

***November 11, 2019***

***Veteran's Day***

***Members of the Liberty Tree Chapter were at The Springs Senior Living Center honoring Veteran's who were in service beginning with World War II. The event was attended by over 100 people celebrating Veteran's Day. At present the Chapter has awarded 73 Veterans' Certificates to the men and women who have served their country. (No pictures of the event were available)***

*August 3, 2019*

*Stevensville Creamery Picinic Parade*







***Liberty Tree Chapter members Francis Weigand, TC Richardson, Wayne Bequette and Don Murphy are on board the Montana SAR/DAR 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Float during the 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Creamery Picnic Parade held in Stevensville, Montana. As you can tell by the pictures, the members were having a great time interacting with the crowd during the parade.***

*(Photos taken by Michael Murphy and Kristin Asa.)*



***July 4, 2019***  
***Fort Missoula Independence Day Celebration***



***Compatriots of the Liberty Tree Chapter stand at attention as the American Flag is raised to start the July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration.***



***Left: Flip Wilson playing Back to Boston with one of many trying to win a Colonial game. Right: Francis Weigand showing what a Colonial Soldier carried with him during the Revolutionary War.***

***(Jim Hutchenson photos)***



*(Photos by Terry J Cyr Photography)*

***During 4 July Celebration, the newest member was inducted into the Sons of the American Revolution, Liberty Tree Chapter. Douglas Little is shown being inducted by Liberty Tree President Don Murphy. Douglas' father Warren is shown proudly pinning the SAR Rosette on his son's lapel.***



*May 6, 2019*



*The Liberty Tree Chapter presented War Service Recognition Certificates to 29 Veterans that participated in World War II, Korea, Vietnam or the Cold War conflicts. The presentations were made at a local senior living center, with over 60 people attending the ceremony. It should be noted that the Veterans that were honored were very appreciative of being recognized and not forgotten. The oldest veteran attending was 101 years old. (As requested, due to privacy issues no pictures of the recipients were taken. Pictured left to right are: Don Murphy, Wayne Bequette, TC Richardson, Jim Hutcheson, Francis Weigand and Ron Hamilton.)*

April 16, 2019



**The Liberty Tree Chapter installed a Revolutionary War display at Fort Missoula Military Museum. The display incorporates some facts of the Revolutionary War, from the battle of Lexington - Concord, to the final battle at Yorktown. The Declaration of Independence is displayed as well as replicas, which included currency, signal whistle, wooden dice and a flintlock pistol. The mannequin and uniform were donated by three different members of the chapter.**

## **State of the Liberty Tree Chapter**

**January 15, 2019**

With the addition of nine new members, the Liberty Tree Chapter has grown over the last year to 32 paid members, with eight more prospective members in the wings. The attendance at the chapter meetings has grown to where there are at least 10 members present at each meeting, and that number appears to be increasing. The chapter has been active over the past year with the Color Guard appearing in twelve different events including: Military Service Medals/Certificate presentations, DAR Conference Color Guard, Independence Day at Fort Missoula, Western Campaign of the Revolutionary War at Fort Missoula during October, and George Rogers Clark Day at Fort Missoula.

Our Chapter presented nine Military Service Medals and Certificates to Veterans from World War II, Korean War, and the Vietnam War during the year to those living in assisted living centers, as well as to those still living in their homes.

The Chapter presented the SAR's highest Service Medal to Jane Rectenwald, a member of the Daughters of American Revolution in appreciation for her assistance with helping the chapter when it was in its' infancy. She has offered continuing support of the chapter during its evolution.

During 2018 members of the Chapter made their first trip into the school system by providing a presentation about the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, which was well received by the students.

The Chapter participated in the Fourth of July Celebration at Fort Missoula by having replica Colonial artifacts at various tables, firing of a black powder rifle, playing colonial games, and the reading aloud of the Declaration of Independence.

In October, the Color Guard was invited back to Fort Missoula where the Museum Curator presented a narrative of what was taking place in the Ohio and Pennsylvania areas during the Revolutionary War. At the end of the presentation the members of the Color Guard spoke about the Sons of the American Revolution and who their ancestors were during the war.

Liberty Tree did have some fun during the year as shown by the number of members that showed up at the first annual Washington Birthday Dinner, which also included a History Professor from the University of Montana, who spoke on "The Genius of George Washington". A few months later the chapter celebrated the end of summer with the inaugural fall picnic, where fried chicken was in abundance and the members and their guests engaged in a variety of stories.

