



# *The Ohio Country* Bulletin

The Ohio Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

*Fall 2016 Newsletter*

[www.ohssar.org](http://www.ohssar.org)

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## Message from the President



In my first four months as President of the Ohio Society I have been amazed at the sheer volume of patriotic, historical and educational programs that our Chapters participate in. From my vantage point, I get to see what is happening throughout Ohio and those events outside the state in which our members are involved. The variety of events in which our membership participate in is truly commendable. These include Flag Certificate Presentations, Grave marking Ceremonies, Naturalization events, Honor Flights and Color Guard events just to name a few.

In large part, these events occur at the Chapter-level. Occasionally we come together at the State-level such as we did in July at Fort Laurens, but it's at the Chapter where we do the most good and sow the seeds that reinforce our commitment to our patriotic, historical and educational programs. You are all to be commended for your hard work and dedication throughout the summer and I know from reviewing the upcoming schedule that your efforts will continue. But there is another activity, a Chapter-level one that deserves this same sort of dedication and effort – Maintaining our membership rolls.

Before I edit the next Ohio Country Bulletin (Winter 2017 edition), we will have been through the process of collecting dues and renewing memberships for 2017. One of our goals for this year is to "Increase our membership and improve the number of annual Compatriot renewals." Our goal at the Chapter-level should be to renew 100% of our active membership and then seek out those that previously discontinued their membership and bring them back. This is hard work but I have seen Compatriots work hard all summer and I have no doubt that we can be equally successful at membership retention.

If there is anything I or the State-level leadership can do to assist Chapters in this endeavor, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thanks again for all that you do.



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

Post Script - On September 1st we emailed a survey to all Compatriots with an email address on file. This survey seeks to get your thoughts on how we might improve this publication. Please take a few minutes to complete and return the survey. Thank You.

Don

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

## 126th National Society Congress



Ohio Society attendees Jim Schaffer, Tony Robinson, John Franklin, Tim Ward, Troy Bailey, Mike Gunn and Greg Ballman

The National Society Sons of the American Revolution hosted its 126th Annual Congress in Boston, Massachusetts from Friday, July 9th through Thursday, July 14, 2016 with 239 delegates in attendance. The business sessions, meetings, and functions were held at the Westin Hotel in the Back Bay section of the city. Near the hotel were 43 acres of historical parks

encompassing major portions of Boston, Cambridge, Charlestown, and South Boston. Within walking distance was the Freedom Trail, a 2.5-mile, red-lined route along 16 historically significant sites encompassing museums and meeting-houses, churches, and burying grounds.

The Ohio Society was well represented by Past-President & Alternate Na-

tional Trustee James D. Schaffer (Cincinnati); Past-President William A. "Tony" Robinson (Camp Charlotte); Past-President John H. Franklin (Western Reserve); Registrar & National Trustee Troy Bailey (Northeastern Ohio); Past-President & Genealogist Tim Ward (Northeastern Ohio); Southwest District Chairman Elwin Spray (Richard Montgomery); Board Member Michael B.



President General Mike Tomme

Gunn (Cincinnati); Patriot John "Jack" Bredenfoerder (Cincinnati); and

(See Congress Pg. 4)

## OHSSAR Fundraising Committee News

At the 2016 OHSSAR Winter Board of Management meeting, the OHSSAR Fundraising Committee was established. Compatriot Jack Bredenfoerder was appointed chairman and OHSSAR Treasurer Steve Hinson is also serving to give financial advice and assistance to the committee. Additional committee volunteers would be very welcomed - experience with grant applications, marketing and communications would be very important additions.

