



The Buckeye Patriot

Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12

Sons of the American Revolution

Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2023

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From The President's Desk

Compatriots & Friends,

The Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 S.A.R. is celebrating its 75th anniversary as a chartered organization. Chartered on April 23rd, 1948, by businessmen and community leaders in Ashtabula County to serve the northeastern counties of Ohio. The chapter has grown from a small group of 10 members to a much larger group of 150 members. During the last 75 years, the chapter has become a major presence in Ashtabula, Geauga, and Lake counties.

Among our membership, we have three OHSSAR past presidents, as well as one past & one near-future vice president general. Five members are on the OHSSAR executive board & committees. One member is the chairman of the NSSAR Patriots Records Committee.

Yet, we need to keep our level of engagement up regionally, at the state level, and nationally as well.

As you may know, the 75th Anniversary Celebration & Dinner will take place on Sunday, April 23rd from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Pine Ridge Country Club (30601 Ridge Road, Wickliffe, Ohio 44092).

As of this writing, the OHSSAR President, First Lady, 1st Vice President, President of the Mahoning Valley Chapter, Chapter Regent of the New Connecticut Chapter D.A.R., ladies of the D.A.R., and others will be in attendance. Please join us for this momentous occasion.

For now, I'd like to leave you with this final thought:

"Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety."

- Benjamin Franklin

Patriotically yours,

*Gage C. Georgeff, President
Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12
Sons of the American Revolution
g.georgeff@sbcglobal.net*

Welcome New SAR Members!



William Kennedy (Transfer)
Darrell Reed (Reinstatement)

History Comes Alive for Area Residents

Geneva — The 1776 American Revolution battle for New York and New Jersey came alive on February 11th for more than forty people who attended the annual meeting of two organizations committed to affirming the history of the United States. Chris Mowery, presenter of the Vlogging Through History program, gave an analysis of the long battle for supremacy of the freedom of a new nation that focused in the New York City area that year. Mowery said British generals made several major mistakes that breathed life into a Colonial Army in grave distress. He said the weather even assisted Gen. George Washington during critical battles. Washington's army found itself on the run and was fortunate to get off Long Island where the British had taken control. "A well-timed fog helped them to get back across the East River," Mowery said. The British also underestimated the resolve of Washington and his new nation. He said British generals even tried to negotiate a surrender on several occasions. "They met, they talked, they left," he said of one meeting that included John Adams, Ben Franklin and Edward Rutledge. Eventually the Colonial Army regrouped at Valley Forge and attacked Hessian soldiers in Trenton and turned the tide of the war. He said the battle rekindled the heartbeat of the Americans. "Victory or Die," became the password of the attack, Mowery said. Wyatt Pringle, a sophomore at Saint John School from Geneva, is the newly elected president of the Children of the American Revolution, which was formed locally in December. The organization is open to anyone who can trace their ancestors to the American Revolution. The lineage does not have to include those who fought but in some way contributed to win American independence. More information is available at sar.org or www.neosar.net for the northeastern Ohio chapter. (www.starbeacon.com)



Gage Georgeff, Wyatt Pringle & Jack Bredenfoerder

Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 Officers

President - [Gage Georgeff](#)
1st Vice President - [Richard Dana](#)
2nd Vice President - [Gregg Gorzelle](#)
Secretary - [Ed Hanlon](#)
Treasurer - [Dennis Gadley](#)

Chaplain - [Bill Robinson](#)
Registrar - [Troy Bailey](#)
Genealogist - [Tim Ward](#)
Historian - [Bob Kenyon](#)

February 11th Chapter Meeting Photos



Dan Matheke, Steve Hinson, Gage Georgeff & Bill Robinson



Steve Hinson, Tim Ward & Gage Georgeff



Bob Kenyon, (Steve Hinson), Gage Georgeff, Ed Hanlon & Chris Mowery



Gage Georgeff, Jim Gilbert & Rich Dana



Gage Georgeff & Lori Strukel



Gage Georgeff, Scott Wludyga & Troy Bailey



Gage Georgeff, Troy Bailey & David Van Allen



Gage Georgeff & Rich Dana

Governor of New York Urged to Establish American Revolution Commission

Hudson Valley – State Senators Shelley Mayer (D-Westchester) and James Skoufis (D-Cornwall) are urging Governor Kathy Hochul to take action on legislation that was passed last year establishing a commission to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. Hochul approved the bill last year but has not made any appointments to the commission.

