



HARRIS FERRY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Pennsylvania Society Sons of The American Revolution

Chapter Officers 2026

Spring 2026

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Harris Ferry Chapter SAR

harrisferrysar.org

Pennsylvania Society SAR

passar.org

National Society SAR

sar.org

President's Report

Hello Fellow Compatriots!

Hopefully the start of the year has been kind to each and every one of you! We are finally starting to see some better weather, giving the opportunities of going outside and getting done all the projects we have put off during the winter months.

To update you all on a few developments: I have assumed quite a few roles with the Pennsylvania Society. Some of these roles were out of desire to grow and others out of lending a hand to those in need. Being someone who commits to his roles, I have grown to enjoy these new roles already. However, bear with me if any of the roles involve communication or requests to you and if there are any inconsistencies or errors; I am still learning.

What new roles am I in? The first I would like to call attention to is that I am now the Chairman of the Posters and Brochures Committee. While this is not much of an impact on you members, it will be something I take seriously when the new school years starts to get more elementary and middle school students involved with the SAR.

The other role, arguably the more important one, is I am now the PASSAR Assistant Treasurer as well as the Acting Treasurer. Eventual dues communications will come from me on behalf of the State Society, I am balancing accounts, and assisting in various avenues with finances and whatnot. So, the only true impact on you will come later this year when I start sending out notices for dues.

My top priority, however, is our chapter. I want Harris Ferry to shine bright and that is my mission. Regarding our chapter calendar for this year, we have a lot planned! Some events have been rescheduled, like one or two of our Pomeroy Marker grave marking ceremonies. There are a lot of opportunities to get involved, so if anyone wishes to help out, start assisting with Color Guard, or merely attend, all of it is appreciated.

Two topics I want to get your attention with are: 1) if you are interested in any of the 250th anniversary merchandise, please reach out as soon as possible. I am the one fulfilling orders for National. 2) If you are able to attend any function this year, please try to attend the Patriot Grave Marking on June 13th at Union Deposit Cemetery. Some of our members' Patriot ancestors are buried there, making this ceremony unique and special! Thank you as always gentlemen, truly.

Respectfully Yours,

Jacob R. Lemon, President, Harris Ferry Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution

Harris Ferry Hosts Washington's Birthday Luncheon – February 21, 2026



Harris Ferry Chapter had the pleasure of hosting this year's birthday celebration for our country's first President and Commander-In-Chief George Washington. The celebration was held at the American Legion Dominic D. DiFrancesco Memorial Post 594 in Middletown, and guests were served a delicious lunch of chicken, pasta, vegetables, and cheesecake.

President Lemon organized the events and, as tradition, invited the Harrisburg Chapter DAR, who helped fill the room attendance. Lemon discussed various topics, such as upcoming 250th Anniversary events, cemetery work, and a few others side topics.

The main presentation was on George Washington's character as a symbol of patriotism. Throughout his life, Washington went from a military icon gaining favor through the ranks, to a businessman with other entrepreneurs, to a political leader that the general public could put their trust and faith in. Lemon's presentation was well received; later he was told several members of the American Legion were trying to listen in as well. A decision President Lemon would like to present to the Board is inviting members of host and nearby organizations to attend celebrations and events for the sake of camaraderie and exposure.

Several DAR members were also recipients to various SAR awards: Deborah Hershey received a Certificate of Appreciation for her recommendation of a recent member to Harris Ferry, and Dominish Miller received the SAR/DAR Medal of Appreciation for her consistent assistance to Harris Ferry Chapter and its events. The American Legion also received a Certificate of Appreciation for allowing this event to be held at their location. The ceremonial "Passing of the Fork" was held, and Lemon even crafted a wooden box to house the fork going forward.

We would like to thank everyone for attending, express our appreciation again to the Legion and all our supporters, and look forward to more fun and exciting things during the 250th anniversary year!



