

Illinois Sons of the American Revolution

The Fox Valley News



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Sons of the American Revolution: Fox Valley Chapter

www.foxsar.org
Spring 2017 Issue

Come One, Come All!

By Color Guard Commander &
Compatriot Jon Fixmer

Saturday April 15 will be a big double header day for the Fox Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. The 10:00am opener will be at the next chapter meeting at the Messenger Public Library at 113 Oak St. in North Aurora.

The closer will be the Drill and Grill at Langum Park in St Charles. It will go from 12:30pm to 4:30pm. We'll be on the west side of the park which is on the east side of Rt 25. There's parking on the south side of the park on Devereaux Way. The section of the park we will be drilling in was the site of Camp Kane during the Civil War. After drilling, we'll be grilling at the same place in the park.
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Patriot grave rededication in planning stage for this year

The Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution has undertaken a project to eventually mark all the graveyards in Illinois where Revolutionary War Patriots are buried. Last year we marked one patriot grave for Patriot Abner Powers at Lily Lake Cemetery in rural Kane County.

Our Fox Valley Chapter area has 19 patriots buried in our eight county area. In January our chapter voted to honor Patriot Daniel Burroughs.

Patriot Burroughs is buried in Griswold Cemetery near the town of Plano in rural Kendall County. His grave is already SAR marked from a ceremony in 2005, the 250th year of his birth in 1755.

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Genealogical sleuths pursue leads at NIU



Compatriots from left: Chip Dawes, Jon Fixmer, Ted Miller, Kevin Alcott and Mike Campagnolo recently attended the DuPage Genealogical Society Convention at the NIU Convention Center in Naperville. They had some good leads for the Fox Valley chapter and met some very interesting people. Our next door neighbors at the event were our DAR friends from the Perrin - Wheaton chapter.

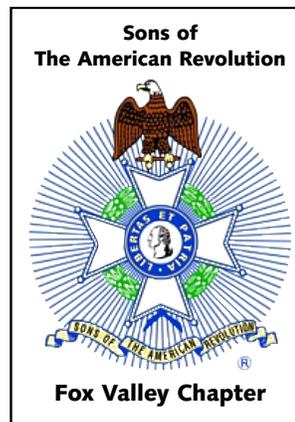
Fox Valley apparel may soon be available

At a recent chapter meeting, interest was expressed for having t-shirts and sweatshirts made up for sale featuring the SAR logo and saying "Fox Valley Chapter" on them. Kevin Babb, the ILSSAR legal advisor, was asked to contact the Chancellor General on this issue, and got the following response:

