



The Ohio Country Bulletin

The Ohio Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Summer 2016 Newsletter

www.ohssar.org

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Message from the President



As I assume the responsibilities as the President of the Ohio Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, I want to express my appreciation to the entire Society's membership. I see this as a privilege and a great opportunity. I assure you that I will faithfully and diligently undertake the duties of the Chief Executive Officer of our organization throughout the upcoming leadership term.

When I spoke to the OHSSAR Board of Management following the recent elections, I spoke about the inherent challenges any volunteer organization faces when they only meet quarterly and experience a new leadership team every year. This is no easy task but we do have our guiding objectives (Patriotic, Historical and Educational) to help us meet these challenges. Therefore, to help mitigate those challenges, I have planned and aligned my goals very closely with that of my predecessor, Jim Schaffer. We have accomplished a lot as a Society in the last couple years and I want to do what I can to maintain continuity with those accomplishments and do what I can to move them even further along.

Therefore, my Goals for the 2016-2017 term are simple and remain largely unchanged from last year:

- Broaden Compatriot participation in state activities and governance.
- Increase membership and improve the number of annual Compatriot renewals.
- Strengthen the operations of the Society.
- Maintain a balanced budget and improve the funding stream for operations.
- Reinforce our patriotic, historical and educational programs.

I want to thank President James D. Schaffer for his dedicated service and diligent efforts over the past year. I will strive to build upon the successes achieved by Jim and those who served as President before him.

Donald C. McGraw, Jr.
Ohio Society
State President
2016 - 2017

2016-2017 Ohio Society Officers

Col. (Ret) Donald C. McGraw, Jr.
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pilgrim1607@gmail.com

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The Ohio Country Bulletin
Published Quarterly
Donald C. McGraw, Editor

127th Annual Ohio Society State Conference



The Ohio Society 127th Annual Conference was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Blue Ash—Cincinnati, Ohio from Friday, April 29th through Sunday, May 1st.

Friday evening featured an excellent dinner, followed by a meeting of the Ohio Society Executive Committee. The OHSSAR Ladies' Auxiliary gathered for social time in the hospitality room, which they graciously hosted throughout the conference.

On Saturday, the agenda started early with the Board

of Management Meeting followed by the Annual Meeting, where elections for 2016-2017 Society Leadership took place. The Ladies' Auxiliary also held their Annual Meeting and elections. An excellent luncheon followed the meetings.

Saturday afternoon's activities including the judging of the entries for the state's Elementary School Poster Contest, the Middle School Brochure Contest and the contestants of the Douglass G. High Oration Contest.

The Annual Awards Banquet concluded the evening and included numerous guests of honor including: NSSAR Secretary General Michael Tomme, NSSAR Central District Vice-President General Robert Cunningham, NSSAR President General 2013-2014 Joseph W. Dooley, Ohio Society DAR Vice-Regent Nancy Schirm-Wright and many others. Secretary General Tomme delivered an outstanding keynote address, following which were presentations of youth pro-



Secretary General Mike Tomme

gram, appreciation, member recognition, and the Samuel Hubbard Scott Laureate Award.

(See State Conference Pg. 6)

Samuel Hubbard Scott Laureate Award



Steven R. Kelley

Compatriot Steven R. Kelley was announced as the winner of the coveted Samuel Hubbard Scott Laureate Award at the 127th Annual Ohio Society State Conference

Samuel Hubbard Scott, a compatriot from Toledo, Ohio, whose qualities are an exemplar of those sought in an outstanding compatriot, is the individual who was behind the Award. It is the highest and most prestigious award the Ohio Society, alone, can give to an Ohio Compatriot. This special award was created in 1979, and was awarded for the first time at the 1979 Conference in Cleveland. The award is presented annually to the compatriot who, in the opinion of the selection committee, best exemplifies the purpose and objectives of the Society. Any compatriot is eligible.

The most recent recipient of the award is the chairman of the committee to select the new awardees. All other living recipients are automatically members of this committee. Compatriot Kelley was presented with the award by Compatriot James O. Fast, last year's recipient.

