

MINNESOTA SAR Salute



THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NEWSLETTER • www.MinnesotaSAR.org • SPRING 2024



MNSAR 135TH ANNUAL MEETING

Minneapolis, MN – The Minnesota Society, and the Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and Northland Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution held their annual meetings at Jax Cafe on January 20, 2024. Twenty eight compatriots were in attendance.

The Society was called to order by President James Hagen who introduced all of the MNSAR officers as well as each attendee. The Color Guard posted the colors followed by the Pledge to the U.S. flag and the SAR Pledge. Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher delivered the invocation. A moment of silence was observed for compatriots John Hallberg Jones and Lyle Carl Doerr who had passed away during 2023. The assemblage enjoyed luncheon, each ordering their own entree from Jax Cafe's menu.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Minnesota Society
Sons of the American Revolution
15111 Elmcrest Ave. N.
Hugo, MN 55038-8348



M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



MINNESOTA SOCIETY

MNSAR Membership

Corresponding Secretary COL Ronald McRoberts reported on membership. The membership count on 01 January 2024 is 229, including fourteen Junior Members, three Dual Members and three Emeritus Members. Losses include two deaths, two transfers out and 45 compatriots dropped because of non-payment of dues. Of the 45 non-renewing members, eighteen had become members since 2020.

The median age of members was 64 years with nine members aged 90 years or greater. The median length of membership was nine years with four members of 50 years or more. 157 members (69%) have fewer than ten years of membership. 29 members reported non-Minnesota addresses of whom one lives in England and one in Singapore. Once again, the Minnesota Society led the nation in the percentage of Life Members with 34%.

Awards

Compatriot McRoberts presented new membership certificates to James Glassmann, David Thompson, and Richard Hillstrom. Supplemental certificates were presented to Mike Stainbrook (Craig Whiting received the certificate on his behalf), Rick Smith, John Sassaman, and Chris Moberg.

Compatriot McRoberts then discussed War Service and Military Service Medals, and invited any veteran who qualifies to submit a copy of their

DD214 military service record to receive a medal.

Minnesota Society Financial Report and Endowment Trust Fund

Treasurer Richard E. Smith presented the Annual Financial Report and proposed budget. He reported 2023 receipts well higher than expenses. This left a net income of \$1,655.84. In his proposed budget, he proposed receipts of \$4,076 and expenses of \$3,800, leaving a net income of \$276.00.

Michael Swisher, Trustee of the John Hallberg Jones MN-SAR Endowment Trust Fund reporting that the Trust had \$1,835.25 in interest available for distribution to the MNSAR. For the sake of comparison, the Trust earned just \$1,049.09 in 2022.

He reminded compatriots of the benefit of making gifts of appreciated property to the Trust: The donor is entitled to a charitable deduction equal to the present value of the gift and escapes paying tax on the earned increment, which one would have to pay if he sold the property and donated the proceeds to the Trust.

America 250 Programs

President Hagen then reviewed 250th Anniversary events, recalling the dedication of the Minnesota DAR's America 250! Patriot Marker on April 15th, 2023, in Little Falls at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery. He made members aware of the following upcoming

250th Anniversary dates in 2024: Fairfax Resolves (July 18), the Powder Alarm (September 1), the First Continental Congress Convened (September 5), the Suffolk Resolves (September 9), and the Battle of Point Pleasant (October 10). He then discussed the details of how to accumulate points toward 250th Anniversary medals.

North Central District Zoom Events

Informal Zoom meeting events take place monthly and are open for all Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and Dakota SAR members. Compatriot Moberg, VPG of the North Central District SAR, described past presentations and announced the topic of the next Zoom meeting.

ROTC Medal Program

James Hagen reported that all seven ROTC units responded with names of cadets who were presented with SAR Silver Certificates and Medals, and all eleven JROTC units responded with names of cadets who received the SAR Bronze Certificates and Medals. One of three Sea Cadet units also responded with the name of a cadet who received a SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.