A look ahead to 2019 shows the addition of new members to the chapter, different venues already being planned that will include placing a Revolutionary era exhibit at the Fort Missoula Museum, finding and honoring veterans of foreign wars, and a Fourth of July event, just to name a few.

The Liberty Tree Chapter is proud of what it has accomplished in three short years due to the commitment of all the chapter members. With members encompassing the area from Polson to Hamilton, and Seeley Lake to Deer Lodge, they are making the trips to support the foundations of the Sons of the American Revolution through the meetings and functions of the Liberty Tree Chapter. With our Chapter's 2019 membership renewal rate of 100%, our members have already voted their approval of our progress.



November 14, 2018



**The Liberty Tree Chapter presented the Montana State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Silver Medal Award to Christopher Blaser at the ROTC Award Ceremony. The Ceremony was held at the University of Montana on November 14, 2018. Pictured from left to right are Liberty Tree Chaplain T C Richardson, Christopher Blaser, and Liberty Tree President Don Murphy.**

November 12, 2018

## Veterans Day



Veterans Day was a day to honor the veterans of our country. Visiting a local rest home, the SAR members paid tribute to the veterans who served our country in the World War II, Korean and Vietnam wars by giving them framed commemorative certificates to thank them for their service. *(Photos by Jim Hutchenson)*



October 16, 2018



DAR member Jane Rectenwald was presented with the SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal and Certificate. The award is the highest tribute that can be made to a DAR member. The award was in recognition of her past years of service to the Liberty Tree Chapter. Pictured Left to Right are: T C Richardson, Francis Weigand and Jane Rectenwald. *(Photo by Jim Hutchenson)*

September 30, 2018

## Fort Missoula Western Campaigns in the Revolution Event



The Liberty Tree Chapter provided a Color Guard, and Sons of the American Revolution information for the Western Campaigns in the Revolution event at Fort Missoula. Pictured from left to right are: Francis Weigand, Chapter Secretary; Don Murphy, Chapter President, and T C Richardson, Chapter Chaplain.

*Photo by Jim Hutchinson*



September 29, 2018

## Picnic Time



Liberty Tree Chapter held their first annual Fall Event which included a picnic at Larry's who is a chapter member and State SAR President. The food was great and so was the social conversations of the members that attended.

September 27, 2018



On September 27, 2018, Liberty Tree Chapter presented WWII Military Service Award to Staff Sgt. Kenneth Gardner who served in the US Army Pacific Theater. Sgt. Gardner arrived in Pearl Harbor shortly after the surprise attack on December 7, 1941. Pictured from left to right are Liberty Tree Chaplain, T C Richardson; Don Murphy, Liberty Tree President; Sgt. Gardner, and Liberty Tree Secretary Francis Weigand.



September 25, 2018



On September 25, 2018, Liberty Tree Chapter presented WWII Military Service Award to Captain Robert W. (Bob) Schottelkorb who served with the US Army Air Corps in the European Theater flying 36 missions in a B-24 Bomber. Pictured from left to right are Don Murphy, Liberty Tree President; Liberty Tree Secretary Francis Weigand; Captain Schottelkorb; Liberty Tree Chaplain, T C Richardson, and Liberty Tree Vice President Ron Hamilton.

September 18, 2018  
Liberty Tree Chapter Meeting



Liberty Chapter held it's monthly meeting at the Missoula Country Club with the largest number of members, and two prospective members. In all 19 people attended the meeting that included the induction of two new members into the SAR, John Troxel Hamilton and Robert Franklin Green.



July 4, 2018

## Fort Missoula Independence Day Celebration



The Liberty Tree Chapter established an encampment at Fort Missoula where Warren Little (pictured with long frock and bayoneted Charleville rifle) was inducted into the SAR. Several replica Colonial items and weapons were available for public viewing. The Declaration of Independence was read twice during the celebration to the many people who visited the Colonial era.

## DAR Annual Meeting Color Guard

April 27 & 28, 2018



The Liberty Tree Chapter Color Guard presented the Colors at the Daughters of American Revolution Annual Meeting that was held in Missoula. Pictured Left to Right: Francis Weigand, T C Richardson & Don Murphy.



March 8, 2018



New Liberty Tree member Robert Green had the pleasure of President General Larry Guzy presenting him with his SAR membership certificate at dinner in Missoula, MT. President General Guzy was visiting Montana and members from Chapters across the state were in attendance.

