

Mississippi Compatriot

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Mississippi Society

Sons of the American Revolution



MSSAR Website:
www.sar.org/mssar
NSSAR Web Site:
www.sar.org

May 4, 2019

MSSAR Officers:

President:

Dr. John F. Fulwider

1st Vice President:

Dr. Bryant Boswell

2nd Vice President:

Jax Smith, Esq.

Secretary:

Julius S. Hite

Treasurer/Registrar:

Stewart L. Herron, Esq.

Genealogist:

Larry Hellums

Historian:

Dr. Andrew M. Jones

National Trustee:

Michael P. Schenk

Alt. National Trustee:

Dr. John Fulwider

Chancellor:

George M. Henry, Esq.

Chaplain:

Glenn D. Shows

Sgt-at-Arms:

Robert Cox

Color Guard Commander

Julius Hite

Event Schedule:

MSSAR ExCom Meeting:

June 8, 2019 - Ridgeland

MSSAR State Convention:

March 27-28, 2020 - Ridgeland

NSSAR 129th Congress:

July 5-10, 2019, Costa Mesa, California.

MSSAR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The last nine months have culminated into a wonderful Mississippi SAR Convention. The Business meeting on Saturday morning March 16, 2019 saw the results of almost daily phone calls and emails between your Excom officers with follow-up dinner and lunch meetings ended with some final

adjustments to our great Mississippi Society SAR way of doing business. Your state officers will be far more responsive to the members and every chapter. We have added committees that will organize and support our 1st VP on convention planning. We added a layer of mentors to all of the state chapters, and increased our genealogists from 1 to 4. We will audit our conventions and see how we save money, earn money and get more bang for our buck. There is once again a quarterly Newsletter, and major emphasis on keeping our membership informed through emails and chapter visits by officers.

Although a lot of things have changed in the way we will communicate with our members, our loyalty and attention will always be to the compatriots, and the women who support them. Our chapter successes are

how the State measures its success.

My wife Pam and I have been living out of suitcases as we travel the state visiting chapters, and attending the various National Leadership Conferences, Congresses, and Southern District State Conventions in Tennessee, Alabama and Louisiana. In February we went to the DAR State Conference in Jackson, MS. and had a wonderful time.

We are packing again for the National SAR President Generals trip to Scotland. We plan to skip the after trip to London, and take off to visit the other sites in Europe, but ending up in London for our flight home. The Scotland trip still has a few openings if you want to go, just call me for the info.

As soon as we get back, after a short rest we will be off to the California State hosting of the National SAR Congress in Costa Mesa.

The beauty of all the traveling, as tiresome it is physically, is the fellowship we derive from meeting SAR members, and DAR members who become friends. These new friends will last a lifetime and give back a hundred fold on whatever toll we pay. The memories generated are priceless. During each and every Chapter visit, we come away with new names, new phone numbers and the start of new friendships. I guess my wife and I are sentimental at heart, enjoying the giving and kindness of those we meet.

I am blessed to be elected to serve you as President of our great SAR family for one more year. Our next convention will be in Ridgeland, MS on March 27-28, 2020 at the Embassy Suites. We are planning on having a party during the Banquet period, with music and dancing. Can't tell you more right now, but you know it is going to be fun.

Here we are enjoying everyday, keeping a good heart and remembering the traditions of our Sons of the American Revolution.

Yours in Service,
Dr. John Fulwider, President, MS SAR

Mississippi State Convention

The 110th MS SAR Convention was held at the Columbus Marriott Courtyard Hotel March 15 and 16, 2019, with ninety three members and guests attending. The Friday Night reception included a full meal buffet style of carved beef, fish, and pasta. Everyone ate to his or her hearts content. Noted author Tony L. Turnbow reviewed his book *Hardened to Hickory: The missing chapter in Andrew Jackson's Life* and signed copies for those who purchased a book that night. Mr. Turnbow is an impressive speaker with exceptional flavor explaining the writing of the book and its' purpose.