All seven ROTC units and eleven JROTC units held in-person award ceremonies and all but two awardees were presented their awards by a Minnesota SAR compatriot. Two

JROTC units chose to have their own staff present the awards to their cadets.

The Sea Cadet unit held an in-person ceremony at which compatriot Scott Fredell presented the medal and certificate.

Special thanks were given to Minnesota SAR compatriots that took the time to present ROTC, JROTC, and Sea Cadet awards on behalf of the Minnesota SAR. Their names are Michael R. Bradley, Dennis Croonquist, Scott Fredell, James Hagen, Dr. Richard Howey, Christopher Pizinger, John Sassaman, LtCol Dean Shepersky, Rick Smith, and Michael Stainbrook, Sr. Each presenter donated the Ladd Trust reimbursement for their miles traveled and \$401.78 was accrued to the MNSAR.

Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program

Compatriot Richard Smith reported as chair for the Eagle Scout Program. Jackson Kramer of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America was the Minnesota contest winner in 2023. There were four entrants. As the Minnesota winner Jackson Kramer received \$400.00. The Minneapolis Chapter and Saint Paul Chapter winners, Hannah Marik and Nathan Ewert respectively each received \$100.00.

Compatriot Smith presented Richard Howey and Tom Shaffer with a Silver Roger Sherman Medal for their service on the Eagle Scout Committee.



SAR ANNUAL MEETING

MNSAR Color Guard

Color Guard Commander, Steven Hyde reported that the highlight of the year was the July 4th "Flying Pancake" celebration at the Depot Park in downtown Wayzata. There was pouring rain, but the Color Guard got in one or two rounds of musket fire. Worth noting was the addition of singing. Rich Howey brought copies of lyrics to some colonial period songs and formed a "choir," with the Color Guard as singers. Rich Howey also deserves special recognition since he has qualified for the Bronze Medal for Color Guard service.

Commander Hyde then presented Rich Howey with a Bronze Color Guard Medal and a Fifer pin from the National Society. He also presented James Glassman, who recently joined the Color Guard, with a cockade for his hat.

Commander Hyde noted that the Color Guard had received an inquiry from the office of the Minnesota Vikings to arrange a flag-raising for a pre-season game that same day. In the future, it is hoped that more lead time will be given to rally the troops.

MNSAR Living History Team

Living History Team Leader, Richard Howey reported that they participated in several public events: A Patriot Chest presentation to Washington Elementary School in Rochester, an exhibit advertising Patriot Chest presentations and the

Eagle Scout contest at the University of Scouting in St. Paul, music with the Fort Snelling Fife and Drum Corps at a Fort Snelling DAR plaque rededication, a Patriot Chest presentation at Providence Academy in Plymouth, a Patriot Chest presentation for the Rochester DAR, and music, campfire, and spontoon/halberd display at the 4th of July C.A.R. pancake breakfast.

The Living History Team received a very generous donation of \$5,000 specifically for purchasing items for the Patriot chest. With this donation, the team purchased an indoor campfire setup, added to the flag collection, purchased a reproduction East India Company Tea Chest, bought several children's clothing items, and obtained a sergeant's halberd and officer's spontoon. Compatriot Howey expressed appreciation to Phil Christensen for making the poles and mounting the spontoon and halberd, and to Craig Whiting for donating several items of children's clothing.

The Living History Team currently has \$2555.35 remaining from the donation. The money will be held in reserve as potential seed money to add additional patriot chests for out state presentations.

Saint Paul Chapter

The Saint Paul Chapter was called to order by President Richard Smith. The Minutes of the 14 January 2023 meeting

were read by President Richard Smith, on behalf of Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Harris who was absent. The 2023 Treasurer's report was presented by President Smith indicating a gain in total assets.

