



The Westminster Associator

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Westminster Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution
 Proudly Serving Carroll County, Maryland,
 Chapter Established 9 March 1985

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Busy Year Planned
- Upcoming Events
Need your Support
- Remembering Repudiation Day Event in Frederick
- Conclusion of Chapter History Series

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CHAPTER PRESENTS TWO FLAG CERTIFICATES

The Chapter made two separate flag certificate presentations recently, doubling the rate of past years.

The chapter held the first of these on 14 November 2015 at the Bob Evans Restaurant in Westminster, Maryland. Chapter Secretary-Elect Arthur Petruccelli presented the chapter's Flag Award Certificate of Commendation to Melissa Gilligan, Bob Evans Restaurant Manager, in recognition of exemplary patriotism in the display of the American flag. Pictured above left to right are Chapter Secretary Charles Hedges, Bob Evans Manager Melissa Gilligan, Chapter



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Secretary-Elect Art Petruccelli, and Compatriot Don Warner.

The second Flag Award ceremony on December 18th, 2015 at the New Windsor State Bank, Market Street Branch in Westminster, Maryland. Chapter Secretary-Elect Arthur Petruccelli, right, presented the chapter's Flag Award Certificate of Commendation to Tom Long, center, NWSB Branch Manager. Pictured with them is the President and CEO of New Windsor State Bank, Tom Rasmussen. 🛎



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P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E**James F. Engler, Sr.**

Compatriots!

I hope you had a joyous Christmas and are looking forward to a great 2016!

The last few months have been so busy for me that I ended up missing my own deadline for the Winter 2016 issue. As a result, this will be a double issue, covering Winter and Spring.

As you will see, 2016 looks to be a busy one, if all of our plans work out. These ideas were

discussed by those who attended our Fall meeting. While our objective was to have something going on almost every month, The reality may end up being a little different, but the intent is still to increase the number of activities we do in the hopes you will find ones you can attend.

In fact, at our March meeting we decided to hold a family-friendly picnic, in addition to our regular Summer Dinner/Business Meeting. See an article in this newsletter and save the date!

You'll also notice that our officers have expanded with the first two members of an eventual six-member Board of Managers. We hope these additions will further improve our operations.

Pro Patria,

L O C A L P A T R I O T G R A V E M A R K I N G P L A N N E D

The chapter will be dedicating a marker for a Patriot ancestor of Compatriots Pat and Ryan Trainor on Saturday, 23 April 2016 at 2 PM in the St. Joseph's Church in Emmitsburg, Maryland (see flyer).

The patriot to be honored is



John Welty. He was born 04 Sep 1722 in Eppingen, Germany. He married Barbara [—?—]. He died 16 Jan 1817 in Emmitsburg, Frederick Co, MD. His patriotic service included Military Service as a 1st Lieutenant in Capt. Robert Beatty's Comp. from 12 Sep 1775 to 24 Oct 1776.

Coordination with the SGT Lawrence Everhart Chapter is on-going as they cover Frederick County. The Maryland SAR Color Guard will be involved. Invitations are expected to local and state members of SAR and DAR for the event, as well as to other descendants of the patriot.

All Chapter Compatriots are urged to attend. 📣

V O L U N T E E R T O P R E S E N T O U T S T A N D I N G C I T I Z E N S H I P A W A R D S !

Spring might just have arrived, but graduations will be here before you know it! Our chapter annually presents the Outstanding Citizenship pin and certificate to a graduating senior in recognition of their demonstration of citizenship. These are presented at most high schools — all public high schools and one private school — during their graduating class recognition programs.

These events provide a chance for our chapter to recognize our county's youth as well as get our chapter's name out there in the public.

These programs are held at the schools in late May and the first week in June. Often, several schools have their programs on the same evening, so we need a number of Compatriots to present at different locations. Won't you consider volunteering to help out? Contact our Awards Chairman, Charlie Hedges. He'll also be making calls as we get closer to the event.. 📣



MARCH WITH YOUR FELLOW COMPATRIOTS THIS MEMORIAL DAY!

Come join your fellow Compatriots this Memorial Day as we participate in the oldest continuously running Memorial Day celebration in the country, right in Westminster!

Since 1998 the Westminster Chapter's Compatriots have come out and joined in this annual event, including usually two classic cars in which some of our Compatriots have travelled in style.

We assemble each Memorial Day at 9:30 AM on Monroe Avenue in Westminster. Many of us drive and park at the Elementary School just off Monroe, just after turning onto the road from Englar

Drive. The march itself is made up numerous organizations besides ours, including DAR, CAR, Boy Scout Troops and JROTC units. The route taken leads down Pennsylvania Ave. and up Main Street, headed east, ending at the Westminster Cemetery. There's always someone heading back to the start of the route to where the cars are parked.

Our Memorial Day Chairman, Bill Hiatt, will be giving you a call. If you are interested in donating the annual wreath we place at the cemetery, please let him know. 📞

SPRING INFORMATION SESSION PLANNED

The Chapter will hold a joint Information Session with the William Winchester Chapter DAR on Saturday, 4 June 2016, from 1 to 3 PM at the Large Meeting Room of the Westminster Library. The event helps attendees locate documentation to complete and fill out DAR and SAR applications.

This event is similar to our 2014 information session at which we had three attendees. One new member successfully completed the process. Our SAR Compatriots and the DAR ladies helped our attendees, looking into online sources, including DAR and SAR databases. Our attendees had previously expressed an interest in joining, but had difficulty in finding the evidence they needed to finish

their applications.

The Chapter will get the word out by fliers in the libraries, announcements in local papers, and messages to the Genealogical and Historical Societies. We will invite those who have expressed interest recently in joining.

Ultimately, we need your help to make this event a success. We need volunteers to attend and help attendees. We need you to talk this event up among friends, neighbors, and acquaintances. If you already know good candidates, or come up with new ones, please contact President Engler or Registrar Trainor as soon as possible. 📞

SUMMER FUN FEST! SAVE THE DATE!

At the Spring Meeting, the Compatriots present decided to hold an additional, family-friendly event for this summer. We're inviting all SAR Compatriots to come with their families — children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc. — and we'll be inviting DAR and CAR members as well.

Compatriot James Ogle has offered up the grounds of his farm for the picnic, the house built before the Revolution. We're still working out the food details and pricing, but we expect an afternoon of fun! There will be volley ball, horseshoes, corn hole and bocce among other things for fun times.

We're scheduling this event for Saturday, 25 June 2016 at 1 PM. In case of inclement weather, we'll reschedule for the same time on Sunday, 17 July. Watch for a flyer, as we get closer to the event. 📞



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250TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT HELD IN FREDERICK: REPUDIATION DAY CELEBRATION

The 250th Anniversary of Repudiation Day in Frederick was a huge success, and Compatriot Jim Engler was there to see it. As reported in our last newsletter, Repudiation Day was a unique response to Britain's imposition of the Stamp Act of 1765 was that of the "Twelve Immortal Judges" of Frederick County.

The celebrations took place on Saturday, 21 November 2015 and began with a parade that started off from the square in front of City Hall. Two hundred fifty years ago, a similar parade took place at the same site, then the location of the Frederick County Court House (parts of Carroll County were then part of Frederick County).

The parade marched south for a block before heading east toward Market Street and downtown Frederick. Upon reaching this main street of the town, the Frederick Fife and Drum Corps, founded and led by the SGT Lawrence Everhart Chapter SAR, provided a spirited rendition of a colonial marching song of the period. There would be two more stops along Market Street as the parade

headed north, before turning west toward City Hall, and in each location the Fife and Drum Corps played a few pieces.