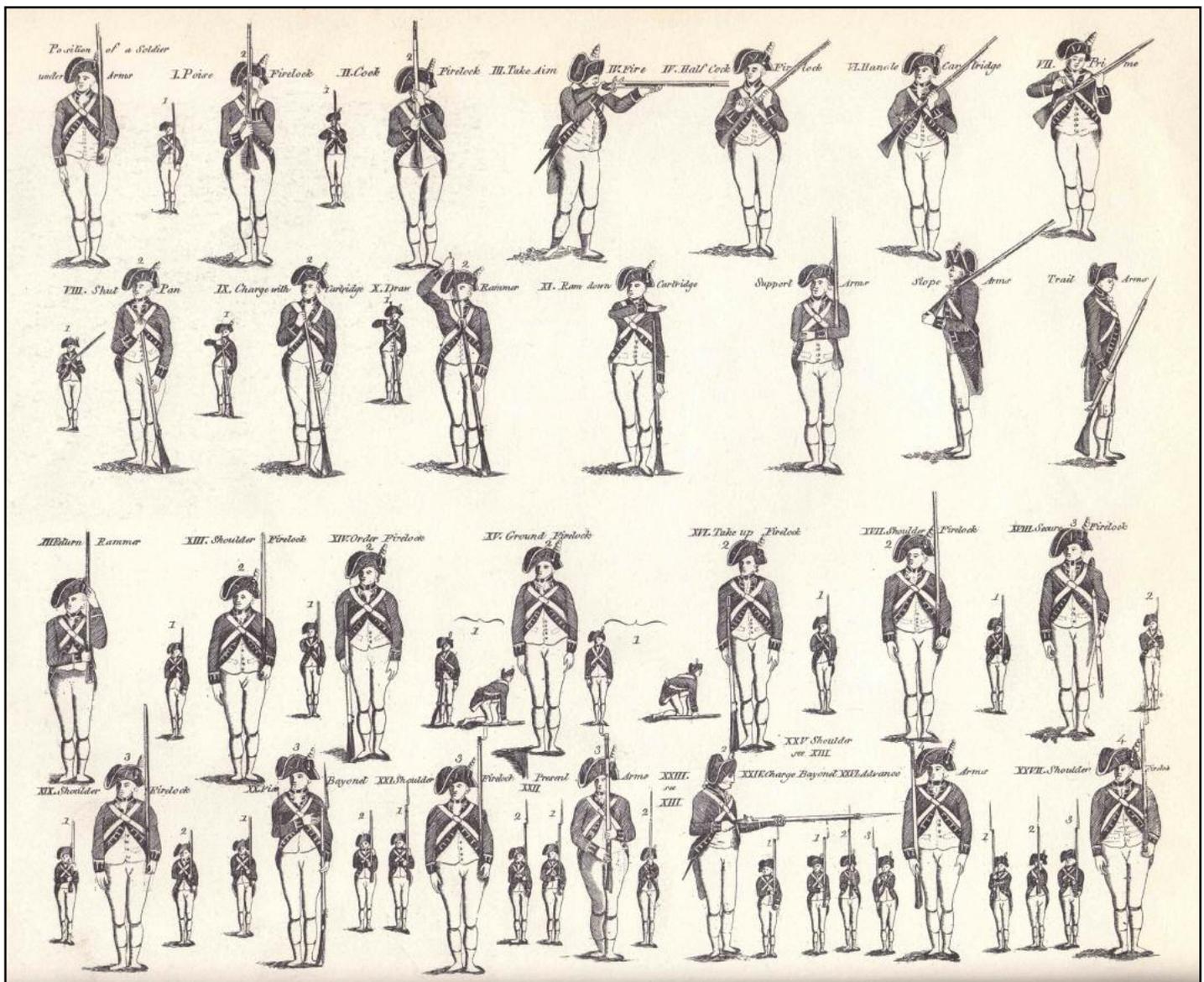
"A chapter may use the logo but ONLY after the chapter has received approval from Don Shaw, Executive Director. Volume III of the NSSAR Handbook contains the current version of the Intellectual Property Policy. If the Chapter is going to use an outside vendor to create sweatshirts, etc., then the National Merchandise Department is going to have to get involved as well because they are tasked

with reviewing the contracts to make sure the vendor has policies/terms in place to protect our intellectual property. All of the images/logos associated with the SAR are registered with the Patent & Trademark Office. As long as the state/chapter can provide a description (or image) of the project, the Executive Director routinely grants approval, although unusual requests may be forwarded to the Executive Committee for review.

So, it sounds like a chapter will likely be able to get permission from National to use the SAR logo, but they have to ask the Executive Director. I assume that others are in a better position than I am to put you in touch with the appropriate staff at Louisville."



The 'Manual Exercise' for infantry for infantry in 1802 by Von Steuben



Second annual Drill and Grill to happen at site of Civil War training ground, Camp Kane

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For historic perspective, we will begin with the basics of a recruit and will progress into Baron von Steuben's Manual of Arms, which in his Rev War Drill Manual he called 'Manual Exercise' with the muskets. Like last year, Ray Swenson will be our Guest Instructor. He will also be one of the instructors who will be teaching the Muzzle Loader class in May.