Saturday morning started off with a George Washington Endowment full Breakfast Buffet followed immediately by the Business meeting and an Organizational meeting of the newly formed MS SAR Ladies Auxiliary.

Business Meeting:

The Business meeting included voting on the 2019-2020 Slate of Officers and Trustees. Several proposals were put before the assembly.

The activation of The Long-Range Planning Committee and MS District/Area Directors were already allowed by the by-laws, and approved by the ExCom however how they were to be utilized needed to be described to the assembly for our compatriots to understand other proposals.

A proposal to divide MS into three areas/districts with 5 chapters in each district named North, Central and South with the dividing lines described was voted on and passed. A District Director will mentor each of the 3 districts.

The endorsement by the MS SAR of the concept and future formation of the Sons of Independence (Educational Alliance) organization which furthers the education of our youth in the Revolutionary War and the 1812 War. This organization is the result of Dr. Bryant Boswell's vision and tremendous efforts to keep our founding father's history in the eyes of our school aged children alive with the support of the Education System in MS.

The authorization for 3 State Genealogist, one for each of the three newly created districts, North, South, and Central was approved. They will assist the current State Genealogist Larry Hellums.

The Long-Range Planning Committee (LRPC) is tasked with the planning of our state convention each year and assisting the 1st VP in all aspects of the preparations needed to put forward a successful convention. The LRPC will plan the convention sites up to 5 years out. The city of the convention will rotate through the three districts of MS (N_C_S) on a continuing basis. 2019 was in Columbus North District, 2020 will rotate to the Central District, and will be at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Ridgeland, MS March 27-28. 2021 will rotate to the South District and be in Hattiesburg, MS March 26-27. 2022 will rotate back to the North District and be in Oxford, MS March 25-26. 2023 will rotate to the Central District and on March 24-25. Cities under review are Vicksburg, Ridgeland and Meridian. 2024 will rotate to the South District March 22-23 and be in the areas of Laurel-Hattiesburg-Natchez. If you want to be a part of this planning committee contact President Fulwider.

By-laws Addendum B to MSSSAR By-laws of 10 January 2015 establishes the approved awards for the participants in the youth programs at the State level. It will require that any changes to the awards offered after March 16, 2019 to be approved by the Membership present at an annual convention of the MSSSAR, and those changes approved will not go into effect until the next MSSSAR annual convention 1year later. This by-laws change was voted on and passed, and will be added to the current MSSSAR By-laws.

Ladies Auxiliary:

Charter members are Hellen Polk, Azalia Moore, Kathy Henry, Jane Winston, Carol Irving, Sarah Harris, Pat Miller, Constance Hamilton, Susie Dent, Anita Hite, Dorothy Herron, Faith West, Jerry Harlow, Abigail Alexander, Laura Schenk, Sarah Boswell, Ann Godwin, Pam Fulwider. The Ladies Excursion included a tour of a local Antebellum Home followed by a lunch in Columbus, MS. Their next meeting will be at the MS SAR ExCom meeting place . June 8, 2019 at 10am, Somba Mexican Kitchen 140 Township Ave. Suite 100, Ridgeland, MS. If you need directions call Dr. Bryant Boswell or Sarah Boswell. This is a different location than where we had the ExCom and Ladies

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President Dr. John Fulwider and First Vice President Dr. Bryant Boswell helping out at the registration table.

Mississippi State Convention



Dr. Bryant Boswell delivers “The Relevance of History” during the banquet.

Auxiliary meeting on January 12, 2019. Let’s carpool there, and enjoy.

Grave Marking at Friendship Cemetery, Columbus, MS:

The Grave Marking Ceremony was after lunch, from 2pm to 3pm. It was heavily attended by Compatriots and honored by a color guard representing both the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 .

Banquet and Awards Dinner:

The Banquet was preceded by a wonderful array of Hos D’oeuvres from 5:30 to 7pm. Professional Photographers from WCBI Television Network took attendees photographs, printed the pictures and gave them free of charge to those having their photos taken. The Banquet was also photographed, and a video produced for the MS SAR Compatriots.

