

NEO SAR #12
Saturday, 17 February 2024
12:00 p.m. First United Church of Christ
Austinburg, Ohio

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting Called to order by President Georgeff at 12:09 p.m.
2. **Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen to our joint SAR/DAR/CAR Presidents' Day and Annual meeting: President Georgeff**
3. **Opening Thought: President Georgeff** *In his memoir, traveler Elkanah Watson wrote of his 1785 visit to Mount Vernon when Washington told the following story about having his life mask made by artist Joseph Wright.*

“Wright came to Mount Vernon with the singular request, that I should permit him to take a model of my face, in plaster of paris, to which I consented with some reluctance. He oiled my features over; and placing me flat upon my back; upon a cot, proceeded to daub my face with the plaster. Whilst in this ludicrous attitude Mrs. Washington entered the room and seeing my face thus overspread with the plaster involuntarily exclaimed. Her cry excited me in disposition to smile, which gave my mouth a slight twist, or compression of the lips that is now observable in the busts which Wright afterward made.”

4. **Invocation by President Gage Georgeff**
5. **Pledge of Allegiance led by President Gage Georgeff**
6. **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.”

7. **DAR American Creed**

“I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed, a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.”

8. Announcements by President Georgeff

- 50/50 Raffle, Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.
- Adjournment for lunch 12:14; meeting resumed 12:41

9. Previous Meeting Minutes Report : Ed Hanlon

- Minutes of the previous meeting were posted online at the NEO#12 website as well as emailed to the membership. A copy of the minutes were also available at the meeting. A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Bob Kenyon and seconded by Jim Pilner. The motion carried.

10. President's Report: Gage Georgeff

- The Chapter has one participant in the Youth Poster Contest. Her name is Madison Whiting. The poster was submitted to the Ohio Society Board of Management meeting and the State Poster Chairman. Madison and her mother declined the invitation to attend today's meeting. There were no other poster submissions, so the Treasurer was instructed to send the \$100 check Chapter cash prize to Madison's mother Shannon.

11. Protocol Introductions:

- Steve Hinson – Vice President General, Central District
National Chairman Patriot Records Committee
Past President Ohio Society
Past President Northeast Ohio Chapter
- Troy Bailey – Past President, Ohio Society
Past President, Northeastern Ohio Chapter
Current Registrar, Ohio Society
- James Pilner – Past President Northeast Ohio Chapter
- Venie Hinson – National Vice Chair East Central Division, DAR
DAR/SAR/S.R. Relations Committee
Ohio Chair DAR/SAR/S.R. Relations Committee
Past Regent, Stanley-Redmond-Harper Chapter, DAR
Past Senior Society President, Simon Fobes - Elizabeth Harper Society, Children of the American Revolution
- Tracy Pringle – President Stanley-Redmond-Harper Chapter, DAR
- Diane Gilbert – Regent, Stanley Redmond Harper Chapter, DAR
- Wyatt Pringle – President, Simon Fobes – Elizabeth Harper Society, Children of the American Revolution
 - President Pringle read the proclamation received from the Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners to commemorate the one year anniversary of the Simon Fobes – Elizabeth Harper Society, Children of the American Revolution

12. Secretary's Report: Ed Hanlon

- Working on updating the current membership roster for 2024
- Our newsletter editor is retiring, so we are looking for a new editor. If you or anyone you know would be interested in taking on this duty for the Chapter, please let me know.
- The Boston Tea Party Ships and Museum recently finished printing the 10,000 plus certificates for those that participated in the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party by donating tea. The Chapter's certificate commemorating our participation should be arriving within the next month or so. Motion to accept the report by Mark Tyler, seconded by Steve Hinson. The motion carried.

13. Treasurer's Report: Steve Hinson for Dennis Gadley

- The end balance on January 31, 2024 was \$5,653.52.
- President Georgeff tabled the Treasurer's report in Dennis Gadley's absence.

14. Registrar's Report: Troy Bailey

- As of today we have 132 members in the Chapter.
- There is one application at National currently being reviewed.
- Introduced Gary Rhoades whose application will be mailed to National next week.
- At the State level there were 1,820 members at the start of 2023. At the start of 2024 there were 1,740 members. Most members typically drop out of membership because they forget to pay their dues. There is a considerable effort being made to contact members to pay their dues so they can be reinstated.

15. Americanism Committee: Gage Georgeff

- The Chapter scored 8,252 points for the Americanism scoresheet for 2023.
- The Chapter scored 5,759 points for the President General Streamer.
- The only category the Chapter scored zero points in was Youth Programs. We already have a participant for 2024 in the Poster Contest.
- The more the members participate in Chapter activities the higher our scores will be. If anyone has questions on how to participate or report your participation, please contact Gage Georgeff.

16. Veterans Committee: Gage Georgeff

- The Chapter earned 9,325 points in 2023 for the Chapter USS Stark Award. The history and purpose of the award was explained as well as the various

activities that members can participate in to earn points for the Chapter. There is still more work the Chapter can do for veterans' causes. Please consider participating in an activity to honor a veteran.

- Discovered an organization called Feed Our Vets located at 433 Center Street in Ashtabula. They are always looking for food donations. They can be reached by phone at 440-813-5131 and are also on Facebook. Gage Georgeff asked the Chapter to consider a future monetary donation be made to Feed Our Vets.

17. Color Guard Committee: Troy Bailey

- First event of the year is the Chardon Maple Festival on April 27-28, 2024. Looking for anyone who wants to participate in the parade. You can walk in the parade even without a period uniform.
- On May 18, 2024 in Mahoning County there will be a grave marking and memorial for Jacob Nagle, a Patriot and First Fleeter who joined the Continental Army at the age of 16 and later the Navy. Flyers are available for those wishing to attend.
- The First Presbyterian Church donated \$200 to the Chapter Color Guard for our participation in their 200th Anniversary activities. Troy Bailey asked for a motion to donate the \$200 toward the 250th Anniversary memorial marker that will be installed in July at the Jefferson Courthouse. Motion by Bob Kenyon, seconded by Ryan Bailey. Motion carried.