Eight Saint Paul area high schools participated in the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program and their students were presented with their medals the past May. Letters have been mailed to twelve Saint Paul area high schools to begin the program for 2024.

Flag Certificates were awarded to five Saint Paul area businesses for regularly flying the flag on Flag Day, June 14.

Minneapolis Chapter

The Minneapolis Chapter was called to order by President Robert Wayne Allison. Thomas Harris presented the Annual Financial Report, noting a gain of \$1,192.86 in total assets as of 31 December 2023.

Michael Huttner, Chairman of the Minneapolis Chapter Bronze Good Citizenship Medal Program reported that medals and certificates were presented in eight area high schools – down from the usual twenty-plus.

Northland Chapter

Currently the Northland Chapter has twelve members. The first meeting of the new Northland Chapter was held on January 15, 2023. The chapter hosted the annual MNSAR

Constitution Day Luncheon at the Kitchi Gammi Club in Duluth on September 9, 2023. Members of the chapter participated in a variety of events during 2023 including: teaming with the American Legion Duluth Area Honor Guard and with the Graysolon Chapter DAR; the West Duluth Memorial Day Parade; participated in Memorial Day services at two Duluth cemeteries; presented the MNSAR ROTC award to an Air Force ROTC cadet at the annual UMD awards breakfast; participated in the annual CAR event in Wayzata on Independence Day.

MNSAR Recording Secretary, Christopher Moberg, conducted the oath of office ceremony for the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, the Saint Paul Chapter, and the Northland Chapter officers. President Hagen recited the SAR Recessional and the MNSAR Color Guard retired the colors ending the festivities of the day.

M I N N E S O T A

SAR Salute



2024 MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR OFFICERS

The following compatriots were nominated and elected to serve another year for the Minnesota Society and/or their respective chapters. Congratulations to all the compatriots who accepted service to the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter, Saint Paul Chapter and the Northland Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY SAR

President:.....James Everett Hagen
Vice President:Kevin Everett Sullivan
Corresponding Secretary:.....Michael T. Schurch
Recording Secretary:.....Christopher Willard Moberg, P.P.
Treasurer:Richard Eugene Smith
Genealogist / Registrar:.....John Charles Sassaman, P.P.
Chancellor:William Raymond Johnson
Historian/Newsletter Editor:Timothy Charles Harris, P.P.
Librarian:.....Stephen John Vescelus
Surgeon:George Floyd Smith, M.D.
Chaplain:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
Sergeant-at-Arms:Thomas Christopher Harris

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Hon. David S. Bouschor
Dennis Garvin Croonquist	William Leslie DeCoursey
James Fredrick Foster	Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.
COL Ronald E. McRoberts	Christopher Willard Moberg
John Charles Sassaman	Larry Wray Sisk
Buford Allen Young	

Board of Managers: (up to 20 members in addition to the above)

Robert Wayne Allison	Charles Edward Boyles
Tracy Ashley Crocker	David Adriance Foster
Jay Thomas W. Franklin	Steven James Hyde
Marvin Lane Jansma	Hon. William Raymond Johnson
Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.	John David McCallum
Robert Arthur Minish	Thomas Truxtun Morrison, Sr.
Randall Roger Nelson	Christopher John Pizinger
Aaron Hale Printup	LTC Allen Dean Shepersky
Rehn Douglas Smith	Stephen Paul Thompson

S.A.R. Endowment Trust Fund: (three-year terms)

Trustee ending January 2025:COL Ronald E. McRoberts, P.P.
Trustee ending January 2026:Duane L. C. M. Galles, P.P.
Trustee ending January 2027:Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.

Nominated for Election at the NSSAR National Congress in Lancaster, PA, in July 2024

National Trustee for Minnesota: ..Richard Eugene Smith
Alternate National Trustee MN:...Stephen John Vescelus

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER SAR

President:..... Robert Wayne Allison
Vice President: Hon. William Raymond Johnson
Secretary-Treasurer:..... Thomas Christopher Harris
Chaplain: Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
Board of Managers:..... Tracy Ashley Crocker
Michael William Huttner
Steven James Hyde
Hon. William Raymond Johnson
Robert Edward Kahl, II
Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.
Aaron Hale Printup
Kevin Everett Sullivan

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.
William Leslie DeCoursey
Arthur Louis Finnell
Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.