The evening started off with a presentation of Colors led by Revolutionary War Commander John Taylor, Bill Horn with the American Flag, Eric Norman with the Mississippi Flag, Buddy Irving with the SAR Flag,

and SAR Color Guard Commander Julius Hite as the Drummer.

After the presentations and pledges, there was a Color Guard Command Change Ceremony. This ceremony cemented the Legacy of the many years of command of the MS SAR Color Guard by Past National Southern District VPG, Past MSSAR President and now Past MS SAR Color Guard Commander John Taylor. The Change of Color Guard Commander ceremony and Command Transfer began with the Master of Ceremonies Admiral Thomas G. Lilly USN announcing “Commander, advance your detail”. Commander Bill Horne proceeds with the detail consisting of Dr. Bryant Boswell, John Taylor, Julius Hite, Colin Wakefield, Buddy Irving, Eric Norman and Jerry Molaison. The ceremony conducted by Admiral Lilly was outstanding, and a new era had begun with an enthusiastic Julius Hite as the officially installed MS SAR Color Guard Commander. Dinner followed the ceremony.

Awards Ceremony: - Those receiving awards at the convention were:

Martha Washington Medal: Sarah Boswell and Carol Irving; **Medal of Appreciation:** Azalia Moore, Jane Winston and Kathy Henry. **Silver Good Citizenship Medal:** Jackie R. Hamilton, Rev. Glenn D. Shows. **Silver Roger Sherman Medal:** James G. Alexander, Larry Jolley, Michael A. Nolley, Sr., Rev. Preston Eugene Irving, Lawrence A. Hellums, Dr. Tommy L. Thompson, Julius A. Hite, George Mark Henry, Esq., Edward W. Campbell, and Rear Admiral Thomas G. Lilly, Sr. **Meritorious Service Medal:** Col Foster Harris Day, and Robert Carlton Polk. **Distinguished Service Medal:** Dr. Bryant Ridgway Boswell. **Patriot Medal:** Billy Barber Lyle, Chauncey Rivers Godwin, Jr., Isiah Edwards, Michael Perry Schenk, Honorable Joseph Edward Winston, Stewart Lynwood Herron, Honorable James Lamar Roberts, Jr. **Daughters of Liberty Medal:** Pam Fulwider. **Mississippi Society President Award;** VPG Colin Wakefield, Bobby Jo Seales and James G. Alexander.

Other awards announced were: **Eagle Scout winner** - William Byars Lamar, of Meridian, **American History Award Winner** - Mr. John A. “Jack” Suddoth.

The following members and friends became **George Washington Endowment Fund Fellows:** Jak Smith, Dr. John Fulwider, R. Adm Thomas G. Lilly, Sr., Mrs. Connie Lilly, and Max Hipp.

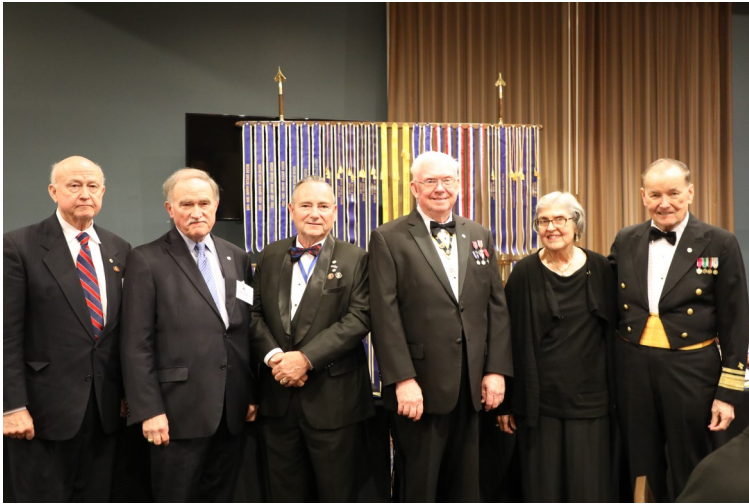
Special Recognition Keepsake:

National SAR Registrar General, a National SAR Minuteman C. Bruce Pickett, and Past VPG Tony Vets who both attended with their wives Rita and Karen.