18. 250th Anniversary Committee: Troy Bailey

- We voted several years ago to participate in the Liberty Tree Planting. Ohio ordered 21 15' Liberty Trees from a company in New Hampshire. There was damage to the field these trees were growing in, so there is a good possibility that they will not be able to deliver the 21 trees to Ohio before July 4, 2026. Currently looking to see if another provider can be secured for this project.
- America 250 – The Ashtabula County Commissioners and Troy Bailey formed a committee to plan and celebration in 2026 for the 250th anniversary. Meetings occur at the Ashtabula County Courthouse on the second floor. The next meeting is Wednesday, February 21st. All are welcome to come and help plan for the activities that will celebrate the 250th anniversary of our country.

19. Flag Committee: Troy Bailey

- Only one flag certificate has been presented recently.

20. Patriot Grave Marking Committee: Steve Hinson

- May 26, 2024 there will be two Patriot grave markings at Center Cemetery in Conneaut. Troy Bailey obtained two new headstones through the VA.

21. Wreaths Across America Committee: Steve Hinson

- Blue Star Mothers are in charge for 2024.
- Venie Hinson thanked the Color Guard for participating in Wreaths Across America last year. 1043 wreaths were placed on Veterans' headstones last year. Currently working in Pierpont with Wreaths Across America to open a second cemetery that wreaths will be offered at.
- Ed Hanlon – The Chapter has already purchased 66 wreaths for 2024 after taking advantage of the buy one get one free offer.

22. Audit Report: Bob Kenyon

- Thanked Jim Gilbert for his help with the report. Meeting occurred on February 8th and 12th with Dennis Gadley and his wife to conduct the internal audit review. The books were generally in fair order with some improvements needed in regard to deposits and general bookkeeping practices.
- Several strong recommendations were made by the committee and are as follows. Budgeting for the Chapter, Use of the Chapter debit card, Who should make deposits, Review and approval of expenditures, Donations that should be acknowledged by the Treasurer, Improvements in training a new Treasurer during the transition of Treasurers.
- The Treasurer is to be commended for his keeping of the books despite a rough transition.

23. DAR National Defense Report: DAR Representative

- Read from the National Defender about the Arlington Ladies celebration of 75 years of service.

24. Induction of New Member:

Treton Tipton – Fletcher was sworn in by Gage Georgeff. Trenton spoke about the process he went through in becoming a member and about his Patriot Zachariah Goff.

25. Awards and Presentations: Steve Hinson

- Bob Kenyon was awarded the Silver Roger Sherman Medal
- Gregg Gorzell and Paul Anderson were awarded the Patriot Grave Marking Medal
- Ed Hanlon was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal
- Gage Georgeff was awarded the Bronze Roger Sherman Commendation Medal
- Mark Tyler was awarded the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal
- John McClellan was awarded the Bronze Henry Knox Achievement Medal

- Venie Hinson was awarded the Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service for DAR
- Lori Strukel was awarded the Martha Washington Medal
- Jim Pilner was awarded his National Life Membership Certificate
- Venie Hinson of the DAR awarded the Hannah White Arnett Bronze Medal of Distinction to Troy Bailey and Steve Hinson
- Mark Tyler was presented his Supplemental Ancestor Certificate for Patriot Henry Blankenbarker

26. Unfinished Business: Gage Georgeff

- Jim Pilner recognized John McClellan for all his work as our newsletter editor.
- Jim Pilner mentioned Becker's Restaurant in Ashtabula has a collection box for food for Feed Our Vets. If donations are made, let Gage Georgeff know so it can be counted towards the Chapter Stark Award.
- Vote to incorporate the Chapter. Steve Hinson explained what it means to incorporate the Chapter and why the State Society recommends each Chapter become incorporated. We are currently a non-profit organization. Gage Georgeff read the Resolution that the Executive Board drafted. Paul Anderson called for a motion to approve the incorporation of the Chapter. Mark Tyler seconded. Motion carried.
- Ed Hanlon – paperwork for the Ohio Society Distinguished Chapter Award is filled out and will be submitted this week. The Chapter met 13 of 15 criteria required for the award.

27. Election of Officers: Troy Bailey

- The following have been nominated for 2024/2025:
 - Mark Tyler – President
 - Vince Martin – First Vice President
 - Gregg Gorzelle – Second Vice President
 - Dennis Gadley – Treasurer
 - Ed Hanlon – Secretary
 - Troy Bailey – Registrar
 - Tim Ward – Genealogist
 - Bill Robinson – Chaplin
 - Bob Kenyon – Historian
- Jim Pilner made a motion that the Nominative ballot become the Elective Ballot, Ryan Bailey seconded the motion. The secretary called for a vote. The motion carried.
- Gage Georgeff proposed, without objection, that any officer not present be installed in absentia.
- Steve Hinson administered the oath of Installation.

28. 50/50 Raffle: \$109 (\$54.50 each to Chapter and winner Paul Anderson). Paul Anderson donated his share of the winnings back to the Chapter. Second prize was four Sam Adams drinking glasses in a Party Like Its 1776 bag won by Ed Hanlon

29. Motion to Adjourn: by Troy Bailey, seconded by Ryan Bailey. Motion carried.

30. 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.”

31. Next Meeting: President Tyler

- Patriots’ Day Meeting, April 13, 2024

32. Benediction: by Gage Georgeff

Adjournment 2:02 p.m.

Submitted by Ed Hanlon – Secretary