



Spring 2025 Newsletter

www.ohssar.org



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Everyone is invited to attend the Ohio SAR Annual Meeting on the first weekend in May. We are planning some fun, some entertainment, some education, and of course a little business. There is programming for the ladies too. See the attached pages for all the details and the registration form. If your chapter has a chapter flag and indoor stand, please bring it and add to our proud display. Chapters are invited to bring items for the Ladies' opportunity raffle too.

It seems like only a short while ago I was writing my acceptance speech at the beginning of my term as president. And now I am writing the State of the Society speech for the end of my year. The year has gone by really fast! Patty and I have enjoyed every minute of it. We appreciate all the hospitality and friendship shown to us on our visits. I marvel at all the cooperation and volunteers when I asked for help. I am amazed at the community service and accomplishments the chapters have completed. Really well done everyone!

IMPORTANT UPDATE - As I have been visiting the chapters, I have been promoting the SAR University, a new officer training resource. These courses are now available as on-line videos from the national website (www.SAR.org). Check them out! The handouts are still available on the state website (OHSSAR.org). Hopefully these courses will allow Chapter officers to operate more efficiently and effectively. Future officers have a resource to learn about their potential positions.

Thanks for your support
Steve

p.s. remember it is that time of the year again to file your chapter's IRS return and Ohio Attorney General return. Well done to the 40% that already have this completed. To the rest- let me know if you need any assistance.



Prescription for Success: Add an Activity



COMPATRIOT UPDATE

NEW COMPATRIOTS

James Chrobak
Neal Clark
Jacob Cole
Bradley Cook
Jeffrey Cook
Bruce Dockstader
Michael Dovilla
Robert Flinn
Victor Hanus
William Henson
Myles Hicks
Tanner Hicks
Joseph Hoge
Thomas H. Hoge
Thomas P. Hoge
William Hoge
Kenneth Hughes
Charles Jurack
Jacob Klinect
Kevin Latham
Dustin Martin
Joshua May
Duane McDowell
Dakota McElhinny
Rowan McElhinny
Michael Miller
James Reay
Michael Reed
Dean Ross
Kenneth Shellberg
Justin Swartzmiller
Ka'eo Swartzmiller
Chester Vance
Bradley Wagner
Caleb Wagner
Allen White
Anthony White
Keith White
Matthew Woodland

REINSTATED COMPATRIOTS

Stephen Bowers
George Bushatz
James Cole
Bryan Collins
Randy Dague
Peter Everhart
Joe Graham
Daniel Gogul
Robert Hahn
Anthony Harper
Fred Hawk
Peter Igel
Dan Kirby
William Lager
Tarus Latacki
James Mains
Delbert Moore
John Murphy
Joseph Murphy
John Norris
Charles Osborn
Jacob Pfeifer
Eric Schomburg
Kenneth Simpson II
Eric Skaggs
Adam Smith
Jeffrey Smith
John Streiferdt
Maynard Walters

IN MEMORIAM

Jesse Andrews
Alfred Gee
Neil Horn
Herbert Huddle
Raymond McQueen
Frank Moore II
Gilbert Sanow II
Richard Wilks

