

GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER
OF the SAR

June/July Issue
July 11, 2009

GW CHAPTER PICNIC
Saturday, August 15th 2009
Mt. Pleasant Township Park
Lions Den Pavilion
Hickory, Penna.
Dinner at 5:30PM
Enjoy activities & Fellowship

Menu includes: Spring House baked chicken, Rigatoni w/meat sauce, Sweet-Sour Broccoli salad, fresh fruit salad, rolls/butter, Water, ice tea, sweet ice tea, Blackberry pie, Peach pie w/crumb topping, Banana cake.

Cost \$13

Contact Bill Welsh at 724-222-5603 by Aug 7th 2009

Or send your reservation to Bill at

William P. Welsh Jr.
70 Red Fox Road
Hickory, Pa 15340-1421

Directions to Mt. Pleasant Park

Carefully make your way to the City of Washington from there pick up Rt 18 North follow it until you run into Rt 50 which runs through Hickory once you are on Rt 50 start watching for a sign which will be located on your right stating Mt. Pleasant Park turn by the sign and follow the road down the hill you will run into the Park.

Follow RT 519 until you run into Rt 50 in Hickory. When you reach the intersection with Rt 50 make a left hand turn and proceed through town once you get through the town start watching for the sign which states Mt. Pleasant Park. Turn there and proceed down the hill at the bottom of the hill you will run into the entrance of the Park.

From the City of Washington pick up Rt. 50 and follow it until it meets up with Rt 18 continue on Rt 50 and watch for the sign mentioning the Park the sign will be on the right hand side of the road.

Should you get lost stop and ask for directions.

The June meeting of the George Washington Chapter was held at Meadowcroft Museum of Rural Life on June 18th 2009 at 6:30pm.

Members attending the meeting where the following including guests ~~where the following~~: Ken Britten, Randy & Velma Crumpler, Ron Eisert, Ken & Marcia Gorton, Dave & Anna Jane Gove, Marsh & June Lignian, George & Beverly Livingston, Dick Mellon & Shirley McCoy, Ron Miller, Gene & Rita Painter, Eric Powell, John & Doris Riggle, Nat & Grace Roe, Dave & Elizabeth Schofield, Joe & Barb Shaffer, Gary Timmons, Bill & Peggy Tinkey, Bill & Eleanor Welsh and Jack White.

To the above listed should also be added Tom & Melody McCreight who were the guests of Joe & Barb Shaffer.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by our President Ken Gorton. Who then had everyone introduce themselves and their guests? Ken G. then welcomed back to the meeting several of our members who we have not seen in a while. Rev Eric Powell has been filling in as a minister at a Church in Beaver Co. until they can find a replacement minister. Also we were all glad to see that Rita Painter was able to attend the meeting. Rita has just gotten over a very long Hospital confinement. The Rev. Nat Roe then offered the prayer and we proceed to eat our dinner and share friendly conversation over dinner. After dinner our President Ken G. called the meeting back to order.

Our new member and compatriot Scot Helfrich came forward and was installed as our latest new member of the Chapter.

The Historical Moment was presented by Joe Shaffer. Joe read a letter written in 1875 which described the massacre of Captain Sharp. Please see enclosed copy of the letter.

Minutes of May 21st were approved as presented with a few corrections. Also along with the mailing of the June Newsletter was a new updated directory of the Chapter which was mailed it seems that there were several omissions of names and wrong emails and addresses all of which will be corrected in the near future.

The secretary now has three different addresses for one individual and four for one person all of which do not match up with SAR information.

The Treasures Report was as follows :

Balance as of 5-21-09	\$2,200.96
Receipts and meals	380.00
Sub Total	\$2,580.96
Expenses	508.32
Balance as of 6-18-09	\$2072.64

1 Year CD at 2.5%	\$1,004.42
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The installation of Officers for the year 2009-2010 was conducted by Marshall Lignian. The year starts July 1st the officers were elected at the May meeting. Ken Gorton will serve as President, Ron Miller will be Vice President, Ken Britten Secretary, and Bill Welsh will serve as treasurer. A special thank you was given to Joe Shaffer for serving the past six months as Vice President during the transition period.

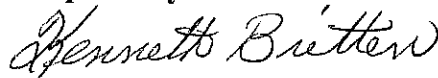
The Good Citizenship Award was presented to the Director of the Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Museum of Rural Life; Dave Scofield. For a bio of Dave please see enclosed notes of his accomplishments and why he was so deserving of this honor and recognition.

