



THE IOWA COMPATRIOT

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Iowa SAR Officer Elections

After three years as a celebrated president of the Iowa Society, President Chris Moberg is stepping back for a well-deserved break. This does not mean retirement by any means. He will continue as webmaster.

Officers indicating that they would remain in their present service include: Randy Lyon, 1st Vice President; Doug Frazer, Secretary/Historian; Dave Nation, Treasurer, Randy Breese, Registrar; Lance Ehmcke, Chancellor.

Those interested in new offices include Kevin Paramenter, President and Justin Blood, 2nd Vice President. Elections are not until April. If more than one person runs for an office, there will need to be a vote at our April meeting to determine the outcome.

The health of our organization is clearly shown with a deep bench of talent to fill the officer positions.

SAR Events Right on Your Hometown

Are you looking for a way to earn that Color Guard Medal? These events are near you and can earn you points toward a wonderful award.

You must have an SAR uniform on when attending. Be sure to send a picture to the editor. (randylyon1915@gmail.com)

Washington's Birthday

Patriot's Day April 18th Take cookies to a local veterans' group

Liberty Tree planting Work with a Vets organization

Memorial Day May 30th Join a parade or take more cookies

Honor Flights to Washington D.C. Cheer them off at the airport
or when they return. Dates vary.

Flag Day June 14th Purchase a dozen or so flags attached to
soft sticks and hand them out to kids at
the library

4th of July Join a parade

Veterans's Day November 11th Check with your local Vets
organization

Wreaths Across America Early December Work with your
local vets organization to sponsor
wreaths

Presidential Memorial Certificate

By Gary Everding

A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is a gold-embossed paper certificate bearing the official signature of the President of the United States. It honors the memory of a deceased Veteran and expresses the country's grateful recognition of his or her service in the Armed Forces.

This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by each subsequent President. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers the PMC program through the National Cemetery Administration.

Here is a link to see what it looks like and the application process. It will bear the signature of the sitting president at the time application is made.

https://www.cem.va.gov/facts/Presidential_Memorial_certificates.asp

If an application is made, I would like to hear back on any success stories.



Boy Scout Court of Honor

Compatriot Ryan Yoder reports that he recently gave a presentation about the SAR and its mission to a Boy Scout court of honor. He explained the details of the essay contest and was pleased to say that several of the new Eagle Scouts asked for more information.

Reid Yoder, pictured with his father, is certainly a source of pride for his father. Just how many badges can one sash hold!

Great Project Needs Our Help



I received an email from Dr. Michael Martin in Verbena, Alabama with an idea which really struck me as interesting. Dr. Martin is the president of the Alabama Society Sons of the American Revolution.

As he explained, a fellow teacher, Brooke Sullivan, is spearheading an

interdisciplinary project with elementary school students through the use of postcards to teach geography, mathematics, language arts, and history.

In the process, we help spread the good news about the Sons of the American Revolution and our dedication to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and educating future generations about the founding principles of the United States.

I looked around in desk drawers and found 43 to send including a couple from Canada.

If you can participate, please send cards to...

- Verbena High School, c/o Michael Martin, 202 County Road 510, Verbena, AL 36091

The following is a fascinating biography of the man you will be helping.

Dr. Michael Martin



Dr. Martin takes his SAR membership seriously. In addition to being the president of the Alabama Society of SAR, he was the past president and Sergeant at Arms of the Cahaba-Coosa Society of SAR.

Martin was a former winner of the Dr. Tom and Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award. He was also the 2003-2004 National High School Teacher of the Year.

I wonder which other historic figures he impersonates?

Newsletter Needs

Please send information to the newsletter as soon as you can. Information received after the 10th of the month will go into the next newsletter.



More Than Myth—Johnny Appleseed

Through children's stories, Johnny Appleseed has been pictured as a dreamy wanderer who planted apple seeds throughout the countryside.

Research reveals him to be a careful, organized businessman. Over a nearly fifty years, he bought and sold tracts of land and developed thousands of productive apple trees from Pennsylvania.

John Chapman, better known as “Johnny Appleseed,” was born in Massachusetts in 1774 of a father who fought in the American Revolution.

John planted his first apple trees in the Allegheny Valley of Pennsylvania about 1792. Walking miles daily, he kept well ahead of the pioneers. He had a knack for predicting where they would settle and planted apple nurseries in those spots. (1)



The apple trees Chapman planted were from seeds he collected free at cider mills. The seeds produced cider apples, not the dessert and cooking variety. Cider apples, called “spitters” in those days, were small and unpleasant to eat. They could, however, be used to produce hard cider, an alcoholic beverage. This was a staple of the pioneer diet. Pioneers did not always have access to sanitary drinking

water. (2)

After laying claim to wilderness land, Chapman cleared and plowed a couple of acres and planted the seeds in closely spaced rows. When the seedling trees were about a year old, he transplanted the healthy trees to a seedling orchard. In both cases, this planting was proof that he was cultivating the land on which he had staked his claim. (3)

John Chapman was an experienced businessman / nurseryman. He sold his trees to arriving settlers for fippenny bit each, about six-and-a-half cents. This was not a bad price when land was selling for two dollars an acre. (4) At the time of his death, he owned more than 1,200 acres of cultivated land throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana. (5)

Part of the Johnny Appleseed legend grew from his generous nature. Although in the business of selling seedlings, he gave away nearly as many trees as he sold. He soon was known as the “apple seed man” and finally only as “Johnny Appleseed.” (6) The following is especially interesting in seeing how he thought of himself in 1828 when he was selling a town lot in the center of Mount Vernon, Ohio. (7)

I, John Chapman, (by occupation a gatherer and planter of apple seeds)—

During the War of 1812, Chapman served as a American scout looking for marauding bands of English and Native Americans. After the war, he resumed his business and supplied apple seedlings to an estimated 100,000 acres. (8)

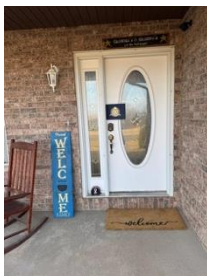
On March 18, 1845, Chapman died of pneumonia at the age of seventy-one. He was visiting his friend, William Worth, in Indiana. Although there is a memorial stone in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, the exact location of John Chapman’s grave site is unconfirmed. (9) National Johnny Appleseed Day is celebrated on September 26th.

