

# **Sons of the American Revolution**

**Pennsylvania Society**

**Combined**

**Pittsburgh**

**&**

**General Anthony Wayne Chapter**



**Color Guard SOP**

May 16, 2010

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**Mission:**

It is the Mission of the General Anthony Wayne Chapter Color Guard (GAWCG) to support the National, Pennsylvania Society and Chapter objectives of advancing the cause of Americanism and patriotism by partaking in the rendering of ceremonial honors. Specifically, the Color Guard will participate in parade, funeral and memorial services and the posting/retiring of the colors at other patriotic events. Color Guard members individually or as a group will provide educational activities to the public.

**Introduction:**

The objective of the General Anthony Wayne Chapter Standard Operating Procedure is to establish an organizational structure and create uniform requirements for the Color Guard. Further, it is the purpose of this document to provide specific guidance for drill and ceremony. Historical research has shown that Colonial units did not typically render ceremonial honors and conduct flag ceremonies. Military units in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century did “troop the colors” but the conduct of these ceremonies was infrequent for American and British units alike. (British units most likely conducted these ceremonies on the European continent but not in the colonies with any degree of regularity.)

Since the CG will typically perform in a modern context beside other military and veterans organizations, modern commands will form the basis of the drill commands. However, the use of 18<sup>th</sup> Century weapons creates a challenge. The development of Standard Operating Procedures for the General Anthony Wayne Color Guard took into consideration the objective of preserving the authenticity of the military uniforms and commands for 18<sup>th</sup> Century weapons while placing them in the context of modern color guard protocols.

The only unit successfully employing the use of modern and 18<sup>th</sup> Century commands is an active army unit, the Colonial Color Guard, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment commonly known as the “Old Guard”. The “Old Guard” functions at the Presidents Escort but is more often associated with its Drum and Fife Corps or the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This SOP establishes the “Old Guard” as the ultimate standard for the GAWCG.

**Color Guard Committee:**

*Committee Membership:* The Color Guard Committee shall consist of the Chapter President, the Color Guard Commander and a minimum of one other Color Guard member. The Commander and the committee members shall be appointed by the Chapter President on an annual basis. SAR members from other chapters meeting uniform requirements may be eligible for the appointment as a committee member or as color guard commander.

## **Membership:**

*General Membership:* Membership in the color guard will be restricted to SAR members from other Chapters. Non-General Anthony Wayne Chapter SAR Members must meet the minimum uniform requirements and attend at least one drill session a year.

*Other Chapter Participation:* Participation from other chapters is encouraged however in order to ensure the uniformity of the CG and maintain a consistent standard, SAR members from other chapters may participate in GAW color guard activities however, they may not carry the colors or act as color guards.

*Non-member participation– Non-SAR.* It is recognized that from time to time the GAW Color Guard may require additional support for ceremonial occasions including but not limited to fife and drum music or the use of a firing detail. The use of Re-enactments units, JROTC, ROTC or Veterans groups may be necessary.

## **Uniform Requirements**

Minimum Uniform Requirements: All color guard members will be required to maintain minimum uniform standards. The minimum required uniform shall consist of the following:

- 1) A black tircorner cocked over the left eye. The tri corner will display a black and white cockade and will be trimmed in white.
- 2) A white shirt
- 3) A black linen hunting frock
- 4) White (Natural) breeches
- 5) Black spatterdashes with pewter buttons
- 6) White stockings
- 7) A black leather belt

*Additional approved accoutrements include*

- 1) A black neck stock
- 2) A white bayonet strap
- 3) A black cartridge box hung from a white leather strap
- 4) A powder horn
- 5) A white haversack
- 6) A tin or wood canteen
- 7) Black leather garters
- 8) Black shoes, the color guard member may purchase period shoes or may select a modern shoe similar in style and mount buckles

*Officer/Color Guard Commander uniforms.* The Color Guard Commander or acting commander will be given additional latitude with uniform selection however; the commander will wear the black hunting frock and breeches identical to the rest of the

unit. Weapons (Swords, espontoons, fusils), hats, shirts with ruffles, neck stock and other accoutrements may vary provided they are an accurate representation of an officer or senior enlisted man of the Revolutionary War period.

## **Weapons**

- 1) *Muskets* The suggested musket for the color guard member is the Short Land Patton Brown Bess. Other acceptable muskets will however include the Long Land Patton Brown Bess and the French 1766 Charleville Infantry Musket. The Chapter encourages the purchase of working firing replica weapons however the use of non-firing replicas will be allowed for drill.
- 2) *Bayonets* – bayonet selection will be based on musket selection
- 3) *Tomahawks & Knives*
- 4) *Espontoons and pikes*.
- 5) *Swords* – swords may be carried by the color guard commander, the acting commander, or other officers.

