



EMPIRE PATRIOT

Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Preserving the Past, Forming the Future

Vol. 24 Issue 1 July - September 2023

Summer Issue



David W. Powell, President

Message from the President

Brother Compatriots,

This August the ESSSAR was proud to host the 2023 Atlantic Middle States Conference in Tarrytown, NY. The event was held at the Sleepy Hollow Hotel and Conference Center. For those unfamiliar with it, the Atlantic Middle States Association (AMSA) is an association of seven state SAR societies. The societies are New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia, and New York. The conference was for two days, August 11 and 12, 2023. Each state society hosts the conference every seven years. Next year's conference

will be hosted by the Virginia Society at historic Williamsburg, VA.

This year's conference began with registration on Friday afternoon followed by a social hour and buffet dinner. The dinner was followed by a meeting where the various candidates for next year's national offices were allowed to briefly speak before those in attendance. An election was held to see which candidates the AMSA would endorse.

Saturday morning saw an AMSA business meeting lead by the two Vice President Generals representing the seven state societies. This included the North Atlantic District VPG Joe Vermaelen who is a member of the ESSSAR. This business meeting included PowerPoint presentations by the officers of the seven state societies. ESSSAR President Powell was the first to speak as it is tradition that the host state goes first. The final business was the adoption of some AMSA bylaw changes.

After the two wonderful tours, the group returned to the hotel in time to clean up and get dressed for the semi-formal banquet. The banquet was presided over by VPG Joe Vermaelen and State President Powell. The banquet included President General John Dodd talking about his ancestors

Cont'd below



Upcoming Event

September 9, 2023

ESS-SAR Board of Managers Meeting

Pegasus Restaurant
Coxsackie, NY

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Get Your ESS-SAR Patriot
Certificate

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from the Hudson Valley area during the Revolutionary War and a PowerPoint presentation by noted historian and author Anthony Musso who spoke about “Revolutionary War Sites of the Hudson Valley.”

Some of the notable attendees of the event were President General John L. Dodd, Secretary General Darryl Addington, Treasurer General Michael J. Elston, Chancellor General Edmon McKinley, Genealogist General Gary O. Green, Registrar General William A. Greenly, Historian General Brooks Lyles, Jr., Librarian General Fred Olive III, former President Generals Joseph W. “Joe” Dooley (2013-2014) and Davis Wright (2021-2022), Foundation Board members Lee Popham, (President of the Foundation), and Jeff Thomas.

Also in attendance were Nathaniel Stickle, President, NYSSCAR, and Mrs. Brook Hanna, Sr. State President, NYSSCAR. Nathaniel Stickle gave greetings from NYSSCAR before the banquet crowd. The NYSSCAR also had an informational display at the conference registration area.

In attendance from the Pomeroy Foundation were SAR member William Pomeroy, his daughter and Foundation Trustee Deryn Pomeroy and Zack Finn. The Pomeroy Foundation had an informational table at the conference.

Twenty-Five members of the ESSSAR were in attendance during the conference. All four ESSSAR Vice Presidents were present. The Saturday night banquet was sold out as 120 people enjoyed the dinner.

A special thank you goes to the ESSSAR AMS Conference Committee: Raynor Duncombe, Duane Booth, Joseph Fitzpatrick, Timothy Middlebrook, Jonathan Goebel, and Joseph Vermaelen. Additionally, Andrew Peirce and his wife Janet, Kitty Fitzpatrick, and Judy Middlebrook worked together to set up the event registration and organized the basket raffles and 50/50 fund raising efforts.

At the conclusion of the banquet, Tim Middlebrook was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal from the ESSSAR for his superhuman effort in chairing the ESSSAR- AMS Conference committee. The ESSSAR cannot thank him enough. Tim spent many hours getting the AMSA Conference off the ground and running. Tim’s wife received the gold Martha Washinton award for assisting Tim over all these years.

Feedback from the National Officers and officers from other states was nothing but positive. According to all reports, the event was a fabulous success!

