

NEO SAR #12
Saturday, 30 September 2023
12:00 p.m. Morley Library
Painesville, Ohio

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting Called to order by President Georgeff at 12:06 p.m.
2. **Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen to our September meeting: President Georgeff**
3. **Opening Thought: President Georgeff** *“If the laws are to be trampled upon with impunity, and a minority (a small one too) is to dictate to the majority, there is an end put to Republican government; and nothing but anarchy and confusion is to be expected hereafter.”* – George Washington to Charles M. Thurston, August 10, 1794
4. **Invocation** by Chaplain Bill Robinson
5. **Pledge of Allegiance**
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. **Announcements** by President Georgeff
 - 50/50 Raffle, Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5
 - Venie Hinson – Joint meeting with DAR in November. We will be passing out Vietnam commemorative pins to all who served in the Vietnam era, 1955-1975.
 - Adjournment for lunch 12:10; meeting resumed 12:30
8. **Induction of New Members :**
John Evans, Robert Evans, and John Evans Jr. were sworn in by President Georgeff. Tim Ward presented each with their rosette. Robert Evans spoke on behalf of his father and brother about their Patriot Nathan Ganson.
9. **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 was made by Ed Hanlon and seconded by Tim Ward. The motion carried.

10. President's Report:

- Congratulations to Steve Hinson on becoming Vice President General of the Central District.
- Chapter sponsored five Patriot Grave Markings on June 3, 2023 at the Concord and Huntoon cemeteries in Lake County.
- Chapter also sponsored a Compatriot Grave Marking on September 17, 2023 at the Perry Cemetery for Dennis Guy Lawrence in conjunction with the New Bern Chapter of the North Carolina Society and at the request of the Lawrence family. Thank you to Compatriot Scott Wludyga for video live streaming the ceremony via Skype to Compatriot Lawrence's family and friends.
- On July 4th the Chapter attended the New Connecticut Chapter of the DAR's presentation of a bronze marker commemorating 86 Revolutionary War Patriots from Lake County which has been placed in front of the County Courthouse in Painesville.
- We have presented many flag certificates and two flag retirement certificates.
- At our November 11th meeting WWII Army veteran Robert Zonniville who fought in Normandy will be our guest speaker.
- I personally awarded John Alison, Army veteran of the Vietnam War a Wounded Warrior coin and certificate for wounds sustained as a helicopter pilot.
- National dues will be increasing from \$35 to \$50. State and Chapter dues will remain at \$10 each for a total of \$70 for next year. Please submit your dues for next year as early as possible, preferably before December 31st as this helps the Chapter with the Americanism award.

11. Protocol Introductions:

- Steve Hinson – Vice President General, Central District
National Chairman Patriot Records Committee
Past President Ohio Society
Past President Northeast Ohio Chapter
- Tim Ward – Past Vice President General, National Central District
Past President, Ohio Society
Past President, Northeastern Ohio Chapter
Current Genealogist, Ohio Society
- Troy Bailey – Past President, Ohio Society
Past President, Northeastern Ohio Chapter
Current Registrar, Ohio Society
- Venie Hinson – National Vice Chair East Central Division, DAR
DAR/SAR/S.R. Relations Committee
Ohio Chair DAR/SAR/S.R. Relations Committee
Senior Society President , Simon Fobes - Elizabeth Harper Society, Children of the American Revolution

- Diane Gilbert – Regent, Stanley Redmond Harper Chapter, DAR
- Christine Bailey – Past President, Ohio Society Ladies Auxiliary
Current Secretary, Ohio Society Ladies Auxiliary

12. Treasurer's Report: Dennis Gadley

- Copies of the report were distributed to each table. Started beginning of April with \$6,690.81 and ended with \$5,669.64 at the end of September, accounting for \$1,021.17 of spending. Dues will be due shortly. They can be paid via PayPal. There was a motion to accept, which was seconded. The motion carried.

