictured above PG Guzy, Steve Monez, Elizabeth and Catherine and all those dressed in their Colonial wear for the ball.



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We've accomplished much in our mission, and now it's time to document a portion of the many activities through the Stark Award and Americanism reports during the next couple months. Also, we'll recognize and celebrate the efforts of fellow members throughout the year in the December 2nd business meeting, including the election and installation of the 2018 officers for the Prescott Chapter.

I look forward to serving you again in 2018 with several important goals in mind, including increased membership for the chapter, expansion of our youth education programs, and continued service to Veterans. Please let your officers know if you have any interest and ability to participate in any of these programs and the many related activities that are reported on at our monthly luncheons and in chapter/state newsletters. We need your ideas, creativity and energy! Finally, I greatly appreciate renewals of your membership dues again this year, and for the many ways you promote our exceptional organization, the SAR.

Fraternally,
Wayne Hood



CAR members Elizabeth and Catherine with Christopher Francis attended the Colonial Ball in Prescott on the eleventh of November at the Resort. Christopher and his friend Princess Sherrie taught us the Virginia Reel and later performed a Minuet.



State Secretary Dr. Bill Baran, National Trustee Stephen and Jacque Miller along with Steve Monez prepare for the Omm Pah Pah event at the Leadership Meeting. In the Fall.



President General Guzy and State President Steve Monez prepare to march in the Veterans day parade in Prescott AZ



Christmas time at Valley Forge in 1777 was cold and without food. They had no presents for the children and only a quarter fire cake for a meal. They survived to give us our country and the wonderful times we can share today. God Bless them and all of you today. God Bless America





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Members



The President General installed new members. Dr. Paul Sangster, Prescott Chapter, Barry Welch, Phoenix Chapter, James Cates, Prescott Chapter, J Combs Prescott Chapter, at our Board of Managers meeting in Prescott on November 12. From left to right with their sponsors PG Guzy, Dr. Sangster, Barry Welch, Steve Miller James Cates, J. Combs, Wayne Hood, and Steve Monez



President Wayne Hood, Member Jack Smith and State President Steve Monez together at the Prescott Chapter meeting October 21st. Jack is Bill Smith's brother and has served the veterans in Illinois where he resides.



State President presents certificate and streamer to President Wayne Hood at October Chapter Meeting.



State President Monez inducts a new member at Tucson chapter Meeting on September 23rd over 60 in attendance, a great turnout.



AZ President Monez presents the Liberty Medal at Colorado River Chapter to Jimmy Bodenhamer October 14th.



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Veterans



Pictured from left to right, Wayne Snodgrass, Jack Messersmith, Red Scott, and PG Larry Guzy. President General, Larry Guzy, presented Jack Messersmith and Charles “Red” Scott their Military Service Medals at the Board of Managers meeting on Sunday November 12. Vice President Wayne Snodgrass worked with Jack when he was working on a submarine project choosing the best Torpedo for the Navy. We thank you Veterans for your service. We would not have the freedom we have today without you.

Vision of Vets Freedom isn't Free

The founder of Vision of Vets, Bruce Roscoe served in Vietnam. Bruce's idea was to create a nonprofit organization whose mission was to memorialize the stories of U.S. combat veterans. The scope of work that Vision of Vets is attempting to

accomplish is vast and covers thirteen different wars spanning the beginning of this nation's history to the most recent conflicts in the Middle East. Vision for Vets has already cataloged and preserved stories from different wars, including one of the only living World War II Navajo Code Talkers. Capturing stories from individuals such as Navajo Code Talker Roy Hawthorne is of ut-



most importance. As the Greatest Generation pass away, the specific details of their heroism and dedication to duty die with them. Install the app called live Portrait and scan

the picture of Roy and hear his story. The Vision of Vets team are committed to not only capturing the stories from our country's living veterans, but also telling the stories of war heroes from the French & Indian War and forward. Vision of Vets hires professional re-enactors to bring the stories of heroism and sacrifice back to life with the use of modern technology. Let us remember our Vets and consider a donation to the Vision of Vets a 501c3. Their website is <http://visionofvets.net/> Remember they gave their all for us.



