



The Buckeye Patriot

Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12

Sons of the American Revolution

Quarterly Newsletter

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In This Issue

<i>From the President's Desk</i>	1
<i>Welcome New SAR Members, Wreaths Across America, American Revolution Primer, Pearl Harbor Remembrance, NEO Chapter #12 Officers</i>	2
<i>The Fight to Reclaim America's Battlefields</i>	3
<i>Patriots, Redcoats and Spies, Boston Time Capsule</i>	4
<i>PBS Show 'Inventing America'</i>	5
<i>62nd Re-Enactment of Crossing of the Delaware, Fort Stephenson Celebration 2015</i>	6
<i>History Channel's New Miniseries 'Sons of Liberty'</i>	7
<i>Important Dates</i>	8



From The President's Desk

Compatriots & Friends,

I know it's a bit belated, but I'd like to wish you a very Happy & Healthy New Year! We're nearly two months into the New Year and before you know it, we'll be preparing to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas again (but let's not rush it). As you know, we've had a pretty busy year. Of course, one of the highlights was the Wreaths Across America program. On December 13th, Jim Gilbert, Dan Matheke, and I traveled to the Rittman National Cemetery and assisted with the program, presenting greetings to the assembly on behalf of the NSSAR President General. Despite the bone-chilling weather, the program was well attended, and hundreds of wreaths were distributed. It was a very impressive and well-coordinated program. Several of us have discussed the possibility of presenting and coordinating a program here in Ashtabula County in December, 2015.

We have a couple of very special programs coming up. For instance, our February 21st meeting will feature a program on Betsy Ross. Of course, we'll be conducting our annual election of officers as well. I've asked Compatriot Jim Pildner to serve as Chair of the Nomination Committee. If you are currently an officer and wish to remain in this office, please inform Jim of your interest. If you would like to serve or would like to nominate someone, please contact Jim. He can be reached by e-mail, or by phone; at jkrpildner@roadrunner.com or (440) 992-2972. Our current lineup is as follows: President, Troy Bailey; 1st Vice President, John McClellan; 2nd Vice President, Jim Pildner; Secretary, Dan Matheke; Treasurer, Steve Hinson; Chaplin, Vernon Palo; Registrar, Tim Ward; Historian, Scott Wludgys; and Genealogist, Tim Ward. · On Sunday, May 17th at 1:00 pm, we'll have a joint meeting with Ashtabula County Genealogical Society (860 Sherman Street, Geneva, Ohio 44041). The program will be presented by Compatriot Paul Wilke, with his "Captain Howard Miller Flag Collection." I have not seen this presentation yet, but have heard many good comments. I hope you will be able to join us for both of these programs.

Also, please join me in congratulating Tim Ward on his recent appointment to serve on the Fort Laurens Foundation Board of Directors. I'm sure he will be a great asset to the foundation's work, and we look forward to hearing what plans he might have for us to assist him. Look for details about current and future Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 programs and activities on our web site: neo12sar.net. As always, your suggestions for future meetings, topics, locations, and dates are welcomed and encouraged.

Patriotically yours,

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

"The very idea of the power and the right of the people to establish government presupposes the duty of every individual to obey the established government."

George Washington

Welcome New SAR Members!

*Danny Garner
Descendant of John Michael Garner*

*Greg Eric McCullough
Descendant of George Jacob Wineholt*

Wreaths Across America, at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman

On December 13th, members of the Western Reserve Society and Northeast Ohio Chapter Color Guardsmen participated in the annual [Wreaths Across America](http://ohssardispatch.wordpress.com) program at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio. Over 5,000 wreaths were placed at the headstones of the veterans in the open fields of the cemetery. After completing the placing of the wreaths, some of the over two hundred volunteers gathered at the flag pole for the Remembrance Program. At 11:59 a.m., Master of Ceremonies, Captain Jason Kaufmann, of the Civil Air Patrol called for a moment of silence, and then asked the combined color guard of the Civil Air Patrol Cadets and the Ohio Society Color Guard to present the colors.
(ohssardispatch.wordpress.com)



Dan Matheke and Jim Gilbert helped in placing some of the wreaths at veterans graves, while the rest of the Color Guard prepared for the Program of Remembrance of those who served our nation.