13. Registrar's Report: Troy Bailey

- Dues for regular members over 18 years old, and not a life member, they are \$70. You can pay online at the Chapter website or pay Dennis today with cash or check. If you pay online there is a service fee of \$2. Would like dues paid by the end of November.
- New members inducted today, your dues are already paid for next year.
- George Washington Foundation – If you donate \$2,000 over a four-year period you can become a George Washington Fellow. Brochures are available if interested. The money is used for grants to local Chapters for special projects. Currently have around \$2 million in the foundation.
- 250th celebration of American Independence is July 4, 2026. The SAR is engaged in activities across the nation to celebrate. Any chapter can celebrate some event that occurred from 1775 to 1783. Currently the National Society is doing an event for the Boston Tea Party.
- On the 250th Anniversary committee at the national level and also working with the Ashtabula County Commissioners to organize a 250th Anniversary celebration committee for Ashtabula County. Would like our Chapter and our local DAR Chapter work together to put a monument together similar to the one in Lake County for Revolutionary War veterans. There is no place in Ashtabula County that acknowledges the Revolutionary War. There are monuments to every other war. Would like a chapter member to serve on the committee. The Commissioners have already given permission for the monument to be placed at the County Courthouse. \$5,000 is needed for the project. Already have donations from the local DAR, the Nation Society of DAR, the George Washington Foundation, and other sources like the Ashtabula Foundation. Asking for the Chapter to donate \$1,000 to further our mission to recognize our ancestors and inspire education. Questions – Dale Fellows mentioned Lake County, through the Commissioners, already started a formal America 250th Commission that he and Mark Tyler are on. The State Commission for the 250th Anniversary met in Cleveland a couple weeks ago. They are starting a grant program for projects like this. Our Chapter can apply for a grant. They are dedicating \$1 million a year across the state. Grants vary from less than \$5,000 to as much as \$50,000 for projects/programs over

the next three years, awarded every six months. Troy Bailey made a motion for the Chapter to donate \$1,000 towards the monument/plaque to the Revolutionary War soldiers buried in Ashtabula County. Tim Ward seconded the motion. The motion carried.

14. Secretary's Report: Ed Hanlon

- Compatriot Dennis Smith became a Chapter member June 29, 2023. He passed away August 27, 2023. The Chapter sent condolences to Kay, his wife, and his family, but ask that you keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. A moment of silence was observed. President Georgeff spoke about Dennis and wants to inquire about possibly doing a Compatriot Grave Marking for him. Asked Steve Hinson to contact Dennis' family regarding the grave marking.
- Every member has a National and State number assigned to them when they first become a member. We also assign a Chapter number. At some point and time in the past we lost track of assigning Chapter numbers. Both the current and historical rosters have been brought up to date as best as possible, but some members may have been missed who were dual Chapter members and their primary chapter was not ours and have since left our membership. The historical and current rosters are on the Chapter's Google Drive account.
- Every member has a profile on the National website. It includes a lot of information, including awards you have received. We have to submit to the State Secretary any awards that we bestow upon Chapter members. This has been done for the last couple of meetings. If anyone would like all of their awards added to their National profile, please submit a list of awards and when they were awarded to the Chapter Secretary.
- Received an email yesterday from the State Secretary that at the National Fall Leadership meeting he picked up 181 national Life Membership certificates for the Ohio SAR Society. They are in the process of being mailed out to the Chapter Secretaries and should be available at the next meeting.
- The Fall Ohio Newsletter came out recently. It's a large file that I'm in process of figuring out how to forward to the membership. The newsletter honors two Chapter members, Steve Hinson on becoming Vice President General of the Central District. Tim Ward was honored for assisting with over 1,000 applications for SAR members. This has never been done by anyone in the history of SAR in the entire country. Thank you Tim!
 - Questions – Mark Tyler said a link can be provided to the newsletter since it is on the Ohio Society website and in regards Tim Ward, I sat in on the awards and medals committee meeting at the Leadership Conference and because of Tim's hard work he far surpassed the current amount of clusters that can fit on a medal, so they had to redesign it because of Tim, so congratulations.
- Motion to accept the Secretary's report by Steve Hinson, seconded by Mark Tyler. Motion carried

15. Americanism Committee: Gage Georgeff

- Doing very well, better than last year. A lot of Color Guard and Veteran work as well as the Stark Award audit
- We need more youth awards. May have a prospect to do a brochure.