2024/2025 Ohio Society Officers

President

Steven J. Kaplan
skpk1984@aol.com

1st Vice-President

David Lupien
Lupiend158@gmail.com

2nd Vice-President

R. Douglas Pettit
rdpettit@icloud.com

Secretary

Donald C. McGraw
donald.c.mcgraw@gmail.com

Treasurer

Michael J. Blum
mblum@fuse.net

Registrar

Troy C. Bailey
tbailey@twcmail.net

Chancellor

Richard L. Carr, Jr. Esq.
rlc@dmfdayton.com

Historian

George Stewart
georgehstewartjr@gmail.com

Genealogist

Timothy E. Ward
timothyward@windstream.net

Chaplain

Michael F. Nimocks
mnimocks@juno.com

National Trustee

Jack Bredenfoerder
jack.b@fuse.net

Alternate National Trustee

Donald G. Miller
gunshipballs9@gmail.com

Director 2024-2027

Donald C. McGraw
donald.c.mcgraw@gmail.com

Director 2023-2026

Shawn A. Cox
colonelgadbo@gmail.com

Director 2022-2025

L. Stephen Hinson
stevhin@earthlink.net



AROUND THE STATE Selected Activities



The Ohio SAR has put up a beautiful display at the Statehouse in Columbus. Many thanks to Rich Minshall who organized this project. He was helped by Don Miller, Tony Holbrook, Jim Dunn, Neil Dunn, Lee Wilkerson, and Don McGraw. A special thank you to Steve Conrad. Many of the items on display come from his personal collection. The display will up January through July 4th.



The Benjamin Franklin SAR Chapter working with the The Flag Lady Store in Clintonville at 4567 N. High St now has out our Revolutionary-era display during the month of January. This is a joint effort involving the BFC and the Worthington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.



Richard Montgomery SAR Chapter and the Dayton chapters of the DAR teamed up to provide boxed lunches and 31 handmade lap blankets to veterans at Victory Ridge hospice within the Dayton Veteran's Administration. - January 8, 2025



OHSSAR President Steve Kaplan installs the new officers for the Arthur St. Clair SAR Chapter: Tony Robinson (Chaplain), Shawn Cox (Secretary), Michael Geron (Treasurer), and Richard Shellenberger (President).
January 14, 2025 -Chillicothe, Ohio.



Arthur St. Clair SAR Chapter President Richard Shellenberger congratulations Compatriot Shawn Cox on his 17th Supplemental patriot being approved.
January 14, 2025



Richard Montgomery Chapter's Steve Kaplan and Lee Emrick teamed up with the Fort Greeneville DAR Chapter to teach an American history lesson at a St Mary's Elementary school assembly. Kaplan presented "Facts you know about the Revolution that just aren't true" to 50+ students. The DAR then passed out treats to the children. – January 28, 2025



Lots of deserving Compatriots received awards at the Ohio SAR Board of Management meeting held at the Der Dutchman in Plain City on February 8th. Congratulations to all on your achievements and all the service these awards convey.
February 8, 2025



Ohio SAR President Kaplan inducts new member Jeffrey Gifford into the Northeastern Ohio Chapter. Later, the officers of the NEO are installed
February 15, 2025



Compatriot Carl Denbow presenting a program on George Washington resigning his commission at Annapolis.
Lt George Ewing Chapter
Feb 17, 2025



The Benjamin Franklin Chapter held a George Washington Birthday Celebration at the Clintonville Women's Center. Their name-sake Benjamin Franklin was there and presented a program for the 105 people in attendance. The Cap City Brass also entertained. February 22, 2025



Richard Montgomery Chapter held its annual George Washington Birthday Celebration. This year's speaker was George Washington himself. Six local DAR chapters were also invited and the attendance reached 89. February 22, 2025



Richard Montgomery Chapter present a Flag Certificate to Kristi Jennings and staff of the "Wandering Griffin" in Beaver Creek, Ohio for their patriotic display of flags. – February 24, 2025



Scenes from Spring Leadership in Louisville – February 28 through March 1 – Attended by 12 Ohio Compatriots



Hocking Valley Chapter Meeting – March 8, 2025

Four new members inducted, Chaplain installed, and Chapter Orator winner Jakin Bass gave her speech presentation



Centennial Chapter's two newest Junior Members inducted by Ohio President Kaplan. Tanner and Myles received certificates, lapel pins, and challenge coins. Also, officers installed, and a new member inducted.
March 13, 2025



C.A.R. State Conference
March 15, 2025



SAR Color guard presented the colors at the DAR State Conference
March 21, 2025

SAR Congress 2028



Check out the new Congress website for 2028
www.2028sarcongressohio.com

Support your 2028 Ohio Congress

Premiums for donations: Congress medals, Challenge Coins, Lapel pins, Cockades, Rosettes, Ladies pin

Raffles: Washington Sword (replica), Washington's China (reproductions)

Memorials, Remembrances, Honor Military Service, Patriot Ancestors, or Fellow Compatriots.