Lemon presenting Miss Miller with the SAR/DAR Appreciation Award



Lemon presenting on George Washington's life and the impact Washington had on various groups and peoples during his lifetime.

*Harris Ferry Chapter SAR Attendees: (2) Jacob R. Lemon, Jodie N. Meglio
Medal Opportunities: 250th Anniversary Medal*

Pennsylvania State Children of the American Revolution Conference – March 21, 2026

This weekend, the Pennsylvania State Society Children of the American Revolution held its annual Conference in Hershey, PA. Lemon and other officers of the local society attended the meeting. Harris Ferry President Lemon is also the Senior Vice President of the newly formed John Harris Jr. Society Children of the American Revolution. The local CAR society is growing well with membership numbers as it continues to organize and develop its yearly plans.



If you have any children, grandchildren, or great grandchildren, of age (newborn to including 21), applying to the CAR is rather easy since you already have membership in the SAR. Please message Lemon for further details.



Harris Ferry Chapter SAR Attendees: (1) Jacob R. Lemon

Congratulations Gary L. Coburn on Acceptance into the Society of the Cincinnati!



Society of the Cincinnati

Harris Ferry Secretary Gary L. Coburn was accepted into the Society of the Cincinnati, a prestigious lineage society that has a single representative for officers of the Continental Army during the time of the Revolution. George Washington was the first President General of the Society.

Gary's ancestor, Asa Coburn, enlisted in 1775 in Massachusetts, rose through ranks of Lieutenant and Captain, and earned the rank of Brevet Major in 1783. His service includes action in Lexington as well as conflict with Native Americans.



Major Coburn's SAR Marker at the Mount Cemetery in Marietta, Ohio

Interested in Honoring a Compatriot?

Compatriot Grave Marking Ceremonies give the society an incredible opportunity to give back to our members one last time. The bronze markers are available in a stake or lug style and are of remarkable quality. If you wish to honor a member with a marker, please reach out to President Lemon to help coordinate the ceremony, color guard, and the purchase of the marker.





Washingtonburg Color Guard Commander
Steve Troutman (above); PASSAR 1st Vice President
Dale J. J. Leppard (right)

250 AMERICA PA

A major 250PA event took place this weekend at the Captain Leon Lock Veterans Memorial in Enola. Harris Ferry Secretary Coburn organized the event alongside the Hampden Township Veterans Recognition Committee, of which he is a member of. Officials, SAR and DAR, and the general public came together in a celebration of America's 250th anniversary this year. Washingtonburg Color Guard, along with Harris Ferry President Lemon, presented the colors, led by Steve Troutman.

Coburn had several guest speakers, one of which was Vice Admiral Keith Lippert (RET), speak about the events of 1776 that led up to this moment in the historical timeline, culminating obviously with those in July. Chris Earhart provided a beautiful rendition of "The Sons of Liberty" from the 1957 Disney film *Johnny Tremain*.

Dale J. J. Leppard, representing both PASSAR as well as Washingtonburg, presented an America 250 Award Streamer to the Hampden Township Veterans Recognition Committee on behalf of PASSAR, Washingtonburg, and Harris Ferry.

Hats off to Gary for his tremendous efforts and hours spent organizing this celebration! Huzzah!



Harris Ferry Chapter SAR Attendees: (4) Jacob R. Lemon, Daniel G. Lute, John R. Boyarski, Gary L. Coburn
Medal Opportunities: 250th Anniversary Medal, Color Guard,



Look Who's Back!

Past President Dick Wenner has signed back up with Harris Ferry Chapter SAR! Wenner, rather active in his Masonic Lodge, even threw on his Revolutionary War era garb for a separate event!

Wenner was instrumental in reigniting Harris Ferry's Color Guard a few years ago. If he is not careful, he may find himself recruited for more service!



Sentry Duty

President Lemon carried musket at several events recently: on April 19th as part of the Perry County 250 celebration and on April 20th at the 2026 Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors Annual Conference.

