



# News & Events

## George Washington Chapter

Chartered June 5, 1924



### Pennsylvania Society ~ Sons of the American Revolution

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January / February 2024

#### **FEBRUARY MEETING**

**Saturday, February 17, 2024**

**10 AM**

**Washington County Historical Society**

48 East Maiden Street

Washington, PA

Phone: (724) 225-6740

**DAR/SAR Members and guests welcome**

**Please note meeting time.**

**Program:** Clay Kilgore will give a presentation and tour of the new location for the Washington County Historical Society. Located across the street from the Lamoyne House. Parking in lot on site.

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#### **Minutes ~ Saturday, December 2, 2023**

**Call to Order:** President Michael Merryman called the annual Chapter Christmas party to order at the Century Inn at Scenery Hill at 12:05. After welcoming all he asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the SAR. Kurt Winter gave the Invocation.

**Attendance:** Twenty (20) Compatriots (12) & guests (8) were in attendance.

In an abbreviated meeting President Merryman had the Minutes from the October 21, 2023 were approved as mailed. Gary Timmons reported on the Wreaths Across America Campaign for 2023 (see following article). PASSAR First Vice-President Kurt Winter presented Michael Merryman with the National Liberty medal Oak Leaf cluster for signing new members as well as a certificate and pin for serving as Chapter President for the last two years. Michael also reported that there are currently 2 new member and 1 supplemental application awaiting approval at National. Treasurer Ed Schreiber reported the checking account balance as \$4,013.00. President Merryman then presented Ed with the SAR Meritorious Service Medal and Certificate. Following lunch Nominating Committee Chairman Kurt Winter read the nominations for 2024: President, Gary Timmons; Secretary, A. J. Swerbensky and Treasurer, Larry Ridgway. With no objections the new officers were installed. President Timmons made brief remarks about the upcoming 100 year anniversary of the chapter coming on June 8, 2024.

**Adjournment:** All shared in good food and fellowship. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45PM.



President Michael Merryman presented outgoing chapter Treasurer Ed Schreiber with the Meritorious Service medal.



Above: PASSAR 1<sup>st</sup> VP Kurt Winter (L) installed new chapter Secretary A. J. Swerbensky (R) and Gary Timmons, President for the coming year.



Members of the C.A.R., DAR and SAR joined in a brief ceremony at our George Washington "boulder".



The George Washington Chapter has had another great wreaths campaign! We received sponsorships for 2,042 actual wreaths and the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies receive 3,155 in our name. Thanks goes out to everyone who participated in any way. Whether you helped stuff envelopes, sponsored a wreath(s), or helped place wreaths this past December, we thank you! This year we sent out over 400 envelopes to previous sponsors requesting their participation again in 2023. Most new sponsors were due to newspaper articles that were published in West Virginia, and Martins Ferry, Ohio as well as Washington and Uniontown. These numbers do not include our own chapter members that sponsored wreaths. We received donations from as far away as Las Vegas, Nevada, the Carolinas and New York. Then on December 16 Compatriots from our George Washington Chapter placed wreaths at the cemetery. This year, over 16,200 wreaths were delivered. As a result, with graves that were already decorated by families, again this year every grave was marked! We would like to acknowledge this last list of corporations, individuals and groups that have sponsored wreaths since our last newsletter: 84 Lumber, Adrian Woman's Sunday School, American Legion Aux. Unit 212 & 639, Marlene Antonetti, Larry Ashmore, Dolores Babich, Mark Bails, Shelby Bamberger, Mary Bartsch, Debbie Battaglia, Judy Beichner, Jean Belski, Belle Vernon Area VFW Post 699, April Belzner, Bethel Fife & Drum Chapter-DAR, Joanne Bier, Rosana Bodkin, Patricia Boyd, Barbara Brinsky, Henrietta Burns, Tori