Partnerships: Join the Early Pioneers or have your business join the Ohio Legion of Corporate Partners

Seeking 100 *Stout, Courageous & Adventurous*
Men, Women & Families

In the pioneering spirit of our earliest settlers—join with the members of the Ohio Society at the 138th National Congress, to be held in 2028 along the banks of the Scioto River in Columbus, Ohio, celebrating the...

250th Anniversary of the United States
&
250th Anniversary of the Siege of Fort Laurens

The Treaty of Paris signed in 1783, ceded all lands westward to the Mississippi to the United States.
The Ohio River & Territory became America's gateway to the Great Northwest Territory.

Become a pioneering settler of Ohio by joining our journey during this great westward bound migration.
This journey will accept only the first 100 pioneers headed for the Ohio Valley.

Join our Journey for a one time pledge of \$750
or
Or by a pledge of installments totaling \$750 by July 2028
Sign onto the Journey at : [donald.miller <gunshipballs9@gmail.com>](mailto:donald.miller@gunshipballs9@gmail.com)

Your Pioneering generosity and spirit shall be appropriately recorded and lauded in the annals of this westward journey and the Halls of our National Congress

Compatriot McGee Awarded Medal of Honor



Compatriot Fred Bernard McGee, a proud member of the Ebenezer Zane Chapter, Ohio Society, was awarded the Medal of Honor (posthumously) on January 3, 2025 by President Joe Biden.

The Medal of Honor (often referred to as the Congressional Medal of Honor) is the United States highest military decoration. McGee was initially awarded two Purple Hearts and a Silver Star Medal for combat action in Korea on June 16, 1952. That Silver Star was upgraded to the Medal of Honor upon a recent review of the action.

Military Service Branch: U.S. Army

Medal of Honor Action Date: June 16, 1952

Medal of Honor Action Place: Hill 528, Tang-Wan-Ni, Korea

Citation:

Corporal Fred B. McGee distinguished himself by gallantry in action near Tang-Wan-Ni, Korea, on June 16, 1952, in an assault on enemy fortified positions. As gunner on a light machine gun in a weapons squad, Corporal McGee delivered a heavy volume of supporting fire from an exposed position despite intense enemy machine-gun and mortar fire directly on his location. Though forced to move his gun several times, he continued to support the assault and give covering fire to the assault elements of his platoon. When his squad leader was wounded, together with several other members of his squad, he assumed command and moved the squad even farther forward to a more exposed position in order to deliver neutralizing fire on an enemy machine gun sweeping the other assault platoon with deadly flanking fire. When his machine gunner was mortally wounded, he again took over the gun. On order, he directed his squad to withdraw and voluntarily remained behind to help evacuate the wounded and dead. Though wounded in the face, he heroically exposed himself by standing straight up in intense enemy machine-gun and mortar fire while attempting to evacuate the body of the company runner. Forced to abandon the body, he aided a wounded man to be moved to the rear and safely through a huge volume of enemy mortar and artillery fire. The gallantry displayed by Corporal McGee reflects great credit upon himself and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.



Corporal McGee and his actions on "Hill 528" were immortalized in New Heroic Comics issue #81 released in March 1953.





Ohio SAR Annual Meeting 2025

Hilton Garden Inn – Dayton South / Austin Landing.
12000 Innovation Drive, Miamisburg, OH 45342.

May 2nd - Friday evening is a relaxing social event. Enjoy a casual reception and cash bar beginning at 6:00pm with dinner served at 7:00pm. Then enjoy “Joseph” a local favorite folk singer and storyteller.

May 3rd – Saturday begins with the Board of Management and General Membership meeting at 9:30am. The Ladies Auxiliary will hold their meeting at the same time. Then everyone can enjoy the Youth Awards luncheon. This is followed by programs by Aviation Trail, and by Scott Gilner, colonist musician. A hospitality room is available during the afternoon. The evening begins with a formal reception with a cash bar, followed by a plated dinner and awards presentation.

