

# Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



## Patriot of the Month

November 2014



**Robert D. Beckel, Jr.**

*Sponsored by:*

**Alexander Doniphan Chapter**



Colonel (R) Bob Beckel, a Washington native, received his commission through the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1985. He completed undergraduate pilot training at Columbus Air Force Base and has held multiple flying assignments as a fighter pilot, B-52 aircraft commander, and instructor pilot. He commanded at the squadron and group level, including expeditionary squadrons in Kuwait and Iraq. His staff experience includes tours at NATO Allied Air Forces Northern Europe, U.S. Air Forces Europe, and multiple combined task forces. He was deployed in support of numerous operations including Operation Allied Force and Iraqi Freedom. He is a Command Pilot with 2900 flying hours in the F-16C and B-52 G/H. He served 29 years on active duty, retiring in 2013.

Col (R) Beckel is no stranger to Army operations. He became an Air Liaison Officer in 2003 at Fort Hood, Texas, and served with the III Corps and 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in back to back combat tours. In 2007, he PCS'd to Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, and established the USAF's Air Support Operations Center Initial Qualification course. He finished his active military career as the 505<sup>th</sup> Command and Control Wing Detachment 1 Commander at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He was the principle advisor to the Army Training and Doctrine Command's, Combined Arms Center on all aspects of Air Force integration, capabilities, and doctrine. For 4 ½ years, he provided direct support to the Mission Command Training Program executing over 40 Warfighter and Mission Rehearsal exercises for Divisions and Corps preparing for combat operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Korea. Upon retirement, he remained in the Kansas City area and is now an assistant professor for the Department of Distance Education, Command and General Staff College.

Col (R) Beckel's awards and citations include: Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Two Oak Leaf Cluster, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal.

Col (R) Beckel also serves as an Admission Liaison Officer whereby he helps to identify, advise, recruit, mentor, and evaluate candidates for the U.S. Air Force Academy and applicants for Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps scholarship programs. At home, he is a devoted family man to his wife and teenage daughter. He also has two adult children who are married. His son is in the Air Force, and his daughter lives in Colorado.

The Daughters of the Alexander Doniphan Chapter NSDAR are proud to nominate Col (R) Beckel as Patriot of the Month and extend gratitude and appreciation for his patriotic service and commitment to our nation.