



Germany Society

National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GERMANY SOCIETY

Published Periodically: Vol 2, No 2

Publisher: Dr. Walter B. Stevenson, Jr.

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GUTEN TAG:

This issue of our Germany Society Newsletter brings you the highlights of what happened at the Annual Congress in Louisville.

ABOUT THE SOCIETY PRESIDENT:

President Dr. Walter B. Stevenson, Jr.

Walter B. Stevenson, Jr. is a lifelong resident of Montgomery, Alabama. Attended public schools and has degrees from Troy University and the University of West Alabama. He is married to a wonderful lady from south-central Texas. They have two children, a daughter and son who are both married and live in Montgomery. Between his children they have five grandsons. Walter's son and all five grandsons are SAR members.

Before retiring, he was employed by the State of Alabama retiring after 36 plus years as Director of the Alabama Office of Water Resources. After which, he formed and was President and CEO of *W. B. Stevenson, Jr. and Associates, LLC*, providing land and water management consulting services to a major regional law firm, a large

southeastern electrical utility and a national timber and land management company.

After retiring he had time to pursue researching his lineage, which now consists of a database of approximately 14,000 individuals and many surprises.

He is the first line sponsor of 88 new SAR members and was awarded the SAR Florence Kendal Medal in 2013. He recently submitted 3 new member applications for residents in Germany, were approved by the 125th National Congress.

In addition to being recently elected as President of the Germany Society, he serves as Chairman of the NSSAR Membership Committee, is a member of NSSAR's Americanism, Genealogy and Medals and Awards committees. He is serving the 5th year as the Alabama Society Genealogist. He is and has served for several years as the Secretary of the General Richard Montgomery Chapter, a chapter of over 200 members. Walter previously served as chapter President, Vice President,

Genealogist and Registrar and Secretary. Prior to being elected President of the Germany Society, he served as Germany Society Registrar and Genealogist for the previous two years. In addition to the Germany Society and Alabama Society, he is also a member of the South Carolina Society.

Walter has been a SAR member since 2008 and has proven nine of his patriot ancestors, who served the cause of liberty from Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolinas and Georgia. He is a George Washington Fellow, Lamplighter level contributor to CAAH and Friend of the SAR Library. In addition to SAR, he is a member of the Jamestowne Society, Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge and the General Society of the War of 1812.



Dr. Walter B. Stevenson, Jr.

DER PRESIDENT SPEAKS:

Greetings,

The Germany Society has continued to build on our past success. We had a very successful 125th National Congress, being awarded several National Society Awards, enrolling a number of new members and selling Germany Society

Member Merchandise (medal sets, blazer patches and our new lapel pin).

The Germany Society meeting during Congress was well attended, with extra chairs having to be brought in to accommodate the overflow attendees (members, new members and guest).

During the meeting the new Germany Society Website - <http://www.germansocietysar.org/> was announced including the new email address - germansocietysar@gmail.com.

The new website contains several additions and is designed for addition growth. A few of the additions include:

- an alphabetical listing on the members of the Royal Deux Ponts Regiment Soldiers;
- Germany Society Member Merchandise including downloadable order form;
- Schedule of upcoming meetings; and
- Germany Society Newsletters.

During the Society meeting a minor technical amendment to the Germany Society Constitution and By-Laws was accomplished, moving the Annual Meeting date to the Society meeting date in conjunction with the National Society Spring Leadership and Trustee Meeting. The modification was needed to comply with The National Society "... HANDBOOK, VOLUME II: ORGANIZATION, State Society Officers, page 26," relating to timely notification of National Society Trustee and Alternate Trustee nominees a least 30 days prior to the National Congress.

A new tri-fold brochure was presented which contains membership information and application on the front and Member Merchandise with order form on the back.

In addition to a number of new dual members, it was also announced three new member applications were approved for members from Germany. There are several prospective

member applications underway for primary membership in Germany.

We continue to provide funding support to the National Society Capital Campaign through the SAR "1776 Society; the SAR Genealogical Research Library with monetary contributions and books; and USO monetary contribution designated to support operations in Germany.

Fraternally,

Walter Stevenson

President

GERMANY SOCIETY NEWS FROM THE 125TH CONGRESS: The Meeting of the Germany society was held during the National Congress and was gaveled to order at by President Dr. Walter Stevenson. An invocation was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge of the SAR. A quorum was declared with 37 members present and signed in. Minutes from the spring (7 March 2015) Meeting held at the Brown Hotel were presented and approved.