If there is time and weather permitting, we will have a short explanation/lecture on the accoutrements of the soldier. Rounds, cartridge boxes, bayonets, canteens, etc.

We will work on general marching and parade drills as well as Color Guard specific drills such as posting the colors and standing watch etc.

We use a mixture of historic and modern practices depending upon the situation and

event. So, we will drill some of both.

If attendees have a musket, they should bring it. If they have a period hat like a tricorne, bring that too. It's going to be mostly casual dress. Anyone in the Northern SAR region is encouraged to attend, especially if he is a member of the color guard or wants to get more involved. Attendees without any muskets or uniforms are more than welcome. It's a good introduction.

The grill will be a potluck type of thing. Most people just pitch in and bring something for the group. Last year, Mike provided meat and buns. I brought the beverages, and chips. Someone else brought a veggie platter and dip. We split it all up. I'm going to be asking

Quick Facts

- Officially opened Sept 18, 1861, 1,164 men mustered in that day
- Home to the 8th & 17th Illinois Cavalry
- Led by General John F. Farnsworth
- President Lincoln nicknamed the 8th Illinois Cavalry "Farnsworth's Big Abolitionist Regiment"
- The 8th Illinois Cavalry fired the first shot at Gettysburg
- 1 of only 4 Training Camps in Illinois

for a head count here soon so we have an idea how much food we need to bring and how many additional muskets and/or training muskets.

The Drill and Grill accomplishes the following objectives:

1. To promote fellowship and camaraderie.
2. Establish a foundation for the year's activities.
3. To establish a 'playbook' so everyone has an idea what to expect at various events throughout the year.
4. To provide an introduction to people who may want to start getting involved.
5. To knock off the rust and get some practice in before the season gets started.



Fox Valley compatriots gather at Bob Baird's residence to assist him in preparing the Citizenship Awards. From left are: Kevin Alcott, Bob Baird, and Mike Campagnolo. Photo by Compatriot Scott Sanders

Chapter members get the Citizenship Awards ready to go out

As we go to press more than 40 high school seniors in the Fox Valley area have been named by their schools as winners of the Fox Valley SAR Citizenship Award. We expect to have at least another twenty named by the end of May. The criteria for the Outstanding

Citizenship Award are: dependability, honesty, courtesy, respect, leadership and patriotism. Winners will receive a certificate and a pin at their school's spring awards ceremony.

On March 29, officers of the Fox Valley SAR met with SAR Emeritus Member Bob

Baird at his home in Elmhurst to begin filling out the certificates. Bob has long been involved with the Citizenship Award process. Various Fox Valley SAR members will be personally deliver Citizenship Awards at as many high schools as possible in April and May.

Minutes from the March 18 Fox Valley chapter meeting

Minutes from SAR meeting 3/18/17 @ 10am Fox Valley Restaurant in Lisle

Attending: Harry Reineke IV, Mike Campagnolo, Ted Miller, Eric Ingersoll, Jon Fixmer, Chip Dawes, Scott Sanders, Kevin Alcott, Anthony Cook. Dan Smith unable to attend.

President Harry Reineke and Jon Fixmer asked for feedback on the DuPage Genealogical Conference Saturday 3/11. Enthusiastic feedback, with much deserved praise going to Ted Miller's Board of SAR Memories. The location within the conference was thought to be excellent and participants felt that we outdid the DAR in a friendly way of course.

VP Mike Campagnolo had developed the flier for the upcoming Spring Luncheon on April 23, that was sent out by email by Secretary Alcott. He has emails for about 90% of confirmed members, but Harry suggested snail-mailing to the remainder and Secretary Alcott will comply within the next week.

Secretary Kevin Alcott asked if Mike could inquire from the state whether we could proceed with issuing sweatshirts and/or jackets with Fox Valley Chapter SAR logos on them.

Secretary Kevin Alcott reports 98 confirmed paid members, with about sixteen

pending possible extras.

