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New Jersey Society
Sons of The American Revolution

NJSSAR Color Guard Calendar 2026

HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY, AMERICA! THIS WILL BE A BUSY YEAR WITH ADDITIONAL EVENTS MARKING THE 250TH. EXPECT MODIFICATIONS TO THE SCHEDULE AS THE YEAR PROGRESSES. WE APPRECIATE YOUR DEDICATION AND YOUR ATTENDANCE AT AS MANY EVENTS AS POSSIBLE.

Date	Event	Location	Type event
Sunday Jan 25 Time 12:30	250 Flag Raising Ceremony, Cranford, NJ Cranford, NJ, on Sunday January 15 will raise a special flag at its town hall honoring our nation's 250 th birthday. The Color Guard's participation is requested. George Washington himself is said to be attending. Muster at 12:30 for 1 pm ceremony.	Cranford Town Hall, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, 07016	State
Sat Jan 31 2:30 p.m.	Graduation of Chaplains Ceremony, Edison, NJ The color guard is proud to support the inaugural Christian Chaplain Graduation in Edison. Ten chaplains will be graduating and receiving their official Chaplain credentials from the Christian International Chaplain Association. These new chaplains have completed an extensive training program and will be serving in various capacities, including with emergency medical crews, hospitals, prisons, and other community and municipal service roles. Muster at 2:30	Crowne Plaza Edison Hotel, 2055 Lincoln Highway, Edison, NJ	State
Sat Feb 21	Washington Luncheon and Board of Managers Meeting The business meeting of the NJSSAR Board of Managers from 10 to 12 is open to all members. It is followed by a luncheon with posting of the colors by the NJSSAR Color Guard. SAR President General Michael Elston and his wife will be in attendance. A. Arrive at 11:30 am if you will not attend the meeting.	Princeton Marriott at Forrestall, 100 College Road East, Princeton, NJ 08540	National
Sun Feb 22	Bridgewater Washington Camp DAR This event is still at the request stage. Information to come.	?	State
March 5- 8	NSSAR SPRING LEADERSHIP MEETING The Galt House Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky All SAR members are welcome at the Spring Leadership meeting Thursday through Saturday, March 5-8, at the Galt Housel in Louisville, Ky. Contact Chris Sands or go to SAR.org for details.	Galt House, 140 North 4 th St., Louisville, Ky., 40202	National

	Second Quarter		
SAT April 11 11 am	<p>Commemoration of the Battle of Bound Brook, 1777</p> <p>The SAR now recognizes the Battle of Boundbrook commemoration as a National Event, joining Ten Crucial Days, Monmouth, Connecticut and Springfield, Chestnut Neck and Red Bank.</p> <p>The Battle of Bound Brook began as a foraging raid by a combined force of British and Hessian troops out of New Brunswick. On Sunday, April 13, 1777, a four-column force of 4,000 British Crown troops led by Cornwallis attacked a small American garrison of about 500. An advance column of Hessian Jaegers were pinned down by the Americans at the Old Stone Arch Bridge. The skirmish bought precious time for the bulk of the American force. When a second column of 1,000 British soldiers charged over the Queen’s Bridge to attack, the Colonials retreated, escaping the trap.</p> <p>Our event is part of a weekend full of reenactments remembering the battle. Both days will feature American and British troop reenactors in street battles, military drills and camp life with camp followers and sutlers (merchants selling goods) of that period.</p> <p>1. Arrive at 11 a.m. at the Old Presbyterian Cemetery, 402 East High St. Color Guard members are invited to lunch after the event. Event Host: Raritan Chapter, Frank McGonigle.</p>	Old Presbyterian Cemetery, 402 East High St, Bound Brook, 08805	National
Sat May 2	<p>Atlantic County 250th Birthday Party</p> <p>Information to come.</p>		
Sat May 2	<p>Declaration Signing, SAR-DAR</p> <p>Information to come.</p>		
Sat May 2	<p>Moorestown DAR-South Jersey SAR Luncheon</p> <p>Information to come.</p>		
SAT May 9	<p>Battle of Monmouth State Lunch and Board of Managers Meeting</p> <p>The business meeting of the NJSSAR Board of Managers is from 10 to 12 and is open to all members. It is followed by a luncheon with posting of the colors by the NJSSAR Color Guard. Arrive at 11:30 am if you will not attend the meeting.</p>	Princeton Marriott at Forrestall, 100 College Road East, Princeton, NJ 08540	State