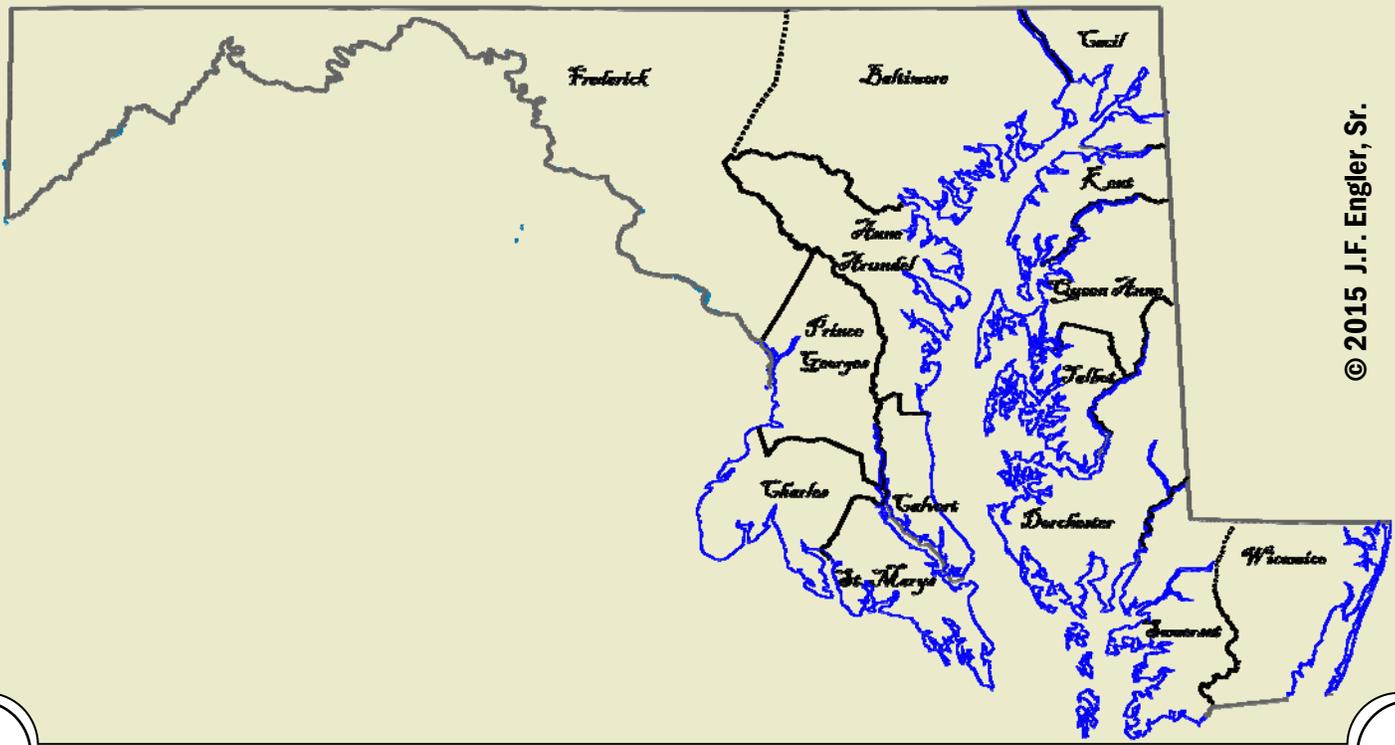
Besides members of the MDSSAR Color Guard in colonial uniforms and the Fife and Drum Corps, Compatriots from the SAR and Ladies of the DAR marched in period clothing. As occurred 250 years ago, the Stamp Act was carried in a "coffin", with one sole mourner, Zachariah Hood, the Crown's Stamp Agent in Maryland.

By Jim Engler's estimate, some 100 spectators joined and followed the parade as it wound through Frederick, safely protected from traffic by members of the city's police force. By the time the march returned to the town square, the numbers had swelled further.

Several representatives from local, county, and state government and from Congress spoke next to the assembled citizens, and the day declared Repudiation Day in Frederick City and County.

An educational plaque was unveiled at the

Maryland at the time of the Stamp Act, 1765



town hall, illustrating the contribution of Frederick to the American Revolution. It joined several others on the square which address Frederick's role in the War of 1812 and the Civil War.

Following the plaque dedication, all were invited into the town hall to the council chambers, where there was a dramatic reading of the court record of 23 November 1765. The parts of the Twelve Immortal Judges, county clerk John Darnell, and county sheriff George Murdock were played by their 21st century counter parts. The matter at hand was bail for a local citizen, which the clerk refused to record (and thus release the gentleman) because the stamped paper had not yet arrived and the Stamp Act was in force. Frederick County Circuit Court

hand, and to the end of the minutes for that session, in another's hand.

Overall, this was a successful event that had been 18 months in the planning and involved efforts of local government, the tourism office, the SAR and the local DAR chapters. It demonstrates a recurring theme seen in this newsletter over the past year: with the combined efforts of SAR, DAR and local organizations, we can have a notable impact on the community in its understanding and recognition of America's Revolutionary roots. 📌



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The Frederick Fife and Drum Corps plays a selection of Colonial Marching Tunes at one of the Parade Stops on Market Street.

Judge Theresa M. Adams read the unanimous opinion and orders of the Twelve Immortals. As occurred 250 years ago, when Circuit Court Clerk Sandra Dalton refused strongly to comply with the judges' orders, she was put under arrest by Frederick County Sheriff Chuck Jenkins.

Following this portrayal, Judge Adams and Court Clerk Dalton gave their own opinions on their predecessors' actions, and not surprisingly, both hoped that they would have had the courage to act as had their predecessors.

The actual court minutes of 1765 were also on display. These were on special loan from the Maryland Historical Society. It was interesting to note that up to the time of Darnell's being taken into custody by Sheriff Murdock, the notes were in one



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SGT Lawrence Everhart VP Pat Barron, Chairman for the Event, acted as Emcee in front of town hall, introducing the speakers after the parade.

WESTMINSTER CHAPTER SAR, THE THIRD DECADE, 2005-2015

Editor's Note: This is the final in a set of three articles that explore the history of our chapter, telling here the story of the most recent decade leading up to this our 30th anniversary year.

Our Story So Far. Just in case you haven't read our last couple of issues, by 2004 we had two decades of activity under our belts. In the first decade, we took over the duties and privilege of serving Carroll County from the SGT Lawrence Everhart Chapter in Frederick County, and expanded those programs. The second decade continued the growth of what we did in the community, with many new events that have become staples of our annual calendar. Our numbers have grown as well, and we've also increased our communications, in the community and among our membership, with a newsletter and a website.

Chapter Membership. Over the course of our third decade, our numbers leveled off, averaging about 26 members. Starting in 2009 the numbers began to increase again, with a spike in numbers in 2012 to 36 when Compatriot Arthur Petrucci brought in his sons and grandsons as members, the latter being junior members. These new numbers did not last very long, and the membership dropped back to 30. The most recent years have seen additional Compatriots added for a net increase. This increase came just as some of our members passed away: longtime flag Chairman Richard Hyson in 2013 and John Peters in 2013, long-time chapter secretary Bob Farver in 2014, and Jim Haines in



© 2005 Cecil Massie

2015.

Chapter Meetings. For the first few years of the third decade, the chapter continued to make every attempt to meet the fifth Wednesday of a month, usually with a speaker at least two of the meetings. Often the speaker at one of them was the winner of the ROTC Award at Western Maryland College (now William McDaniel College). Two traditions ended in 2007 that changed our meetings, when President Massie held the last annual Chicken Barbeque and Annual December Open House that year, citing declining numbers of attendees. Starting the following August, there was enough interest in having a continued social/business meeting that we held our first meeting at *The Buttersburg Inn* in Union Bridge, Maryland. This Summer Meeting was



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such a success that we held a Spring Meeting in the same place the following year, around the anniversary of our chapter's founding. For the next few years, we continued to have a regular Fall Meeting at President Massie's home on the fifth Wednesday of an autumn month, usually in late October. In 2013, President Massie indicated that due to a number of considerations his home could no longer serve for the meeting site. The Fall Meeting has not found a regular site yet although it did meet in 2013 and 2014 at the Carroll Non-Profit Center.

Under the new Bylaws, there is a little more leeway in the scheduling date of these meetings and three regular meetings are called for, codifying what was already developing into a regular pattern. The Spring Business Meeting is expected to have a so-

cial content and meal each March, and a similar Summer Meeting each August. The Fall Business Meeting would be in October. In each case, these can be scheduled for the last week of the previous month or the first week of the following month.

