



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

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**NEWSLETTER** May 2019

**May Meeting**

**The Doolittle Raid: What made it work, how it changed the War**

In early 1942, much of America's Pacific fleet was still at the bottom of Pearl Harbor, so the Japanese Imperial Navy was definitely on the offensive.

Intended to raise the morale of the American public, the U.S. Navy came up with the radical idea of bombing Tokyo with planes launched from an aircraft carrier.

Planned and led by Lt. Col. James Doolittle of the United States Army Air Forces, the successful raid did a lot more than merely raise morale.

The raid caused the Japanese to attempt to lure America's aircraft carriers into a trap at the Battle of Midway. However, our Navy turned the tables and sank four of *their* carriers, thereby putting Japan on the defensive for the rest of the war.

Fortunately for us, Compatriot Randy Walker got to know Col. Richard Cole who was Doolittle's co-pilot on that raid. As such, Randy will be able to provide many insights into the preparation for the mission and the special modifications made

on the 16 B-25 bombers that allowed them to take off with only 500 feet of runway instead of the usual 3,000 and also carry enough fuel for the 650-mile trip to Japan and then onto China where they bailed out.



*Lt. Col. Richard Cole*

**CLEARLY NOT  
A PROGRAM TO MISS**

**NOON SATURDAY  
MAY 18**

**KINGSDALE MCL**

# Alan Fitzpatrick's return draws large crowd

With 48 people on hand, the April meeting had the largest attendance in more than a decade as Alan Fitzpatrick returned to discuss his second book, *Wilderness War on the Ohio*.

Mr. Fitzpatrick was dressed as a white man who fought with the Indian tribes in alliance with the British during the Revolutionary War.

His book looks at that conflict from the viewpoint of those tribes. However, because the Indian tribes did not have a written language, he went to Ottawa, Canada to research microfilms of records kept by their British allies.

*Historian Alan Fitzpatrick speaks to a full house about the Indian tribes that aligned with the British during the American Revolution.*

In addition to his attire and face paint, Fitzpatrick showed some weapons that the Indians would have used.

As would be expected, sever-

al in the audience asked questions and purchased autographed copies of his books, as well as paintings that he had created.



## War service recognized

*Compatriots James Patterson and Dale Shipley display their certificates and medals awarded by the SAR for their combat service in the Vietnam War.*

## Chapter inducts three new members



FROM LEFT: *Mark Rawden, Paul Morris, and Jordan Acer raise their right hands as President Don Miller inducts them into the SAR.*



## 250th anniversary of Revolutionary War

Alan Fitzpatrick's program was the first of a series of events to observe the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War.