



# The Buckeye Patriot

## Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12

### Sons of the American Revolution

#### Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2022

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### From The President's Desk

*Compatriots, Companions, Brothers & Friends,*

*Please consider this opening phrase of a well-known speech by Ronald Regan, the fortieth President of the United States:*

*"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."*

*These words reverberate, strongly and courageously, throughout every member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Through the ideals and efforts of our historic society, we must press on and continue to share with our community, our children, and especially our grandchildren, the message that patriotism and national pride are essential standards for us to uphold if we want the freedoms we enjoy today to persevere tomorrow.*

*So, how can we teach young people how to demonstrate their sense of patriotism?*

*Encourage them to thank veterans whenever they meet them by saying, "thank you for serving our country and protecting our freedoms. I am grateful for your sacrifice." If my grandson is with me, I always say to him, "Owen, this person is a Veteran. What do you say?" and he responds by saying, "Thank you!"*

*Teach them to face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over their heart while reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, singing "the Star-Spangled Banner," or saluting the flag when it passes in a parade.*

*I'd like to ask each of you to join me in demonstrating such courteous displays of patriotism, as we can encourage the spirit of patriotism by our actions and our words.*

*As I conclude my farewell memo "From the President's Desk," I wish Gage Georgeff all the best as I pass the baton of leadership to him and his corps officers. Godspeed, my compatriots. Press forward, and I am confident that you will do your very best!*

*To all, please hold this thought from Oliver Wendell Holmes close to your heart:*

*"One flag, one land, one heart, one hand, One Nation, evermore!"*

*Patriotically yours,*

*Jim Pildner, President  
Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12  
Sons of the American Revolution*

# Welcome New SAR Members!

Littleton "Lit" Kirkpatrick



## SAR Genealogical Research Library

*Tripadvisor 2020 Travelers' Choice Award Winner!*

*The SAR Genealogical Research Library was ranked in the top 10% of all attractions worldwide based on visitor experience. Drop in and see us the next time you are in Louisville, Kentucky.*

*Contact: SAR Genealogical Research Library 809 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202, Phone: (502) 589-1776*

*Hours: Monday through Friday: 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM, 3rd Saturday of the month: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM*



*Starting Monday, February 7, the library will reopen by appointment only. To schedule your appointment, please call 502-589-1776. \*In cases of inclement weather, the library and headquarters follow the University of Louisville schedule.*

*Admission is \$5 per day for non-SAR members, Free for SAR, spouses of SAR, DAR, C.A.R., and SR members and Friends of the SAR Library*

*Parking: Metered street parking is available as well as nearby paid lots such as the Frazier History Museum, Kentucky Science Center, and 8th Street Garage. ([360 Virtual Tour](#))*

## Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 Officers

*President - [Jim Pildner](#)  
1st Vice President - [Richard Dana](#)  
2nd Vice President - [Tim Ward](#)  
Registrar - [Troy Bailey](#)  
Genealogist - [Tim Ward](#)*

*Secretary - [Scott Wludyga](#)  
Treasurer - [Bob Kenyon](#)  
Historian - [Scott Wludyga](#)  
Chaplain - [William Robinson](#)*

# A Spark of Revolution

[A Spark of Revolution: William Small, Thomas Jefferson and James Watt, by Martin Clagett](#), will be released on February 22nd. This first-ever biography explores the curious connection between the American Revolution and the Industrial Revolution.

Walter Isaacson, who encouraged the project, knew of Small from research for his best-selling biography of Benjamin Franklin. Small has intrigued writers ranging from Jon Meacham to Jenny Uglow, and even novelist John Dos Passos. Yet this is the first complete biography of the Scotsman. The book's foreword is by historian and author Garry Wills.

Small played a significant role in the education of a young Thomas Jefferson at William and Mary College, and then went to work alongside the innovators James Watt and Matthew Boulton on an improved steam engine that helped to usher in the Industrial Revolution.