Other visiting special guests were: AL SAR President Edmon McKinley, AL SAR Vice President David Jones, MS DAR Regent Elect Hellen Hicks Polk, and her husband Carlton Polk President of the Captain William Hillhouse Chapter, MS DAR Bernard Romans Chapter Regent Pam Bullock, MS DAR Bernard Romans Chapter Regent Elect Frances Hairston, Daughters of War of 1812 President Kathy Henry, Order of the First Families of MS Governor General Mark Henry, Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims Governor Jill Taylor, War of 1812 GS PG Rick Hollis, War of 1812 MS President Dr. Andy Jones.

Silent Auction: Compatriot Gerry Brent presented President Fulwider with the total amount of silent auction sales \$754.00. Thank You Everyone.

- MSSSAR State Convention -



Five MSSSAR Member and friends became George Washington Endowment Fund Fellows during the convention. The new Fellows are Max Hipp, left, Jak Smith, Esq, 2nd from left, Dr. John Fulwider, 3rd from left, Connie Lilly, 2nd from right, and Adm Thomas G, Lilly, right,. Bobby Jo Seales, 3rd from right, GWED Fund Raising Committee Chairman, presented their fellowship pins.



President Dr. John F. Fulwider presents the President's Award to Bobby Jo Seales, center. He is assisted by VPG Colin Wakefield.

Southern District Vice President Colin Wakefield receives the Presidents Award from Mississippi Society President Dr. John F. Fulwider.



Jim Alexander, left, is presented the President's Award by President Dr. John Fulwider as VPG Colin Wakefield looks on.



Ladies Auxiliary members discuss the upcoming silent auction of the baskets



Mark Henry and Kathy Henry share fellowship and conversation before the reception as Rev Glenn Shows looks on.



Lynn, Dot Heron and others enjoy refreshments at the reception.

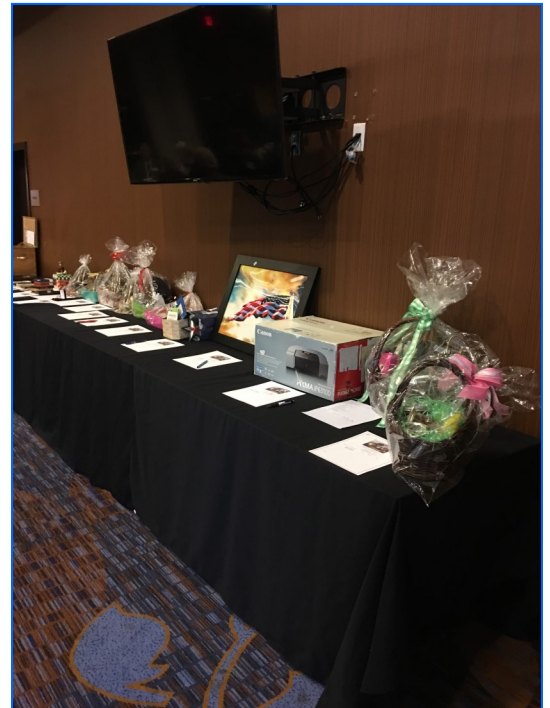


VPG Colin Wakefield and MSSSAR Secretary Julius Hite discuss the convention and other SAR events.



The Mississippi Leadership enjoy the delicious buffet at the Friday night reception

The basket sales provided many gifts to members and guests and was a good source of revenue for the Mississippi Society



These ladies are the charter members of the Mississippi Society Sons of the American Revolution Ladies Auxiliary. They are from left: Kathy Henry, Carol Irving, Ann Godwin, Abby Alexander, Sarah Boswell, Pam Fulwider, Constance Hamilton, Anita Hite, Dorothy Herron, Hellen Polk, Laura Schenk, Faith West, and Jane Winson.