## **Training**

*Drill Manuals:* The primary source for drill and ceremony will be the Army Field Manual *FM 3-21.5 Drill and Ceremonies*. It is recognized that this manual may not address all drill situations for color guard activities. Department of the Navy, United States Marine Corps, (1981), Marine Corps Drill and Ceremonies Manual NAVMC 2690 will act as a secondary source for drill activities. Since the color guard will be utilizing 18<sup>th</sup> Century weapons when possible the color guard will apply weapons commands from Baron Von Steuben's Drill Manual. It is anticipated that support from the Colonial Color Guard, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, the Old Guard will also serve as a resource for drill

*Drill Sessions:* The color guard will conduct a minimum of three drills each year. An abbreviated drill session may be conducted after regular business meeting in order to ensure that unit members maintain a degree of drill proficiency

*Drill Lessons:* There is a limited amount of time available for drill practice. The Color Guard Committee will ensure that unit members are notified prior to drill what sections of the appropriate regulation should be reviewed. This will facilitate learning and make the actual drill session more productive. During the drill sessions, the drill instructor will employ the common military method of instruction known as “by the numbers”. In Colonial times, this was explained to the troops “in motions” and was accompanied by a single drumbeat.

## Recommended Suppliers:

**Townsend and Company**  
133 North First Street  
PO Box 415  
Pierceton IN 46562 USA  
P: 574-594-5852

[1] *Rifleman's Frock* of Black Canvas with two rows of fringe on the cape **Price \$225.00**

<https://www.townsend.us/collections/coats-frocks-and-jackets/products/copy-of-hunting-frock-in-linen-lf-100>

**The Sutler at Mt. Misery**  
**G. Gedney Godwin, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 100  
Valley Forge, PA 19481  
[sales@gggodwin.com](mailto:sales@gggodwin.com)  
610-783-0670  
<http://www.gggodwin.com/>

*Private's Military Cocked Hat* [#PMCH1] This hat is properly cocked over the left eye and has white or black worsted wool trim for infantry, yellow or gold worsted for American or British artillery. The standard has a white cotton rope around the crown of the hat and white tie up cords. The cockade is a satin bow type, black for British, black and white for American-French alliance. The button is plain pewter. It is made of a 30% fur / 70% felt blend. Please provide your head size when ordering along with color combination for the trim and cockade. **Price: \$98.00**

[http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Private-Military-Cocked-Hat-PMCH1\\_p\\_350.html](http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Private-Military-Cocked-Hat-PMCH1_p_350.html)

*Spatterdashes Regular Size* [#GSP1] Also referred to as half-gaiters, ours are made from heavy black canvas with plain pewter buttons. Generally they're made slightly oversized, and to achieve a nice fit you will no doubt have to either move buttons or take in the inside. **Price: \$37.75**

[http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Spatterdashes-Regular-Size-GSP1\\_p\\_298.html](http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Spatterdashes-Regular-Size-GSP1_p_298.html)

*Cotton Stockings* [#14C] White Stockings **Price: \$10.50**

[http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Cotton-Stockings-Medium-14MD\\_p](http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Cotton-Stockings-Medium-14MD_p)

[http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Cotton-Stockings-Large-14L\\_p\\_302.html](http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Cotton-Stockings-Large-14L_p_302.html)

*Garters, Black Leather* [#GBK] **Price: \$7.50**

[http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Stockings-Garters-Belts\\_c](http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Stockings-Garters-Belts_c)

*Breeches, White Linen with Pewter Buttons* [#GMB1]: **Price: \$129.00**

[http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Breeches-White-Linen-with-Pewter-Buttons-GMB1\\_p\\_266.html](http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Breeches-White-Linen-with-Pewter-Buttons-GMB1_p_266.html)

*Private's Shirt* [#PS1]: **Price: \$48.75**

[http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Private's-Shirt-PS1\\_p\\_281.html](http://gggodwin-com.3dcartstores.com/Private's-Shirt-PS1_p_281.html)

### **The Quartermaster General**

[http://www.thequartermastergeneral.com/?category=leather\\_goods](http://www.thequartermastergeneral.com/?category=leather_goods)

Sherie Selander Email: [madamselander@thequartermastergeneral.com](mailto:madamselander@thequartermastergeneral.com)

Phone: 440-213-5899

*Leather Black Belt with solid brass buckle 1 3/4"* **Price \$39.99**

[https://www.thequartermastergeneral.com/store/index.php?route=product/product&product\\_id=1283&search=belt](https://www.thequartermastergeneral.com/store/index.php?route=product/product&product_id=1283&search=belt)

### **Tinkers Leather**

167 Washington Street

St. Mary's, PA 15857

(814) 781-7987

*Black Belt – Call for price quote*