SAINT PAUL CHAPTER SAR

President..... Richard Eugene Smith
Vice President Thomas Wayne Shaffer
Secretary-Treasurer Timothy Charles Harris
Chaplain Thomas Christopher Harris
Board of Managers..... Dennis Garvin Croonquist
Christopher Willard Moberg
James Everett Hagen

NORTHLAND CHAPTER SAR

President..... Craig William Whiting
Vice President John Marion Glendenning Jr.
Secretary Michael John Stainbrook Sr.
Treasurer Craig William Whiting
Chaplain Jonathan Patrick Stainbrook

AMERICAN EAGLE

News of Yesterday Reported Today

Tuesday, October 3, 1780



ANDRE EXECUTED

Tappan, New York – Yesterday, the gallant British Major John Andre was executed as a spy. Andre's capture exposed General Benedict Arnold's betrayal in their attempt to capture the garrison of West Point and General George Washington.

At thirty Major John Andre was handsome, cultivated, and charming. Educated in Switzerland and something of a poet – during the occupation of Philadelphia, he had perused Benjamin Franklin's library and engaged in amateur theatricals – he was also a proficient artist, skilled at drawing quick sketches of people. In an oval portrait of Andre, he stares out with a powdered wig and gold epaulets and the soft, unformed face of a boy. In the eighteenth century soldiers often identified with their social peers on the other side of the conflict because they subscribed to the same code of class honor. Andre's youth and gallantry touched the imagination of Washington's officers. Hamilton visited Andre several times at the tavern in Tappan, New York, where he was held captive and left breathless with admiration. "To an excellent understanding, well improved by education and travel, [Andre] united a peculiar elegance of mind and manners and the advantage of a pleasing person," he attested.

The case of Major Andre became a cause celebre because of his aristocratic manner and his controversial claim that he hadn't really functioned as a spy. Nobody disputed that he had been caught with concealed papers from the turncoat Arnold. The spying allegation arose because he had crossed into

American lines, donned civilian clothes, and assumed a nom de guerre. Andre countered that he had come ashore in uniform and met Arnold in neutral territory, but the latter had then lured him into American territory. While making his way back to the *Vulture*, he had had no choice but to shed his uniform and adopt a fake name. Andre asserted less his innocence than his honorable conduct, telling Washington that he wished to clear himself "from an imputation of having assumed a mean character for treacherous purposes or self-interest." The practical significance of this esoteric dispute was that spies were treated like common criminals and hung from the gallows, whereas a British officer in uniform caught communicating with an American spy would be shot by a firing squad in a manner befitting a gentleman.

Although Washington understood the appeal of Major Andre's personality, he also knew that the plot to take West Point, had it succeeded, could have been catastrophic, and this toughened him against lenient treatment of the prisoner. He instructed Andre's captors that he did not deserve the indulgences accorded to prisoners of war and should "be most closely and narrowly watched." Intent upon seeing justice swiftly enacted, Washington impaneled a board of fourteen generals to hear Andre's case in a village church in Tappan. Andre answered their questions with such honesty and candor that his captors were moved. "I can remember no instance where my affections were so fully absorbed in any man," said Major Benjamin Tallmadge. It was one of those singular moments in wartime when class sol-

idity overtook ideology.

Washington received a plea for mercy from an unlikely source. Benedict Arnold had the cheek to threaten Washington that, should he execute the adjutant, Arnold would "retaliate on such unhappy persons of your army as may fall within my power ... I call heaven and earth to witness that your Excellency will be justly answerable for the torrent of blood that may be spilt in consequence." Arnold thereby rubbed salt into an open wound. "There are no terms that can describe baseness of his heart," Washington said of Arnold.