The two lawmakers sent a letter to Hochul requesting that she take action, saying in part “To date, the commission has not been seated and no plan has been delivered to your desk.”

The letter further indicated that state historian Devin Lander has already conducted a “series of workshops to foster local partnerships” in an effort to develop a plan connected to the anniversary celebration. Area historians Constance Kehoe of Westchester County, Johanna Porr-Yaun of Orange County, Dr. William P. Tatum III of Dutchess County, and Lauren Roberts of Saratoga County participated in the initial meetings.

The senators believe that there are a number of public benefits to moving forward with the plan as outlined in the bill.

“The neglect now occurring at the state level will potentially cost New York dearly in years to come, with the most serious impacts hitting the fields of heritage tourism and education,” stated the letter. “With so many sites and museums ready to welcome visitors, our state stands to make millions of dollars from a successful, coordinated, supported Rev250 commemorative cycle.”

According to the senators, in a typical year, the Hudson River Valley National Heritage area has a significant impact on the state’s economy. According to their calculations, the economic impact is more than \$950 million, supports nearly 10,000 jobs, and contributes \$112 million to state and local tax revenues.



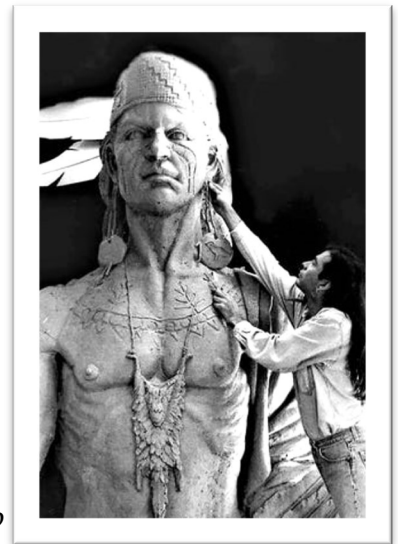
George and Martha Washington returned to Newburgh to celebrate the general's birthday weekend. (MHNN file photo, 2020)

The lawmakers closed the letter by stating, “It is not too late for planning efforts to recover and surge forward.

*We urge the executive branch to take immediate action by seating a commission with historians of the Revolutionary Era, opening budget lines, and beginning a serious planning dialogue to deliver the promised strategic plan to your desk at the earliest opportunity.
(midhudsonnews.com)*

A Treaty Promised Lenape Indians Statehood for Help in American Revolution

The Lenape Indians, the tribe that welcomed founder William Penn to his new colony in the 17th century was uprooted and chased away to distant Oklahoma, Wisconsin and Canada in the 18th and 19th centuries. Nevertheless, the Lenape — also known as the Delawares — have not been forgotten. Streets, parks and schools named after them abound. At state-run Pennsbury Manor in Falls where Penn once hosted the tribe and learned its language, officials arranged for the Delaware Tribe of Indians in Oklahoma to establish a cemetery at the estate for repatriated ancestors' bodies recovered from museums. Philadelphia officials are considering relocating a towering sculpture of Lenape Chief Tamanend to what they consider a more visible site.



