

M I N N E S O T A

# SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • [www.sar.org/mnssar](http://www.sar.org/mnssar) • SUMMER 2011



## MNSSAR Color Guard Appear at the Fifth Annual C.A.R. Pancake Breakfast

Wayzata, MN – On the Fourth of July Guard members James Fredrick Foster, Paul Kent Thiesen and Craig Whiting attended the C.A.R. annual pancake breakfast at the historic Wayzata Depot. The annual event features the “Flying Pancakes” where recipients stand back as their pancakes are tossed from the grill onto their plates. Over 1,200 were served. The Lake Minnetonka Children of the American Revolution originated, produce and man this annual family celebration, which fulfills their motto of, “Patriotism in Action”.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Minnesota Society  
Sons of the American Revolution  
2700 East Minnehaha Parkway  
Minneapolis, MN 55406-3743





## MINNESOTA EAGLE SCOUT HONORED AS NSSAR CONTEST WINNER!

By Brett Rasmussen



The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution conducted its 2011 National Youth Awards Luncheon at the 121st NSSAR Congress Monday, July 11 in Winston-Salem, N.C. Master of ceremonies T. Rex Legler II welcomed members and guests to the 13th annual luncheon and introduced Chaplain General A. Clark Wiser, who conducted the invocation. The luncheon began with a tossed green salad served with vinegarett dressing and warm dinner rolls. The meal included chicken, dressing and mixed vegetables. Apple pie rounded out the dinner.

President General J. David Sympton addressed the group and noted that, as in past years, the youth luncheon was among the best-attended events of the 2011 Congress. Sympton thanked

the SAR members who served on the youth committees, congratulated the five national honorees for their accomplishments and also recognized the youths as being among the leaders of America's next generation.

Among the national award recipients was Minnesota's Robert B. Rasmussen, who was presented the Arthur M. and Berdena King Scholarship. Clifford C. Olsen II, a member of the SAR National Eagle Scout Committee, presented Robert with the \$8,000 scholarship award. A three-time winner of Minnesota SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship competition, Robert attended the Congress with his father and will be a senior at Hutchinson High School this fall. Robert's older brother, John, was the recipient of the 2005 national Eagle Scout scholarship.

## 2011 MNSSAR MEDALS AND AWARDS PROGRAMS

### ROTC Awards by the Minnesota Society

Once again the Minnesota Society presented medals in all ROTC and JROTC units in the state. There are seven college units and thirteen high school units.

The Minnesota Society expresses its appreciation to the following eleven Compatriots for doing the presentations: COL Ronald McRoberts, Hon. William Johnson, Hon. David Bouschor, LTC Dean Shepersky, Hon. Paul Theisen, Marvin Stonecipher, Truck Morrison, James Foster, Ross Matlack, Larry Sisk, and John Hallberg Jones.

ROTC medals are presented to cadets or midshipmen who show a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence.

### Bronze Good Citizenship Medals

The Minneapolis Chapter continued the program of Bronze Good Citizenship Medals in 2011. This chapter has one of the largest programs of any chapter in the country. The Minneapolis Chapter awarded the medal in 25 area high schools and two Naval Sea Cadets squadrons. One of the 2010 schools had closed,



but many of their students transferred to a school that previously was not in the program, so that school was added.

Medals were also awarded to twelve St. Paul area high school students this year.

The criteria for the recipient of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is *Scholarship, Leadership, Character, Service*, and an appreciation of *Patriotism*.

### Flag Certificates

On Flag Day five Saint Paul area businesses were presented with flag certificates by the Saint Paul Chapter SAR. This years recipients were:

- Center Frame and Wheel Alignment, Centerville
- J. Edelen Agency, Inc., Forest Lake
- Lino Lakes Farm and Garden, Lino Lakes – *photo*
- Mueller-Bies Funeral Home, Lino Lakes
- North Pine Aggregate, Inc., Forest Lake



## CROOKSTON SCHOOLS RECEIVE GEORGE WASHINGTON PORTRAITS

The Crookston School Board accepted a gift from school district parent Ross Matlack and several service organizations. The gift to the school district was three portraits of George Washington that will be hung at each school in the district.



“I became aware of this program sponsored by the Mount Vernon Ladies Auxiliary that owns and operates the Mount Vernon home site through my membership in the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. – A preserving our history based program very much intended that children will benefit from a visual example of the greatest leaders the country has produced.” said Matlack. “The small project grew into a broad based project, with the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Disabled American Veterans, Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, VFW and VFW Auxiliary and Crookston Rotary Club with some private donations and eventually we had funding for five portraits, three for the public schools and two for the parochial schools. There is so much negative in the news and we have an individual who is so committed to an idea that he had to bor-

row money to make the trip to the inaugural as he was still in debt due to the Revolutionary War and this sets an example of great leadership that being an American doesn’t mean you are someone but that you believe in something. This is a portrait of our first president, first general and a true elder statesman the father of our country.”

Matlack is the CEO at RiverView Health in Crookston. The service organizations were represented by Barb Boerger, Phyllis Sheridan, Jenny Amon, Loren Johnson, Christo Roberts and Margie and Walt Keller along with Matlack.