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Education



Steve Monez and Steve Miller presented Jane Wane with her second place medal and certificate in front of 4000 class mates at Hamilton High School on November 9. Her essay earned a check from SAR for \$2500.00



SAR members, Jan Huber, ladies from DAR and Lezlee Alexander of CAR, Steve Monez, Jim and Donna Skaggs are represented here at the Rebels and Redcoats Program at the Pioneer History Museum. Constitutions and brochures were handed out to any of the 1100 children and adults that came to visit our table.



Steve Monez pictured with the Civil Air Cadets at Love Field in Prescott after his George Washington presentation



Thank you ladies all for taking the time to share your information Children of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, with the 1100 children at the Pioneer History Museum. Left to right Donna Skaggs, Lezlee Alexander, Darlene Corson and Barbara Cook



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Color Guard



Michael Holmes and Steve Monez presented colors for the Veterans day ceremony at St. Catherine's Church in Prescott Valley on November 5th.



AZ Society CG marched and rode in the Veterans Day Parade in Prescott. This was the largest number of our Representatives in this parade. Findley Buick loaned us Red, White, and Blue Convertibles for this event.



Keith Hugus, Steve Miller, Matt Scott, James Cates, Jan Huber, Steve Monez and Bill Baran marched in the Veterans Day Parade in Cave Creek on November 4th. Ronnie and her owner behind.



Steve Miller, Chuck Howey, Keith Hugus Bill Baran and Steve Monez presented colors at the Sistine Elementary /school in Chandler on November 9th.



Trevor, Steve Miller, Ed Lippardt, Steve Monez, Wayne Hood, and Michael Marched in the Chino Valley parade on September 2nd.



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Ancestors Stories

William C Smith – Patriot Ancestor William Higgins

William Higgins was born on November 11, 1742 in Ireland. When he was 11, he and his father moved to London, England. He arrived in Virginia in 1775. (Note: a DAR record showed him being born in London, I used the same location not to cause confusion even though more than one record states Ireland---Higgins very Irish).

Upon his arrival in Virginia, William was indentured, in return for his trans-Atlantic passage, to a wealthy Virginia plantation owner James Lewis in Loudoun County Virginia. We do not know how he was employed during the early years but in 1780, Mr. Lewis arranged that William would serve as a substitute in the Loudoun County Militia for another man indentured to Mr. Lewis. The other man was a slave, who at that time was worth more to Mr. Lewis than William Higgins.

Contrary to the North, the South was still firmly in the hands of the British. All of Virginia line regiments in the Continental Army but one were destroyed or captured during the Battle of Charleston so the Militias were called out to augment the regular Army. His militia unit marched with the regiment to Staunton and Charlottesville where they joined a Baron Von Steuben division.

William Higgins stated in his pension application, “I, with 10 others, were detailed as a foraging party and were surprised by a larger force of the enemy and I was knocked down several times, stabbed with a bayonet in the thigh, but a majority of comrades escaped”.

Later, his unit joined others in the main Army under Washington and



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William C Smith – Patriot Ancestor William Higgins

marched to Yorktown to defeat Cornwallis and his surrender on October 19, 1781. He was discharged at the beginning of 1782.

William Higgins applied for a pension when he was 91. His wife, Margaret Mooney was 87. She swore in his application "... that immediately following her marriage in 1780 she followed William to the American army camp, and then marched with the army wherever it went." A descendent stated, "Just imagine, in 1780 William age 38 and Margaret 34 together marching back and forth across the colony of Virginia, facing superior British forces that were bent on crushing the rebels.

William and Margaret moved around in 1818 to Highland County Ohio. Our new country could not pay for all the war services so Virginia veterans were granted land in what was identified as the Virginia Military District which included Highland County. They had 6 sons and 2 daughters with my line going back to son #4, James.

William Higgins was granted a pension of \$22 a month but died before receiving any of it. He died on February 11, 1841 at the age of 99 years 3 months. I have visited his grave. In the summer of 2010, the Governor Issac Shelby Chapter of the Kentucky Society of the Sons of the American Revolution dedicated a new marker recognizing William Higgins' service to his country in front of his grave marker.

William C Smith #184319