



News of the
*Ebenezer Zane Chapter, Ohio Society,
 Sons of the American Revolution*



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 24, 2024	10:15 AM	Election of Officers Business Meeting	St. Clairsville Public Library 108 West Main Street St Clairsville, OH 43950
April 13, 2024	10:00 AM	Business Meeting	Puskarich Public Library 200 E Market St. Cadiz, OH 43907
June 1, 2024		Fort Steuben Frontier Days	Fort Steuben 120 South 3 rd Street Steubenville, OH 43952
June 8, 2024		Joint DAR/SAR meeting	Fort Steuben 120 South 3 rd Street Steubenville, OH 43952
July TBD, 2024		Fort Laurens	Laurens Road NW Bolivar, OH 44612
August 3, 2024		Business Meeting	Schiappa Library 4141 Mall Drive Steubenville, Oh 43952
August 31, September 1, 2024		Fort Henry Days	Site 1, Oglebay Park Wheeling, WV 26003
November 2, 2024		BOM meeting	Hutton Memorial Library 308 East Main Street Barnesville, OH 43713

To all compatriots, have a prosperous New Year!

Current Officers of Ebenezer Zane Chapter, OHSSAR

Bob Tomlinson, President/Newsletter Editor

Jeff Turner, Vice President

Larry Perkins, Secretary

Paul Mitchell, Treasurer/Historian

Chris Forshey, Master at Arms/Genealogist

Zachary Cooper, Chaplain

Condolences

It is with deepest regret that I announce the Following deaths:

Nancy Thompson, wife of Jim Thompson. She passed away on December 21, 2023 in Cadiz, Ohio. Funeral Home Services for Nancy were held at Clark-Kirkland Funeral Home Inc, Cadiz, OH on December 29, 2023.

Patricia A. Tomlinson, wife of Past President, Merle Tomlinson. She passed away on October 8, 2023 at the age of 74. A celebration of life was held on Friday, December 1st 2023 in Rittman, OH.

The members of the Ebenezer Zane Chapter, Ohio Society Sons of the American Revolution express our sincere condolences to these compatriots and their families.

Wanted,

your consideration in entertaining the possibility in serving as an officer in the chapter this year. We are in need of a Secretary.

Larry Perkins, our present Secretary, is nominated for Genealogist this year. Although he has been performing as the Genealogist since 2016 the job is becoming more demanding as we have more applications come in. The nominating committee will present their slate of officer nominees for 2024. Larry also accepted nomination to the Secretary position for another year, since no one else volunteered.

I'm sure Larry wouldn't mind if someone else would step in. All offices are open for nominations from the floor next meeting on February 24th.

Welcome New Compatriots

We've got some to report, but they'll have to wait until the next issue

What's Happening

Ebenezer Zane Chapter Board of Management (BOM) met in Barnesville at the Hutton Memorial Library to plan for 2024. A nominating committee was designated which included all the members present at the meeting. The following slate of nominees will be presented at the February meeting for the consideration of those members present to vote on. Those Nominees are:

Jeff Turner, President

Jim Thompson, Vice President

Larry Perkins, Secretary

Bob Tomlinson, Treasurer/Registrar

Paul Mitchell, Master at Arms/Historian

Frank Rogers, Chaplain

Events and meetings were scheduled as noted on the first page of this newsletter.

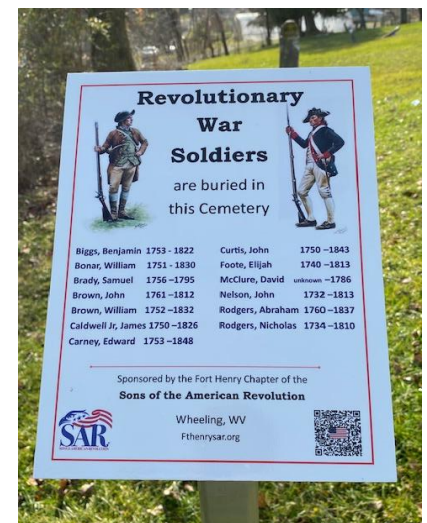
Jim Thompson reported that money had been allocated by the Harrison County Commissioners through that county's Veteran's Service Organization committee. The funds were used to purchase aluminum stock for the Cemetery Signage project in Harrison County. He is also making arrangements for the Harrison Joint Vocational School to manufacture the signs from this stock.

Jefferson County's signage is gearing up with Frank Rogers spearheading that activity. He reports that materials were ordered and are setting in the welding shop of the Jefferson County Joint Vocational School awaiting assembly. Frank is working with the Veteran's Service Organization of Jefferson County.

Larry Perkins reports the Belmont County sign for Walnut Grove Cemetery, is ready for installation, once our website is up and running.

Thanks to these compatriots for their efforts

To recapitulate from a prior article in the last newsletter, we will install these signs near the entrances of cemeteries with known revolutionary war patriots. The signs will have a "QR" code that can be scanned with a smart phone. This code will lead to our website and more directly to the information about the specific patriots buried in a particular cemetery.



A cemetery sign placed by Fort Henry Chapter WVSSAR is shown. It is near the entrance to Stone Church Cemetery. QR code is in the right lower corner.

Zane's Trace

Web Site Report

As I compose this newsletter the Web Site designer and Jeff Turner working to complete the final touches on our new website. He is looking to come online within the next couple of weeks.

Jeff will be taking over as webmaster but there will still be a tremendous amount of work regarding the Cemetery Information....While we have that information available it was not formatted in a compatible form to be posted on a website. The original document was typed into an early word processing program that no longer exists. and then photocopied and bound together in book form for our "*Revolutionary War Patriots*" series. Many years ago Jeff Turner, (I think) converted them into PDF format. It was this format that was used when I started making CD's of our books.