At the Perry County event, Lemon stood guard next to the flag for the duration of the two-and-a-half-hour event without reprieve. Huzzah!

Bronze ROTC Award Presented to Dylan Lovejoy – April 22, 2026

Cadet Dylan Lovejoy of Red Land High School received the SAR Bronze ROTC Award from Harris Ferry Chapter SAR on April 22, 2026. His instructor is LTC Frank Schimandle. Red Land has a very prominent JROTC program, and Lovejoy was among several others that received awards from various other patriotic organizations like the DAR and SUVCW.

The award was presented by HFSAR President Lemon.

Fittingly, the mascot for Red Land is the Patriots!



Harris Ferry Chapter SAR Attendees: (1) Jacob R. Lemon

Updates from the Society

This section of the Harris Ferry Chapter Newsletter is to provide updates from the Pennsylvania Society or the National Society. This would include any changes that may affect compatriots, upcoming events from the state or neighboring chapters, or just general correspondence that compatriots may have missed.

PASSAR Website Update

PASSAR.org has received a major overhaul in updates: the site is more appealing, informative, interactive, and allows users to access information never before available. Be sure to communicate any issues you may experience to PASSAR Webmaster Helms at passer.org/contact.

PASSAR Leadership Changes

While the post for this event will be in the next newsletter, some recent PASSAR changes from the Annual Meeting in May include:

President – Dale J. J. Leppard (Washingtonburg)
First Vice President – Jason S. Miller (Pittsburgh)
Second Vice President – Russell L. Mills (Continental Congress)
Third Vice President – Gregory W. Forsburg (Tiadaghton)
Assistant Secretary – Peter Reinhart (Governor Joseph Hiester)
Assistant Treasurer and Acting Treasurer – Jacob R. Lemon (Harris Ferry)

Lemon would like to highlight that PASSAR dues notices will be communicated by him later this year. Any treasurer questions or communications can be emailed or mailed to him directly.

SAR Independence Day 250 Celebration and Merchandise

The SAR Independence Day 250 Planning Committee has been developing a complete guide of events for the celebration in Philadelphia in 2026. The anticipated schedule is as follows:

Thursday, July 2, 2026

Public Reading of the Declaration, Tour of Independence Hall, Evening Reception at Victory Brewing Company

Friday, July 3, 2026

Salute to Independence Parade, "Ring It On" Public Event, SAR Gala Dinner at the Philadelphia Marriott

Saturday, July 4, 2026

SAR 250 Celebration Public Event, Bench Dedication, and Various Local Events

Sunday, July 5, 2026

Grave Marking for 5 Signers of the Declaration, Tour of Museum of the American Revolution, Social Dinner at Glory Beer Bar

Merchandise has also been developed, which can be purchased via the registration link if you plan to attend, or via the separate merch website that has launched. The QR Code on this page can be scanned to link to the merch site. Lemon is the overall Committee Secretary and the Vice Chair of the Merchandise Subcommittee. He has developed the official logo and most of the merchandise for sale. More information: <https://harrisferrysar.org/event/250th-anniversary-of-the-declaration-of-independence/>.

[Hotel Registration](#)

[Event Registration](#)

[Merchandise](#)



\$25

Challenge Coin



\$30

T-Shirt
Available in
M-XL.



\$10

Lapel Pin



\$35

Cockade

Order Your 250th Merch!

Scan the above QR Code or contact
President Lemon to order limited edition
SAR 250th Declaration merchandise

Lemon designed everything for sale that
is shown on the left for the entire
National Society SAR.

Jacob R. Lemon
jlemon93@hotmail.com

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.