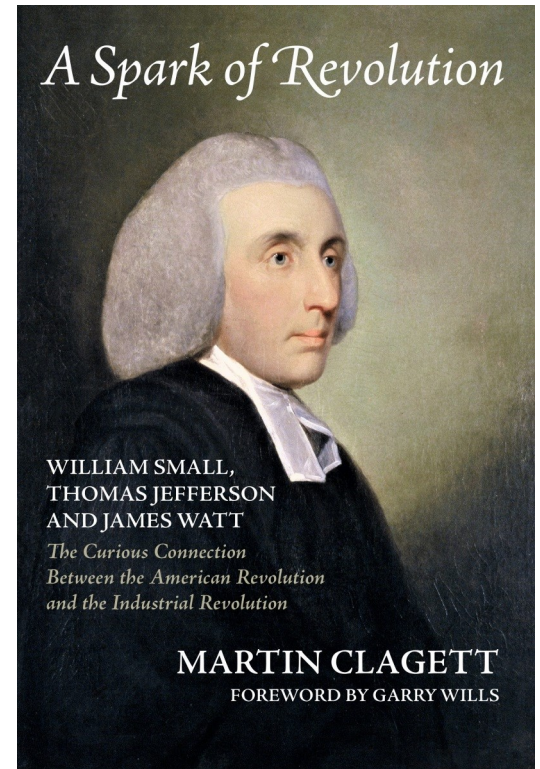
"It was my great good fortune, and what probably fixed the destinies of my life that Dr. William Small of Scotland was then Professor of Mathematics," Jefferson writes in his autobiography. "A man profound in most of the usual branches of science, with a happy talent of communication, correct and gentlemanly manner, and an enlarged and liberal mind. He, most happily for me became soon attached to me, and made me his daily companion when not in school; and from his conversation I got my first views of the expansion of science and of the system of things in which we are placed."

In his forthcoming book, Clagett writes that William Small was an accidental apostle of the Scottish Enlightenment, bringing its methods and philosophical foundations to a nation being born. "He helped transform the abstractions of Newtonianism into an early manifestation of logical positivism, and he was also an active agent in transforming Britain from an agrarian society into an industrial one by means of intellectual, scientific, and collegial engagement. Through these actions, Small was a part of an international cooperation in philosophy and literature known as the Republic of Letters."

William Small died on Feb. 25, 1775 – 247 years ago this month – as both the American Revolution and the global Industrial Revolution were getting underway. Unaware of his professor's passing, as the sabers of war were rattling, Jefferson wrote to Small, "I shall still hope that amidst public dissension private friendship may be preserved inviolate, and among the warmest you can ever possess is that of Your obliged humble servant."

Harry T. Dickinson, a scholar at the University of Edinburgh, hopes the Small biography attracts the attention it deserves: "Earlier scholars have noted his existence in passing, when writing about the Enlightenment or the American or Industrial Revolutions, but they have failed to do full justice to his varied career and positive influence. Martin Clagett has rectified this neglect."

[www.nbcrighnow.com](http://www.nbcrighnow.com)



# Battle of Monmouth

*The American Revolution:  
Battle of Monmouth | Battlefield Detectives  
(S2, E3) | Full Episode*



Click image above to view full episode in high resolution

# Mountaineer Fife & Drum Corps



Director George Willis poses with members of the Mountaineer Fife and Drum Corps at a rehearsal. (Avery Yearout)

*The Mountaineer Fife & Drum Corps, led by George Willis, director of percussion studies at WVU, plays a mix of military music, traditional folk songs and folk songs from Appalachia. The ensemble was founded by Willis in 2014.*

[www.thedaonline.com](http://www.thedaonline.com)

