



News & Events

George Washington Chapter

Chartered June 5, 1924



Pennsylvania Society ~ Sons of the American Revolution

Vol. 92, No. 6

Washington, Pennsylvania

November / December 2015

DECEMBER LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 5, 2015
Arrival & Greetings @ 12:00 PM
Union Grill
13 ½ East Wheeling Street
Washington PA 15301
(724) 222-2860

DAR / SAR Members and guests are welcome.

Directions: The Union Grill is located on the corner of Main and South Wheeling Streets in downtown Washington, PA. Street parking is available in the vicinity of the restaurant as well as down the block at the Citizen's Library lot.

Menu: Luncheon Buffet: Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast, Sliced Roast Beef Bordelaise, Red Bliss Potatoes, Green Beans Almandine, Apple Pie
Includes: Tossed Salad Rolls & Butter Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea

Price: \$19.00 per person

Reservations with meal choice
MUST arrive by
Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Make checks to: George Washington Chapter-SAR

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

Minutes ~ Saturday, October 17, 2015

Call to Order: President Larry L. Ridgway called the meeting to order at the Union Grill in Washington, PA. at 12:15 PM. After welcoming all, the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Pledge to the SAR was recited, and Rev. Dr. Nat Roe gave the invocation. Following the invocation, President Ridgway read a resolution on the death of Albert W. White. Past President Ronald Miller presented

President Larry Ridgway with the SAR Service to Veterans medal for his work and dedication supporting veterans.



Attendance: Eighteen(18) people, guests (6) **Compatriots (12)** Gerry D. Getman; Dr. Scott M. Helfrich; George E. Livingston; Dick Mellon; Ronald E. Miller; Mrs. & Mark Miner; E. Ward Reighard; Larry L. Ridgway; Rev. Dr. Nathaniel C. Roe; Marie & Edward W. Schreiber; Ruth & John C. Schreiber; Gary W. Timmons; Cynthia & Kurt Winter; John R. Yates.

Officer Reports: Following lunch, President Miller asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2015 & August 15, 2014 Chapter meeting/picnic. The motion was approved.

Secretary Report: Secretary Timmons reported Kurt Winter's application has been sent to National.

Committee Reports: **COLOR GUARD:** President Miller reported on Chapter Color Guard traveling to Mount Vernon to take part in the vigil at George Washington's tomb. **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA:** Gary Timmons reported wreath sponsorships to date are up from 2014 campaign. **JROTC:** President Ridgway mentioned that he has made contact with a school on the JROTC program.

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

BOY SCOUTS: Ward Reighard stated he had received an entry for the Boy Scout Eagle Scout contest.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Program: Mark Miner presented a PowerPoint program on Beaver County Heritage and Fort McIntosh.



Good of the Order The next George Washington Chapter meeting will be the Annual Chapter Christmas party on Saturday December 5, 2015 at the Union Grill.

Adjournment: The SAR recessional was recited and Ron Miller gave the Benediction. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10pm.

Wreaths Across America



Our Wreaths Across America 2015 campaign is doing very well. To date, sponsors for over 612 wreaths have been received and this does not

