



Vol. 90, No. 6

# News & Events

## George Washington Chapter

### Chartered June 5, 1924

## Pennsylvania Society ~ Sons of the American Revolution

Washington, Pennsylvania

November / December 2013



### NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2013 @ 12:00 PM**  
**Union Grill**  
**13 East Wheeling Street**  
**Washington, PA 15301**  
**Phone: (724) 222-2860**

**DAR / SAR Members and guests are welcome.**

**Menu:** Buffet style featuring baked stuffed chicken; baked Boston scrod; red skin potatoes; green bean almondine; apple pie – or – vanilla ice cream; tossed salad; rolls & butter; coffee; tea; iced tea.

**\*\*\* \$18.00 per person \*\*\***

**Reservations MUST arrive before**  
**Friday, November 29, 2013**

### Please Mail Reservations To:

Larry L. Ridgway, Treasurer  
Box 355 - 113 Railroad Street  
Stockdale, PA 15483-0355  
Phone: (724) 938-2197

### **Minutes ~ Saturday, October 12, 2013**

**Call to Order:** President Ed Schreiber called the meeting to order at the Ramada Inn in Washington, PA at 12:00PM. After the introduction of guests, the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the pledge to the SAR was recited. Rev. Dr. Nathaniel C. Roe gave the invocation.

**Attendance:** Twenty-six (26) people, guests (12) **Compatriots (14)** Bonnie & Richard R. Cornish; Rachel & Hon. Thomas D. Gladden; Kara Gordon; Dr. Scott M. Helfrich; June & Marshall E. Lignian; George E. Livingston; Dick Mellon; Ronald E. Miller; Joyce & Lindsay S. Morris; Rita & Eugene G. Painter; E. Ward Reighard; Linda & Larry L. Ridgway; Grace & Rev. Dr. Nathaniel C. Roe; Marie & Edward W. Schreiber; John C. Schreiber; Alice & Tim Thomassy; Gary W. Timmons; and Scott Winters & wife.

**Presidents Report:** Before lunch President Schreiber installed new Compatriot Richard Cornish while Bonnie Cornish pinned her husband with the SAR rosette.



**Officer Reports:** Following lunch, President Schreiber read a resolution on the death of Compatriot Charles R. Coen.

**Financial Report:** Balance as of October 10, 2013 was \$3,460.32. Treasurer Ridgway reported that 2014 dues were coming in at a steady pace.

**Old Business:** The minutes from the June 15 & August 24, 2013 Chapter meeting/picnic were approved.

**New Business:** Secretary Timmons mentioned that in November 2014 the George Washington Chapter will be hosting the Fall PASSAR state meeting in Washington. He also said that he will be representing the Chapter & SAR as one of three speakers at Naturalization Ceremonies to be held at the Federal Courthouse in Wheeling, W. Va. on Friday November 1, 2013 at 11AM.

### Committee Reports:

**Color Guard:** Ron Miller reported on a couple of color guard events that took place recently. One

was the annual Fort Henry Days held in Wheeling and the Vigil at the Tomb of George & Martha Washington at Mount Vernon.

**Wreaths Across America:** Gary Timmons reported that sponsorships are going very well. See update elsewhere in this newsletter for more information.

**Program:** Compatriot Gene Painter, who is 98 years young, presented an informative talk on the Lewis & Clark Expedition in which his Great Grandfather Patrick Gass was a participant. One interesting note as to the longevity of the family line was that Patrick Gass was 75 years old when Gene's grandmother was born.



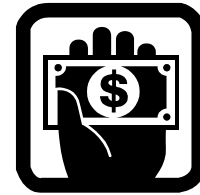
**Good of the Order** The next George Washington Chapter meeting will be the Annual Chapter Christmas party on Saturday December 7, 2012 at The Union Grill in Washington.

**Adjournment:** The SAR recessional was recited and Rev. Dr. Nathaniel C. Roe gave the Benediction. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.

**Welcome Aboard:** The George Washington Chapter is honored and delighted to extend the warm hand of friendship to our newest Junior Compatriot, Christopher James Layne, whose application was recently approved at National. Christopher is a student and lives in Bowling Green, Ohio. He is the great grandson of Gene Painter. His patriot ancestor is Christopher Lobingier who served as a Delegate to the State Constitutional Convention. The chapter welcomes sons and grandsons of members to age 18 as junior members. If joining on an approved line, their

application fee is only \$30.00 and their yearly dues are \$5.00 per year.

**Supplemental Fee Increase:** If you have any thoughts about doing a supplemental on another patriot in your line, the time to take action is now! There is a good chance that at the National Congress to be held in North Carolina next summer, the fee for submitting supplementals will increase from the current rate of \$50.00 to \$90.00. The motion was made last year but was defeated, but may be brought up again at Congress. It is thought to have enough votes to increase the cost. So act now and avoid the increase.