Chapter Officers. There were some changes in our officer positions in our third decade. Dr. Cecil Massie remained our Chapter President, as he had been from the beginning and until 2013, he ran unopposed. He indicated that he would not run again for the elections at the end of 2014, at which point Vice President Jim Engler was elected to serve as the second President in our chapter's history. Compatriot Leonard Easton remained our Treasurer as he had since 1991, and continues to be today. Compatriot Robert Farver, Sr. decided not to continue as Chapter Secretary in 2008; Compatriot Brian Gardinier, a transfer into the chapter, served for the next two years, at which point Compatriot Charles Hedges took over the position, serving through the end of 2015. President Massie's wife Virginia continued to serve as an unofficial registrar for the chapter until 2009, when Compatriot James Haines took over the position, serving until 2013. Compatriot Easton took on the role of registrar for the next two years, at which point new Compatriot Ryan Trainor took up the mantle, which he continues to hold today. Compatriot James F. Engler, Sr. continued to serve as Vice President for most of the decade until his election as President. Compatriot Patrick Trainor served as Vice President for the next year and is now succeeded by Compatriot Steve Gemeney. The position of Chaplain has remained empty for much of the decade, with Compatriot Charles Wolfe serving from 2011 to 2013, at which point he moved to Texas, although remaining a member of the chapter.

Chapter Activities. The Chapter continued in its many programs and started a number of additional ones. The chapter continued to present Good Citizenship Medals at the Carroll County Public High Schools and at Carroll Christian School in Westminster, increasing the number of medals awarded by one in 2011, with the first graduating class of Manchester Valley High School in Manchester.

Compatriot Bill Hiatt continued chairing both the Essay and Orations programs through most of the decade. We continued to have essay winners in most years (no applicants for 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012);

Our 2005 winner (Nicholas McDaniels of Westminster High) won at the state level and our 2014 winner (Sarah Giordano, Homeschooled) came in third place at the state level. In 2013 Compatriot Art Petruccelli took over as the Knight Essay Chair and Compatriot Jim Engler took over as the Rumbaugh Orations Chair. We had a first with a winner of the Orations Program in 2013 (Avellina Balestri, Homeschooled), who won at the state level; we've now had two winners in back to back years who also won at the state level (Bennett Auwaerter, Gilman School).

The Eagle Scout program as in the past had few winners, dependent as it is on submittals from the Boy Scout Troops. The decade started out with a winner (Steven W. Carney of Troop 718, Taneytown, MD) in 2005, followed by eight straight years when there were no applicants. Compatriot Leonard Easton stepped down as chairman in 2012 and Compatriot Art Petruccelli took over in 2013. Our 2013 winner (Bobby Crumbaugh of Troop 9, Emory United Methodist Church, Upperco, MD) was also the winner at the state level. Our next winner was in 2015 (Jeremy Dwight Stith Price (Troop 1750, Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, Finksburg, MD)

Our ROTC awards continued in our third decade, made about half the time (no awards in 2007, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013). We also had a number of



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WESTMINSTER CHAPTER HISTORY, CONT'D

winners in the early part of the decade in the Junior ROTC Program: in 2006, Cadet CAPT Tatiana M. Kish (Winters Mill HS) won the award from our chapter, was the winner of the Maryland State Society SAR JROTC Award and placed second overall among 16 state competitors for the National Society SAR JROTC Award. In 2009 Cadet SGM Jacob Brooks (Century HS) won for our chapter, was the winner of at the state level and came in fourth nationally. We have had no winners since 2010.

During our third decade NSSAR started two new youth programs that helped to expand our outreach to young people. The Americanism Poster Contest was initiated at a National level in 2005; while efforts have been made to get the word out, we have yet to have a chapter winner. The SGT Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest started at a national level in 2013; our first winner was in 2015 (Ashley A. Vajo). We had no chairman for these programs until Compatriot Art Petruccelli started serving as the chairman for both in 2014.

We continued our participation in the annual Westminster Memorial day Parade throughout the decade and started our own memorial rituals. One of our goals as a chapter is to register and mark the final resting places of those Patriots buried in Carroll County who may not have previously



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been honored with a marker by the SAR or DAR. Our first marking of a Patriot grave was in 2009 for SGT James Crawford at St. Luke's (Winters) Church Cemetery in New Windsor. The following year our chapter co-sponsored with the William



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Winchester DAR the marking of the grave of Adam Swigart in the same cemetery. While we haven't marked many graves to date, these efforts were steps in the right direction. In addition, we marked in 21014 the grave of Compatriot Richard Hyson.

Compatriots who called our chapter home were also active at the State Level. Several Compatriots took turns over the decade serving on the Maryland Society SAR's Board of Managers: Compatriot Jim Engler served twice, 2003-2006 and 2009-2012; Compatriot, Jim Haines was on the Board 2004-2007; and Compatriot Art Petruccelli most recently was a member of the Class of 2013-2016. Compatriot Engler also served at the state level as Third Vice President (203-2014), Second Vice President (2014-2015).

We honored our own Compatriots throughout the decade. War Service Medals were awarded to Compatriots Leonard Easton (2010), Cecil Massie (2010), Marvin Devilbiss (2011), Charles Wolfe (2013), Art Petruccelli (2013 with War on Terrorism service bar) and Lou Abel (2014). Our first Distinguished Service Medal (authorized by NSSAR in 2013) was awarded in 2014 to then-Vice President Jim Engler. The Chapter's Meritorious Service award was presented to Compatriot Leonard Easton in 2014. President Massie was awarded the Patriot Medal in 2008 at the Annual

National Congress.

We also continued to give awards to non-SAR members of the community. Our first Law Enforcement Medal we awarded in 2013 to SGT Keith Benfer, Westminster Police Department. We gave a certificate of appreciation in 2010 to Roger Sauter, who had done the calligraphic lettering on most of our certificates for a good number of years. We continued in most years (the exception being 2006) to award at least one Flag Certificate.

Chapter Bylaws. For the majority of the first three decades of our chapter's existence, our operations were governed by *Roberts' Rules of Order*. However, it became clear that for transparency and accountability as a non-profit in the 21st century, the chapter needed to have formal chapter Bylaws. Drafted by then Vice-President Engler in 2014 and reviewed by the chapter's officers, they were open to the chapter membership for comment in 2014. The Bylaws would be approved at the 30th anniversary meeting in 2015.

Chapter Publicity. The chapter expanded its communications in the third decade. There were occasional articles that announced Essay contests and starting with our Fall 2008 Meeting we began to have regular articles of our activities with photos appearing in *The Carroll County Times*. Our Patriot Grave Marking made the front page in 2010.

Our website has been up and operating throughout the decade. Its contents have grown over that time. It started off hosted on the Rootsweb website as a free set of webpages, including information on patriots buried in Carroll County, patriot ancestors of members and our programs. By decade's end we were being hosted by the MDSSAR website,

added our newsletter archives, an expanded chapter history, more biographies, lists of our program winners, and now our Bylaws.

Our quarterly newsletter, *The Westminster Associator*, had its first issue come out in the Spring of 2009, sent electronically to two thirds of our membership as a PDF and to the rest as a printed version; the past copies are archived on our website.

Summary. Our chapter continued to grow in numbers and activities in its third decade. We continue to be an active and vital chapter of the Maryland Society SAR and of NSSAR. We've come a long

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Leadership's Message

On behalf of Cecil and myself, I'd like to welcome everyone to the first issue of *The Westminster Associator*. The title is based on a phrase used prior to the Revolutionary War for those who were supporters of the cause of liberty. William Winchester, the founder of Westminster, for instance, was an Associator.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide our membership with information of upcoming events, especially for those who for one reason or other are not able to make our regular meetings. Remember, this newsletter is for you, so if you have any



Dr. Cecil Massie, Sr.



James F. Engler, Sr.

comments or recommendations just let us know.

Notes Pertinent to the Chapter from MDSSAR January Board of Managers Meeting

The State SAR Board of Managers met on 10 January 2009. There are some items that may of interest to our chapter members.

