



Michigan Society Sons of the American Revolution

The Oaks Chapter

The Acorn

June, 2015

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Promote in our youth and community a sense of commitment to the Ideals of American Patriotism, to encourage participation in political processes and maintain camaraderie of membership

Oaks Chapter Meeting June 11, 2015

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The Oaks Chapter of the Michigan Society, Sons of the American Revolution conducted its General Membership meeting on Thursday, June 15, 2015 at Avery's Tavern in Rochester Hills, Michigan.

The guest speaker was MISSAR President Rod Wilson. Rod reiterated many of the goals he has set for the state chapters that can be found in June issue of The Wolverine Minute Man newsletter. He also informed the chapter members of the following scholarships and awards that are available from the MISSAR and NSSAR.

[The Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest](#)

Michigan high school students will again have the opportunity to show their literary skill as well as their historical and patriotic knowledge by entering the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest. The Michigan Society and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution sponsor this Contest. The National Association of Secondary School Principals has placed it on the Advisory List of the National Contests and Activities.

The contestant presents an original oration of not less than five minutes not more than six minutes. The composition must be original and be about the history of the American Revolution. It may be about a personality, an event, or a document of the War. The student should show the relationship of the selected subject to the United States today.

Awards on the national level are 1st prize of \$3000, 2nd prize of \$2000 and 3rd prize of \$1000. The next three Finalists receive \$300.00 and all other National Contestants receive \$200.00. First place Michigan finalist will receive a silver Olympic size medallion. Michigan finalist cash prize to be determined.

[Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Scholarship](#)

This scholarship is open to all Eagle Scouts who are currently registered in an active unit and have not reached their 19th birthday during the year of application. College plans do not need to be completed in order to receive the cash scholarship. Three cash scholarship awards are given at the national level by the NSSAR:

First Place - \$8000.
Second Place - \$4,000.
Third Place - \$2,000.

We recommend, but it is not required, that Eagle Scouts obtain the additional merit badges of American Heritage, Genealogy, and Law.

Eagle Scouts may apply more than one year, if they meet the age requirements, but no more than one Grand prize may be granted to any one Eagle Scout from the State Society. First place Michigan finalist will receive a SAR Eagle Scout medallion. Michigan finalist cash prize to be determined.

George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest

The contest is designed to give high school sophomores, juniors and seniors an opportunity to explore events that shaped American History. This contest is open to all students who are United States citizens or legal aliens. Contestants shall be attending public, parochial, or private high schools (including accredited home schools). The contest sponsored by the Michigan Society is conducted in two phases: State and National. Only one entry per student is permitted each year.

The contest is for an original researched and proven topic written in English. The topic of the essay shall deal with: an event, person, philosophy, or ideal associated with the American Revolution, the Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution.

First place: Michigan finalist will receive a certificate. Michigan finalist cash prize to be determined. Three cash scholarship awards are given at the National level by the NSSAR: First Place: \$2,000, Second Place: \$1,000, Third Place: \$500.

Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award

Sons of the American Revolution wish to identify, recognize, and commend Outstanding Social Studies Teachers. These extraordinary educators at private, public, and parochial institutions, who teach our children in a middle or high school setting, will be recognized for actively addressing the history of the American Revolutionary era.

The winner will represent a teacher whose instruction on the Revolutionary War era from 1750 - 1800 demonstrates educational efforts in the classroom that exceed and excel above current, accepted, curriculum requirements. The winner will receive a trip to Freedoms Foundation Summer Teacher Graduate Workshop at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. This award, valued at \$1,400.00, will include tuition, room, and board provided through the Freedoms Foundation. Transportation expenses will be limited to \$400.00. First place Michigan finalist will receive a certificate and plaque.

ROTC / JROTC Recognition Program

The SAR awards the ROTC Medal to foster the principle of the "citizen-soldier", exemplified by the Minute-men of Revolutionary War days. This award is presented by a Chapter, a State Society, or the National Society to ROTC or JROTC cadets who are selected for having a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence. The recipients are selected by the Commanding Officer of the ROTC or JROTC unit, who should be given full latitude in making the selection.

There are also ROTC Recognition awards, Coloring Book contest, and Good Citizenship medal/award.

Please see the MISSAR web site for more information regarding these opportunities.

Message from the Oaks Chapter President

"Be bold, and make a difference"

It has been a busy spring season for the Oaks Chapter and the MISSAR. The Oaks conducted a Board of Governor's meeting (all are welcome) in May, and a general membership meeting in June. The MISSAR held their annual meeting in Lansing in April, and a Board of Manager's meeting aboard the USS Edson in June in Bay City.

During the summer months I would encourage you all to pick at least one Oaks or MISSAR project or committee to participate in. I recently sent you all a list of MISSAR committees that need your help. In the Oaks Chapter I would like to reinstitute the Flag committee, which honors local home owners and businesses for outstanding displays of the American Flag. We have one Compatriot who has expressed interest in helping, but a few people working together could make this a fun and rewarding project. Our 2nd Vice President, John Raya, is working on connecting with the Boy Scouts so we can honor local scouts that achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. Please contact him if you would like to be involved..

I will discuss other opportunities to serve in future issues of the Acorn. In the meantime, really consider "raising your hand" to participate in one of the committees or projects. The rewards for helping further our mission may surprise you. You *can* make a difference!

Have a wonderful summer,

John Crissman, President, Oaks Chapter, MISSAR

2015 Oaks Chapter MISSAR Officers

President	John Crissman
1 st Vice-President	Thomas Coddington
2 nd Vice-President	John Raya
Secretary	Dennis VanWormer
Treasurer	Jeffery Matis
Registrar/Genealogist	Raymond Lucas
Historian	Rodney Wilson
Chaplain	David Moore
Trustee Medals & Awards	Michael Frank
Trustee PR	James Walker
Trustee DAR/CAR Liaison	Scott Pouls

Oaks Chapter Membership update

The Oaks Chapter is honored to welcome compatriot Jeffrey Yeager who recently transferred his membership to the Oaks Chapter. As our chapter continues to grow, exciting opportunities are available for participation. Please introduce yourselves to compatriot Yeager and be sure to ask about his patriot.

Events



The Oaks Chapter Sons of the American Revolution display at the Rochester Heritage Days Festival May 23rd and 24th.

Oaks Chapter Dates to Remember

- Thursday Sep 10, 2015
Oaks Board Meeting (all are welcome)
Location Avery's Tavern
Rochester Hills
- Thursday Oct 8, 2015
Oaks General Membership Meeting
Location Avery's Tavern
Rochester Hills