

Harris Ferry Chapter SAR would like to extend its deepest appreciation to all veterans of the United States Armed Forces, both past and present.



Compatriot Grave Marking Ceremony

Call to Order

Jacob R. Lemon, Harris Ferry President

Presentation of Colors

Harris Ferry & Washingtonburg Color Guards

Invocation

Ronald C. Coleman, Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance & SAR Pledge

SAR Compatriots

Welcome & Introduction

Jacob R. Lemon, Harris Ferry President

Dedication of Grave Marker

Jacob R. Lemon, Harris Ferry President

Retirement of Colors

Harris Ferry & Washingtonburg Color Guards

Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SAR Pledge

We, descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.

SAR Recessional

Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court, and a nation of free men.



harrisferrysar.org



Sons of the American Revolution
Harris Ferry Chapter
Pennsylvania



**COMPATRIOT
GRAVE MARKING
& VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION**

Compatriot John McW. Smith



SAR Compatriot Grave Marker

SAT | **NOV** | **11:30**
15 | **2025** | **AM**

Grantville Cemetery

Saint John's United Methodist Church

165 Firehouse Rd, Grantville, PA 17028



Patriot Biography

Peter Ensminger

04 Feb 1755 – 09 Dec 1814

SAR Patriot #: P-155038

Peter Ensminger was the son of Johann Nicolaus Ensminger and Christina Elisabetha Phillipi. His family emigrated to Pennsylvania from the German province of Alsace, France in 1733. His first name is at times referenced as Johann. He married Catherine Gloninger during the war and together had at least six children: Elizabeth, Catharine, John Gloninger, Susanna, Peter, and Christina.

Peter served under Captain Baltzer Orth in the 1st Company of the 2nd Battalion of the Lancaster County Militia in 1781-1782 and under Captain John Orth in the 7th Company of the 2nd Battalion of the Lancaster County Militia in 1783. He would achieve the rank of Lieutenant.

Peter would pass away in 1814 at the age of 59. He was originally buried at Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery, but then reinterred in a mass grave at Mount Lebanon Cemetery along with his wife.



Veterans Day

A Salute to Those that Protect America

What began as a day of remembering the close to the First World War on November 11, 1918, Veterans Day has since become a day in America to honor all veterans of the United States Armed Forces, both past and present. Every man and woman that has faithfully served this country and its military is deserving of a moment of recognition on this day. It is also profound to note that the United States Army, Navy, and Marines have each celebrated their 250th Anniversaries this year. Veterans of these branches can confidently say they have been in active service of this country since its foundation.

To the veterans of the United States Armed Forces, the Harris Ferry Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the American Revolution not only salutes you for your service but thanks you indefinitely.



Compatriot Biography

John McIlhenny Smith

10 May 1890 – 10 Feb 1971

SAR National #: 58876

John McIlhenny Smith was born in 1890 to Dr. Jeremiah Smith and Annie McIlhenny. His father, a well-respected doctor who practiced medicine in Linglestown, died suddenly when John was only 16 and his sister, Marion, was only 12. When the First World War broke out, John joined the U.S. Army in 1915. He rose to the rank of Captain in the Quartermaster Corps and was discharged at the end of the war in August 1919. He was recommissioned a Captain in the National Guard and eventually achieved the rank of Colonel. He served as director and deputy director of the Pennsylvania Selective Service during the Second World War.

Outside of the military, Smith was an accomplished attorney and senior partner of Nauman, Smith, Shissler and Hall law firm. He graduated from Princeton University and Harvard Law School. In 1923, he married Mabel I. Stoner and had a daughter, Anne E. Smith, two years later. His list of affiliations was substantial, including being the first commander and founder of the Robert H. Hoke Post 272 American Legion in Linglestown and past president of the Colonial Country Club. He was also the first official President of the Harris Ferry Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the American Revolution after the chapter was reborn in 1940 from the ashes of the original Harrisburg Chapter.

Smith had several Patriot ancestors, one on his mother's side being John McElheny, who is buried in Old Hanover Presbyterian Churchyard in Grantville. His application with the SAR connects his lineage through his father's Patriot ancestor Peter Ensminger.

John McIlhenny Smith passed away in 1971 at the age of 80. He is buried at Grantville Cemetery alongside his wife, Mabel, and their daughter, Anne.