- Memorials and Grave Committee: will be launching a new patriots' burial database in Maryland shortly. If you have any patriots buried in Maryland please let Chris Smithson (can be contacted at graves@marylandsar.org) know so that they can be added.
- An idea presented to develop a set of Revolutionary War themed note cards that are Maryland specific and can be used as a chapter fund raiser.
- Aquila Hall Chapter presented a new educational program, The Col. Aquila Hall Middle School Display Board Contest, intended to fill the void in the National Societies Educational outreach programs. This is an opportunity for students to learn about the local people places and events which took place during the Revolutionary War. The contest is open to students in grades 6-8. The program allows the student to focus on the history of their own community, take pride in its history and become future conservators of its historical past.

Chapter Holds Fall Meeting

The Westminster Chapter met for a general business meeting at the home of President Cecil Massie on 29 October 2008, that being the fifth

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Westminster Chapter, Maryland Society, Sons of the American Revolution

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For any comments, questions or requests, please contact the Chapter's Web Master:

mdsar@westminster@qa.hq.usa.com



Maryland in 1776 and Carroll County (Established 1837)

Welcome to the Westminster Chapter, Maryland Society, Sons of the American Revolution, located in and serving Carroll County, Maryland.

NOTICE: THIS WEBSITE CONTAINS BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON PATRIOTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND AREA OR WITH THE PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE WESTMINSTER CHAPTER, MARYLAND STATE SOCIETY, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. APPEARANCE OF THIS INFORMATION IS PROVIDED AS A SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC, AND NEITHER THE WESTMINSTER CHAPTER, NOR THE MARYLAND STATE SOCIETY OR NATIONAL SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION ARE LIABLE FOR ANY ERRORS IN THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE VIEWER TO VERIFY ANY INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THIS WEB SITE.

This site last updated 01 NOV 2015. See "What's New" for details.

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way, and continue to uphold the mission and objectives of the Sons of the American Revolution. We have accomplished much in 30 years, and we will continue to grow in numbers and activities in the future, so long as we all work hard in the chapter's name. 🕒



STATE SOCIETY'S GW LUNCHEON A SUCCESS

The Maryland Society SAR held its annual George Washington Luncheon at the Eagles Nest Country Club (formerly Towson Country Club north of Towson, Maryland on Saturday 20 February. Compatriots Jim Engler and Art Petrucci both attended this event, attended by a total of 86 persons including 37 SAR Compatriots. The Luncheon, which serves as a fund raiser for the Maryland 400 fund netted nearly \$1,000 from its silent auction.

The luncheon speaker was Dr. Denver



Brunsmann, a professor of history at George Washington University and an expert on the American Revolutionary period. His presentation, "George Washington and the Presidency" charted how George Washington's character and actions shaped the way we came to see the Office of the President.



The Luncheon presented the Maryland 400 Distinguished Service Medal to members of the Maryland National Guard. The Medal, first struck just before America's entry into World War II, was for-

gotten until Maryland Society Past President Ivan Dooley (2011-2012) searched for the original recipients to award them or their families these medals. Since that time, the GW Luncheon has been an event at which five current or retired members of the Maryland National Guard have been honored for their service. This year's recipients at the luncheon were LTC Brian S. Borakove, 1SG Patrick M. Metzger, SFC David Bures, and SMSgt Steven C. Mooney. A fifth recipient, Sergeant Major (Ret) Leonard S. Kotoski, could not attend and will be presented the medal by the Maryland National Guard in a separate ceremony.

The Luncheon also honored contributors to the Maryland fund. The following Maryland Compatriots reached or surpassed the level of \$1,000 in contributions to the fund: Edward A. Foreman Jr., Bruce French, George Lewis, Barry McKown, Gary Neal, James Perry, William Smithson, Doug Stuart, and Kyle Tipton. Each received pins as well as a certificate, which noted the name of one of the Maryland 400 from the Battle of Long Island. Another 25 Compatriots reached the \$100 level in contributions; their awards are being mailed to them.

Five Maryland Compatriots from other chapters were announced as eligible for the War Service medal; these will be awarded in their home chapters at later ceremonies. Three recipients were presented the Military Service Medal: Melvin Parker, Leroy Schwoerer, and Walter J. Weiss, Sr..

The final award of the day was a check to the Maryland CAR from the Maryland Society SAR of \$1,250 to defray the cost of the social events to be held at the CAR's annual event 🛎



LARGE TURNOUT FOR STATE SOCIETY'S PATRIOT BALL

The Maryland Society SAR had the largest attendance since 2002 at its 54th annual Patriots Ball on the evening of Saturday, 19 December 2015 at the Turf Valley Country Club in Ellicott City, Maryland. All told, there were 133 attending from 43 lineage societies including the SAR. There were 49 SAR Compatriots in this total, plus their guests, and five debutantes, their escorts and families. SAR President General Thomas Lawrence and his wife, SAR First Lady Mickey Jo were also in attendance.



This Year's Five Debutants and their Escorts, including Terra Rubra Society Member and Current Maryland CAR State President Emily Ruhm (Second from right)



PG Tom Lawrence and First Lady Mickey Jo

The evening started with a social hour and hors d'oeuvres, followed by a reception line of the different societies' dignitaries. Once all the attendees were seated, the dignitaries were formally introduced as they entered the ballroom. Dinner consisted of the diner's choice of Stuffed Shells, Filet Mignon, or Herbed Salmon Filet, as well as the Chef's Selection of Vegetables and Rolls & Butter with a White Chocolate Decadence Dessert; Turf Valley's service was also excellent. The debutantes were formally introduced and received gifts from State President Jim Engler and President General Tom Lawrence. Danc-



Head Table included representatives of Maryland CAR, DAR, SAR, and National Officers

ing followed to a live band, 5AM, that had played the Patriots Ball the previous year. Everyone had a great time, and we're hoping next year will be even better.



Jim and Joanne Engler Cutting a Rug



An evening of Dancing for All Ages!

Special Thanks to Brian Quillian for the photography in this article..🙏

CHAPTER HOLDS SPRING MEETING

The chapter held its Spring Business/Social Meeting on Saturday, 5 March 2016 at *The Buttersburg Inn* in Union Bridge, Maryland. A total of 15 attended the Saturday luncheon, including seven Compatriots. Following a meal of carved turkey

(white and dark meat), dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable of the day, cold slaw, ice tea; coffee and choice of desserts (French Silk Pie, Apple pie a la mode), the attendees heard from both Eagle Scouts who had submitted to the Eagle Scout Scholarship



from our chapter. Eagle Scout Austin Cincotta presented his essay entitled "George Washington". Eagle Scout Vernon Ryan Rippeon read his essay entitled "Naval Actions during the Revolutionary War". Both scouts received certificates of recognition for their participation in the Westminster Chapter SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship contest.

Several awards were also presented to our Compatriots.

- William Hiatt received the Chapter Meritorious Service Medal for his efforts over the years as our Orations and Es-

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say Chair as well as his continuing work in chairing our Memorial Day Parade participation

- Arthur Petruccelli received the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal for his work as chairman for the Essay, Brochure, Poster Contests and the Eagle Scout Scholarship, as well as his work at the state level as a member of the Board of Managers and the state chair for the Brochure contest.
- Leonard Easton earned his 25 year membership pin and certificate
- William Hiatt received his 20 year membership pin and certificate
- Marvin Devilbiss was presented his 20 year membership pin and certificate.