David W. Powell, President

Empire State Society, NSSAR

JOIN/RENEW SAR at www.sar.org/find-your-chapter/NY

Opening of Conference, Friday Night



Opening of Conference



Empire State Report

Some of ESS Presentation



Empire State Society (New York)
By the Numbers:

- Current Membership = 1269 Members
- Dual State members = 32 Members
- NSSAR Life Members = 25 Members

21 Chapters across NY State

4 Regions – Each with a Vice President

- Western- 5 chapters
- Central – 4 chapters
- Capital – 6 chapters
- Adirondack – 6 chapters



Patriot Burials Marker Program

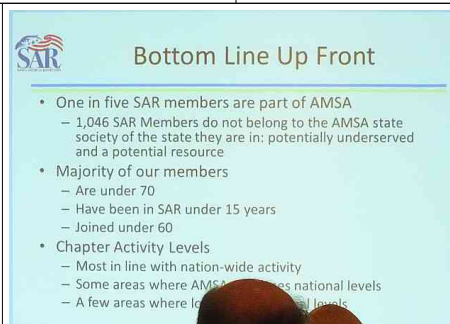
- 91 Markers since 2018
- 24 Markers in past year

PATRIOT BURIALS
WALNUT GROVE CEMETERY
BURIALS AS EARLY AS CA 1800
AT LEAST FIFTEEN
REVOLUTIONARY WAR VETERANS
INTERRED HERE CA 1800-1850
WALNUT GROVE CEMETERY




SAR
State of the Atlantic Middle
States Association

12 August 2023
James F. Engler, Sr.
VPG Mid-Atlantic District (2023-2024)



SAR
Bottom Line Up Front

- One in five SAR members are part of AMSA
 - 1,046 SAR Members do not belong to the AMSA state society of the state they are in: potentially underserved and a potential resource
- Majority of our members
 - Are under 70
 - Have been in SAR under 15 years
 - Joined under 60
- Chapter Activity Levels
 - Most in line with nation-wide activity
 - Some areas where AMSA exceeds national levels
 - A few areas where local levels



AMSA 2024
09-10 AUGUST 2024
COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG, VA

Some Saturday Activities



Awaiting Bus Tours



National Purple Heart Hall of Honor



Weapons Firing at New Windsor Cantonment

Formal Dinner, Saturday Night



Opening Social Time



Formal Dinner



Closing of Conference

SAR National Congress Report

by David Powell

The National Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution met in Orlando, FL in July. In attendance from the ESSSAR were VPG Joe Vermaelen, Secretary Jonathan Goebel and me.

The most impactful issue to come before the voting delegates was a vote on a motion made by the National Trustees to raise the National Adult membership dues from \$35 to \$50. As you may have suspected, this was not a popular motion among the general membership. However, after the motion was made, a lively but orderly discussion was had among those in attendance. Several National Officers presented a PowerPoint explaining the reasoning and justification for the need to increase the dues.

To summarize the justification, it was apparent that national membership has remained basically at a constant level for the last 5 years. The society is inducting new members at a rate approximately the same rate as we are losing members due to death and dropped memberships. There has not been a national dues increase since 2015. The consumer price index (cpi) has risen about 24% since 2015 and thus our dues dollars only buy 76% of what they did in 2015. Without the proposed dues increase, the National Society would start to see budget deficits of about \$200,000 to \$300,000 per year over the next few years. There was numerous comments and questions on if the dues increase would reduce the number of new and renewing members.

The discussion on the motion proposed by the Trustees included possible amendments about increasing the dues in \$5 increments over three years. This proposed amendment failed. Ultimately the justification presentation was persuasive enough that the majority of the voting delegates voted in favor of the \$15 dues increase effective September 1, 2023. National dues will be \$50. Junior memberships will remain at \$5 per year. The National Life Membership plans are going to be increased to reflect the dues increase.

Some other news from the Congress was the announcement that new applications were getting approved at 6 weeks or less after being received at the National Office. The time to get supplemental applications approved at the national level has dropped to about 24 weeks or less. There is a goal to reduce these times even further. There is also an effort to design a paperless online application process. The timeframe for that was not mentioned. The Congress delegates did vote to spend about \$500,000 of the Building Endowment Fund to build new workspaces and offices for the staff genealogists to improve their working conditions.

