

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

HANDBOOK & INSTRUCTION GUIDE



Member:

POSTING OF COLORS
including the carrying of arms

Rules when Posting the Colors:

The Carrying of Colors during the Posting Procedure will follow the rules in the Section on “Carrying of Colors”.

Order of Flags:

The USA 50 Star Flag will be located to the right of the podium (as viewed when facing the audience).

The previous authorized USA Flags, when posted, will be placed to the left of the Current USA Flag in descending order of authorization (latest to earliest).

State flag will be located to the left of the podium (as viewed when facing the audience).

The GISSAR Chapter Flag will be located to the left of the State Flag.

Battle flags are located left of the GISSAR Chapter flag. They are to be positioned (right to left) in the order of their authorization or use in battle (oldest to newest). Refer to the “Order of GISSAR Flags” in your manual.

The Posting Ceremony is as follow: As the Color Guard (CG) assembles for the Colors Posting Ceremony, they will inspect their respective flags for proper presentation, ensure they are in the proper order of flags and will secure their flag for carrying by holding the upper portion of the flag pole by the left hand and the lower portion of the flag pole by the right hand (left over right). *When Arms are used with Color Guards they are to be positioned in front of the USA 50 Star Flag and after the SAR Flag as they symbolize the guarding of Colors.*

The Color Guard Commander or designee will report to the Chapter President or his designee when the color guard is ready for the Posting Ceremony by saying *“The Colors & Standards and present Sir”*

The Chapter President or his designee will have all members stand.

The Chapter President will command the Color Guard Commander or designee to *“Present the Colors”*.

The Color Guard Commander will call the CG Team to *“Attention”*.

The Color Guard Commander will give the command to “[Shoulder, Firelocks](#)”. This signals the CG Team to raise their flags, and guns if included in the Color Guard, into carrying position.

The Color Guard Commander will give the command to “[Mark Time, March](#)”. With this command the CG Team is to begin marching in place beginning with the left foot.

The Color Guard Commander will give the command to “[Forward, March](#)”. This requires the CG Team to move forward with their left foot 1st.

The Color Guard Commander will give the command to “[Mark Time, March](#)” when the first CG Team member reaches his previously positioned standard. [This command will remain in effect until each team member has positioned himself in front of his respective standard & arms to the right & left of the line.](#)

The Color Guard Commander will give the command “[Color Guard, Halt](#)” after sufficient time for CG Team to have reached their respective standard.

The Color Guard Commander will next have the CG Team turn to face the flag standard by giving the command “[Left or Right, Face](#)” depending on which direction the CG Team must turn to face the flag standard. Team members carrying arms will turn on command.

The Color Guard Commander will give the command to “[Present, Colors](#)”. With this command. All flags *except the National Colors* are dipped. [Fire arms are brought to the “Present Arms Position”](#) for pledges and or National Anthem or [Honor Flights](#).

This command can also be used to prepare to post without dipping the flags and conducting the pledges. To do so, *(positioning the butt end of the flag pole over the receiving hole of the standard while retaining the flag as vertical as possible)*. [Arms will remain in the carrying position.](#)

The Color Guard Commander will give the order “[Post, Colors](#)”. Upon receiving this command, the CG Team will post the colors into their respective standard. [Those carrying firearms will maintain the “Present Arms Position”](#)

The Color Guard Commander will next take two steps back and Salute the Flag in the customary style of the 18th Century if dressed in period uniform (see this section of the Handbook for proper salute procedure) or the traditional salute if in civilian dress.

Upon completion of the Posting and the Invocation, the Color Guard should be dismissed by the Color Guard Commander by the command “[Center, Face](#)” then “[Return To Post](#)”. [Marching may be performed but is not necessary at this step.](#)

The Formal Retirement of Colors at the Conclusion of Ceremonies: When it is desirable to have a formal removal of Colors at the conclusion of a Meeting or Ceremony, the following procedure should be used.

The CG Team will position themselves facing their respective flag. *Those CG Team members carrying arm to the right & left of the line.*

The Color Guard Commander will command the CG Team to “*Attention*”.

The Color Guard Commander will give the command “*Remove Colors*” (lifting the flag pole from the standard and positioning the flag ready to carry – *left hand over right hand*).

The Color Guard Commander will give the command for the CG Team to “*Left or Right, Face*” to position them for exiting.

The Commander will give the command “*Mark Time, March*”. With this command the CG Team is to begin marching in place beginning with the left foot.

The Commander will give the command to ‘March’ and **will lead** the Color Guard back to the staging area. [*This will usually require the team to perform a U-Turn as they return back to the staging area.*] Proceeding forward with no turn is acceptable.

The Posting of Colors on Floats:

The USA Flag will only be **displayed** on a float in a parade **from a staff**.

When the USA Flag is to be displayed on a float, **the staff shall be fixed** firmly to the chassis or clamped **to a front right structure**.

The USA Flag **shall be higher than all other flags**.

All other flags **shall be positioned in the usual configuration** - [national, state, battle & organizational]

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 yourself, to 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.