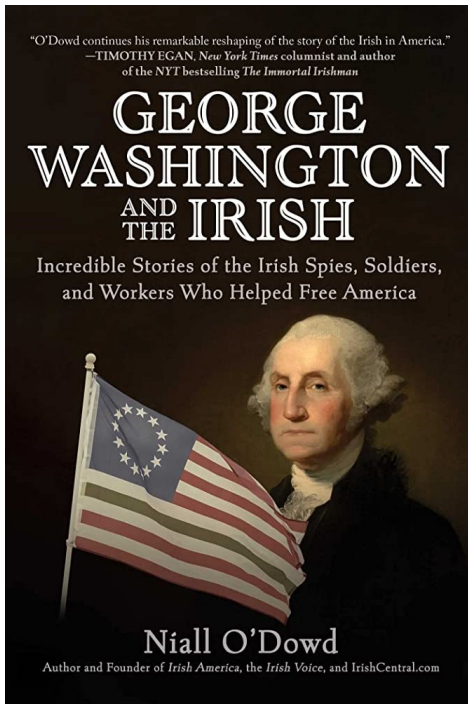
Lenape Chief Tamanend

Pennsylvania doesn't recognize the Lenape or any other Native Americans. Rather it clings to the belief all were removed forcibly from the state in the 1800s. The irony is the Lenape welcomed William Penn to his new colony when he arrived in 1682 and worked with him to bring a peaceful transition. For that reason, Tamanend was celebrated throughout the thirteen colonies every May 1st, known then as Tamanend Day. During the American Revolution, the Lenape offered their help in thwarting the British in western Pennsylvania. For that, the Treaty of Fort Pitt in 1778 promised them a state of their own on the frontier. Congress ignored the vow. State Sen. Steve Santarsiero, of Lower Makefield, is drafting reform legislation. According to legislative director Cory Smith, the senator seeks to codify "a fair process for all tribes indigenous to Pennsylvania to petition the state Commission on Native American Affairs and meet the necessary requirement to gain recognition." It would not require the groups to be located in Pennsylvania but rather recognize their roots here.

Thirty years ago, Philadelphia decided to honor Native Americans by building a monument next to I-95 about a mile from where Chief Tamanend and Penn entered a friendship pact known as the Treaty of Shackamaxon. The city sponsored a nationwide competition among 3,000 sculptors and chose Raymond Sandoval, a Pueblo Indian descendant. "I was the only one suggesting the Lenape Indian leader," he told me from his home in Jemez Springs, N.M. "Without Tamanend, there would be no Philadelphia. My idea was a colossal sculpture. The monument would be 25 feet tall and face William Penn's statue on top of City Hall, both meant to be seen from all perspectives being high up." The chief is shown with outstretched arms. One holds 13 feathers for each colony and a wampum belt signifying friendship. The other is in a welcoming gesture. Tamanend stands atop a turtle shell symbolizing Mother Earth. An eagle perches on his shoulder. Philadelphia unveiled the bronze statue in 1995 at Front and Market streets near the waterfront. Lately there's a move afoot to relocate it inland to the 200 block of Market Street as the centerpiece of a pedestrian plaza. A sketch plan worries Sandoval. It shows Tamanend removed from the pedestal. To the artist, the intent of the sculpture being positioned high would be lost. Even more concerning is it might crumble if moved. "A stainless steel skeleton holds it all together like the infrastructure of the Statue of Liberty," he told me. "It should stay where it is. But the city owns it." So far, no decision has been made.

In life, Tamanend preferred living in Bucks County. He reportedly died and was buried in 1698 on Prospect Hill in New Britain Township. When you look back, it seems an insult to not recognize indigenous people who lived here long before there was a colony, let alone an American nation. Hopefully Sen. Santarsiero's effort will succeed. (Carl Lavo, www.phillyburbs.com)

Niall O'Dowd on George Washington's Irish Connections



Irish Central founder Niall O'Dowd discussed the incredible story of the Irish spies, soldiers, and workers who helped free America at a recent talk at the historic home of George Washington in Mount Vernon.

O'Dowd gave a talk on his new book "George Washington and the Irish: Incredible Stories of the Irish, Spies, Soldiers, and Workers Who Helped Free America".