The Committee is concentrating on three specific activities:

**External** - Crowdfunding through social media

**External** - Community and Corporate Grant applications

**Internal** - Reorganization and Restructuring of all internal OHSSAR funding activities.

A crowdfunding page to benefit the OHSSAR Youth Programs has been created and has already raised

\$300 via gofundme at: <https://www.gofundme.com/25jbsrjr>. Because the Youth Programs directly benefit our Ohio communities they are the most promising programs to promote through the web based crowdfunding vehicle. It is highly encouraged that all OHSSAR news articles about the OHSSAR youth programs continue to include the gofundme link and invite the public's support. Historic sites and OHSSAR

(See Fundraising Pg. 4)



## Ohio Society Holds Summer 2016 Meetings In Zoar, Ohio

On July 29th and 30th, the Ohio Society held its quarterly Executive Committee and Board of Management Meetings in Zoar, Ohio at the Firehouse Grille and Pub. Both meetings were well attended, with members present from all Ohio districts.

The Friday, July 29th activities began with an outstanding buffet dinner, followed by the Executive Committee and Ladies Auxiliary meetings. The agenda of the Executive Committee included informative discussions on the activities of committees tasked with special missions.

Saturday, July 30th began with the Board of Management meeting at 8:00AM. Immediately following, our members proceeded to the Fort Laurens Historic Site a few miles away for a Memorial Service at 11:15AM. Then, it was back to the Firehouse Grille and Pub at 12:30PM for another outstanding buffet meal, concluding with the presentation of National Society and Ohio Society awards to chapters, members, and supporters of the SAR.

The meetings were moved to Zoar last year to accommodate a larger membership attendance.



Saturday Luncheon at the Firehouse Grille & Pub in Zoar

## Ohio Society Awards Luncheon

Member awards and certificates of appreciation from both the National and Ohio Society were presented as part of the Ohio Society's Summer 2016 Meeting activities. At the luncheon at the Firehouse Grille & Pub following the Fort Laurens Memorial Service, Past-President Jim Schaffer made the presentations for achievements during his 2015-2016 term. Recognized were:

### National Society Awards

#### **Liberty Medal**

Troy Bailey (3 OLC)- Northeastern Ohio  
William Ellerman (1 OLC) - Richard Montgomery  
James Fast (1 OLC) - Centennial  
Robert Feters (1 OLC) - Arthur St. Clair  
Ted Minier (3 OLC) - Western Reserve Society  
Brent Morgan (1 OLC) - Western Reserve Society  
David Nessley, Sr. (1 OLC) - Hocking Valley  
Franz B. Ott (4 OLC) - Cincinnati  
Larry Perkins (1 OLC) - Ebenezer Zane  
Tim Ward (4 OLC) - Northeastern Ohio  
OLC - Oak Leaf Cluster designating a subsequent award

#### **Liberty Bell Americanism Award**

#### **Honorable Mention**

Chapter Presenting Evidence of Best  
Implementing SAR Resolutions and  
Principles  
Cincinnati Chapter

### Ohio Society Awards

#### **Arthur M. King Eagle Scout**

#### **Scholarship Contest Participation**

2015 Chairman - Wm. Tony Robinson

#### **George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay**

#### **Contest Participation**

Chairman - Larry Perkins

#### **Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest Participation**

Chairman - Charles Finley

#### **Americanism Poster Contest**

#### **Participation**

2015 Chairman - Richard Hartinger

#### **C.A.R. Activities Award**

Co-Chairmen - Dan Matheke & Paul Wilke

#### **Admiral William R. Furlong Memorial Award for Flag Certificate Presentations**

Chairman - Ted Minier

#### **SAR Youth Award**

Contestants Entered in at Least

Four Youth Programs

#### **Paul M. Niebell, Sr. Award**

State Society with 100 or more members  
with the Best News Publication with Fewer  
than 10 Pages

Editor-in-Chief - Jim Schaffer

#### **Walter G. Sterling Award**

State Society Enrolling the Largest Number  
of New Members from the C.A.R.

