



THE LONG KNIFE

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

"Serving Madison County"

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June 2011

2011 GGRCC High School Citizenship Award Recipients



Seniors chosen by their high schools in Madison and neighboring counties received Outstanding Citizenship Awards April 6 in the annual presentation held by GGRCC at First Christian Church, Edwardsville. Student recipients were nominated based on dependability, cooperative spirit, service to their school and community, personal values and patriotism. Eleven of the 15 chosen were present to receive the award. The students and their high schools (from left, front row) were Lindsay Taylor, Triad; Kathryn Randolph, Marquette; Austin Weaver, Granite City; Max Harris, Metro East Lutheran; Daniel Wendell, Jersey Community; Joseph Dragovich, Mt. Olive; Micah Streubel, Bethalto Civic Memorial; James Stevens, Edwardsville; Kaitland Carter, Highland; Stephanie Clark, Roxana; and Shalecia Oliver, Madison. Student recipients unable to attend were Brianna Bednar, Gillespie; Tevin Rose, Alton; Marybeth St. Peters, East Alton-Wood River; and Rachel Wilson, Bunker Hill. GGRCC members assisting the presentation (back row, from left) were President Ronnie D. Hicks, William R. Feeney, Troy M. Huddle, A. Robert Shaak, James A. DeGroff Jr. and Albert A. Oleson Jr. Robert J. Stegemeier continued to coordinate the program and Lola DeGroff was speaker.

The Long Knife is a quarterly publication of the Genl. George Rogers Clark Chapter, Illinois Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

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Luncheon meetings the third Wednesday monthly at Edwardsville Moose Lodge, 7371 Marine Rd. (Rt. 143)

Many Eagle Scout Awards

A remarkable formation of Eagle Scouts has been initiated so far this year, keeping GGRCC President Ronnie D. Hicks and other members in motion conferring the SAR certificates and letters for scouts who attain that rank.

The largest flock of nine received the recognition in April at Rolling Hills Golf Club, Godfrey. They are members of Troop 16, Lewis and Clark Council.

From Alton, the recipients were Frederick W. Hornsey Jr., Christopher Hornsey and Evan C. Moore; from Godfrey, Justin A. Bolini, Conner M. Haynes, David J. Lauschke, John J. Summonte and Erick Wittich; from Medora, Tyler J. Cain.

Receiving the Eagle awards in March at High Knights of Columbus Hall were Jordan Dahn and Trent Gnaedinger, both 14, freshmen at Highland High School.

The SAR award was conferred May 1 on Zachary Tojo at Eden Church, Edwardsville. Two more Eagle ceremonies were planned for the Eden Church for late May

Among GGRCC members assisting with the ceremonies were Timothy S. Raymer, James A. DeGroff Jr. and Albert A. Oleson Jr. Two more Eagle Scout ceremonies were planned for late May.

SIUE, Alton ROTC Winners

The annual ROTC awards conferred by GGRCC went to an Alton High School Air Force Junior ROTC senior and to a cadet in the Army ROTC program at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville

Receiving the bronze ROTC medal April 16 at Alton was Andrew Berry. GGRCC President Ronnie D. Hicks made the presentation.

The recipient of the annual award scroll in the SIUE program was Brandon Michalke, 20, who is completing requirements for his degree in business administration after compiling a 3.0 grade point average at Southwestern Illinois University, Belleville. The son of a career Air Force officer, Brandon hopes to become an Army helicopter pilot.

Making the presentation was Charles B. Schweizer, founder of GGRCC.

War Medals for 4 GGRCC Members

Four GGRCC compatriots received War Service Medals during the May 20 Awards Dinner of the Illinois State Society SAR at the Springfield Hilton.

For Troy M. Huddle, the medal was his third since he had previously been recognized for World War II and Korean War service.

Others receiving medals were Jerry E. Maas, Melvin J. Jones and James W. Tarasiuk.

