



## February 2023

**February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Saturday (11:00 am) – 257th Commemoration 1766**

**Leedstown Resolutions**

**Event Level:** State

**Host/POC:** James Monroe Chapter VASSAR/Charles Belfield.

**Location:** Ingleside Winery, 5872 Leedstown Rd., Oak Grove, VA.

**Firing Event:** No

**Event Color Guard Commander:** Cook.

**Details:** During a fireside chat between brothers Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee, they will discuss the origins of the seeds of rebellion planted at the conclusion of the French and Indian War in 1763. At the conclusion of the lengthy and costly war, Britain was under a massive debt load and had to find relief. Several egregious acts ensued, including the 1765 Stamp Act, taxation without representation, and other taxes were raised to defray the debt and interest. The responses from the Colonists, including the 1766 Leedstown Resolutions, were just the tip of the iceberg. The spiral of discontent had begun, and a flame had touched down on the long fuse to the biggest powder keg of all that would ignite the American Revolutionary War.

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Beckett, Cook, Hamill, Morris, Weyler.



---

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, Wednesday (4:00 pm) – George Washington's Birthday and Reading of his Farewell Address**

**Event Level:** National

**Host/POC:** Culpeper Minutemen Chapter VASSAR/Jameson.

**Location:** Yowell Meadow Park, 202 Gardner St., Culpeper, VA.

**Firing Event:** Yes

**Event Color Guard Commander:** Corey.

**Details:** This observance is conducted near the graves of General Edward Stevens and Colonel John Jameson.

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Carrigan, Cook, Corey, Crain, Daniel, Dennis, Hamill, Jameson, Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Tyler, Weyler.

---

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, Wednesday (11:00 am) – Commemoration of George Washington's Birthday**

**Event Level:** National

**Host/POC:** Col. James Wood II Chapter VASSAR/Corey.

**Location:** 32 W. Cork St., Winchester, VA.

**Firing Event:** No

**Color Guard Commander:** M. Robinson.

**Details:** Commemoration of George Washington's Birthday. Muster at 10:30 am.

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Buck, Carrigan, Cook, Corey, Crain, Daniel, M. Robinson, B.Schwoerer, Tyler, Weyler.

---

**February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Monday (1:00 pm) – George Washington Birthday Parade**

**Event Level:** National

**Host/POC:** George Washington Chapter VASSAR/Rand Pixa

**Location:** Old Town Alexandria, Alexandria, VA.

**Firing Event:** No

**Color Guard Commander:** Melhuish.

**Honor Guard Commander:** Dooley.

**Details:** "Orders to the Guard" (Rev 1)

**Parade website:** <http://washingtonbirthday.com/>

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Carrigan(C), Christensen(H), Cook(V), Corey(F), Crain(H), Cunningham(H), Dooley(H), Melhuish(C-flags and harnesses), A.Mills(C), Morris(H), Phillips(C), Reynolds(H), Schwetke(C), B.Schwoerer(V), Tyler(F), Weiss(H), Weyler(F).

(Legend: **C**=Color Guard; **V**=VIP vehicle; **H**=Honor Guard; **F**=Float)

YouTube videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hF6b4VXe0I0> (Minute 16 and minute 39). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=48nBCPaLoFk&t=8s>





---

**February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Monday (11:00 am) – Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution**

**Event Level:** Chapter

**Host/POC:** Kate Waller Barrett Chapter VADAR/George Washington Chapter VASSAR/Rand Pixa.

**Location:** Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA.

**Firing Event:** No

**Event Color Guard Commander:** M.Robinson.

**Details:** SAR-DAR Wreath Laying at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House (OPMH) honoring an Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier; this event typically finishes by 12 Noon. A small VASSAR Color Guard will support this event.

Wreath laying program (click here): [Program](#)

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Cook, Crain, Daniel (flags and stakes), Davenport, Morris, M.Robinson, Weiss.

---

**February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Saturday (11:00 am) - Marker for Patriot Phillip Fendall**

**Event Level:** Chapter

**Host/POC:** George Washington Chapter VASSAR/Paul Walden at [paulwalden@live.com](mailto:paulwalden@live.com) (703-346-2091).

**Location:** 614 Oronoco St., Old Town Alexandria, VA.

**Firing Event:** No

**Event Color Guard Commander:** A.Mills.

**Details:** The George Washington Chapter recently placed a memorial marker for Phillip Fendall at his home located at 614 Oronoco St., in Old Town Alexandria (corner of Washington St). The house is now a museum. Fendall was a business partner and friend of George Washington.

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Christensen, Cook, Corey, Crain, Daniel, A.Mills, Morris, Robinson, Phillips, B.Schwoerer, Tyler, van Deusen, Weyler.



---

**February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Thursday (7-8:30 pm) - VASSAR CG Commander (Zoom) Workshop**

**Host:** VASSAR CG Committee/Melhuish (Chair).

**Details:** Compatriots, the VASSAR Color Guard Committee now hosts a virtual (Zoom) CG Workshop on the first Thursday following the Annual/Semi-Annual VASSAR Meetings. This replaces the previous CG Workshops during those meetings, allowing Compatriots to attend other functions. Since we are looking to conduct more frequent CG Workshops in each Region during the year, the CG Commander Workshop is designed to inform Guardsmen on the status of the Guard, initiatives, and focus on the next few months, as well as offering Compatriots an opportunity to provide feedback and comment to the CG Committee.

