

The Dispatch

General Meade Society of Philadelphia, Inc.

Newsletter – Spring 2016

“Forget Not His Deeds”

2016 Membership Dues – Your membership support will help fund the Meade Society’s many educational, commemorative and preservation projects throughout 2016. The Board looks forward to your renewed support. A membership renewal form is enclosed with this Dispatch. Thank you and best wishes for the coming year.

Meade Society Symposium – Our 17th annual history symposium, co-sponsored by the Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Library will be held on Sunday, **April 10**, from **noon to 5 p.m.** at West Laurel Hill Cemetery’s Conservatory, 215 Belmont Avenue, Bala Cynwyd, PA. “The History of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Union Veterans of the Civil War” at the 150th anniversary program will feature: Brain Matthew Jordan telling the story of the G.A.R.; Barbara Gannon’s “The ‘WON’ Cause – African-American Veterans and the G.A.R.”; Andy Waskie’s “A Friendly Rivalry – G.A.R. Post #1 and #2 of Philadelphia” and Hugh Boyle’s “The Legacy of the G.A.R.” Lunch and break snacks provided by the Kearney “Kommissary”. Book sales by Jim Schmick’s *Civil War & More* book store. To register and reserve contact Jerry McCormick at 215-848-7753 or gedwinmc@msn.com. Free parking. Cost - \$40.0 per person includes lunch, program, and refreshments.

Meade Society Spring Excursion – Our special G.A.R. anniversary tour to Civil War Veterans’ sites in Philadelphia will be on Saturday, **May 7**, departing and returning to Laurel Hill Cemetery, 3822 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, from **9 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Cost of \$55 per person includes deluxe motor coach, refreshments, expert guides and lunch at McGillin’s Old Ale House. To reserve by April 30, 2016, contact Jerry McCormick at 215-848-7753 or gedwinmc@msn.com.

Gettysburg “Adopt a Position” – The Leister House Garden – The Meade Society garden lovers have seen this cruel winter that has taken its toll on all our gardens, including the little Leister House Garden - the site of General Meade’s Headquarters. Our spring cleanup will give a little TLC to the Society’s adopted portion of the battlefield. We will meet at the Garden on Sunday, **May 15, at 10:30 a.m.**, and work until noon. A Society luncheon will follow.

The General Meade Society of Philadelphia is an educational non-profit 501c3 organization chartered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The mission of the Society is to promote and preserve the life and service of Major General George Gordon Meade (USA), Commander of the Army of the Potomac. The Society’s Board of Directors meets at the Cannstatter Volksfest-Verein, 9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114, on the 2nd Thursday of designated months starting at 7:00 P.M. All Society members are welcome.

Officers

Andy Waskie, PhD, President
Mike Peter, Vice-president
Jerry McCormick, Treasurer
Michael Wunsch, Corresponding Secretary
Joe Hauptmann, Recording Secretary

Board of Directors

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Ginny Benner	Tom Kearney	Blair Thron
Tom Benner	Jeanne O’Toole	
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215-204-5452

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-General-Meade-Society-of-Philadelphia/175046292538630>

Flag Placement – In preparation for Memorial Day observance and service General Meade Society volunteers will be placing American flags on the veterans' graves at Laurel Hill Cemetery and, if time and the number of volunteers permits, we will do the same at Mount Peace and St. James the Less cemeteries. Please join us and pay homage to the sacrifices our veterans have made on our behalf. We will meet at the Laurel Hill Gatehouse, 4622 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia **at 10:00 a.m., on Sunday, May 22**. Following the placement lunch and light refreshments will be served. All welcome.

Memorial Day at Laurel Hill Cemetery – On **Sunday, May 29**, at Laurel Hill Cemetery, the site of the first Memorial Day Observance in Philadelphia in 1868, we will be gathering to recreate this historic event. Ceremonies to dedicate bronze veterans' markers will conclude at the grave of General Meade, where we will perform the traditional service to honor all veterans who defended the nation. **Events begin at Noon**. We urge all historic groups, veterans, military contingents, color guards, period musical groups and civilians to attend. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

General Meade Society Scholarship Presentation – The General Meade Society will bestow its fifteenth \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating student at the General George G. Meade Elementary School, 1600 N. 18th Street, Philadelphia, PA. All members and friends are invited to the award ceremony that will be announced on our website and via e-mail.

Meade at the Phillies – The General Meade Society invites you to our annual outing to Citizens Bank Park for Phillies vs. San Francisco Giants on **August 3**. We are in Section 106. Games starts at **7:05 p.m.** Tickets are \$30 per person. Reservations can be made by contacting Tom Kearney: turkeytk@aol.com.

ANNUAL MEADE CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH 2016



The General Meade Society's annual champagne toast & brunch, postponed due to our fair city's January storm, was held quite successfully on February 21st.

A hundred-plus loyal Meade-ites attended the ceremonies and enjoyed a scrumptious brunch at the Cannstatter Volksfest-Verein in the Northeast. There the attendees raised glasses to the victorious Union leader on the Society's celebration of his 200th birthday.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Society Recording Secretary, Joe Hauptmann, Jerry McCormick, Society Treasurer and master of ceremonies, gave some opening remarks.



Joe Perry then gave the details of the silent auction, where many interesting artifacts and merchandise were to be bid on.