Calvert, Chapman Corporation, Chelsea Glen Community Service Association, Thomas Cheripka, Louise Courley, Richard Craig, Gayle Crile, Cheryl Cunningham, Charles & Eleanor Curry, Samuel Cushey, William Daniels, Diane Delvecchio, Dale DiMarzio, Mark Donaldson, Charles Dunaway, Shirley Dvorcek, Marcia Embrey, Josephine Evanina, Lois Falsetto, James Foflygen, Judith Forman, Lois Gagey, Maureen Galish, Anthony Gregor, Ruth Griffiths, Adrienne Guelker, Rosemany Guna, Frank Gwynn, Janet Hadden, Georgianna Hartzell, Joan Helsel, Mark Herron, Elizabeth Hoskins, Leona Huey, Karen Huggins, Mary Ann Hull, Jack Huntsman, Pat Jeffers, Nancy Jeffries, Mary Jo Jepson, Laverne Johnson, Kathy Jones, Joanne Jones, Mary Alice Jones, Nancy Jones, Patty Jones, Juanita Karluk, Cecelia Kazakewicz, Linda Knudson, Charlotte Komar, Ed Koneski, Renee Korpus, Robert Kranak, Thomas Kreger, Rose Kukovich, Mary Lou Lachman, Barbara Landefeld, William Lantz, Linda Larocka, Rosalind Laur, Lewis Wetzel Rifle & Pistol Club, Joann Lewis, Cheleste Lynch, Joseph Mals, Gloria Mankey, Jacquelyn Marisa, Ester McElravy, Judith McIntire, Jesse McNurlen, Shirley Merritt, Sally Minter, Donna Miscovich, Patricia Morgan, Rebecca Moore, Carole Morrison, Claudia Moskal, Dorothy Moyer, Donna Nardine, James Nicholson, Michael Obringer, Susan Ozolins, Rita Pagendarm, Ronald Paris, Parkinson's Ferry Society-CAR, Judy Parks, Sam & Linda Perry, Sandra Pizzuti, Alan Popey, Marianne Povich, Jacqueline Preaux, Fred & Ann Puchany, Angela Raitano, Ruth Raspet, Judy Ridge, Larry & Linda Ridgway, Gerrie Rossetti, Carol Schlieper, Dorothy Schultz, Shirlee Schwab, Mary Schwertfeger, Evelyn Skotnicki, Kathleen Sneed, Robert Spencer, Sandy Sprowls, Karen Stewart, Sandra Stinogle, Pamela Stump, Joanne Sullivan, Maureen Szymkiewicz, Paula Takoch, Elizabeth Tarcy, Marie Taylor, Joe & Nancy Tencer, Donald Tustin, Gail Van Vranken, Cathy Walters, Washington County Chapter-DAR, Washington FOP Lodge 95, West Alexander American Legion Aux 656, Charles Watters, Wayne Wicks, Kurt & Cindy Winter, Greg & Fran Wisyanski, Beth Work.

With the help of these generous sponsors and the ones listed in the last couple issues of our newsletter, Our George Washington Chapter continues to be the largest non-corporate group to gather sponsors for this cemetery. Thank you.



Above: Chapter Wreaths Across America Chairman Gary Timmons presents Washington County Chapter-DAR Lady Karen Neubauer with a certificate of Appreciation for the chapters sponsorship of wreaths for the 2023 campaign.



Above: Compatriot Gary Timmons was one of two featured speakers that welcomed 42 new citizens at the Federal Court House in Wheeling on November 17, 2023. Welcoming new citizen Daria Igorivna Gavriushchenko (L-R) Chip Zelch, Timmons and Ron Malmgre



An estimated crowd of 2,000 to 3,000 volunteers help place wreaths at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies on Saturday December 16, 2023.

### President's message

It is, once again, my honor to serve as your chapter President. But the chapter is only as strong as our participating members. Please plan to attend our chapter meeting this month. This is **YOUR** chapter and we want to hear from you on what you want us to do. When and where to meet and what kind of programs you would like to see. Let's make our Centennial year a year to remember! Your most obedient servant, *Gary W. Timmons*

### Save the Date Dates to Remember 2024

- Feb 18 GW Chapter meeting – Washington County Historical Society**
- Apr 20 GW Chapter meeting – TBA**
- May 4 PASSAR Annual meeting – Bucks Co. PA
- May 27 Memorial Day Parade – Claysville, PA
- Jun 8 GW Centennial Meeting – Meadows Casino**
- Jul 11-15 National SAR Congress – Lancaster, PA
- Jul 13 Whiskey Rebellion – Washington, PA
- Jul 27 Fort Laurens – Bolivar, Ohio
- Aug 17 Chapter Joint Picnic-McGuffey Park**
- Aug 31 & Sep 1 Fort Henry Days – Wheeling, WV
- Oct 10 250<sup>th</sup> – Battle of Point Pleasant, WV
- Oct 19 GW meeting – Breezy Heights**
- Dec 7 GW Christmas party – Century Inn**
- Dec 14 Wreaths Across America

## **Welcome Aboard**

The George Washington Chapter is honored and delighted to extend the warm hand of friendship to our newest members. Parker James Griffith, Donald Lee Grimm, Mickey James Marshall, Benjamin Andrew Mathues, Robert William, Ross William & Sean Robert McGowan. Parkers ancestor John Shields served in Pennsylvania as a Private in Captain Thomas Clark and William Blaine company's. Don's Patriot ancestor is Davis Meredith who served as Corporal and also Private in Captain William McClement and Colonel Henry Neill's Delaware Company. Mickey's Patriot is Arron Marshall who was a Ranger on the Frontier

under captains Thomas Stockley and William Leet. The McGowan families ancestor is Abdiel McClure who was in the Flying Camp of Captain James McConnell and was also a prisoner of war. In an interesting side note to Abdiel McClure our George Washington Chapter, many years ago, installed a new veterans marker for this Patriot in the cemetery in Wheeling where he is buried.

We welcome all these Compatriots and hope to see them at future meetings.



George Washington Chapter  
c/o Gary W. Timmons  
13 Elm Lane  
Wheeling, W. Va. 26003-4905