Sources:

1. “The Story of Johnny Appleseed,” Washington Apple Commission, Online: <https://waapple.org/johnny-appleseed/>
2. “Was Johnny Appleseed a Real Person,” Britannica, Online, <https://www.britannica.com/story/was-johnny-appleseed-a-real-person>)
3. Thompson, Morley, “The Man They Called Johnny Appleseed,” Guideposts, Online: https://guideposts.org/positive-living/the-man-they-called-johnny-appleseed-2/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=&utm_term=&gad_source=5&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIudjxquCAiwMVq07_AR2P4QpDEAAYAiAAEgJyS_D_BwE
4. Ibid,
5. “John Chapman: Pioneer Nurseryman,” North Carolina Historic Sites, Online: <https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/horne-creek-farm/southern-heritage-apple-orchard/apple-history/john-chapman-pioneer-nurseryman>
6. Ibid.
7. Thompson
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.

Flag Presentation Program Moves North and West of Dubuque

Locating some new areas in 2005 for flag presentations meant heading north out of Dubuque. Sundays are usually good days to find people at home. This was not one of those occasions.



The Avenarius family was not at home on my second visit. When they return, there will be a surprise at the front door. Located in a new housing development, this home already had its flagpole.



The Riniker family was not to be found on my second stop at their house. Fortunately they had a convenient garage door on the ground floor.



More Riniker lived on the next lot. No one was home.



The next stop was one of those that make your day. The Seiers and their son were home and welcomed me like a lost cousin. Wanting to know all about the Society which had such colorful outfits, their questions ranged from how long we had been making these presentations which seemed so ‘wonderful.’

Of All Representations! The Snake?



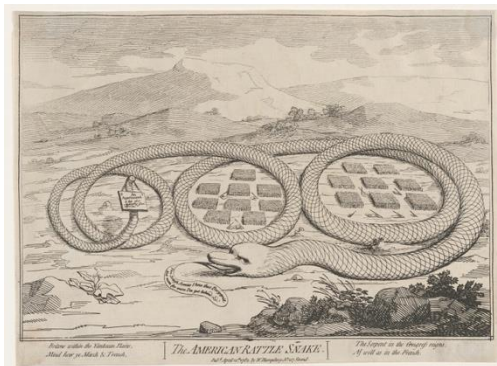
Political cartoons reached the New World, although under British rule a person who criticized the crown or the government might be imprisoned.

On May 9, 1754, Benjamin Franklin published one of the most famous cartoons in history: the “Join or Die” woodcut. Franklin's art carried importance and is considered an early masterpiece of political messaging. Franklin depiction of a snake cut into eight pieces (each labeled as a colony) symbolized the need for coordinated action against the French and their Native American allies during the French and Indian (Seven Years’) War. At the time, Franklin was the publisher of the **Pennsylvania Gazette**. (1)



In 1764 political cartoons were aimed at the Paxton Boys, a Pennsylvania vigilante group who started a series of attacks on Native Americans because they felt the Pennsylvania colony was poorly protected. They

ultimately marched, on Philadelphia where Quaker leaders successfully shielded tribal members. (2)



Carrying on Franklin’s use of the snake, James Gillray in 1782 of London, England depicted the “American Rattlesnake” surrounding garrisons of British soldiers at Yorktown.

Cartoonists in the American colonies found allies in England, where both groups created cartoons mocking members of British parliament; Prime Minister George Grenville who promoted in the Stamp Act; and Lord North, prime minister during the Revolutionary War.

In a 1766 cartoon of a funeral procession for the Stamp Act, the artist Benjamin Wilson sketched a street dog urinating on the leg of political writer James Scott. There was little commentary on the king. This common feeling expressed through cartoons ended with the shots fired at Lexington and Concord. (3) Citizens of England saw this as an act of insurrection.



The snake remained the symbol for the revolting colonies. This cartoon was drawn in 1782 by J. Barrow in London. In this illustration, the rattlesnake is joined by a spaniel representing Spain, a chicken representing France, and a pug representing the

Netherlands squaring off against the British lion.

By the end of the American Revolution, political cartoons were common. With the ratification of the Bill of Rights in 1791, American rights to create political cartoons through free speech and the free press were protected by the First Amendment. Political cartoons in this era commented on social, cultural, and political issues on both a local and national level. They were often published and sold independently, rather than as a part of a newspaper or periodical. (4)

Sources:

1. "Political Cartoons: 1720-1800," First Amendment Museum, Online: <https://firstamendmentmuseum.org/exhibits/virtual-exhibits/art-politics-300-years-of-political-cartoons/political-cartoons-part-1-1720-1800/>
2. Crimmins, Peter, "Make Room for Cartoons Among America's Founding Documents," PBS, Online: <https://whyy.org/articles/political-cartoons-american-history/>
3. Ibid.
4. "Political Cartoons..."

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