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<p>SAT May 16 9 am to 4 pm</p>	<p>NJSSAR Muster and History Day at East Jersey Old Town</p> <p>Activities at this all-day event include an encampment of the NJSSAR Color Guard, which will practice marching and shooting skills and provide demonstrations for the public, all under the instruction of Commander Ed Glidden. The event includes other Revolutionary and Civil War reenactors, vintage baseball players, live music, historic gardening and agriculture, stone carving, a 19th century print shop, home and hearth demonstrations, music, horse-drawn wagon rides, food trucks, children's crafts, and more.</p> <p>1. Arrive at 9 a.m. for 10 a.m. opening of the gates. Questions? Contact Ed Glidden.</p>	<p>East Jersey Old Town, 1050 River Road, Piscataway NJ</p>	<p>State</p>
<p>MON May 25</p>	<p>Memorial Day</p> <p>All chapters are encouraged to participate in Memorial Day events in their own communities. Color Guard please note: If you wear your uniform while participating, it counts as a National Color Guard event for the purposes of applying for a Color Guard Medal. This is true also for Independence Day and Veterans Day.</p>	<p>Your local community</p>	<p>National (if in uniform)</p>
<p>SAT May 30</p>	<p>America 250th Parade, Mount Olive, NJ</p> <p>A parade for America's 250th birthday sponsored by Mount Olive Township with a mix of pedestrians and vehicles, about 40 minutes and one and a quarter mile in length. In addition to celebrating American independence, the parade's theme will center on our history of soldiery and wars fought to preserve the freedom of the American people.</p>	<p>99 Sunset Drive, Budd Lake, NJ, 07828</p>	<p>State</p>
<p>SUN June 14 Muster 11 a.m First of two events this day.</p>	<p>Battles of Connecticut Farms and Springfield with PG Elston</p> <p>SAR President General Michael Elston, who has an ancestor who fought in the Battle of Springfield, will attend this year's National SAR event, which this year officially includes the Battle of Connecticut Farms. This is the 246th anniversary of both battles, June 7 and 23, 1780. Springfield was the last Revolutionary War battle fought in the North. In both battles, British and Hessians attempted to reach the Hobart Gap and, beyond it, Morristown, to capture Continental stores and perhaps Washington himself. Muster at 11 for Noon ceremony.</p>	<p>Battleground Cemetery, 39 Mountain Ave., Springfield, Union County, NJ,</p>	<p>National</p>
<p>SUN June 14 Time</p>	<p>Patriot Grave Marking with PG Michael Elston</p> <p>Following the Connecticut Farms and Springfield ceremony at noon, NSSAR PG Michael Elston will attend a Patriot Grave Marking for a second ancestor, William Line, buried at Scotch Plains Baptist Church.</p>	<p>Scotch Plains Baptist Church, 333 Park Ave,</p>	<p>State</p>

