



WRSSAR Returns to In-Person Programs!

With great enthusiasm, the Board of the WRSSAR and President Will Ross announce that the WRSSAR will return to live in-person programs beginning in September. In order to protect the health of our members and their families, our events have been on hold for more than a year. We would like to welcome everyone back with a wonderful evening of socializing and good conversation at the Union Club of Cleveland.

On Tuesday, September 14th, starting at 545pm, please join us for a brief chapter meeting and then an evening of food and socializing. Our dinner will take place at the Union Club of Cleveland and includes valet parking. We will be serving Roasted Chicken Breast, Herb Roasted Potatoes, Asparagus, with salad and a great Apple Tarte Tartin with vanilla ice cream for dessert. There will be a cash bar and plenty of time to just relax and catch up with each other after our 16 month hiatus.

We encourage all members to visit our webpage at www.wrssar.org and check out our Events tab where you can always find the latest updates for our programs. From the Events page, you can make a reservation and even pre-pay the event via credit card. In order to reduce the long lines that have often formed for our events, we are moving to online payments via credit card at any point prior to the event or cash/check payments at the door. We are no longer going to use the swipe credit card system due to the delays but you should feel just as welcome to pay for any events with a credit card via our website.

In addition to our dinner and evening of socializing on September 14th, we are looking forward to a wonderful Veterans Day Celebration at the Shaker Heights Country Club on Saturday November, 6th, and our Annual Meeting and Holiday Party at the Cleveland Yacht Club on Friday, December 10th. You will postcard flyers about each of these events approximately 4 weeks before each event. Please consider bringing spouses, friends, children or prospective members to all of our events. We look forward to seeing you at one of our events this fall. All are welcome!



Open Positions in 2022

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 John & Betty Franklin.

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

The Board & Officers of the Western Reserve Society SAR:

President	William Ross
1st VP	Zackary Hoon
2nd VP	Keith West
Secretary	J. Atlee Horner III
Treasurer	J. Atlee Horner III
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Statutory Agent:	Richard Rezie
Trustee:	David Benson
Trustee:	Michael Kertes
Trustee:	David Foster
Trustee:	Jon Kittredge
Trustee:	Fred Watkins
Trustee:	Ken Clarke
Trustee:	Ted Minier
Trustee:	Thomas Stickney
Trustee:	Open

The WRSSAR is America's largest and oldest local chapter of the NSSAR. We achieved this honor by the leadership of many men who lead our organization in the 1980s and 1990s who shared their belief that every member of the SAR was also a member of the membership committee.

By their incredible passion, energy and occasional arm-twisting, our membership grew to (on average) over 450 members with around 300 of those members having joined our Life Membership program.

But, that generation has made its contribution and we are in serious need of the next generation of volunteers to come forward to lead our society. We are a fully volunteer organization and so without our member-leaders, our programs are always at-risk.

New officers are elected each December and we will be in need of new leaders with new ideas and new passions. These positions will be vacant in 2022 and so we are looking for volunteers to contact us now so that we can prepare for next year:

Secretary of the WRSSAR

Historian of the WRSSAR

Newsletter Editor

Writers for our Newsletter

Writers for our Facebook Page

Photographers for our Events

3-4 open Trustee Positions

Color Guard Members



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

Dear WRSSAR Compatriots:

I pen this correspondence as my second of the year, following an earlier February letter posted on our official WRSSAR Facebook page. Times have certainly changed since winter; gatherings (at least for the vaccinated) again are allowed, both of a public and private nature. But while some freedoms have been restored, an underlying narrative, as pushed by a vocal minority, continues to attack and attempts to cancel the achievements, and the very memory, of our Patriot Forefathers.

Indeed, a Western Reserve Society member, recently returned from Louisville, reported that the famed



Minuteman statue outside of National SAR Headquarters is covered-up by a large tarp. We do not know why the statue was covered. But, for those who haven't been to NSSAR Headquarters in Louisville, the Minuteman statue was donated to NSSAR in 2009 by the Philadelphia chapter at a cost of around \$50,000. The Bronze statue was unveiled in 2015. The Minuteman itself is over 800 lbs and stands 8 feet tall. He stands upon a base weighing over 19,000 pounds.

Locally, our Society is sponsoring several in-person member events in the second half of this year. The "fellowship" dinner at the venerable Union Club on September 14th is intended to be just that – a minimum of speechmaking (ok, perhaps a couple of announcements), and a maximum of feeling the freedom of association again with fellow members and guests and doing so over a pleasant dinner. I look forward to it very much.

The "big" event of the year will be our Veteran's Day Lunch scheduled for Saturday, November 5th at the Shaker Heights Country Club involving not only the WRSSAR, but also the DAR and other Northeast Ohio patriotic, historical, and military groups. A friend and former neighbor of mine, Dr. Edward Horvath, former chief medical officer for U.S. Forces, Iraq, will be the keynote presenter ("Good Medicine in Bad Places"). There will be a Color Guard, Veterans' recognition (including Missing-Man table), and other pomp and circumstance appropriate to the occasion.

We will conclude the year with a Holiday Party / Annual Meeting at the Cleveland Yacht Club the early evening, Friday, December 10th, as graciously arranged for by WRSSAR Immediate-Past President Thomas Stickney. The Yacht Club has a most warm and inviting atmosphere year-round, but particularly so over the Holidays.

We hope that each and every one of you will join us at least for one of our three country club events. Indeed, one wag on our Board wondered whether we were arranging something of a "country club tour" for members in order to entice attendance!

I look forward to seeing everyone soon; Libertas et Patria.