The board of officers returned a guilty verdict against Andre and ruled that he should die as a spy – that is, by hanging. Andre pleaded with Washington to allow him to be shot by a firing squad. Refusing to capitulate under duress, Washington decided that Andre's offense was so grave that he had to make an example of him, even if it offended the sensibilities of many officers. Andre was sentenced to hang in full view of soldiers drawn from various quarters of the army. The decision rankled Hamilton in particular, who already chafed at Washington's exacting treatment of him. "The death of Andre could not have been dispensed with," Hamilton later told Knox, "but it must still be viewed at a distance as an act of rigid justice." Trying avert a hanging, Washington sounded out the British on a swap of Andre for Benedict Arnold, but the enemy declined the offer.

At noon on October 2, 1780, John Andre marched to the gallows. As he neared the spot, he bowed his head to those who had befriended him and showed

a serene acceptance that startled everyone. "Such fortitude I never was witness of ... To see a man go out of time without fear, but all the time smiling, is a matter I could not conceive of," marveled the army surgeon John Hart. When Andre reached the hangman, whose face was blackened with grease, he asked if he had to die in this manner and was told it was unavoidable. "I am reconciled to my fate," he replied, "but not to the mode." People heard him whisper to himself that "it will be but a momentary pang." Leaping upon the cart from which his body was to be released, Andre took the rope from the hangman and tightened it around his own neck, then drew a handkerchief from his pocket and blinded his own eyes. When told that the time had come and asked if he had any final words, he replied, "Nothing but to request you will witness to the world that I die like a brave man." His body hung slackly from the gibbet for nearly half an hour before being cut down. Andre's noble conduct only enhanced the misgivings of those who thought he should have been shot. It seemed hard on Washington's part to refuse the request of a man sentenced to death. Lafayette wrote to his wife that Andre had "conducted himself in such a frank, noble, and honorable way that, during the three days we imprisoned him, I was foolish enough to develop a real liking for him. In strongly voting to sentence him to the gallows, I could not help [but] regret what happened to him."

Source:

Washington, A Life
by Ron Chernow,
Penguin Press, 2010



WASHINGTON DAY LUNCHEON

Minneapolis, MN – On February 17, 2024, members of the Minnesota Society, along with spouses, guests, and members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Minnesota, gathered for the Annual Washington Day Luncheon at Jax Cafe. Thirty six compatriots and guests were in attendance.

The Society was called to order by President James Hagen who introduced all of the MNSAR officers as well as each attendee. The Color Guard posted the colors followed by the Pledge to the U.S. flag and the SAR Pledge. Chaplain Michael Scott Swisher delivered the invocation. The assemblage enjoyed luncheon, each ordering their own entree from Jax Cafe's menu.

Color Guard Commander Steve Hyde was called upon to say a few words about the Color Guard. Hyde discussed the upcoming 4th of July Wayzata Flying Pancake Breakfast hosted by the DAR and CAR. and encouraged members to attend.

President Hagen offered an update on the Living History Team on behalf of Compatriot Rich Howey, who was unable to attend the meeting. The Living History Team plans to give a Patriot Chest presentation to the 4th grade class at Providence Academy in Plymouth at 2 p.m. on April 5th. SAR Living History team members Rich Howey, Rick Smith, and Chris Moberg, along with DAR member Gigi Hickey, plan to

be present in colonial attire. If others would like to participate, they should contact Living History Team leader Rich Howey.

President Hagen announced that the meeting qualifies as a 250th Anniversary event. He talked about the upcoming 250th anniversaries taking place in 2024. He also discussed 250th Anniversary Medals and noted that the meeting not only counted towards the 250th Anniversary Medal, but also the Silver Color Guard medal, as Washington's Birthday is considered a national event.

