
Since the April Annual Meeting, I have been performing the role of Immediate Past President as well as serving on National Committees and as my chapter’s President.

Immediate Past President
My activities as Immediate Past President have focused on three areas: (1) serving as chairman of the Council of Past Presidents; (2) serving as heads of the Nominating Committee; and (3) serving as the National Trustee.

Council of Past Presidents
As the newest of the Past Presidents, I serve as the chair for the Council of Past Presidents, who advise and counsel the current officers. While no meeting has been called, I have proposed and had the current State President agree that a project I had in mind (creating a set of documents to help state officers, state chairmen, and chapters) is a good one. The progress is as follows:

- **Volume 1: Officers.** I have been expanding on materials I previously wrote for the positions of the vice presidents and state president, to include all the officer positions called out in our Bylaws. I have requested and received some feedback from current officers, which is being added to the volume.
- **Volume 2: Committees.** This volume will cover what each state committee chair needs to know to be successful, as well as what a member of each committee would expect to do. I had previously received some materials for some projects. This is being expanded as well, although I expect there to be some sections that are reserved for later updates.
- **Volume 3: Chapters.** The idea of the volume is to provide detailed information on chapter best practices and what a chapter needs to know to implement projects successfully. This one still needs a lot of work.

My intention is to submit these volumes in their draft forms to the Council for review, since many have held officer and chairman positions at the state level, as well as experience at the chapter level. Volume 3 will also be submitted to the chapter presidents for their review and input. The volumes should be submitted for review by the time that the Semi-Annual Meeting is held. My intent is that following comments and updates, to have a first version ready for approval by the Board of Managers at the January meeting.
Nominating Committee
I serve this year as head of the Nominating Committee. I’ve already put out a call for anyone interested in serving as Third Vice President or on the Board of Managers Class of 2017-2020. I have also requested anyone interested in serving as Assistant Treasurer, with the expectation of eventually becoming Treasurer. Per the Bylaws, the Nominating Committee consists of all the Past Presidents, and two other Compatriots named by me. The two Compatriots are Gene Moyer (SGT Lawrence Everhart Chapter) and James Schaub (Charles Carroll of Carrolton Chapter). I will also announce these names at the Semi-Annual Meeting.

National Trustee
I was sworn in as Maryland’s National Trustee on the last day of the National Congress in Boston. There was business transacted earlier in the week, at which point Compatriot Doug Favorite was serving as the National Trustee. My first full service in this role was at the Fall Leadership Meeting in Louisville. At the National Congress, the actions requiring the new trustee’s approval all related to administrative changes in names on accounts to reflect the election of the new General Officers. At the Fall Meeting, the following issues were covered:

- A number of chapters and state societies met the PG;’s challenge of contributing $1,000 to the National Youth Awards.
- Trustee Minutes from Congress are on the National SAR Sharefile site.
- General Officers, VPGs, and Committee Chairs for the most part referred to their reports being in the printed materials of the Fall Leadership packets.
- The Chancellor General submitted a coexistence agreement between the National Society Sons of the American Revolution and the General Society Sons of the Revolution. The purpose of the agreement was to define the use of trademarks by both organizations. The agreement was approved by the Trustees.
- Trustees voted down a move to implement the Member Module on the website as soon as possible. Trustees felt further work was needed.
- The Kings College London (KCL) Project requested and had approved a move to pay the annual amount of this project for one time only this October as a £25,000 contribution. Usually this would be a $38,000 contribution in the Spring. By taking advantage of the BREXIT and the resulting slip in the foreign currency rate, SAR saves itself $6,000.
- Budget was approved by the Trustees.
- A presentation to authorize $7,000 to complete a design for the front of the Headquarters building (where the outreach center will be) was voted down, as it was first heard of that morning by the Project manager, PG White.
- An update on the state of Headquarters and the website was reported. Part of this was the request for state coordinators; Maryland was mentioned by name as having provided theirs, but many states still need to comply.
- The trustees were briefed on Education Outreach and the need for Youth Protection. As we are involved in our programs with youth, it has been determined that we need to provide Youth Protection Training. This will be done through the nationally known BSA on-line training.
- The Trustees approved the 2021 National Congress for Washington State. Details will be reported as they develop.
- The hotel for the National Congress next year in Knoxville, Tennessee is already 80% filled. A second hotel will be coming on line. Details of the events expect for the Congress were presented.
- The trustees voted to approve the recommended investment allocation from Fifth Third Bank, our investment broker.
- An ROTC award for the United States Merchant Marine Academy, consisting of a transfer of funds and their monitoring by the Pennsylvania Society was approved by the Trustees.
- On Veterans Recognition and the various corps SAR has established, there is a concern that within the next five years the World War II Corps may be gone.
- A new effort for the digitization of all SAR applications and supporting documentation is currently under consideration, with appropriate wording regarding protection of living family. While FamilySearch.org was originally considered, the effort will be put out as a Request for Proposal to select the right organization to do the scanning.
- Under New Business, Compatriot Sam Powell of the SAR Foundation reported a $500,000 donation of services by SolidLight to complete the design of the Outreach Center, for which he felt the Trustees needed to approve. Apparently this just came up two days earlier and was reviewed by the Executive Committee. While approved by the Trustees, there were two dissenting votes, mine being one of them. I remain concerned about what strings are attached to this donation.

**Other Activities**

My other activities are on the National and Chapter levels. At the National level, I serve on the following Committees, which have made the following progress:

- **250th Anniversary**: I submitted a couple of designs for a presentation certificate for any state or chapter project that celebrates an aspect of the 250th Anniversary of our Independence. The committee liked one of the designs and recommended a modification – use of a foil seal of the winning SAR seal for the 250th Anniversary (presented in a recent copy of *SAR Magazine*).
- **Kings College London Project**: This project, approved by the Trustees at the Spring Leadership Meeting provides for the support of a visiting American Scholar for 8 weeks each year at Kings College London (KCL) in conjunction with the scanning of King George II’s private papers, to which the scholar will have early access. As a member of the Committee, I reviewed the resumes of four scholars, from whom KCL will choose one as the next year’s scholar.
- **Americanism**: I helped to choose the winning Poster at National Congress, and continue to be active in the Americanism Score Sheet. Additions to the Score Sheet are under consideration, with the hopes of having them in place by the start of the calendar year.
- **Patriot Graves Index**: Current efforts include defining a new version of the database to be hosted on the new SAR website.
• **Patriot Biographies:** I have not been able to attend the meetings at Leadership and Congress as they conflict with the 250th Anniversary Committee’s meeting. However, I continue to be in correspondence with the Chairman and am working on getting more biographies online. While at Congress, I received and handed to the State President the additional stars to be affixed to the streamers of the chapters.

• **Community Involvement:** Formerly the PR and Government Relations Committees, I am now on a subcommittee to work up a new press kit to help chapters with their publicity, as well as development of templates that will allow chapters to improve their chances of obtaining proclamations for major events (e.g., Constitution Week, Wreaths Across America, Patriots’ Day).

• **Council of State Presidents:** I remain for this year one of the three members of the Maryland delegation to the Council of State Presidents (CoSP). I also continue to serve as the CoSP Secretary.

At the chapter level, my activities are covered by the Westminster Chapter Report. I continue to serve as well as its Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, and Chair for the Graves Committee and for Americanism, working on the chapter’s Score Sheet.

Respectfully submitted,

James F. Engler, Sr.
Immediate Past President
Maryland Society