American Revolution Primer



On Monday, January 5th, Compatriots Paul M. Wilke & James D. Schaffer of the Cincinnati Chapter spoke to 45 members of the American Legion Post 630 in Blue Ash, Ohio about the American Revolution.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance



Compatriots Jesse Andrews & Michael Gunn, representing CCSAR, participated in the Flag Retirement & Pearl Harbor Ceremony along with members of the American Legion Post 534 on December 7th.

Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 Officers

*President - Troy Bailey
1st Vice President - John McClellan
2nd Vice President - Jim Pildner
Registrar - Tim Ward
Treasurer - Steve Hinson*

*Secretary - Dan Matheke
Historian - Scott Wludyga
Chaplain - Vernon Palo
Genealogist - Troy Bailey*

The Fight to Reclaim America's Battlefields

Some wore blue, others wore gray. Every soldier who fought in the Civil War played a role in shaping our history. So should every place where they did battle be considered hallowed ground? One hundred fifty years ago, Union and Confederate soldiers fought their way across a Tennessee field, just as re-enactors do today. But it was no spectator sport that day. A crippling defeat for the Confederacy, the Battle of Franklin came to be known as "Bloody Franklin." The casualties on both sides added up to almost 10,000. Nearly 1,500 of the Confederate dead are buried nearby, in the McGavock Family Cemetery at Carnton Plantation. "In a sense, you can say that this battle, these boys, the Union boys, all died to basically make us Americans," according to bestselling author Robert Hicks. "When you look today at the battlefield," asked Teichner back then, "what do you see?" "I see Targets and Hardee's and businesses," said Hicks. "We can, over this next decade, undo some of that."

"Parts of them disappear every day," said James Lighthizer heads the Civil War Trust, which raises money to save endangered properties. "We guesstimate at about 30-40 acres a day because of development, so it's going pretty fast." The fights are not always black-and-white: good guys against bad guys. For example, the battle over the Battle of Princeton, in New Jersey, which was fought during the American Revolution, in January 1777. For General Washington, who hadn't won many outright victories to that point, the battle was monumental -- his counter-attack pushed the British off the hill. It built his reputation, and his leadership. On one side, you've got Jerry Hurwitz, president of the Princeton Battlefield Society ("What they're doing is tantamount to spitting in the eye of the American people," he said). On the other side: John Masten, representing the Institute for Advanced Study, a community of world-renowned scholars, which wants to build faculty housing on seven acres it owns on what may (or may not) be core battlefield. Teichner asked, "How do you balance the 21st century against the 18th?"

"The view that any land over which troops moved or where any shots were exchanged is automatically to be preserved is a view that's hard to apply in Princeton," said Masten, "because so much has happened since 1777. And it's not just large residential neighborhoods, but also important institutions in the community." So, it's the place where Albert Einstein and J. Robert Oppenheimer worked -- vs. the father of our country, George Washington. Who deserves to win?

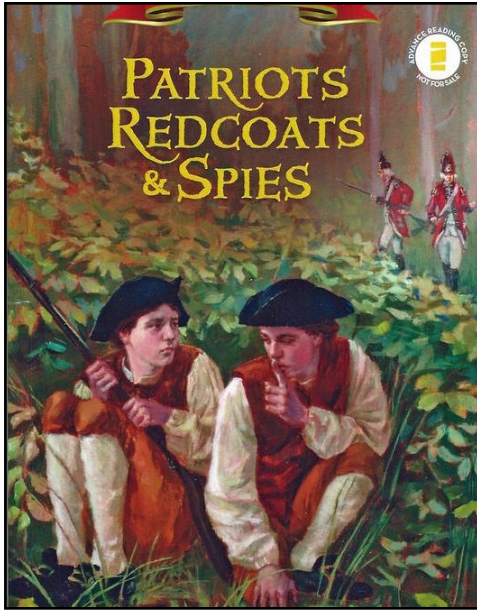
Franklin, Tenn., is now one demolition closer to reclaiming another big piece of its battlefield. A decade ago, it had been written off as lost. The worst part of the fighting was around the site of the Carter House (now a museum) and a Pizza Hut when we first came to Franklin in 2005. Since then, It's been "now you see it, now you don't" -- one property after another gone, just like Dominoes, which will be going away in January, all to make way for a 20-acre park on the reclaimed land. The price tag: \$14 million, so far, from private donations, the Civil War Trust, and the city, state and federal

governments. "This is hallowed ground" said Hicks. "I don't know how to say it any other way. Something holy happened here." Who knew that people would still be fighting the Battle of Franklin today, 150 years after the fact? The front lines then . . . are the front lines now. (www.cbsnews.com)