**Wreaths Across America 2013:** Our Wreaths Across America 2013 campaign is off to a tremendous start! We have received great support from many of the local newspapers with articles and pictures that have brought us many new sponsors. To date, sponsors for over 600 wreaths have been received and this does not include the bonus wreaths the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies will receive in our name. For every two wreaths sponsored, the cemetery will receive a third wreath.



We would like to acknowledge the following individuals and groups that have sponsored wreaths so far this year: Sonna Agnew, American Legion Post # 1, American Legion Aux. John C. McIlvaine Unit 902, Art Anderson, Carla Anderson,

Mr. & Mrs. John Andes, Dolores Babich, Donna Balazick, Beverly Bauman, Judy Beichner, John Bell, Jean Belski, Sue Bender, Louis Boissin, Lynne Boissin, Ray Bourg, Susan Burchett, Gertrude Burgan, Robert Byrne, Capt. David Van Camp Memorial Foundation, Pete Coffield, Mark Connor, William Connor, Richard & Bonnie Cornish, Kathryn Cortese, Lois Crawford, Jeanne D'Anniballe, Marjorie D'Antonio, Billy Davis, Barbara Dellorso, Kenneth Dornbush, Ebenezer Zane Chapter – SAR, Darlene Eckles, Pat Ferrari, Jennifer Felt, Dennis & Kathy Filippelli, Fort Jackson Chapter-SAR, Fort Steuben Chapter-DAR, Margaret Flynn, Janet Ford, Mary Gafric, Donna George, Kenneth Gorton, Joanne Gump, Dr. Jay & Joan Helsel, Jeanne Hicks, Cheryl Hindman, Judy Homerosky, Karen Huggins, Ronald Iorio, Rose Marie Jacanin, Carole Fatigati, Jacob Ferree Chapter-DAR, Patricia Jakiel, Nancy Johnston, Linda Kacvinsky, Annette Karnash, Joseph Mals, Robert & Marcia Kaminski, Gladys Marie Kelley, Linda Kocian, John & Tina Kovacs, Elinor Kowell, Phyllis Kukns, June & Marshall Lignian, George & Beverly Livingston, Nettie Lloyd, Gretta MacIntyre, Charles Mallory, Sherrill Maynard, Donna Meade, Mid Mon Valley Shipmates, Lindsay & Joyce Morris, Verna Mossor, PASSAR, Jack Patsch, Joel & Danielle Patterson, Col. John Perry, Robert Redlinger, Andrea Remish, E. J. Ritson, Ronald Rudnisky, Edward Schreiber, William Schmoutz, Francis Scott, Joseph & Barbara Shaffer, Joseph Sites, Carol Skerbetz, Julia Smith, Jane Spence, Jessica Spilak, Margaret Steele, Philip Stout, Steven Stout, Joseph Tencer, Marlene

Tkach, Ronald Tkach, VFW Ladies Aux Barto Post 6553, Wagner Family, David Warne, Shirley Washam, Joanne Watson, Lynn Watson, Wheeling Chapter-DAR, Wheeling IOOF Lodge # 9, Wheeling Rebekah Lodge # 45, Whitetails Unlimited, Ronald Wilkinson, Patricia Wishnok, & Ross Wirth.



We also remind you to “save the dates” of December 8 & 14, 2013 on your calendar. On Sunday, December 8 at 3PM we will meet at Cabela’s in Wheeling for a wreaths “send off” ceremony. Then on Saturday, December 14 at noon, join with fellow compatriots, veterans, youth groups, families and others as we place wreaths on the graves of those buried in the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies. You will truly find it a rewarding and humbling experience.



## President's Corner



Dear Compatriots:

Here is wishing you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. This is my last note to you, and the new year will bring a fresh pen and new blood. I would like to give you a quick summary of things we have done in the past two years. The first change that came about was having meetings every other month and at noon instead of evenings. As we get older our eyesight diminishes and night driving is tougher. I sure wouldn't want to have our seniors miss meetings because of poor visibility. Our seniors have plenty to offer to our organization; we need them. Let us hear from you on how you think it has affected our organization.

Our meetings started with Steve Glinsky talking about the prints and paintings of Robert Griffing, a great artist on American Indians. This was followed by "York," the manservant of Captain William Clark, telling us about the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Each June we go to Meadowcroft for a great meeting and extended visits to the grounds and the rock shelter. Our last two years we had our annual picnic at Cross Creek Lake, which have been enjoyable experiences. We had Brady Crytzer speak about his book describing George Washington's experience traveling from Fort Pitt to Fort LeBoeuf. Rob Windhorst spoke about the Woodville Plantation and its significance in the Whiskey Rebellion. Speakers also included Mark Black and Kara Gordon explaining 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century clothing. One of my most memorable speakers was Mr. Gene Painter telling of his great grandfather and his trip to the Pacific on the Lewis & Clark Expedition.

