

The Buckeye Patriot

Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12

Sons of the American Revolution

Quarterly Newsletter

Winter, 2013

Volume 9, Issue 1

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From The President's Desk

Compatriots & Friends,

I'd like to wish everyone a safe and healthy New Year! I would also like to thank everyone who renewed their 2013 SAR membership. In fact, I'm looking forward to another busy and productive year. I don't normally make New Year's resolutions, but I do have a couple of goals I would like to accomplish in 2013. Thanks to John McClellan, one has already been achieved; the publication of a quarterly chapter newsletter. Please join me in thanking John for taking on this job.

As mentioned in the last edition of "The Buckeye Patriot," I announced that our 2013 election of officers would be held at our February 23rd meeting. If you are a current officer holder and would like to continue, or are interested in holding an office, please let Jim Pildner or Tim Ward know of your interest. Jim's e-mail address is: jkypildner@roadrunner.com, and Tim's e-mail address is: timothyward@windstream.net. In addition to having active chapter officers, I would like to see more from our various committees. These committees include the Flag Committee, Essay Contest Committee, Poster Contest Committee, Oration Contest Committee, Eagle Scout Committee, Graves Registry Committee, and Good Citizenship Committee.

Our next OHSSAR Board of Management meeting will be held in Columbus, Ohio on February 1st and 2nd. Please note that all members are welcome to attend. The Friday night guest speaker will be Joe Testa who will speak about Operation Flag. See the OHSSAR Newsletter or the OHSSAR Web Page for registration details (<http://www.ohssar.org>).

If you have any ideas or suggestions for future Chapter programs and activities, please let either myself or Jim Pildner know. I look forward to a busy, active, and patriotic year. Please join me in helping to perpetuate the stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy, and triumph of the men who achieved the independence of the American people. Such stories are universal, and represent man's eternal struggle against tyranny. They will be relevant for all time, and will inspire and strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is called upon to defend our freedoms on the battlefield and in our public institutions.

"It is better to offer no excuse than a bad one." George Washington

Patriotically yours,

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

Welcome New SAR Members!

Kenneth E. Boyles
Gregory Allen Boyles

Carl Lewis Prentice
Zachary Lewis Prentice

Help Rebuild Fort Laurens, A Significant Link to Ohio's Past

Fort Laurens is Ohio's only Revolutionary War Fort. In early 1778, General George Washington prepared a military plan to attack the British. The plan was to attack Fort Detroit because the British were encouraging their Indian allies in the area north of the Ohio River to attack American settlements in the frontier region.

Due to political pressure from the states of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and the inability to secure the necessary numbers of men and supplies, the expedition's original purpose was changed by the Continental Congress to simply attacking Indian towns and villages along the southwestern edge of Lake Erie.

Following a well-established Indian trail known today as the Great Trail, an American army of 1,200 men and their Delaware Indian guides marched west into the Ohio territory from Fort Pitt in the fall of 1778 under the command of Georgia native General Lachlan McIntosh. Twenty miles downriver from Fort Pitt near present-day Beaver, Pennsylvania, Fort McIntosh was constructed to store provisions and supplies. On November 4, 1778, McIntosh departed from there to head west toward the Sandusky towns.

As they neared the end of the year and the weather worsened, McIntosh arrived in the Tuscarawas Valley. He decided to forego the attacks on the Indian towns and to build a fort near the crossing of the Great Trail and the Tuscarawas River. He would then leave a small garrison of 172 men and women at the fort and return to the area the following spring to continue his march toward Detroit or the Sandusky Towns.

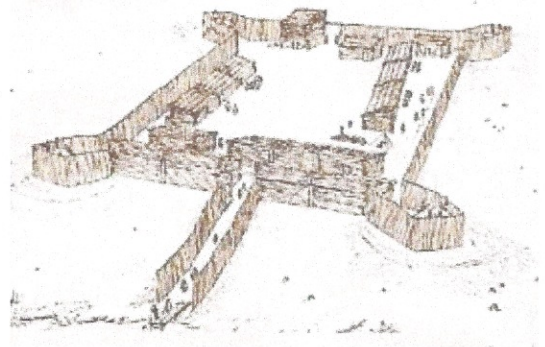
Fort Laurens was built in late November, 1778, on the west bank of the Tuscarawas River near what is now Bolivar, Ohio. General McIntosh named the fort in honor of the President of the Continental Congress, Henry Laurens. The wooden stockade was approximately one acre in size. It was a quadrangular-shaped fort with four bastions approximately 240 feet from the top of one angle of a bastion to another. Barracks and storehouse buildings were located inside the walls.

