

# Celebrating the Magna Charta – April 14, 2023 – DC

## Preliminary Notification

The 2023 Reception and Dinner of the National Society Magna Charta Dames and Barons will be held, Friday, April 14, 2023 at the National Press Club, 529 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20045

**“Magna Charta 1225”**  
Lecture by Lewis L. Neilson, Jr., Esquire

**We are optimistic for our 2023 Dinner scheduled for April 14, 2023; if attendance is limited (in person or virtual), then reservations will be accepted in order of receipt. Cancellations will be honored up to the date of the final dinner count, usually about a week before the event.**

The views of the 1225 Magna Charta will be presented by Lewis L. Neilson Jr.

*We also encourage our members and non-members to send us their written ideas and visions of the legacy of the 800<sup>th</sup>. both from 2015 and forward to 2025, as well as for the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. If there are exceptionally creative ideas or exceptionally prominent advocates for the celebrations of either 2025 or the 250th (with creative ideas), we plan to invite their presentation. Thanks to videotaping and the internet, the audience extends worldwide and into the future.*

We are continuing our Society’s Current Theme: **Building Our Magna Charta Legacy**. Since the Society was instituted in 1909, we have been preserving programs of our Society, video of past lectures, presentations, meeting and conferences. We are improving our video presentation and recoding as new platforms emerge to enhance accessibility.

Our speaker is the Honorable Brock Bierman, Assistant Administrator for USAID’s Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, 2018 to January 2021. He was our speaker in 2018, shortly after his unanimous confirmation by the U.S. Senate. A video of his talk can be found using the 2023 dinner tab on the sign-in website [www.magnacharta1.org](http://www.magnacharta1.org). Initially you will be “pending” until we assign you as a “Member” or “Interested”, both with access to the excellent talk.

“Inspiration from Magna Charta for Ukraine”

**Honorable Brock D. Bierman**, will have led nine missions to Ukraine to deliver humanitarian assistance. He is the Founder and CEO of Ukraine Focus, since April 2022, with focus on the Freedom and Future of Ukraine. Programs include: **Volunteer Ambulance Corp**, modeled after the American Field Service created in WW1, provides first-hand support to the medical professionals and field staff that are in dire need of assistance; **Light Up Ukraine**, provides solar lights and generators where it is needed most in Ukraine; **Rebuild: Community Centers** is focused on the urgent need to repair these important structures throughout Ukraine; **Playgrounds 4 Peace** is more than just creating a playground for kids, it provides an opportunity for different aspects of communities to come together and support families in need.

Beginning in June 2021 Brock is also a visiting fellow for Democracy Initiatives at the German Marshall Fund of the United States. From June 2022 to February 2023, he was the CEO of Worldwide Friends Foundation and headed its critical mission, Ukraine Friends; from July 2021 to June 2022, he was Chairman of European Democracy Youth Network.

When Brock spoke to our Society in 2018, he had just been unanimously approved by the U.S. Senate as Assistant Administrator for USAID's Bureau for Europe and Eurasia and served until January 2021. His talk (available on our password protected website) included a perceptive recognition of the ambitions of Putin and the diabolical Russian influence. He alluded to Putin's posturing as fake news considering lack of capacity, now revealed in Ukraine.

Mr. Bierman's career spans the civil service and the private sector, as he served three terms in the Rhode Island House of Representatives, was a senior executive for Ancestry.com, and was appointed by President George W. Bush to be his small state and rural advocate. He also built two small businesses from the ground up. He served in additional roles at USAID, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Department of Interior. During his initial service for USAID, Bierman was recognized with several honor awards and the Medal of Civic Merit by the President of the Republic of Moldova. He holds a Bachelor's degree in journalism from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. He is married to Lisa Anne Gardner Bierman and has 2 children: Allison 27 and Robert 25.

We have added a Link to our website. Please go to our website and click on the link **CONTRIBUTE**. We appreciate your support. There is also a form to Contact Us.

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The reception will begin at 5:30PM and the Dinner will begin at 7:00PM. The cost of the reception and dinner will be \$135.00 and the cost for the reception without the dinner is \$45.00, each with a cash bar. Reservations are required and limited. Black Tie is optional. Amounts contributed in excess of the cost of the dinner are deductible as charitable contributions. An additional charge of \$10.00 per person is required for payment at the door.

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**Subscriptions Requested:**

Dinner and Reception: \_\_\_\_\_ x\$135.00= \_\_\_\_\_  
Reception Only: \_\_\_\_\_ x\$45.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions(tax deductible):**

Patron Dinner Contributions-  
Scribe- \$600.00 [ ]; Surety-\$1,200.00 [ ]; Runnymede-\$1,800.00 [ ] = \_\_\_\_\_  
800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Legacy - \$4,800.00 [ ] = \_\_\_\_\_  
Other contributions (welcome) = \_\_\_\_\_  
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(payable to National Society Magna Charta Dames and Barons)

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