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Eagle Scouts Honored: Left to Right, President Jim Engler, Eagle Scout Vernon Rippeon, Eagle Scout Austin Cincotta, Eagle Scout Chairman Art Petruccelli



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Medals Awarded: Left to Right, President Jim Engler, Art Petruccelli, Bill Hiatt, Awards Chairman Charlie Hedges



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Years of Service Pins Awarded: Left to Right, President Jim Engler, Leonard Easton, Bill Hiatt, Marvin Devilbiss

During the business meeting, it was decided to add an additional summer even that would be family friendly and open to members of DAR, CAR and SAR 🛎

MDSSAR JANUARY BOARD OF MANAGERS NOTES

Compatriot Art Petruccelli, a member of the Maryland Society SAR Board of Managers (BOM) reports the following items of interest from the 9 January 2016 meeting:

- George Washington Luncheon is scheduled for 20 February 2016 at Eagles Nest Country Club (formerly Towson Country Club)
- Anyone with SAR historical documents that should be transferred to the MDSSAR historical archives should contact James M. Perry at (301) 320-1863 or james_perry21@verizon.net
- If there is a need for a Get Well or Sympathy Card

from the SAR, please contact Duane Tackitt at (202) 548-8524 or tackitt@aol.com

- National Society Congress is scheduled for July 8-13, 2016 in Boston, Mass.
- Contact George Satterthwaithe to become involved in the "Wreaths Across America" Program. His contact info is gs2nd@aol.com or (301) 292-1658
- Sponsorship of several C.A.R. social activities at their upcoming event is being supported by the MDSSAR. Request was made for each MDSSAR chapter to donate \$50 towards the Pizza social event. 🛎

NEWS FROM TERRA RUBRA SOCIETY, CAR

Terra Rubra has not met since the December Maryland C.A.R. Christmas party and board meeting. The key points of the Board meeting was that all Maryland C.A.R. societies gave reports of their activities for the part year. After that everyone enjoyed refreshments and made Christmas tree ornaments. Each society brought materials to make ornaments. So, the children attending visited the various tables to make their ornaments and went home with several hand-made ornaments.



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© 2015 Brian Quillian

Scenes from the MDCAR State Meeting and Christmas Party.

We has been busy since then with the C.A.R. State Conference. It was originally scheduled for February, but due to an outbreak of Novovirus, the annual meeting was rescheduled, and held 1-3 April at the Turf Valley Country Club in Ellicott City. The out-going State President, Emily Ruhm, from Terra Rubra, was awarded the SAR's Bronze C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation. Emily's State

C.A.R. project for 2015-2016, "C.A.R.ing for George" focused on the restoration of the Washington Monument in Baltimore. Besides actually helping in the restoration in landscaping (see our Fall 2015 issue), the goal for the Maryland State C.A.R. project is to raise \$4,000 for the restoration of the monument as well as the four surrounding parks. It was announced at the annual C.A.R. meeting that over \$6,000 had been raised. The funds will be donated to the Mount Vernon Place Conservancy.



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Emily Ruhm (left) and Lauren Jenne (right).

Lauren Jenne, also a Terra Rubra member was on the slate of officers nominated for State Offices for the 2016-2017 year and has been elected the state president. That makes two years running that a Terra Rubra member has served in the highest position in the organization.

The Terra Rubra Society also collected 15 awards at the annual meeting:

- **First Place:** State President's Award for Best Program on the State Project; State 1st Vice President's Award for Local Society with the Best Program; American Indian's Award for Local Society with the Best Program; Veterans' Award for Local Society Volunteering the most hours with a Veteran's Hospital
- **Second Place:** State 2nd Vice President's Award for Local society with the most creative program; State Chaplain's Award for Local Society with the Best Program; State Recording Secre-

tary's Award for Local Society with the Best Program; State Corresponding Secretary's Award for Local society with the Best Program on Rev. War correspondence; State Historian's Award for Local Society with the Best Program; American History's Award for Local Society with the Best Program; C.A.R. Star Spangled Banner Editors' Award for Local society with the Best newsletter; Conservation's Award for Local Society with the

- Best Program; Patriotic Education Program's Award for Local Society with the Best Program
- **Honorable Mention:** MD State Pins' Award for Certificate of Participation; State Merit's Award for Local Society with the Best Program

Our next meeting will be on Memorial Day. Terra Rubra plans to participate in the Westminster parade again this year. 🕒

W I L L I A M W I N C H E S T E R C H A P T E R D A R N E W S

The William Winchester DAR Chapter has been very busy. The Chapter meets monthly in Westminster at *Cockey's Tavern* on the second floor. In January there was an interesting program in which everyone was asked to bring some object of their family history — such as pictures, teacups, jewelry, swords—and share a story about the object. Sort of an *Antiques Roadshow*, without the appraisal. In February their speaker presented “Clara Barton: Life & Legacy.”

March was the annual Good Citizen contest. The chapter's first place winner won second place at state level: a first for the chapter. The program is open to seniors at all high schools in Carroll County,

public, private and parochial. Eight public high schools participated this year. At each school, the teachers and guidance councilors recommend a student for the program. The forms involved require listing three references, all things they do, recommendations, and extracurricular activities. The chapter's winner this year came from Westminster High School.

The Chapter's April Meeting was at the DAR's Maryland Chapter house, to which many of the chapter's members had never been.

Their May meeting is a self guided tour of quilt squares in the county. 🕒

C H A P T E R H O L D S F A L L M E E T I N G

The Chapter's Fall meeting was held on Thursday, 5 November 2015 at 7:00 P.M. at the Westminster Branch of the Carroll County Public Library (50 E Main St., Westminster, MD 21157). There was a quorum, with eight Compatriots attending.

The Nominations Committee, composed of Compatriots Art Petruccelli, Bill Hiatt and Jake Yingling formally submitted the slate at the Fall Meeting, with additional names added from floor nominations. As there was a quorum, the election was held, with the following results:

- President : James F. Engler, Sr.
- Vice President : Stephen E. Gemeny
- Secretary: Arthur G. Petruccelli
- Treasurer: Leonard P. Easton
- Registrar: Ryan P. Trainor

- Chaplain: NO CANDIDATE
- Historian: NO CANDIDATE
- Genealogist: NO CANDIDATE
- Chancellor: NO CANDIDATE
- Chapter Board of Managers, Class 2016-2019, Member 1: Charles Hedges
- Chapter Board of Managers, Class 2016-2019, Member 2: Jacob M. Yingling

Their terms of office will begin as of the Spring Business Meeting.

Committee membership was discussed and new chairmen and committee assignments made (see “New Chairmen Appointed”). The program for 2016 was discussed and formalized (see “Program Plans Made for 2016”). A budget in support of the program has been developed 🕒

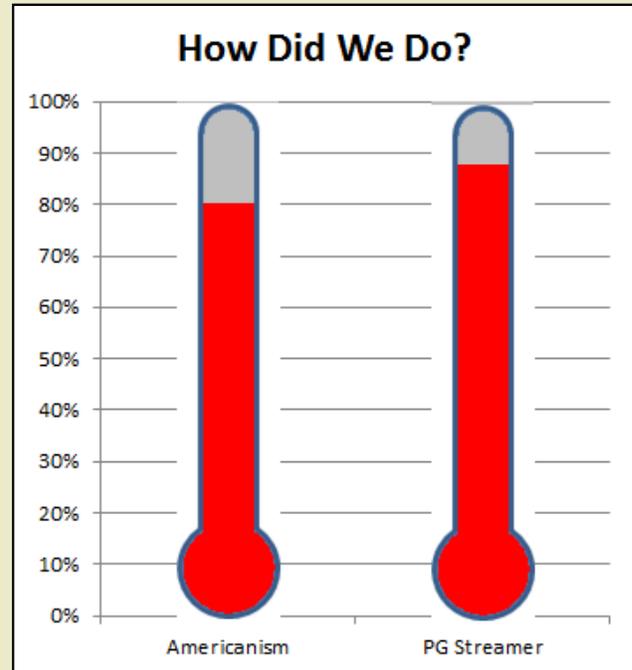
HOW DID WE DO ?

Shown to right is how we did against 2015-2016 planning goals in actual (red), planned (dark gray). Percentage-wise, we significantly improved over 2014-2015 numbers (about 55% of maximum/planned activity for Americanism, just under 40% for the PG Streamer). This was due to a more realistic level of activity planned.

Americanism (service to community) was slightly below the previous year, but not an across-the-board decrease (fewer news articles, fewer public service programs, and more activity in youth programs, special observances and medals to non-SAR members). Our PG Streamer activity (service to SAR) increased significantly over the previous year in almost every category (no compatriot grave marking, more CAR/DAR support, more awards to SAR members, more national society service, improved membership numbers, more contributions to SAR funds).