The book tells the untold story of the vital role the Irish played in the American Revolution - not just on the battlefield but in field hospitals, and the framing of the Declaration of Independence.

Speaking at the Ford Evening Book Talk in Washington's Mount Vernon estate, O'Dowd said the Irish contribution to the American War of Independence was something that he feels very strongly about.

"I'm delighted to come along and give you a story that hasn't been told," O'Dowd said. "Everyone else's story has been told. The story of the Irish in the American Revolution has not been told."

O'Dowd quoted Lord Mountjoy, who said in British Parliament in 1784 that "America was lost by Irish immigrants", adding that Irish was spoken as frequently as English in the American ranks.

"There is no doubt that Ireland's sons and daughters played a major role in the battle for independence," O'Dowd said.

O'Dowd added that it is difficult to find a full account of Irish involvement in the revolution, stating that historians had mainly ignored their role. "This is an opportunity to set the record straight." (www.irishcentral.com)

O'Dowd's book is available to purchase online at www.amazon.com.



Click on the image above to see O'Dowd's full talk

FBI Returns Artifacts Stolen Over 50 Years Ago

The Federal Bureau of Investigations helped return dozens of artifacts that had been stolen from museums and historical societies from all across the country. During a ceremony held at the Museum of the American Revolution, the agency returned fifty items -- including many valuable firearms -- to 16 different museums and historical societies after they were stolen more than 50 years ago. "I'm a little bit speechless about describing the wealth of what we see here from our American History," Jacqueline C. Romero, U.S. Attorney for Eastern District of Pennsylvania, said, as she viewed the items.



Stolen Artifacts Recovered and Returned to Museums

According to law enforcement officials, the investigation that would end in the recovery of these artifacts began in 2009 when Upper Merion Township detectives and the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office re-opened a cold case investigation. They wanted to follow up on the thefts of valuable antique firearms and other items that occurred between 1968 and 1979 from the Valley Forge Historical Society Museum in Valley Forge and other museums, officials noted.

During that investigation, law enforcement officials said, a confidential source turned over several antique firearms believed to have been stolen from museums in Pennsylvania, including an 18th century flintlock musket stolen from the Valley Forge Museum in 1970 and a 1775 musket that was stolen from a museum in Schoharie, NY.

Further investigation, officials said, led to the discovery of more stolen antique firearms and other items at a home in Newark, Delaware in May of 2017. In 2021, the man who lived at that home, an antique dealer named Michael Kintner Corbett, was indicted by a grand jury for possession of firearms and other items stolen from museums in the 1970s. Police said these items included an 1847 Mississippi rifle stolen from a Mississippi museum, a World War II battlefield pickup pistol belonging to General Omar Bradley stolen from the U.S. Army War College Museum, and 19th century Pennsylvania rifles stolen from Pennsylvania museums, including the Daniel Boone Homestead. Corbett entered a guilty plea to that charge and, as part of the plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office, officers said he agreed to turn over other stolen firearms to which he had access.

Some of the items returned during the ceremony included a 1758 powder horn carried by Ensign Justus Dwight during the French and Indian War, a 1775 Revolutionary War-era American-made Brown Bess style musket, 18th Century English and Scottish pistols, 18th and 19th Century Pennsylvania long rifles made in Bedford, Berks, Huntingdon and Lancaster counties -- including a long rifle stolen from the Daniel Boone Homestead in Birdsboro and a number of other weapons. The items were recovered following a joint investigation by the FBI Art Crime Team along with law enforcement officials in Upper Merion Township and Montgomery County. (www.nbcphiladelphia.com)

Historic Mural of Washington Crossing the Delaware Rediscovered

A priceless painting depicting Washington's troops crossing the Delaware, which languished in a dusty basement for 50 years, was recently unearthed and is being restored by the volunteer friends' group of Washington Crossing State Park. When the restoration is complete, the painting will hang in pride of place in the new Visitors' Center to be located at the overlook in the New Jersey Park.



