

NEO SAR #12
Saturday, 20 November, 2021
12:00 p.m. Geneva Library, Geneva, OH

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting Called to order by President Pildner at 12:25 p.m.
Opening Thought: “Old Man and His Bucket of Shrimp”
2. **Invocation by Chaplain**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **SAR Pledge**

“We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.”

5. **Minutes Report:** Minutes of the previous meeting, were posted online at the NEO#12 website Bob Kenyon made a motion to approve the minutes and Tim Ward seconded. The Minutes were approved.

6. **Officers’ Reports**

- A. **President’s Report:**

1. Introductions and welcome
 - Compatriot Troy Bailey - OH Society President
 - Chris Bailey, Troy’s wife, noted Venie Hinson has created a patriotic quilt. The OHSSAR Ladies Auxiliary is selling raffle tickets to support the youth programs of the SAR. Tickets are \$5.00 each
 - Compatriot L. Steven Hinson - National Trustee
 - Compatriot Tim Ward - Past OH Society President
 - President Pildner noted Troy, Steve and Tim have all served as the state president. Our small chapter has grown from a few numbers decades ago, to boasting good numbers and leadership at the state level.
 - Pildner recognized his wife, Kathy, also in attendance.
 2. Presentations of Membership were done by Troy Bailey with Tim Ward and Jim Pildner.
 - New members include:
 - John “Jack” Francis Martin

Certificate and rosette presented by Troy Bailey & Tim Ward. Martin talked about his Patriot ancestor. George Stingley enlisted in the Virginia Militia.

- President Pildner presented awards to Larry Koval
 - Bronze Color Guard Medai
 - Patriot Grave Marking Medal
- Compatriot Ward noted the SAR Handbook is online for those who want to learn more about the available medals that can be earned.
- Meritorious Service Award presented to Scott Wludyga for his efforts as chapter secretary
- DAR Finder program award presented to Diane Gilbert by Compatriot Bailey

B. Secretary - Scott Wludyga, Secretary - nothing to report

C. Treasurer - Bob Kenyon

- Thanks to all who paid their dues. Noted you may use a credit card or debit card if you are paying online. A PayPal account is not required.

Balance as of is \$5,006.14

Tim Ward made a motion to approve the Treasurer and Secretary reports. Will Kesler seconded. The reports were approved.

President Pildner asked for volunteers for the audit committee. Steve Hinson, Jim Gilbert volunteered and will serve on the committee. They will work with Bob Kenyon to review the books for approval at the February 2022 meeting.

D. Registrar - Troy Bailey

- Things are backed up in the system. But progress is being made.

E. Troy Bailey - State President Report

- New National President is Davis Wright.
- 250th Anniversary is the primary focus of his tenure. We are celebrating any events - Boston Tea Party through 1783 signing of Treaty of Paris
- We can do any events - doesn't have to be related to a battle
- There is a national website with a list of all relative events that happened during the Revolution. There are program examples
- 2026 is just around the corner
- President Wright has reorganized the committees at the National level. There are more Zoom meetings now to eliminate the travel barrier.
- Medals for color guard youth participating are available - male or female
- Grave marking medal is available for children or youth of patriots - can place a medal on those tombstones to recognize children of a patriot

- Gender issues with regard to membership. There are possibilities for gender neutral or individuals who have changed gender who want to be a part of the organization.
- Looking for a Veterans' Services Representative for our chapter -
- Looking for signatures (150) to create a SAR Vanity License plate. Asking everyone in attendance to sign the petition. Would be a \$30 additional fee - would guarantee \$20 per plate income to OSSAR
- Historical Note - Fort Mercer - General Green - ships were burned to prevent them from being captured by the British
- Bailey attended the Ebenezer Zane chapter grave marking they are putting signs at each cemetery to list the patriots who are buried in each cemetery. A QR code links to an information page.

8. New Business & Correspondence

- Gage Gerogeff - Americanism Chair - doing well due to flag certificates and color guard
- Tim Ward update - no one on the ballot to become Chapter President for 2022. Looking for someone to step up for one year - as someone else has noted they would like to take on the responsibility in 2023.
- President Pildner noted he regrets that he will need to step down for personal reasons. He enjoys the position, but has other responsibilities in his life right now that are a focus.
- Steve Hinson
 - There is a museum project nationally
 - Youth Programs are starting up - how can we reach all the youth to get the schools to participate?
 - Reach out to your family - and look at the contests available
 - Different categories of things to do. Supporting veterans, interacting, working with Blue Star Mothers, there are awards that could be earned for supporting veterans
 - Dave Webster from Samuel Huntington Chapter noted there is help available for the online forms.
 - Brochures are available on Youth Awards
 - Wreaths Across America: 600-700 wreaths
 - There are 500 locations in the US
 - Wreath purchase - \$15. Organization keeps \$5
 - December 3rd is the last day to purchase wreaths

- New Member Orientation - started in this chapter - now used Nationally. New members can participate via Zoom with Steve. Any member is welcome to join - possible February.
- Next Chapter Activity 19 February 2022. Noon - Location, Lunch TBA. Tentative Ashtabula County District Library, Ashtabula, OH - will be a joint meeting with the DAR
- CAR (Children of the American Revolution) local chapter may be started. This falls under the umbrella of the DAR. Names being used - Simon Fobes-Elizabeth Harper Chapter.
- Correspondence - none

9. Today's Program: Vietnam Veteran - One soldier's experience

Introductory Comment

Some veterans are hesitant to share their experience. When President Pildner was a school counselor, he worked with this individual who was always willing to share.

Speaker: Don Shaughnessy was in the Infantry

1967 Harbor High School Graduate

Shared his story of joining the military in 1969

Showed many photos from Vietnam during his time there and what the experience was like for those who served.

President Pildner presented Shaughnessy with a challenge coin and a thank you gift.

10 . Donation

President Pildner asked for donations for Sub Zero Mission, which helps homeless veterans.

Motion by Bob Kenyon to donate \$50 to Sub Zero Mission. Seconded by Will Kesler. Sub Zero Mission helps homeless stay warm - "No one should freeze to death in America. Especially Veterans" They have a goal of collecting 7500 items by December 1st.

Motion carried.

11. Motion to Adjourn

12. Closing Obligation

"Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court and a nation of free men."

Closing Thought

“The willingness of America’s veterans to serve our country has earned our lasting gratitude.”- Jeff Miller former FL Representative

12. Benediction by the Chaplain**13. Adjournment 2:22 p.m.**

Submitted by Scott Wludyga, Secretary