The Scorecard was submitted to the National Americanism Committee Chairman on 1 March

2016. This year, all 15 Maryland chapters had scorecards submitted; the record had been four chapter submissions. 📌

**COME TO THE STATE ANNUAL MEETING**

The Maryland SAR will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, 16 April 2016 at the American Legion Post #47 (Joseph L. Davis Post), 501 St John Street, Havre de Grace, MD 21078. This event, held every April around the date of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, serves as the installation of the new state officers.

Planned by State First Vice President Bill Smithson, who will become the new state president at the conclusion of the meeting, the day looks to be filled with activity.

The day will start with a continental breakfast of fresh fruit and assorted Danishes, muffins and bagels; hot tea, coffee, and assorted juices, served at 8:30 AM.

The Board of Managers will then meet starting at 9 AM, presided over by the current state presi-

dent, our own Jim Engler.. The meeting is scheduled to last until 11:30 AM, during which time guests will be a guided tour of selected sites in Havre de Grace, with enough time to explore the town's quaint shops.

At 11:45 AM we'll adjourn to the statue of Lafayette, next to the American Legion Post, for a wreath laying.

Luncheon will be from noon to 1 PM, consisting of pit beef/pit ham/pit turkey; macaroni salad, cole slaw, and baked beans, plus dessert. There will also be a cash bar.

The afternoon program will include the state level Rumbaugh Orations competition, awards presentations, and the installation of new officers.

Breakfast costs \$10, and luncheon \$30. See the flyer in this newsletter. 📌

AUGUST CHAPTER MEETING: SAVE THE DATE!

Our next official chapter meeting, per our By-laws, will be held on Thursday, 4 August 2016, at 6:30 PM in *The Buttersburg Inn*, Union Bridge, MD. The food is always good as is the fellowship,

and everyone has a great time. Mark your calendars now! A flyer will be sent out when we have more details 📌

R E M I N D E R S

Electronic Edition. Paper copies of *The Westminster Associator* go out to members for whom we have no e-mail address; electronic copies (viewable using the freely downloaded Adobe Acrobat Reader™) are sent to the rest of our chapter members. If you have a new or changed e-mail address, please let President Engler know (contact information on the back), as sending electronically will save our chapter the cost of printing and postage.

Articles Needed. Are there any items you'd like to share with the rest of the chapter? If so, contact Compatriot Engler for inclusion in the next issue of *The Westminster Associator*.

Photos and Memories Needed. Anyone with photos of or information on past events, please contact Compatriot Engler at 410.781.6622. His goal is to have a complete chapter photo history on our website (see our website's "Chapter History" page for progress on this project). As we now are celebrating our 30th anniversary pending, this is all the more important.

Website Updated. The State Webmaster has updated our address, and The Chapter website has been updated

to include recent chapter activities. Check us out at <http://westminster.mdssar.org>. If you see anything to change or add, contact the webmaster.

Bios Needed. Know your Compatriots! We run short of bios on current members. The feature only works, though, if Compatriots provide a biography. So please send your paragraph bio and a current picture to mdssarwestminster@yahoo.com, or send to Jim Engler at 2038 Red River Rd., Sykesville, MD, 21784.

Volunteers Needed for Committees. There are a number of chapter chairmanships that are in need of filling. See the Committee Status Report in this newsletter for where we have needs. Please consider taking on the responsibility for these positions.

We are a Registered Non-Profit. Our chapter is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Any contributions will be recognized in writing and are tax-deductible. So, if you or anyone you know are looking for a charitable organization to which contributions can be made, consider us! Every dollar contributed will be used directly for our new and existing programs. ☺

N A T I O N A L C O N G R E S S I N B O S T O N

You've seen it in the *SAR Magazine*, but have you considered going to SAR's annual Congress, which will be held this year in Boston, Massachusetts? The National Congress will be held from 8 to 13 July in the Westin Copley Square. While the hotel itself is currently full, there are plenty of other hotels in the area, and Boston has a great transportation system.

Every Congress has a number of tours of Revolutionary and historic sites, and where could it be better than in this cradle of our nation's liberties, where the Revolution started?

Come be involved in the business of our Society! Committees meet on a variety of subjects, so there is bound to be something that you may be interested in supporting, and could learn something to bring back to help our chapter!

The youth competitions we hold in our chapter culminate in the national winners at Congress each

year. The Orations contest is always impressive, showcasing the best young orators from around the country. The poster and brochure winners from around the nation are on display. The highlight is the youth luncheon, where the winners are all announced.

There is still time to sign up! Registration and information can be found on line at <http://congress.sar.org>. If you do decide to go, please contact State Secretary Pat Warner (joswarner@verizon.net, 301-585-8629): Maryland is assigned each year a set of delegate credentials, and if there are any available (which there usually are) Secretary Warner will issue you a set. With that set, you are on official business for SAR, and your expenses may be tax-deductible (as always, check with your tax accountant).

We hope to see you there! ☺

COMMITTEE STATUS

If you'd like to help out on a committee or step forward to chair one, please contact President Jim Engler or Vice President Steve Gemeny.

Americanism (James Engler)

Our chapter's third Americanism Score sheet report for 2015 was submitted to National on 1 March 2016..

Awards & Medals (Charles Hedges)

On the Law Enforcement Award, I have made contact with the Carroll County Sheriff's Department and the Westminster Police Department. Chief Spaulding, of the Westminster Police Department has nominated a member of the Westminster Police Department for the award as part of their award program where they select one member each year as "Police Officer of the Year." President Jim Engler will be going to the ceremony to present the award.

On the Emergency Services Commendation Award, I made contact with Mr. Neal Roop, of the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association. He has taken action to provide the information on the EMS award program to the Fire companies in Carroll County.

Brochure Contest (Art Petruccelli)

Please help spread the word to the youth in Grades 5-8, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or C.A.R. members in the same age range. The deadline to submit to the Westminster Chapter is 15 May 2016. Call Art Petruccelli for details or referrals. This is a great project for a Grandpa and his grandchild.

Bylaws (James Engler)

No activity at this time.

Eagle Scout Award (Art Petruccelli)

Our Chapter received two applications for the Eagle Scout Scholarship. Our winner is Mr. Austin Cincotta of Westminster, MD. We presented awards to both Eagle Scouts at our Spring Meeting

Flag Award (Jake Yingling)

If you notice someone flying the flag properly that you think deserves to be recognized, contact me and I'll follow up. We have two planned for presentation between now and the end of the year, but we could always use suggestions leading into next year.

Graves (James Engler)

A second Patriot grave marking ceremony has been identified for September. I will need volunteers to help make the needed arrangements and participate in the relevant ceremony. At the same time, there was a Patriot Grave marking that I attended (see article in this issue).

JROTC/ROTC (Charles Hedges)

I have provided the information and criteria to the two high school military science departments for the JROTC Award. I do not envision a response this year. For the ROTC award, I have made contact with the military science department at McDaniel College and they will have a nominee for an award this year. The award ceremony will be on 20 April 2016 at Big Baker Chapel, at 4 p.m. I plan to attend the ceremony.

Knight Essay (Art Petruccelli)

We received an essay from Ms. Emily Vajo from Sykesville, MD. Her essay was judged the winner from our chapter and the state level. We will make the presentation at a meeting later this year.

Memorial Day Parade (Bill Hiatt)

Planning is going on for this event We do need a volunteer to serve as an assistant who eventually would take over this role.

Nominations Committee (Bylaws)

No activity at this time.

Operation REACH (Art Petruccelli)

The one lead, Patrick McGinty, is still working on his package.

Outstanding Citizenship (Charles Hedges)

I have established points of contact at each public school and communicate via email with each school staff/representative.

Patriotic Organizations Outreach (VACANT)

Our chapter needs a volunteer to help this program. This includes outreach to DAR and organizations such as American Legion and VFW. Duties involve contacting these organizations by phone or e-mail and identifying activities in which our chapter and their organizations can cooperate.

