



The
Ohio Country

Bulletin

The Ohio Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Summer 2007 Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As your new president, I shall strive to keep the Ohio Society vital, its programs of interest and our membership growing. I am optimistic that we may open at least one new chapter. I hope our Color Guards will remain active, participating in many traditional and NEW activities across Ohio. What better way to spread the SAR message?

A goal which I hope you will all share with me is to strengthen our association with other patriotic lineage societies, especially the DAR. Let's face it gentlemen, the Daughters and their well run organization can be of major assistance in providing leads for new members. We should strive to work together sponsoring activities through which both organizations will benefit. Let us reach out to the DAR.

The Ohio Society is now over 1400 members strong. What if each member brought in just one new member this year? A father, brother, son, grandson, cousin or nephew—the thought is staggering. Just realize that would be with little or no genealogical work required! Please keep this in mind as you gather for Chapter meetings. We must as an organization continue to build and grow or we will be failing those patriots who fought to keep alive the spirit of freedom we Americans love, respect and cherish.

Richard L. Fetzer, President

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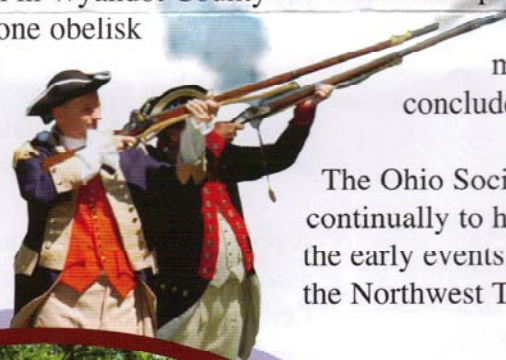
COLONEL CRAWFORD REMEMBERED

In 1782 General George Washington, Commander-in-Chief, wrote: "It is with the greatest sorrow and concern that I have learned the melancholy tidings of Col. Crawford's death. He was known to me as an officer of much care and prudence, brave, experienced and active. The manner of this death was shocking to me."

On June 11, 2007, the 225th anniversary of the burning at the stake of Col. William Crawford, Ohio Society compatriots came from the four corners of the state to honor and remember this brave officer. At a small cemetery near the banks of Tymochee Creek in Wyandot County stands a large stone obelisk commemorating the death of the leader of the Sandusky Expedition.

Richard Fetzer, President of the Ohio Society welcomed compatriots, members of the DAR, three descendants of Col. Crawford, and visitors. We were especially honored to have the National Society Genealogist General, Charles F. Bragg of Indiana in attendance. The Ohio Society Color Guard presented the Colors and Charles Wilson, President of the John Hancock Chapter SAR led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. State Chaplain Patrick Kelly then gave the Invocation. Brief accounts of the Sandusky Campaign and of Christian Fast, an eyewitness to the burning were delivered, after which floral tributes were presented by a host of attendees. A musket salute concluded the program.

The Ohio Society works continually to honor and remember the early events in the first state of the Northwest Territory. ■



OHSSAR President, Richard Fetzer pays tribute to Colonel William Crawford.



118TH ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS SPRINGDALE, OHIO • MAY 4-6, 2007

A loud "Huzzah!" to Paul and Valerie Wilke and the Cincinnati Chapter of the Ohio Society who orchestrated a most memorable State Conference at the beginning of May. No detail was overlooked. Red, white and blue were found in abundance. The Ladies Auxiliary gift table groaned under the weight of the items to be distributed to fortunate winners. Southern Ohio's hospitality greeted all attendees.



President Paul Wilke presents the Daughters of Liberty Medal and Certificate to Valerie Wilke, President of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Our meetings were well attended with spirited debate by the compatriots on several issues. We were pleased to have two of our National Officers in attendance. My thanks to Secretary General Bruce A. Wilcox and Genealogist General Charles F. Bragg for taking time to be with us.

Secretary Wilcox addressed the compatriots on the progress of the National Society's Center for Advancing America's Heritage Campaign. Both national officers urged the Ohio compatriot's continued support of this vital project. The assembled group heard their call which immediately produced additional funds and pledges for the project.