Mississippi Society Color Guard at the Convention



Mississippi State Color Guardsmen awaiting the kick off of the 2019 Mississippi SAR State Convention. Pictured are as follows (left to right): State Color Guard Commander John R. Taylor Jr., William "Bill" Horne bearing the American flag; Erik Norman bearing the MS State flag, Preston "Buddy" Irving bearing the SAR flag; and Julius Hite with drum at the rear.

Members of the Mississippi State Color Guard stand guard as the change of command takes place. Color guard members are as follows from left to right: Jerry Molaison and Preston "Buddy" Irving in 1812 uniform bearing arms; Southern District Vice President General Colin D. Wakefield in Continental Army uniform to present the gorget to incoming SAR state color guard commander Julius Hite, William "Bill" Horne in Continental Marine uniform commanding; Erik Norman bearing arms in Continental Army uniform; and at front, MS State Vice President Dr. Bryant Boswell bearing the colors of the SAR.



Outgoing Mississippi State Color Guard Commander, John R. Taylor presents incoming Mississippi State Color Guard Commander, Julius Hite the sword, which has been a longtime symbol of authority and command as incoming state color guard commander. Dr. Fulwider thanks John for all of his hard work and dedication throughout his years of service fulfilling his duties as commander of the state color guard.

Pictured are (from left to right): with SAR flag, MS SAR 1st Vice President Dr. Bryant Boswell; incoming state color guard commander, Julius Hite with sword; and outgoing State Color Guard Commander John R. Taylor.

Mississippi Society Color Guard at the Grave Marking



Grave of Captain William Cocke at historic Friendship Cemetery in Columbus, Mississippi with attached SAR and War of 1812 Society grave markers added to his tombstone. This special and unique ceremony took place during the Mississippi State SAR Convention on March 16th, Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m.

To the left of the 1812 color guard are the SAR Compatriots, in American Revolutionary uniforms, are as follows: Compatriot Julius Hite with Continental Marine drum and uniform; commanding the Continental color guard is William "Bill" Horne in Continental Marine uniform; bearing the 13 star/13 stripe "Betsy Ross" American flag is Southern District Vice President General Colin D. Wakefield in Continental Army uniform; bearing arms in Continental Army uniform are Compatriots Erik Norma, Preston "Buddy" Irving, and Michael Schenk at rear.



SAR Compatriots appear in 1812 dress for the gravemarking of Captain William Cocke who served not only in the American Revolution, but who also joined up under General Andrew Jackson to fight during the War of 1812 after serving in key areas of the Tennessee and Mississippi legislatures. From left to right in 1812 color guard: Dr. Bryant Boswell commanding; John R. Taylor Jr. bearing the 15 star/15 stripe Star Spangled Banner; under arms incoming Compatriot John McBride; Ike Edwards and Chad Couth in militia uniforms bearing arms; and Jerry Molaison in 1812 military uniform at rear.



- Chapter News -

- Lynam Chapter -

New member Robert Sebastian was recently inducted into the Lynam Chapter. The chapter has had some very interesting speakers at their recent meetings which included, David Robinson who spoke on Christmas's History in the United States, David Robinson told of Prisoners During the American Revolution and he spoke about Use of the DAR Webpage. At the last meeting, the plans were discussed concerning the twelve JROTC Awards to be presented in the Spring. The chapter meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Panda Palace Gulfport at



This innovative group teaches genealogy at the Armed Forces Retirement Home twice a month. They present Chapter JROTC awards to 12 high schools, flag certificates to the community and represents the SAR in the Biloxi and Ocean Springs VA parades.

11:30 a.m.



The Lynam Chapter recently presented a Flag Certificate to the Ocean Spring American Legion. Flag Certificates are presented to individuals and organizations that properly display the U. S. Flag. Making the presentation is President David Robinson and Foster Day.