### O.S.C.A.R. Awards

#### **Eleanor Smallwood Niebell Award**

State C.A.R. Chapter with the Best  
Newsletter

#### **Partners In Patriotism Award**

Ohio Society  
Western Reserve Society  
Cincinnati Chapter  
Richard Montgomery Chapter  
Lafayette Chapter  
Northeastern Ohio Chapter  
Samuel Huntington Chapter  
Centennial Chapter  
Marietta Chapter  
Camp Charlotte Chapter  
Hocking Valley Chapter  
At-Large Chapter

### Individual Awards

#### **Certificate of Appreciation for Service as Chairman of the NSSAR Facilities Committee**

Paul M. Wilke

#### **Florence Kendall Award - Second Place**

Recruiting the Largest Number of New  
Members

Franz B. Ott, II

#### **Certificates of Appreciation Presented to**

Friends of Fort Laurens Foundation  
Zoar Community Association

## National Society Congress (From Pg. 2)

Compatriot Greg Ballman (Cincinnati).

The business sessions concluded with the election of General Officers, Trustees, and SAR Foundation Board Members: J. Michael Tomme, Sr. (GA) was elected President General; Thomas L. Payne (KY) Vice President General Central District; Larry T. Guzy (GA) Secretary General; Warren M. Alter (AZ) Treasurer General; Davis Lee Wright, Esq. (DE) Chancellor General; Russell F. DeVenney, Jr. (MO) Registrar General; John T. Manning (NH) Historian General; C. Bruce Pickett (AL) Librarian General; Dr. Larry M. Leslie (KY) Surgeon General; Rev. Louis V. Carlson, Jr. (CA) Chaplain General; Timothy E. Ward (OH) Inspector General; John L. Dodd, Esq. (CA) SAR Foundation; and Past-President General Stephen Leishman (DE) SAR Foundation. For the Ohio Society, Compatriot James D. Schaffer was elected to National Trustee and Compatriot Tim Ward was elected to Alternate National Trustee.

In addition to three sessions of business meetings, activities included Committee and Trustee meetings, the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Orations Contest judging; a Memorial Service; a Youth Awards luncheon; a Member Awards & Recognitions evening; the President General's Banquet; and the Installation Banquet. Optional events offered included tours of the historic site at Lexington & Concord and the U.S.S. Constitution.

The Tennessee Society will host the 127th Annual Congress in Knoxville, Tennessee.



*Ohio Society attendees at the National Congress*

*Front Row: John Franklin, Tim Ward, Troy Bailey, Wm. Tony Robinson and Elwin Spray; Back Row: John "Jack" Bredenfoerder, Greg Ballman, Michael Gunn*

## Fundraising Committee (From Pg 2)

Color Guard may also benefit from similar crowdfunding activities in the future.

Community and corporate grants are another source of external funds from the community that the committee will be developing. The grants will take a considerable amount of research and preparation when writing the applications. The committee is currently evaluating the most promising grant opportunities and will start submitting applications by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Finally, the Fundraising Committee is currently examining the existing internal funding programs and will recommend ways these programs and new initiatives can be included in a more cohesive and comprehensive long-term plan for OHSSAR member funding recognition.

If you would like to volunteer or offer suggestions to the committee, please contact Jack Bredenfoerder at [jack.b@fuse.net](mailto:jack.b@fuse.net)

## Public Service & Heroism Committee



*Heroism Medal*

At its Summer Ohio Society Board of Management meeting, the board authorized the creation of a Public Service and Heroism (PS&H) Committee to promote and coordinate the mission of SAR's PS&H Commendation Programs within the state.

The programs consist of a Law Enforcement Commendation; a Fire Safety Commendation; an Emergency Medical Services Commendation; and a Heroism Commendation.

The NSSAR PS&H Committee is responsible for the oversight of the programs; and states, chapters and commendation recipients are recognized in a booklet published and distributed at the National Congress each July. Presentations of the commendations are reported to the National and Ohio Society PS&H Committees by completion of a prescribed form by the state or chapter making the award.

