

### Fall, 2016

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# **The Buckeye Patríot** Northeastern Ohío Chapter #12 Sons of the Amerícan Revolutíon Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 4

## From The President's Desk

#### Compatriots & Friends,

It's hard to believe that fall has arrived. Just a few days ago, the weather was warm, sunny, and bright! • If you've visited the National SAR web page recently, you'll notice that many changes have taken place, including a new home page. At our last leadership meeting in Louisville, we were reminded that the site continues to be a work in progress. We were also invited to offer suggestions regarding a feature that would allow chapters to collect and manage dues, as well as maintain their membership rosters online. One of the questions presented was "would we be interested in accepting credit card and/or PayPal payments?" If you have any feedback, please let me know. Of course, the National SAR web page address is <u>www.sar.org</u>. If you have time, be sure to check it out. • In honor and recognition of our Veterans, our chapter will hold our Veterans Day meeting on Saturday, November 12th at 11:30 a.m. at Best Friend's Restaurant in Geneva (1741 S. Broadway, Geneva, Ohio 44041). Our program will be provided by our NEO Chapter member, Bill Robinson. Bill is a veteran of the United States Navy, and will talk about his experiences as a member of the Navy. In addition, we'll be recognizing a couple of our chapter color guard members with bronze medals.  $\cdot$  As you know, our chapter is sponsoring a Wreaths Across America program this year. The event will take place on Saturday, December 17th, 2016. We'll be honoring Military Veterans buried in Evergreen and Mt. Pleasant Cemeteries in Geneva. In fact, our memorial program will take place at 12:00 noon, at the Soldiers' & Sailors Monument in downtown Geneva. For more information about this nationally organized program, visit <u>www.wreathsacrossamerica.org</u>. We'll need help laying wreaths on veteran' graves, attending the memorial program, and/or purchasing a few wreaths. Please see me or Jim Gilbert for more information.  $\cdot I$ would like to thank Steve Hinson and Dan Matheke for their continued work on our grave marking program. Thanks to their dedication and leadership, we have had several very successful and outstanding programs this summer. Recently, members of our color guard, along with our "camp followers," participated in the 100th anniversary celebration of the Mary Chesney DAR chapter in Warren. Our color guard was honored to have been invited to such as special event. Since our chapter was organized in 1948, it won't be long before we'll be celebrating our 75th Anniversary. I've already asked Jim Pildner, our program chair, to start planning. If you have any suggestions for a program or celebration activities, please share them with Jim.  $\cdot$  On a final note, annual membership fees are due. Unless you're a Junior Member, or an Ohio or National Life Member, dues are \$55.00. Please see Steve Hinson at our next meeting, or send a check for \$55.00, payable to NEO #12 SAR, to 5863 Beech St. Andover, Ohio 44003.

Patriotically yours,

*"If we cannot learn wisdom from experience, it is hard to say where it is to be found."* 

Troy Bailey, President Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 Sons of the American Revolution

George Washington

### Welcome New SAR Members!

### Nathan Alexander Layfield J. Davíd Layfield

John Harold Layfield

## SAR Battle of Point Pleasant Memorial Service



On Sunday, October 9th, the Point Pleasant Chapter of the West Virginia Society SAR hosted the Battle of Point Pleasant Memorial Service on the site of the Battle of Point Pleasant that occurred October 10th, 1774 between the Virginia Militia and Indians from the Shawnee and Mingo tribes.

Members of the Sons of the American Revolution,

Daughters of the American Revolution, Children of the American Revolution, Boy Scouts

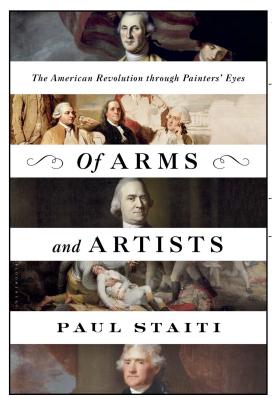
of America, city officials, and others annually gather at the <u>Tu-Endie-Wei State Park</u>, now at the location of the battlefield, to pay tribute to the 81 militia who were killed during the one-day battle that took place 242 years ago, by placing wreaths at the granite stone marking the powder magazine of the militia fortifications. (ohssardispatch.wordpress.com)



## Northeastern Ohío Chapter #12 Offícers

President - Troy Bailey 1st Vice President - Kirk Bacon 2nd Vice President - Jim Pildner Registrar & Genealogist - Tim Ward Secretary - Dan Matheke Treasurer - Steve Hinson Historian - Scott Wludyga Chaplain - Vernon Palo

## Our Fírst Spín Doctors, Paínters of the American Revolution



In 1817, former president John Adams publicly declared: "I consider the true history of the American revolution, and of the establishment of our present constitutions, as lost forever. . . Nothing but misrepresentations, or partial accounts of it, ever will be recovered." In a personal letter to painter John Trumbull, he added, "Characters and Counsels and Action. . . are always neglected."

