



**Benjamin Franklin Chapter
The Ohio Society
Sons of the American Revolution**
Chartered 1889

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current officers.

NEWSLETTER May 2014

State Board of Management

Ray Sharritts and Franklin chapter honored at Salt Fork meeting

At the April 3 State Society Board of Management Meeting at Salt Fork State Park, Compatriot Rev. Ray Sharritts was presented the Patriot Medal for exemplary service at both the chapter and state levels.

Ray is a past Chaplain of the Ohio Society, as well as past President and current Chaplain of the Benjamin Franklin chapter.

State President George Ruch explained that the Patriot Medal can be awarded only by a state society and is the highest award given for service at the state or chapter level. The Patriot medal represents long, faithful and outstanding service at the state and/or chapter level and may be received only once.

Also, the Benjamin Franklin Chapter was named one of Ohio's distinguished chapters for its number of activities during 2013. President Chuck Finley accepted the red streamer on behalf of the chapter.

In addition, David Birthelmer was honored for his service as the chapter president for 2011-2013.

A personal story from the meeting by Chuck Finley

Walking into the lodge restaurant for breakfast, I met a compatriot from the Cincinnati Chapter, Ian Cunningham. He told me that his chapter visits the residents of the Veterans Home in nearby Georgetown. On one of their visits, a resident was excited to tell them that he was not only an SAR member, but also a former president of the Benjamin Franklin chapter.

Long-time members will remember Arvin Donner, who moved to Cincinnati with his wife several years ago. He entered the Veterans Home after the death of his wife and the onset of dementia.

Because Ian visited Arvin once or twice a week until Arvin died in 2012, his SAR ties remained strong.

Thank you, Ian.



Rev. Ray Sharritts receives the Patriot Medal from Ohio Society President George Ruch.

Franklin Chapter honors Capital U. ROTC student

The 2014 Silver ROTC Medal was presented by the Benjamin Franklin Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution to Capital University sophomore Kyle Arvan.

The sophomore was recognized for his excellent academic record and strong leadership skills.

Upon graduation, he plans to become a Physician's Assistant, a quickly growing occupation whose members will examine patients, write prescriptions, and perform other functions traditionally performed by physicians.

Although a resident of Gladstone, Michigan, a town in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Kyle chose to attend Capital because the final assignment of his father's 23-year career with the U.S. Army was as an instructor with the Bexley college's ROTC program.

The Chapter recognizes excellence in four local college ROTC programs as well as 8 Junior ROTC programs at area high schools.



Capital University ROTC Cadet Kyle Arvan receives the SAR Silver Medal from David Birthelmer.

May meeting will be at Motts Military Museum

The May meeting will feature a tour of the Motts Military Museum in Groveport—including the new wing that is not yet open to the public. It has acquired several new exhibits and vehicles since our chapter's last visit.

Members and guests will gather at the Bob Evans restaurant at 4019 South Hamilton Road (phone 834-3980) at noon for lunch. The restaurant is just north of the Hamilton Road / U.S. 33 interchange. After lunch, the group will drive south two miles on Hamilton Road to the Museum. Note that Hamilton Road turns left at the traffic light just past Alum Creek (the actual creek, not the the road).

The Motts Military Museum is located at 5075 South Hamilton Road (836-1500).



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