Registrar Ted Miller reported 73 members contracted, 19 first draft review done, 1 under review by NSSAR, 5 on hold, 17 done new members.

Treasurer Eric Ingersoll reported on state of treasury. With regard to grave marking: \$2,250 was donated and we have spent \$890.01 on grave marking expenditures, leaving \$1,359.99 left in the fund. Treasurer also notes that while he is moving, he is not expected to move until the end of April, so checks sent in for Spring Luncheon to his current address will be received.

Motion was made to proceed with grave marking inquiries concerning Daniel Burroughs in Plano. If each member donated \$10 we would have enough funds to secure the plaque.

Color Guard Commander Jon Fixmer updated list on upcoming ceremonies, including April 15 Drill & Grill and 5/11 Loyalty Day Parade in New Lenox.

ROTC Awards - VP Campagnolo to email PDFs of essays to officers to judge.

Citizenship Awards - Alcott reports 40 seniors named so far, with at least 20 more expected by the end of May. Various officers to meet with Bob Baird on 3/29 in Elmhurst to

sign certificates known up to that point.

Chips Dawes reports on behalf of him and Don Parrish that we are getting 1000 hits on foxsar.org patriot graves list.

Scott Sanders reports that deadline for submission of articles for next newsletter is this Wednesday.

Dan Smith in absentia reports all is set for next month's Spring Luncheon at Lincoln Banquets in Batavia. Final payment and count is due 10 days prior to the event - all of this is in the written contract. Any changes of course will need to be made prior. Locale will be providing a podium, speaker & microphone combo at no cost. He showed me the room and it's a nice setup, very spacious and clean - ample space for seating as well as check-in, silent auction tables and the bar area is located in the room. Also, waiting to hear back from Kane County Cougars regarding color guard event - hoping to hear back this coming week.

Next Chapter meeting to be held April 15 at Messenger Library in North Aurora, 10am. From May-December, meetings, unless otherwise noted, will be held at Fox Diner on 3rd Saturday of each month at Fox Restaurant on Main Street in Lisle.

Chapter members surprised to discover they're related

By Chapter Secretary Kevin Alcott

As of March 19 we have ninety-eight members of the Fox Valley Chapter who have paid their 2017 dues. An additional sixteen members are listed as 'pending,' meaning that many of them are still planning to send in their membership dues with a late fee before the end of this month. This makes us one of the largest chapters in Illinois. You can see a condensed Membership Directory (omitting contact information and other details) on the Fox Valley website at <http://foxsar.org/Members.html>

Some interesting things can be learned from the detailed Membership Directory. We have members ranging in age from ten to ninety-seven, with the median age being sixty-three. Thirty-one percent of members are under the age of fifty. We have one member who has been with SAR for forty-eight years, but the median length of membership is five years.

Another interesting fact also turned up. While reviewing the Membership Directory, Fox Valley Color Guard Captain Jon Fixmer noticed the name J. Todd ("Todd") Blincoe of



Compatriots Todd Blincoe, second left, and Jon Fixmer, far right, didn't know they are related when this photo was taken last October. From left are: compatriots Ralph Harkison, Todd Blincoe, Jerome Smith and Anthony Cook together with Registrar Ted Miller and Color Guard Captain Jon Fixmer at the swearing-in ceremony on October 30, 2016.

Aurora. The name sounded familiar to Jon but at first he could not place it. Then he remembered where he'd seen the name: Jon has been researching his DNA Ancestry, and Todd was listed on his DNA relationship report. It turns out that Jon Fixmer and J. Todd Blincoe are distant cousins. What's more, they first met last October, when Jon helped to swear in Todd as a Fox Valley mem-

ber – but back then they did not even know they were related!

To stay informed about Chapter events it is important to notify us if your contact information has changed. If your mailing address or email address has changed, or if you're not sure if your dues have been paid, please contact Fox Valley Secretary Kevin Alcott at kalcott@msn.com as soon as possible.