This program is an excellent way to recognize deserving individuals in our community and the public sector, while also serving as an excellent means by which our Society can receive recognition and broaden our exposure and recruitment of potential new members.

(See PS&H, Pg. 5)

## Welcome New Members

### Western Reserve

Chandler H. Whipple  
Roderick C. Sullivan  
Brian L. Walker  
James B. Wyman  
Zachary A. Wyman  
Fred W. Hawk

### Cincinnati

Alexander L. Dunkel  
Leo C. Korbee  
Warren L. Downs  
Thomas C. Strickler  
Brian D. Strickler  
John E. Kronenberger  
Kenneth R. Blank  
Michael V. Trammel

### Benjamin Franklin

John W. Swisher  
Glenn A. Johnson

### Richard Montgomery

Shannon M. Horst

### Lafayette

Jay H. McCormick

### George Rogers Clark

David A. Sheley  
John W. Hamilton, Jr.

### Ewings

Mark H. Dean  
Steven N. Chirki

### Northeastern Ohio

Jonathan J. Guerrier

### Hocking Valley

Matthew W. Hardman

### At-Large

Patrick J. Gutierrez

## Welcome Back (Reinstatements)

### Lafayette

Scott M. Davis

### Rufus Putnam

Ronny W. Dower

### Camp Charlotte

Russell S. Stiteler

## Publicity Committee Seeking Submissions

The primary purpose of the Ohio Society SAR Publicity Committee is to provide a means of exchanging ideas between members and chapters. In this way, chapters can use these ideas for planning and developing similar activities. The articles and photographs submitted to this committee are published through various social media outlets under the control of the Ohio Society. Being contemporaneous with the events, this provides an excellent means for the leadership of our chapters to feed off of the synergy that exists between them.

A second, and original, task delegated to the Publicity Committee is to screen and edit articles that are submitted to the *SAR Magazine*, which is a publication of the National Society SAR. This process allows for the coordination of submissions to the magazine, eliminating duplications that occur if the chapters submit individually.

The Publicity Committee uses two social media outlets that have the ability to reach large, and sometimes separate, audiences. The Ohio Society has its own *Facebook* page as well as the *ohssardispatch* blog (web log).

## PS&H Committee (From Pg 4)

Questions about the SAR Public Service and Heroism Commendation Programs may be directed to Compatriots James D. Schaffer at [jschaffer@fuse.net](mailto:jschaffer@fuse.net) or Robert W. Davis at [dennison1861@att.net](mailto:dennison1861@att.net). More information and a report form are available on the Ohio Society website at <http://ohssar.org/chapter-contests/>.

As many chapters have their own *Facebook* pages, their posts are easily shared on the Ohio Society page, reaching even more followers than capable individually.

The Ohio Society blog is an excellent means of publishing information in a format similar to a newspaper article. The added benefit to this method is that the key words within the article are searchable on the web. The blog articles are shared on the *Facebook* page, thereby reaching that audience as well.

Quarterly, the chairman of the Publicity Committee reviews the articles published in the blog and prepares them for submission to the *SAR Magazine*. Most often edited as news articles, these are easily transferred to the editor of the *SAR Magazine* in the proper format.

Each chapter is urged appoint its own chairman who would be responsible for sending items to the Ohio Society Publicity Committee. The content of the article should follow the format: who; what; when; where; and why. Photos should be in digital jpg format, and identify the individuals depicted. If unable to send via email, hard copies can be sent by U.S.P.S.

Articles to be published on the *ohssardispatch* blog, and thereafter submitted to the *SAR Magazine*, can be sent to Compatriot James D. Schaffer at [jschaffer@fuse.net](mailto:jschaffer@fuse.net), or Steven R. Kelley at [ohsrkelley@gmail.com](mailto:ohsrkelley@gmail.com). The *Facebook* pages of each chapter are continuously monitored for postings that can be shared on the state page.

