

# THE WASHINGTON CHAPTER CHRONICLE

KANSAS SOCIETY, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
VOLUME III No. 3 AUGUST 2009

## DISTINGUISHED PATRIOT AWARD PRESENTATION

Past Kansas Society President, Peter Grassl, acting for President General David Appleby, presented the Distinguished Patriot Award to Philip Blake for his work as Project Manager of Operation Ensign. Several years ago the Wichita Veterans' Park was badly run down and an eye sore. Philip Blake and members of the Washington Chapter took on the task of returning it to prime condition. They solicited grants from Congress and the City of Wichita and started restoration. Secretary General David Appleby attended the 2008 State Conference and was so impressed with what had been accomplished by their work that this year as President General he made a point to award the prestigious Distinguished Patriot Award to Phil Blake. The President General can only award one of these medals a year.

participate in numerous celebrations in commemoration. Of all these, your efforts with Operation Ensign really stands out and I want to congratulate you on the success of this great project. It will have a lasting impact on generations to come in your community. I know you will accept the Distinguished Patriot Award with characteristic humility but please know that the National Society considers it a great achievement and the award is well earned.

Yours in Patriotic Service

David N. Appleby  
President General  
Nation Society of the Sons of  
the American Revolution"



Past President Peter Grassl presents Philip Blake with the Distinguished Patriot Award while President Martin Klotzbach attends.

## HEROISM AWARD

The Washington Chapter will award the Heroism Award at our upcoming Luncheon Meeting to be held at Hometown Buffet, 6820 West Central on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30AM. Cost for the buffet meal will be \$8.00, this includes tax and tip. Come out and help us honor members of our community for their brave and unselfish acts.

In awarding the award to Phil Blake, Past Society President Grassl read a letter from PG Appleby.

“Dear Phil,

It has been my privilege over the last few years to travel all across our great nation, to meet a lot of great Americans and to observe or

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**Gary Neal - Editor**

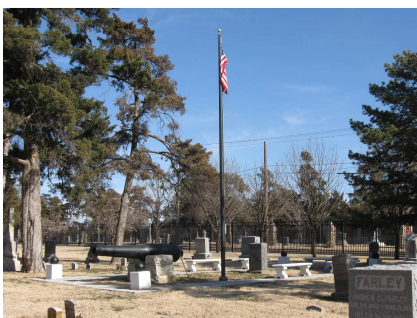
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**Douglas Brady - President**

**OPERATION ENSIGN  
WORK ON HIGHLAND  
CEMETERY WORK MAY  
BE EXTENDED**

With the completion of the refurbishment of the Civil War Eggleston GAR Memorial in Wichita's Highland Cemetery, the need for grave restoration is more visible. Not a part of the HUD contract, this work is being organized as a joint project of our chapter's Operation Ensign and the local chapter of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). Highland Cemetery is now owned by the City of Wichita and maintained through the Park Department.



Civil War Eggleston GAR Memorial

There are approximately sixty military graves in that section of the Cemetery to inspect and evaluate for rework. About one third or less of the gravestones may require more than simply cleaning of the faces. Some

resetting and a few actual replacements of damaged or broken stones may also become necessary.

This work is being considered for completion to coincide with the Sesquicentennial (150th) Anniversary of the start of the Civil War in early 2011. Various other activities are being planned as a part of that anniversary, including Civil War reenactments and parades.

**MEMBERS WHO PASSED  
AWAY THIS YEAR**



Boris Bulatkin

Boris Bulatkin, 71 a retired Internal Revenue Service Auditor passed away on April 15<sup>th</sup>. He was a past president of our chapter. Throughout his life he held many leadership positions with the Boys Scouts of America and was actively involved with the Masons.



Philip Little

Philip Little, 82 property manager and insurance agent passed away on July 29<sup>th</sup>. He was a past secretary of our chapter. Philip served in the

Navy and was in the Civil Air Patrol for 12 years, serving as a Commanding Officer for 6 years. He was a Mason for 61 years with the Albert Pike Lodge and was an usher and elder with First Presbyterian.

**MEETING PROGRAMS**

Our June Speaker was our Compatriot Phil Blake. His Power Point Presentation was Wichita's Treasures: Veterans Memorials. This program has been presented to over 2000 people in the Wichita and Sedgwick County area. There are over 40 veterans' memorials in Wichita and more are being found. There was no inventory before Operation Ensign.

In May our speaker was John Offerman, Founder of the Wichita Chapter of the West Point Alumni Association whose Power Point Presentation was West Point: Links to American Patriotism. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to thank him for his efforts.

At our April meeting Presentation of the Colors was conducted by Northwest High School JROTC Color Guard. SAR Saratoga Pens were presented to the 4 members as an Appreciation Gift. Former Wichita Mayor Carlos Mayans, a child refugee from Cuba who was placed with foster families was our April speaker. He gave a stirring presentation on Why I Love America. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to thank him for his efforts.