

Western Reserve Circular

*The Western Reserve Society
Ohio Society of the
Sons of the American Revolution*



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Cleveland, Ohio

Winter 2022



WRSSAR Returns to In-Person Events for 2022: Join Us!

We are back! Beginning with our annual February celebration in honor of George Washington's Birthday, we return to in-person events. We have missed you!

Throughout 2022, we will offer a series of different activities and events. In our efforts to attract our younger members and our members with young families, we are shifting to more activity-based events while still holding a few of our traditional speaker programs. Our goal is to increase turnout and involvement in our programs and outreach.

This year, we have the following events planned or on the planning table:

Night Out with the CLE Guardians: August 19th
Wine Tasting @ A Member's Art Gallery (spring)
A Speaker on Ft Laurens—the only Revolutionary War era site in Ohio (early summer)
Our Annual Veterans Day Luncheon Gala (November)
Our Annual Holiday Party (December)
High School Speech Contest / Youth Events (April)

We would also like to hold a few casual meet-up, informal, events just so that members can get to know each other: Ideas include:

Friday Happy Hours
A Golf, Pistol & Clay Shooting Events (summer)
Family Day at the CLE Metroparks Zoo

Our Board of Trustees is interested in providing both programs of interest to our members and outings and social events. We welcome suggestions (wrssar.org, contact us)

WESTERN RESERVE CIRCULAR

The Western Reserve Circular is the official publication of the Western Reserve Society, Sons of the American Revolution, established in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1892.

The editor is J. Atlee Horner, III.

Pictures by Zackary Hoon

To submit an article for publication, please email
jatleehorneriii@gmail.com

The Board & Officers of the Western Reserve Society SAR:

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Trustee:	Ted Minier
Trustee:	Thomas Stickney
Trustee:	Greg Arnold
Trustee:	Robert Shemory
Trustee:	(about to be filled)

COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS

Due to the rising costs of printing and postage, we are striving to communicate as much as possible with our members through our website!

Our website will be undergoing a complete “redo” to make it more user-friendly. The NEW AND IMPROVED website should be live by the summer of 2022. On our new website, you will be able to:

- a) SEE a calendar of all events with descriptions
- b) REGISTER & PAY for all events on our site—
receiving an email confirmation within seconds
- c) FIND a description of all of our community and youth outreach programs: Color Guard, Youth Contests & Scholarships, Flag Awards, Veterans Committee, Etc.
- d) PAY and RENEW all dues
- e) WATCH YouTube videos of our speakers and programs
- f) READ archived copies of all newsletters
- g) DOWNLOAD a pdf copy of our Membership Roster
- h) Find a list of WRSSAR member owned or operated businesses;

We will continue to mail paper event postcards for those members within 60 minutes drive of Cleveland. But, we hope that you will become comfortable visting our website for all of your needs. Please provide us with your email address and know that we keep our emails to a minimum: **WEBSITE: www.wrssar.org**



Stay in touch with the WRSSAR: Visit our Facebook page for photos, news and updates: www.facebook.com/wrssar

Or, visit our website at www.wrssar.org

A Message From Your President



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT “State of the Society”

Dear Compatriots,

Another (pandemic) year has passed but with life returning to normal for most. Vaccinations, boosters, antibodies, and even therapeutics are becoming part of our daily lives. However, business, at least convention business, and certainly international travel continues to be impacted.

A long-planned trip in June for the wife and me to England, France, and Northern Spain is on the ropes.

Closer to home though the Western Reserve Society, the Nation's oldest and largest SAR chapter, continues to thrive. Shrewd investment choices have left us in excellent financial shape. That, and a key fund-raising initiative by Immediate Past President Thomas Stickney, has allowed the Society to subsidize the costs of its events at topnotch NE Ohio club locations.

Indeed, we had three such events during the second half of 2021 alone in what one wag on our Board termed our “country club tour.” September 14th saw the Society at a Fellowship Dinner at the venerable Union Club where we inducted eight (yes, 8!) new members. (pent-up demand comes to WRSSAR as well it would seem). November 6th was the date of our annual Veterans Day luncheon in conjunction with the DAR; this at the Shaker Heights Country Club where our speaker, Col. Edward Horvath M.D., gave a stirring presentation on his medical command experience in Iraq. On December 10th, we all enjoyed a Holiday reception and dinner at the always warm and inviting Cleveland Yacht Club thanks to our host, Compatriot Stickney. We inducted three more new members in these two meetings as well.

Planning is already in place for similar events in 2022, starting with our annual George Washington luncheon at the Shaker Heights Country Club February 19th (members should have received their invitation by the time they read this). Further details on our 2022 programs can be found elsewhere in this bulletin and on our website (www.wrssar.org). We hope to see you at one or more of these 2022 events as your schedule and pandemic comfort level allow.

At the State level, OHSSAR's annual convention is coming to The Geneva Lodge April 29th and 30th. Attending either a lunch or dinner (open to all SAR members) is quite the pomp and circumstance experience. At the national level, NSSAR is already making plans for the 250th anniversary of the founding of our country.

We appreciate all our members and, again, look forward to seeing many of you at a 2022 event!

