

**Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter
Sons of the American Revolutionary**

HANDBOOK & INSTRUCTION GUIDE



Member:

FLAG FOLDING CEREMONY

The flag folding ceremony represents the same religious principles on which our country was originally founded. The portion of the flag denoting honor is the canton of blue containing the stars representing the states our veterans served in uniform. The canton field of blue dresses from left to right and is inverted when draped as a pall on a casket of a veteran who has served our country in uniform.

(Wait for the Honor Guard or Flag Detail to unravel and fold the flag into a quarter fold--resume reading when Honor Guard is standing ready.)

1. **The first fold** of our flag is a symbol of life.
2. **The second fold** is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.
3. **The third fold** is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country to attain a peace throughout the world.
4. **The fourth fold** represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for His divine guidance.
5. **The fifth fold** is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."
6. **The sixth fold** is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
7. **The seventh fold** is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.
8. **The eighth fold** is a tribute to the one who entered in to the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.
9. **The ninth fold** is a tribute to womanhood; for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded.
10. **The tenth fold** is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.
11. **The eleventh fold**, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
12. **The twelfth fold**, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost.
13. When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God we Trust."

(Wait for the Honor Guard or Flag Detail to inspect the flag--after the inspection, resume reading.)

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today.

18th Century Flag Salute

The Color Guard Commander, or designee, in period uniform, should carry out an 18th century salute to the flag, at the conclusion of the Posting of Colors and Flag Folding Ceremonies.

While at attention, standing before the flag, this salute is as follows;

Step 1: Raise the right hand to the headdress.

Step 2: In one movement, lift the headdress and extend the arm horizontally.

Step 3: When the arm has been extended, count, to your self, three.

Step 4: Return the headdress to the head

Step 5; Drop the arm to your side.

This 18th Century Salute, as described above, should be used by the Flag Folding Ceremony Commander upon completion of the flag folding ceremony.

The Patriot Honor Salute is different from this salute and can be found in the Grave Marking section of your manual.