



Vol. 93, No. 6

News & Events

George Washington Chapter

Chartered June 5, 1924

Pennsylvania Society ~ Sons of the American Revolution

Washington, Pennsylvania

November / December 2016



DECEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

Saturday, December 10, 2016

**Rego's Restaurant
601 McKean Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022**

Arrival & Greetings @ 12:00 PM

DAR / SAR Members and guests are welcome.

Directions: Take Exit 40 off I-70 onto PA-88 towards Charleroi/Allenport. Stay on PA-88 and turn left onto 6th Street. Rego's will be on the right.

Meal Choices: Dinners come with choice of 2 sides

Chicken Parmesan – \$18.00

Two Grilled Pork Chops & Apple Sauce – \$16.50

Broiled Boston Scrod – \$18.00

Golden Fried Chicken -- \$14.50

Sides: Cup of Soup, Salad, Vegetable, Side of Spaghetti or Potato.

The George Washington Chapter will pay the gratuity and taxes for everyone – Merry Christmas!!

**Reservations MUST arrive before
Saturday, December 3, 2016**

Please Mail Reservations To:

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

2017 DUES: If you have not already paid your 2017 SAR dues please do so as soon as possible to avoid a reinstatement fee. Actually the dues are \$3.00 less for 2017!!

Minutes ~ Saturday, October 15, 2016

Call to Order: President Larry Ridgway called the meeting to order at the Ramada Inn - Washington, PA at 12:10PM. After welcoming all and introducing dignitaries Rev. Dr. Nat Roe gave a Blessing.

Attendance: Fifteen(15) people, guest (1) **Compatriots (14) John A. Burnett; John E. Burnett; Charles D. Curry; Dick Mellon; Michael D. C. Merryman; Karen Neubauer; Raymond H. Patterson; E. Ward Reighard; Rev. Dr. Nat C. Roe; Larry L. Ridgway; Edward W. Schreiber; John C. Schreiber; Joseph M. Shaffer, Gary W. Timmons; & Kurt J. Winter.**

Following lunch all present Pledged to the American Flag and the SAR pledge. Rev. Dr. Nat Roe gave the Invocation.



Officer Reports: The minutes from the August 20 chapter meeting were approved. President Ridgway installed two new Compatriots, John E. Burnett (L) and Raymond Patterson (C).

Secretary Report: Secretary Timmons read a resolution on the death of Harry Edward Killen III.

Financial Report: The balance as of October 12, 2016 was \$2,571.91.

Committee Reports: Wreaths Across America:
See update in this newsletter for more information.

Old Business: Secretary Gary Timmons presented Michael D. C. Merryman with a Marshall E. Lignian certificate that Merryman received at the PASSAR Annual meeting for his first, first line sponsorship of a new Compatriot.

New Business: None

Program: Compatriot Gary Timmons presented a program on the Wreaths Across America program as well as the Chapters relationship with the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies over the years.

Good of the Order: President Ridgway acknowledged the recent 50th wedding anniversary of Ron and Marian Eisert. The next George Washington Chapter meeting will be the Annual Chapter Christmas party on Saturday December 10, 2016 at Rego's Restaurant at 11:30 AM.

Adjournment: The SAR recessional was recited and Rev. Dr. Nat Roe gave the Benediction. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM.

Wreaths Across America 2014



Our 2016 Wreaths Across America campaign is doing very well. To date, sponsors for over 978 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. As always, we get a tremendous response from this mass mailing. For every two wreaths sponsored, the