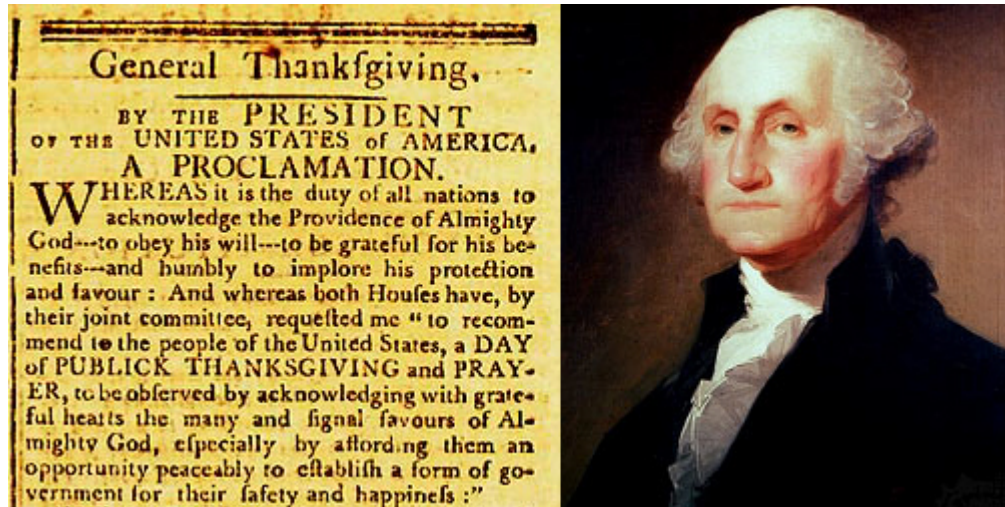
Another change was the addition of a crossword puzzle to our newsletter. Thanks Scott, a great touch. It's also Scott who gets our newsletter out - hats off. A new treasurer to our group this year was Larry Ridgway. Thanks goes out to him and Brother Jack for his help as our past treasurer. The group also couldn't function without Gary and all the work he does as secretary and his dedication to the Wreaths Across America. I'm sure he'll have a few words on that, and maybe you could show up to help pass out wreaths. My thanks also to Rev. Dr. Nat Roe for the many prayers and blessings at our meetings. I would surely be remiss if I didn't mention our color guard. The fellows do a great job in representing our chapter wherever they appear.

One thing I've learned is this year is why and generals and presidents signed off with "Your most humble and obedient servant."

Your most humble and obedient servant,

Edward Schreiber  
President – George Washington Chapter

## Happy Thanksgiving: A Brief History



In the United States, the modern Thanksgiving holiday tradition is commonly, but not universally, traced to a poorly documented 1621 celebration at Plymouth in present-day Massachusetts. The 1621 Plymouth feast and thanksgiving was prompted by a good harvest. Pilgrims and Puritans who began emigrating from England in the 1620s and 1630s carried the tradition of Days of Fasting and Days of Thanksgiving with them to New England. Several days of Thanksgiving were held in early New England history that have been identified as the "First Thanksgiving", including Pilgrim holidays in Plymouth in 1621 and 1623, and a Puritan holiday in Boston in 1631. According to historian Jeremy Bangs, director of the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum, the Pilgrims may have been influenced by watching the annual services of Thanksgiving for the relief of the siege of Leiden in 1574, while they were staying in Leiden. In later years, religious thanksgiving services were declared by civil leaders such as Governor Bradford, who planned a thanksgiving celebration and fast in 1623. The practice of holding an annual harvest festival did not become a regular affair in New England until the late 1660s.

Thanksgiving proclamations were made mostly by church leaders in New England up until 1682, and then by both state and church leaders until after the American Revolution. During the revolutionary period, political influences affected the issuance of Thanksgiving proclamations. Various proclamations were made by royal governors, John Hancock, General George Washington, and the Continental Congress, each giving thanks to God for events favorable to their causes. As President of the United States, George Washington proclaimed the first nation-wide thanksgiving celebration in America marking November 26, 1789, "as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favours of Almighty God."

In modern times the President of the United States, in addition to issuing a proclamation, will "pardon" a turkey, which spares the bird's life and ensures that it will spend the duration of its life roaming freely on farmland.



Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thanksgiving>

October 2013 Crossword Answers - ACROSS 3. Stockton; 11. Augusta; 14. Montgomery; 15. Lawrence; 16. Resolves; DOWN 1. Oxen; 2. Covenanter; 4. Baltimore; 5. Schuyler; 6. Gage; 7. Bloodybacks; 8. Jager; 9. D'Estaing; 10. Gates; 12. Simpson; 13. Durham



George Washington Chapter  
Sons of the American Revolution  
c/o Scott M. Helfrich, D.Ed.  
267 California Road, Suite 613  
Brownsville, PA 15417-9373