Learn to shoot like a Patriot!

Fox Valley SAR and Rock Run Long Rifles, Inc., 5790 Eddy Road, Winnebago, IL will be presenting a Muzzleloading Firearms Safety Course on Saturday May 6 from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. Lunch is included with a drink.

A flyer for the event is attached. The course is hosted by Ray Swenson and his muzzleloader shooting club.

Some of you may remember Ray from last year's Drill and Grill. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Color Guard Commander Jon Fixmer at: jfixmer73@yahoo.com

This class will teach you everything you need to know about using all types of muzzleloading firearms. Come out and join the fun. This class also will let you shoot muzzleloading firearms under the guidance and personal coaching of experience shooters.

This class is limited to fifty (50) students and all students must be over the age of twelve (12) years of age. Any students under the age of eighteen (18) must be accompanied by an adult family member.

Only \$15.00 per student payable the day of the class. Contact – Ray H. Swenson at 815.623.7386.

Don't forget, there is also a new parade the day after Ray's Course, the New Lenox Loyalty Day Parade on Sunday May 7th.



Fox Valley chapter Color Guard events

April 15 Drill & Grill
Langum Park, St Charles
after Chapter Meeting @ Messenger Library

May 6
Muzzle Loading Course w/Ray
Swenson & Rock Run Long Rifles
Winnebago, IL 9-3 \$15

May 7
Loyalty Day Parade - New Lenox, IL

May 27
Memorial Day Parade - Chicago

May 29
Memorial Day Parade - Wheaton

July 4
Independence Day Parade - Wheaton &
Cantigny Rendezvous w/Hamilton's Artillery

August TBA
Twilight Parade - Springfield
(Tentative)

September 9/10
Cantigny Rev War Days - Winfield
September TBA SAR Color Guard Washington's
Tomb Vigil & Guard - MT Vernon Alexandria, VA

October 7
Dollinger Rev War Days - Channahon, IL

November 5
Veterans Memorial Ceremony - Rosehill
Cemetery, Chicago, IL

November 26
Christmas Parade - Woodstock, IL

Works in Progress or Dates TBA
- SAR Grave Marking Ceremony
for Daniel Burroughs
- SAR Day at Kane County Cougars
- Naperville Last Fling Parade
Labor Day, September 4
- SAR Black Powder Muzzle Loader Day
Franklin Grove, IL
Possible Dates: June 25, July 16, Aug 20

Plano Revolutionary War Patriot had fascinating story

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We are planning to have a rededication ceremony and to erect a cast aluminum plaque at the entrance of Griswold Cemetery.

We are attempting to find and invite any of Daniel Burroughs descendants to come to the ceremony. We would like to honor Revolutionary War Patriot Daniel Burroughs sometime this year.

Following is Daniel Burroughs' story.