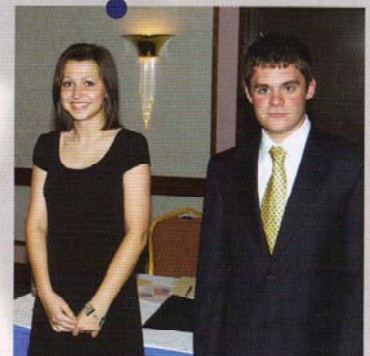
Representatives of the DAR, the CAR, as well as SAR, brought greetings and much deserved praises to President Paul Wilke and his wife, Valerie.

On Sunday, Rev. Patrick Kelly led the congregation of compatriots and families in a service of remembrance for those Ohio Society compatriots who had died during the year.

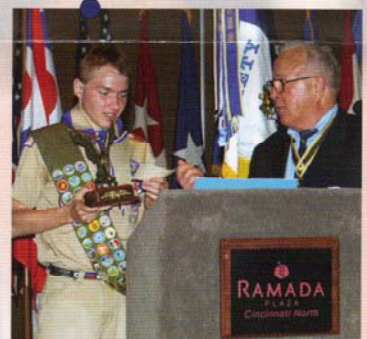
The final activity on Sunday before returning to our homes was the swearing in of the new officers by Secretary General Bruce Wilcox.

What a splendid weekend the Cincinnati Chapter had provided. ■

Knight Essay Contest winner, Amy Palmer and Douglas G. High Oration Contest winner, Ben Harper. Amy will be a senior at Christian Community School in Grafton and Ben graduated this year from Gilmore Academy in Gates Mills. Ben will represent Ohio at the National competition in Williamsburg.



Jonathon Hegna receives the Eagle Scout Award from committee chairman, Harry A. Sjolín.



This year's Hub Scott recipient, John Franklin, Western Reserve Society, holds the award and poses with past winners. L/R: Jack Horner, Bob Farling, Wm. Anthony Robinson, Roger Jones, and Hank Heckman.



Ohio Society Officers 2007-2008 Front Row (L/R): John O. Langlitz, Wm. Anthony Robinson, Timothy E. Ward, Richard L. Feizer, Bruce A. Wilcox, Secretary General, Rev. Patrick N. Kelly, Charles F. Bragg, Genealogist General. Back Row (L/R): Henry T. S. Heckman, Paul M. Wilke, James O. Fast, Paul D. Schenck, Charles G. Edwards, Larry R. Perkins.





REVOLUTIONARY WAR GRAVES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPORT

WELCOME NEW COMPATRIOTS

Northeastern Ohio

John Albert Palmer
Richard Lee Lattimer

Cincinnati

Robert James Wilke, Jr.

Ewing

Francis Howard Crane
Carlos Leroy Bailey

Camp Charlotte

Todd Nelson Stevens
John Albert Stevenson

Lafayette

John Andrew Svenson

Nathan Hale

Ronald Jerry Coleman

Ebenezer Zane

Thomas Edwards Foreman

At Large

Douglas Bruce Atkinson
Donald Robert Atkinson
Christopher Douglas Atkinson

IN MEMORIAM

George Rogers Clark

William Earle Otstat
5/27/07

Western Reserve

James Randolph Mecredy
3/26/07

Compatriots, it is my pleasure to serve as the Ohio Society Revolutionary War Graves Committee Chair. Please help me make this a banner year for the Ohio Graves Committee! And it is simple, every time you visit a cemetery, take a digital photo of the Revolutionary War Veterans buried there and send the photo to me, I will do the rest. Additionally, if you have photos of your ancestor's gravestone, please send me a copy. I look forward to hearing from you, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the project.

I can be reached by e-mail at: tbailey@suite224.net or by telephone: 440-645-0465 or snail mail, 1659 Chapel Road, Jefferson, Ohio 44047. – Troy Bailey, Chair ■

On June 2, 2007, members from General Henry Knox Chapter SAR and Lucy Knox Chapter DAR honored the final resting place of patriot Joseph Staats in Butler Township, Knox County, Ohio. A group of 75 attended the ceremony. (L/R): Compatriots Paul Wilke, Steven Kelley, Jim Smith and Ernie Morland.



Compatriots visited the North Cemetery in Orwell, Ohio, for Marker Dedication of Patriot George Smith. (L/R): OHSSAR President, Richard Fetzer; James Pildner; Richard McFeaters; Orin Rockhold; Mildred Barta (descendant of Patriot George Smith); Troy Bailey; Brian and Kenneth Cook.