

**2007 Atlantic Middle States Conference
August 10-11, 2007 at Annapolis, Maryland**

The 2007 Atlantic Middle States Conference was hosted by the Maryland Society, SAR and held at the Sheraton Annapolis in Annapolis, MD. Sixty two compatriots attended the conference.

Friday

Friday Night's events included a greeting by the state society and a cocktail reception and buffet dinner was held and the Maryland Hospitality room was well attended. King Barnes entertained with music and the PG Bruce Wilcox gave a short presentation on life at the Naval Academy in the early 1950s. A good time was had by all.

Saturday Opening

The compatriots were transported from the hotel to the Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. Senate Building where the meeting was held. The conference was called to order at 8:30am by Vice President General M. Hall Worthington with the invocation by Rev. Christos Christou, Jr., Pledge of Allegiance led by M. Hall Worthington, National Anthem led by Richard Brockway, and the Pledge to the SAR was led by M. Hall Worthington which Paul Hays made a point of order that it is called Pledge of the SAR.

Guest Speaker Papenfuse

VPG Worthington introduced Dr. Edward C. Papenfuse Jr. the Maryland States Archivist who discussed the history of Maryland and the recent purchase by the State of the original draft letter of George Washington's resignation speech in December 1783 at Annapolis. The purchase was from a family which held it for 200 years and wishes to remain anonymous. The cost was \$1 million dollars and now the state is undertaking a fundraiser for \$250,000 to house the valuable document on display at the State House. He entertained questions from Louis Raborg on the copper top that his ancestor Christopher Raborg created. After his talk, VPG Worthington presented Dr. Papenfuse with a SAR Certificate of Appreciation and thanked him for his talk.

Introductions of Past President Generals and Vice President Generals

VPG Worthington then introduced the Past President Generals in attendance including Howard Horne, Roland Downing, Nathan White and President General Bruce Wilcox was given an opportunity to speak. He indicated that Stewart McCarty would arrive that evening. Then the FVPs in attendance were introduced including Peter Dixon, Larry Magerkith, Bob Bowen, John Sinks, Les Foster, King Barnes, Barry McKown, and Darryl Jeffries.

Introductions of General Officers and appointments

Next the General Officers were introduced including Genealogist General Chuck Bragg, Historian General David Sympton, Treasurer General David Appleby, Registrar General Timothy Bennett, and Librarian General Richard Brockway and President General Bruce Wilcox. Executive Director Joe Harris was introduced and discussed the issues he receives at headquarters such as questions about members that turn out to be SR not SAR, the reorganization of staff at headquarters including Aaron Adams in the registrar's office and Senoria Walker in Merchandising. He is hoping to continue to improve the productivity at headquarters.

Exec. Director Harris then introduced Colleen Wilson Director of Education who talked about the Educational Outreach programs underway at National including working with local schools, teacher networking, and other productive means of communicating the SAR goals to the public. She also requested that those who are conducting worthwhile programs should notify her so she can include them in her communications to others. National has also posted the educational CD materials online as a further step to get the information to the public. She then took questions from the audience which included a question from Christos Christou regarding whether the SAR website is being moved up on the search engines priorities so that ours is returned in the top lists when someone searches on this material, from Les Foster regarding the Reginald F. Lewis Foundation museum and their direct links into school curriculum, from Joe Dooley regarding the establishing partnerships with educational associations, especially those that focus on history education and what advertising was being done with these associations, from Louis Raborg on materials being available that were age appropriate, and Tim Bennett regarding magazine distribution to schools.

VPG Worthington then introduced the appointments made for this conference:

Secretary: Christos Christou Jr.,
Time Keeper: Barrett McKown,
Ballot Box Guard: Edward A. Foreman Jr.,
Tellers: Duane Tackitt and Ed Foreman,
Jersey Devil Judge: David Hoover,
Parliamentarian: PG Nathan White

The **previous minutes** of the 2006 conference were presented for approval. A motion was made by Bob Bowen to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as distributed since everyone obtained copies to review in their registration packets. Tim Bennett seconded and VPG Worthington called for a vote which was unanimous to accept them as written.

Resolutions

A recommendation for a **Bylaw change** was introduced by Bob Bowen who had complied with the Bylaw changes condition to notify the attendees more than 45 days in advance of the conference to the VPGs and State Presidents which had been done. Bob recommended the removal of the word "usually" from Article V, Section 1, Subsection b so that the AMS Conference will always be held on the second weekend of August so as not to conflict with other district meetings. Gary Bond seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to make the change.

Gary Bond introduced a motion for a **resolution** for the Mid Atlantic States acknowledging that any and all rules governing the Thomas J. Bond Jr. Membership award are under the guidance and control of the Bond Trust, and that the rules, any changes thereto, and the application form are to be posted on the MAD Website according to the Trust's or Trustee's directions. During the questions, Christos Christou asked if this resolution was in response to the confusion last year as to what the rules were and VPG Hall answered a question in regard to when the rules might take affect and he responded by stating that any rule changes would be announced at an AMS meeting and take affect the following year so changes would be fully announced before they took affect the following year. Hall called for a vote, the motion was seconded and then unanimously passed.