# Cordier Sells Rare American Revolution Document

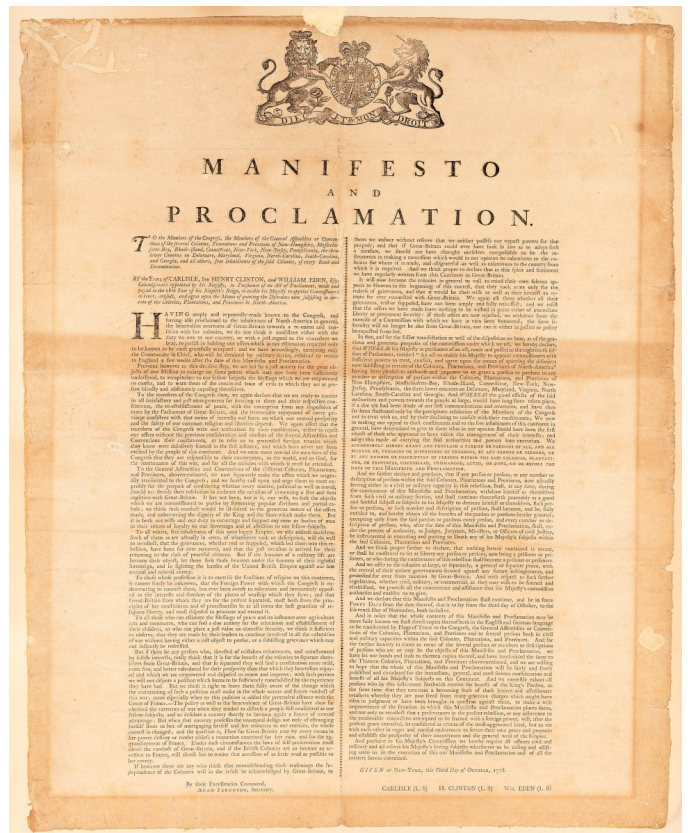
*A rare American printed document, a Manifesto & Proclamation, October 1778, commanded \$22,800.*

*The document was presented by the earl of Carlisle, Sir Henry Clinton and William Eden, offering the British colonists a repeal of parliamentary taxation and internal self-government as a last effort to quell the American Revolution.*

*Printed by Tory (and reported colonial spy) James Rivington, the Peace Commission appealed to the states, who in turn rejected the plea by burning down Rivington's New York print shop.*

*This example was consigned by a direct descendant of Mary Rittenhouse of Philadelphia (1795-1873).*

[www.antiquesandthearts.com](http://www.antiquesandthearts.com)



# “Liberty Is Sweet” by Woody Holton

## [Liberty Is Sweet: The Hidden History of the American Revolution](#)

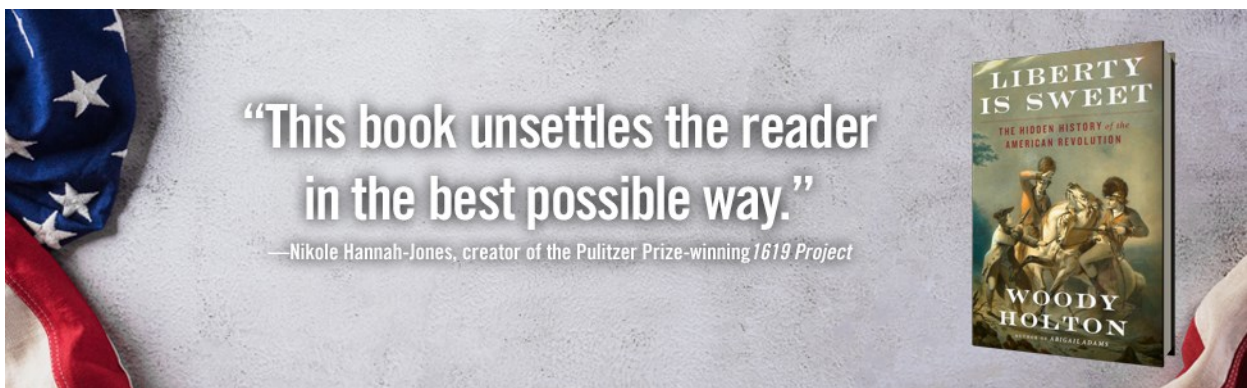
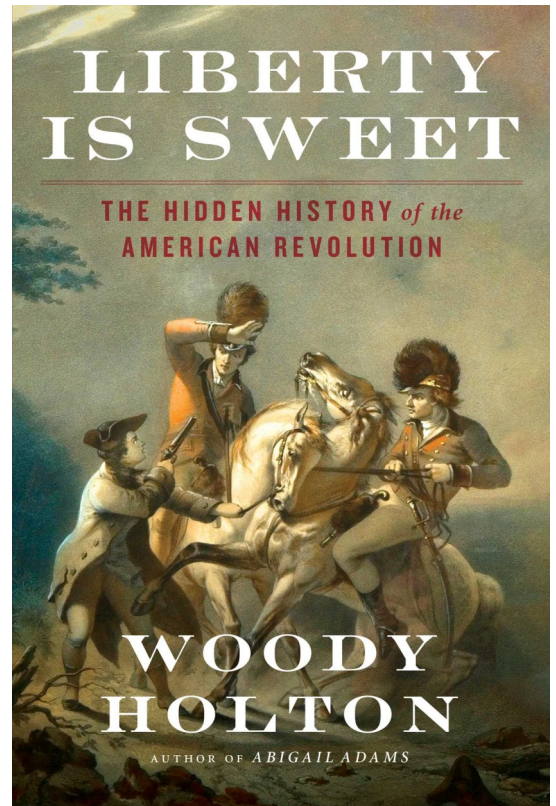
A “deeply researched and bracing retelling” (Annette Gordon-Reed, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian) of the American Revolution, showing how the Founders were influenced by overlooked Americans—women, Native Americans, African Americans, and religious dissenters.