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2:30 pm	Line, identified in the DAR records (A070662) as William Lines, served in the Essex County Militia. He lived from 1716 to 1779. Some two dozen veterans of the Revolutionary War lie in rest in this cemetery in the heart of Scotch Plains.	Scotch Plains, NJ, 07076	
SAT Jun 20 Split squad day: See below.	<p>Wreath Laying for Battle of Monmouth and von Steuben This is a National SAR Color Guard Event sponsored by the Monmouth Chapter. SAR Color Guard members from multiple states can be expected. The wreath laying coincides with a weekend-long encampment by reenactors who in years past have staged several reenactments of the battle, fought on June 28, 1778. The NJSSAR Color Guard honor both the battle and General Von Steuben, the Drillmaster of Valley Forge, without whose disciplined instruction the Continental Army might have fared poorly indeed. Von Steuben's efforts at Valley Forge are said to have first shown results on a major scale here. <i>For event details contact Monmouth President Jake Rue.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrive by 11 a.m. to prepare for the ceremony at noon. Color Guard will present a wreath at the Von Steuben memorial. Speakers TBD. <p>Monmouth Chapter members should arrive by 10 a.m. to help set up and man an SAR Recruiting table next to the Visitor's Center.</p>	Monmouth Battlefield State Park, 20 NJ-33 Business, Manalapan Township, NJ	National
SAT June 20 Time TBD	<p>250 Parade, Port Republic, NJ This parade celebrating America's 250th birthday is sponsored by the Town of Port Republic and will be held on Port Community Day, June 20, 2026. For more information contact Charlie Morgan. Because this event occurs on the same day as the Monmouth Reenactment, we will be required to have a split squad. We are asking Col Richard Somers and South Jersey members to attend the parade.</p>	Port Republic, NJ 08241 Address TBD	Col. Richard Somers, South Jersey
FRI June 26 3:30 pm	<p>Scotch Plains 250 Salute and Battle of The Short Hills We serve two good purposes on this return to Scotch Plains. We will commemorate the 249th anniversary of The Battle of Short Hills, a far-ranging conflict that reached Scotch Plains by the end of the day. Also, the ceremonies will celebrate America's 250th birthday and recognize Scotch Plains' designation as a Victory Town by the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route, or W3R. Scotch Plains was on the route of Continental and French armies marching in late August 1781 from Newport R.I., to Yorktown, Va., where the Battle of Yorktown would soon be fought and won. The ceremony in addition will honor the 25 Revolutionary War veterans buried in the cemetery of the Baptist church at 333 Park Avenue. A parade will follow that will</p>	Scotch Plains Baptist Church, 333 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ, 07076	

	<p>include reenactors portraying Generals Washington and Rochambeau. Muster at the church at 3:30 for 4 pm ceremony.</p> <p>The Battle of The Short Hills occurred June 26, 1777. British, Hessian and American troops engaged in a fight that began in the morning in Woodbridge and spread in the afternoon to Edison, Metuchen and Plainfield, an area then referred to as "the Short Hills." When the British failed to kill or capture General Washington or any significant American forces, the Continentals and Militia retreated to their stronghold in the nearby Watchung Mountains. The British and Hessians, meanwhile, retreated in frustration through Scotch Plains and West Fields in punitive raids pillaging both communities.</p>		
	<h2>Third Quarter</h2>		
<p>FRI JULY 4 Arrive Noon Split Squad Day: see below</p>	<p>July 4 Ceremony in Perth Amboy</p> <p>The Liberty Bell ringing in Perth Amboy is a National Level SAR Color Guard Event and takes place at midday on Market Square, 260 High Street. The replica Liberty Bell there was presented to the people of New Jersey by direction of the Secretary of the Treasury.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrive at noon. at Liberty Bell Park (Market Square). 2. 12:30 - 1:30 pm: Liberty Bell Ringing and a performance the New Jersey Fife & Drum. 	<p>Downtown Perth Amboy Market Square, Perth Amboy City Hall, 260 High St. Proprietary House, 149 Kearny Avenue, Perth Amboy</p>	<p>National</p>
<p>FRI JULY 4</p>	<p>July 4 Parade in Cranford</p> <p>Parade celebrating America’s 250th Birthday in Cranford on July 4. Cranford is the hometown of NJSSAR President Chris Sands who will be marching in the parade. This is another day where a split squad will be in order, allowing us to cover Cranford and Perth Amboy.</p>	<p>Downtown Cranford, address TBD</p>	<p>State</p>
<p>JULY 10-16</p>	<p>NSSAR ANNUAL CONGRESS</p> <p>Greensboro, North Carolina</p> <p>The 136th SAR Annual Congress will be held at the Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons – Koury Convention Center, July 10 – 16, 2026. Come walk in the footsteps of Patriots such as Major General Nathanael Greene and Lt. Colonel “Lighthorse” Harry Lee, where they</p>	<p>Sheraton Greensboro, NC</p>	<p>National</p>