President Hagen noted that through new Minnesota SAR member Guy Kight, a working relationship had been established between the Minnesota SAR and the Minnesota Historical Society to work on Minnesota's celebration of America's 250th birthday in 2026. This joint venture would also include the DAR, NPR, TPT, and the State of Minnesota.

Duane L.C.M. Galles was the keynote speaker. His dissertation was entitled "Roger Conant, a Second Boat Immigrant of 1623 and his Family on Both Sides of the Pond."

Roger Conant was baptized in East Budleigh in Devon on April 9, 1592, the son of Richard Conant and his wife Agnes Clarke. He later moved to London and became a salter or dealer in chemicals. In 1618 he married Sarah Horton and they would about 1624 settle in the Plymouth Colony.



He would later move to Cape Ann where he headed of settlement of fishermen established there by the Dorchester Company to fish off the Grand Banks off New England and provide employment for the fishermen and sailors of that Dorset port. The Rev. John White, rector of Holy Trinity Church in Dorchester, had organized the organization. The fish caught by the Cape Ann settlers would be carried to Spain or Portugal with the proceeds divided among the Company shareholders, the fishermen, and the sailors. It proved under-capitalized and in 1628 merged with an enterprise of John Endecott which moved the settlers to what is now Salem, Massachusetts. It is credited as the first English settlement in the Bay Colony.

Conant was active in the life

of Salem, serving as Selectman, deputy to the General Court, and justice of the Essex County quarter session. He died in 1679. In 1913 the Conant Family Association erected a statue of him in Salem Common.

Following the presentation, President Hagen thanked Compatriot Galles, presenting him an SAR Certificate of Appreciation.

President Hagen recited the SAR Recessional, Chaplain Michael Swisher rendered the benediction, and the MNSAR Color Guard retired the colors ending the festivities of the day.



MNSAR AWARDS

During the Washington Day Luncheon President Hagen presented a State Distinguished Service Medal and Certificate to Compatriot John Sassaman for his many years of service as genealogist and registrar. Sassaman has been a top-line signer on many, many SAR applications for memberships.

Compatriot Ron McRoberts presented an SAR Military Service Medal to Compatriot Bruce Gleason for his service in the Army.

President Hagen pointed out that there was a sign-up sheet for members who may be willing to serve on any of three committees that need members: the fellowship committee, the hospitality committee, and the awards committee.

In his role as ROTC/JROTC chairman, President Hagen talked about the need for JROTC, ROTC, and Sea Cadet award presenters. Again there was a sign-up sheet available for MNSAR members who would like to volunteer as primary or alternate presenters at ROTC/JROTC award ceremonies.

If you would like to volunteer for a committee or as a presenter please contact James Hagen.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Do you receive email? Do you surf the web? Some may read this article online and some may read it on paper in the MNSAR Salute. Here is a quick review of MNSAR's online resources.

Major announcements to be shared with the general public go on the web site [MinnesotaSAR.org](https://www.minnesotasar.org). These are also posted to the Minnesota SAR page on Facebook.com: <https://www.facebook.com/minnesotasar>.

We also have "compatriots only" email lists that active MNSAR members may join. The principal list is "mnsar@groups.io" which distributes statewide announcements. Everyone with an email address has been invited to this list.

If you are a member of Minnesota SAR and wish to join the email list, visit <https://mnsar.groups.io/g/main> and click on the "Subscribe" link. We will add you to the list once we verify your membership status.

There is also a "talk" group – talk@mnsar.groups.io – that you may join once you have joined the main MNSAR group. While the main group only handles announcements, the talk group is for discussing MNSAR issues and activities. Visit <https://mnsar.groups.io/g/talk> to subscribe.