include the bonus wreaths the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies will receive in our name. The majority of these sponsors continue to come from our mass mailing. Compatriots and wives who attended our chapter picnic, stuffed envelopes to send to those people, groups and organizations that have sponsored in the past. 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; 1st Christian Church of Weirton, Sonna Agnew, Ralph Alterio, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 902, Carla Anderson, Arthur Anderson, Trina Banco, Thomas & Geraldine Banketas, Beverly Bauman, John Bell, Sue Bender, Frank Bentonte, Karen Biela, Nancy Bishop, William Boardley, Larry Bostich, Ray & Sherle Bourg, Margaret Brown, Mary Beth Brown, Dolores Burhenn, Bob Byrne, Margaret Cipicic, Joyce Clarke, Claysville Sportsmans Club, Pete Coffield, Walter Comer, Kathryn Cortese, Jim & Sandy Craig, Robert & Lois Crawford, Richard & Marjorie D'Antonio, Barbara Dellorso, Patty DeThomas, Chad Dewitt, Harry & Barbara Dewitt, Kenneth Dornbush, Joseph Dyga, Richard Eckles, Bob & Sue Edgell, Carole Fatigati, Jennifer Felt, Jacob Ferree Chapter-DAR, Dorothy Fetherlin, Peg Flynn, Janet Ford, Ft. Steuben Chapter-DAR, Mary Gafric, Mark & Maureen Galish, Donna George, Joanne George, Gerry Getman, Donna Glass, Kenneth Gorton, Renae Gress, Grissell Funeral Homes, Joanne Gump, Rosemary Guna, Frank Gwynn, Amy Hamilton, Lyle & Valerie Haney, Ada Harsh, Dr. Jay & Joan Helsel, Nicole Henderson, Jeanne Hicks, Jim Hixon, Patricia Hollot, Barry Huggins, William & Janet Jobs, Pat Joyce, Charles Kacvinsky, Robert & Marcia Kaminski, Gladys Kelley, Diane Keller, John Kepner, Linda Knudson, Linda Kocian, Jack & Susie Koehersen, Judith Koerber, John & Tina Kovacs, Mary Lachman, Mike & Kathleen Leone, George & Beverly Livingston, Isabella Livolsi, Barbara Maggi, Joseph Mals, Raymond & Mary Martin, Anne Marie McDonald, Donna Les & Kathy McGowan, Jean Meade, Roberta Meixell, Mid-MonValley Shipmates, Gloria Miller, Moravian Trail Chapter-DAR, Susan Moyer, Harry Murtaugh, National Pike Chapter-DAR, Mark & Andrea Nave, Cyrena Neeley, George O'Neal Post 747, Charles & Maya Patnesky, Florence Patrick, Danielle Patterson, Julia Plunkett, Fred & Ann Puchany, Pat Puskar, Ronda Puskarich, R&K Disposal, Beverly Resciniti, Patricia Rhoades, Larry & Linda Ridgway, Joe & Pat Rolek, David Rose, Jeanne Russo, Richard Shrontz, Carol Skerbetz, Doreen Smittle, Margaret Steele, Janice Stout, Gloria Suchko,

Madeline Thielet, Thomas & Son Trucking, Connie Thrasher, Jacqueline Timmerson, VFW Auxiliary Post 6553, David Warne, Roger & Margaret Warren, Washington County Chapter-DAR, Cheryl Wells, Wheeling IOOF Lodge #9, Wheeling Rebekah Lodge #45, Bruce Wieland, Patricia Wishnok, Womans Club of Upper St. Clair, Ruth Yago, Clara Zulick .

We also remind you to "save the date" of December 12, 2015 on your calendar. On that day 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. Our George Washington Chapter has a brief ceremony at our "boulder" about 45 minutes before the main ceremony. Our "boulder" can be found at the circle where the POW Flag flies. You will truly find the Wreaths Across America a rewarding and humbling experience.

2016 Dues Notice



Back in September, you should have received a letter from PASSAR State Secretary James Hall stating that it was time to pay your 2016 dues. In the meantime, all chapter secretaries, in the state, received membership cards for their respective chapters. The intention was for the chapters to send out the cards once the members' dues were paid. The problem is, since the chapters do not receive the dues any more, it is very hard for them to know who has paid and also any address changes that may take place with members. The way this has been done the last two years has raised many complaints from the chapters around the state. Enclosed with this newsletter is your 2016 membership card. If you have already paid your 2016 dues, we thank you. If you have not paid please use this as a reminder to pay your dues as soon as possible. Your dues need to be in by mid-December so they can be processed. Also, if you attended the October George Washington Chapter meeting you were given your membership card at that time.

November & December Events in Revolutionary War History

November 1775

The British governor of Virginia, Lord Dunmore, issues a proclamation offering freedom to any slaves of rebellious Americans who are able to enter British lines. Throughout the course of the war, tens of thousands of African Americans will seek their freedom by supporting the British. A smaller number will fight on the patriot (pro-independence) side, despite policies that discourage their enlistment.

December 1776 - January 1777

In a bold move, Washington moves his troops into New Jersey on Christmas night. The patriots then surprise a force of German troops fighting for Britain at Trenton on December 26. They achieve a similar victory over British troops at Princeton on January 3, reviving hopes that the war just might be winnable. The army then encamps for the winter at Morristown, New Jersey.

December 1777

With the British occupying Philadelphia just 20 miles away, the Continental Army enters winter quarters at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. During the winter, supply arrangements will be improved and the Continental troops will be drilled and emerge as a more disciplined, unified fighting force.



