

# Springfield Chapter SAR Newsletter

ILLINOIS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
SPRINGFIELD CHAPTER Established February 22, 1897 July 17, 2010

## Upcoming Calendar:

Chapter Meetings are usually held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in JAN-APR-JUL-OCT

**July 17, 2010** Springfield Chapter meeting at *MCL Cafeteria* 2151 Wabash Ave. at 11 AM. Dutch Treat lunch follows.

**Aug 12, 2010** State Fair Twilight Parade. Springfield Chapter and Illinois Society Color Guards to participate; Assemble 9<sup>th</sup> Street and North Grand 5:30 PM

**Aug. 13-14, 2010** - State BoM meeting Springfield Hilton Hotel.

**September 23-25, 2010** NSSAR Fall Leadership meeting, Louisville, KY

**October 16, 2010** Springfield Chapter meeting at *MCL Cafeteria* 2151 Wabash Ave at 11 AM.

**Oct 29-30, 2010** Great Lakes District Meeting, Holiday Inn North Campus, Ann Arbor, MI

**November 5-6, 2010** - State BoM meeting Pere Marquette Hotel, Peoria

**November 11, 2010** –Veteran’s Day Activities Downtown & Camp Butler

## **ILSSAR 120th Annual Conference Held in Springfield May14th & May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Springfield Hilton**

Attending the Annual Conference from the Springfield Chapter were: **Stephen Bradley, Ken Griffin, R. Garey Hodge, Lou Myers and Karl Reed.**

There was a large crowd that included **Larry Pennie**, the keynote speaker. Larry is a retired educator from Bloomington, IL. He gave a interesting informative and funny portrayal of Benjamin Franklin. Larry has presented over 750 programs on Franklin’s life

and his contributions as a founding father of our country.

## **Springfield Chapter and It’s Members Honored by State Society**

The Springfield Chapter, and some of its individual members, and friends of the Chapter were honored at the ILSSAR Conference.

## **Springfield Chapter Newsletter**

The Joel Willis Newsletter flag streamer was given to the Springfield Chapter for being **one of only three (3)** ILSSAR chapters who published chapter newspapers of at least four pages quarterly. Thanks to all members who submit articles and pictures for the paper.

## **Springfield Chapter Receives Presidential Citation**

The Springfield Chapter was awarded the ILSSAR Presidential Unit Citation for being one of eight (8) ILSSAR chapters with perfect attendance at all ILSSAR Board of Managers meetings. Our chapter members deserve a salute for all their work on behalf of Illinois Society of SAR.

## **Stephen Bradley Receives Oak Leaf Cluster For His Meritorious Service Award**

The meritorious Service Award may be awarded to SAR members who have rendered long, faithful and meritorious service to their chapter, State Society or to the National

Society. This award is second in prestige only to the Patriot Medal.

**Stephen Bradley** has served the Illinois Society as a Color Guard member and Audit Committee Chairman, during his 12 years in SAR. He has served the Springfield Chapter as the Flag Awards Chairman, member of the Good Citizenship Committee, color guard member, Chapter President, Vice President and Treasurer.

Stephen also served as Illinois State President and as a National Officer when he served as Trustee and Vice President General of the Great Lakes District.

### **Louis Myers Receives a Silver Good Citizenship Medal**

**Lou Myers** has been a member of the Springfield Chapter for five years. During that time he has been extremely active in chapter and ILSSAR events. Lou has been the keynote speaker for Outstanding Citizenship award ceremonies and currently is President of the Springfield Chapter. Lou is very active in veterans' events and serves on the US Army's Reserve Officers Corp. Lou has also recognized his work in the C.A.R. and for the major role he played in the *Wreaths Across America* program.

### **Esther Reed Receives Martha Washington Medal**

The *Martha Washington Medal* was awarded to **Esther Reed** in recognition of her outstanding services rendered to SAR and for significantly aiding the ILSSAR programs including serving as treasurer of the Ladies Auxiliary. Esther has been a strong supporter of SAR for many years. She has attended many SAR meetings including nearly all of the color guard activities and helped with the Outstanding Citizenship luncheons. In addition, Esther provided strong support when

Karl was ILSSAR State President and Vice President General of the Great Lakes District.

### **Bob Dennison New Color Guard Commander and Salute to R. Garey Hodge**

At the April 28, 2001 meeting it was decided to form a committee to study the formation of a chapter color guard. Eventually, five men purchased uniforms and a color guard was formed. The first two activities were 1) the George Bryan grave marking May 20, 2001 and 2) Memorial Day services at the Grand Army of the Republic Memorial across from Lincoln's original burial vault in Oak Ridge Cemetery May 30, 2001.

**R. Garey Hodge** has served as the Springfield Chapter's Color Guard Commander since its inception. Due to health concerns, R. Garey has decided to relinquish his position as commander of the color guard. The Springfield Chapter owes R. Garey a debt of gratitude for his role in forming the Springfield Chapter Color Guard and for leading the color guard for nearly 10 years. Salute!

**Bob Dennison** has graciously agreed to be the new Commander of the Springfield Color Guard. Bob has been a member of the Springfield Chapter for nearly five years and has been active in the color guard for that entire time. Bob is active in Revolutionary War reenacting and brings a wealth of experience to the commander position. Anyone interested in getting involved in the color guard should contact Bob at robert.dennison @cwlp.com

### **Memorial Day**

On May 31, 2010 Stephen Bradley and Toby Chamberlain of the Springfield Chapter Color Guard represented the chapter during Memorial Day events at Camp Butler National Cemetery.



Stephen Bradley and Toby Chamberlain @ Camp Butler

## Chatham Homecoming Parade

The Springfield Chapter Color Guard was active again June 26<sup>th</sup> during the Chatham Homecoming Parade. Led by their new commander, Bob Dennison, the Color Guard marched over one mile in 93 degree temperatures.



L-R Bradley, Reed, Chamberlain and Dennison

As a special tribute to his patriot ancestor, Toby Chamberlain carried the flag used by the patriot side at the battle of Guilford Court House in North Carolina.

Springfield Chapter President, Lou Myers added a new dimension to the Springfield Color Guard by following the unit in his van with patriotic music playing from loudspeakers on the van's roof.

Although not technically a joint entry, the Captain William Penny Chapter of the DAR had a parade entry that followed the Myers's van. All three contingents were well received.



L-R Myers, Dennison, Reed, Chamberlain and Bradley

The color guard has both red and blue vests. Technically, the uniform the color guard wears are replicates of the uniform worn by George Washington's personal body guards and requires a red vest. During hot weather, the color guard elects not to wear their coats they are sometimes thought to represent the British! Consequently, the Springfield Color Guard has adopted blue vests when marching without coats.

As the following clipping shows, the Springfield Chapter Color Guard was selected *Best of Show* by the Chatham Parade Committee.



The Sons of the American Revolution earned Best of Show honors at Saturday's Chatham Homecoming Parade, which was held through the streets of Old Chatham.

Color Guard Selected 'Best of Show'