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Representing the Lynam Chapter at the Biloxi Chapter, DAR Christmas Party is Chapter President David Robinson,



Front Row, L-R; Isiah Edwards, Charles Gillies, Colorado Green, President David Robinson, Back Row, L-R; Foster Day, Jeffery Best, Robert Sabastion, William Blackman, Dr. Keith Goodfellow, and William Tate.

- Jacob Horger Chapter -

Longtime member, Fred Zelinka passed away recently. He will be sorely missed. The chapter welcomed new member William E. Simmons, IV. Ronn Hague was a recent speaker at a chapter meeting. He spoke on the PRCC History Museum. The chapter meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month and the location of the meeting varies.

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- Chapter News Continued -

- Murphee Chapter -

David Murphree Chapter held a dinner meeting Feb 20 in Bruce MS. President Clarence O. Milstead Jr. presided over the meeting. Danny Toma of the McKie Chapter was the speaker. He also is the author of "AMERICA FIRST, Understanding the Trump Doctrine. He talked about researching individual persons in a Compatriots lineage, and online resources to print a book of your personal lineage. Danny Toma served for more than 22 years as a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State. He has several postings in the world, and had an extended assignment during the Iraq War with the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Basra, Iraq. A graduate of Ole Miss (The University of Mississippi), he now lives with his wife and four children in Oxford, Mississippi. His book is published by REGNERY PUBLISHING (www.Regnery.com) ISBN 978-1-62157-774-4, EBOOK ISBN 978-1-62157-841-3. He provided personalized signed copies of his book to those present.



Guest speaker Compatriot Danny Toma.



Attendees at the Murphee Chapter meeting were: Gloria Bennett, Pam Fulwider, Teri Hill. Standing; : Mike Bennett, Danny Toma, Ray Toma, Clarence Milstead, Benny Hill, Dr. John Fulwider, Robert C. "Blue" Logan.

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- Desoto Patriots Chapter -

State Secretary Julius Hite received the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal presented by the Desoto Chapter. Presenting the award is Dr. Tommy Thompson.



At the next meeting the chapter will present the Veterans Vietnam Medal. Recent speakers at our chapter meetings were: Compatriot Lynn Herron who spoke on SAR Medals, Compatriot Bill Horne who spoke on The Virginia Giant, and Noel Wright's topic was Col. Stark and His wife Molly. At the February meeting there were 24 members and 5 guests present. The chapter meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the M. R. Dye Library in Horn Lake, MS. If you are in the area please come and visit. We always enjoy a time of fellowship and refreshments of sandwiches, dessert and drinks after each meeting. All visitors are welcome.

- Joseph Warren Chapter -

The Warren chapter continues to grow with three new members joining recently – Charlie Carlisle, Rev. Michael Herrin and Dr. Lamar McMillin. During the 2018 school year three students were given the JROTC award. They were Cadets William Slaughter, D'Arius Gross and Klarra O'Neal. Recent meeting speakers were Dr. Fred Bruier who spoke on Fort Saint Pierre, Clay Williams who told about the Battle of Horseshoe Bend and Dr. Bryant Boswell spoke about Andrew Jackson. The chapter meets the 1st Thursday of each month at Goldie's Bar-B-Que at 6:00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

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- Chapter News Continued -

- Central Mississippi Chapter -

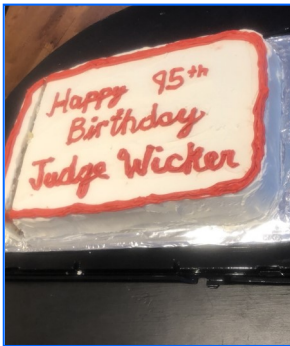


The Central Mississippi Chapter presented the JROTC Award to Cadet CPO Brady Sarrett of the Pearl High School, Pearl, Mississippi.

- CAPT William Hillhouse Chapter -

The members of the Hillhouse Chapter were saddened by the passing of longtime member Don Wilson Hoover on December 25, 2018. Compatriot Wilson will be sorely missed. The Hillhouse Chapter has one new duel member, Dr John Fulwider. The chapter elected new officers at their March 5, 2019 meeting.

