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Triennial Planning in High Gear

The State Society of the Cincinnati of Pennsylvania

Progress is accelerating on planning for the Society's 2019 Triennial, which the Pennsylvania Society is hosting in Philadelphia's historic district. The triennial committee, headed by Vice President Jim Pringle and Treasurer Mark Ward, were inspired by May's triennial in Williamsburg, and have consulted with the Virginia Society's organizers for advice. The Pennsylvania Society Triennial Committee has already engaged a professional event planning company and reviewed suitable sites in the historic district to select the best venues for the various meetings and dinners for the three-day event, which will be held the second weekend in May, 10-12, 2019.

The headquarters hotel for the Philadelphia Triennial will be the newly remodeled Hilton on the Delaware River, which the Society of Cincinnati will take over exclusively for lodging and some of the event's functions and meetings. The planning committee also has recommended a trip to Valley Forge on the Saturday of thebusiness meeting, a tour and then lunch. That evening, the

black tie dinner-dance will be held in the Constitution Center, with its unobstructed views of Independence Hall.

This past Washington's Birthday, the Pennsylvania Society was honored to host an event that ties in perfectly with this Triennial planning. A cooperative agreement was signed between the Society of the Cincinnati and the new Museum of the American Revolution. That ceremony was attended by the national leadership, including then-President General Ross Perry, Jonathan Woods, Pless Lunger, John Harvey, Jim Burke and Executive Director Jack Warren.

The Museum of the American Revolution, located two blocks from Independence Hall, will open on April 19, 2017, and will be the location of the 2019 Triennial's Thursday welcoming cocktail party for arriving Cincinnati Society participants. Other Triennial events and meetings are being considered for the museum. The 118,000square-foot building will provide immersive gallery experiences, artifacts, and recreated historical scenes to help visitors explore the ideas

and events of the Revolution and its legacy. The Museum and the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati have agreed to work together on exhibitions, educational initiatives and other programs reflecting the common commitment of the museum and our Society to promote the memory of the American Revolution.

Other buildings and sites in the historic district also are under consideration. "We've been working for four years building relationships with the National Park Service and the Friends of Independence National Historic Park so that the Triennial will give attendees a full opportunity to see and feel the freedoms that began in Philadelphia," said Mark Ward.

Jim Pringle credited Liz Ward, Mark's wife, with knowing the correct questions to ask at crucial planning stages and using her knowledge of Philadelphia's venues as a former corporate events planner. "Liz has been invaluable to our success," he said.

"The headquarters hotel has



been selected and other venues visited. Now we must start filling in the details like selecting speakers, choosing transportation options, and working with caterers," Pringle added. In a strong show of support, fully one quarter of Pennsylvania Society members

responded positively when asked if they would personally assist with planning and staging the May 2019 Triennial to make it a memorable and successful affair.

Randolph Smith Pennsylvania Society The Museum of the American Revolution — imagined here by an artist — will be a reality in April 2017, and a venue for the 2019 Triennial Meeting in Philadelphia.