May 4th – Sunday morning is our Compatriot’s memorial service followed by the installation ceremony of our newly elected Ohio SAR officers. See the attached schedule.

MEALS

Friday dinner is your choice of **Tuscan Chicken** with garden salad, garlic mashed potatoes, fire grilled vegetables, and assorted pies or **Baked Boston Cod** with garden salad, cheesy au-gratin potatoes, Normandy blend vegetables, and assorted pies.

Saturday luncheon is the **Austin Deli** which includes assorted meats, cheeses, deli breads, relish tray, Austin signature salad, pasta salad, potato chips, and assorted cookies.

Saturday dinner is your choice of marinated **Pork Tenderloin** with garden salad, garlic smashed potatoes, asparagus, and assorted cheesecakes or **Atlantic Salmon** with garden salad, garden blend rice pilaf, California blend vegetables, and assorted cheesecakes.

HOTEL

Hilton Garden Inn – Dayton South / Austin Landing. 12000 Innovation Drive, Miamisburg, OH 45342. Please call 937-247-5850 and make your own reservations. Ask for the Sons of the American Revolution block. Call before April 4th. However, make payment to OHSSAR (to save taxes). See the Reservation Form.

EXTRA

All chapters are invited to bring their **chapter flag** or banner (with pole and stand). Also invited to bring a **door prize** for the Ladies Auxiliary opportunity raffle.



Ohio SAR Annual Meeting 2025 Schedule

All events are at the Hilton Garden Inn – 12000 Innovation Dr, Miamisburg, OH

Friday, May 2nd			
5:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Registration	Hall outside salons	Business casual
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Reception / Cash Bar	Hall and Salons C + D	
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Dinner	Salons C + D	
8:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Entertainment		

Saturday, May 3rd			
8:30 am – 9:30 am	Registration	Hall outside salons	Business or Uniform
9:30 am – 11:30 am	Board of Management and General Membership meeting	Salon B	
9:30 am – 11:30 am	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	Salon A	
12 noon – 2:00 pm	Youth Awards Luncheon	Salons C + D	
2:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Hospitality	Salon A	
2:30 pm – 3:15 pm	Program: America-250 Aviation Trail	Salon B	
3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	Program: Colonial Music	Salon B	Formal, Uniform, or best available
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Reception / Cash Bar	Hall and Salons C + D	
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Dinner	Salons C + D	
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Awards Presentation		

Sunday, May 4th			
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Memorial Service	Salon B	Business or Uniform
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Installation of New OHSSAR Officers		



Ohio SAR Annual Meeting 2025 Registration

Person #1		
Name:		
Meal	Choose one	Write price
Friday Dinner	Tuscan chicken @ \$34	
	Boston cod @ \$39	
Saturday Luncheon	Austin Deli @ \$29	
Saturday Dinner	Pork tenderloin @ \$34	
	Atlantic salmon @ \$42	

Person #2		
Name:		
Meal	Choose one	Write price
Friday Dinner	Tuscan chicken @ \$34	
	Boston cod @ \$39	
Saturday Luncheon	Austin Deli @ \$29	
Saturday Dinner	Pork tenderloin @ \$34	
	Atlantic salmon @ \$42	

Hotel Reservation		
Please call the Hilton at 937-247-5850 and make your own reservations before April 4 th . Ask for the Sons of the American Revolution block. Make payment here.		
Night	Rate	Write price
Friday night	@ \$191	
Saturday night	@ \$191	

Total to submit: _____

Chapter or Society: _____

Contact email or phone: _____

Deadline to register is April 23rd

Make checks payable to OHSSAR and send to:

Michael Blum
2999 Acer Ct
Hamilton, OH 45013



LADIES AUXILIARY UPDATE

Historical



Educational



Patriotic



Greetings Compatriots and Ladies,

In a heartbeat it will be May 2nd, and the Annual Meeting weekend will begin. Steve's year as President will be ending and I can't believe how fast his year went by! We enjoyed every minute. I can't thank all of you enough for how welcoming and kind you were to us as we attended your meetings and events.

