



# Captain John Smoot Chapter

*Maryland Society*  
*Sons of the American Revolution*  
*Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico & Worcester Counties*

April 21, 2018

## Annual Report of the Captain John Smoot Chapter, MDSSAR for 2017

On January 7, 2017, 2nd Vice President James A. Adkins attended the MDSSAR Board of Officer and Managers meeting at the Maryland Club in Baltimore, MD.

On February 18, 2017, 2nd Vice President James A. Adkins, attended the MDSSAR Annual George Washington Luncheon at the Eagle's Nest (formerly Towson) Golf and Country Club in Phoenix, MD.

Entries for the Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest were received. The winning poster for our chapter, as determined by our Poster Contest Chairman Compatriot Mark Tyler, was fourth grader Parker Smethurst of Wicomico Day School. The Samuel Chase poster was forwarded to the MDSSAR Poster Chairman, C. Louis Raborg, Jr. Parker's poster won second place at the state level.

On April 29, 2017, 2nd Vice President James A. Adkins, Secretary Mike Irish in uniform and BOM Mark Tyler attended the MDSSAR Annual meeting at the Waterfront Hotel in Annapolis. 2nd VP James Adkins was promoted to 1st VP. Mike Irish informed the attendees about a new medical device, the BEMER, which increases blood flow.

The Chapter issued a ROTC AWARD consisting of a Silver medal and certificate to a cadet from Salisbury University.

The Chapter presented JROTC AWARDS consisting of Bronze medals and certificates to cadets from JROTC Units at Pocomoke, Thomas Brobst from Snow Hill; Michael Scott and M. Fowler from Stephen Decatur; Cadet Lt. Col. Nicole Thornton from J.M. Tawes Tech and Wicomico High Schools.

The Chapter presented OUTSTANDING CITIZENSHIP AWARDS to graduating seniors Estabran T. Orozeo from Crisfield; Amy Cottongim from Holly Grove and Ateebullah Mirza from Washington High Schools of Somerset County; James R. Quillen from James M. Bennett, Sean McGee from Mardela Springs; Noah O'Barsky from Parkside, Nathaniel Sansom from Salisbury Christian and Wicomico High Schools of Wicomico County; North and South Dorchester High Schools of Dorchester County; and Brent Ennis from

Pocomoke, Charles Alek from Snow Hill, William E. Sass IV from Stephen Decatur and Thomas D. Mears from Worcester Prep High Schools of Worcester County.

Presenters for the JROTC and Outstanding Citizenship awards were President Ray Jackson, Fred Howard and Mark Tyler.

On June 24, 2017, 1st Vice President James A. Adkins and Secretary Mike Irish in uniform attended the MDSSAR BOM meeting at the Dutch's Daughter Restaurant in Frederick.

A chapter meeting was held on Saturday, July 29, 2017, at 10 am, at the Wicomico Public Library Salisbury. Chapter Winner and 2nd Place State Americanism Poster Contest Winner Parker Smethurst was presented with a certificate by Chapter Poster Chairman Mark Tyler, State Poster Chairman Lou Raborg and President Ray Jackson. Parker also received a check for \$75.00 as the second-place state winner. High School Students Nathaniel Sansom of Salisbury Christian HS and Amy Cottongim of Holly Grove HS were recognized as Outstanding Citizenship Award Winners. Bill Ferguson spoke about the Wicomico War Memorial Flags flying at the Wicomico Civic Center. A flag certificate was presented to him on behalf of the Wicomico War Veterans Memorial Committee. A Law Enforcement medal and certificate was presented to Snow Hill Police Department Corporal Shae Waters by Chief Tom Davis and President Ray Jackson. Also in attendance were Snow Hill Mayor Charlie Dorman and Corporal Waters Mother, Wife Angel and their daughter. A War Service Medal and certificate was presented to Dr. Philip A. Insley, Jr. by Ray Jackson for his service in Vietnam.

Mark Tyler mentioned the newspaper article "Let's dispel some myths around Samuel Chase, the Eastern Shore's native revolutionary which was written by Jeremy Cox on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The article appeared in the Daily Times and some county specific newspapers.

Mark Tyler also said there is an interested in have another tour on the Battle of the Barges. The event paid for itself. We been invited to a local DAR meeting to talk about the battle. A discussion was held on retrieval of artifacts from the battle. Who owns artifacts if retrieved, costs involved to properly preserve objects. Next step is to get a committee and pull stake holders together. As a follow up project we could coordinate with the Coast Guard to place a marker in Solomon's Lump Lighthouse caisson. Water depth is about 12 1/2 to 13 feet. Water clarity is a problem.

Jim Atkins mentioned that about a month ago a production company in London is interested in doing a documentary of the MD 400 for the Smithsonian Channel. Jim is going to try to get them to visit the Eastern Shore.

Troy made a motion to form an archeological subcommittee on the Kedges Straight to explore all avenues. Seconded by Mark. It was suggested that Mark head the subcommittee. Troy volunteered to be on the committee.

Mark mentioned that David Dawson, a court reporter, may be in possession of a family bible that belonged to Alexander Hamilton family. He may also be a potential member. It was suggested that we invite Dave to do a presentation on the bible.

Chapter elections were held. The oath of office was given by MDSSAR President Don Deering to President Troy Foxwell, Vice President Mark Tyler, Secretary Mike Irish and Treasurer Ray Jackson. Jim Adkins volunteered to be our Media Relations Officer. Ray was thanked for his many years of service.

Closing Remarks were given by SAR Maryland State President Donald A. Deering. Don spoke about creating partnerships and reaching out to the greater community to generate more interest for the SAR.

On October 21, 2017, MDSSAR First Vice President James A. Adkins and President Troy Foxwell attended the MDSSAR Semi-Annual meeting at the Johns Hopkins Club in Baltimore, Maryland.

On December 16, 2017, MDSSAR First Vice President James A. Adkins and President Troy Foxwell attended the Patriot's Ball.

1st MDSSAR Vice President James A. Adkins has been working throughout the year on completing and updating the biographies for the Maryland 400 Research Project. At the end of 2017, the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 7th and the 7<sup>th</sup> Independence Companies have been completed. The project will continue into 2018 until all the biographies have been completed.

A special thanks to all officers and members of the Captain John Smoot Chapter for your support during 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

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