Planning (James Engler)

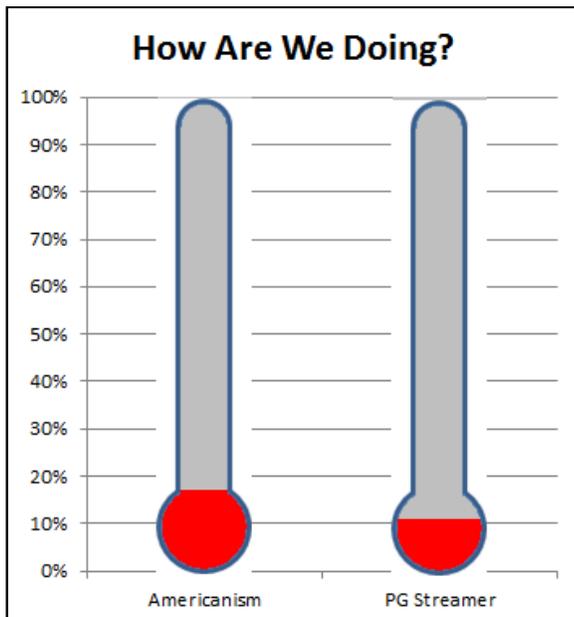
Planning for 2016 is complete and status will be compared to the plan throughout the year

Poster Contest (Art Petruccelli)

Deadline to submit to Westminster Chapter is May 15, 2016 . See Flyer on all our Contests. Encourage

H O W A R E W E D O I N G ?

Shown to right is how we are doing against 2016 -2017 planning. Our efforts in Americanism (service to community) so far have been in news articles, youth awards, scholarships and special appearances. Our PG Streamer activity has been in CAR support and in medals awarded. There should be significant increases in both areas by the end of June, with the help of our Compatriots at the events shown in this newsletter. 📌



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students you know to participate.

Rumbaugh Oration (James Engler)

Our Orations event was scheduled and re-scheduled. However, there were no applicants this year, although we had expected at least one returnee and potential contestants from Gerstell Academy.

Supporting CAR (Art Petruccelli)

Art Petruccelli volunteered to act as our point of contact and attend the meetings of the Terra Rubra CAR chapter. His first report is included in this newsletter. 📌

Committee Chair Contact List

James Engler	410-782-6622
Charles Hedges	410-848-8491
Bill Hiatt	410-876-8023
Arthur Petruccelli	410-795-3749
Jake Yingling	410-871-9291

D I S T R I C T T O M E E T

The SAR’s Atlantic Middle States (AMS) Association, in which Maryland is a member, meets in Albany, New York this 12 and 13 August. Besides the National Congress, state societies gather in district meetings each year and the AMS rotates through all the societies of the district (Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York) The Empire State Society host this year’s event at the Albany Radisson. This year’s special tour is of the Saratoga Battlefield, a decisive American victory that gave the French the opening they needed to turn their covert support of the American cause into open recognition with overt military aid.

The business portion of the event allows attendees to hear what is going on in other nearby state societies. Those in attendance also have the opportunity .of meeting the candidates for national SAR offices and endorse a slate of those candidates for the national elections at the 2017 Congress.

Be an active participant in SAR and attend the AMS District meeting! More information and the registration form can be found on the website, <http://ams.dessar.org/sample-page/meetings/2016-annual-meeting/> 📌

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2016?

The Chapter is looking to have an active 2016. At the Fall Meeting, the chapter attendees came up with a list of activities and events that cover most of the year. There have been a few modifi-

cations since it was created, but the intent is to have each event at some point in the year. Events in Italics in the table below are state or higher events that our Compatriots may choose to attend. 📌

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JANUARY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No chapter activity • (9 January) <i>State Board of Managers meeting</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JULY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No chapter activity; • (7-13 July) <i>National Congress, Boston</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FEBRUARY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Chapter Activity • (20 February) <i>MDSSAR George Washington Birthday Luncheon</i> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AUGUST</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (4 August) Chapter summer Meeting (may include Public Safety Awards) • (12-13 August) <i>Atlantic Middle States District Meeting, Albany, NY</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MARCH</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (5 March) Chapter Spring Meeting 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patriot Grave Marking #2 (Contact: Jake Yingling)
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>APRIL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (16 April) <i>MDSSAR Annual Meeting</i> • (23 April) Patriot Grave Marking #1 (contact: Ryan Trainor) 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (early October) Information Session #2 (contact: Jim Engler); • (mid-October): <i>MDSSAR Semi-Annual Meeting</i> • (late October Chapter Fall Meeting)
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MAY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (early May) ROTC Award (contact: Charlie Hedges); • (15 May) Deadlines for Chapter Brochure and Poster Contests • (30 May) City of Westminster Memorial Day Parade (contact: Bill Hiatt) 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (mid November) Tentative Veterans Day Program with American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars (contact: TBD)
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JUNE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (late May-early June) Chapter High School Outstanding Citizenship Awards; • (early June) <i>State Board of Managers Meeting</i>; • (4 June) Chapter Information Session #1 (contact: Jim Engler); • (early June) JROTC Award (contacts: Charlie Hedges); • (25 June) CAR/DAR/SAR Joint Meeting /Picnic (contact: Jim Engler) 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DECEMBER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (mid-December): <i>Patriots Ball</i> • (mid December) Chapter Rumbaugh Orations Competition (contact: Jim Engler) • (31 December) Chapter Knight Essay Contest, and Eagle Scout Essay Contest Deadlines (contact: Art Petruccelli)

W E L C O M E T O O U R N E W E S T M E M B E R S

We've had several new members join us since our last news letter.

As part of a Family group application set, we have members of the Irwin family:

- Robert Michael Irwin
- Ryan James Irwin
- Joshua Taylor Irwin

Robert is featured in our "Getting to know Your Compatriots" feature in this issue. Ryan and Josh are coming to us as Junior members. We are hoping to induct them into the chapter at a future meeting



this year.

The Irwins represent a growing trend in people taking advantage of the reduced rates for families applying under the same Patriot ancestor. Chapter Registrar Ryan Trainor reports that there are two additional sets currently in process, which will bring in nine new members, a combination junior and regular members.

If you have family members who might consider joining SAR, the group application approach may be for you. Contact Registrar Ryan Trainor if you have any questions. 📞

W E S T I L L N E E D Y O U I N L E A D E R S H I P !

We still need your help to keep this chapter active and growing. In multiple issues we've discussed how with a limited investment in time, our membership could accomplish a lot in fulfilling our SAR programs, which in turn will help get our chapter better known in the community.

Our Bylaws call for a set of six Board of Managers as part of our Executive Board. Our approach is to add pairs of managers the next two years to reach the Bylaw numbers. Two were elected for the 2016-2019 class. *We are looking for those interesting in helping as part of the 2017-2020 Board of Managers Class for the chapter.*

In addition, we are still looking for Compatriots to fill the roles of Chaplain, Historian, Genealogist, and Chancellor.

While not an official position, we are looking for two Compatriots to serve as *Assistants to the Secretary and the Treasurer*. Term limits won't really kick in on the Treasurer and Secretary positions for some time, and having backups to learn the ropes and be willing to step in when needed to help would also help give our chapter more stability for the future.

We are also looking for a new Flag Committee Chairman and a new Chairman of our Memorial

Day Parade Participation Committee.

Mark Twain said, "Everyone talks about the weather, but no one ever does anything about it." Unlike the weather, though, we can talk about further improving our chapter, and do something about it, too! Become active in our chapter through these positions! As has been said in other newsletters, these positions take up very little of your time, but pay big dividends to our chapter's operations. Contact President Jim Engler if you are interested in helping. 📞



SOURCE: Library of Congress

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR COMPATRIOTS

We're back! After a hiatus of more than a year, the feature that introduces to you your fellow Compatriots, new and existing returns with a new set of biographies. To date we've published biographies of nearly half of our membership. If you have already been featured, our thanks for your support. If you haven't yet, please consider doing so. Our editor will work with you to get the facts right and the process takes only a short time to complete.

**STEVEN EVANS
GEMENY**

Steve Gemeny was born in 1955 in Washington, D.C. and grew up in its Maryland suburbs (Greenbelt and College Park). He attended Northwestern High School (Hyattsville) and McDonogh School (Owings Mills), graduating from Northwestern in 1974. He attended the University of Maryland, studying Electrical Engineering.