*February 28, 2018*



**The Liberty Tree Chapter presented the Montana State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Silver Medal Award at the ROTC Award Ceremony. The Ceremony was held at the University of Montana on February 28, 2018. State Secretary and Liberty Tree Secretary Francis Weigand and Liberty Tree Chaplain TC Richardson are pictured with the recipient.**



## *February 22, 2018 Washington's Birthday*



On February 22, 2018, the Liberty Tree Chapter celebrated Washington's Birthday by hosting a dinner at the Missoula Country Club.

January 25, 2018



On January 25, 2018, Liberty Tree Chapter presented WWII Military Service Award to Ty Robinson who served in the US Navy as a Lieutenant on Admiral Nimitz's staff in the Pacific Theater. The Award and Medal were presented to Ty on his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday. (Pictured from left to right are Francis Weigand Liberty Tree Secretary, T C Richardson Liberty Tree Chaplain, Ty Robinson and James Powell, Liberty Tree Registrar.



January 16, 2018



On January 16, 2018, Liberty Tree Chapter presented WWII Military Service Award to Jack Stevenson who served with the US Army Air Corps from 1944 to 1946 in the Pacific and European Theaters. Pictured from left to right are Jack Stevenson, Liberty Tree Vice President, and Francis Weigand, Liberty Tree Secretary.

October 17, 2017



World War II Military Service Award was presented to Ron (Rondo) Scharfe. Rondo was a survivor of the assault on Iwo Jima. Rondo also spoke of serving in the Chicago Fire Department until he retired. Pictured from Left to Right are: Don Murphy - Chapter President, Ron Scharfe, Francis Weigand – Chapter Secretary, and State SAR President Larry Mylnechuk.



October 15, 2017

## Ft Missoula Battle of Saratoga Commemoration



Battle of Saratoga event held at Fort Missoula. Members participated in the event by having replica artifacts and weapons of the Revolutionary War. The Battle of Saratoga ended on October 7, 1777

Pictured Left to Right are: Flip Jennings, James Powell and Don Murphy.



On October 8, 2017, Liberty Tree Chapter presented WWII award to 95 year old Vince Werner. Werner was a B-17 navigator who flew over 50 missions over Germany in the war. Pictured are Vince, his daughter and Chapter Member and State President Larry Mylnechuk





Liberty Tree Chapter marching in the 105<sup>th</sup> Celebration of the Creamery Picnic Parade in Stevensville, Montana. Those participating were: James Powell, T.C. Richardson, Don Murphy, Larry Mylnechuk and Francis Weigand from the Liberty Tree Chapter and Steve Armstrong from the Glacier Chapter.





## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration at Fort Missoula

Liberty Tree Compatriots dressed in Revolutionary era clothing read the Declaration of Independence twice during the day to crowds that were attending the 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. A replica encampment and many replica colonial artifacts were on display where people could ask questions and be informed of what life was like during that time period. July 4, 2017





*World War II Commemorative Certificate & Medal presented to Mrs. Frank (Bobbi) McCauly. Frank, who recently passed away, was an American Ace Pilot flying 46 missions in the European theater and was credited with 5 ½ planes shot down. Frank was awarded several medals for his outstanding heroism. 06/22/17*



**World War II Commemorative Certificate & Medal presented to Raymond (Si) Gonzalez. Raymond , a carrier pilot aboard the USS Yorktown, flew 49 combat missions and was credited with shooting down 3 ½ enemy planes. Raymond was awarded several medals for his outstanding heroism. 06/22/17**





**March 29, 2017**

**2017 Silver Medal Presentation to the top University of Montana Graduating ROTC Student**



**SAR Certificate Award presented to Warm Springs Production of the TV Series “Legends and Lies of the American Revolution”. Pictured is DAR Jane Rectenwald, Jason Broome (Executive Producer), Francis Weigand, Sam Dolan(Supervising Producer) , and Larry Mylnechuk. 12/13/16**





**DAR Jane Rectenwald awarded the Martha Washington Medal by Liberty Tree President Larry Mylnechuk, for her help in establishing the Liberty Tree Chapter in Missoula. 11/22/2016**



**New American Citizen from Ghana, with her son, and Francis Weigand the Secretary of the Liberty Tree Chapter. The Naturalization Ceremony took place at the U.S. District Courthouse in Missoula, Montana on November 19,2016.**





SAR Liberty Tree Chapter Induction of  
Doolittle Raider Sgt. David Thatcher on June 5, 2016