President's Letter

By Ronnie D. Hicks

The Gen'l. George Rogers Clark Chapter has various activities scheduled for the upcoming summer months. The "boys of summer" are back as Team 607, the GGRCC-sponsored team in the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Little League Association. Our sponsored team began competition against rival teams on May 16. We are expecting another exciting season, possibly as gratifying as last season when the team sponsored by GGRCC competed in the tournament finals, eventually taking second place. I would like for several GGRCC members to arrange to attend at least one of the 16 scheduled games, meet manager/coach Mike Montgomery and members of Team 607. As a representative of the GGRCC of the SAR, talk to the players, the parents and to the coaching staff about membership in the SAR. Patriotism is very prevalent among today's youth and they are very impressionable at this early stage of their lives.

We are waiting for NSSAR to process numerous applications. There is a substantial backlog of applications pending in the processing procedures. An application submitted by a potential GGRCC member had to be withdrawn upon his tragic demise. Unfortunately, the estimated time period for processing an application has exceeded six to eight months which is totally unacceptable in the electronic domain we rely on. Several of the potential candidates have attended at least one of the luncheon meetings held at the Edwardsville Moose Lodge. We welcome their eagerness to participate in the chapter-sponsored events. Several applicants have gone as far as purchasing a uniform, having expressed their interest in joining the GGRCC color guard. Once they have been approved we will have an induction ceremony and acquaint them with the members. Public awareness is very crucial to the survival of the Gen'l. George Rogers Clark Chapter of the sons of the American Revolution. I appeal to every GGRC member to present a rigorous attempt to recruit a minimum of one new member.

Please remember that the GGRCC meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the Edwardsville Moose Lodge, Located on Rt. 143 in Edwardsville. A fifty-fifty drawing held prior to the luncheon affords the opportunity for you to obtain an inexpensive lunch. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m., with the actual meeting around noon or shortly thereafter. If you are unable to make the luncheon, perhaps you can attend the business session. If you would like to have chapter events conducted in your community, contact one of the GGRCC elected officers and express your request. Thanks. **"Poor is the Nation That Has No Heroes. . . Shameful are the Ones That Having Them . . . Forgets** (Unknown).

2011 Standing Committees

GGRCC President Ronnie D. Hicks has announced the standing committees and chairpersons for 2011.

Annual Meeting Ronnie D. Hicks, James A. DeGroff Jr.
 Audit Committee James C. Hicks, ch. (to name committee).
 Color Guard Commander. Timothy S. Raymer
 Eagle Scout Awards James A. DeGroff Jr., ch. (to name committee)
 Fall Trip ; ; Henry J. Boss, Albert A. Oleson Jr.
 Fire/Hero/Law Awards Lloyd E. Schwarz, William C. Brown
 Flag Collection Custodian Timothy S. Raymer
 Flag Day Ceremonies Timothy S. Raymer, Ronnie D. Hicks
 Flag Display Recognition William R. Feeney
 Members & Ladies Night Out Timothy S. Raymer, Ronnie D. Hicks
 Membership. Thomas Beavers, James A. DeGroff Jr.
 Memorial Day Parade, Alton Alan Y. Harrison, Raymer, DeGroff, Oleson
 2012 Nominating Committee. Feeney, Harrsion, Raymer, Schwarz, Marvin
 J. Hill, Harry K. Windland, Charles B. Schweizer
 Outstanding Citizenship Awards Robert J. Stegemeier, Marvin A. Meng
 Publicity—Quarterly Newsletter Charles E. Burgess
 Revolutionary Patriot Recognition Timothy S. Raymer, Ronnie D. Hicks
 ROTC/JROTC Awards James A. DeGroff Jr., Ronnie D. Hicks
 Spring Trip Troy M. Huddle, James A. DeGroff Jr.
 Veterans Affairs. ; . David M. File, James W. Tarasuik, Ronnie D. Hicks
 Veterans Day Parade, Edwardsville Timothy S. Raymer, Ronnie D. Hicks
 Web-Site, Webmaster. James A. DeGroff Jr.

Flag Day Celebration Scheduled for Glen Carbon

The 2011 GGRCC Flag Day Celebration Program will be at 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 14 at Miner Park, Glen Carbon. Highlights will include display of the chapter's historic flags, a demonstration of "Folding the American Flag" by Boy Scout Troops 1031 and 1034 and patriotic songs by Olivia Snell.

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