Steve joined Lexitron (Forestville, MD) in 1979, repairing word processing equipment and designing electronic test equipment. In 1980 he was a junior engineer with the Communications Satellite Corporation (COMSAT) in Fairfax, VA, developing shipboard and transportable satellite communications equipment. When the division was sold (1988) as Mobile Telesystems Inc. (MTI), he relocated to their offices Gaithersburg, MD, working in engineering and handling technical Business Development for major commercial and Government accounts. He went in 1998 to Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory (APL, Laurel, MD), first as a contract employee before becoming a member of APL's Senior Professional Staff in 1999. While there he served as Business Development Manager for the Satellite Communications Facility, Lead Ground Station Engineer for NASA's TIMED Spacecraft, and Ground System Lead Engineer for the New Horizons mission to Pluto. In 2007 he joined an APL spin-off, Syntonics, LLC (Columbia MD), where he has led more than a dozen US Government, SBIR Research con-

tracts, and served as Director - Advanced Research, Director - Engineering and now Director of Business Development. He is named on several patents. Since 2003 Steve has taught a three day class "Ground System Design and Operations" through the Advanced Technology Institute.

Steve married his 1st wife Donna in College Park. (1978). They have two daughters and a son. He married his 2nd wife Ardon in 2008. Steve and Ardon moved from Gaithersburg to Finksburg in 2009.

Steve joined the SAR and our Chapter in 2015. His Patriot ancestor, Peter Sheifly, served in 1781 first as a private in CAPT Probst's Sixth Company, Sixth Battalion, Northampton County (PA) Militia and in the same year as a private in CAPT Adam Staller's Company, Northampton County Militia, Sixth Battalion, in service on the frontier, commanded by LTC Christian Shouse. Sheifly received deprecation pay for services on the Continental Line, Northampton County Militia.

Steve also belongs to Door to Virtue #46, Masonic Lodge (Westminster), where he is a Lodge officer sitting in the Junior Wardens chair. While living in Montgomery Village, Steve served two years on the Architectural Advisory Board, and five years on the Community Association Board of Directors, three of these as Vice President. Steve is a licensed Amateur Radio operator (call sign AA3NM) and was the APL Amateur Radio Club president (2003-2007).

Steve's hobbies include: a small "farm-ette" where he and Ardon describe their activities as "just playing in the dirt," and frequently can be found cleaning, fixing, and wiring up antique telephone switching equipment in his multi-purpose "Shop." Steve is a member of Telephone Collectors International. 📞

ROBERT MICHAEL IRWIN



Bob Irwin was born in 1960 in Baltimore. He grew up in Glen Burnie and graduated from Glen Burnie Senior High School in 1978. For a few years after high school, Bob travelled the country on his motorcycle, working a various construction sites, including the building of EPCOT at Disneyworld in Florida.

Bob grew up in construction, and went to trade school, where he earned his journeyman's license. He then became a member of Sheet Metal Workers Local #100 (in Washington, D.C.). In 1985, he moved into drafting, then mechanical project management, at Pierce Associates. In 2004 he joined HITT Contracting, Inc. (Fairfax, Virginia), where he is now Director of the MEP (Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing)

Services Group., which he was instrumental in establishing for the company.

Through all that time, Bob commuted a good distance to his job. Bob lived in Pasadena for a number of years before moving to Mount Airy in 1998. Bob and his wife Keri Lynn were married in Mount Airy in 2000. They have three sons and a daughter. Two of these sons joined as junior members at the same time as Bob.

Bob joined the SAR and the Westminster Chapter at the end of 2015. His Patriot ancestor is Joshua Owings, am member of the family that founded Owings Mills. Joshua Owings first served as an ensign, then First Lieutenant, under CAPT Nathaniel Stinchcomb in the Soldier's Delight Battalion, Baltimore County Militia.

Bob's hobbies include numismatics (collecting coins since he was 10), and genealogy. He is working on the finding the links he needs to submit supplemental applications on other Patriot ancestors, and is working to on his wife's application to join the DAR. 🇺🇸

ENGLER LAYS WREATH AT JEFFERSON MEMORIAL

As one of his last official events as Maryland SAR State President, our own Jim Engler went to Washington on 13 April 2016 to honor the writer of the Declaration of Independence and the third President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson.

Hosted by the District of Columbia Society SAR in conjunction with the National Park Service and the Military District of Washington, each year since the Jefferson Memorial was completed in Washington there has been a wreath laying on Jefferson's birthday (born 13 April 1743).

The day was sunny with a little chill in the air, as about two dozen organizations participated in the ceremony, seated below the monument, facing the Tidal Basin. After a medley by the Army's Brass Quintet, the ceremony opened with the presentation of the colors by a joint services color guard and an invocation. A brief speech was made about Jefferson before each organization was called forward to walk up the steps and place their wreath in front of the Memorial.

Jim Engler presented the wreath for the Maryland SAR, escorted by Maryland Color Guard members William Smithson and David Hoover (who is also National SAR Color Guard Commandant).. 🇺🇸



OUR WEB ADDRESS:
[HTTP://WESTMINSTER.MDSSAR.ORG/
 INDEX.HTML](http://WESTMINSTER.MDSSAR.ORG/INDEX.HTML)

**WESTMINSTER
 CHAPTER, SONS OF
 THE AMERICAN
 REVOLUTION**

6164 Washita Road
 Eldersburg, MD 21784-6643

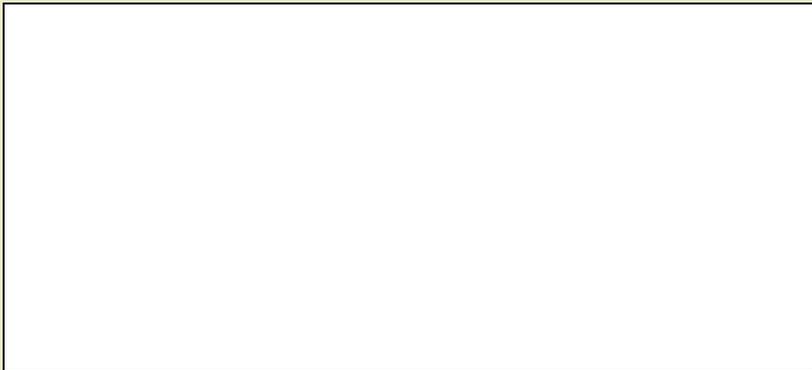
Phone: 410-795-3749
 E-mail: mdssarwestminster@yahoo.com



Libertas et Patria

Chartered on 9 March 1985, the Westminster Chapter, SAR proudly serves Carroll County, Maryland. In keeping with the mission of SAR, our chapter seeks to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom through an appreciation for true patriotism, a respect for our national symbols, the value of American citizenship, and for the unifying force that has created, from the people of many nations, one nation and one people.

We do this by perpetuating in our local community, among all age groups, the stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy, and triumph of those who achieved the independence of the American people, in the belief that these stories are universal ones of man's eternal struggle against tyranny, relevant to all time, and will inspire and strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is called upon to defend our freedoms on the battlefield and in our public institutions.



CALENDAR, APRIL-JUNE 2016

Date, Time and Place	Subject
<p><i>16 April 2016</i> 8:30 AM <i>American Legion Post #47 (Joseph L. Davis Post)</i> 501 St John Street Havre de Grace, MD 21078</p>	<p><i>Maryland Society SAR Annual Meeting</i> Contact: Barry McKown</p>
<p>23 April 2016 2:00 PM St. Joseph's Church Emmitsburg, Maryland</p>	<p>Patriot John Welty Grave Marking Contact: Ryan Trainor</p>
<p>Late May-Early June 2016 Carroll County High Schools</p>	<p>High School Outstanding Citizenship Awards Contact: Charlie Hedges</p>
<p>4 June 2016 1:00 PM Large Meeting Room, Westminster Public Library Westminster, MD</p>	<p>Information Session Contact: Jim Engler</p>
<p>25 June 2016 1 PM 12440 Green Valley Rd. Union Bridge, MD</p>	<p>Summer Picnic! Contact: Jim Engler</p>

Items in *italics* are non-Chapter (other Chapters, State, District or National) SAR events, see the State site (accessible from our chapter's "Links" page) for more information on these events.