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	<p>stood toe to toe against Major General Charles Cornwallis. Tours are scheduled for Old Salem, Historic Hillsborough, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, and Replacements, Ltd. SAR is also planning five Grave-Marking Ceremonies, honoring twenty-five Patriots.</p> <p>2026 National Congress – North Carolina SAR</p>		
<p>Fri-Sun Aug 7-9</p>	<p align="center">ATLANTIC MIDDLE STATES CONFERENCE 2025</p> <p align="center">Newark, Delaware Friday-Sunday, August 8-9</p> <p>For info call Harry Roberts hbr3rd@outlook.com - 302-757-6429</p>	<p>Christiana Hilton, 100 Continental Dr, Newark, DE 19713</p>	<p>National</p>
<p>Sunday Aug 16</p>	<p>March to Yorktown Day in Westfield, NJ</p> <p>This event celebrates the 245th anniversary of the day Continental and French troops marched through Westfield, NJ, on Aug. 29, 1781, on their way to Yorktown, Va., where they would lay siege to and force the surrender of Cornwallis. Thousands of troops led by Gens. Washington and Rochambeau crossed New Jersey on their way to Yorktown that August, and several columns passed through Westfield including the 1st Rhode Island, with many African American soldiers. <i>For more detail contact Julie Diddell, juliediddell@yahoo.com.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This event’s chief sponsor is Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route-NJ, but the NJSSAR and West Fields Chapter and Westfield DAR all play important supporting roles. In some years there has been a parade at midday, in others an all day encampment in Mindowaskin Park. 2. This date is tentative Please await further details. 	<p>Mindowaskin Park, Westfield, NJ, 07090</p>	<p>West Fields Chapter</p>
<p>Sat Aug 22 11 am</p>	<p>250th Anniversary of The Battle of Brooklyn</p> <p>The biggest battle of the Revolutionary War in terms of men and materiel, the August 27, 1776, Battle of Brooklyn was the first engagement in a months-long and—for the Continentals, disastrous—New York theater of operations. The Americans lines that day were stationed near Gowanus Creek and in the Brooklyn Heights and were outflanked when British troops attacked on the left after secretly approaching through Jamaica Pass. Many American troops were lost as the British pressed their attack. From Maryland, a group that would become known as the Maryland 400, was particularly brave and credited with holding off a large part of the British Army allowing at</p>	<p>The Old Stone House, 336 Third Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215</p> <p>Free parking on 4th Street</p>	<p>Natoinal</p>

	<p>least some of their American comrades to escape and survive to fight another day.</p> <p>Muster at 11:30 for this event that draws SAR Color Guard from multiple states, including New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland, a reflection of how Continental troops from many states made up the roughly 18,000-strong American force assigned to defend New York City. The Society of the Cincinnati of Maryland are the hosts of the event which specifically honors the Maryland 400—the Continentals from Maryland whose brave resistance to multiple British attacks helped protect the flank of the main force of Continentals retreating to fortifications on Brooklyn Heights. <i>For questions, Battle of Brooklyn Chapter President Dave Nelson.</i></p> <p>1. Parking is on 4th Street (a dead-end) between 5th and 4th Avenues. Enter from 5th Avenue. Just move the barrier aside and drive in, then please close the barrier. We'll have parking passes for everyone. Park entrance at the end of the street.</p>		
SUN Sept. 13 TBD	<p>Young Patriot Day at Princeton Battlefield</p> <p>1. This date is tentative. Event lasts from 11:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and is sponsored by the Princeton-Cranbury Chapter.</p> <p>2. <i>For details Chapter President Roger Williams 609-389-5657.</i></p>	Princeton Battlefield State Park, 500 Mercer St., Princeton, NJ	Princeton Chapter
SEPT 26-27	<p>Commemoration of 248th Anniversary of the Baylor Massacre</p> <p>The victims of the Baylor massacre were the 3rd Continental Light Dragoons, a unit of Virginia cavalry also known as Baylor's Dragoons (hence the Baylor Massacre), for their commanding officer Col. George Baylor. The massacre took place near Old Tappan, present day River Vale, NJ. Reports of Continental casualties vary, but American Battlefield Trust says 21 were killed in this late-night attack by the British who used their bayonets to maintain the element of surprise. The exact date of this commemoration is not yet set.</p>	Baylor Massacre County Park, Red Oak Drive, River Vale, NJ	State
	<p>Fourth Quarter</p>		
Thur-Sat Oct. 1-3	<p align="center">NSSAR FALL LEADERSHIP MEETING</p> <p align="center"><i>Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky</i></p> <p>All SAR members are welcome to attend the Fall Leadership meeting from Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 1-3, at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky. Go to SAR.org.</p>	Galt House, 140 N. Fourth St. Louisville, Ky., 40202	National