Using more than a thousand eyewitness records, *Liberty Is Sweet* is a “spirited account” (Gordon S. Wood, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*) that explores countless connections between the Patriots of 1776 and other Americans whose passion for freedom often brought them into conflict with the Founding Fathers. “It is all one story,” prizewinning historian Woody Holton writes.

Holton describes the origins and crucial battles of the Revolution from Lexington and Concord to the British surrender at Yorktown, always focusing on marginalized Americans — enslaved Africans and African Americans, Native Americans, women, and dissenters—and on overlooked factors such as weather, North America’s unique geography, chance, misperception, attempts to manipulate public opinion, and (most of all) disease.

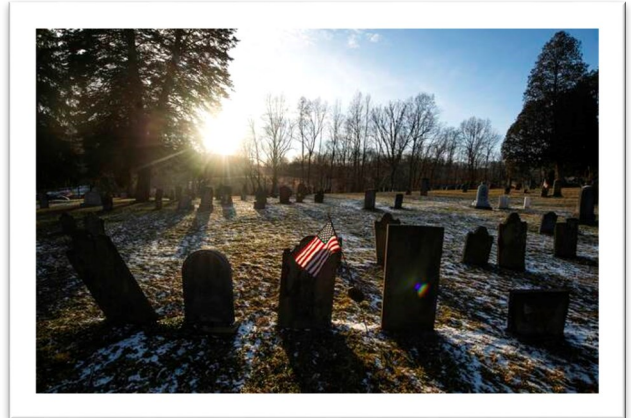
Thousands of enslaved Americans exploited the chaos of war to obtain their own freedom, while others were given away as enlistment bounties to whites. Women provided material support for the troops, sewing clothes for soldiers and in some cases taking part in the fighting. Both sides courted native people and mimicked their tactics.

*Liberty Is Sweet* is a “must-read book for understanding the founding of our nation” (Walter Isaacson, author of *Benjamin Franklin*), from its origins on the frontiers and in the Atlantic ports to the creation of the Constitution. Offering surprises at every turn—for example, Holton makes a convincing case that Britain never had a chance of winning the war—this majestic history revivifies a story we thought we already knew. ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com))



# Historical Cemetery in Westmoreland Launches Effort to Restore Fallen Tombstones

At St. James Lutheran Cemetery, one of Bell Township's oldest graveyards, more than 40 tombstones have fallen over. The patina and names have faded. The cursive writing engraved on some of the oldest stones is there but barely visible. Some stones are so old, they have been wiped clean of history or identification. A community group is mounting a public campaign to help preserve parts of the northern Westmoreland County cemetery — which counts a key Revolutionary War figure among its residents.



