



**Benjamin Franklin Chapter
The Ohio Society
Sons of the American Revolution**
Chartered 1889

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NEWSLETTER May 2018

May meeting

One of the little-known chapters of the early history of Ohio

History books have largely ignored the custom Indian tribes' replacing the loss of a member by kidnapping a member of another tribe--especially if the other tribe had caused the loss in the first place.

Then, as white settlers moved into western Pennsylvania and the Ohio territory, hundreds of their children and young women were captured and successfully made members of the tribe, in fact, so successfully that they usually insisted on remaining with the tribe -- as did most of the white women.

Alan Fitzpatrick, author of the book *White Indians*, will travel to Columbus to reveal this most interesting slice of history at our May 19 meeting, noon at the Kingsdale.

Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to learn about such a major phenomenon.

Attending the meeting will be Ohio SAR Society President Shawn Cox.



Drawing of a real 9-year-old girl named Mary who was kidnapped and adopted by an Indian tribe.

MAKE A NOTE OF IT
May 19 Meeting Saturday
noon at the Kingsdale MCL

Eagle Scout Andy Welsh's essay has interesting finish

Andy Welsh, winner of the 2018 Benjamin Franklin Chapter's Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest read the essay component of his application at the April meeting, and it had a surprise finish.

Andy is a direct desendent of George Balser Hess who was born 1747 in York, PA., and after the Revolution began, left the family shoemaking business to serve as a Captain in the Continental Army and was part of Washington's force that crossed the Delaware River to successfully defeat the Hessians at Trenton.

After the war, Captain Hess returned to his Pennsylvania

home to marry the love of his life, Mary Eve Hansel.

The couple then migrated to what is now Franklin County, Ohio where he became a prosperous farmer. Because he never lost his patriotism or love for

American ideals, he willed that part of his farm become a cemetery that honors veterans, with his being the first veteran to be buried there.

And, today, that burial ground is known as Union Cemetery.



RIGHT: Andy Welsh, flanked by his father Robert Welsh and Chapter President Don Miller.



Two members inducted into Chapter

At the April meeting, Chapter President Don Miller inducted two new members, Chris Finley (*left*) and Logan Pitcher (*right*). Their respective Patriot Ancestors are Pvt. Robert Finley (Pvt 2nd PA and Jonathan Ford (1st Lt. 5th Co. 17th Regt. New York Militia).

Alan Fitzgerald's other books

In addition to *White Indians*, Alan Fitzgerald has researched and written three other books about the early Ohio Country.

Wilderness War in Ohio looks at the war that raged in Ohio Country between an alliance of Indian tribes with the British and the American settlers while the Revolutionary War was being fought in the east. *Place of the Skull* explains why Wheeling (WV) was regarded by Indian tribes as a place of evil.

In Their Own Words is a compilation of speeches Indian leaders delivered in front of white people who carefully recorded them.