- William Gray Chapter -



The chapter celebrated Judge Fred Wicker's 95th Birthday. A Cake for the celebration was presented by President Jack Hamilton, which he cut with Jack Hamilton's Military Officers Sword as MS SAR 1st VP Dr. Bryant Boswell, Wm Gray VP Charles White and President Jack Hamilton looked on. At the 110th MS SAR Convention Wm Gray Compatriots Billy Barber Lyle, who is 90 yrs. old, Judge James Lamar Roberts Jr., Chauncey Godwin and Judge Toby Winston were awarded the MS SAR highest award, the Patriot Medal. Wm Gray Chapter meets at 6:30 pm at the Tupelo Country Club on the first Tuesday of each month.

- Future Events -

-NSSAR Activities -

129th Congress - July 5-10, 2019. Costa Mesa, CA
 2019 Fall Trustee and Leadership - Sept 19 - 21
 2020 Spring Trustee and Leadership - Feb 27 - 29
 130th Congress - Richmond, VA
 2020 Fall Trustee and Leadership Sept 24 - 26
 2021 Spring Trustee and Leadership - TBD
 131st Congress - Savannah, GA

- State Activities (Tentative) -

- ♦ **April 28, 2019** Sunday 2 pm. Revolutionary War Patriot Captain Samuel Peden Grave Marking Smyrna Cemetery, on Sinai Road in Kemper County.
- ♦ **June 8, 2019** Saturday. MS SAR Excom and Ladies Auxiliary meeting at 10am, The Sombra Mexican Kitchen, 140 Township Ave., Ridgeland, MS 39110.
- ♦ **2020 DAR Conference** February 20-22, 2020, Jackson, MS, Hilton Hotel.
- ♦ **2020 MS SAR Convention** March 27-28, 2020 Embassy Suites, Ridgeland, MS.
- ♦ **2021 MS SAR Convention** March 26-27, 2021 Hattiesburg, MS.
- ♦ **2022 MS SAR Convention** March 25-26, 2022 Oxford, MS.
- ♦ **2023 MS SAR Convention** March 24-25, 2023 Vicksburg-Meridian-Ridgeland Area TBD.
- ♦ **2024 MS SAR Convention** March 22-23, 2024 Laurel-Natchez-Hattiesburg Area TBD.

- Future Color Guard Activities -

- ♦ The SAR Peden Grave marking Ceremony on Sunday **April 28th** at 2:00 p.m. in Smyrna, MS (Kemper County) .
- ♦ **Memorial Day**, the Desoto Patriots Chapter will be participating in the Annual Blocker Cemetery Memorial Day service.
- ♦ At the end of **June**, the Desoto Patriots Chapter normally presents the colors with the neighboring Isacc Shelby Chapter of Memphis, TN at the Levitt Shell in Memphis for the annual 4th of July Patriotic Pops Concert. That is normally the last Thursday in June before the 4th of July.
- ♦ The state color guard normally present colors in **October** for the Annual Rosalie Day Event. It is normally the last Thursday in October.

- Mississippi Society Leadership Profiles - Isiah Edwards



ISIAH EDWARDS AND WIFE MARIE AT
THE MARCH 2019 MS SAR CONVENTION

Compatriot Isiah “Ike” Edwards Jr. has distinguished himself by consistently delivering exceptional service to the Mississippi Society of the Sons of the American (MSSAR) Gulf Coast Chapter (now James Vernon Lynam Sr. Chapter). Compatriot Edwards served as the Gulf Coast Chapter president for an incredible term lasting 9 years (2007 to 2016). Of note, Ike holds the singular distinction of being the first person of African-American descent to be elected to a SAR chapter presidential position.