A technical issue with the Germany **Society Constitution and By-Laws** and those of the National Society was discovered. It involves the notice of the names of the Trustee and Alternate Trustee to National at least 30 days prior to Congress. Since the Society has held its Annual Meeting at Congress, there was a conflict. To resolve this, it was proposed that the Annual Meeting be changed to the Spring Leadership and Trustee Meeting, and that the word "shall" be replaced with the word "may" in regard to providing a forum for presentation of medals and awards at the Annual Meeting. A motion was made and seconded, and after discussion, was unanimously approved.

Secretary Larry Guzy reported that the current year showed **195** (183 in the spring) total members with 10 members resident in Germany included. Resident Shane Schiermeier and his two sons, Philip and Fabian in Mannheim, Germany have just been approved. There have been 293 total members since inception.

Treasurer Report Larry Guzy reported that the balance as of 13 JUN 15 is \$4,938.37 (\$4,187.03 at the March meeting, and \$3,441.66 one year ago.) This includes \$1,071.39 in net pin sales toward flags, and \$3,866.98 in general funds.

The executive committee determined that a Society credit card would facilitate payment of website expenses as well as other items approved beforehand. A card was obtained from 5th Third Bank with the President and Secretary/Treasurer as the sole cardholders with a \$1,000.00 credit limit. An audit of the checking account was done at this meeting and found to be in order.

JROTC Committee Chairman David Jessel reported that the Society continues to support four (4) high schools in Germany. One was lost, but efforts will be undertaken to re-establish contact, and if other Societies that currently support some units there do not continue that support, the Germany Society will take them over. It is noted that with the current draw down, some bases are closing. VP Jessel has made contact in Darin, Germany with the DAR and will report later on the progress there with possible Chapter formation.

Flags: The Regimental Flag the Society is planning to obtain should be of a quality to be permanently displayed. One will be donated to the National Society and one will be held by the Society. Pin Sales go toward this effort. Andy Johnson will explore an embroidered flag through a DC source and advise at our

next meeting. As stated, we currently have \$1071.39 toward the flags.

Final Items and Adjournment: There was a Society display table at Congress for sales and new members.

Noted that **David Jessel and Chuck Sweeney** both act as DAR Liaison.

Rev. Taylor, David Jessel, and Bruce Buehler will investigate integrating members in Germany into a single unit/advertising there for more resident members.

We adjourned at 4:45PM and beer was raffled.

Recognitions: The following members were recognized:

- **Larry T. Guzy**, Meritorious Service Medal Oak Leaf Cluster
- **Rev. Dr. James Taylor**, Meritorious Service Medal Oak Leaf Cluster
- **Col. Andrew M. Johnson**, Silver Roger Sherman Medal
- **William O. Stone** for all his work for the Society as Vice President, President and National Trustee, Certificate of Distinguished Service
- **CMS W. Doyle, "Sky" King** as Chancellor & Sgt. at Arms, Certificate of Appreciation
- **LCDR David Jessel** as ROTC/JROTC in Germany, Certificate of Appreciation

The next meeting of the Germany Society will be at the **NSSAR Fall Leadership and Trustee Meeting 26 September 2015**, in Louisville, Kentucky.



GERMANY SOCIETY LAPEL PIN

The Germany Society lapel pin is now available for purchase. The pin, pictured here, is 5/8" in size and sells for only \$15 including shipping. Please see order form on last page. There is a limited supply of only 300 pins so buy one or two now. The profits from the sale of the lapel pins will be used to purchase two Regimental Deux Ponts flags. The Regimental flag is the flag the German Regiment carried when they fought against the British and other forces at Yorktown contributing to the surrender of General Cornwallis. There is no known source for the flags; they will need to be handmade. The estimated cost of the flags is \$3,000.00. One of the flags will permanently hang in the SAR Museum and the other will be used by the Society for meetings and other events. It is a beautiful pin and will be something the Society members can wear with pride.