Less than a decade ago this Pizza Hut stood atop what was the site of a Civil War battle. No longer. (Michael Melford, National Geographic/CBS News)

Children's Book Takes Place During American Revolution



The year is 1777, and 14 year old twins John and Ambrose Lamberton and their father are running through fog to escape two Redcoat soldiers who are shooting at them. They manage to escape in a sailboat, but the boys' father is seriously wounded. It is then that they learn he is a patriot spy and that he is holding valuable information that must reach George Washington. Their journey takes them from Connecticut to New York and ultimately to New Jersey. With no experience as warriors, the two use their intelligence, bravery and skill to outwit those who pursue them as well as the many people they encounter who suspect them. "[Patriots, Redcoats and Spies](#)" is the title of the newest book by Robert J. Skead, author of several other children's books, including "Elves Don't Dunk," "Elves Can't Kick," "Safe at Home" and "Something to Prove," the story of Satchel Paige and Joe DiMaggio. It is the first book written with his father, Robert A. Skead. (www.app.com)

Boston Time Capsule Reveals Coins, Papers Dating to 1652

The nation's oldest known time capsule, buried 220 years ago by revolutionary heroes Paul Revere and Samuel Adams, was opened in Boston on Tuesday for the first time since the mid-19th century. It revealed a trove of coins, documents, newspapers and memorabilia dating from America's colonial beginnings to the fragile early days of the United States. The 10-pound, corroded copper box held two-dozen silver and copper coins from 1652 to 1855; a silver plaque engraved by Revere, who was a silversmith; a copper medal depicting George Washington; five newspapers; the seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; "calling" cards; and a title page from the Massachusetts Colony Records. "[This] is a new chapter in a story that began in 1795," Malcolm Rogers, director of Boston's Museum of Fine Arts, which oversaw the excavation, said before the capsule was opened. Staff worked for nearly four hours to loosen the screws of the box, which measured 5½ inches by 7½ by 1½. They said it was hermetically sealed, and I think they really meant it," said Pam Hatchfield, the museum conservationist who had worked several hours last month to chisel the capsule free. As she pulled objects out, she remarked that the paper was "in amazingly good condition." The time capsule, encased in plaster with coins tossed in for good luck, was unearthed December 11th in the cornerstone of the Massachusetts State House during work to repair a water leak. It was last opened in 1855 during emergency repairs. The contents were cleaned, new objects were added, and it was placed in a brass container, covered in plaster and reset in the keystone. The contents were generally known beforehand. The museum had X-rayed the capsule and said the items were described in the 1855 account of the reburying ceremony. Items will be publicly displayed temporarily before being reburied in the cornerstone, the secretary of the commonwealth said. Officials are considering adding something contemporary for future generations to discover. (www.usatoday.com)



Hatchfield holds one of the coins. Coins were buried with time capsules for good luck, according to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. (Photo: Steven Senne, Associated Press)

Founding Fathers Have a Meeting of the Minds in PBS Show 'Inventing America'

Steve Allen made television history in 1977 when he launched “Meeting of the Minds,” a PBS series in which actors portraying historic characters from different eras came together to discuss great questions of the past and present. Now, Holland writer Milt Nieuwsma has created a variation on the TV classic with a proposed series called “Inventing America” that applies Allen’s format to American history and American issues.

The pilot episode of “Inventing America” was recorded before a live audience at Hope College’s DeWitt Theatre on Thursday, December 4th, and Friday, December 5, with actors portraying Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and John Dickinson discussing the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in a talk show format.

Nieuwsma says the idea of reviving “Meeting of the Minds” was the brainchild of the late Chuck Furman, a former WGVU program director. They discovered the tapes of Allen’s series, which ended its TV run in 1981, hadn’t been preserved and were no longer broadcast quality, and Nieuwsma set to work developing a series from scratch using the same format to tell the story of America. In the production, the four characters come together to discuss the events of 1776 with a moderator from the perspective of 20 to 30 years after the fact. Eighty percent of the characters’ words in the script are their own from historic documents, Nieuwsma says, though he did have to take some liberties for the sake of modern audiences. “I had to contemporize the language to make the conversation flow, while maintaining the integrity of their ideas,” he says.