Source:

<http://www.kroxam.com>,  
June 28, 2011

## REMEMBERING Two MNSSAR MEMBERS

**Harvey A. Andruss Jr.**, age 80, died in Millersburg, PA on July 14, 2011. Harvey attended Mercesburg Academy, Bloomsburg State and graduated from Yale University in 1954. In between he enlisted in the Army, 1949-1950 and was in the Army Reserve as a 1st Lt. until 1962. He started his career with commercial ceilings with Armstrong for 9 years. Then became contracting Vice President of St. Paul Linoleum and Carpet and subsidiary Armcom Distributing for a total of 28 years. He and his wife retired to Port Wing, Wisconsin and opened a gift shop in their log home. Later he moved to Millersburg, PA. He was involved with the Illuminating Engineering Society, American Society of Professional Estimators, Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter of Construction Specifications Institute, MN Society of the War of 1812, Life Member of American Legion, Loyal Order of Moose and Lions Club all of Millersburg, PA. He was a former member of the Minnesota Society SAR having joined on the heritage of John Hart, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Source:

*St. Paul Pioneer Press, July 31, 2011*

**Rev. Dr. Richard Keene Smith** of Burnsville, died at the age of 88 on July 30, 2011. Father Smith served as a priest for the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota for over 50 years and was active in prison ministries for over 40 years. He was a Police Chaplain for the Minneapolis Police for over 30 years, and served as the Chaplain at Breck School and the Episcopal Church Home. Up until the week of his death, Father Smith has continued to minister to others, which included teaching Bible studies for adults and children at the Arbors at Ridges, Burnsville. Rev. Smith joined the MNSSAR to honor his Revolutionary War ancestor, Timothy Hall, as did his father nearly a century ago.

Source:

*Minneapolis StarTribune,*  
*August 1, 2011*

### NEXT MEETING

The annual Constitution Day Luncheon will be held at Jax Cafe on Saturday, October 8, 2011. The speaker will be former Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, A. M. “Sandy” Keith. Watch for detailed information to be mailed to you.

# AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Wednesday May 21, 1777



## TREATY OF DEWITT'S CORNER SIGNED

### Treaty of Dewitt's Corner between the Cherokee Nation and South Carolina.

Charlestown, SC. – The Treaty of Dewitt's Corner was signed yesterday by a delegation of South Carolinians and the Cherokee indians. The Treaty of Dewitt's Corner ended the Cherokee War of 1776-1777.

In 1776, revolutionary South Carolina faced a threat similar to British South Carolina in 1759. But, in 1776, the English Crown threatened to mobilize the Cherokees against the new government. During the spring and summer of 1776, the Cherokees joined with northern tribes, the Shawnee, Delaware, and Mohawk, to raid frontier settlements in North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia in an effort to push settlers from their lands. The British offered guns, ammunition and cash payments for scalps and sent officers among the Cherokee. Many of the Cherokee declined this invitation and declared neutrality. However, the Chickamauga faction, led by Tsi'-yu-gunsi-ni (Dragging Canoe) did join in this war.

#### Virginia

Nancy Ward, the "beloved woman" of the Cherokee sent runners to the settlements in Virginia's Clinch River Valley warning of this attack. Forewarned, the settlers at Watauga

and Eaton's Station forted up and beat off the attacks of 250-700 warriors in July of 1776 (estimates widely vary on the number of Chickamauga). Many of the women and children in the Carter's Valley and Watauga settlement left and temporarily found refuge in the New River settlements.

In retaliation, militia companies from southwest Virginia and western North Carolina gathered together and attacked the Cherokee. The 1,500 Virginians were led by Colonel William Christian. They left for Cherokee lands in October of 1776, returning in December, and then attacking again in April of 1777. They destroyed homes, livestock and crops of over 30 villages, both hostile and neutral. Most of the Cherokee fled the villages before the militia arrived and put up little resistance.

#### South Carolina

When the British attack failed on Sullivan's Island in June 1776, the Cherokee were left on their own. The response from Carolinians was immediate and brutal. Colonel Andrew Williamson led a large force of South Carolina militia and Continental Army troops on an expedition against the Indians, destroying most of their towns east of the mountains, and then joined with the North Carolina militia to do

the same in that state and Georgia. Captured warriors were then sold into slavery.

Defeated in skirmishes and their towns in ruins, the Cherokees sought peace. Several head men visited Charlestown to negotiate. In May 1777, Colonel Andrew Williamson led a South Carolina delegation to Dewitt's Corner to settle peace terms. Georgia also sent delegates, and on May 20, 1777, all parties signed the Treaty of Dewitt's Corner.

The Treaty of Dewitt's Corner differed from previous Cherokee treaties. South Carolina dictated its terms to an enemy defeated in combat. The victorious Whigs set a boundary line between South Carolina and the Cherokee nation on the crest of Oconee Mountain and mandated that American law had precedence

over Cherokee law in dealings between the two nations. The Cherokee also lost nearly all of their land in South Carolina. South Carolina in return pledged to regulate trade and travel into the remaining Cherokee territory. At Dewitt's Corner, South Carolinians required the apprehension of any British agents operating among the Cherokee and anyone who advocated breaking the treaty.

Source:

<http://www.teachingushistory.org/lessons/treatyofdewittscorner.htm>

<http://www.newriversnotes.com/va/swift/cherokeewar.html>

Saturday June 14, 1777

## AMERICA'S NEW FLAG

Philadelphia, Penn. – The Flag Act was adopted earlier today by congress: "That the flag of the thirteen United States be 13 stripes alternate red and white, that the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation."