cemetery receives a third wreath. We would like to acknowledge the following individuals and groups that have sponsored wreaths since our last newsletter; Kate Abel, Arthur Alderson, Altmeyer Funeral Home, James Amato, Am Leg Aux Unit 525, Am Leg Aux Unit 902, John Andes, Mary Andrews, Donna Antone, Trina Banco, Nancy Barnard, Debbie Battaglia, Beverly Bauman, Beavertown Chapter-Colonial Dames, Sue Beels, Marty & Judy Beichner, Bertha Bell, Pete & Jean Belski, Sue Bender, John Berg, April Betzner, Karen Biela, Joanne Bier, Ann Bopp, Mary Boroach, Larry Bostich, Sherle Bourg, Myrna Bowman, Armelda Brown, William Brown, Judy Buckingham, Susan Burchett, Sylvia Burke, Robert Byrne, Gary Cameron, Judith Cap, Joanne Carlton, Greg Carpenter, Mark Chancy, Adelina Cindrich, Diane Clark, Pete Coffield, , Dolores Collins, Walter Comer, Carol Connelly, Kara Conners, Robert & Lois Crawford, Louis Csak, Cheryl Cummins, Louise Curley, Sharon Curry, Marilyn Dague, Melissa Dami, Mary Dangelo, John & Lauretta Darby, Deborah Davis, Ron Davis, Melissa DeJohn, Barbara Dellorso, Charles Dodd, Virginia Dulany, Edmund Dunn, Ebenezer Zane Chapter-SAR, Richard Eckles, Robert Edgell, Elm Grove Civics, Ruthann Falconi, Pat Ferrari, Dorothy Fetherlin, Tina Few, First Christian Church of Charleroi, Dr. John K. Folmar, Janet Ford, Kathy Fordyce, Margaret Foreman, Richard & Mary Franekouser, Munall Franjione, Cindy Freyvogel, Mary Gafric, Mark & Maureen Galish, Elsie Gallagher, Evelyn Gallo, Gen. Anthony Wayne Chapter-SAR, Gen. Arthur St Clair Chapter-SAR, JoAnne George, Gerry Getman, Lois Gnagey, Kenneth Gorton, Grace Lutheran Church, Mona Graham, Grisell Funeral Homes, Frank Gwynn, John & Amy Hamilton, Nicole Henderson, Stephanie Henderson, Cheryl Hindman, John Holland, Judy Homerosky, Elizabeth Hoskins, Karen Huggins, Marilyn Izzi, Rosemarie Jacanin, John Thomas Trucking, Harry Johnston, Fran Jones, Janice Keeling, Janet Kirk, Linda Kocian, Judith Koerber, Jack & Susie Koekrsen, John & Tina Kovacs, Eileen Kramer, JoAnn Kulesa, Kevin Lahey, Donzele & Deborah Lamp, Barbara Landefeld, Michael, Leone & Vanetta Lewis, Agnes Lesniakowski,

Roberta Levering, Ann Lewis, Bruce Littleton, Beverly Livingston, Isabella Livolsi, Diane Lloyd, Mary Lou Lockman, Marilyn Malinowski, Joseph Mals, Lawrence & Leslie Manning, Lee Marshall, Karen Martinek, Anne Marie McDonald, Dee McDowell, Tom & Bonita McGowan, Carol McMurray, Donna Meade, Roberta Meixell, Laverne Messina, Gloria Miller, Helen Miles (102 years old), Moravian Trail Chapter-DAR, Verna Mossor, Marian Morgan, Betty Muhleman, Albert & Patricia Nagy, National Pike Chapter – DAR, Mark & Andrea Nave, Margaret Niedzialka, John O’Leary, Rita Pagendarm, Dollie Parascenzo, Greg & Jill Park, Joel & Danielle Patterson, Gertrude Pavlik, Pennsylvania Society – SAR, Col. John Perry, Lauren Pirozzi, Julia Plunkett, Emilie Poplarchick, Tom Porter, Dolores Poznak, Greg Prentice, Fred & Ann Pucheny, Terry & Ronda Puskarich, Rev. Felix Pyzowski, R & K Disposal, Sandra Rea, Robert Redlinger, E. Ward Reighard, Andrea Remish, Patricia Rhoades, Judith Ridge, Larry & Linda Ridgway, E. J. Ritson, John & Linda Romano, Pauline Rozsas, Anna Rubis, Geraldine Rush, Jeanne Russo, Saut Family, Thomas Schneck, Donald Scorza, Joe Sites, Carol Skerbetz,