St. James Lutheran Cemetery (Saltsburg, Pennsylvania 15681, in Westmoreland County)

Established in about 1803, the cemetery along St. James Church Road is the burial ground mainly for residents born in the 1700s who died in the 1800s. The St. James Cemetery Association hopes to raise \$20,000 to pour footers and reset the fallen tombstones. Township supervisors, the Bell Township Historical Preservation Society and contractors are huddling to find a way to pay for it and get the project off the ground. Recently, a landscaping team from Allegheny Township removed more than 300 yucca plants that invaded the cemetery and made it impossible to mow in some sections. Dozens of toppled stones were found, said Lee Schumaker, who owns J&L Lawncare with his son Justin.

The Daughters of the American Revolution installed a new headstone in 1928 for one of the most prominent burial sites — Mathias Ringle, (1742-1811), wagon builder for George Washington during the Revolutionary War. He was a survivor of the Continental Army's brutal winter encampment at Valley Forge from 1777 to 1778. Ringle, originally from eastern Pennsylvania, served under Washington from 1776 to 1783. He returned to Pennsylvania as an accomplished blacksmith. In 1797, Ringle bought 400 acres in Hempfield and built a large and spectacular home completed in 1803, said Dolores Colledge, 91, of Avonmore. Colledge is the last remaining board member of the Bell Township Historic Preservation Society. According to accounts on the genealogy websites, Ringle married twice and raised 17 children.

St. James is home to some of the families who were the earliest settlers in the township, according to Colledge. Longtime township families such as the Ringles, Yockeys and Fennels were related to Colledge's late husband, Robert Colledge. "The cemetery is where all of them wound up. It is one of the oldest cemeteries around. And if this is not preserved, the history will get lost."

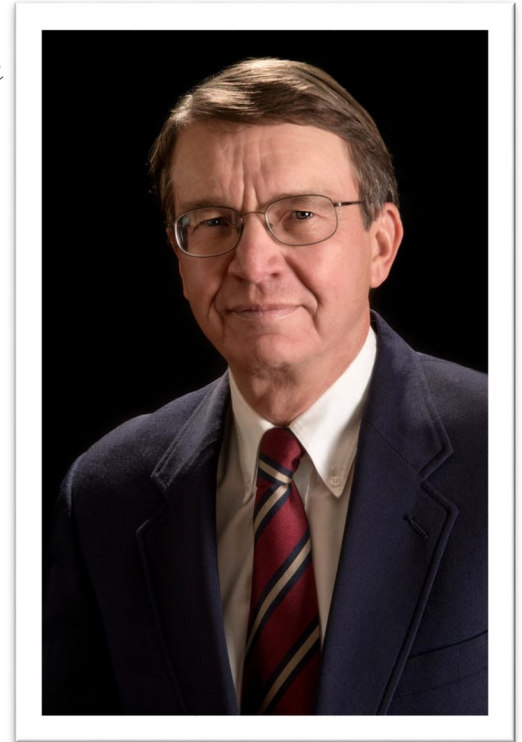
Bell Township supervisors are limited in how much they can help, but are exploring possibilities. "The cemetery is part of the community," said Supervisor John Bowman. "A lot of people who lived in Bell Township are here as well as those who served in the armed forces." While the historical importance of the cemetery is undeniable, officials say there isn't a clear path forward to preserve it or the church next to it. There has been an endowment yielding interest payments used for grass mowing but, Tickle said, "the interest rates are peanuts." The mowing expense has been digging into the principal, he said. "It's difficult to keep up." ([triblive.com](http://triblive.com))

# War of 1812 an Overlooked Historical Conflict

*Celebrated author Walter Borneman believes that the War of 1812 gets somewhat lost in the annals of American history. The conflict between the United States and British and Native American forces is typically overshadowed by both the American Revolution and Civil War.*

