

Sons of the American Revolution



Ewings Chapter

March 2016

Rufus Landon, Rev. War Drummer

By the Sons of Liberty Chapter of the SAR

Editor's Note: This article was reprinted from the November 1993 Edition of the Valley Compatriot Newsletter

Rufus Landon was born in Salisbury, Litchfield County, Connecticut on February 4th, 1759. Excited by the events taking place in Massachusetts, and like so many young men, he was anxious to get into the fight. He enlisted in February 1776, shortly after his 17th birthday. He was old enough to have served as a regular soldier, however, he was made the Company drummer. We can only assume that he was small in stature as most drummers were younger than he.



Often dismissed as a minor function, the Regimental or Company drummer was a key and critical member of his unit. During the American Revolution, the drum served the same purpose as does the bugle today. It was the regimental drummer that transmitted the orders by means of his drum. Numerous drum calls existed. An officer could summon his officers, sergeants, or the entire Regiment just by having his drummer sound the appropriate drum beat.

The venue for our March 24, 2016 meeting will be at the American Red Cross facility 100 May Street in Athens, Ohio. The meal will be catered by Bob Evans. Please remit your plans to attend to Mr. Lochary (jameslochary@gmail.com) no later than Monday, March 21st so the appropriate amount of food can be ordered.

As you may already have guessed our speaker's topic for the evening will be on the drums of the American Revolution. This informative program and demonstration will be given by our own Ewings' member Compatriot Tom Romine.

Program Topics:

- Discussion on upcoming Awards Program
Please come with nominations for the various awards the chapter offers – heroism, citizenship, flag etc...
- Future meeting dates and venues
- Ewings Chapter Web site - www.sar-ewing.org

2015 -2016 Ewings Chapter Officers OHSSAR

President – James Lochary

1st Vice President – Tom Romine

2nd Vice President - Carl Denbow
Secretary – George Benz

Treasurer – James Smith
Genealogist/Registrar – George Benz

Please support your Ewings chapter officers by helping with venue suggestions and preparations, programs and active participation in meetings. May will soon be here and time for election of new officers for the 2016 – 2017 meeting year. Please consider stepping up if nominated for one of the above offices.

Date to Remember:

- April 28, 2016 – Next meeting - Venue TBA
- April 29th – May 1st - OHSSAR 127th annual conference, Blue Ash, Ohio

Historical Moment: **Causes of the American Revolution – Part 3 – The Stamp Act of 1765**

As mentioned in the previous historical moments The Sugar Act (**article #2**) enacted in 1764 was an extension of the Molasses Act (**article #1**) that was about to expire. As you remember it was designed to reduce the British staggering national debt incurred during the French and Indian War plus pay for the continued presence of British troops in the colonies After it was repealed it was soon replaced by “The Stamp Act of 1765”. This is the act you probably remember from you American history class. It was the flash point that cause the growing anger of the colonists to finally cross over into full blown violence and rebellion against Great Britain.

The Stamp Act placed a small tax on contracts, diplomas, newspapers, almanacs, deeds, warrants, shipping bill, calendars, playing cards and 46 other items. Nearly everyone was affected by this tax. This was the 1st time Parliament attempted to tax the colonists for daily transactions apart from the international trade taxes, like the Sugar and Molasses Acts. Colonists saw this as directly illegal because this violated their right as British citizens to only be taxed by their elected officials, but they had no elected officials in parliament. They viewed this as an atrocity. The ensuing outbreak of violence and intimidation led a majority of the colonial Stamp distributors to resign their positions and may Stamp distributors had their homes set on fire. Parliament also repealed the act, but not until March 18, 1776. I guess you could say “too little too late”.

February 25th - Meeting Rewind: **Mount Vernon Ladies**

Last month at the Athens Community Center Ohio University College Professor Brian Schoen provided us with informative insight on how a group of women saved a national treasure. Professor Schoen had completed a research paper on the subject of the Mount Vernon Ladies association. He cover the topic admirably and provided much information on the group as well as Mount Vernon. A big Thank You to Professor Schoen for once again helping Ewings with an interesting program.

Note: Please try to attend Ewings meetings and remember to check the Ewings Chapter web site for chapter, state, and national information as well as Ewings chapter newsletters and up-coming events.

Meeting Reminder:

All local members - Please be looking for an email from President James Lochary concerning Thursday's meeting at the American Red Cross facility. Information on the meal and cost are contained in this communication. If by chance you do not receive his email consider this newsletter your notification. Please reply all communications concerning the meeting to President James Lochary at jameslochary@gmail.com no later than Monday, March 21st Hope to see many of you there! Wkb



Did you remember to Spring forward last Sunday? Daylight Saving time

In the US, “Fast Time” as it was called then, was first introduced in 1918 when President Woodrow Wilson signed it into law to support the war effort during World War I. The initiative was sparked by Robert Garland, a Pittsburgh industrialist who had encountered the idea in the UK. Today he is often called the “Father of Daylight Saving”.

Only seven months, later the seasonal time change was repealed. However, some cities, including Pittsburgh, Boston, and New York, continued to use it until President Franklin D. Roosevelt instituted year-round DST in the United States in 1942.