

Name: Joseph R. Bigelow, Psy.D., USMC and USA (Ret)

Member Number: OL561

I have been a member in good standing in the Scottish American Military Society for the previous three years. I accept nomination to the office of National Counselor at Large. I am 45 years-old, though I feel I have had multiple lifetime's worth of experience. Philomina, my wife, and I have no children; however, we have two cats that she refers to as her fur-babies. I have a variety of hobbies and interests to include history, archeology, leatherwork, dirk and sgain dubh making, and sporrans making. My wife and I have a side business, Outremer Arts, where we sell the items I make. I also collect Scottish militaria and take the items I find to local Scottish fairs, where I teach history and try to get the younger generations interested in Scottish culture. One of my life goals is to create a brick and mortar facility to house my little museum. My mother was a nurse, having worked at the VA and also served in the Army National Guard's Army Nurse Corps. My father was career navy enlisted, and my ex-step father was an Army Warrant Officer. I grew up around the military, having lived in 11 different houses before I graduated from high school and went onto the military myself.

I served 8 years in the United States Marine Corps in a variety of positions including administration (S1), cold weather training instructor, Inspector and Instructor Staff, permanent color guard duty, and Headquarters Platoon Sergeant. I had a 10 year break in service where I finished my education before taking a direct commission with the United States Army as a Medical Service Officer. In the Army, I served as a Platoon Leader, XO for the Camp Casey Medical Clinic in Area 1 of South Korea, and medical logistics and planning in Support Operations (SPO) for a Stryker Brigade. I was medically retired from the Army. In civilian life, I have a doctorate in Clinical Psychology with a focus in Forensic Practice, and have worked at the Minneapolis Juvenile Detention Center, Federal Correctional Institute – Waseca, Minnesota Department of Corrections, People Incorporated – Summit Park (adults with severe and persistent mental illness), Washington State's Special Commitment Center for civilly committed sexually violent predators, Rainier School for adults with developmental disabilities, and Western State Hospital for civilly and forensically committed patient.

I first joined the Scottish American Military Society around 2007, and have been a lifetime member for about 6 years. While in SAMS, I have held the positions of Post Commander and Color Sergeant (and plank owner) of Post 1858 in Minnesota and Color Sergeant for Post 1889 in Washington. I am also a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a Chevalier, Man-at-Arms, and hold the office of Protocol Officer in the Grand Priory of the Scots - Grand Bailiwick of the Scots. I have a strong belief in volunteerism and currently volunteer at the United Service Organizations (USO) on Joint Base Lewis McChord. In the past, I have volunteered with the Patriot Guard Riders, Wreaths Across America, the Minnesota Veteran's Home, and the Scottish Knights Templar (non-masonic order of chivalry).