The members were reminded of an executive meeting to be held at Ken Britten's home on July 19th at 2:00. Also the National Congress of the SAR will be held in Atlanta in July. The PASSAR Board of Management Meeting will be held at Somerset August 7th & 8th. Please see enclosed material about reservations and time of the meeting.

The annual SAR picnic will be held in August.

The meeting was closed and the benediction was offered by Rev. Nat Roe.

Respectfully submitted



Kenneth Britten, Secretary

It seems that with each month that passes, compatriots have an opportunity to reflect on milestones in our history. In 2009 we have experienced the birthday of George Washington, Patriot's Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, and battles of the Revolutionary War.

While traveling last month, I toured Fort Ticonderoga in New York. The fort was built by the French in 1755 as Fort Carillon at the narrow choke-point between Lake George and Lake Champlain and played a significant role in the Seven Years' War. In 1758, the French defended the fort, and then suffered a humiliating defeat at the hand of the British the following year, under General Amherst, who renamed the site Fort Ticonderoga.

At the outset of the American Revolution, with the British occupying the fort, Ethan Allen, Benedict Arnold and the Green Mountain Boys crossed Lake Champlain on May 10, 1775 and overwhelmed the British, making Fort Ticonderoga America's first offensive victory of the Revolutionary War. A plaque on the wall placed by the "Sons of the Revolution" in 1900 commemorates the gallant effort of these patriots. From then until 1777, the fort served as an important staging area for the American army while fortifying Mount Independence in Vermont and building extensive defensive works in the region. As war goes, in 1776 the British in turn defeated Benedict Arnold who was leading the first navy fleet on Lake Champlain, and then General Burgoyne re-captured Fort Ticonderoga for the British in July 1777.

Battlefields and holidays are remembrances of those who paved the way for us to enjoy the freedoms we often take for granted. As the Gorge Washington Chapter has honored its own [Gary Timmons with the Patriots Medal and Service to Veterans, and Ron Eisert with the Meritorious Service Medal for preservation of Revolutionary soldier's graves], this is not only a sense of pride that we can share in, but a means to inspire each one of us to seek ways to actively preserve and advance our heritage.

One such way is to live out "The American's Creed". It reads: "**I believe** in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed, a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which *American patriots sacrificed* their lives and fortunes. **I therefore believe** it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies." Compatriots – may this be our objective.

David Scofield

Director, Meadowcroft Rockshelter & Museum of Rural Life

David has been in the museum field for over 20 years, starting out as a craftsman at Old Salem in Winston-Salem, North Carolina demonstrating the 18th century trades of blacksmithing, carpentry, joinery, and white oak basket making. Then, after working a couple of years developing a new turn-of-the-century living history farm for the state of North Carolina, he moved to western Pennsylvania in 1993 to be part of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania's effort to develop Meadowcroft.

David participated in the creation of the Senator John Heinz History Center by hewing logs and helping to construct the log house exhibit on the museum's second floor. Since being named Meadowcroft director in 1998, he has worked to gain designation for the Rockshelter as a *Pennsylvania Commonwealth Treasure* in 1999 and a *National Historic Landmark* in 2005. He has helped to raise nearly \$3.5 million to construct the new enclosure for the Rockshelter, which opened in 2008 and for the coming renovation of the visitor center.

In addition to his work at Meadowcroft, David serves as vice-president of the Washington County Tourism Promotion Agency board of directors; is a member of the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations board of directors; he serves on the Regional Advisory Board of the Pennsylvania Tourism Signing Trust; and is a Ruling Elder at Washington Presbyterian Church.

David lives in Washington, PA with Elizabeth, his wife of 24 years, and their three children: Daniel (18), Anna (15), and Grace (9). He is a graduate of Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture and the Williamsburg Seminar for Historical Administration.

The Massacre of Captain Sharp

As related by his daughter, Mrs. Hannah Leason, to her grand-nephew, William Moorhead, in incident of 1794.

Scrubgrass, Pennsylvania
August 10, 1875

"All is well. With your request, I sit down to write some particulars about my father's death. He was a militia captain, and served under George Washington in the Revolutionary War.

