



THE LONG KNIFE

Quarterly Newsletter of the Genl George Rogers Clark Chapter
Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution

"Serving Madison County"

Volume XX, Number 4

Page 1

March 2011



Installed as officers at the GGRCC annual meeting were (from left) President Ronnie D. Hicks; vice president James A. DeGroff Jr; secretary Marvin A. Meng; treasurer James C. Hicks and registrar Jerry E. Maas. They were sworn in by Illinois Society SAR President Franz Herder (at flag).

Officers Are Chosen, Schweizer Honored at 25th GGRCC Dinner

New officers for two-year terms were elected unanimously and chapter founder Charles B. Schweizer was honored at the 25th anniversary GGRCC annual meeting in February at Sunset Hills Country Club.

Col. Schweizer, who turns age 98 this spring, attended with his wife Eleanor. He said he is pleased with the activities and growth of GGRCC since he was its first president. He also has held offices and received recognition from the SAR state and national societies.

The invocation and benediction were given by Lloyd E. Schwarz, the only other active charter member.

Ronnie D. Hicks, who has been vice president and leader of the chapter's color guard, succeeds Gaylord J. (Jim) James as president. Compatriot Hicks is a retired automotive distribution warehouse manager and has been commander of the Glen Carbon VFW Post. Other new officers are James A. DeGroff Jr., vice president; Marvin A. Meng, secretary; James C. Hicks, treasurer; and Jerry E. Mass, registrar. (Continued on page 4)

The Long Knife is a quarterly publication of the Genl. George Rogers Clark Chapter, Illinois Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

Charles E. Burgess, Editor

Col. Charles B. Schweizer, Associate Editor

Send announcements, items of interest and member news to:

Editor, *The Long Knife*

6264 Lanterman Drive

Bethalto IL 62010

Phone: (618) 377-6010

Email: cbur305325@aol.com

Luncheon meetings the third Wednesday monthly at Edwardsville Moose Lodge, 7371 Marine Rd. (Rt. 143)

Financial Report 1 Jan.-31 Dec. 2010

James A. DeGroff Jr. chapter treasurer

Chapter Receipts

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Dues/Contributions | \$1,166.00 |
| Dinners | 1,281.92 |
| Dilliard Endowment Fund Interest | 14.41 |
| Windland Endowment Fund Interest | 10.82 |
| Cit. Award Reimburse. by ILSSAR | 140.00 |
| Members' Little League Donation | 81.00 |
| J. Gordon Bidner Seed Donation | 50.00 |
| <u>Small magnets for cars</u> | <u>60.00</u> |
| Total Chapter Receipts | 2,804.15 |

Chapter Disbursements

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Dinners | \$1,265.26 |
| <i>Long Knife</i> Chapter Newsletter | 348.32 |
| Outstanding Citizens Award | 288.11 |
| Flag Award | 88.63 |
| ILSSAR President Motel Charge | 97.71 |
| Dinner Reimbursement Lloyd | 27.00 |
| CAAH Donation | 100.00 |
| Little League Contribution | 150.00 |
| <u>Windland CD Rolled Interest</u> | <u>437.24</u> |
| Total Chapter Disbursements | 2,802.27 |
| Cash Balance 1 January 2010 | 685.14 |
| Receipts 1 Jan. 31- Dec. 2010 | 2,804.15 |

Disbursements 1 Jan.- 31 Dec.2010. .2,802.27

Cash Balance 31 December 2010 . . . \$687.02

Assets

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Dilliard Endowment Funds | 2,002.24 |
| Windland Endowment Fund | 1,438.64 |
| Money Market Savings | 1,003.77 |
| Vanguard Total Stock Index Fund | 4,256.37 |
| <u>Cash on Hand 31 December 2010</u> | <u>687.02</u> |
| Total Assets 31 December 2010 | 9,888.04 |

GGRCC Birthdays

James W. Buckley, April 4
 George R. Edwards, April 14
 Frederick C. Gilham, April 19
 Gaylord J. James, April 22
 Robert Stegemeier, May 4
 Henry J. Boss, May 6
 Earl G. Gruber, May 7
 David R. Oliver Sr, May 7
 James C. Hicks, May 9
 William C. Harpole, May 11
 Charles B. Schweizer, May 18
 James Tarasuik, May 20
 Neil T. Schroeder, June 4
 Ronnie D. Hicks, June 7
 Roger Bowler, June 17
 Bret Brosman, June 18
 Charles E. Burgess, June 23

1812 Society Is Active

James A. DeGroff Jr, GGRCC vice president is helping revive the 1812 Society of Illinois. He is the secretary and GGRCC founder Charles B. Schweizer is president. Compatriot DeGroff expects group to be especially active in 2012, the 200th anniversary year of the conflict .