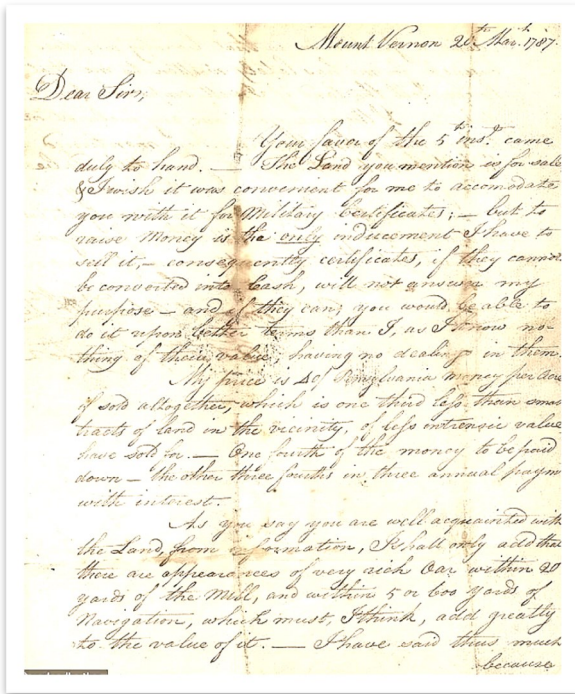
Pat Millen, a founding trustee of the friends group, Washington Crossing Park Association (WCPA) discovered this long-forgotten mural while doing research for a book. She came across brief references to a mural depicting the crossing in possession of the State of New Jersey, which led her to a 1971 "American Association of Conservators and Restorers" (AACR) article on the removal of a beautiful and historically accurate mural of Washington's Crossing from Trenton's Taylor Opera House, painted in 1921 by George Matthews Harding (1882-1959) who was an American muralist and combat artist who worked in both World Wars.

The Taylor Opera House presented major performers of the day, including Mark Twain and Ethel Barrymore. In 1921, the Opera House was converted into a movie and vaudeville palace known as Keith's Capitol Theatre, then as the RKO International. Sadly, this beautiful theater was razed in 1969 to create a parking lot. A New York Times article titled "Association Working to Restore Art Treasure" appeared in 1972, detailing the AACR's painstaking process of preparing the mural for storage as volunteers raced to remove it ahead of the wrecking ball. The mural was coated with homemade wheat paste and Japanese rice paper, and rolled onto a custom-made cylinder in the hopes that it would be restored for the Washington Crossing State Park's new Visitors Center, slated for completion by 1976 for the nation's Bicentennial.

The cylinder was transported to Ringwood Manor State Park in North Jersey, where it was placed into storage in a basement. However, the new Visitors Center was too small for this large piece, whose dimensions are approximately 15.5 feet by 10 feet, and the mural was essentially forgotten for the next 50 years. Pat Millen discussed her findings with Washington Crossing State Park Historians, who were able to confirm that the painting was still at Ringwood. Millen then approached the Washington Crossing Park Association (WCPA), which took on the mission of determining if the mural could be restored for the next iteration of the Park's Visitor's Center, recently approved to be built in time for the Semiquincentennial in 2026.

The WCPA is now nearing completion of its \$60,000 fundraising campaign to restore and frame the piece, thanks to large donations from Americana Corner, NJM Insurance, and private funders. Anyone interested in helping to complete this effort can find more information at wcpa-nj.com/harding.

Long-lost 1787 Letter from George Washington



A long-lost letter from George Washington revealing his financial woes after the Revolutionary War could fetch \$50,000 at the auction house where it is for sale. The never-before-seen letter was written in March 1787, just months before Washington left for Philadelphia to chair the Constitutional Convention, and two years before he became the first president of the United States. In the letter, Washington corresponded with a fellow officer from the Revolution over a plot of land in western Pennsylvania he hoped to sell. The officer, Colonel Israel Shreve, wanted to buy the land with credit, but in the letter Washington insisted he needed cash for the sale.