My father, Andrew Sharp, was married to my mother, Ann Woods, in the year 1783. In their native place, in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, and with a family of one child, moved to Crooked Creek (what is now) Indiana County, Pennsylvania, this being a new county. There was no chance for schooling his children. My father, after reaching there ten years, was determined on having them schooled. He swapped his place for one in Kentucky, where my mother's friends lived.

We moved to Blacklick River, and got into our boat. We started in the evening. The water was too low. We had to land over a day and night. We started the next day. We got two miles below the falls in the Kiskaminis River. We landed. Father had a canoe tied to the side of the boat. It got loose going over the falls. Father went back for it. When he was away, there was a man came and told us the Indians were coming. Again that fine father got back. All the women and children were in the boat.

The men went out to tie up the horses. The sun was an hour and a half high in the evening. They thought it best to go up to Mr. Hall's and stay to morning. When they went out to tie up the horses, seven Indians fired on them. They were hid behind a large tree that had fallen down, about fifteen steps off.

The first fire they shot off Father's eye brow. When he was cutting one end of the boat loose, he got a wound in the left side. When he was cutting the other end loose, they shot him in the other side.

Father got the boat away before they could get in. He saw an Indian among the trees. He called for his gun. Mother gave it to him. He shot him dead.

The boat got into a whirlpool and went round and round for awhile. When the open side went toward land, the Indians fired in at us. They followed us twelve miles down the river. They called for us to go out to them, or they would fire again.

Mrs. Conner and her son wanted to go out to them. They said the men were all killed and wounded. Father told him to desist or he would shoot him. The Indians then shot him (Mrs. Conner's son) that minute. He fell across my mother's feet. There were two dead men and two wounded. One of them died the next morning. There was no woman or child hurt. There were twenty in all.

They took my father's horses. The others got theirs. My mother worked the boat the whole night. We got within nine miles of Pittsburgh again daylight. There was a man came in a canoe to the boat to help us along. One man went on before us and had the doctors ready. When we got to Pittsburgh there were a great many kind neighbors came to us when we landed.

We lived awhile in the boat. We moved up to the city before his death. He lived forty days after he was wounded. He was willing to die. He said if it had been the will of Providence for him to live to see his children raised, he would have been satisfied. He left them to the care of Providence.

Many a time I wept and covered myself up and wept, when I heard him mourning, when the doctor was dressing his wounds. He got better, and could sit upon the bed, and talked to people when they came to see him. They shot the canons the Fourth of July. The wound that was in his back began to run and mortify. There were three in him, one in both sides and one in his back.

He died the eighth day of July, in the forty-second year of his age, in the year one thousand, seven hundred and ninety-four. He is buried in Pitsburgh. There were no friends to follow his remains to the grave, but a

younger sister and myself. My mother was unable to go. The youngest child was only eleven days old. There were plenty of neighbors to go. It was a wet day. He was buried with the honors of war.

After mother got well I went with her to the graveyard and showed her where father was buried.

He went over the mountains to see his father and mother before w went away. He bought school books and bibles for all that were able to go to school. He did not live to see his children sent to school. He had a brother come to see him when he was lying on his death bed. He went home after some time.

My father sold the boat himself. He knew he would not go down the river any further. His brother came back again. He was dead before he got back.

My uncle stayed with us til there were wagons sent for us. We went over the mountains to Cumberland County, to where our friends lived, and stayed there three years. When we got there father had another brother come to see us.

The clothes that were on Father when he was wounded, Mother showed to him. He looked at every bullet hole that was in them. He wept like a child.

We lived in Cumberland County three years, and went to school. We were all good common scholars, but oh! It was at the expense of my father's life.

We got our old place back. We moved home, and we all lived together. We did not live abroad. We got along very well. Providence was very kind to us. Oh! How thankful we ought to be to God for preserving us through such danger.

It was a party of twelve Indians that went to Pittsburgh to trade. The people would not trade with them. They got angry, and killed all they could that day.

There were three men went down the river in a canoe before us, one of whom was shot dead. The other two were wounded. One of them died. The other got well. He lay in a room next to Father's room. He could come to see Father. It was the last war that was in that part of the country. It was in the year 1794, when all these things happened.

I never had a spite at the Indians. They were very badly treated. There were seven children living at the time of my father's death. I was born in the year 1784, February 14. I was married to my husband, Robert Leason, 1802. He departed this life February 12th, aged eight-seven."