**"...and put your cell phones on
vibrate."**

President's Corner

Welcome Compatriots!

Our December 5th meeting is in between two holidays; therefore I wish you a Faithful Thanksgiving and a Very Merry Christmas!

By the all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability and expectation; for I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet escaped unhurt, altho' death was levelling my companions on every side. - - -

- GEORGE WASHINGTON, Letter to John A. Washington, Jul. 18, 1755

Possibly because of his close encounters with death, General George Washington understood the meaning of the Bible verse, II Corinthians 12:9, "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities that the power of Christ may rest upon me." Washington was a Christian who regularly attended church, read his Bible, and gave to missionary organizations. Often, he would leave his military camps on Sundays to attend the services of any church he could find, no matter which denomination. Prayer was a big part of his life, and he was often seen riding into the woods to find a solitary spot to pray, or found in his private quarters on his knees with the Bible opened.

Washington recognized the need for clergy on the battlefield for encouragement, admonishment, and comfort, and he empathized with the men's desire for spiritual guidance and instruction in understanding Biblical concepts such as the grace he personally experienced. Consequently, he was a champion of the establishment of a chaplaincy corps. After the battle at Lexington and Concord, many pastors enlisted in the Continental Army and encouraged the men in their congregations to follow suit. In its infancy, the chaplaincy service was not organized - - some clergy were commissioned by the army, some by governors, and some were aligned with militias. July 29, 1775, is considered the official birthday of the American Chaplaincy Corps when Congress recognized chaplains in the national army with a rank equal to that of a captain and with a monthly pay of twenty dollars.

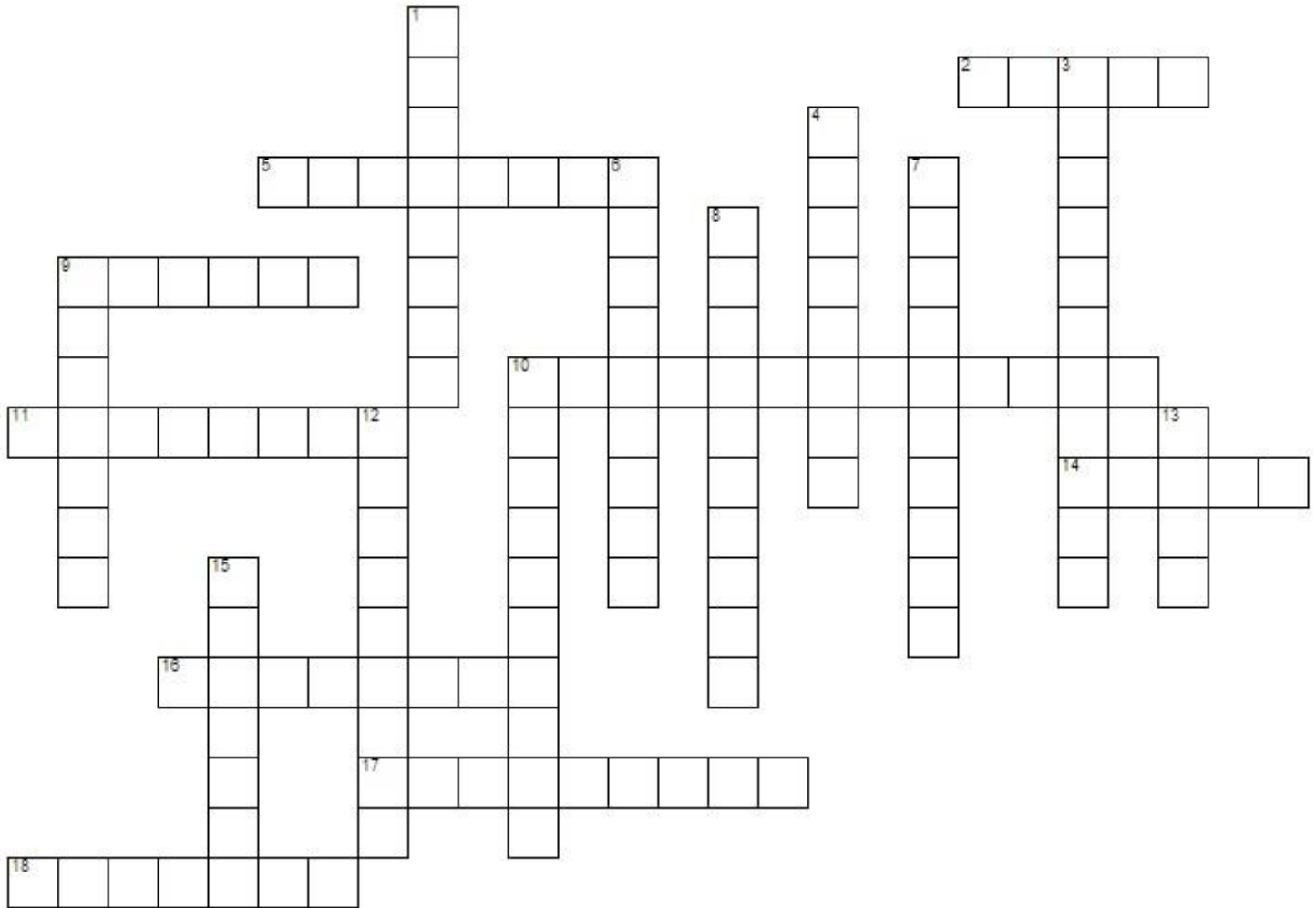
In August 1775, General Washington reported that fifteen chaplains were serving twenty-three regiments and that twenty-nine regiments were without any. In September, there were twenty regiments supplied and twenty vacancies. The situation worsened, and by January 9, 1776, there were only nine chaplains and eighteen vacancies. Because Washington thought that chaplains weren't paid enough, he suggested assigning a chaplain for each two regiments as a means of doubling the salary. Chaplains usually served six months. Some served during the week and returned home each weekend. Some were responsible for paying for their temporary replacements back home. Although officers without rank, they had no specified uniform, but did bear arms, at least the sword of an officer and a gentleman, and occasionally a firearm.