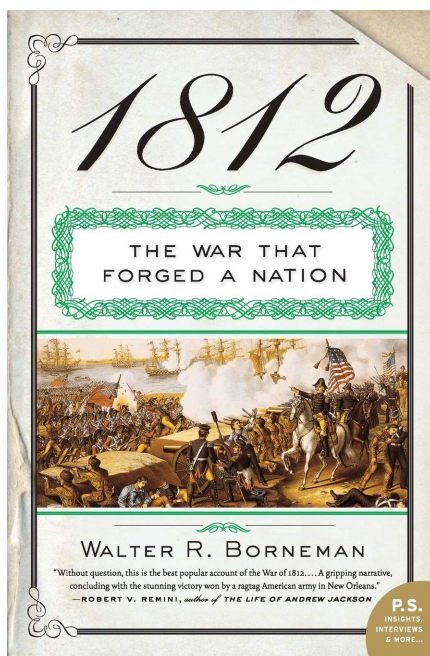
*But the author of 1812: The War that Forged a Nation, says that those who overlook The Second War for Independence are doing a disservice to its impact on what was then a fledgling country.*

*The Colorado-based author believes there were three overarching principals that sparked the war. Both Great Britain and France had for years been impressing - recruiting by force - American naval officers as part of the ongoing conflicts between the two European powers. Those conflicts also saw both countries violate trade agreements with the United States, which was eager to remain neutral so as not to affect its business relations with either nation. Meanwhile, America continued to lust after the Canadian territory, which at this time in history was under British control.*



*Author Walter Borneman*

*Borneman said that while the end result of the war was a more unified nation, that does not mean everyone was initially eager to go up against Great Britain. "President James Madison, for all his brilliant intellect, may not be the most charismatic leader in history," Borneman said. "He really rings his hands over all these things, and ends up putting the matter to Congress. Congress debates for a number of weeks, and in the end does declare war, but it's a 79-49 vote in the house, and 19-13 in the Senate. The point is that the country is divided over this."*



*Borneman said that by the time the war ended with the signing of the Treaty of Ghent in 1814, "both sides were ready to be over and done with the war." While the question of what the war actually accomplished will forever remain hotly debated, the author noted that many of eventual U.S. military and political leaders "cut their teeth" in the United State's second conflict with Great Britain. "The War of 1812 created this new generation of leaders," Borneman said. "It unified the country with a new sense of national purpose."*

[www.monroenews.com](http://www.monroenews.com), [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com))

## *John Adams, Boston's Leading Attorney*



*When the French and Indian War ended in 1763, John Adams was single, living on a small farm in Braintree, Massachusetts, and enjoying a flourishing law practice just up the road in Boston. The next year his marital status changed, most would say improved, when he married Abigail Smith. A profitable business and a quiet family life seemed to be in his future, but that soon changed.*

*The British treasury had been terribly depleted by the recently ended war with France. To replenish their coffers, England's leaders looked to their American colonies as a source of income. The Ministry reasoned that since much of the cost of the war was spent to protect the colonies, the colonies should foot some of the bill. Consequently, in 1764, Parliament passed the Sugar Act and followed that up with the Stamp Act in 1765. Colonial leaders like Adams recognized these bills represented more than simply revenue grabs by the Crown. There was the larger constitutional question of whether Parliament had the right to tax the American colonists since they were not represented in that legislative body.*

*In a series of articles under the pen name "Humphrey Ploughjogger," Adams argued that the Stamp Act was invalid due to the lack of colonial representation in Parliament. These writings which were printed in the Boston Gazette, as well in London, gained Adams quite a bit of notice in Massachusetts and in other parts of North America. To fight this legislation, American leaders organized the Stamp Act Congress in October 1765 and nine of the thirteen colonies sent representatives. Due to this unexpectedly united resistance, the Stamp Act was repealed in 1766 and emotions subsided.*

*John Adams was one of the most conscientious of our Founding Fathers and this characteristic was on full display when Adams was a private attorney. Adams risked his reputation and losing clients by defending the soldiers accused in the Boston Massacre. But this principled man willingly did so because he thought it was the right thing to do. That sort of admirable behavior speaks volumes about Adams' character. Adams' logical argument against legislative oppression planted the seeds of independence in the minds of his fellow citizens and helped pave the road to our separation from England.*