Vice-President Mike Peter offered the annual toast with the good General's favorite drink of champagne, after which the attendees fell into mess lines for their choice of breakfast or lunch – some both!



President Andy Waskie and Corresponding Secretary Mike Wunsch gave Award Certificates to various people for their gracious support and service: (More pictures are available on the Society website.)

- Rev. Gregory Ray (given previously at the Octavius Catto ceremony);
- Dick Simpson;
- Bob Hanrahan;
- Russ Dodge;
- Rebecca Haneasy;
- Rita Thomas;
- Bernie & Marge Bujak;
- Jack Ward;
- Carol Ingald; (in absentia)
- Nicole McDonald

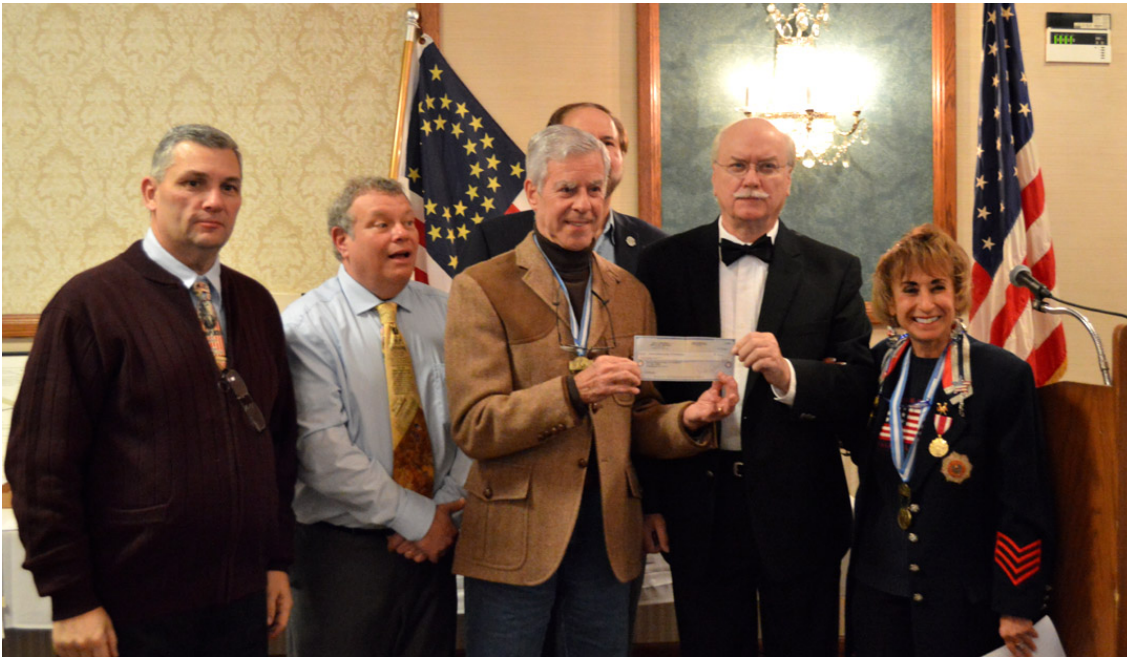
Legion of Honor recipients were Dan Dailey and Blair and Carol Thron.



The President's the Order of Merit was presented to the Reverend Richard O. Partington for his commitment to Civil War history. Rev. Partington regaled us with his vivid experience with Civil War veterans (!) and the inauguration of Franklin Roosevelt. Dick Partington has been involved with history since the early '30s when he was a young lad in Boy Scouts.



The Liebermans, Jack and Carol, previous winners of Meade awards, made a most generous donation of \$500 to the Meade Society to assist in its work promoting Meade's legacy and Civil War preservation.



Michael Wunsch was given a Meade statue for all of his work on the Meade Bicentennial Committee.



Finally, Betty and Jerry McCormick ran the “Thank You” Raffle and gave some closing remarks.

Despite the re-scheduling of the brunch, it was an outstanding success! MUCH APPRECIATION TO ALL WHO ATTENDED AND ASSISTED THE FUNCTION IN ANY WAY.AND SPECIAL THANKS TO THE STAFF OF THE CANNSTATTER VOLKSFEST-VEREIN FOR ALL OF THEIR ASSISTANCE!!!

- Ken Garson

General Meade Society Membership Form

Kindly remit your 2016 dues payment on or before January 31, 2016.

As a member of **General Meade Society of Philadelphia, Inc.** your annual membership dues and contributions support the nation's only organization devoted to "promoting and preserving" the memory of the life and service of Major General George Gordon Meade. Members receive *The Dispatch* via email or by the USPS (additional fee required) as they choose, and also an invitation to all Society events and monthly meetings, including the annual business meeting in April.

Mail to:

The General Meade Society of Philadelphia, Inc.

P.O. Box 45556

Philadelphia, PA 19149

Annual membership dues cover the calendar year – January 1st to December 31st, 2016.

_____ **\$10.00 Student Membership (18 years & younger)**

_____ **\$20.00 Individual Membership**

_____ **\$30.00 Family Membership**

_____ \$10.00 Additional for USPS mailing of *The Meade Post - Dispatch*

_____ Additional Tax-deductible donation to the *General Meade Society of Philadelphia*

_____ Contribution to the *William H. Boehmer Preservation Fund*

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check Number: _____ Date: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