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<p>SAT Oct. 4</p>	<p>Commemoration of The Battle of Chestnut Neck</p> <p>This is a National SAR level hosted by the Richard Somers Chapter. Chestnut Neck was a settlement on the Little Egg Harbor River (now known as the Mullica River) near the present-day city of Port Republic. The small village was used as a base by privateers. Goods from captured ships brought here were sent on to George Washington at Valley Forge, and the ships themselves were added to the privateering fleet. British General Henry Clinton decided to launch an expedition to "clean out that nest of Rebel Pirates." The attack on Oct. 6, 1778, led by British Captain Patrick Ferguson, burned homes, destroyed 10 captured ships and destroyed whatever confiscated goods they could not carry off. In an attack several weeks later known as the Little Egg Harbor Massacre, 400 British soldiers attacked the outpost again, killing 50 men before withdrawing. The residents of Chestnut Neck never rebuilt.</p> <p>1. This date is tentative. Details to come. <i>Contact: Richard Somers Chapter SAR</i></p>	<p>Chestnut Neck Memorial Park, Port Republic, NJ</p>	<p>National</p>
<p>SUN Oct 18</p>	<p>Commemoration of The Battle of Red Bank</p> <p>This is a National SAR Color Guard event sponsored by the South Jersey Chapter. It commemorates the battle fought Oct. 22, 1777, at Fort Mercer, a strategic posting on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River south of Philadelphia. After the British captured that city in September, Hessian forces were used to attack the fort which was helping prevent British supplies from reaching Philadelphia. Some 1,500 Hessians attacked the fort's 400 defenders from the 1st and 2nd Rhode Island. The Hessians suffered over 500 casualties. 14 American soldiers were lost. <i>For details contact James Howard.</i></p> <p>1. Arrive by 12 p.m. to prepare for 1 p.m. posting of colors, wreath laying and ceremony recognizing the American and Hessian casualties.</p> <p>2. Legacy Marker/Heritage Flag Ceremony is planned to be conducted at the conclusion of the Memorial Service</p>	<p>Red Bank Battlefield, National Park, 100 Hessian Ave, National Park, NJ 08063</p> <p>Note: This is the Red Bank in Gloucester County</p>	<p>National</p>
<p>SAT Oct 24</p>	<p>Lunch and Board of Managers Meeting, Princeton, 10 am to 3 pmIf you are not attending the meeting, arrive at 11:30 am. Color Guard will post the colors. Lunch follows with a speaker TBA.</p>	<p>Princeton Marriott, Princeton NJ</p>	<p>State</p>
<p>TBD</p>	<p>Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge</p>	<p>Valley Forge State Park, PA</p>	<p>State</p>