Finally, in my role as ESSSAR President and representing the state's membership, I attended two meetings of the Council of State Presidents, two meetings of the Trustees and all business sessions as a voting delegate.

Next year's Congress will be in Lancaster Pennsylvania at the great Marriott Hotel at Pen Square. I urge you if you can to attend next year's Congress. You will have the chance to participate in the Societies business, go on great tours, and make new friends in the SAR.

Board of Mangers Meeting Scheduled for September

The Columbia Mid-Hudson Chapter will be hosting our BOM meeting on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at the Pegasus Restaurant in Coxsackie, NY. Coffee and danish will be available at 10 AM during sign-in. The business meeting will begin at 11 AM followed by a buffet lunch.

All members are invited to attend.

Pegasus Restaurant
10885 Route 9W - Coxsackie, NY 12051
Phone 518-731-9200

*(From the South: NYS Thruway to Catskill Exit 21, take Rt. 23 east to Rt. 9W, go north 8 miles, on left)
(From the North: NYS Thruway to Exit 21B, take Rt. 9W south for 5 miles, on right)*

Hotels available in Coxsackie, NY order on line for better rates
Holiday Express - one tenth of a mile north off Exit 21B on 9W- Phone 518-719-1999
Best Western - two tenths of a mile south off Exit 21B on 9W- Phone 518-731-8100

ESSSAR BOM MEETING SATURDAY- September 9, 2023

Hosted by
COLUMBIA-MID HUDSON VALLEY CHAPTER SAR (CMHVSAR)
www.cmhvsar.com

COST OF BUFFET IS \$32.00



10:00 A.M SIGN IN

COFFEE & DANISH until 11:00 AM



GENERAL MEETING 11:00 AM

Buffet Menu

Chicken Marsala

Roast Beef with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

Beans, Tossed Green Salad, rolls & butter

Dessert- Apple Pie a la mode

Includes Coffee, Tea, Milk, Tax and Gratuity

Any wine, beer or alcohol drinks or extras, pay cash to the Server.

\$5.00 EXTRA CHARGE AT DOOR FOR UNSCHEDULED ARRIVALS

FOR NON-EATING ATTENDEES - \$5.00 CHARGE FOR USE OF FACILITY

Name _____ Chapter _____

Name _____ Chapter _____

Name _____ Chapter _____

Buffer \$32.00 _____ Using Facility only \$5.00 _____

Detach, fill in names, and check to "CMHVSAR"

Richard Wambach - 232 Starbarrack Road, Red Hook, NY 12571-2252 - Please, no later Sept. 1, 2023

Get Your ESS-SAR Patriot Certificate

This certificate is personalized with your name, your ancestors name, with your state and national member numbers. The certificate is custom printed using the highest quality professional equipment available. This is an heirloom-quality document suitable for framing.

The price for this valuable family record document is very modest at \$20. When you purchase a certificate, five dollars of the purchase price is donated to your chapter. This beautiful heirloom certificate was designed by compatriot Joseph B. Fitzpatrick, President of the Leather Stocking Chapter, Vice President of the Capital Region, ESSAR., and current Empire State Society President.



Above is a sample of the Patriot Certificate, which will be printed on premium quality heavy paper. To order your Certificate/s, please print and complete the form below.

Empire State Society SAR
Patriot Certificate

ORDER FORM

Please Print

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

National Number_____

State Number_____

Patriot Name_____

Chapter Name_____

Cost \$20.00 make check out to ESSAR

Send to : Schoharie L-S Chapter SAR
C/O Joseph B. Fitzpatrick
PO Box 193
Esperance, NY 12066

Note from the Editor:

Chapter Activities and History Column will return in the next *Empire Patriot* issue.

If your chapter would like to have your stories, events and photos published in the *Empire Patriot* send your material to Editor Karl Danneil at kdanneil@att.net

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