Ohio Society Elects Officers for 2016 - 2017

At the Annual Meeting of the Ohio Society membership, elections were held for state officer positions. Elected for the 2016 - 2017 Leadership Term were:

- President - Col. (Ret) Donald C. McGraw, Jr.
- 1st Vice-President - Rev. David B. Foster
- 2nd Vice-President - Shawn A. Cox
- Secretary - Turner (Lee) Wilkerson, III.
- Treasurer - L. Stephen Hinson
- Registrar - Troy C. Bailey
- Chancellor - Richard L. Carr, Jr. Esq.
- Historian - Dr. James D. River
- Genealogist - Timothy E. Ward
- Chaplain - Rev. James O. Fast
- Director at Large 16-19 - Timothy E. Ward
- National Trustee - James D. Schaffer
- Alternate National Trustee - Timothy E. Ward



Front Row L / R: James D. Schaffer (National Trustee); Turner (Lee) Wilkerson, III (Secretary); Col. (Ret.) Donald C. McGraw Jr. (President); Troy C. Bailey (Registrar); Shawn A. Cox (2nd Vice-President). Second Row L/R: L. Stephen Hinson (Treasurer); Dr. James D. River (Historian); Rev. James O. Fast (Chaplain); Timothy E. Ward (Genealogist)



Annual Awards Banquet

Member awards and certificates of appreciation were presented at the Annual Banquet for service and assistance during Ohio Society President James Schaffer's leadership term 2015 -2016. Recognized were:

SAR Medal of Distinguished Service

Donald C. McGraw, Jr.

Patriot Medal

Lance E. Beebe
L. Stephen Hinson

Meritorious Service Medal

Joseph W. Dooley
Douglas M. Dechert

Silver Roger Sherman Medal

Shawn A. Cox (OLC)
Paul M. Wilke (OLC)
Donald C. McGraw, Jr.
William A. Robinson (OLC)
Richard L. Hartinger (OLC)
James O. Fast (OLC)
William E. Huber
George R. Ruch (OLC)
Terry A. Whetstone (OLC)
Daniel J. Haas (OLC)
Troy C. Bailey (OLC)
Richard M. Carr, Jr.
Richard L. Fetzer (OLC)
Ted M. Minier (OLC)
Larry R. Perkins (OLC)

Past Chapter President

Western Reserve Society
David B. Foster
Arthur St. Clair Chapter
Shawn A. Cox
General Henry Knox
Lynn D. McCann
Lafayette Chapter
David Allison

Distinguished Service Certificate

Michael J. Blum
Michael B. Gunn
John H. Bredenfoerder
Turner Lee Wilkerson
William H. Diehl
Charles E. Finley
Dr. James D. River
Larry R. Perkins
Steven E. Frash
Daniel M. Matheke
Timothy E. Ward
Elwin L. Spray
John H. Franklin, Jr.
Ted M. Minier

OHSSAR Aide de Camp Award

Paul M. Wilke

Spirit of Volunteerism Award

William A. Robinson
Larry R. Perkins
Timothy E. Ward
Rev. James O. Fast
Donald C. McGraw, Jr.
Paul M. Wilke

Bronze C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation

Alexis Mehl

SAR-C.A.R. Silver Medal of Appreciation

Brenda Cooper (OLC)

Daughters of Liberty Medal

Cindy Fast
Betty W. Franklin
Valerie Wilke

Lydia Darragh Medal

Valerie Wilke

SAR Medal of Appreciation

Sandra McCann (OSDAR Regent)

Martha Washington Medal

Nancy S. Wright (OSDAR Vice Regent)

Ohio Society Chapter Membership & Growth Awards

As part of Past President Schaffer's initiative to increase Society membership, several new awards were presented at the Annual Conference.