Active Membership

57 Compatriots

Harris Ferry Newsletter

Winter (Nov, Dec, Jan) – Feb 15

Spring (Feb, Mar, Apr) – May 15

Summer (May, Jun, Jul) – Aug 15

Fall (Aug, Sep, Oct) – Nov 15

SAR Newsletter and Magazine Archives

[Harris Ferry Newsletter](#)

[PASSAR Minutemen](#)

[SAR Magazine](#)

Atlantic Middle States Association SAR

amssar.org

Harrisburg Chapter NSDAR

harrisburgdar.org

Pennsylvania Society DAR

pssdar.org

National Society DAR

dar.org

Pennsylvania Society CAR

pennsar.org

National Society CAR

nsar.org

SAR Store

store.sar.org

Media Editor (Website, Facebook, & Newsletter)

President Jacob R. Lemon

Issued April 15, 2026

Calendar of Events

SUMMER 2026

May ? – HFSAR BOM Meeting

- TBD date, time, and location. To be announced soon!

May 23 – Tombstone Preservation Workshop at Dillsburg Cemetery

- May 23, 2026, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm or later, 201 Mountain Road, Dillsburg, PA 17019. This is not a Harris Ferry event, but one organized by President Lemon and Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society.

May 23 – Living History Event at the Warrington Friends Meeting House

- May 23, 2026, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, RR 74, Wellsville, PA 17365. This is not a Harris Ferry event, but one organized by Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society. Note the day and time overlaps the Cemetery Preservation Workshop.

May 30 – Patriot Grave Marking at Shoop's Cemetery w/ Harrisburg Chapter, NSDAR

- 2:00 pm, Shoop's Cemetery, 4332 Lexington Street, Harrisburg, PA 17109.

Jun 13 – Patriot Grave Marking at Union Deposit Cemetery w/ South Hanover Township Historical Society

- 10:00 am, Union Deposit Cemetery, 100 W Hershey Rd., Hummelstown, PA 17036.

Jun 13 – Middletown 51st Annual Arts & Crafts Fair

- 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Hoffer Park, 325 Mill St, Middletown, PA 17057. Note the day and time overlaps the Patriot Grave Marking.

Jul 2-5 – 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence

- Various events spanning several days in Philadelphia, PA. Hosted by the National Society SAR. Registration: <https://harrisferrysar.org/event/250th-anniversary-of-the-declaration-of-independence/>.

FALL 2026

Aug 7-9 – 2026 Atlantic Middle States SAR Conference at Newark, DE

- TBD details and start times. The Christina Hilton, 100 Continental Dr, Newark, DE, 19713.

2026 OUTLOOK

Grave Markings – Harris Ferry is planning several Patriot Grave Markings, some with Pomeroy Foundation marker dedications. The unveiling of the Pomeroy markers will likely be accompanied with individual SAR markers or bronze plaques commemorating those interred. All grave markings will be 250th-oriented events. Those without scheduled dates are:

- **David's Community Bible Church** w/ Fort Halifax Chapter SAR TBD time, David's Church Cemetery, 1072 State Route 25, Millersburg, PA 17061. This was rescheduled from May 3 to a date to be determined.
- **Spring Creek Cemetery**, 335 East Areba Avenue, Hershey, PA 17033. Nine Patriots.
- **Nafzger Family Cemetery**, 2 Naftzinger Rd, Annville, PA 17003. Three Patriots. One Patriot is confirmed buried here, but a plaque will be proposed for him and his two brothers.

Cemetery Projects – Harris Ferry is planning at least two Cemetery Preservation Projects at various cemeteries in and around Dauphin County. Some of the *proposed* cemeteries include:

- **Paxton Presbyterian Churchyard**, 3500 Sharon Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111.
- **Silver Spring Presbyterian Church Cemetery**, 444 Silver Spring Rd, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050. This would be a partnered project with Washingtonburg Chapter.

Events involving any sort of cemetery work will primarily be scheduled during late spring to mid fall.

There are more events recognized by the National Society SAR that are not listed that would fulfil Color Guard, 250th Anniversary, and other award requirements but are outside Pennsylvania. Check chapter and state websites for more info.