Fort Laurens remained an active American military post from November of 1778 through early August of 1779. During that time, the fort was clearly perceived by the British and their Indian allies in the northwest as a very serious threat. This was evident from the numerous attacks on the fort by Indians, Loyalists and British soldiers. These attacks resulted in the death of more than 20 American soldiers, who were later buried a short distance from the fort, near the fort hospital.

Just outside the Fort Laurens Museum, which houses many artifacts from the fort site, is The Tomb of the Unknown Patriot of the American Revolution. It pays lasting homage to at least one of the unknown defenders of the fort. The young man was laid to rest with full military honors from the Ohio National Guard in 1976. Fort Laurens is, in reality, a military cemetery of the American Revolution.

Rebuilding this memorial is fitting tribute to the men and women who gave their lives for America's freedom. You can help rebuild Fort Laurens, the only American Revolutionary War fort built in what now is Ohio, by simply donating \$1.00, \$5.00, \$10.00, or more to the Friends of Ft. Laurens Foundation, P.O. Box 272, Bolivar, Ohio 44612 (www.friendsoffortlaurens.org).

Fort Laurens Museum
11067 Fort Laurens Road Northwest
Bolivar, Ohio 44612



Fort Laurens in 1778

Freedom's Cost: The Story of General Nathanael Greene

Author Janet Uhlar, recently presented her historical novel about George Washington's right-hand man, Nathanael Greene, at Boston's Needham Historical Society. Uhlar, author of "Freedom's Cost: The Story of Nathanael Greene," portrays the life of the man who was chosen to lead the Continental Army in the event that Washington was killed, injured or taken captive. Her book calls Greene the strategist of the American Revolution.

Nathanael Greene's role in the War for Independence was second only to General George Washington. Born and reared a Quaker, with no military experience, he was promoted from private to brigadier general overnight. Greene quickly became Washington's confidant and close friend. Nathanael's vivacious wife Caty, a favorite of the Washingtons, added brightness to the dark, dreary existence of camp life. She proved to be a source of joy and comfort to her husband throughout the war--as well as a heartache and challenge.

It was General Nathanael Greene who pulled the Continental Army from the throes of death at Valley Forge. It was General Greene who petitioned Congress for a Declaration of Independence. It was also Nathanael Greene who was given the desperate task of commanding the Southern Department of the Continental Army after other commanders had failed.

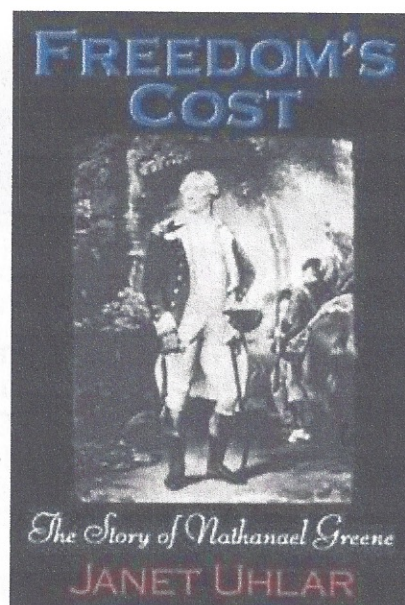
Greene drove British General Cornwallis to surrender at Yorktown. Unable to participate or witness the victorious battle, he was forced to return South with his troops, and subdue the remaining British forces. Greene led his troops in battle and laid siege for a year after the victory at Yorktown. His persistence finally forced the British to evacuate the South.

George Washington and Nathanael Greene were the only general officers who served in that position throughout the war. Greene led his men in more battles than any other general officer, including Washington. Moreover, it was Greene who was constantly harassed by Congress, and ultimately forsaken by them. Three years after the official end of the war, Nathanael Greene was dead. His premature death was not only a result of the intense hardships of war, but the hardships and cruelty inflicted on him by the United States Congress.

Janet Uhlar was born in Quincy, Massachusetts, the hometown of John Adams, John Quincy Adams, John Hancock, and Josiah Quincy, Jr. Through her works of biographical-fiction, she hopes to present the extraordinary stories of forgotten heroes of the American Revolution.

Janet firmly believes that when the private lives and unique personalities of historical figures are presented, and the dynamics between these characters brought out, history becomes much more than cold black print on a stark white page.

History takes on a life of its own, with true flesh and blood individuals whose acts of courage, indifference, or cowardice shaped the world we live in today. This living history helps us relate to those who have gone before, offering inspiration, courage, and a sense of determination. Janet is also the author of "Liberty's Martyr: The Story of Dr. Joseph Warren." She lives on Cape Cod in Massachusetts. For more information, visit janetuhlar.com.



