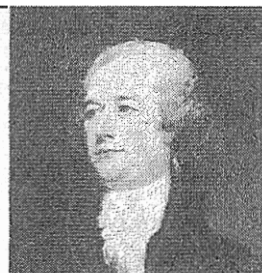




THE ALEXANDER HAMILTON CHAPTER MESSENGER



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ALEXANDER HAMILTON CHAPTER, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



So, how are we doing?!? ... As a chapter, that is, and against our goals set last year by your Executive Board?

Attendance is about even with years past, we have had net growth in membership, our chapter is well represented at the State Society, chapter members show enthusiasm for interesting programs and we provide great support for chapter philanthropic projects. However, there are opportunities for improvement in the re-establishment of the Eagle Scout sponsorship/recognition program, the Color Guard, and adopting chapter by-laws.

Two of these projects give our chapter an opportunity to become active in patriotic civic affairs and cast our society with favorable visibility in the community. Additionally, we need to adopt chapter by-laws for written, codified organization of how we operate as a chapter.

During the next few months, I want to firm up our commitments to both the Eagle Scout and the chapter Color Guard programs with personal involvement. I seek not only your help, but also your advice with these two projects, and ask you to consider becoming involved. My goal is to report our progress to you at our April meeting.

By-laws: At our January meeting, our chapter's Executive Board will receive proposed by-laws. At this meeting I will seek their advice and consent to present these, or revised, chapter by-laws for your adoption. Again, my goal for completing this project is by our April meeting.

It is only with your loyal and energetic support that the officers and trustees can provide creative leadership to keep our chapter vibrant, alive and relevant in our ever-changing society. If history is to be remembered as it happened, not as re-written, it must be because of patriotic organizations such as the Sons of the American Revolution that get involved in the educational processes at the grass roots level.

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, January 21, 2006, 9 AM

"State Government 101"

Presented by State Senator Jim Kastama (D)
25th District (Puyallup)



This month's speaker is State Senator Jim Kastama, Chair of the Senate Government Operations & Elections Committee and member of the Health & Long-Term Care and Transportation Committees. Senator Kastama served in the House of Representatives for four years prior to his successful bid to represent Puyallup in the Senate in 2000. Re-elected in 2004, his current term expires January 2009. Senator Kastama will share with our group some of the key issues facing the up-coming legislative session, plus the status of several bills that he is personally sponsoring.

You won't want to miss this opportunity to question one of our elected representatives about what is going on in state government. So, plan now to be present at the Fife City Bar & Grill, Saturday, January 21st at 9:00 AM for a great program, excellent food and wonderful Alexander Hamilton fellowship, the hallmark of our chapter meetings.

LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. John Jewell, Project Sculptor, presented an exceptional description of the creative and manufacturing process that went into the making of the Captain Meriwether Lewis and dog Seaman statue, now in place at the Visitors Center at Fort Lewis. This was truly one of our best programs and we are grateful to VP Chuck Waid and Esther Oliver, Dr. Jewell's aunt, for securing the services of Dr. Jewell.



Visitors at our November meeting included Dr. Andrew Cowan, Seattle Chapter; Bob Doughty, Cascade Centennial Chapter and Editor of our award winning state newsletter, "The Washington Trail"; and prospective members Bill Marshall and Allan Peschek.



CHAPTER BULLETIN BOARD

The annual *George Washington Memorial Celebration* will take place Monday, February 20, 2006, 9:30 AM, at Kane Hall, Room 130, U of Washington. Sponsored by the DAR Greater Seattle Area Regents Council, this impressive ceremony includes participation by most of the patriotic and lineage based organizations in the State of Washington. The concluding event is the laying of the wreaths at the base of the George Washington Statue in the Commons. Free parking is available in the underground garage off of 15th Avenue NE.