Washington's letter was found in a private collection in West Virginia. It is being sold by the Raab Collection, an auction house which deals with historical documents. The letter was previously unknown to scholars and has never appeared in any collections of Washington's writings, according to the Raab Collection. It concerned a 1,644-acre property on the banks of the Youghiogheny River

known Washington's Bottom which Washington first purchased in 1768. According to previous correspondences, Washington found himself on hard financial times in early 1787 due to outstanding debts 'Those who owe me money cannot or will not pay it without suits and to sue is like doing nothing,' he wrote his mother in February that that year. 'Whilst my expenses, not from any extravagance, or an inclination on my part to live splendidly but for the absolute support of my family and the visitors who are constantly here are exceedingly high.'

In answer to those problems, Washington chose to sell off some of his landholdings, which amounted to more than 70,000 acres at its height. At the time of Washington's death in 1799, he owned about 52,000 acres. Washington began corresponding with Shreve - who served in the 2nd New Jersey Regiment and camped with Washington at Valley Forge in 1777 - with the colonel hoping to buy Washington's land with land credits awarded Revolutionary veterans known as bounty land warrants.

In the newly discovered letter, Washington responded to Shreve over the matter from his Virginia home at Mount Vernon. 'Your favor of the 5th inst. came duly to hand,' Washington wrote in the letter. 'The land you mention is for sale, & I wish it was convenient for me to accommodate you with it for military certificates; but to raise money is the only inducement I have to sell it. Consequently, certificates if they cannot be converted into cash, will not answer my purpose. And if they can you would be able to do it on better terms than I, as I know nothing of their value, having no dealings in them. My price is 40/ Pennsylvania money per acre if sold altogether, which is one third less than small tracts of land in the vicinity, of less intrinsic value, have sold for. One fourth of the money to be paid down - the other three fourths in three annual payments, with interest.' Initially, Shreve only leased 600 acres of the property from Washington. Later in 1795 however, he purchased the complete property for 40,000 in Pennsylvania currency. The letter was printed by Washington's secretary, Tobias Lear. Its final section and signature were inked by Washington himself, according to the Raab Collection. (www.dailymail.co.uk)

*Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12
Sons of the American Revolution
Quarterly Newsletter*

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*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

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12
75th Anniversary Celebration**
Sunday, April 23rd at 12:00 pm
[Pine Ridge Country Club](#)
30601 Ridge Road
Wickliffe, Ohio 44092

Geauga County Maple Festival
April 29th & 30th, 2023
Main Street, Chardon, Ohio 44024
www.maplefestival.com

OHSSAR Annual Meeting
May 4th - May 6th, 2023
[Peterloon Estate](#)
8605 Hopewell Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242

**Mother's Day
Kick Off to Summer Parade**
Geneva-on-the-Lake
Convention & Visitors Bureau
Saturday, May 6th, 2023
5540 Lake Road East
Geneva, Ohio 44041

Saybrook Twp Memorial Day Parade
Monday, May 29th, 2023
5223 N Ridge Rd W #20
Ashtabula, OH 44004

Jefferson Memorial Day Parade
Monday, May 29th, 2023
25 W Jefferson Street
Jefferson, OH 44047

Ashtabula Memorial Day Parade
Monday, May 29th, 2023
Main Avenue, Downtown Ashtabula

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12
Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony**
Saturday, June 3rd, 2023
Lake County, Ohio

**Northeastern Ohio
Chapter #12 SAR Meeting**
Saturday, June 10th, 2023
Geneva Public Library
860 Sherman Street
Geneva, Ohio 44041

[133rd NSSAR Annual Congress](#)
July 13th - 20th, 2023
[Rosen Plaza Hotel](#)
9700 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819

**241st Anniversary of the
Battle of Blue Licks**
August 18th - 20th, 2023
[Blue Licks Battlefield State Park](#)
10299 Maysville Road
Carlisle, KY 40311