Bob Bowen made a **motion** that the MAD website be expanded to include the full AMS information (i.e. add the NAD data) in order to have one central location for all the material for the AMS. Gary Bond seconded and the motion was approved unanimously

State Reports

Written **State Reports** were presented by each state President:

- DC – President Paul M. Hays discussed the average age of his Society dropping from 66 to 60 years old due to increases in members and his written report of activities in the DC Society included taking on a project to enter the applications of their members from 1890 to present into a database, donations to the CAAH and the publication of a handbook and participation in various award programs including a new Award in the name of Edward M. Gallaudet, first President of the deaf and hearing impaired institution in DC.
- DE – President Davis L. Wright provided a written report of their activities including grave dedications, having the first place winner of the Orations Contest at Williamsburg and the works of their Eagle Scout Winner's work to secure one of the cannons from the Lorraine.
- MD – President Ernest L. Irish in addition to the written report reported that he had appointed Ed Foreman as the Outreach Education Program Chairman in Maryland to work with Colleen Wilson on additional programs in Maryland. His written report included a report on the restoration of two Revolutionary War graves, MDSSAR's becoming the first Society to exceed the 20% contribution mark for the CAAH, War Service Medals given to over 70 members at the George Washington Luncheon, the appointment of Robert Reyes as Chairman of the W3R and the publication of the MD Rochambeau Rev. Route guidebook, and the appointment of Jr. Member Guy Almony as CAR Liaison and the awarding of the Minuteman to James McCafferty.
- PA – President James L. Garthwaite, Jr. provided a written report of their activities including their participation in various programs such as the Orations contest, CAR, Eagle Scout and Americanism committees
- VA – President Joseph W. Dooley provided a written report on their successful hosting of the Annual Congress the largest on record and their participation in memorials, grave markings, and commemorations around the state and their receipt of numerous awards at the Congress.
- NJ – President Frank McGonigle in addition to his written report, flyers were distributed regarding the 2008 AMS Conference at Chauncey Conference Center on August 8-9 in Princeton NJ on Rosedale Rd. His written report included the reprinting of the booklet on battles in NJ, establishment of a Ladies auxiliary, and the establishment of a scholarship.
- NY – President Peter K. Goebel in addition to his written report stated this society has received several national awards for membership increases and has opened a new chapter in his state.

California President Larry Magerkurth was given time to discuss the upcoming 2008 Congress that will be held in Sacramento CA. He said that details are being finalized but tentatively Friday July 4th the Congress will begin at the Hyatt Regency in Sacramento on L Street with a party on the upper air condition floors of the hotel., with a tour of a vineyard and wine tasting in the Valley and a party at the Union Pacific Railroad station. They have negotiated a great rate due to most employees being on vacation that weekend. The Sunday memorial will be at the 2nd largest cathedral in the country – Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. They are working on additional information such as an optional tour of Yosemite or other areas of interest nearby.

Nominations for 2008

Nominations for the next VPG for the Mid Atlantic District was reported by the DCSSAR President Hays as candidate Gareth H. Bond (DC) and for the next VPG for the North Atlantic District was reported by NJ President Frank McGonigle as candidate John Moller (NJ).

Endorsements of Candidates for National Office

For President General, David Appleby was proposed by Larry McKinley and seconded by Gary Bond.

For Secretary General, Edward Butler was proposed by Bob Bowen and seconded by Darryl Jeffries.

For Treasurer General, Tim Bennett was proposed by Barry McKown and seconded by Paul Hays. Also for Treasurer General, Chuck Bragg was proposed by Christos Christou and seconded by Bob Bowen.

For Chancellor General, Jim Say was proposed by Bob Bowen and seconded by Joe Dooley.

For Genealogist General, Joseph Dooley was proposed by Christopher Smithson and seconded by Bob Bowen.

Also for Genealogist General, J. Michael Jones was proposed by Duane Tackitt and seconded by Tim Bennett.

For Registrar General, David Sympson was proposed by Barry McKown and seconded by himself.

For Historian General, Steven Leishman was proposed by Davis Wright and seconded by Hall Worthington.

For Librarian General, Richard Brockway was proposed by Larry McKinley and seconded by Douglas Stuart.

Each office was announced and proposed and then the election of additional candidates from the floor was requested three times individually. Hearing no further candidates, the list of candidates were closed. A ballot vote was held for the two contested offices with the Genealogist General winner being Joseph W. Dooley and the Treasurer General being Charles F. Bragg. Thus the resolution of the Atlantic Middle States Conference endorses the following candidates for National office:

President General: David N. Appleby
Secretary General: Edward F. Butler Sr.
Treasurer General: Charles F. Bragg
Chancellor General: James K. Say
Genealogist General: Joseph W. Dooley
Registrar General: J. David Sympson
Historian General: Stephen A. Leishman
Librarian General: Richard D. Brockway
Surgeon General: No candidate/no endorsement.
Chaplain General: No candidate/no endorsement.

A moment of silence was held for the memory of Dr. David Curfman (DC) who recently passed away. The Benediction was conducted by Rev. Christos Christou, Jr. and adjournment was announced by VPG Worthington at 11:30.

The Ladies took a walking tour of Annapolis during the Business meeting and then joined the Compatriots following the meeting for a tour of the historic State Capitol Building. David Smith, re-enacting Col. Tench Tilghman, gave Washington's Resignation speech in the Capitol on the steps near the dome. Following the address, the attendees went to the Officers and Faculty Club on the United States Naval Academy base for lunch. The Guest speaker was James W. Cheevers, Associate Director and Senior Curator of the U.S. Naval Academy Museum. After the luncheon, the visitors were able to tour the museum, chapel and John Paul Jones crypt. Saturday evening at the Sheraton the Compatriots and guests enjoyed a formal banquet with Guest Speaker Gregory A. Stiverson, Past President and CEO of the Historic Annapolis Foundation. His talk was on the four Maryland Signers and their personal lives and fortunes. The Jersey Devil Award was given to the Virginia Society and the Thomas J. Bond Jr. Membership Award was given to the DC Society.

Respectfully submitted,

Christos Christou, Jr., MDSSAR
Secretary, AMS Conference
Enclosures: 7 state Society reports, bylaw change, and resolution