Locust Grove, Last Home of George Rogers Clark, Renovated

(This article about restoration of the last home of George Rogers Clark appeared in a June 2010 issue of Antique Week. I visited Locust Grove some years ago when the renovation was in progress—CEB)

LOUISVILLE—This month will mark yet another milestone for one of the more historic locations in the United States.

On June 25-27, stately Historic Locust Grove—built in the 1790s and the final home of Revolutionary War hero George Rogers Clark—will host several events to celebrate the restoration of the National Historic Landmark near the Ohio River.

The grand restoration of the interior of the historic structure is the result of two years of painstaking research. Funded by an anonymous preservation-minded foundation, the house's new appearance reflects the taste and social standing of the owners.

The restoration replaces a color scheme of neutrals and bare plaster with bright shades of verdigris green blaze in several rooms, yellow ochre and pale pink. A wide array of wallpapers and carpets—reflecting a lighter French style—replicate the period when General Clark lived in the house.

“Fragments of ornate figurative wallpaper found during the 1960s restoration led to the discovery of the original Reveillon design in France,” said Historic Locust Grove President Gwynne Potts. “That original design has been authentically recreated using woodblock prints according to the French originals—and it's now a beautiful part of the large public room on the second floor called the Great Parlor.

The wallpaper was custom-produced by Adelphi Paper Hangings of New York.

“It's one of the most complicated jobs that say they have done,” added Carol Ely, director of Locust Grove.

Clark (1752-1818) was the highest ranking American military officer on the northwestern frontier during the Revolutionary War. Serving as leader of the Kentucky (then part of Virginia) militia throughout much of the war, he is best known for his celebrated captures of Kaskaskia (1778) and Vincennes (1779) which greatly weakened British strength in the Northwest Territory.

After the war, Clark settled near and later in the rapidly growing town of Louisville which he founded along the Ohio River. During those years he played key roles in civic affairs.

In 1809, after suffering a stroke and the amputation of his leg, Clark moved into Locust Grove, owned by his sister and her family, where he lived until his death in 1818.

Locust Grove also hosted three United States Presidents (Monroe, Jackson and Taylor) and was a stopping point for famed explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark (a brother to George Rogers Clark) upon return from their celebrated expedition to the Pacific Coast.

At the opening day, an all-day symposium was held at Locust Grove to spotlight the planning and restoration process, followed by free tours with costumed guides.

New Officers Chosen, Schweizer Honored at GGRCC Annual Meeting

(Continued from Page 1) The new chapter leaders were sworn in by Franz Herder, president of the Illinois Society SAR, who was a guest at the meeting. Earlier, Herder told the large audience of GGRCC members, spouses and guests “I’m delighted to be here and to be part of this 25th anniversary celebration.” He commended the chapter for its numerous activities along with a challenge to broaden efforts in some areas.

Presiding for the final time until the new officers were sworn in was President Gaylord J. (Jim) James, who is ending about 30 years of residence in Madison County to move near relatives in New York State. He received a Past President’s Pin and Good Citizenship medal in recognition of his leadership and expansion of the chapter.

Retiring chapter Secretary Alan Y. Harrison reported that chapter membership climbed to 56 from 53 in 2010. A moment of silence was observed for two members who had died during the year, James A. Cannon and James A. Collman., Robert Cook, a retired teacher, returned for his second straight annual meeting talk. His topic both times has been U.S. Presidents, with “Presidential Wit and Humor” as this year’s subject. “Most presidents would agree with the statement that progress is the opposite of congress,” he commented.

Awards conferred at the meeting included two for guests—to Linda Rosenthal, historian for the Ninian Edwards Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, for documenting 35 burials of Revolutionary soldiers in Madison County, and Lola DeGroff, regent of the Silver Creek Chapter DAR for maintaining the GGRCC website.

Also awarded Good Citizenship Medals, Oak Leaf Clusters or certificates of appreciation were Harry K. Windland, retiring chapter registrar; color guard members DeGroff, James, Ronnie D. Hicks; and Timothy S. Raymer; Robert J. Stegemeier, for continuing as Outstanding Student Citizenship Committee chairman; former President Raymer for several activities including the Flag Day, Patriot Ceremony and Members and Ladies Night; President James for chairing Eagle Scout, Hero Ceremony and participation in veterans’ emphasis parades; former President Harrison for participation in parades, chairing the Awards Committee and serving as chapter secretary; former President William R. Feeney for many years of chairing the Flag Award Ceremony; new President Hicks for several activities including the chapter sponsorship of a Little League team; and Charles E. Burgess, for publicity and editing the *Long Knife*.

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