John Hamant will play Benjamin Franklin in a Hope College live interview with the founding fathers, which will be filmed and serve as the pilot episode for a proposed PBS series called *Inventing America*.

The actors playing Jefferson, Franklin and Adams are all deeply familiar with their characters. Sam Goodyear of Binghamton, N.Y., has played Adams in various productions since 1995 while John Hamant and Bill Barker portray Franklin and Jefferson respectively at Colonial Williamsburg, Va. However, it is a fourth character, much lesser known to most Americans, that gives the production an alternative perspective and some dramatic tension. John Dickinson, a delegate to the Second Continental Congress who voted against the Declaration, will be portrayed by Grand Rapids area actor Rodney Teslaa. “It’s a chance for viewers to have a sense of these guys as normal people — brilliant normal people — doing something remarkable.”

“We live in a time when history seems an extravagance,” moderator Marc Baer says. “Any opportunity to make history real for any audience, to make the connections between past and present, I want to encourage.” If the pilot episode draws viewers and is accepted by PBS, Nieuwsma says, “Inventing America” will be co-produced by Boston public television station WGBH and Hope. Nieuwsma has already written the second show, dealing with the drafting of the Constitution, and foresees a series of eight episodes running through the 1960s. (www.hollandsentinel.com)

62nd Re-Enactment of George Washington's Crossing of the Delaware



Colonial soldiers pull a cannon during the 62nd annual re-enactment.
(Gregg Slaboda - The Trentonian)

Thousands of people attended this year's re-enactment of George Washington's crossing of the Delaware River. Some of them were there because "it was something to do" on Christmas, while others were there to remember how this country began. "It was a major turning point in the American Revolution, and I don't know if we'd be here if Washington hadn't crossed the Delaware River," Michael Hartwell, who visited from New York, said. "We might not have a country."

Washington's 1776 Christmas crossing of the Delaware River led to important victories in Trenton and Princeton, and many historians believe the event saved the revolution. Prior to the crossing, Washington had lost several battles

throughout New York and the Jerseys, and morale within his army was low. According to historians, Washington knew that decisive action was needed to keep the revolution alive, so he planned an assault on the Hessian troops at Trenton. The Hessians were German troops hired by the British to help fight during the American Revolution. "He had to cross the Delaware River because his army was dwindling," Historian Mark Sirak said. "If he didn't cross and win a victory, nobody was going to join his army and the revolution would've ended." (www.pottsmmerc.com)

Fort Stephenson Celebration Returning to Fremont in 2015

The Battle of Fort Stephenson celebration will return for a third straight year in 2015, after organizers received permission from the Birchard Public Library to have the event on its adjacent Croghan Street property, which served as the former Fremont Middle School site. The celebration, started in 2013 as a bicentennial festival in honor of the 1813 Battle of Fort Stephenson, has drawn thousands of visitors to the downtown area in the last two years in early August. Katherine Rice, Fort Stephenson's committee chairwoman, said she and other group organizers found out about the library's approval last week and met Monday to start planning for the 2015 celebration. The event is scheduled for Aug 1-2, she said. "We're just really excited to be able to do it again and tell the story," Rice said Tuesday.

Rice said the organizers want the 2015 battle reenactment to be scripted with commentary and different viewpoints from individual reenactors associated with the War of 1812 battle. In general, the festival will be more hands on and interactive for spectators with an emphasis on on-site demonstrations of life in the early 19th century. "The period encampment is really the main focus," Rice said. She said the festival also will likely include pre-events geared toward children and involving the Sandusky County Historical Society.

Cricket and tomahawk throwing will return to the Fort Stephenson event in 2015, Rice said. She said event organizers were considering the return of other features of the 2014 celebration. At the 2014 festival, organizers put up a replica early-19th century wooden fort at the Croghan Street encampment and reenactment area and put together a new historic bike tour, which included stops at Whittlesey Cemetery, Ball's Battle Field, the Ol Grist Mill and the Hayes Presidential Center. (www.thenews-messenger.com)

History Channel's New Miniseries 'Sons of Liberty' Recaptures the Spirit of America's Past

Don't let the powdered wigs and oil paintings fool you: Samuel Adams, John Hancock and the other eventual Americans who changed the course of history were a ragtag band of secretive and sometimes mischievous young radicals. Just ask Paul Revere, aka actor Michael Raymond-James, who's part of the cast of ["Sons of Liberty,"](#) a new miniseries premiering in January on the History Channel.

