



THE LONG KNIFE

Quarterly Newsletter of the Genl George Rogers Clark Chapter
Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution

*"Serving Madison, Jersey, Macoupin, Bond,
Greene, Calhoun, & Montgomery Counties"*



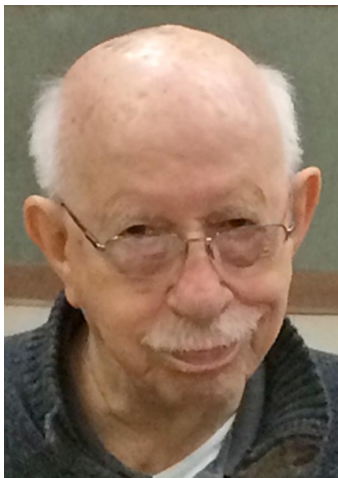
Genl George Rogers Clark on "The March to Vincennes" by Frederich Coffay John, 1929

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June 2020

Death of a Founding Member



Lloyd E. Schwarz, age 93, of Edwardsville, Illinois, one of the founding members of the Genl George Rogers Clark SAR Chapter and current Chaplin, passed away of complications from the COVID-19 virus at 11:10 am on Thursday, May 22, 2020, at Eden Village Care Center in Glen Carbon, Illinois.

Lloyd was born on October 15, 1926, in Zanesville, Ohio, the son of the late Edgar Felix and Zelia Edna (Brooks) Schwarz. Lloyd married Lois (Bruch) Schwarz on December 28, 1947, in Mt. Olive, Illinois. She preceded him in death on May 22, 2014. Lloyd is survived by one son, Eric L. Schwarz and his wife Linda J. Becher, of St. Louis, Missouri; one daughter, Carla Duncan and her husband Gary Brandenburger, of St. Louis, Missouri; and one step grandson, Ben Duncan and his wife Megan (McCullough) Duncan. Besides his parents and wife, Lloyd was preceded in death by a sister, Iva Lee Beswick; and a brother-in-law Vernon Bruch.

Lloyd sold life insurance for many years for both John Hancock and Union Central. He also managed the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce. Lloyd was the past president of the Edwardsville Lions Club and Mundis Cemetery. He was also an elder and chairman of the board of the First Christian Church in Edwardsville. Playing bridge was a passion of his, which he and his late wife enjoyed at the Main Street Community Center as well as with many friends. Lloyd was a veteran of the United States Navy serving during World War II.

A private graveside service was held at Mundis Cemetery in Marine, Illinois, with Rev. Doug Job presiding. Memorials may be made to the First Christian Church in Edwardsville.

Death of a Member

Marvin Joseph Hill, recently of Garden City, New York, died peacefully at home on April 9, 2020, just as Holy Thursday services were ending. Joe was 97.

Born in Granite City, Illinois, on August 3, 1922, Joe was the third child of Roland T. Hill and Cecilia Lux Hill. Joe was preceded in death by his brother, Dr. Maurice Hill; his sister, Eileen Hill Watt; and his younger brother, Dr. Robert Hill. He lived most of his life in Granite City, moving to Edwardsville, Illinois, in 1975. Joe graduated from Granite City Senior High School in 1940, joined the Merchant Marine for World War II, and returned to Illinois to complete his BS in Chemical Engineering at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, graduating in 1950.

Joe began his professional engineering career at Allied Chemical and Dye Company and was then hired away from Allied Chemical by Monsanto Chemical Company. He worked at Monsanto Chemical Company for 35 years as a project manager, building chemical plants across the United States and in Europe. While at Monsanto, he developed two original chemical processes for the company, both of which were awarded patents. Joe's last assignment at Monsanto was designing and building the company's first genetics lab, a project that led to Monsanto's pre-eminence in agricultural products, and especially corn.

After taking early retirement, Joe discovered new passions. He accepted an assignment with Executives Abroad, and spent time in Costa Rica advising chemical plants on ways to avoid contaminating groundwater. He became a Master Gardener and planted a prairie next to his home in Edwardsville. He became a 4th Degree Knight in the Knights of Columbus. He rediscovered his taste for American history, especially as it relates to genealogy. Through his work with the Lewis and Clark Society, he was instrumental in founding the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center (National Site #1) in Hartford, Illinois. But his real love was his work with the Sons of the American Revolution. He first joined the SAR in 1987. He served as President of the Genl George Rogers Clark Chapter; he then moved into State offices, first as Treasurer and then as President of the Illinois State SAR. His national offices include Great Lakes District Vice-President General, National Trustee for six years, and alternate Trustee for two years. He served on twelve national committees, including being elected a member of the George Washington Endowment Fund Board for a four year term. He chaired the George Washington Endowment Fund Distribution Committee for five years. He was named a Minute Man in 2005.