*([www.bryancountynews.com](http://www.bryancountynews.com))*



# *Now More Than Ever, American Revolution's Story of Freedom Must Be Told*

*The 250th anniversary of American Independence is fast approaching, and with it the maneuvering to redefine the American Revolution for a new generation.*

*The latest provocation comes from Andrew Roberts, the British historian who is author of "The Last King of America: The Misunderstood Reign of George III." Roberts, while conceding that the introduction to the Declaration of Independence is inspiring, insists that the rest of it, the list of grievances against the king, is "grotesquely hypocritical, illogical, mendacious."*

*Roberts writes in his new biography that George III "was in fact a civilized, good-natured, Christian and enlightened monarch . . . not a tyrant." Roberts, who is affiliated with Stanford's conservative Hoover Institution, praises George III in terms that will warm the hearts of contemporary progressives. The king, to hear Roberts tell it, "was a convinced abolitionist," unlike slave-owning American revolutionaries such as Patrick Henry and George Washington.*

*The king's government "behaved with an honorable punctiliousness towards her treaties with the Indigenous Nations," placing commitments toward the Iroquois and the Cherokee ahead of the expansionist ambitions of American land speculators including Henry and Washington. And George "defied the vicious prejudices of the day against homosexuality and bisexuality."*

*It has echoes of The New York Times and its "1619 Project," which likewise portrayed the American Revolution as a racism-tainted effort to preserve slavery from British abolitionism.*

*It's early yet — 2026 is four years off — but activity is already stirring in connection with the sestercentennial, or the semiquincentennial. Congress has established the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, with congressional and private citizen members.*

*It fits with America that our history is told and retold by a combination of politicians, government institutions, voluntary associations, academics, and businesses. Our understanding of the revolution and the characters who made it has improved over time.*



*Saratoga Battlefield, where fortunes in the Revolutionary War turned favorably toward the Americans. (Stephen Puliafico/Dreamstime.com)*

*If the current generation of intellectuals and politicians is scrambling to get ahead of the story, it wouldn't be the first time. Various tyrants on the global stage — Xi Jinping, Vladimir Putin, Ali Khamenei — are portraying themselves as civilized, good-natured, and enlightened rulers. They are the George III's of today, Roberts's revisionist spin notwithstanding.*

*In that context, it's as urgent as it's ever been to tell the American Revolution's story of self-government and of freedom. "The love of liberty is interwoven in the soul of man, and can never be totally extinguished," as the American revolutionary Samuel Adams put it.*

*(Ira Stoll, [www.newsmax.com](http://www.newsmax.com))*

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Sons of the American Revolution  
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Website: [www.neo12sar.net](http://www.neo12sar.net)



*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.*

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## **Important Dates to Remember**

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12  
Presidents Day Program &  
Election of Officers**

Saturday, February 19th, 2022  
Ashtabula Public Library, 12 p.m.  
Robert S Morrison Foundation Room  
4335 Park Avenue  
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

**NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting**

March 3rd - 5th, 2022  
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12  
Patriots' Day Program**

Saturday, April 9th, 2022  
The Lodge at Bass Lake, 12 p.m.  
426 South Street  
Chardon, Ohio 44024

**Geauga County Maple Festival**

April 23rd & 24th, 2022  
Main Street, Chardon, Ohio 44024  
[www.maplefestival.com](http://www.maplefestival.com)

**OHSSAR Spring Meeting  
& Annual Conference**

April 29th - May 1st, 2022  
Geneva State Park  
Geneva, Ohio 44041

**Geneva-on-the-Lake  
Summer Kickoff Parade**

Saturday, May 7th, 2022  
Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio 44041  
[visitashtabulacounty.com](http://visitashtabulacounty.com)

**Ashtabula Memorial Day Parade**

Monday, May 30th, 2022  
Main Avenue, Downtown Ashtabula

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12  
Flag Day Program**

Saturday, June 11th, 2022  
The Lodge at Bass Lake  
426 South Street  
Chardon, Ohio 44024

**[132nd NSSAR Annual Congress](#)**

July 10th - 15th, 2022  
Hyatt Regency Savannah  
2 W Bay Street  
Savannah, Georgia 31401