QUARTERLY MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

PASSAR Quarterly BOM Meeting

Friday, Aug. 7 and Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009
 Quality Inn, Somerset, PA
 At Turmpike Interchange, Exit 110.

Number	Registration Fee (compatriots @ \$15.00):	Amount
_____	Friday Evening Program (@ \$10):	\$ _____
_____	Saturday Morning Ladies' Program (@ \$10):	\$ _____
_____	Saturday Luncheon (@ \$20)	\$ _____
_____	<i>Specify Beef or Chicken:</i>	\$ _____
	TOTAL:	\$ _____

Name: _____

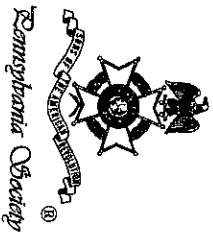
Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Chapter/Office Held: _____

Guests' Names: _____

*Deadline for reservation is July 24, 2009. Make check payable to
 Somerset-Cambria Chapter SAR
 and send check for total amount to:
 Everett Sechler, Treasurer
 Somerset-Cambria Chapter SAR
 7758 Kingwood Rd.
 Confluence PA 15424*



June 21, 2009

Subj: Notice of Meeting

Dear Compatriot,

This is the OFFICIAL CALL for the quarterly meeting of the Pennsylvania Society Board of Management to be held at 9:00 AM on Saturday, August 8, 2009 at the Quality Inn in Somerset, PA.

All officers and chairman who have reports due at the meeting are reminded to have their reports physically in the hands of President A. Duane Miller NO LATER THAN JULY 20, 2009.

His address is:
 17 Carriage Road,
 Greensburg, PA 15601-9014
 Phone: 724-837-4303
 E-Mail: neh17@comcast.net

Please include your name, address, phone number and e-mail address with your report. If all reports are in the report book, it eliminates the need for extensive oral reports.

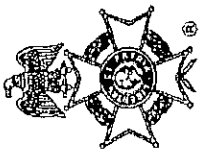
State officers are asked to check the PASSAR website (www.sar.org/passar/). The site has been updated by the webmaster to reflect the current State officers. If any corrections are needed (to any portion of the site), please contact the PASSAR Secretary.

Fraternally,


 Floyd N. Turner II

Encl:

- 1) Minutes of the May 2nd Annual Meeting
- 2) Meeting registration form for the Quarterly Meeting



PASSAR
Board of Management Meeting
The Pennsylvania Society SAR
August 7 & 8, 2009
Quality Inn, Somerset, PA



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, August 7, 2009

3:00-5:00 pm Registration
 5:30 pm Dinner (on your own)
 7:00-9:00 pm Dessert, Social Hour and Program

Friday Program: Trip to United Flight 93 Crash Site and presentation.

Saturday, August 8, 2009

8:00-9:00 am Registration
 9:00-11:30am Board of Management Meeting
 9:00 am Ladies Program
 10:15 am Coffee & Danish
 12:30 pm Luncheon

Ladies Program: Trip to Somerset Historical Center and Queecreek Mine Rescue Site



QUALITY INN RESERVATION
PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY SAR

August 7 & 8, 2009
 215 Ramada Road, Somerset, PA 15501
 Phone: 814-443-4646

Room Rate: \$89.99 + tax - 2 double beds
 add \$10 for king-size bed
 \$10 discount if booked before end of June

Conveniently located at exit 110 of PA turnpike (RT 70/76)
 & easy access from RT 31 and RT 219

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Number of rooms _____ Double Beds or King Bed _____
 Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____
 Credit Card Type (Visa, MC, AX, DISC) _____
 Credit Card number _____
 Expiration Date _____ CVW number _____
 Signature _____



Washington County Daughters of the American Revolution recently presented its 2009 Good Citizenship Awards to five area high school students at its awards year. First Lutheran Church in Washington. Travis Duran will represent Washington County DAR at the state competition. Duran's son of David and Janice Vazevac Duran of Bavington, is a recent Fort Cherry High School graduate. He will attend Cornell University College of Engineering, Ithaca, NY. Hanum Wensil Strow, a recent graduate of McGuffey, read her essay at the tea. Her parents are Larabee and Sharon Strow of East Finley and Van Wensil of Baltimore, Md. and she plans to attend the University of Maryland. Also recognized were Danielle Lakhram of Trinity, Emily Petsko of Bethlehem-Center and Juliana Brandt of Burgettstown.