## KENNETH A. LLOYD,

## SAMS NATIONAL COMMANDER

I was elected in the Fall of 2022 by the membership. Since having taken the National Commander's seat on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, I have been met with problems on top of problems which I have solved, along with a well-built team of National Officers, Councilors and Appointed Staff. Together, we have pretty much resolved the issues by at least 85%. We have a few items still pending, but I foresee it being completed by year's end.

In my tenure as National Commander, I have updated the SAMS National Website with a more interactive, colorful and very informative platform. I did away with the old, antiquated and non-interactive National Website, and now have one we can be extremely proud to showcase to our members and Public.

We can now pay and renew membership dues all online and quickly. I included a Suggestion/Complaint section, that automatically disperses the member's comments to the appropriate person without any delays. The decision to digitize the Patriot Magazine was completed and its out on the National Website in a beautiful, easy-to-read format, that has more pages than the printed copy we mail out. I have also reduced the cost of printing the Patriot Magazine by \$1800 thus giving us more money to use on other purchases to support the Society and Organization.

I have also approved the purchase of much needed software to support the Organization and Society this Fall in voting electronically, which should offer speed and accuracy of reaching our members and having ballots returned in a timely manner. My team has created a muchneeded SAMS National Integrated Database that will collect data to be used in applying for Grants, Contracts and other monies that we can use to help Posts and Camps who are struggling to stay afloat. Gone is the old Excel spreadsheet membership Master roster that was full of mistakes, duplicates, deceased members, other issues. The Database has also resolved the issues of losing membership applications, checks/money, assigning duplicate member numbers and much more. This Database will serve all the Regional Commanders and Post Commanders in their structure to maintain accurate and precise member rosters at the Region and Post levels. We now have a Webmaster who is highly efficient and trained in his career of building databases and designing Websites, like the one he created for SAMS.

In my short two years as National Commander, I have traveled to National Tartan Day celebration in Washington, D.C. to represent our Organization and Society with 5 other Scottish Foundations and Societies, all the while making PowerPoint presentations via Zoom meetings to other Scottish Foundations who have reached out to me for networking.

I released a 4-page letter that opened up transparency within our Organization and Society, something that hasn't been done in its entire 43 years. My team and I are currently conducting Regional Zoom meetings with Post Officers and members. We now have a Corporate Communications Center that monitors ALL correspondence that comes into and out of the Society and Organization and that releases updates of all pertinent information in a timelier basis to RC, PCs and our membership. In July, I will attend one of the largest Highland Games in the United States as National Commander and as Post Commander of Post 1775. This Game is considered one of the BEST in the United States and I take pride in representing SAMS at this game. We usually come away with recruiting high volumes of members to join both National and Post 1775, growing the Society and Organization even more so,

I am seeking reelection in the upcoming National Elections this Fall and would appreciate your vote and support.

Regards,

Benneth A. Lloyd

Kenneth A. Lloyd, SAMS National Commander