Trumbull, at the time, was working on the four huge paintings that still adorn the United States Capitol Rotunda, including "Declaration of Independence," which features Adams front and center. It's a dignified, orderly canvas — and that, to Adams's mind, was the problem. It reflected little of the wrangling and rancor that, 40 years earlier, had gone into hammering out the political credos that shaped the country's system of government.

"Of Arms and Artists" brings those turbulent negotiations to volatile life, while delivering unexpected ironies as art historian Paul Staiti uncovers the stories of Trumbull and his fellow artists Charles Wilson Peale, John Singleton

Copley, Benjamin West and Gilbert Stuart. Staiti addresses the wartime activities — or lack thereof — of artists who found themselves either on the battlefield or in awkward exile in London with their allegiances disguised or undeclared. And he drives home the point that the most talented icon maker, Stuart, was as apolitical as they come.

Staiti takes his five painters in chronological order, starting with Peale, whose portrait of then-Gen. George Washington, commissioned by the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, was "the first piece of public art in the United States." Peale fought under Washington. (One of his diary entries reads: "Finished the governors Portrait, the afternoon spent in Exercise of War"). He was also involved in confiscating Loyalists' property in Philadelphia after the British abandoned the city. The book is furnished with 16 pages of handsome color plates, which give some notion of the paintings' quality. It also supplies black-and-white reproductions of them on the pages where they're mentioned, for handy reference.

Staiti, in casting an analytical eye on the paintings, can't always compete with the dramatic lives he's recounting. But he does drive home two points very effectively. First, the art of the American Revolution was as much about "spin" as documentation, often rendering peppery personalities, including Washington's, in a misleadingly sedate manner. Second, bitter conflicts between the Founding Fathers — Washington vs. Thomas Jefferson, Adams vs. Benjamin Franklin — could give our present-day Congress a run for its money.

"Of Arms and Artists" brings to life a war you may not know as well as you think you do - and artists whose idealism on canvas didn't always align with their private lives. (<u>www.washingtonpost.com</u>)

# Northeastern Ohío Chapter #12 SAR Event Photos



# Fort Fest Brings War of 1812 Back to Life

Fort Jennings — War of 1812 re-enactor Aaron Owens was teaching elementary school children how to use a rifle this summer. Most of the children were between the ages of 8 and 12 but two centuries ago it was never too young to learn to use a gun, especially when the country was at war. Owens showed the children, armed with wooden guns, shooting techniques and how to fight with a bayonet. The event was just one of many at the War of 1812 re-enactment camp at Fort Fest to celebrate the village's heritage and pay tribute to all veterans. "This is the kids' camp, where the kids get to go around to each station checking out the actual situations of living or the way of life of 1812 people," said Amy Ricker, a coordinator for the event.

The camp had English soldiers, Kentucky militiamen, and American Indians. There were many stations, including showing children how to load and shoot a gun. It was just a day in a life of an 1812 solider. The firing of a cannon also was popular among the children. About 50 reenactors from three states participated along with camp volunteers, Ricker said. There also was a re-enactment of a battle with re-enactors fighting with simulated gunfire and cannon fire. The camp ends with a tribute at the site of the original fort at Fort Jennings, and paying tribute to an unknown soldier. Fort Fest is in its fourth year as a festival by that name and began in 2012 to celebrate the bicentennial of the war. Co-coordinator Wes Klir said several thousand people visit the fest. There also was a big Vietnam War re-enactment with two Huey helicopters giving people rides. Those flying the helicopters served in Vietnam. "We were able to get a Vietnam re-enactment group that enhances our Huey display."

There were also displays in Memorial Hall in town and at the fest to pay tribute to veterans of all wars, he said. "If you look around the hall you will see every generation displayed." Fort Fest is an undertaking by everyone in Fort Jennings. Volunteers plan the event and make sure it is a success each year, Klir said. "This whole community comes out in supporting this festival," Klir said. "We're not a very big town but we put on a big event because everybody gets involved." The event raises money for the village park. All military vehicles, including helicopters, come from museums or private collections.

