**Recognition Awards**

The SAR has a plethora of awards that are available for presentation to community leaders or organizations. The complete list, including all the awards mentioned in this guide are fully described on the National SAR website <https://www.sar.org/>. The chapter Awards Committee members consider, and recommend awards to external organizations and individuals. The Chairman of the Awards Committee is the Chapter Second Vice President.

**Law Enforcement:**

The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding work in Law Enforcement. In 2006 the chapter designated its May meeting as its Law Day celebration meeting. The guest speaker was the head of the Pennsylvania State Police, and Law Enforcement Awards were made to local township police forces from Tredyffrin and West Chester.

**Fire Safety:**

Like the Law Enforcement awards, the chapter recognizes Fire Safety excellence in the several firefighting units in the area.

**Flag Display:** Note: there is a committee chair to lead this effort.

The chapter recognizes individuals, companies, and government agencies that properly display the national ensign with the SAR Flag Display Certificate.

**DAR/CAR:** Note: there is a committee chair to lead this effort.

Frequently, members of the DAR or CAR provide outstanding service and support to the chapter's efforts and programs. The chapter uses these awards to recognize such support.

**American History Teacher Award:**

The PCC Education Committee exists for the purpose of promoting excellence in the teaching of American History of the Revolutionary War period and promoting good citizenship and patriotism in Delaware Valley area schools. The Committee seeks out and recognizes teachers in elementary or secondary education, from any public or private (including parochial) school, who have demonstrated excellence in the teaching of American History of the Revolutionary War period, specifically by teaching and demonstrating in an effective and creative way.

**Internal Awards**

These are service awards made to members for SAR service. These are made on chapter, state, and national levels. A special committee of past presidents forms a committee to recommend chapter members for SAR awards. Members' military war service is recognized with the SAR War Service Medal. There is a plethora of awards for SAR service, and include grades of Good Citizenship Awards, Meritorious Service, Patriot Award, Liberty Medal, to name but a few. All are described in detail in the National SAR Handbook that is available online.

**Americanism**

This committee keeps a weather eye to people and organizations in the chapter area that have made contributions to the promotion of patriotism. Among the communities, the committee assists in the awards to school US history students and teachers. They support and promote the patriotism poster contest, and urge recognition of individuals, communities and organizations that properly display the ensign, make a mark in Law Enforcement, Fire prevention, or any other special activity that somehow promotes patriotism in the area.

**DAR/CAR Liaison**

Many of the events of the DAR, SAR, or the CAR are jointly supported, and sometimes shared. For instance, at the annual officer installation banquets, the CAR often provides patriotic skits as part of the program. The Constitution Week Luncheon is alternately organized by the DAR and the SAR. To coordinate these joint efforts, the chapter assigns a DAR/CAR coordinator who maintains liaison with leaders of those organizations.

**Veterans & Military Service Affairs**

Service to veterans and to armed service members is a key objective of the SAR. A chapter member has the accountability to coordinate the chapter's efforts in this area. This includes such things as helping run bingo games at VA hospitals, securing color guard participation in Veteran's Day parades and memorial events. The chapter provides books to VA hospital libraries and donates to the USO activities in the Delaware Valley.

**The Chapter Color Guard**

The chapter's Color Guard personifies promoting patriotism, and the accomplishments of the American Revolutionary War soldier, all to the end of keeping alive the flame of the deeds of our patriot ancestors. It does this by:

* Participating in community and veteran's parades ,
* Presenting colors at SAR and DAR functions,
* Special salutes to Revolutionary War fallen, including those memorialized at Philadelphia's Washington Square Tomb of the Unknown,
* Leading the "March In" and "March Out" commemorating General Washington and his army's entry into Valley Forge, as well as their departure,
* Presenting colors at the mass swearing in of new U.S. citizens in Philadelphia,
* Occasionally providing an honor guard for Revolutionary War soldiers' grave dedications,
* And many other ways

The Color Guard has participated in an average of 32 events annually over the past 5 years. Like the chapter, its Color Guard has a very long history. The Color Guard members wear the uniform of the "Commander-in-Chief's Guard", or as it was traditionally called, "Washington's Life Guard" (1). The coat is blue with buff facing, breeches are buff, and the waistcoat is scarlet. They carry the special unit's standard, on which is emblazoned its motto: “Conquer or Die”. At Valley Forge, the “Guard” assisted General von Steuben in drilling the encamped farmer-soldiers into a battle-ready force... a battle-ready force that pushed the British off the field at Monmouth, New Jersey shortly after leaving Valley Forge.

The new citizen mass swearing in ceremonies by the U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services takes part in restoration and rendering honors at Revolutionary War grave sites and at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier in Washington Square. The color guard wears the uniform of the "Commander-in-Chiefs Guard", or Washington's Life Guard, as it was commonly known. The uniform is a blue frock coat with buff facings, and britches, white stockings, and a distinctive scarlet waistcoat, all topped with a black tri-corn hat. It is widely rumored that the color guard has the most fun of any facet of the chapter activity, and new members are always welcomed.

**Chapter Projects**

In addition to the several committee programs and activities, the chapter has undertaken several projects. Perhaps the most ambitious is the on-going Revolutionary War Graves identification, recording and marking program.

**Grave Registration, Marking and Flagging:**

Several years ago, the chapter launched a project to identify all the graves of Revolutionary War soldiers and other supporters who rendered public or civil service to the cause in our chapter area. In addition to recording the graves and noting their locations, the project entailed capturing a considerable amount of data. In addition,

The Chapter around each Memorial Day marks graves of Revolutionary War soldiers and patriots by placing a 13-star "Betsy-Ross" flag at each grave site. The chapter has marked over 1700 graves with flags in over 160 graveyards from Philadelphia to Oxford to Sellersville. The search effort continues unabated. This is an activity that needs wide member support. The organization of the effort has been steadily developed and improved to facilitate the task of finding and marking burial sites easier. The program information is shared with local historical societies and veterans groups.

**Membership:**

A chapter member leads this effort with help, guidance and input from the officers including the Genealogist/Registrar, Secretary, and the chapter web master. Membership is the life-blood of the organization, and as such, there is a continual effort underway to recruit new members. As members age, many can no longer actively participate. Of course Today's new young members are usually fully engaged with careers and family, and that frequently precludes participation in most daytime chapter events. Consequently, the leadership of the chapter has focused on a multi-faceted approach of recruiting, retention, and reinstatement. Perhaps one of the most effective tools is a widely diverse program agenda for the chapter. The chapter has many activities on weekends, holidays, as well as its scheduled monthly membership and Board meetings. The chapter has been fortunate through the efforts of several to get talented speakers at meetings and special events.

All new members are encouraged to attend a meeting as soon as they gain membership in the SAR. At that inaugural meeting, the chapter president recognizes and welcomes the new member and presents the new compatriot with his SAR Rosette, and a copy of this manual.

**The Chapter Web Site:** [www.pccsar.org](http://www.pccsar.org)

The chapter has a web master. He has worked works diligently to continually update and upgrade the chapter website. The chapter and the national websites are fonts of current as well as historical information. It's a good place to find out what is going on and check the chapter calendar. There is always need for more help. This is one area where attendance at regular meetings is not required. The work can be done in the middle of the night!

**The Chapter Member Database:**

An ongoing project is the development of a member database. This involves far more than a directory of names and addresses. Members over the years receive awards, hold office, and take on special projects. Some go on to state and/or national office. The objective of the database is to construct a facility for capturing all this pertinent information in a timely manner using the computer capabilities currently available.

**Appendices**

I SAR Pledge and Recessional

II Constitution & By-Laws

III Member Roster