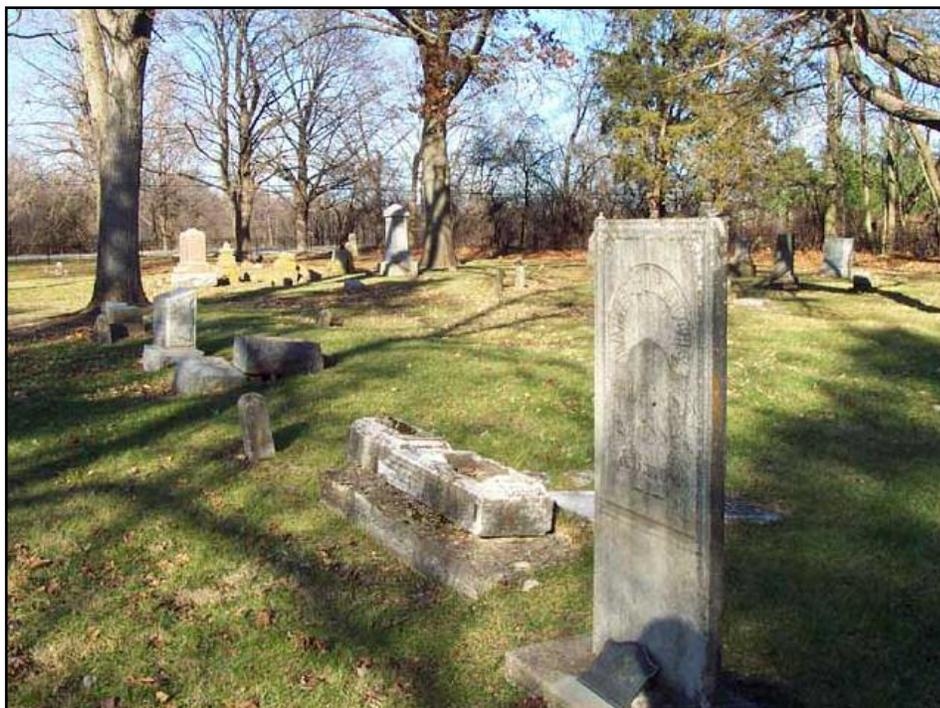
Daniel Burroughs was born in Windsor, Hartford County, Connecticut on May 28, 1755, the son of John Burroughs and Sarah Abbe. In 1775, he was residing in Alstead, New Hampshire. In 1775, Daniel Burroughs volunteered as a private in a Company of Captain Jason Wait, in the regiment under the command of Colonel John Stark. The regiment marched to Cambridge, Massachusetts and was stationed there for about three months. After this time Daniel was discharged by proclamation and he returned home to Alstead.

On June 1, 1776, Daniel again volunteered for a one year term of enlistment, again in the Company of Captain Jason Wait in the regiment commanded by Colonel Bidel. Daniel Burroughs was appointed a Corporal in Captain Wait's Company. Shortly thereafter, the regiment marched from Alstead, New Hampshire to Fort Ticonderoga. Fort Ticonderoga was originally built by the French in 1755-58 above a narrow, strategic chokepoint between Lake Champlain and Lake George. Here, Daniel Burroughs was stationed until November 1st, and was then again discharged by proclamation.

Early in April 1777, Daniel once again volunteered at Alstead, New Hampshire, this time in a Company commanded by Captain Christopher Webber in Colonel Benjamin Bellow's regiment. At this time Daniel was promoted to First Sergeant, and again marched to Fort Ticonderoga, where he was stationed until the fort was evacuated by the Continental Army on July 6, 1777 after British General Burgoyne had managed to place cannon on Mount Defiance, forcing the American General Arthur St. Clair to evacuate.

Daniel Burroughs remained with the militia and took part in the Battle of Saratoga in October 1777, which forced the defeat and surrender of British General Burgoyne to Washington's forces. It was at the Battle of Saratoga where a British army of approximately 7,000 was defeated by the Continental Army and militia units under the command of American General Horatio Gates.

The end for Burgoyne and his army at Saratoga came on the heels of a long and arduous campaign that began with the stun-



Revolutionary War Soldier Daniel Burroughs's gravesite in Griswold Cemetery in Plano.

ning British victory at Ticonderoga. In an attempt to link his forces with those of British General Howe traveling north from New York, Burgoyne sailed with his army down Lake Champlain, and headed for Albany. They paused only to capture the formidable American fort at Ticonderoga.

British expectations were dashed, however, in the American countryside. Burgoyne's cumbersome entourage, which included 30 carts of Burgoyne's personal possessions, and several cases of champagne, was hindered by the dense New York forests. By the time Burgoyne reached Freeman's Farm near Saratoga, American patriots were less cowed by Burgoyne's haughty pronouncements demanding their surrender, than they were of general fears of having an invading army in the neighborhood.

In November of 1777, Daniel Burroughs was again discharged by proclamation, and returned to his home in New Hampshire.