2015 Ohio Society Membership Awards

First Place-Cincinnati Chapter-51 New Members

Second Place-Western Reserve-37 New Members

Third Place-Benjamin Franklin Chapter-23 New Members

2015 Ohio Society Sponsorship Awards

First Place-Franz B. Ott II-37 New Members

Second Place (Tie)-Ted M. Minier-33 New Members

Second Place (Tie)-Timothy E. Ward-33 New members

Third Place-Troy Bailey-27 New Members

2015 Ohio Society Membership Growth Awards

First Place-Cincinnati Chapter-23.9% Increase

Second Place-Centennial Chapter-15.4% Increase

Third Place-Benjamin Franklin Chapter-14.7% Increase

Distinguished Chapter Award

Each calendar year the Ohio Society recognizes qualifying chapters with the Distinguished Chapter Award for their activities. The criteria for the award are voted upon by the Board of Management, and are designed to encourage chapters to carry out the mission of the SAR throughout the year.

Chapters must meet eight of eleven criteria to earn the award. The award period runs from January - December, and must be applied for by notifying the state president and secretary.

The criteria are:

1. Chapter must have at least one representative (primary dues paying member of the chapter, not a dual member) present at all four OHSSAR meetings (three Board of

Management meetings and the OHSSAR Conference).

2. Chapter must have elected officers and submitted their names and positions to the OHSSAR Secretary with a telephone and e-mail contact for the chapter.
3. Chapter must present at least one Flag Certificate and report the presentation to the OHSSAR Flag Chairman.
4. Chapter must submit their dues and chapter Reconciliation Report to the OHSSAR Registrar by December 15th.
5. Chapter must submit at least one new member application (regular member or Junior Member) which is accepted by the OHSSAR Registrar and forward-

(See Distinguished Chapter. Pg. 6)

Goals Set 2016-2017

It has been the past practice of the incoming president to prepare a strategy for the ensuing leadership term. Jim Schaffer did an excellent job of this in 2015-2016. For purposes of continuity, my intent is to largely continue Jim's efforts with only small adjustments.

Therefore, the five goals I will pursue as a part of our 2016-2017 strategy are::

1. Broaden Compatriot participation in State activities and governance.
2. Increase membership and improve the number of annual Compatriot renewals.
3. To strengthen the operations of our Society.
4. Maintain a balanced budget and improve the funding stream for operations.
5. To reinforce our patri-

otic, historical, and educational programs.

A variable action plan which will serve to coordinate necessary tasks has been developed. The plan, assigning tasks and responsibilities, will be supported by the operating budget, committee assignments, and other appointments which have been approved by the Board of Management.

The Action Plan will be used throughout the year as a working document by the Executive Committee and changes will be made as deemed necessary.

It is important to the accentuate the strengths of our Society, as well as to address our weaknesses. While year-to-year plans are beneficial, long range organizational planning should become part of our vision for the future.

Ladies' Auxiliary News

At the 127th OHSSAR Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, the Ladies' Auxiliary elected officers for 2016-2017. Alicia Bridgeland (Mrs. Donald McGraw) was elected President; Anna Insprucker (Granddaughter of Paul Wilke) was elected Vice-President; Venie (Mrs. Stephen) Hinson was elected Secretary; Betty (Mrs. John H.) Franklin was elected Treasurer & Membership; and Cindy (Mrs. James) Fast was elected Chaplain.

The Ohio Society Ladies' Auxiliary is patterned after the original chapter in California. In 1989, OHSSAR President Jay

W. Collins attended the SAR National Congress in California, and returned with the concept for a similar organization in Ohio.

The Ladies' Auxiliary sponsors meetings and events for the women who attend the Ohio Society meetings. Their prime objective is to support the SAR through fundraisers and donations.