Joe was outgoing, funny, intelligent and, hard-working. He is survived by his wife of 72 years—his high school sweetheart—Genevieve Bytner Hill; his daughter, Katherine C. Hill-Miller of Port Washington, New York; and his grandson, Christopher Joseph Garrett Miller, of Manhattan; as well as by numerous nieces and nephews. A funeral/memorial service will be held for Joe at St. Mary's Church in Edwardsville, Illinois, in August or September of 2020. He will be buried at Calvary Cemetery.

Since Our Last Event

We hope this finds all of you and yours well.

This issue of The Long Knife is going to be rather short. There is not much to report.

The last event held by the Genl George Rogers Clark Chapter SAR was our Annual Awards Banquet and Meeting on February 21, 2020, at Julia's Banquet Center in East Alton, Illinois.

To lessen the COVID-19 virus spread, the Illinois Governor issued a "Shelter in Place" order along with social distancing and closing "non-essential" businesses on March 17, shutting down our meeting place, The Edwardsville Moose. Our March meeting was scheduled for March 18.

The extension of the "Shelter in Place" order also forced us to cancel our meetings from April through August. Also, the ILSSAR Board of Management meetings in Springfield, Illinois, scheduled for May and August were cancelled. Since most of our members that attend meetings are in the group that is most susceptible to the COVID-19 virus, the meeting cancellations were probably fortuitous.

There were some Eagle Scout Courts of Honor that were not held; perhaps they will be scheduled later.

GGRC had two Flag Programs scheduled for June; one in Highland on June 13, and one in O'Fallon, Illinois, on June 14. Neither was held. The one scheduled for O'Fallon was to be held at a senior assisted living facility; but it was cancelled since seniors are those most affected by the Corona-19 virus. Hopefully, we will be able to reschedule at a later date.

GGRC was going to participate in SAR Night at Busch Stadium. This event on July 4 was being headed by the Fernando de Labaya Chapter Missouri SAR. Since major league baseball was not open by July 4, the SAR event was cancelled.

We are not sure what the "new normal" will include, but we are sure that everyone is ready to find out. Stay Safe.

To quote an old Persian adage, *"This Too Shall Pass."*

GGRC Chapter Outstanding Citizenship Awards

The GGRC Chapter Chairman of the Outstanding Citizen Awards Committee had sent letters to the high schools in Madison, Jersey, Macoupin, Bond, Calhoun, Greene, and Montgomery counties inviting them to select one student from their senior class.. Because of the Governor’s order, the schools were setting things up for online classes, home schooling, etc. Some schools apparently did not have time to nominate high school seniors for the Outstanding Citizen Awards. We normally receive over twenty award nominations. This year we received only eleven. Plans were being made for an award ceremony in late April. In early April, the “Shelter in Place” order was extended until May 29, effectively cancelling the ceremony.

The seniors nominated are great high school students whose accomplishments still need to be recognized. Certificates and an Outstanding Citizenship Lapel Pin were mailed to the winners. Honorees included:

- Abbigale R. BrunkBond County Community High School
- Macie KinderBrussels High School
- Kennedy Ruyle.....Carrollton High School
- Chance Reinesch.....Gillespie High School
- Lauren McCartneyMadison High School
- Jonathon David Botterbush.....Marquette Catholic High School
- Kevin Jay BotterbushMarquette Catholic High School
- Xavier V. WarlickMetro East Lutheran High School
- Matthew Franklin.....Mississippi Valley High School
- Alexa CassidyNokomis High School
- Taylor Campbell.....Roxana Senior High School

The students were nominated by their schools based on their dependability, cooperative spirit, leadership, service to their school and community, evidence of personal values, and patriotism.

“The SAR has been instrumental in promoting the qualities of dependability, cooperation, leadership, and patriotism in the community and nation-wide for many years,” said GGRC Chapter Outstanding Citizen Award Chairman, John Stanton. “We are pleased to honor these outstanding students.”

Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.

— *Thomas Paine*

The Long Knife is a quarterly publication of the Genl. George Rogers Clark Chapter, Illinois Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Robert W. Ridenour, Editor; Lola DeGroff, Associate Editor

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Scheduled monthly meetings: 11:30 a.m., the third Wednesday of each month at Edwardsville Moose Lodge, 7371 Marine Rd. (Rt. 143), unless announced otherwise.