Unfortunately, the quality of any of the pictures and the fact that the text can not readily edited in a .pdf file may be a problem. We may need to transcribe these files into a word-processing format. I had started working on that in the past. It is a tedious process. Those files have been emailed to Larry Perkins for final editing and formatting.

Compatriots we are so very close. A huge Thank You goes to Jeff Turner and our website designer, Tim Nebel. for their time and effort.

Miracles in American History

By Susie Federer

I continue to include articles (with permission) from the book "*Miracles in American History*" by Susie Federer. We tend to throw the word "Providence" around when talking about certain events in American History, but what does it really mean?

Webster's 1828 *Dictionary* definition of *PROVIDENCE*:

"The care and superintendence which God exercises over his creatures ... The same power which caused a thing to exist is necessary to continue its existence ... A general providence consists of particulars ... By divine providence is often understood as God himself."

I'm hoping these articles will enlighten us as to how much God's hand has directed the course of this blessed nation's history.

"The Hand of Providence has been so conspicuous in all this - the course of the war - that he must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith."... General George Washington, August 20, 1778

Bob Tomlinson

DENSE FOG APPEARS, ALLOWING 8,000 TROOPS TO ESCAPE

With Boston freed from British occupation, New York was the next target. Washington's ranks swelled to 20,000 as he fortified Brooklyn Heights. Citizens in New York pulled down the statue of

Zane's Trace

Miracles in American History_{continued}

King George and classes were suspended at King's College, which was later renamed Columbia University. Anxiety mounted, though, as the British assembled the largest invasion force in world history to that date - 32,000 troops on over 400 ships. The thousands of wooden masts in New York's harbor looked like a forest of trees. Washington wrote to his younger brother, John Augustine Washington, May 31, 1776:

We expect a very bloody summer of it at New York ... We are not either in men, or arms, prepared for it ... If our cause is just, as I do most religiously believe it to be, the same Providence which has in many instances appeared for us, will still go on to afford its aid.

General George Washington ordered, May 15, 1776:

The Continental Congress having ordered Friday the 17th instant to be observed as a Day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer, humbly to supplicate the mercy of Almighty God, that it would please Him to pardon all our manifold sins and transgressions, and to prosper the arms of the United Colonies, and finally establish the peace and freedom of America upon a solid and lasting foundation;

The General commands all officers and soldiers to pay strict obedience to the orders of the Continental Congress; that, by their unfeigned and pious observance of their religious duties, they may incline the Lord and Giver of victory to prosper our arms.

On July 9, 1776, Washington's men were encouraged when messengers from Philadelphia brought a copy of the recently passed Declaration of Independence. Washington had it read out loud to his troops. It acknowledged God four times:

*Laws of Nature and of **Nature's God** ... All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their **Creator** with certain unalienable rights ... Appealing to the **Supreme Judge of the World** for the rectitude of our intentions ... Firm reliance on the protection of **divine Providence**.*

Washington expected the British to attack from the sea as they did at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Instead, 10,000 British troops landed a distance from New York and a British loyalist led them through Jamaica Pass, marching all night long to make a surprise attack on the Continental Army from behind on August 27, 1776. An estimated 3,000 Americans were killed or wounded compared to only 392 British casualties.

The Battle of Brooklyn Heights was the first major battle after America had declared its independence and it was the largest battle of the entire war.

As General Washington watched 400 brave soldiers of the First Maryland Regiment charge six times to their deaths directly into the British lines, allowing the rest of the Continental Army to find cover, he exclaimed: "Good God, what brave fellows I have lost this day."

Zane's Trace

Miracles in American History

continued

British General Howe trapped the American troops on Brooklyn Heights with their backs against the sea. That night, Washington made the desperate decision to evacuate his entire army by ferrying it across the East River to Manhattan Island. The sea was boisterous where the British ships were, but providentially calm in the East River allowing Washington's boats to transport troops, horses and cannons. As the sun began to rise, half of the American troops were still in danger, but a 'miraculously' thick fog lingered blocking the evacuation from being seen by the British.

Major Ben Tallmadge, Washington's Chief of Intelligence, wrote:

As the dawn of the next day approached, those of us who remained in the trenches became very anxious for our own safety, and when the dawn appeared there were several regiments still on duty.

At this time a very dense fog began to rise off the river, and it seemed to settle in a peculiar manner over both encampments.

I recollect this peculiar providential occurrence perfectly well, and so very dense was the atmosphere that I could scarcely discern a man at six yards distance ... We tarried until the sun had risen, but the fog remained as dense as ever.

General Washington was on the last boat that left Brooklyn Heights. The British never again had such an opportunity to capture the entire American army at one time. Had the Americans not been able to evacuate, they would have been captured and Washington would have been hung. America would have continued as just another colony in Britain's expanding global empire, along with India, Kenya, Egypt, South Africa and Australia.

General George Washington wrote: August 20, 1778:

Undergoing the strangest vicissitudes that perhaps ever attended any one contest since the creation the Hand of Providence has been so conspicuous in all this - the course of the war - that he must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith ... But it will be time enough for me to turn Preacher when my present appointment ceases.

Samuel Adams addressed the Continental Congress, August 1, 1776:

There are instances of, I would say, an almost astonishing Providence in our favor; our success has staggered our enemies, and almost given faith to infidels; so we may truly say it is not our own arm which has saved us. The hand of Heaven appears to have led us on to be, perhaps, humble instruments and means in the great providential dispensation, which is completing.

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