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	<p>This beautiful event is sponsored by the New Jersey Daughters of the American Revolution. <i>It was not held in 2025 but we hope it will resume.</i> The event is usually held on a Sunday in early November. There is an optional brunch, for which tickets can be purchased, and a church service at which NJSSAR Color Guard posts the colors. The Washington Memorial Chapel is an Episcopalian church completed in 1917 that honors not only our commander in chief during the Revolutionary War, but also American leaders in all of our country's wars. The church features a Gothic Revival style with carvings and other designs honoring Revolutionary War soldiers and commanders of more recent wars. The Veterans Wall of Honor honors all veterans of the United States Armed Services. www.wmchapel.org.</p> <p>1. If the event resumes the Chapel is on Valley Forge Road (Route 23), about a mile west of the park headquarters. Exit at Valley Forge (exit 326). Stay to the right when entering the toll booths. Take the first exit, marked "North Gulph Road." Continue on North Gulph Road about 2.9 miles. (<i>North Gulph Road becomes Valley Forge Road/Route 23 at the entrance to Valley Forge National Historical Park.</i>) Chapel is on your right.</p>		
<p>EARLY NOV TBD</p>	<p>Ocean County Celebrates America 250</p> <p>Ocean County joins in 250th anniversaries. Guest speakers will include officers of the Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution. Ocean County has been awarded a grant from the National Park Service to establish an American Revolution Ocean County Trail featuring short documentaries and on-site interpretive signs for six sites of conflict. <i>For questions contact Mike Mangum, Richard Somers Chapter.</i></p> <p>1. Arrive by 10 a.m. to organize for ceremony that starts at 11 and ends by 12:30.</p>	<p>Toms River Ocean County Courthouse, 118 Washington St., Toms River, NJ, 08753</p>	<p>State</p>
<p>WED Nov 11</p>	<p>Veterans Day Events. All chapters are encouraged to participate in events in their own communities. Color Guard please note: If you wear your uniform while participating, it counts as a National Color Guard event for the purposes of applying for a Color Guard Medal. This is true also for Memorial Day and Independence Day.</p>	<p>Your local community</p>	<p>National</p>
<p>SAT Nov 21</p>	<p>250th Anniversary The Abandonment of Fort Lee</p> <p>This is a state level SAR ceremony but we want to make it national. While the fort itself no longer exists, Fort Lee stood on the crest of the Hudson Palisades across the Hudson River from Fort Washington,</p>	<p>Monument Park, Palisade Ave and Angioletti Place, Fort</p>	<p>State</p>

	<p>which sat at the north end of Manhattan. Fort Lee’s abandonment to the British in November 1776, shortly after the surrender of Fort Washington, marked the end of a disastrous New York theater of operations for the Americans. But it also marked the beginning of a proverbial turning of the tide: Washington’s strategic retreat across New Jersey and the stunning U.S. victories at Trenton and Princeton. The wreath laying is on Saturday, the first day in a two-day event that is well attended and includes the Brigade of the American Revolution and Veterans of Foreign Wars. <i>Please note: The wreath laying takes place in Monument Park, while the weekend-long event is a reenactors encampment in nearby Fort Lee Historic Park.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrive at Monument Park on Angioletti Place at 11:30 a.m. or earlier to prepare for a noon ceremony. The Color Guard waits with their wreath at the statue in the park as reenactors from The Brigade of the Revolution march in from Fort Lee Historic Park, a few blocks away. 2. Parking: There is free parking at the foot of Monument Park. If that is full, there is street parking. 	<p>Lee, NJ, 07024</p>	
<p>Sat, Dec 5 11 a.m.</p>	<p>250th Anniversary of Battle of Petticoat Bridge, 1776</p> <p>The full scale battle reenactment in Springfield Township is near where the December 1776 battlefield at Petticoat Bridge. From American Battlefield Trust: At Petticoat Bridge American militia forces of Colonel Samuel Griffin and foraging parties under Hessian Colonel Carl von Donop clashed at least three times from Dec. 21 to 23, 1776. In the third engagement, estimates suggest it was about 50-100 Americans facing off against 2,400 Hessians. The Americans that day fell back to Slab Town and eventually to Mount Holly, culminating in the Battle of Iron Works Hill. With the gracious permission of a local couple, we will be hosting a midday history festival on their 50-acre farm.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Arrive at 11 a.m. There will be historical demonstrations and opportunities to engage living historians as they bring an eighteenth-century military encampment to life. b. <u>At 12 pm</u>, there will be a full-scale reenactment involving American militia from the 2nd Pennsylvania, British regulars from the 43rd Regiment of Foot, members of the 42nd Scottish Highlanders (the Muskets of the Crown), and a few Hessians causing trouble. With several artillery pieces to boot, expect a resounding skirmish to break out! 	<p>1871 Jacksonville Jobstown Road, Columbus, NJ, 08022</p>	<p>South Jersey Chapter</p>