Lapel Pin Order Form On Next Page

LAPEL PIN Order Form

Name

Street or P.O. Box Address

City

_____ _____
State ZIP

(_____) _____
Phone

Email: _____

Germany Society Lapel Pin

_____ (X) \$15.00 = \$ _____ .00

Make check payable to: Germany Society SAR

Mail Completed Form with Check for full amount to –

Germany Society Lapel Pin
Attn: Compatriot Larry Guzy
4531 Paper Mill Road SE
Marietta, GA 30067-4025

Price includes shipping and handling.

OUR GERMAN ANCESTORS



Herr Conrad Heyer

BIOGRAPHY OF PATRIOT CONRAD HEYER, AN HONEST AND WORTHY MAN by Edward P. Rigel, Jr., Robert Forsyth Chapter, GASSAR

Conrad Heyer was born in Waldoboro, ME, on 10 Apr 1749 to Johann Martin and Catherine Heyer. He was the first son born to German immigrants in the new settlement of Waldoboro. He was active in his church where he sang in the choir and served on a committee to select a new pastor.

Heyer enlisted in the Continental Army in 1775 and was present at the Battle of Bunker Hill. He was a member of the advance guard in the crossing of the Delaware River and survived the winter at Valley Forge with General George Washington. After serving three years, Heyer returned to Waldoboro and was granted a pension in 1818. He married Mary Weaver in 1778 and they had nine children: George, Mary Polly, Margaret, Catherine, Cornelius, Elizabeth, Sarah, Charles, and Lucy.

The *Annals of Warren* describe Heyer as a “hard-working, temperate man, and now, at the age of 102 years, is able to read fine print without glasses, although his hearing is somewhat impaired.” (His father died before he was born, and it was believed that such men “who never saw their father” were able to heal sore eyes and other illnesses by a look or a touch. Heyer was thus sought after for that purpose and is rumored to have cured the daughter of a rich Bostonian but refused payment for fear of annulling the cure.)

Conrad Heyer died on 19 Feb 1856 at the age of 106 years, 10 months, and 9 days, and was buried in the church cemetery in

Waldoboro, although he was later reburied in the German Cemetery with full military honors. “Thousands of people came, said to have been the largest number ever assembled in town.” A monument was erected in his memory, with the inscription “This monument is erected by citizens of Waldoboro to perpetuate the memory of an honest and worthy man.”

2016 Annual Dues Cards:

The 2016 Annual Dues Cards will soon be mailed to all members of the Germany Society. The current Society dues remain at \$10.00/year.

The dues collection period will begin 15 September and end 31 December 2015. All Society members will receive the dues card in the mail. Included, with the dues card, will be a self-addressed envelope for return payment to the Society Secretary and Treasurer, Compatriot Larry Guzy.

There are a few members who failed to pay their 2015 dues and will be asked “on their honor” if they have not paid to include the 2015 with the submission of the 2016 dues to remain current and remain a member of the Germany Society.

Our Society Newsletter: President Stevenson commended our Editor, Col. (Ret) Andy Johnson (VA) for his continued work. The newsletter should contain biographies of our German Ancestors. Thus if you have submitted one to National, consider also submitting it to be published in the newsletter. If not yet done, honor your ancestor with a write up about him, then submit to National also. Bios of Officers should also be published and these will be included in future issues.

GERMANY SOCIETY BROCHURE (TRI-FOLD)

USES:

We have been asked by members about developing a brochure for recruiting. The Germany Society Tri-Fold will soon be available at the website for your use. **It has been completely revised and updated to reflect it’s intended and various uses.** Look for it on the [Helpful Links tab of the Germany Society Website](#). Please use this as a tool to talk about the Society when asked by a non-member how to join and become a member.

First and foremost, the tri-fold provides general information about the Germany Society. Second, it can be used as a recruiting tool to bring new members into the Society since a brief application form is part of the tri-fold. Third, it provides information to purchase merchandise that identifies you as a member of the Germany Society. (All available items have been approved by the National Society and are not sold in the National Society Merchandise Store). A brief order form is part of the tri-fold for your use.

To print the tri-fold brochure; print one side, turn the paper over in the printer tray and align “head-to-head”.

Once it is aligned, print the second side of the brochure. The application and the merchandise order form(s) should be back-to-back when printed.

Lastly, fold it in thirds into itself. The section containing the Royal Deux Ponts Flag will be the top page when folded correctly.

Germany Society Website:

<http://www.germansocietysar.org/>

Germany Society Email:

germansocietysar@gmail.com

Weidersehen!!