Your President, William L.S. Ross

(The views on this page, as always, are those expressed by our current President)

The WRSSAR is a non-partisan, non-political organization welcoming all members of all political viewpoints.

2021—The Color Guard Volunteers During the Pandemic



1st VP Zackary Hoon and WRSSAR President Will Ross present a wreath from the WRSSAR at the Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at The Garfield Memorial at Lake View Cemetery



Color Guard Commander Lee MacBride leads our wonderful Color Guard volunteers as we honor those who sacrificed for our country at the Memorial Day Ceremony at Lake View Cemetery.



The WRSSAR Color Guard under our primary Commander, John Franklin's Leadership, volunteer to carry the Country's colors at more than a dozen local events each year.

It has been a proud tradition for the WRSSAR to offer volunteer Color Guard service to civic, community and non-profit organizations for decades.

We need NEW members to keep this proud tradition going. Uniforms can be supplied. Contact us if you are willing to help.

2021—WRSSAR Color Guard Always Giving Their Time



The WRSSAR Color Guard leads the procession at Lake View Cemetery this past Memorial Day.

President Ross represents the entire membership of the WRSSAR as he presents a wreath and honors all those who have sacrificed for the USA over the years.

In spite of Covid, President Ross has made every effort to keep the WRSSAR engaged in our service programs.

*** APPEAL TO ALL MEMBERS ***

The Color Guard Needs New Members

No Experience Needed

We Can Usually Provide a Uniform If You Don't Have One
Volunteering for Just One Event Each Year Would Be A Great Help

No Long Term Commitment Required

Our Color Guard Now Is At Risk Due to Lack Of New Volunteers

Call 216-357-1646 or Email wrssar.communications@gmail.com

A Call To ALL OF OUR WRSSAR Members Regardless of Age

Retired Members—Your generation and the preceding two generations built our current programs. But, we no longer have volunteers to carry out most programs listed below. In our hey-day, members dressed in Revolutionary Uniforms and presented elementary school students with certificates and awards for their posters honoring the great leaders and events of the Revolution. We attended Naturalization Ceremonies and awarded flag certificates to neighbors. Now, there are only two volunteers to contact and build enthusiasm for all of our youth programs at the elementary, middle and high school levels. We need you more than ever before.

Members with children— Bring your spouses and children to our events. We have begun to shift our programming away from events during the work-week in order to help families to attend our events. Beyond traditional speakers, we offer shooting events, golf outings, attendance at Indians games, and we would love to expand that to visits to the zoo, Blossom, and even Beer-fests and other special events. **The reality is that if the older generations do not involve the younger generations in our Society, the children never learn the value of our organization and we lose them.**

Younger members—Meaning no disrespect to all the generations who came before you, did you realize that all of our programs were invented BEFORE THE INTERNET and many of them were created before Color TV! While we strive to continue our traditional programs, IT IS YOUR GENERATION that will determine what we do for the next 25-50 years.

The WRSSAR can create new programs that speak to YOUR INTERESTS. What future can you imagine for the WRSSAR? We must speak to the next generation to remain relevant! The WRSSAR was founded over 125 years ago but where we go tomorrow depends upon you!

Operations Supervisory Committee

Audit Committee
Awards Committee
Consolidated Funds Committee
Finance Committee
Nominating Committee
Regulations Committee
Strategic Planning (when needed)

Member Services Supervisory Committee

Genealogy
New Membership Committee
Graves Committee

Community Outreach Supervisory Committee

Color Guard Committee
Education Committee
American Flag Award Committee
Historic Sites committee
New Citizens Committee
Veterans Affairs Committee
ROTC committee

Program Supervisory Committee

Archibald Willard Committee
Historic Celebrations Committee
Hospitality Committee
Program Committee
Special Events committee

Communications Supervisory Committee

Circular / Newsletter committee
Facebook
Public Relations
Webpage - IT committee

Student Outreach Supervisory Committee

Americanism Committee
Brochure Contest
CAR committee
Gates Mills Essay Contest
Good Citizenship Award/committee
High School Essay Contest
High School Oration Contest
Poster Contest
Scouting Committee

What We Have Done Well & Want To Continue To Do



The WRSSAR Oration Contest has been extremely successful over the years. Pictured here, the 2015 local winner, Stephanie Zupanc, not only won the OHSSAR contest but earned 1st place nationally. **Since 2010, we have won the National Contest twice and earned 2nd place once.**



For decades, volunteers from the WRSSAR have participated in regular New Citizenship Ceremonies. It has been a point of pride that the WRSSAR has been given the opportunity to speak at a Naturalization Ceremony. Here, you can see our participation in a ceremony at Garfield's Home.



For over 125 years, the WRSSAR has been a social organization where members of all political affiliations, religions, and backgrounds can come together to celebrate our ancestors and to work towards the realization of the ideals that the Founding Fathers set in motion centuries ago. Pictured here, the annual Night Out with the Cleveland Indians! Attendance has grown from 8 members to 32 members.



We need the next generation of SAR members to become involved. Make this YOUR organization. Bring your ideas, your interests and most importantly your heart to our family of members. Pictured here, George Qua presents Hank Heckman with the **highest civilian honor the US Army can bestow: The Commander's Award for Public Service.** Both men are now deceased.

YOU are the SAR. Bring your interests and passions to our community!

Western Reserve Society
Sons of the American Revolution
J. Atlee Horner III, Treasurer
17511 Daleview Drive
Lakewood, OH 44107

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We Are Back! In-Person Meetings Return This September!

Join us for a purely social opportunity to gather as a Society and reconnect with our fellow members:
September 14th @ 545pm @ the Union Club of Cleveland. See our website for more details.

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.