The *ohssardispatch* is located on the web at <https://ohssardispatch.wordpress.com/>, and the *Facebook* page is located at <https://www.facebook.com/OHSSAR/>.

## In Memoriam

### *Western Reserve Society*

Edward H. Saxton  
July 12, 2016

### *Richard Montgomery Chapter*

Robert W. Mayne  
July 12, 2016

### *Ewings Chapter*

Roy L. Holter  
June 27, 2016

### *Hocking Valley Chapter*

William M. Hill  
June 2, 2016

### *Ebenezer Zane Chapter*

George Livingston  
July 1, 2016

George R. Ruch  
July 15, 2016



## Fort Laurens - Ohio's Only Revolutionary War Fort

On July 30th, 2016, the Ohio Society Sons of the American Revolution hosted its annual Fort Laurens Memorial Service at the site of this historic Revolutionary War fort in Bolivar, Tuscarawas County, Ohio. Members of the SAR, DAR, C.A.R. and other patriotic groups and organizations, migrate to this ceremony each year, and pay homage to the American soldiers who died in its siege in 1779. This year, SAR members came from Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, and Pennsylvania to participate in the ceremony, considered a national event in the National Society SAR organization. Perhaps a brief history lesson will explain why such importance is placed upon this historical site.



*Fort Laurens Museum*

Fort Laurens was the first and only fort of the Revolutionary War established within the limits of what is now Ohio, and was built on the banks of the Tuscarawas River, now near the town of Bolivar, Ohio, in December of 1778 by General Lachlan McIntosh. The fort was intended to serve as a defense against attacks by the British and Native American Indians on settlers in the Ohio Country, and was to be a staging point in support of a planned attack on the British at Fort Detroit.

The Fort was named in honor of Henry Laurens, President of the Continental Congress.

Conditions during the winter were harsh, and General McIntosh removed all but 150 soldiers from the 8th Pennsylvania Regiment and the 13th Virginia Regiment to Fort Pitt, present day Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Beginning February 22nd, 1779 and continuing until mid-March of that year, a small number of British soldiers of the 8th Regiment of Foot commanded by Captain Henry Bird, and a few hundred allied Native American warriors, laid siege to the fort after ambushing a group of defenseless American soldiers who were foraging outside of the compound. Amongst the British forces was the infamous Simon Girty.

During the nearly month-long struggle, the American soldiers were starved and frozen, being forced to eat roots and grass growing within the fort's walls. Some resorted to boiling their own moccasins, making a broth for consumption.

The British forces were also suffering the harsh conditions of that winter, and abandoned their siege on March 20th, 1779. Three days after the siege was lifted, American rein-



*Participants Gather After This Year's Fort Laurens Ceremony*

forcements arrived from Fort Pitt. A force of over 100 American soldiers remained at Fort Laurens until August 2, 1779, when it was determined it was no longer of value as a staging point in attacking the British at Fort Detroit, and was abandoned. In total, more than 20 American soldiers died at Fort Laurens.

Today, the Ohio Historical Connection, formerly the Ohio Historical Society, operates a museum at the site of Fort Laurens, under the management of the Zoar Community Association. On site is the Tomb of the Unknown Patriot of the American Revolution, which contains the remains of one of the American soldiers killed here, and discovered during archaeolog-

ical excavations at the site. This brave soldier was laid to rest with full military honors by the Ohio National Guard in 1976. The remains of other soldiers who were killed during this struggle are interred in a crypt inside of the museum.

The site was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.



*The OHSSAR Color Guard Advances*

While nothing remains of the fort's walls today, the Friends of Fort Laurens Foundation is actively engaged in fundraising efforts to reconstruct the fort, log by log.

The Ohio Society of the Sons of the American Revolution returns each year to conduct its memorial service in late July.

For more information on the work of the Friends of Fort Laurens Foundation, visit their website at [www.friendsoffortlaurens.org](http://www.friendsoffortlaurens.org).