Evelyn Skotnicki, Julia Smith, Mildred Smith, Betty Snider, Loretta Stanek, Margaret Steele, Joan Steinmiller, Elizabeth Stevenson, Joan Stewart, Susan Stonebraker, Steven Stout, Steve & Maureen Szymkiewicz, Sam & Mary Lou Thomas, Marlene Tkach, Leatrice Thomas, Tim & Alice Thomassy, Donna Turner, Elvera Ursic, VFW Post 747, VFW Aux Post 6553, Harold & Lana Vigoffi, Frank Vorhees, Betty & Cathy Walters, Warwood Lions Club, Cheryl Wells, Mary Ellen West, West End Neighborhood Watch, Wheeling Chapter – DAR, Wheeling Elks Lodge # 28, Wheeling Rebekah # 45, Fred Wickstrom, Bruce & Georgia Wieland, Patricia Wilson, Daniel Zajdel, Zanes Trace Chapter-DAR, Anna Zedel, We also remind you to “save the date” of December 17 on your calendar. On Saturday, December 17 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. As has been our tradition, we will meet at our George Washington Chapter “boulder” located by the POW Flag around 11AM for our brief ceremony.



Michael D. C. Merryman receives his Marshall E. Lignian certificate



Naturalization ceremony in Wheeling

In Memorial



Senator John Barry Stout



Harry Edward Killen III

The Chapter is saddened to report the loss, by death, of two longtime Compatriots. Harry Edward Killen III on October 1, 2016 at age 82. Harry was a Life member of the SAR. He was past Chapter President and in 2003 served as President of the Pennsylvania Society. He attended numerous State and National meetings where he served on various committees. He was retired from McGraw-Edison and was a lifelong resident of Washington. He belonged to numerous fraternal and historical organizations and enjoyed researching history. Senator John Barry Stout passed on October 29 at age 79. Senator Stout was a 40 plus year member and a lifelong resident of Washington County. He was elected to the General Assembly in 1970 and served until his retirement in 2010. He was Senate Transportation committee Chairman and was instrumental in many economic development and highway projects in the area. He was an Army Reserve veteran and in 2015 was inducted into the Washington County Historical Society Hall of Fame. The Chapter wishes to express its deepest sympathy to the families of both Compatriots Killen and Stout.

National Patriot Bios Project

As of October 27, 2016, 4,767 biographical sketches have been loaded to the Patriot and Grave Index. It is our hope that we continue to build this database. Since Congress, we have added over 500 biographies and have room for many more. The information should be provided in a file that is Microsoft WORD compatible. The data will then be merged into the Patriot and Grave Index.

As has been mentioned in the past, we honor our patriot ancestors by telling their story. As we all know, too much of our history is lost, or is in danger of being lost to the ages. This is one avenue where we can make a difference. In the 1894 Kentucky Society Yearbook, Thomas Page Grant wrote about the establishment of the Sons of the American Revolution, "The men whose forefathers took part in the establishment of the Nation were naturally drawn together, and in some of the older States formed themselves into societies to gather scatter bits of history and save them for coming generations; to preserve alive a memory of the men who gave so much for country and paid so dear a price for liberty; to inculcate in the minds of the rising generations a knowledge of what they fought for, and a love of the principles they held so dear."

Now, over one hundred and twenty years later, we can do just what Compatriot Grant described. In collaboration with the Patriot and Grave Index, we are able to attach a biography, supplied by you, to ancestors in that database. The goal of the Committee is not to validate/verify the stories submitted; it is to share and provide a repository of those scattered bits of history.

As we enhance the recruitment of new members for the National Society, your submission could provide the spark for a non-member to connect with a common ancestor and take the plunge to join the Sons of the American

Revolution. Another possibility is that a current Member might find a common ancestor and provide the ability for him to submit a Supplemental Application.