16. Color Guard Committee: Troy Bailey

- We need more participants. Current Color Guard members are aging. We do seven parades a year.
- We won \$50 at the Grape Jamboree and a trophy, \$100 from the Maple Festival and a trophy, \$100 at the Jefferson Memorial parade
- Karla Gadley mentioned she and Dennis recently marched in the Grape Jamboree and noted the importance that we are out at these events showing people what this country was built on. It was an honor and thrill to see people stand up and put their hands over their hearts when the flag passed by. Troy noted that was the first time that many people had done that.
- October 15th Garve Marking with the DAR and CAR for Elizabeth Harper at the Harper Cemetery in Harpersfield at 3:00. More details will be sent out soon.

17. Flag Committee: Troy Bailey

- If anyone you know flies the American flag we can honor them with a certificate. Let Troy know so we can make arrangements to honor them.

18. Patriot Grave Marking Committee: Steve Hinson

- Already mentioned the grave markings done in June.
- Will be marking Elizabeth Haper's grave with the DAR in a couple of weeks.
- Still need to pick the cemetery and date for next year's grave markings. Will be done in the fall of this year so arrangements can be made in the spring of next year.

19. Wreaths Across America Committee: Steve Hinson

- Venie Hinson of the DAR is in charge this year.
- Explained what Wreaths Across America is all about.
- Greenlawn Memorial Cemetery in Kingsville is the cemetery we will place wreaths.
- A partnership of SAR, DAR, and Blue Star Mothers work together on this project. We led it last year, DAR will lead it this year.

- This year it is on December 16th.
- Wreaths can be purchased for \$17 each

20. 250th Anniversary: Troy Bailey

- People that are of Spanish descent may be eligible for SAR/DAR membership if their ancestor served in Spain's military in Cuba. "From Across The Spanish Empire" is one of the books used to determine who was in Cuba during that period.

21. New Business & Correspondence

- Troy Bailey said next year's National Congress will be in Lancaster, Pennsylvania July 10-16, 2024. Registration is open.
- Troy Bailey said the Lafayette Chapter of the Ohio SAR will be celebrating their 100th anniversary on November 18, 2023. All SAR members are invited to attend.
- Steve Hinson said the National Congress for 2028 will be in Ohio, most likely in Cincinnati. It will require participation from all Ohio Chapters to make it successful.

- **Awards and Presentations: Troy Bailey**

- Dale Fellows was presented the membership certificates for his son Erik Fellows and grandsons Jayden and Maxwell Fellows.
- Bob Kenyon was awarded the Silver Roger Sherman Medal at the Ohio Society annual meeting in Cincinnati in May (not present).
- Gage Georgeff was presented with the Certificate of Distinguished Service which was awarded at the Ohio Society annual meeting in Cincinnati in May.
- Gage Georgeff was presented with the Bronze 250th Anniversary Medal.
- Mark Tyler was presented with the Patriot Grave Marking Medal.
- Gage Georgeff was presented with the Patriot Grave Marking Medal.
- Gregg Gorzelle was awarded the Patriot Grave Marking Medal (not present).
- Steve Hinson was presented with the Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster for completing fifteen Patriot Grave Markings.
- Mark Tyler was presented his certificate for his Supplemental Patriot Ancestor – Edward Tyler
- Ronald G. Campbell was awarded the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal posthumously. The award was presented to his wife Veronica and his family.

- Kevin M. Campbell was awarded the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal.
- Our Chapter received the Distinguished Chapter Award for 2022
- Our Chapter received the Membership Recruitment Award (third place) for 2022.

22. Program:

- World War II veteran Robert Somrak spoke at length about his time serving aboard the U.S.S. Missouri, sharing many stories, one of which was witnessing the Japanese surrender on the deck of the Missouri. Robert was presented with a Veteran's Quilt by Venie Hinson, Christine Bailey, and Diane Gilbert of the DAR.

23. 50/50 Raffle: \$144 (\$72 each to Chapter and winner Robert Somrak Jr.) Robert donated his share of the winnings back to the Chapter. Second prize was a patriotic salt and pepper shaker set won by Kevin Campbell.

24. Motion to Adjourn: by Tim Ward and seconded by Ed Hanlon. Motion carried.

25. 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."

26. Benediction: by Chaplain Bill Robinson

27. Closing Thought: President Georgeff

"Whenever law ends, tyranny begins." – John Locke

28. Our next meeting is Saturday, November 11, 2023 at the Saybrook United Methodist Church.

Adjournment 2:12 p.m.

Submitted by Ed Hanlon – Secretary