	<p>c. Following the battle, there will also be a separate artillery demonstration at 1:15pm.</p> <p>d. Parking will be free and available to the public on site. Expect hot seasonal beverages and a food truck. There will be vendors available from local historical societies.</p>		
<p>SUN DEC. 13 10 am</p>	<p>250th Anniversary of Washington’s Crossing, “Ten Crucial Days”</p> <p>Washington’s Crossing of the Delaware on the night of Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 1776, is the defining moment of U.S. history. Without it, the Continental Army goes home in defeat, the Revolutionary War is over, there is no United States. But, 249 years later, here we are, thanks to the heroics of Washington and the Continental Army on that stormy winter night and all the next day when they surprised the Hessians at Trenton.</p> <p>This date is tentative. Arrive at 10 am for the 10:45 wreath-laying ceremony honoring the Crossing, part of a daylong series of events organized by the Park and the Friends of Washington’s Crossing, an occasion that attracts thousands of spectators each year. The so-called First Crossing, held on the first Sunday of December, is a dress rehearsal for the even larger event held on Christmas Day. The river crossing begins at 1 pm. If you want to ride in one of the boats, register below before November: https://www.washingtoncrossingpark.org/cross-with-us/crossing-registration/ .</p> <p>The “Ten Crucial Days” are the period from December 25, 1776, to January 3, 1777, during which four events of critical importance took place: The Crossing, The First and Second Battles of Trenton and the Battle of Princeton. As part of the Ten Crucial Days, each event is designated as having National status by the NSSAR Historic Sites committee. With regard to earning Silver and Von Steuben Color Guard medals, however, a Color Guard member attending Ten Crucial Days events will be credited for a maximum of two events in each four-event cycle. For more info contact Roger Williams.</p>	<p>Washington Crossing Park Visitors Center, PA 1112 River Road Washington Crossing, PA</p>	<p>National</p>
<p>Sunday Dec 13</p>	<p>Wreaths Across America</p> <p>Below there are several locations from the past. Any Color Guard member can organize an event at a cemetery. If you do, let Richard Serfass know.</p> <p>a. Beverly National Cemetery, Beverly NJ – Larry Nelson</p>	<p>Your local community.</p>	<p>National</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Boehm Church Cemetery, Blue Bell, Pennsylvania – Rich Serfass (Invited by the PASSAR Color Guard. My Patriot Ancestor’s grandfather founded this church and is buried there.) c. First Presbyterian Church Cemetery -- Broad St. Elizabeth, NJ 07202 - Robert Meyer d. Quaker Meeting House and The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury - Jake Rue e. Fair View Cemetery in Red Bank (Middletown) 		
<p>SAT DEC 26 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>250th Anniversary Battles of Trenton, “Ten Crucial Days”</p> <p>George Washington’s two battles of Trenton, fought one week apart, comprise, first, the more famous Dec. 26 engagement that caught the Hessians by surprise, and, the second, on Jan. 2, 1777, that stopped Cornwallis at Assunpink Creek. The second battle has faded in the public’s memory over recent years, though it was perhaps just as important as the first because it led directly to Washington’s next smashing victory, the Battle of Princeton, on Jan. 3.</p> <p>Our first wreath-laying ceremony of the day is held at the imposing Trenton Battle Monument, a 148-foot tall granite column atop which stands a resplendent George Washington. The monument, whose cornerstone was laid in 1891, was designed by John H. Duncan, the architect of Grant’s Tomb. It is located in an area of Trenton known as ‘Five Points.’ It was here, at the intersection of North Broad Street, Warren Street, and Brunswick, Pennington and Princeton Avenue, that the American artillery was placed on the morning of Dec. 26. From this vantage point, the artillery dominated the streets of Trenton, preventing the Hessian troops from organizing an effective counterattack. The second wreath laying will take place at Mill Hill Park immediately following the first ceremony.</p> <p>This date is tentative. Arrive at 9:30 for 10 am ceremony. Second ceremony follows shortly after.</p>	<p>Trenton Battle Monument, 350 North Warren St., Trenton, NJ, 08618</p> <p>Mill Hill Park East Front Street and South Broad Street, Trenton 08608</p>	<p>National</p>