The annual *Massing of the Colors* will take place Sunday, March 5, 2006, 3:00 PM at Soldier's Field House, Fort Lewis, WA. Massing of the Colors is a patriotic ceremony honoring those who have served the United States of America & the youth of today, who will serve in the future. Our chapter Color Guard has traditionally participated in this impressive event.

The *Second Annual DAR/SAR Dinner* will take place Thursday, June 1, 2006 at the SeaTac Marriott Hotel, 3201 S 176th St, SeaTac. Social hour at 5 PM, dinner at 6 PM at a cost of \$41.00 per person. **Reservations are required & must be paid in full no later than March 15.** **Make checks payable to 105th WSSDAR State Conference (note "DAR/SAR Dinner" on memo line) and mail to Bett Houston, 2070 NE Oriole Way, Bremerton, WA 98311-3941.** Honored guests will be NSDAR President General Presley Wagoner & NSSAR President General Rowland Downing. The guest speaker will be Washington State Secretary of State Sam Reed.

Debbie Duay, wife of Ft. Lauderdale, FL SAR chapter president, Ted Duay, has designed a very helpful *interactive web page entitled "Researching Your Family Tree, An Introduction to Genealogy"*. It is designed as a tutorial for neophyte genealogists, and is a tool that should be in the hands of every SAR member who is working with a prospective new member. To access the web site go to <http://www.learnwebskills.com/family/intro.html>.

We need the continued support of the membership to donate *raffle prizes for our meeting raffles*. The "rule of thumb" is: the donated prize should be of a quality that you would want to win yourself.



CHAPTER CHRISTMAS PARTY December 14, 2005

Thirty Compatriots, spouses and guests gathered at the Tacoma Elks Club December 14 for the annual Alexander Hamilton Chapter Christmas Party. The evening included a sumptuous dinner, the singing of Christmas carols led by VP Chuck Waid, a presentation of "A Victorious Christmas with the Continental Army of 1776" by Shirley Wagers, a reading of the "Night Before Christmas" by Genealogist Fred Ramsey and a gift exchange overseen by Santa. The door prize was won by Julie Peschek, wife of prospective member Allan. Honored guests included State President Elect John Qualls & wife Marge and Seattle Chapter President Tony Abbott & wife Charlotte. State President Qualls installed Compatriot Bob Wagers as the Chapter Secretary for 2006.



COMPATRIOT ACTIVITIES



A number of Alexander Hamilton Compatriots were recognized at the recent WASSAR State Board Meeting as follows :

Sworn in as state officers: Bob Wagers (VP for Opns), Fred Ramsey (Secretary), Fred Kiser (Treasurer), Chuck Waid (Registrar/Genealogist), Dick Seiber (Chaplain) & Mel Scott (National Trustee).

Received awards: Fred Ramsey, Ken Slaker, Chuck Waid & Bob Wagers (Meritorious Service Award). Also receiving two awards (Martha Washington Medal & Medal of Appreciation) was Bett Houston, wife of outgoing State President Harry Houston. Everyone agreed that she had certainly earned them.

WSSAR Past President Dr. Harry Houston has been on the move in support of his many Masonic responsibilities. In November he went to Canterbury, England where he attended a meeting of St. Thomas of Acon, the Masonic Lodge in Canterbury. Following that he was the guest of the Archbishop for a special ceremony in the basement crypt for St. Thomas a Becket, who is part of the tradition of St. Thomas of Acon.

In December Compatriot Harry went to New York City to participate in the establishment of a new chapel of St. Thomas of Acon. This was much the same as the three that were established in Texas in September. In Texas they also established a national body of this order of which Compatriot Harry is an officer. He expects that they will next establish new chapels in North Carolina and Georgia. To quote Harry, "It is a bottomless pit!!!"

PLEASE NOTE! There will be a short meeting of the *Executive Board* immediately following the meeting.



COLLECTIONS FOR THE VETERANS MEMORIAL MUSEUM (VMM)

We will once again be collecting in support of this distinguished museum. All donations are tax deductible. ***Make checks out to VMM.***