



West Virginia

S.A.R. News

Sons of the American Revolution



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State Secretary: Larry Freshwater

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WVSSAR ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 27-28 AT HAWKS NEST

The WVSSAR annual banquet and business meeting will be April 27 and 28 at Hawks Nest State Park Lodge in Ansted. The event is sponsored by the Daniel Boone Chapter of Charleston.

The banquet will be Friday, April 27. Registration and social hour begin at 6 p.m. Banquet follows at 7:30 p.m.

Featured speaker will be Jamie Simmons, Revolutionary War Specialist at the West Virginia State Archives. Simmons will be discussing the "Draper Manuscripts".

Scheduled Saturday April 28, is the business meeting. Coffee and refreshment will be served at 8:30 a.m. with the meeting of the state board of management to follow at 9 a.m.

Payment for the banquet should be mailed to Daniel Boone Chapter President Steve Hart. Steve's address is 182 Limestone Rd, Charleston, W.V. 25312. Cost of the banquet is \$30 and the deadline is April 15.

A group of rooms has been blocked for the WVSSAR at Hawks Nest. The telephone number at the lodge is 304-658-5212. Please mention "Group: SAR12". Deadline is also April 15.

The application form is online at wvssar.org.



WVSSAR President Bob Fish (left) makes a presentation to General Hugh Mercer Chapter President Richard Lockhart. The Princeton based chapter hosted the WVSSAR Spring Board of Management meeting.

PRESIDENT BOB FISH MESSAGE:

As my term of office nears its end, I thank you for the privilege of serving as president of the West Virginia Society. I continue to be impressed with the talents and commitment represented by our members.

The West Virginia Society is strong and growing. We represent an important connection with history and heritage that our members value.

We value our SAR membership and everything it represents. We trust the SAR to continue to honor all our patriot ancestors and to keep telling the true story of the American Revolution. As Compatriots, we each have special ties to the Revolution and we each have special responsibilities to show that patriotism in our own lives.

An excellent way to express our patriotism is through the work of our chapters. That work takes many forms: marching with your color guard, researching and preserving patriot's graves, teaching history in schools, researching your own genealogy, helping prospective members to complete their lineage research, serving as a chapter officer and many other tasks that support our work.

The WVSSAR is strong; help make it stronger.

Bob Fish, President, WVSSAR



Mercer County Sheriff Don Meadows (left) is presented the Law Enforcement Medal by General Hugh Mercer Chapter President Richard Lockhart.

HISTORY DAY WELL ATTENDED BY WVSSAR

The WVSSAR was well represented at "History Day At The West Virginia Legislature".

According to Past WVSSAR President Lance Carter, there were eight state members in attendance at the Charleston event.

Tables from the Hugh Mercer Chapter and Daniel Boone Chapter were on display along with one from Fort Randolph.

MARKING OF GRAVEYARDS SET MAY 5TH

The Corporation of Shepherdstown is celebrating its 250th birthday. The year-long celebration began on December 3, 2011. To commemorate this special event, the Pack Horse Ford Chapter, NSDAR, and the General Adam Stephen Chapter, NSSAR, will place historical plaques at the Lutheran and Reformed Graveyards in Shepherdstown on Saturday, May 5, 2012. The dedication ceremony will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Christ Reformed Church and a reception will follow. The public is invited to attend.

The plaques will contain the names of the Revolutionary War Soldiers and Patriots buried in the graveyards. Listed below are their names:

Lutheran Graveyard

Michael Entler

Philip Entler, Sr.

Philip Entler, Jr.

Daniel Foulks

John Adam Link, Jr.

Andrew Ronemous

Lewis Ronemous

Philip Sheetz

Reformed Graveyard

Henry Cookus

Michael Cookus

John Haines

Jacob Haynes

Lawrence Hensel

John Hoffman

Nicholas Schell

Peter Seever

Peter Staley

John Martin Walforth

Michael Yeasley

If you are a descendant of one of these men, you are especially encouraged to attend. Please contact Joe Khare at (304)876-3817 or FrankK5600@aol.com or Donald Hale at (304)725-6140 or dhale3@comcast.net for more information.

FRENCH TRAVEL THROUGH AREA IN 1749

In 1749, the Governor General of Canada sent an expedition from Quebec under the command of Captain Celoron down the Ohio River to establish monuments of France's renewal of possession of this territory. In the execution of his mission, he buried plates at the mouth of its principal tributaries. These plates bore an inscription asserting France's claim to the great valley. One of them was dug up at the mouth of the Kanawha River in 1846. Captain Celoron and his party passed along what is now Cabell County.



PRESIDENT GEN. CHARLES F. PRINTZ 1915-2011:

It is my sad duty to inform you that Charles F. Printz, President General of NSSAR 1988-1989 and President of the General Adam Stephen Chapter, WVSSAR, passed away yesterday, September 30 at the age of 96. Please forward this message to members within your chapter.

Charles was an outstanding individual who lived a truly outstanding life. After graduating from college in 1940, he taught school for a year to earn money for graduate school and earned his MBA in 1942. He then joined the Navy and received a commission as an ensign. His overseas assignments took him to Brisbane, Australia and Fort Moresby, New Guinea, handling Japanese code translations in Gen. MacArthur's headquarters. Near the end of World War II, he was stationed at Palm Beach, Florida, where he met his wife. He remained in the active reserves and retired as a commander in 1972.

Charles and his new bride, the former Bethel Hottle, returned to West Virginia and he was recruited to teach business at his alma mater, Shepherd College. He rose to become professor and department chairman and retired as professor emeritus in 1981. The department had grown from 10 students to over 1,000 during his tenure.

He was an avid historian and genealogist. His life-long passion was researching his own family history, a story that has been published in an 800-page reference book, *Into the Valley*. It traces his family lines back into the 1100's.

Charles joined the West Virginia Society in 1962 and became president of the Gen. Adam Stephen Chapter the next year. At the time of his death, he was still serving as president of that chapter, probably the only person to serve both as President General and chapter president at the same time. The chapter had only 12 members when he became president but it

began a steady and impressive growth, reaching at one time 150 members. It's been the largest chapter in the West Virginia Society for as long as any of us can remember. He served as president of the West Virginia Society in 1979 and 1980.

He was mentored in the national SAR activities by President General Calvin Chunn, who appointed him as chairman of the finance committee. His interest and contributions to the National Society increased and he served terms as Treasurer General and Secretary General. Then, as now, the national SAR politics were a bit rough. After the nominating committee nominated another person to run as President General, Charles was nominated from the floor and won. While other general officers have been elected upon nomination from the floor, this is the only time in the Society's history that a President General was elected in that way. Charles was the Society's 86th President General, serving from 1988 to 1989. During his administration, he and Beth traveled extensively around the country visiting most state societies, including Alaska. Two important accomplishments of his term of President General were to personally and broadly communicate the SAR ideas and presence throughout the Country and to insure that strict standards of financial accountability were established at the national headquarters. Prominent American patriots who were recognized and honored by the SAR during his term include Presidents Ronald Reagan and Gerald Ford and Ambassador Shirley Temple Black. He is a recipient of the Minuteman and Gold Good Citizenship Awards. Charles was our oldest living President General and, perhaps, our longest-serving active chapter president.

Though he provided great national service to the Society, he remained extremely proud of his activities building up his local chapter. Many who responded became compatriots.

The WVSSAR News
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