American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

By Brittany Voll

The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown has received a \$250,000 grant challenge for future gallery exhibits from Mary Morton Parsons Foundation in Richmond. "The grant comes at a crucial time for the new museum," said Philip G. Emerson, executive director of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. "The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation's commitment to this project helps us move forward with critical elements of gallery planning." JYF submitted a proposal to the Parsons Foundation, which issued an acceptance letter Nov. 26. The foundation will match 50 percent of donations up to \$500,000 from individuals and private foundations made through November 2013. If the museum receives \$500,000 in donations, it will receive the \$250,000 grant from the Parsons Foundation. "This challenge grant helps provide important momentum to raise the dollars we need to create a museum that instills in current and future generations an appreciation of the people, places and principles that forged our nation," said Sue H. Gerdelman, JYF president. The museum is planned to open by late 2016 and will have an 80,000 square-foot building on the 22-acre site. Work is underway on the new museum, which will replace the Yorktown Victory Center. The existing center is open during construction.

"The current estimated total cost of planning, building and exhibit construction, and renovations to the site, including the living-history areas is \$50 million," said Debby Padgett, media relations manager of marketing and retail operations for JYF. "Construction has been funded by the state. Private donations will support elements of gallery and outdoor exhibits - such as acquisition of artifacts for exhibit, production of films, and reproduction items - and for educational resources." As of Nov. 30, JYF received a total of \$3.09 million in donations and no formal goal has been set for donations, Padgett said. The Parsons Foundation has pledged the challenge grant in support of gallery exhibits at the museum. Outside the museum will be two living-history areas: a Continental Army encampment and a Revolutionary War-era farm.

According to its website, "The Foundation typically issues between \$3-5 million annually in grants to support capital projects, mostly on a challenge or matching basis. The Foundation has found that matching grants help organizations raise additional gifts they may not have otherwise received, thus leveraging the impact of the grant to benefit worthy causes."

"We are confident that this challenge grant will not only help make the galleries of the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown rich and full for children and families to enjoy, but will also raise awareness of the importance of private funding in realizing the full potential of the new museum," said Amy P. Nisenson, executive director of the Mary Morton Parsons Foundation.

Construction began in early summer this year but was postponed because of utility line issues. Work is under way again; a new parking section is being built prior to construction on the building, which is scheduled to start next spring. Detailed information about the project can be found here. The Yorktown Victory Center is open during construction of the new museum (<http://wydaily.com>).



American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

Corrections to Winter 2012 Newsletter

In the "Welcome New SAR Members" section of last month's newsletter, Andre Antonio Campbell Shirk should read **Andre Antonio Shirk**, and Shane Stephen Len should read **Shane Stephen Len Campbell**. Also, Andre Shirk's name was misspelled in the "Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 SAR Member Inductions" caption. Please accept our sincerest apologies.

OHSSAR Grave Registry Committee

By Troy Bailey, OHSSAR Grave Registry Chair

As the OHSSAR Graves Registry Chairman, President Kelly has assigned me the task of making sure everyone has been informed of the purpose of the committee. To begin with, most of you are probably unaware that such a committee even exists or for that matter, what its purpose is. In fact, the Grave Registry has been around for many years. The primary objective of the program is to preserve the memory of our patriot ancestors and of course, to make information available to researchers and genealogists.

Another principal goal of the committee is to locate and identify the graves of American Revolutionary War veterans and patriots. Once identified, members should complete a "Grave Registry" form and submit it to me, along with a photo (JPG preferred) of the patriot's gravestone, for review and submission to NSSAR. Once the information has been received, the data will be incorporated with information received from other states.

Currently there is a project underway at National Headquarters called the "Patriot Graves Updater." Volunteers are converting previously-submitted paper copies of Grave Registry forms to electronic data files. Then, these will then be added to the SAR Patriot & Grave Index. The NSSAR Patriot/Graves Index is a database that combines the previous NSSAR Revolutionary War Graves Registry (book and CD), information from the NSSAR Patriot Index CD (2002) and additional information from various state grave registry databases. To access this database, simply go to the NSSAR website (www.sar.org). On the homepage, click on "Membership;" then, on the drop-down menu, click "Patriot Search."