There was more to Revere than his famous ride of April 18, 1775, to warn the colonists the British were coming. "He was so much more involved than that. He was a major operative and a huge thorn in the British crown," Raymond-James said, sipping a pint of beer during an interview at the Green Dragon Tavern in Boston's North End — a favorite meeting place of the revolutionaries.

"Sons of Liberty," a three-part, six-hour series that airs starting January 25, tells the back stories of the Founding Fathers and their furtive efforts to turn a colony into a country. Freedom didn't come easily, said Dirk Hoogstra, History's general manager. "Most people think of this time as a bunch of guys in wigs who got in a room and wrote up the Declaration of Independence, but it is so much more than that," Hoogstra said. "I'm not sure people really understand how crazy it was to make the decision they made to go to war with the most powerful military in the world, being untrained and unorganized," he said. Actor Ben Barnes plays Sam Adams, who led the rebellious gang and was known for his tenacity and fearlessness. Barnes, who is British, said the experience gave him a new appreciation for America.



*In this 2014 photo released by the History Channel, Michael Raymond-James plays the role of Paul Revere in Sons of Liberty, a new miniseries premiering in January 2015 on the History Channel.
(AP Photo/History Channel, Ollie Upton, Associated Press)*

Contrary to what some grammar school history books might suggest, the revolution didn't happen overnight. "There is this 10-year buildup sparked by this urge for equality that leads them toward independence," Barnes said. The renegades didn't openly oppose the Crown at first — they built forces and devised their plots in the shadows through secret meetings and whispers. Few knew that Sam Adams and his cousin, John Adams, were prominent members of the group of agitators who eventually came to be known as the Sons of Liberty. Though both spoke up against British taxes and laws in numerous published articles, they hid behind pen names while publicly claiming to be loyal to the Crown. Dr. Joseph Warren, who cared for British General Thomas Gage and his wife, also hid in the shadows. By gathering intel about the British Army's whereabouts and supply chain, he helped his fellow comrades plan attacks. The group's facade kept the revolutionaries under the British radar — allowing the colonists to grow stronger and better prepared, Barnes said. The miniseries was filmed in Romania. But Raymond-James, the Revere actor, marveled at the history evoked by the Green Dragon Tavern. "To come and be able to sit here — it's incredible," he said. "I'm sitting where Paul Revere used to come with his fellow Patriots to devise their plan of attack. You can't recreate this feeling — it's like grasping at smoke." (www.foxnews.com)

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Sons of the American Revolution
Quarterly Newsletter*

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Libertas et Patria!

*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

**Ohio Society SAR
Board of Management Meeting**
February 6th & 7th, 2015
[Courtyard Marriott](#)
4047 Bridgewater Pkwy.
Stow, Ohio 44224

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12
Presidents Day Program**
Saturday, February 21st, 2015 at 11:30 am
[Rivalry's Restaurant](#)
Ramada Austinburg/Ashtabula
1860 Austinburg Road
Austinburg, Ohio 44010

NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting
March 4th - 8th, 2015
1000 South 4th Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40203

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12
Patriots' Day Program**
Saturday, April 18th, 2015
To Be Announced

[Geauga County Maple Festival](#)
April 25th & 26th, 2015
Chardon Square, Short Court Street
Chardon, Ohio 44024

**Ohio Society SAR
126th Annual Conference**
Friday, May 1st - 3rd, 2015
[Hope Hotel & Richard C. Holbrooke
Conference Center](#)
10823 Chidlaw Road
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12
& [Ashtabula Genealogical Society](#)**
Sunday, May 17th, 2015
860 Sherman Street
Geneva, Ohio 44041

Chagrin Falls Blossom Time Festival
Sunday, May 24th, 2015 at 2:00 pm
400 E Washington Street
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022

Patriotic Cantata
Sunday, May 24th, 2015 at 6:00 pm
Geauga County Fairgrounds
14373 North Cheshire Street
Burton, Ohio 44021

Ashtabula Memorial Day Parade
Monday, May 25th, 2015 at 12:00 pm
Point Park, Walnut Blvd.
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12
Flag Day Program at [Laleure Vineyards](#)**
Saturday, June 13th, 2015 at 3:00 pm
17335 Nash Road
Parkman, Ohio 44080