But our year isn't officially over just yet! There is fun to be had at the Annual Meeting and I hope that many of you will attend! The Ladies Auxiliary will have our business meeting on Saturday morning. All ladies, whether members or not, are welcome to attend. During our meeting, we will have a speaker from the Carillon Historical Park. He will share about the life of Katherine Wright Haskell, Wilbur and Orville Wright's sister. The Wright family was from Dayton and Katherine led an amazing life alongside her brothers. After the Youth Luncheon, the Ladies will host a Hospitality Room. All Ladies and Compatriots are welcome to stop by to relax and visit. We will have our Opportunity Raffle in this room as well. Please come in and check it out as there will be items of interest to men as well as ladies!

I would like to thank everyone who purchased Quilt Raffle tickets throughout the year! We appreciate your generous support so that we may in turn help reward the first-place winners of the OHSSAR Youth Contests. Raffle tickets will be available to purchase until the Awards Banquet begins Saturday evening. The drawing will be held during the Banquet. Best of luck to all!

A reminder to all Ladies Auxiliary Members, May is the time to renew your membership and pay your dues which are \$5.00. Save yourself a stamp and pay while at the Annual Meeting (your Compatriot can also pay for you)! Applications for membership will also be available for any ladies wishing to join!

It has been an honor to serve as First Lady for the past year! Thank you all for making it a wonderful year!

Patty Kaplan



WWII veteran Frank Wetenkamp is presented with a "Quilt of Valor" at the Winter Meeting.



Ladies Congress 2028 pin



DATES TO REMEMBER

Ways to Stay Informed

National Society
www.SAR.org

Central District
www.cd.sar.org

Ohio Society
www.ohssar.org

Look to the EVENTS page on the OHSSAR website for more details

March 29, 2025	Patriot Grave Marking hosted by Benjamin Franklin Chapter. Berkshire Cemetery 8750 S 37 Sunbury, OH. Muster at 11am
April 5, 2025	SW District Social (pizza party) Marion's Piazza, 8991 Kingsridge Dr in Dayton. Noon – 2pm.
April 12, 2025	Elizabeth Sherman Reese Chapter DAR 125 th Anniversary Luncheon. 343 E. Walnut St Lancaster, OH Muster at 12:15pm.
April 18, 2025	250 th Anniversary Celebration of Paul Revere's Ride. Richard Montgomery Chapter. 1865 S. County Road 25A in Troy. Muster 1pm
April 18, 2025	Two Lights for Tomorrow at Statehouse in Columbus. Color guard -muster at 7:00pm.
April 19, 2025	250 th Anniversary of Lexington and Concord. Marietta Chapter. Muster at 10am. Mound Cemetery-514 Cutler St in Marietta.
April 19, 2025	250 th Anniversary of Lexington and Concord. Cincinnati Chapter. Muster at 1:15pm. RSVP to Mike Gunn - mgunn@fuse.net .
May 2-4, 2025	Ohio Society Spring Meeting and 126 th Annual Conference at Austin Landing (Dayton, Ohio). Registration required. See attached.
May 19, 2025	Lafayette Tour in Cincinnati. Landing at 11am – open and free Celebration Dinner and Ball 6pm - registration required.
May 23, 2025	Marietta Chapter's annual Memorial Service for the Revolutionary War Patriots of the Northwest Territory. Lafayette Tour in Marietta.
June 17, 2025	Statue unveiling in Lebanon, Ohio of Maj Gen Joseph Warren.
July 13-17, 2025	NSSAR Congress in Uncasville, Connecticut
July 26, 2025	Fort Laurens

Important: Every Compatriot working with youth should take the new and updated "Youth Protection Training" on SAR.org, under the SAR University tab and send their certificates to the state. Certificates are good for 3 years.

Help promote the SAR

Remember to regularly check the Ohio SAR and your chapter's Facebook posts. Like, share, and follow to help us get maximum exposure.