In September of the year 1780, Daniel Burroughs volunteered as a Sergeant under Captain Amos Shepard, again in the regiment of Benjamin Bellows. From Alstead, New Hampshire the regiment marched to Lake Champlain and on to Royalton, Vermont in pursuit of the Indians who were allied with the British and had burned the town of Royalton. Daniel Burroughs was on duty with this expedition about two months, and was again discharged.

After the war, Daniel Burroughs relocated to Williamstown, Vermont where he lived for seventeen years. He eventually moved to Shalersville, Portage County, Ohio and lived

there a number of years. Daniel Burroughs came to Kane County, Illinois in 1837 with his son, Daniel Burroughs, Jr., who was a veteran of the War of 1812.

Daniel Burroughs arrived before the land had been surveyed by the U.S. Government. He marked his claim by scoring the bark on certain trees and piling up rocks at appropriate places. The Daniel Burroughs claim was one of the largest in Kendall County estimated between 500 and 570 acres. All of the land (257 acres) in the Silver Springs State Park on the north side of the Fox River was probably in the Burroughs' claim. The Griswold Cemetery was probably part of their claim as well.

One of the succeeding owners of the Burroughs' claim was Elihu Griswold who was born in Schoharie County, New York on October 9, 1825. He came to Little Rock Township in Kendall County in 1838, married in 1852, bought part of the Burroughs' claim in 1853 and died in 1913. He left \$1500 in his will to the Griswold Cemetery and smaller amounts for tombstones for people, mostly outside of his family.

At the time of the 1840 Federal Census, what is now Kendall County was part of southern Kane County. Kendall County was organized in 1841. Hence the census record shows Daniel Burroughs living in Kane County in 1840.

Daniel Burroughs passed away on October 18, 1843 at the age of 88 years, 4 months and 20 days. He is buried in the Griswold Cemetery in Plano, Kendall County, Illinois.

Fox Valley Knight Essay Contest winner takes state too

By Chapter Secretary Kevin Alcott

Fox Valley's winner of the 2017 George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay award has also won the State Knight Essay competition, the first time that has happened in many years.

Heather Gathman, a senior at Genoa-Kingston High School located in Genoa, Illinois, won the Fox Valley Chapter level competition for her essay entitled "With a Little Help," which analyzes the assistance provided to the United States by France and Spain during the American Revolution.

The George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest is open to any high school student.

Students are invited to write an essay between 800 and 1200 words on any topic pertaining to an event, person, philosophy, or ideal associated with the American Revolution, the Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution. Essays must adhere strictly to stated rules, and they must include at least five references with a minimum of three being published book citations. Students submit their essays to their local Fox Valley Chapter by December 31 at midnight.

Heather's was one of nine essays submitted to Fox Valley SAR. Hers was deemed best by the officers of the Chapter. She will be read-

ing her essay aloud to the Chapter at the upcoming Fox Valley SAR Luncheon on April 23, where she will be presented with a medal, a certificate, and a check for \$150. From there, Heather will proceed to the SAR BOM Meeting in Springfield in May, where she will be awarded a check for \$1,000. Heather is now also entered into the National Competition, and if she wins, she could receive as much as \$8,000 for her essay. The Fox Valley Chapter wishes Heather all the best and will follow her progress in the competition with interest.

Please welcome our newest Fox Valley compatriots

Chapter Vice President Mike Campagnolo received seven new membership certificates from ILSSAR President Toby Chamberlain at the last state BOM meeting in Bloomington.

The newest chapter members are:

Herbert Donald Martin Jr.
P.O. Box 1028
Maywood, IL 60153
National #200909 State #8980

Paul James Little
1050 Danforth Drive
Batavia, IL 60510
National #200910 State #8981

Christian Daniel Martin
1229 N Ashbel
Berkeley, IL 60163
National #200905 State #8976

Michael Anthony Martin
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Mundelein, IL 60060
National #200907 State #8978

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National #200906 State #8977

Eric Richard Loydall
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