*Past-President General Joseph Dooley delivers the Keynote Address*

# Ohio Society Sons of the American Revolution



## Fall Board of Management Meeting

October 7th - 9th, 2016

## Point Pleasant Chapter WVSSAR Battle Days Activities

### VENUES

**Hampton Inn Hotel**  
444 Upper River Road  
Gallipolis, OH 45631  
(740) 446-8000  
38° 49' 59.75" N  
82° 09' 26.48" W

**American Legion Post 23**  
100 2nd Street  
Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550  
(304) 675-3437  
38° 50' 26.39" N  
82° 08' 24.16" W

**Trinity United  
Methodist Church**  
615 Viand Street  
Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550  
(304) 675-2220  
38° 50' 43.03" N  
82° 08' 15.04" W

**Tu-Endi-Wie  
State Park**  
1 Main Street  
Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550  
(304) 675-0869  
38° 50' 21.50" N  
82° 08' 26.57" W

### HAMPTON INN

Rooms at the Hampton Inn are available at a cost of \$95.00. Price includes hot breakfast. Make reservations by calling the hotel yourself at (740) 446-8000, however make payment to the Treasurer, OHSSAR to receive Ohio Sales Tax exemption. This is a group rate for the Ohio Society Sons of the American Revolution. A block of rooms has been reserved until **September 26th**, so call before then to get this rate.

### OHIO SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

#### Friday October 7th

*American Legion Post 23*

5:00 PM: Buffet Dinner

6:00 PM: OHSSAR Executive Committee/Ladies Aux. Meetings

#### Saturday October 8th

*American Legion Post 23*

8:00 AM: OHSSAR Board of Management Meeting

### POINT PLEASANT BATTLE DAYS \*\*\*

#### Friday, October 7th — *Tu-Endi-Wie State Park*

7:30 PM: "Maid of the Mist" Play & Historical Speakers

#### Saturday, October 8th — *Main Street - Point Pleasant*

11:00 AM: Battle Days Parade

Parade Participants Muster at Main & 10th St., Pt. Pleasant at 10:45 AM

#### *American Legion Post 23*

6:00 PM: Colonial Governor's Reception

8:00 PM: Colonial Ball

#### Sunday October 9th — *Tu-Endi-Wie State Park*

10:00 AM: Early Colonial Church Service

#### *Trinity United Methodist Church*

12:30 PM: Luncheon

#### *Tu-Endi-Wie State Park*

2:00 PM: Battle of Point Pleasant Memorial Service

Detach ↑

### OHIO SOCIETY SAR FALL 2016 MEETING REGISTRATION

Enclose With Payment ↓

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Society/Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Email (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

#### SELECTIONS

Friday Evening Buffet Dinner: \_\_\_\_\_ Meals @ \$20.00.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Hampton Inn Sleeping Rooms: \_\_\_\_\_ Nights @ \$95.00.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### PAYMENT

Make check payable to Treasurer,  
OHSSAR and mail to:

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

Registration Deadline  
Friday, September 26th, 2016

**\*\*\* Make reservations for Point Pleasant Battle Days activities separately.  
Registration information is available at [www.wvssar.org](http://www.wvssar.org).**



## Dates to Remember

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



### *Fundraising for OHSSAR Youth Programs*

Go to : <https://www.gofundme.com/25jbsrjr>

## *More Ways to Stay Informed*

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

### **NATIONAL SOCIETY**

[www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/sonsoftheamericanrevolution/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/sonsoftheamericanrevolution/)

### **CENTRAL DISTRICT**

[www.cdsar.org](http://www.cdsar.org)

### **OHIO SOCIETY**

[www.ohssar.org](http://www.ohssar.org)  
[www.ohssardispatch.wordpress.com](http://www.ohssardispatch.wordpress.com)  
*NEW!* [www.facebook.com/ohssar](https://www.facebook.com/ohssar)

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Cincinnati OH 45244