Normally, chaplains conducted services, offered Holy Communion, acted as representatives of God, prayed with the men before a march and before roll call at night, and comforted the wounded. Some served as surgeons. They also officiated at funerals and performed marriages. One of the most notable chaplains during the Revolutionary War was Chaplain James Caldwell, a Presbyterian immortalized in Bret Harte's poem, The Rebel High Priest. Caldwell's wife was shot and killed by Hessians, and his church was burned by Tories. At the battle of Springfield, NJ, on June 23, 1780, when the Patriots stopped firing because they had run out of paper for wadding, Caldwell ran into a local Presbyterian church and brought out Watts Hymnals, and, according to the poem, he yelled, "Put Watts into 'em,—Boys, give 'em Watts!"

Please remember to send in your dues if you have not already done so.

Your humble and obedient servant,
Larry Ridgway

George Washington Chapter Crossword Puzzle Contest
November December 2015



ACROSS: 2.) 1764 Tax Act 5.) Saratoga Surrender 9.) Indian Neutrality Agent 10.) 13 States 11.) NJ Courthouse
 14.) Common Sense 16.) Ammunition Wagon 17.) King George's Wife 18.) Home Guard

DOWN: 1.) Continental _____ 3.) Light Cannon 4.) McIntosh Adversary 6.) Western _____
 7.) Allegheny Fort 8.) Hamilton's Fort 9.) Musket Blade 10.) Military Store 12.) Soldier Pack 13.) British PM
 15.) Ohio Indians

September / October 2015 Answers

ACROSS: 2.) Fortification **Bastion** 3.) Revolution Pacifist **Quaker** 6.) Independence Supporter **Whig** 7.) Irish Indian Agent **Croghan**
 9.) Summon Troops **Mustering** 11.) Crown's Man **Loyalist** 13.) Fort Fincastle City **Wheeling** 14.) Christmas Battle **Trenton** 16.) Wagon
 Builder **Wainwright** 17.) Washington Foreign Trip **Barbados** 18.) Mt. Vernon Manager **Lund**

DOWN: 1.) Flintlock **Firearm** 4.) 1776 Pittsburgh County **Augusta** 5.) Mother **Country** 7.) 1787 Document **Constitution**
 8.) 1763 Treaty **Paris** 10.) Washington's Quartermaster **Greene** 12.) Caesar Rodney **Delaware** 15.) Officer Conspiracy **Newburgh**



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