*John B McClelland Marker
Uniontown, Pennsylvania*

Over the years, I have also been collecting and publishing Ohio patriot grave information on www.ne012sar.net, the NEO Chapter website. On the SAR Revolutionary War Veterans Roster & Gravestone Photos tab, you will be taken to a listing of Ohio patriots buried in the State of Ohio, as taken primarily from the 1929 DAR publication "The Official Roster of the Soldiers of the American Revolution Buried in the State of Ohio." As information becomes available, I have been updating the information and including photos and copies of "Grave Registry" forms.

In order to make this ongoing project all-inclusive, we need your help. If you find that your ancestor is not included in either of these databases, please take the time to complete a Grave Registry form, obtain a photo of the gravestone, if you can, and send it to me. Grave Registry forms are available as a hard copy form, word document, or a PDF form.

The next time you visit a cemetery and find a patriot's grave, be sure to take a picture of the headstone, and complete a Grave Registry form. Your help will be very much appreciated. If anyone's looking for a "winter" project that can be done in the comfort of your home, volunteers are needed for data entry as well. It's easy and can be done anytime, day or night. I can be reached by telephone at (440) 645-0465, or by e-mail at tbailey@suite224.net.

Ohio Speaker Receives SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal

William Batchelder, Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives was awarded the SAR Silver Good Citizenship medal at his office in Columbus in December of 2012. He is a life member of the Western Reserve Society in Cleveland. Ohio Society President Steve Kelley and State Historian James Dunn made the presentation prior to the end of the 129th session of the Ohio House. Jean Yost of the Marietta Chapter recommended Speaker Batchelder for the award. Speaker of the Ohio House William G. Batchelder returned to the Ohio House of Representatives in 2007, having previously served in the Ohio House for 30 years. He currently is serving his third consecutive term and was elected by his colleagues to serve as House Speaker during the 129th General Assembly. Speaker Batchelder in addition to the SAR, is a member of the Ohio Farm Bureau, Medina County Township Association and the Grange. He is also a Lifetime Member of Vietnam Veterans of America, the American Legion and Amvets. Representative Batchelder currently serves as a member of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Learning Center for Children, an organization that treats children with dyslexia. He is also an active participant in the Scanlon Inn of Court.



James Dunn, William Batchelder & Steve Kelley

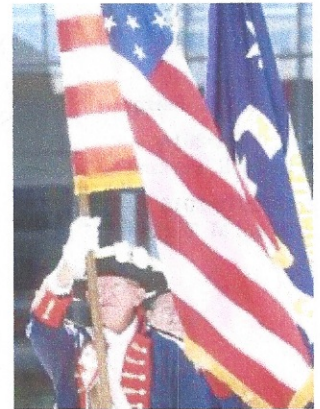
For his public leadership, judicial tenure, and military service, William Batchelder, Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives is awarded the Silver Good Citizenship medal by his home state society. The Silver Good Citizenship Medal, is the highest level of recognition for public service given by the State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (<http://ohssardispatch.wordpress.com>).

What is the SAR?

The S.A.R. is a Historical, Educational and Patriotic non-profit United States 501 (C)3 Corporation that seeks to maintain and extend:

- The institution of American Freedom*
- An appreciation for true patriotism*
- A respect for our national symbols*
- The value of American citizenship*

The unifying force of E Pluribus Unum that has created, from the people of many nations, one nation and one people.

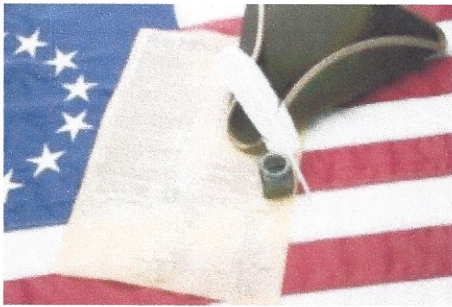


Jim Brooks

We do this by perpetuating the stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy and triumph of the men who achieved the independence of the American people in the belief that these stories are universal ones of man's eternal struggle against tyranny relevant to all time and will inspire and strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is called upon to defend our freedoms on the battlefields and in our public institutions.

**Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12
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

February 1st & 2nd, 2013

Winter OHSSAR Board of Management
Columbus Airport Marriott
1375 North Cassady Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43219

February 23rd, 2013

Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 SAR Quarterly Meeting
Ferrante Winery & Ristorante
5585 N River Road, West Geneva, Ohio 44041
Featuring Guest Speaker Emily Fisher

April 27th, 2013

OHSSAR Annual Meeting
Mount Vernon, Ohio

April 25th through 28th, 2013

Geauga County Maple Festival Parade
Northeastern Ohio Chapter #12 Color Guard



For more information on
OHSSAR events, visit
www.ohssar.org