On July 29 at the 2016 OHSSAR Summer Board Meeting in Zoar, Ohio, the ladies will meet on Friday evening, at the Firehouse Grille & Pub in

(See Ladies' Auxiliary Pg. 6)

Welcome New Members

Benjamin Franklin

Michael G. Layman
 Donald R. Shipley
 Matthew D. Shipley
 Scott D. Shipley
 Robert A. Mains
 Richard A. Mains
 Ronald C. Mains
 William D. Mains
 Christian M. Mains
 John S. Brinkerhoff
 Danny T. Conrad

Cincinnati

Jason P. Bourgeois
 Robert K. Skirvin
 Steven R. Carroll
 Jonothan R. Bowers
 Patrick M. Bowers
 Alexander R. Bowers
 Ian N. Bowers

Western Reserve

Mark A. Wisnieski
 Maxwell R. Wisnieski
 Noah A. Wisnieski
 Raymond L. Pianka
 Jonathan M. Kittredge

Richard Montgomery

James R. Baumann
 Harry A. Berry
 Jesse L. Helmers
 Timothy A. Day
 Alan J. See

Northeastern Ohio

Kenton M. Marks
 Jason A. Root
 Andrew J. Root
 William R. Procter

Hocking Valley

William M. Lyman
 David L. Shoemaker
 David A. Everitt

Camp Charlotte

Stephen C. Spicer
 Kevin L. Driesback

Marietta

Michael M. Metzger

Ebenezer Zane

Michael E. Peterson

Firelands Bicentennial

Charles Cotterill

Ewings

Bernard B. Grueser

George Rogers Clark

Max M. Coates

New Chapter News

Throughout the past year, efforts have been underway to establish a new Chapter in the Adams, Brown and Highland Counties area. On March 26, 2016, OHSSAR President Jim Schaffer chaired an organizational meeting of the new Chapter and nineteen Compatriots signed an Application for Charter. They also asked that the Chapter be named "The Highlanders Chapter." At the April 30th meeting of the OHSSAR Board of Management, the Board adopted Resolution 16-06 which approved the Application for Charter, approved the name for the Chapter and directed the Society's Secretary to secure from the National Society a Charter and all other appropriate documentation for the new Chapter.

At that same OHSSAR Board of Management meeting, Eastern District Chairman Larry Perkins informed the Board that he has been working with Compatriots in the Youngstown area on forming another new Chapter. They held a pre-organizational meeting on May 18th in Canfield, Ohio that was well attended. An organizational meeting is scheduled for June 8th at the Canfield Library where the group plans to decide on a Chapter name, work on By-Laws and elect the Chapter's first officers.

The NSSAR has published an excellent guidebook on this topic, titled *Creating New SAR Chapters Guide*, a copy of which can be obtained from the Chairman of the OHSSAR Membership Committee, Compatriot James D. Schaffer. Information is also available in the *NSSAR Official Handbook Volume II*, which can be found on the NSSAR website at www.sar.org.

An excellent resource for starting a new chapter is your OHSSAR District Chairman.

Ohio Society Challenge Coins

At the OHSSAR Winter Board of Management meeting in February, Past-President General Joseph Dooley won the contest to design the OHSSAR Seal. At the OHSSAR 127th Annual Meeting, Compatriot Dooley surpassed himself by having 300 challenge coins struck with the newly adopted OHSSAR Seal and donating them to the Ohio Society for use as it sees fit. This generous donation was acknowledged by the Board of Management. The Board also resolved at the meeting that the coins would be used largely for fund raising. It is anticipated that the coins will be available for sale very soon.



In Memoriam

Western Reserve Society

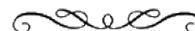
George M. Sloan
 February 27, 2016

George Rogers Clark Chapter

Jeffrey A. Whitt
 May 16, 2016

Ebenezer Zane Chapter

William F. Aspenwall
 March 23, 2016



DAR & C.A.R. News

The Ohio Society has two co-chairmen of the DAR-C.A.R. Liaison Committee. Compatriot Paul M. Wilke will coordinate inter-organization activities in the south half of the state, and Compatriot Dan Matheke will handle the north. Both chairmen have strong associations with the DAR and C.A.R., and will place emphasis on local chapters within them, as well as increase SAR recruitment efforts.

SAR chapter registrars are encouraged to submit DAR Finder forms with new member applications whenever the applicant is referred by a DAR member. The DAR state society with the most referrals to SAR receives a monetary award at year's end. In addition, SAR has several individual medals available for presentation to DAR and C.A.R. members, such as the SAR Medal of Appreciation; the Martha Washington Medal; and the C.A.R. - SAR Medal of Appreciation.

