



Vol. 91, No. 4

## News & Events

### George Washington Chapter

Chartered June 5, 1924

### Pennsylvania Society ~ Sons of the American Revolution

Washington, Pennsylvania



July / August 2014

#### **AUGUST CHAPTER MEETING**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2014 @ 4:30 PM**

**Dinner @ 5:00 PM**

**Beach Club Marina**

**137 Main Street**

**New Eagle, PA 15067**

<http://www.beachclubmarina.com>

Phone: (724) 258-2088

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

**Directions:** Travel on 136 East (Dry Run Road) toward Monongahela, PA until you come to the light on Main Street / Route 88 by the Eat N' Park restaurant. Take a left at the Main Street light and continue on four streets to the intersection of Main and Willow Streets. The Beach Club Marina is located on the right side.

**Menu:** Hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, macaroni salad, coleslaw, baked beans, fruit salad, cookies and desserts.

**\$13.00 per person and \$4.00 for children under 12 years of age.**

**Reservations MUST arrive before Monday, August 11, 2014**

#### **Please Mail Reservations To:**

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

#### **Minutes ~ Saturday, June 21, 2014**

**Call to Order:** President Ronald W. Miller called the meeting to order at Meadowcroft Museum of Rural Life in Avella, PA at 12:05PM. After welcoming Compatriots and guests, President Miller led all in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and

pledge to the SAR Flag. Rev. Dr. Nathaniel C. Roe gave an invocation.



*Shane Miller - PA Department of Conservation*

**Attendance:** Twenty-two (22) people, guests (13)  
**Compatriots (13):** Rachel & Hon. Thomas D. Gladden; Dick Mellon; Ronald E. Miller; Shane Miller; Eugene G. Painter; E. Ward Reighard; Linda & Larry L. Ridgway; Grace & Rev. Dr. Nathaniel C. Roe; Marie & Edward W. Schreiber; Ruth & Jack C. Schreiber; Barbara & Joseph M. Shaffer, Sr.; Gary W. Timmons; John M. White; Richard L. White; Cindy & Kurt Winter.

**Committee Reports:** Color Guard – Ron Miller reported that the Chapter Color Guard took part in the Memorial Day parade held in Claysville, PA.

**Secretary Report:** Health updates were given on Lois Killen, June Lignian, and Ron Eisert with cards signed by all and sent to Lois & June.

**Financial Report:** Treasurer Larry Ridgway reported the balance as of June 2014.

**Old Business:** The minutes from the April meeting were approved.

**New Business:** Ron Miller is looking for volunteers to help man an SAR information table on Saturday July 13, 2013 any time from 11am – 5pm as part of the Whiskey Rebellion celebration that will be held in Washington, PA. It would be greatly appreciated if any men can help man the table for any length during that time. Information on efforts to help save Fort Gladdis were distributed by Larry Ridgway. Joe Shaffer discussed a letter he received from Meadowcroft asked if the chapter would take on helping repair and glazing four windows in an adjacent building. President Miller suggested that it would be a good project with what Meadowcroft has done for us over the years.



**Program:** Shane Miller, a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation officer, presented a program on the history of the American Flag complete with full size flags.

**Good of the Order:** President Miller announced that the chapter picnic will be held on August 16 at the Beach Club Marina located at New Eagle. Larry Ridgway mentioned that a pontoon boat may be available.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:50PM.

**Wreaths Across America 2014** It is once again time to kick off our **2014 Wreaths Across America (WWA)** campaign. While a little earlier than previous years, with having newsletters and meetings every other month, we want to get the word out. In reality the WWA program is a year round effort. Their mission is to REMEMBER the fallen – HONOR those who serve and TEACH our children the value of freedom. Last year, at over 850 locations both here and at 25 veteran's

cemeteries on foreign soil and with an estimated 60,000 volunteers, this program placed over 400,000 wreaths in those cemeteries. Of this total, 5,045 wreaths went to the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies (NCA) located in Washington County, PA. This was actually down about 100 wreaths from the 2012 campaign. Many families place their own decorations on their loved ones graves and in that instance we honor their efforts which in turn helps to place a wreath on another grave. It is truly a moving experience.

Those buried at the NCA number over 8,000. Again, this year we have decided to go with the "3 for 2" option. What this means is that for every two wreaths sponsored, the cemetery will get three. So if you purchase two at \$15.00 each the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies will receive three. Buy four, they will receive six. Purchase 10 they will receive 15. Last year, with your help, our George Washington Chapter got sponsors for 1,414 wreaths. The first year we broke 1,000! Our chapter came in second as far as groups getting wreath sponsorships for the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies.



That number includes the bonus wreaths. That was a jump of over 500 wreaths from the year before. If you have purchased wreaths in the past, we sincerely thank you. If you have not, we would ask you to please look at the enclosed form and consider sponsoring a wreath(s) this year. You are also encouraged to join fellow Compatriots, Veterans, Scout groups, family, friends and students on Saturday December 13, 2014 rain, snow, or shine at noon at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies. If you do not live in this area you can find a National Cemetery near you to help place wreaths. It is a humbling and gratifying experience. Remember "in life they served their country and now it's a chance for us to honor them."

## President's Corner



Dear Compatriots and friends,

It is already August and time for our annual picnic. This is a great time to casually enjoy each other's company and stories. If you haven't been able to attend a meeting, this is the time to join us for a relaxed time together.

