

Newsletter Paul Emery Chapter



May 2025 Issue

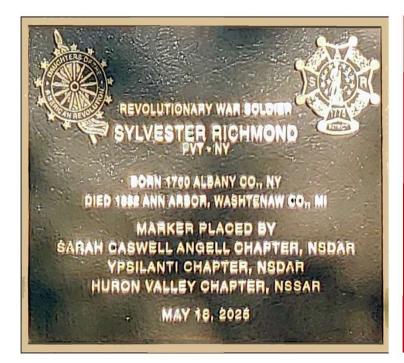




Luke and Aaron Wiles, 1st VP of the Paul Emery Chapter, visited this historic marker on May 2nd near Upper Sandusky in Ohio. The defeat of Colonel William Crawford in 1782 was one of the final battles of the Revolutionary War.

Crawford and 500+ militia, mostly from Pennsylvania, moved deep into Native American territory. The purpose was to destroy Native towns along the Sandusky River, hoping to end the attacks on American settlers. They planned on surprising the Natives, but the British knew they were coming, and were allies with the Natives at the time.

The Native Americans, 340 to 640 strong, along with 100 British Provincials, clashed with the American forces on June 4th, 5th and 6th. About 20 militia were killed, along with 6 Natives and 10 or 11 Provincials wounded. Colonel Crawford was captured and tortured to death. His execution was widely publicized in the U.S., which did not help relations between the Native Americans and the American settlers.





On May 18, 2025, the Paul Emery Chapter Sons of the American Revolution color guard members once again participated in a grave marking dedication ceremony by presenting the colors. The event was held in Popkin Cemetery at 4230 Pratt Rd., Ann Arbor, Michigan. The dedication was sponsored by the DAR Sarah Caswell Angell Chapter of Ypsilanti and the Huron Valley Chapter of the MISSAR.

Patriot Sylvester Richmond of Albany County, New York, was honored at the ceremony. In 1760, he served in the N.Y. Militia during the Revolutionary War. After the war, he moved to Michigan. He died here in October of 1832.

The cemetery was abandoned for several years but some dedicated groups including DAR, SAR, and local Scio Township's Boy Scout troop revived and unearthed a quantity of lost headstones. Many possible surprises could be found in future restoration of the cemetery.

The Michigan SAR Color Guard was led by Commander John Lepisto and Vice Commander Bob Hawcroft. Guardsmen Jim Petres and Norman Palmer participated in the flag carrying procession.

A group of Michigan governmental dignitaries and several other participants spoke and presented citations, plaques, and medals. Many of the family descendants of Pvt. Sylvester Richmond were in attendance. A burial flag was folded and presented to the eldest member of the family.

The weather cooperated and it was a very nice day for the ceremony. The warmth of the sunshine was appreciated by all. After the benediction, the color guard retired the colors to end the dedication. Prayers were spoken prior to leaving the grounds.









Now for something entirely different: I am suggesting that everyone go to your latest issue of the national SAR magazine, spring edition, (Vol. 119, No. 4) and turn to page 34. There you will find an article about the Paul Emery Chapter. The article speaks about chapter member Ted Spear and rightfully highlights Ted's dedication to the SAR and to our chapter. Ted's efforts to have a headstone placed in the Great Lakes National Cemetery for Patriot Joseph Van Etten is extolled. Ted also did considerable work locating the gravesite of Dr. William O. McDowell, who was a founder of the NSSAR. We wish to thank Ted Spear for all he does for our chapter.

Calendar items-

- June 14th, 2025 Michigan Society, Board of Managers (BoM) meeting in Dearborn from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- June 28th, 2025 Jeremiah Clark Chapter 250th Anniversary Liberty Tree Dedication, Clintonwood Park, 6000 Clarkston Road, Village of Clarkston from 11:30 am to 12:00 pm.
- July 19th & 20th, 2025 Cass River Colonial Encampment of historical reenactors at River Place Shops in Frankenmuth, visit & tour military camps and shop at historical vendors; a free educational & family-friendly event.
- July 26th, 2025 Paul Emery Chapter Meeting at the home of Ron Barnard from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, 462 Shalimar Ridge, Metamora with guest speaker the Honorable Judge Laura Barnard from the DAR to talk about her state and national awards in needlepoint displays.
- September 20th, 2025 Paul Emery Chapter Meeting at the White Horse Inn in Metamora from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm with guest speaker Doctor Nicholas DiPucchio, visiting assistant professor, Department of History, Oakland University.
- September 20th, 2025 Jeremiah Clark Chapter grave marking & plaque dedication service for (Patriots) Jeremiah Clark, Jr. / Caleb Barker Merrell, Lakeview Cemetery, Village of Clarkston from 1:00 to 2:00 pm.
- October 11th, 2025 Michigan Society, Board of Managers (BoM) meeting in St. Ignace from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- November 22nd, 2025 Paul Emery Chapter Meeting at the White Horse Inn in Metamora from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm with guest Lynne McCarthy, president of the Lapeer County Courthouse Restoration Committee, who will give a presentation on the old Lapeer County Courthouse, the oldest functioning courthouse in the State of Michigan.
- January 17th, 2026 Paul Emery Chapter Meeting at the White Horse Inn in Metamora from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. (Compatriot) Bruce Patterson will give a presentation on Simpson Park Camp in Romeo, Michigan, that has been holding camp since 1865.
- March 21st, 2026 Paul Emery Chapter Meeting at the White Horse Inn in Metamora from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. (Compatriot / President) Jim Riddell of the Paul Emery Chapter will give a talk on his Patriot Ancestors.

Okay, that's a wrap for the May issue. If you have any articles, photos, and/or interesting items that you would like to see printed in future issues, please submit them to me at wethompson@yahoo.com. Your help is really appreciated. ~Bill