Libertas et Patria, William L. S. Ross, President WRSSAR

You can always contact me through our website email address: wrssar.communications@gmail.com

Fall 2021 Events In Pictures



Color Guard Posting Colors at the Annual Veterans Day Luncheon at the Shaker Hgts Country Club



Our two most solemn and celebrated programs will continue to be our Veterans Day and George Washington's Birthday luncheons.



Ted Minier (rt) presents OHSSAR President & Registrar Troy Bailey with a Distinguished Service Medal from all of us at the WRSSAR. Troy often participates in WRSSAR Color Guard events.



Featured Speaker Col. Edward Horvath M.D. receives a round of applause for both his service and his outstanding presentation on medicine in the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.



The WRSSAR remains America's oldest and largest local chapter. Treasurer Horner inducts two new members: Rick Wible & Ernie Bradley



Former President Bill Shanklin (left) awards former President Dr Duncan McVean our highest honor: The Archibald Willard Service Award.

2021 & 2022 Events In Pictures



2nd VP (middle) inducts new member Matthew Smith: Holiday Party at the Cleveland Yacht Club



Registrar Rich Rezie is awarded the Roger Sherman Award. Rich has dedicated hundreds of hours to



Come to our Holiday Party: We return to the Cle Yacht Club in 2022. It will put a smile on your face just like super volunteer: Ted Minier.



Can you identify the WHITE UNIFORM from the Revolutionary War? What state? Registrar Rezie is wearing an identical war uniform to the one that his ancestor wore. The answer is on the next page.

Remember to notify us at any time concerning:

A change in address or phone number

A change in email address

Please notify us if would like a paper membership roster.

Also, with over 300 Life Members and 150 annual members, please notify us in the event of a loved one's passing. We can always be reached through our website (www.wrssar.org) on the Contact Us button.

George Washington's Birthday Luncheon 2022



Greg Arnold and over 60 members and guests attend the annual George Washington's Birthday Luncheon at the Shaker Hgts Country Club.



2nd VP Keith West (right) inducts new member Michael Quintus. If you have never been formally inducted, please contact us.



Our Washington's Birthday luncheon is a Cleveland tradition since 1896. President Ross with a Proclamation from the Mayor's Office.



Our speaker drove in from Ft Necessity. The focus of his talk was a young George Washington.



Our incredibly dedicated Color Guard: MacBride, Thomas, Swab Arnold and Hoon (right)

Our Color Guard Needs You!

If you have even 1 afternoon available each year, you can be a member of our amazing Color Guard.

We are not asking for a major commitment of time. Our Color Guard is asked to carry the Nation's Colors at civic, historical, and veterans events across northeast Ohio.

If you do not have a uniform, we might have one that fits you. Volunteer as much or as little as you are able. Contact us at wrssar.communications@gmail.com

A Motion in Support of Ukraine

Please note: it is with great pride that the Western Reserve Society SAR provides a welcoming community for our members. We are committed to providing a supportive and 100% non-partisan environment for our members. We know from surveys and interviews that our society, with over 450 members, dating back to 1892, is home to members from all political backgrounds and ethnic communities. In this time of great division in America, the Board is fully committed to ensuring that our society remains a welcoming one for all of our members and their families.

While we remain out of politics, this February, one of our officers whose family came from Ukraine requested that the Board consider a statement in support of Ukraine. Please find his thoughts presented below. The Executive Committee approved a statement of support and it was forwarded to the Ohio Society SAR to see if a similar statement could be made at the state level.



History that we may not know:

At the corner of 22nd and P streets in Northwest Washington stands the figure of Taras Shevchenko, a monument to the man, his writing, his profound commentaries on human dignity, pleas of help for the plight of the downtrodden and his aspirations for his country, struggling under tsarist repression. Engraved in the granite is his hope for Ukraine: "When shall we get our Washington, to promulgate his new and righteous law?" President George Washington is well known and respected in Ukraine and Shevchenko's hope was that Ukraine would someday "get our Washington, to promulgate his new and righteous law." Perhaps today is that day.

Answer to the "Uniform Question"

Registrar Rezie was wearing the official uniform of the 1st Rhode Island Regiment. "The 1st Rhode Island Regiment eventually totaled around 225 men including 140 who were African Americans, by far the largest percentage of blacks in an integrated military unit during the American Revolution. Although the 1st Rhode Island Regiment initially placed its African American soldiers in separate companies within the regiment, this process eventually gave way once more African Americans were no longer recruited. Slowly the entire regiment became fully integrated...



In 1781, Colonel Greene and many of his black soldiers were killed in a skirmish with American loyalists; Greene's body was reported mutilated likely as punishment for having led black soldiers. As troop strength in General Washington's Continental Army diminished, the 1st and 2nd Rhode Island Regiments were joined to form The Rhode Island Regiment which participated at the Battle of Yorktown, Virginia in 1781, the engagement which led to the British surrender and the end of the war. "Quote from <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/first-rhode-island-regiment/>

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Sons of the American Revolution
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We Are Back! In-Person Meetings

See our website for more info

www.wrssar.org

We are looking to design both programs and events that are of interest to our current membership. Whether it is related to US history, veterans, or other mission related issues, let us know!

One of our most sincere duties is to perform a solemn Grave Marking ceremony. The WRSSAR can organize a Color Guard lead memorial for your Patriot Ancestor. Please contact Graves Chairman J. Horner at any time with information or questions:

Wrssar.communications@gmail.com or 216-357-1646.