Our picnic is an important event in August, but in 1776 one of the most important events of our country was taking place. Any Ideas? I know we celebrate the Declaration of Independence on July 4, even though the resolution presented by Richard Henry Lee, was approved by Congress on July 2 and John Adams expected that to be the day of celebration. The document at the National Archives in Washington was actually not signed by the whole group until August the 2nd, even though the original hand written draft was signed on July 4th by John Hancock, President of the Congress and secretary Charles Thompson. Here are a few interesting facts from History.com:

Fifty-six congressional delegates in total signed the document, including some who were not present at the vote approving the declaration. The delegates signed by state from North to South, beginning with Josiah Bartlett of New Hampshire and ending with George Walton of Georgia. John Dickinson of Pennsylvania and Robert Livingston never did sign. Carter Braxton of Virginia; Robert Morris of Pennsylvania; George Reed of Delaware; and Edward Rutledge of South Carolina opposed the document but signed in order to give the impression of a unanimous Congress. Five delegates were absent: Generals George Washington, John Sullivan, James Clinton, and Christopher Gadsden and Virginia Governor Patrick Henry. Elbridge Gerry, Oliver Wolcott, Lewis Morris, Thomas McKean and Matthew Thornton signed on a later date. The oldest signer was Benjamin Franklin (70) and the youngest was Edward Rutledge from South Carolina (26).

Here is a question for you to answer at the picnic.... There is something written on the back of the Declaration of Independence at the National Archives. In the movie "National Treasure", Nicholas Cage's character claims that on the back is a treasure map with encrypted instructions from the founding fathers, written in invisible ink. What is it????

Thanks to Gary Timmons, Larry Ridgeway, Lindsay Morris, and Ed and Jack Schreiber for manning the table at the Washington County Whiskey Rebellion Days with me. We displayed our "take a picture as a revolutionary soldier" poster and it was well used by both children and adults. We also passed out small 13 star flags to the kids. Most importantly we had the opportunity to explain who the Sons of the American Revolution are to many and talked with a number of folks about joining our Chapter. We gave out about 6 application worksheets to those that were ready to start the process by having their family tree researched and ready.

I hope you are enjoying your summer and please make an effort to come to the picnic. We want to see you there!!!

Your most humble and obedient servant,

Ron

## 2014 Whiskey Rebellion Festival



Compatriots of the George Washington Chapter were proud to attend the annual Whiskey Rebellion Festival held on Saturday, July 13, 2014 in Washington, PA. The festival celebrates the heritage and unique character of the region by focusing on the historical significance of the Whiskey Rebellion. The history of the rebellion is unique to western Pennsylvania and primarily Washington County. Community focused entertainment and family activities create a festival that pays tribute to the past, celebrates the present, and looks toward the future.



*Pictured above from left to right: Jack Schreiber, Ron Miller, Ron Eisert, Ed Schreiber, and Lindsay Morris.*

The Whiskey Rebellion was a tax protest in the early years of the United States. During the presidency of George Washington, farmers who sold their grain in the form of whiskey were required to pay a new tax which they strongly resented. The excise tax was a part of treasury secretary Alexander Hamilton's program to pay off the national debt.

On the western frontier, which included southwestern Pennsylvania, protesters used violence and intimidation to prevent federal officials from collecting the tax. In one instance, angry mobs tarred and feathered a tax collector, which is re-enacted each year at the Whiskey Rebellion Festival.

In 1794, President Washington responded by calling a militia of 13,000 men to suppress the uprising. By the time the militia arrived, the rebels had dispersed, and there was no confrontation. The response demonstrated that the federal government had the authority to levy taxes and suppress resistance to its laws.



Tax ID 20-8362270

**Wreath Sponsorship Form**

Check here if you would like to have a wreaths pin. Otherwise, in order to save postage and in an effort to place more wreaths you will NOT be sent a reply note as in past years. Thank you.

**Wreath orders MUST be received by November 21, 2014**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(To receive our FREE email newsletter)

**Sponsoring Group ID Number: WV0005**

**Cemetery Designation: NATIONAL CEMETERY OF THE ALLEGHENIES**  
(please select one cemetery per group)

**Cemetery ID Number: PANCAB**  
(located on our website under locations tab)

Sponsorship	Price	Quantity	Total
<b>Individual= 1 Wreath</b>	\$15.00		
<b>Family= 4 Wreaths</b>	\$60.00		
<b>Small Business= 10 Wreaths</b>	\$150.00		
<b>Corporate= 100 Wreaths or more</b>	\$15.00 each wreath		
<b>WAA Pins (25 pins per pack)</b>	\$10.00 / pk		
<b>WAA Patch</b>	\$3.00 each		
		<b>Grand Total</b>	

**\*\*WE DO NOT TAKE GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS\*\***

Please make checks payable to:

Wreaths Across America TM

13 Elm Lane

Wheeling, WV 26003-4905

Questions? Please call 304-242-8759

**Thank you for your Sponsorship and joining us in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!**

Please note that **all** sponsorships are sent directly to the location and **no** wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships. We cannot make grave specific requests.

\*\*\* <http://www.georgewashingtonchapter.com> \*\*\*



George Washington Chapter  
Sons of the American Revolution  
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