The festival is always the third weekend in August. The moving Vietnam wall has easy access



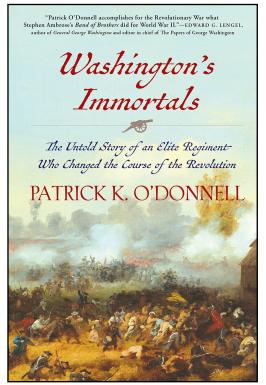
War of 1812 militia re-enactor Aaron Owens teaches elementary school children how to fight with a rifle. Here he shows them how to stab the enemy with a bayonet.

even for people with mobility issues. Kara Stechschulte, of Fort Jennings, was with her husband, Adam, and their two young sons. She said they spend the whole weekend at the event. "We like to come here to see great-grandpa's stuff. It's very important for us to let them know the history of where we all come from." Stechschulte said the fest grows every year. "It's wonderful to see how everybody comes out and the community comes together as a whole," she said. (Greg Sowinski, <u>Lima News</u>)

## Washington's Immortals, The Untold Story of an Elite Regiment Who Changed the Course of the Revolution

*In August 1776, little over a month after the Continental* Congress had formally declared independence from Britain, the revolution was on the verge of a sudden and disastrous end. General George Washington found his troops outmanned and outmaneuvered at the Battle of Brooklyn, and it looked like there was no escape. But thanks to a series of desperate rear guard attacks by a single heroic regiment, famously known as the "Immortal 400," Washington was able to evacuate his men and the nascent Continental Army lived to fight another day.

Today, only a modest, rusted and scarred metal sign near a dilapidated auto garage marks the mass grave where the bodies of the "Maryland Heroes" lie—256 men "who fell in the Battle of Brooklyn." In Washington's Immortals, best-selling military historian Patrick K. O'Donnell brings to life the forgotten story of this remarkable band of brothers. Known as gentlemen of honor, family, and fortune," they fought not just in Brooklyn, but in key battles including Trenton, Princeton, Camden, Cowpens, Guilford Courthouse, and *Yorktown, where their heroism changed the course of the war.* 



Drawing on extensive original sources, from letters to diaries to pension applications, O'Donnell pieces together the stories of these brave men—their friendships, loves, defeats, and triumphs. He explores their arms and tactics, their struggles with hostile loyalists and shortages of clothing and food, their development into an elite unit, and their dogged opponents, including British General Lord Cornwallis. And through the prism of this one group, O'Donnell tells the larger story of the Revolutionary War. Washington's Immortals is gripping and inspiring boots-on-the-ground history, sure to appeal to a wide readership. (<u>www.amazon.com</u>)

## Wíndsor, Ohío Grave Markíng Ceremony Photos Sunday August 21, 2016



# Veterans Day

*Veterans Day is a time to reflect, remember and thank those men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces.* 

World War I was known at the time as "The Great War"- officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, just outside the town of Versailles, France. However fighting had ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11th as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11 am. It was a day to be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations.

On May 13, 1938, November 11th was made a legal holiday each year-a day dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be therefore celebrated and known as Armistice Day--a day set aside to honor World War I veterans. In 1954 the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking the word "Armistice" and inserting the word "Veterans." On June 1, 1954, with the approval of this legislation, November 11th became a day to honor American military veterans of all wars.

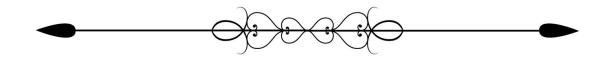
This is a day, which is driven by historical significance of the date and focuses attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor American's military veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. A wonderful day to thank a veteran for their service, regardless of how long ago it might have been. To all veterans, thank you for your service to our country.

*I* want to personally thank all of the Veterans who have served this great nation.

Yours in Patriotism,

J. Michael Tomme, Sr. President General National Society Sons of the American Revolution





#### Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 Sons of the American Revolution Quarterly Newsletter

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Líbertas et Patría!

This newsletter is intended for members of the Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 of the Sons of the American Revolution. It is for educational purposes only, and is not for sale.

### Important Dates to Remember

#### Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 Veterans Day Program

Saturday, November 12th, 11:30 am Best Friend's Restaurant 1741 OH-534, Geneva, Ohio 44041

#### Wreaths Across America

December 17th at 12:00 pm Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument S Broadway & Park Street Geneva, Ohio 44041 Board of Management Meeting February 3rd & 4th, 2017 Lima, Ohio

Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 Presidents Day Program & Election of Officers Saturday, February 18th, 2017

Spring Leadership Meeting Thursday, March 02, 2017

**127th NSSAR Annual Congress** July 7th - 12th, 2017