Please note, there is no defined format for your submission. We ask that the information be between 200 – 500 words and be sent in a Microsoft WORD-compatible format. There is no need for documentation references. As noted on the database, it is the sole responsibility of the author to research the facts and data contained in the submission. Citing sources is not required. The sketch cannot be used for proof of lineage. It can, however, serve as a guide for the continuation of research. The Patriot Ancestor Database is one way you can honor your ancestor's for perpetuity.

For those Chapters/State Societies presented a streamer during 2014-2015 or 2015-2016, a Star will be presented for each additional 20% achievement. This Star will be affixed to the Streamer.

For clarification on how the achievement levels are calculated:

Example - A chapter has obtained a 12% submission rate. If they hit a total of 20% during the current year, they will be presented a Streamer. Stars will be presented at each additional 20% level - 40% - 1 Star; 60% - 2 Stars; 80% - 3 Stars, etc.

For the member counts, we will use the December 31, 2016 membership that have paid their 2017 dues. National Headquarters will provide this information as they did last year. All Streamers and Stars will be presented at the 2017 National Congress in Knoxville.

Please get the word out. With your help we will continue to expand the database to build the best data source that we can. We will cut-off the submissions for the 2016-2017 program on May 20, 2017 (Armed Forces Day).

We do have a method to identify the listing of all the Patriot Biographies that have been entered into the database. We have established a Patriot named "Index" - #P-334038 in the Patriot and Grave Index. We have expanded the Index to alphabetize by State of service for the Patriots. Hopefully, this will enable a more specific search when looking for a biography entry.

In order to access:

1. Enter the Patriot and Grave Index (<http://patriot.sar.org/fmi/iwp/cgi...>) and input "Index" in the box labeled Full or Partial Surname and then click the SEARCH box.
2. Patriot Index with Ancestor # P-334038 will come up. Click on the "Read Biography" box in the lower left corner of the page to access the listing of biographies in the database.

President's Corner

This year seems to have gone by so quickly. The Christmas season will soon be here, along with the many celebrations and events that are so important and meaningful.

Our annual Christmas party has been one of the best attended and most enjoyable events of the year. If you haven't been able to join us in the past, this is the year to come and enjoy a terrific meal and great fellowship with your Compatriot brothers and their families. We will be gathering again at Rego's in Charleroi, on December 10th at 11:30 AM. Don't miss out on an enjoyable time together!

There is no better way to start this time of giving than to remember and honor our veterans by decorating their graves at the Cemetery of the Alleghenies. We will gather at the cemetery, along with hundreds of other volunteers on Saturday, December 17th at 11:00 AM for our annual wreath laying ceremony at the Revolutionary Soldier stone marker near the POW Flag. This is a short time to remember our Revolutionary soldiers and then the large Wreaths Across America Ceremony (about 10 minutes in length) will begin at 12:00 noon and then we all lay wreaths until they are all displayed on a grave. It is particularly meaningful to take the time to read the gravestone and ponder on a veteran and their service. What a great experience to see the many children learning about honor and respect by helping to distribute the wreaths. You will not regret talking just a small part of your day, as there is no better way to start the Christmas Season! Arrive early and dress warm. Please take a moment to fill out the attached survey and return to me at the address on the front page. Finally, Linda and I wish you and yours a great holiday season and a healthy 2017!



George Washington Chapter
 Sons of the American Revolution
 c/o Gary W. Timmons
 13 Elm Lane
 Wheeling, W. Va. 26003-4905

Your opinion counts: This is **your** chapter. Please fill out survey and sent to President Larry Ridgway.
 George Washington Chapter survey form:

1. Are you satisfied with having Chapter meetings on Saturdays? Yes No

2. If No what other day would work better? Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri

3. Would day or evening meetings work better for you? Day Evening

4. Would you rather have just a meeting without a lunch or dinner being served? Yes No

5. Would you rather meet at the same place or vary locations? Same Vary

6. Would you be willing to serve as an officer or on a committee? Yes - which office or committee

Any comments: _____