The DAR and C.A.R., being heredity societies, have great potential for new SAR membership.

Summer BOM Meeting & Fort Laurens Memorial

Once again, the Ohio Society will combine its Summer Executive Committee and Board of Management Meeting with the Fort Laurens Memorial Service. The two day event is scheduled for Friday & Saturday, July 29th & 30th, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. Details and registration information is found within this newsletter.

We have reserved a block of sleeping rooms at the Sleep Inn in Bolivar, as we have for the past several years. However, we have outgrown the small meeting facilities at the hotel, and have reserved meeting rooms at the Firehouse Grille & Pub in nearby Zoar, about 2 1/2 miles from the hotel. The Society has used this facility in the past when it was under the name of the Zoar Tavern. The Executive Committee, Board of Management, and Ladies' Auxiliary will hold their meetings at the restaurant.

The Memorial Service at the Fort Laurens Historic Site in Bolivar will be the same as last year, however the start time has been adjusted to allow for the additional travel time from Zoar. The event is being chaired this year by Compatriots Donald C. McGraw and Richard L. Fetzer.

The speaker for the Memorial Service this year will be former NSSAR Past-President General Joseph Dooley. Included will be the presentation of National Colors by the OHSSAR Combined Color Guard, wreath-laying, and a flintlock musket salute. A detailed announcement is available at www.ohssar.org.

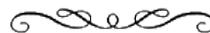
Anyone who intends to present a wreath is requested to notify Don McGraw at donald.c.mcgraw@gmail.com. Color guardsmen need to contact OHSSAR Color Guard Commander Tony Robinson at wrobinson3@columbus.rr.com. This event is considered a NSSAR national event for SAR members. The event is open to the public. DAR and C.A.R. participation is encouraged.

Distinguished Chapter (From Pg. 4)

- ed to NSSAR for approval.
- Chapter must submit an Americanism Scoring sheet to the OHSSAR President by January 15th.
 - Chapter must present at least one contestant for any of the SAR Youth Contests.
 - Chapter must hold at least two chapter meetings and print at least one chapter newsletter. A copy of the newsletter must be submitted to the OHSSAR Historian and submitted to members via mail or electronically via e-mail. Chapter must present photos, newspaper articles, or other documentation to OHSSAR Historian regarding chapter activities.
 - Chapter must participate in at least one community event (i.e. Parade, Grave Marking, etc.)
 - Chapter must have at least one liaison with the DAR and the CAR.
 - Chapter must have at least one Color Guard member participate in a community event as listed in item 9.

Chapters who qualify will receive the Distinguished Chapter flag streamer for their chapter's flag.

Even though we are already over half-way into our 2015 calendar year, it is not too late to earn this award. The deadline for applying is April 15th of 2016.



Ladies' Auxiliary (From Pg. 4)

Zoar for a dinner buffet with the men at 6:00 p.m. On Saturday morning, we will join the others at Fort Laurens.

Ladies interested in membership need to be related to a member in good standing of the Sons of the American Revolution. They welcome wives, mothers, widows, sisters, daughters, nieces, aunts and adopted daughters. Contact Betty Franklin at (216) 319-0997 or by email at jhfbmwm5@aol.com.

State Conference (From Pg. 2)



Memorial Board

The conclusion of the Conference on Sunday morning began with the annual Memorial Service conducted by Ohio Society Chaplain, Rev. James O. Fast. Twenty-six of our fellow compatriots who passed away were remembered with posting of U.S. Flags on the Ohio Society Memorial Board.

Following the service, the newly elected officers were installed by Secretary General Tomme.