Under Compatriots Edwards’ leadership, the Gulf Coast Chapter was renamed the James Vernon Lynam Sr. Chapter after charter member and past Gulf Coast Chapter president James “Vernon” Lynam (1921-2017). Ike, an avid and active genealogist, has introduced many new compatriots to the SAR organization. Under his watch as Chapter President membership was increased 30 percent. The Chapter also increased participation in Veterans Day observances and ceremonies. These activities include:

- 1.) Participation in the Biloxi, Gulfport and Long Beach, Mississippi Veterans Day Parades.
- 2.) Participation in the National Wreaths across America Day at the Biloxi Na-

tional Cemetery.

3.) Volunteering as a docent for 10 years at the George E. Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art-Ceramic Art and Biloxi History.

4.) Volunteering as Gulf Coast tour guide to Ship Island. Narrates the military history of Ship Island from the American Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Civil War.

A true American Patriot, military service to this great nation has been a calling card in Compatriot Edwards’ lineage, past and present.

Compatriot Edwards is a bona fide direct descendent of American Revolutionary War Naval surgeon Domingo De Fleitas, War of 1812 Native Guard member Firman Perrault, Seminole War fighter and Fort Worth (of which the city of Fort Worth, Texas is named after) founder Dragoon Brevet Major Ripley Allen Arnold. Ike is also a Vietnam Veteran who served 26 years in the United States Air Force retiring as a Senior Master Sergeant. He also has a daughter, Monica, two sons, Isiah III and Norman. His children served strategic and tactical roles in various branches of the US military during Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, and The Global War on Terrorism.

Compatriot Isiah Edwards Jr. has steadfastly supported and furthered the mission and goals of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR). He is the recipient of numerous National and State level awards. These awards were in acknowledgement for his efforts to educate and inspire the community-at-large to have a patriotic understanding of the founding principles and institutions of the United States of America.

Isiah Edwards Jr. has a record of exceptional service to the values, goals and principles of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He facilitated the initial set-up and currently administrates a genealogy program for resident veterans at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport, MS. This program, developed by a support agreement between the NSSAR and Ancestry.com assists resident veterans to investigate personal genealogical histories. Ike schedules bi-monthly classes to assist them on how to access web systems and provides assistance in genealogical navigation.

Ike Edwards revitalized the Gulfport Chapters’ local presence by expanding the SAR awards to qualified students of local Junior ROTC units. He personally presented the awards to JROTC members in 12 different units on behalf of the Chapter. The Eagle Scout Program at the Chapter was responsible for two State Level award winners while Ike was the Chapter President.

With his wealth of genealogical knowledge and experience, Compatriot Edwards was instrumental in forming the MS Society of the General Society of the War of 1812 and he has also served as its’ President. He regularly participates in re-enactments commemorating that war’s final battle in New Orleans. The U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service recognizes Ike’s direct descendant Firman Perrault on the Official American Muster and Troop Roster List in the Battle of New Orleans, War of 1812. Ike wore an 1812 uniform and participated in the dual Color Guard of SAR

- Mississippi Society Leadership Profiles - Isiah Edwards

and War of 1812 Grave Marking Ceremony of Captain William Cocke who was in both wars.

Compatriot Edwards regularly collaborates with the Daughters of the American Revolution. He participated in a 2018 recognition ceremony for Memorial Day at the Mississippi Vietnam Memorial. He embodies the values and principles encouraged by the NSSAR. The Mississippi SAR has increased its' mission, visibility, and viability through Compatriot Edwards' active role at the local, state and national levels.

Compatriot Isiah Edwards Jr. by his demonstration of long, faithful, outstanding and distinguished service is indisputably qualified to be bestowed the Mississippi SAR Societies highest honor- The Patriot Award.

Isiah receives the Patriot Medal at the 2019 MSSAR Convention



I, Dr. John Fulwider, President of the MS SAR proudly presented the Patriot Award and Medal in the presence of NSSAR Southern District Vice President General Colin Wakefield at the 110th Annual MS SAR Convention on March 16th, 2019 to Isiah Edwards Jr. as his loving wife Marie looked on.

Ike had just celebrated his 80th birthday in January, 2019.