These groups also share files and photos for MNSAR members. <https://minnesotasar.org/2024/02/03/minnesota-sar-online/>

PATRIOT CHEST PRESENTATION AT DULUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY



Duluth, Minnesota – On the evening of March 4, Compatriot Craig Whiting made a presentation to the Twin Ports Genealogical Society sponsored gathering at the Mount Royal Public Library. The event was open to the public and also broadcast, for those interested, on zoom. There were twenty adults present. This was advertised in the TPGS site and the Mount Royal Public Library branch of the Duluth Library system. A DAR member spoke first to explain the DAR organization. Whiting followed with an explanation of the SAR history, purpose, goals, activities, membership qualifications and the upcoming 250th anniversary of the Revolution. Whiting also explained several pieces of the Patriot Chest that Rich Howey had provided and spoke about several historical points and information that sparked interest by the attendees. Craig Whiting was in uniform and with the permission of the library, was able to exhibit his musket. The presentation lasted about 70 minutes.

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HUTCHINSON EAGLE SCOUT WINS MINNESOTA COMPETITION

Jackson Kramer of the Northern Star Council Boy Scouts of America is the Minnesota winner of the SAR's Eagle Scout Scholarship and Awards Program. Jackson, from Hutchinson, Minnesota, was honored at the annual George Washington Day Observance and Luncheon where he received the Spreading Wings Bronze Eagle Trophy and a \$400.00 check as the Minnesota winner. His mother and father were also in attendance.

Jackson's application, four generation ancestor chart and his patriotic essay were sent to National SAR headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky to compete with other state winners for a \$10,000 scholarship. \$6,000, \$4,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 runner-up scholarships were also chosen. His winning essay is printed below.



Advancements in Technology

The American Revolution was the beginning of a new nation. It was an important moment in history when a group of colonists fought for independence from British rule. The colonies were the underdog, but a few key advances in technology helped the colonists win their independence. These advances were in the areas of firearms and gunpowder, artillery and field engineering, naval technology, communication and intelligence, medical innovations, and transportation and logistics.

One of the most significant technological advancements during the American Revolution was the improvement of firearms and the production of gun powder. Guns such as the Brown Bess were more accurate and more reliable. They improved the effectiveness of infantry on both sides of the battlefield. Rifling, which is a process that made muskets more accurate, allowed for bet-

ter aim. The development of the flintlock improved the rate of fire. Americans were able to produce their own gunpowder and this allowed the colonists to become self-sufficient when supplies were hard to get.

Artillery also underwent major changes during the American Revolution. Innovations in cannon design and in the production of iron and brass led to more powerful and accurate pieces of artillery. There were also advancements in field engineering. Both sides improved their methods of building fortifications and trenches, which allowed them to defend their positions and change the way warfare was conducted.

Naval technology was another area where significant advances occurred. During the American Revolution new naval tactics and ship designs were developed. Faster and more maneuverable warships, like the frigate, allowed American privateers to interrupt Brit-

ish shipping and impact naval operations. In addition, the use of submarines like David Bushnell's Turtle showed early innovations in underwater warfare.

Communication and intelligence gathering also had advancements during the American Revolution. Codes and ciphers were used to protect sensitive information. Spies and couriers helped convey vital messages between military leaders and they also collected important intelligence on enemy movements. The colonists developed a system that quickly and accurately got information from one leader to another which helped with critical decision making.

Medical innovations also made the colonist forces stronger. The war provided opportunities for medical professionals to gain experience in battlefield medicine and led to the advancement of more effective treatments and surgical techniques. The establishment

of field hospitals and improved medical supplies also helped reduce casualties.

One final advancement in technology was in the area of transportation and logistics. The development of better roads and bridges facilitated the movement of troops and supplies. The development of better wagons and carts also improved the efficiency of supply lines, which helped the armies in the field be more successful.

The American Revolution was not only a struggle for independence but also a period of significant technological advancement. Innovations in firearms, artillery, naval technologies, communication, medical practices, and transportation played an important role in the outcome of the war. These advancements helped the American colonies become self-sufficient and be able to resist the British forces.