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## INDIANA SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



# HOOSIER PATRIOT



Volume XII, No. 1 - July 2009

Subscribers have the opportunity to unsubscribe, and each compatriot has the opportunity to subscribe through a form on the INSSAR web site. Compatriots receiving this newsletter have valid email addresses on file with the Indiana Society. No additional action is necessary to continue subscribing to this electronic newsletter.

### Greetings from President Oberlin



Greetings,

It is a humbling experience to be among the 81 men elected to serve as President of the Indiana Society. I am very appreciative to have such fine examples to follow, as well as the counsel of so many compatriots. We are truly a blessed organization.

A wise compatriot once told me, "the SAR is mostly a bunch of old farts who argue and pin medals on each other." While we have all witnessed that aspect, the SAR is a dynamic, living organization. While sustaining our historical, educational, and patriotic purposes, we nevertheless experience change. It is incumbent upon all of us to manage that change.

As our name implies, "sons" are what perpetuate ideals. It is through our youth that we will change, as an organization and as a nation. Supplemented with contributions from the Color Guard and Ladies Auxiliary, the House of Delegates has doubled our youth programs 2009 budget. Also, beginning this year, the Indiana Society is a sponsor of the Indiana Historical Society's National History Day, designed to challenge students in grades four through 12 to improve their research, analytical and communication skills.

We must also continue to remember our military veterans. Chaired by Compatriot James Arnold, the Indiana Society has a nationally recognized Partners in Patriotism program. In remembrance of our first veterans, I challenge every chapter to rededicate a patriot grave this year.

As with all organizations, active and growing membership is the key to success. Since taking office in April, I've seen 14 new membership certificates, from six different chapters. Seven of these new compatriots are members of the Ohio Valley Chapter. Two others live in Evansville. Perhaps "the south" will rise again.

The Indiana Society has implemented a project to have the "George Rogers Clark" flag officially recognized as the first Indiana Militia flag. It is well documented the red and green flag was made in Indiana prior to Colonel Clark's capture of Fort Sackville, during the American Revolution. We've generated considerable enthusiasm within the Indiana National Guard toward this flag. I am confident the Indiana Legislature will be equally interested.

We all have different gifts and the Society has diverse needs. I would encourage every member to become involved in the programs of their respective chapter and the Indiana Society. We are proud of our youth scholarships, veterans recognition activities and relationships with various community organizations. The Indiana Society's Patriot Graves Registry and Color Guard are recognized as examples that other societies seek to emulate. Let's all strive to realize the full experience of membership.

Libertas et Patria,  
Steven D. Oberlin  
President Indiana Society

[Indiana Society Sons of the American Revolution](#)

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**INSSAR Summer Meeting - 25 July 2009**

Hosted by Clarence A. Cook Chapter

Indiana War Memorial Museum  
431 North Meridian St.  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Registration (coffee & pastries): 9:30 AM  
Meeting: 10:00 AM

Featured Speaker:  
Brigadier General Stewart Goodwin  
Deputy Joint Forces Commander-Air, Indiana National Guard

[Online Meeting Information ...](#)

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**Overseas DoD JROTC Sponsorship**

The Indiana Society has joined with the National Society in supporting Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corp (JROTC) programs at Department of Defense high schools overseas. Compatriot Jim Arnold has been working with Compatriot Ron Baker, NSSAR DOD JROTC Chairman in obtaining information on the schools that do not have SAR sponsorship (called "Adopting a JROTC"). To date, three Indiana chapters have adopted Cadet Corps. Continental - Osan, Korea AFJROTC; Clarence A. Cook - Naples, Italy NJROTC and Heidelberg, Germany AJROTC; Daniel Guthrie - Sasebo, Japan NJROTC.

Sponsorship is a long term program with an approximate \$25 annual cost, which includes a JROTC Medal, Certificate and Folder, plus mailing to the APO or FPO. Chapters have the option of including a savings bond, plaque, cash award or whatever the chapter deems appropriate.

This all started at the NSSAR Spring Conference, where Compatriot Arnold learned a number of JROTC in the DOD High Schools where not being sponsored by the SAR due to lack of State/Chapter participation. At the 2009 INSSAR Annual Meeting Compatriot Arnold introduced the program and invited Indiana chapters to become involved. In conclusion, the INSSAR is now International with the JROTC Program. Compatriot Baker has congratulated the INSSAR on stepping forward and embracing this program. All Indiana chapters are encouraged to become involved in this worthwhile program. Contact Jim Arnold for additional information.

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**Attention At-Large Members**

At the Annual Meeting, the Indiana Society House of Delegates choose to eliminate "at-large" membership within the Indiana Society. The primary reasons were to relieve some of the workload from the Society Secretary and provide greater opportunity for members to experience belonging to a local chapter.

All current at-large members are encouraged to contact a chapter and ask to be included among the chapter's membership. Current at-large members without a chapter preference, will be assigned to a nearby chapter during the dues renewal process.

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**George Rogers Clark Flag**

The green and red striped flag generates many questions from the public, and creates an opportunity to tell the incredible story of George Rogers Clark, the Virginia officer who liberated Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes. Vincennes was a French colony governed by the British after the French & Indian War ended in 1763. This is the first documented "American" flag made in Indiana, 1778.

François Riday Busseron, a French resident of Vincennes and a local militia captain, supported the Americans and paid Madame Goderre to make this flag before British Lt-Governor Henry Hamilton arrived to capture Fort Sackville. Busseron and his company were credited with giving Hamilton a great deal of trouble when the British occupied Vincennes, and Busseron supplied Clark with dry powder to use in the siege of Fort Sackville.



On 4 February 2008, the Indiana Society presented a George Rogers Clark flag to Indiana National Guard Major General R. Martin Umbarger for use with the 76th Infantry Brigade during their deployment in Iraq. The National Guard is widely considered to continue the heritage of the militias that fought in the American Revolution, and since the Clark flag was made by a Patriot militia on Indiana soil, it is fitting that the Indiana Guard carries this flag with them, today.

[Learn more about historic flags ...](#)

### The Indiana Society Ladies Auxiliary



The Indiana Ladies Auxiliary Sons of the American Revolution, assists Indiana Society with programs, fund raising, historical education and carrying out its mission of inspiring patriotism and informing others of the contributions of our patriot ancestors. Membership in the Auxiliary is open to the wives, mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts, nieces and other women relatives of members of the Sons of the American Revolution.

The Auxiliary meets quarterly during the INSSAR House of Delegates meetings. In addition to conducting business, the ladies often have their own programs and speakers.

[Ladies Auxiliary Web Page](#)

### Indiana Society Color Guard

The Indiana Society Color Guard is probably best known for the color and pageantry their uniforms and flags bring to a parade, grave dedication or other community event. Emotions can range anywhere from children's questions and smiles to tears from a veteran's pride and memories. While all of this is true and important, one cannot overlook the wonderful side effect of fellowship with others who share common interests and passions.

New members are encouraged for local and statewide participation. There are loaner uniforms available and participation and travel is limited only by your own time and energy. Please consider serving in the Color Guard and experiencing the fellowship of your compatriots and the appreciation of your community.



[INSSAR Color Guard Web Page ...](#)

The Hoosier Patriot is a publication by and for the compatriots of the Indiana Society. Contributions of original, previously unpublished, materials are welcomed and encouraged. Photos must have at least a paragraph describing the depicted event. Deadline for submitting material is 45 days prior to the upcoming quarterly house of Delegates meeting.

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