OHIO SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Summer Board of Management Meeting

And

Fort Laurens Memorial Service

July 29th - 30th, 2016

VENUES

Firehouse Grille & Pub

162 Main Street
Zoar, OH 44697
(330) 874-2726
40° 36' 42.32" N
81° 25' 20.92" W

Sleep Inn Hotel

11155 SR 212 N.E.
Bolivar, OH, 44612
(330) 874-3435
40° 38' 30.36" N
81° 26' 41.51" W

**Fort Laurens
Historic Site**

11067 Ft. Laurens Rd. NW
Bolivar, OH 44612
40° 38' 23.48" N
81° 27' 23.61" W

**OHSSAR Northeast
District**

**Tuscarawas County
I-77 Exit 93**

ACTIVITIES

Friday July 29th

Firehouse Grille & Pub Zoar

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Social Hour
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Buffet Dinner
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM: Executive Committee Meeting
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM: OHSSAR Ladies Auxiliary Meeting

Saturday July 30th

Firehouse Grille & Pub Zoar

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM: Board of Management Meeting

Fort Laurens Historic Site

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM: Color Guard Muster
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM: Memorial Service

Firehouse Grille & Pub

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM: Buffet Lunch
1:45 PM - 2:45 PM: Award Presentations/Meeting

Note: Due to limited meeting space at the Sleep Inn, both of the meetings will be held at the Firehouse Grille & Pub in Zoar, Ohio, a distance of 2.6 miles from the hotel. Please adjust your plans accordingly.

Sleep Inn Bolivar

Rooms at the Sleep Inn are available for \$112.00 (1-2 adults), \$123.00 (3 adults/room) & \$134.00 (4 adults/room). *Make reservations by calling the hotel yourself, however make payment to the Ohio Society Treasurer to avoid unnecessary taxes.* This is a group rate for the Sons of the American Revolution. A block of rooms has been reserved until **July 15th**, so call before then to get this rate.

Firehouse Grille & Pub

Buffet Dinner Friday

- Roast Beef Au Jus
 - Marinated Chicken Breast
 - Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
 - Green Beans
 - Salad & Dinner Roll
 - Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks
 - Sheet Cake
- \$22.00 Per Person

Firehouse Grille & Pub

Buffet Lunch Saturday

- Dollar Burgers
 - Pulled Pork
 - Grilled Chicken
 - Barbecue Chips
 - Veggie Pizza
 - Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks
- \$13.00 Per Person

Detach ↑

OHIO SOCIETY SAR SUMMER MEETING REGISTRATION

Enclose With Payment ↓

Name (s): _____ Society/Chapter _____

Address: _____

Phone (Optional): _____ Email (Optional): _____

PAYMENT

Make check payable to Treasurer, OHSSAR and mail to:

**Mr. L. Stephen Hinson
5863 Beech Street
Andover, OH 44003**

*Registration Deadline
Friday, July 15, 2016*

SELECTIONS

Firehouse Grille Buffet Dinner

Persons ____ @ \$22.00 \$ _____

Firehouse Grille Lunch

Persons ____ @ \$13.00 \$ _____

Sleep Inn

Rooms ____ @ \$112.00 \$ _____

(\$112 is for 1-2 adults per room. User high rate if 3 or more adults in the room)

Meals & Hotel Total: \$ _____

Dates to Remember

July 8-13, 2016: 126th NSSAR Congress, Boston, MA

July 29 - 30, 2016: OHSSAR Summer Meeting, Zoar, OH

July 30, 2016: Fort Laurens Memorial Service, Bolivar, OH

September 29 - October 1, 2016: NSSAR Fall Leadership, Louisville, KY

October 7 - 8, 2016: OHSSAR Fall Meeting, Gallipolis, OH

October 8, 2016: Battle of Pt. Pleasant Memorial Service, Pt. Pleasant WV

November 4 - 5, 2016: NSSAR Central District Meeting, Erlanger, KY

February 3 - 4, 2017: OHSSAR Winter Meeting, Lima, OH

May 5 - 7, 2017: OHSSAR 128th Annual Conference, Blue Ash, OH

More Ways to Stay Informed

Here are even more ways on the internet to connect with SAR activities, news,

NATIONAL SOCIETY

www.sar.org

www.facebook.com/groups/sonsoftheamericanrevolution/

CENTRAL DISTRICT

www.cdsar.org

OHIO SOCIETY

www.ohssar.org

www.ohssardispatch.wordpress.com

NEW! www.facebook.com/ohssar