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** 34.

---

**February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Saturday (10:00-11:00 am) – 242nd Commemoration of the Crossing of the Dan (Part I - indoors portion)**

**Event Level:** National

**Host/POC:** Dan River Chapter VASSAR/Gary Hall.

**Firing Event:** No

**National Color Guard Commander:** Lyles.

**Event Honor Guard Commander:** Corey.

**Location:** The Prizery, 700 Bruce St., South Boston, VA.

**Details:** Color Guard muster no later than 9:30 am on the third floor of the Prizery. Bring indoor flag stands.

**WREATHS:** If you are riding the bus from Berry Hill to The Prizery, the bus will transport the wreaths in their luggage hold. When the bus arrives at The Prizery, JROTC volunteer will place the wreaths wherever weather permits.

If you are driving to The Prizery, bring the wreaths to the front door and the JROTC will place wreaths weather permitting.

In either both case, individuals will retrieve their wreaths at the close of the event (location determined by weather).

**Background:** Following an American victory at the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina in January 1781, General Nathanael Greene's southern army outran British forces under Lord Cornwallis as both armies raced northward across the Carolinas. In what became known as the Race to the Dan, a few weeks later, on February 14, 1781, it became "The Crossing" when Greene's army crossed the Dan River to safety near South Boston. The Crossing of the Dan became a turning point in the American Revolution, precipitating events that led to the British surrender at Yorktown.

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Abbott, Adolphi, Badamo, Bonner, Cook, Corey, Crain, Daniel, Day, Driscoll, Hall, Kelly, Lynch, Melhuish, Morris, Parish, M. Robinson, Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Thomas, Thompson, Weyler, Williams.

Program (click the link): [Crossing of the Dan](#)

### **(Part II - outdoors portion)**

**Event Level:** **National**

**Host/POC:** Dan River Chapter VASSAR/Gary Hall.

**Firing Event:** **Yes** (by the 7<sup>th</sup> VA Regt. Certificate of Insurance received.)

**Event Guard Commander:** Melhuish.

**Honor Guard Commander:** Corey.

**Location:** Commences at the Prizery parking lot, 700 Bruce St., South Boston, VA.

**Details:** Guard muster immediately after the indoor ceremony in the Prizery parking lot and fall in behind the Halifax JROTC Color Guard (est. 11:15 am). The JROTC CG will carry the US and VA Flags; and the SAR Honor Guard will carry all other flags (i.e., other State, Society, and Chapter flags). On signal, the formation will march to the Dan River for the Wreath Presentation Ceremony. The length of march is approximately 500 yards. The 7th VA Regt will provide musket volleys. On completion, meet at the Prizery for lunch and a brief awards presentation ceremony.

**Note:** if the Dan River is at flood stage on Saturday, the alternative wreath-presentation site will be at Constitution Square, across the street from the Prizery. The Halifax JROTC will serve as Color Guard at Constitution Square, and a VASSAR Honor Guard will carry Society flags.

Playbook diagram (click the link): [Crossing of the Dan](#)

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Abbott, Adolphi, Badamo, Bonner, Cook, Corey, Crain, Daniel, Day, Driscoll, Hall, Hodges, Kelly, Lynch, Melhuish, Morris, Parish, M. Robinson, Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Thomas, Thompson, Weyler, Williams.

---

## February 10<sup>th</sup>, Friday (5:00 pm) – 242nd Commemoration of the Banister River Crossing Event

**Event Level:** Chapter

**Host/POC:** Dan River Chapter VASSAR/Gary Hall.

**Location:** The Courthouse, 8 South Main St., Halifax, VA.

**Firing Event:** Yes (at ~6:15 pm in front of the [Halifax War Memorial](#))

**Event Color Guard Commander:** Corey.

**Details:** Color Guard muster no later than 4:30 pm at the Courthouse.

The Race to the Dan River did not end General Greene's Southern Army's retreat from General Cornwallis' British Army after crossing the Dan River on February 14, 1781. That river was only passable by boat at the time but could have gone down quickly, allowing a continued pursuit by the British. Although Greene was successful in his objective, he was concerned enough to prepare for continuing the retreat by preparing another crossing of the Staunton River at Cole's Ferry. While some of Greene's troops stayed on the north bank of the Dan for surveillance, the main army moved north, crossing the Banister River at Cowford, near this site, onto the old Halifax Court House at Crystal Hill some five or six miles north of the Banister. The Dan River Chapter is working with the Town of Halifax to organize this event, which may include a reenactment and serving of Brunswick Stew!

Program (click the link): [Bannister River Crossing](#)

**Musket Squad:** Cook, Corey, Crain, Parrish, B.Schwoerer, Thompson.

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Abbott, Adolphi, Badamo, Bonner, Cook, Corey, Crain, Daniel, Day, Driscoll, Hall, Hodges, Kelly Morris, Parish (TBD), M. Robinson, Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Weyler, Williams.

---

## February 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Friday-Saturday – 133rd Annual VASSAR Meeting

**Event Level:** State

**Host/POC:** Dan River Chapter VASSAR/Gary Hall.

**Location:** Berry Hill Resort, 3105 River Rd., South Boston, VA.

**Firing Event:** No

**Color Guard Commander:** Melhuish.

**Honor Guard Commander:** Corey.

**Details:** This is a state-level event hosted by the VASSAR, including the Annual Meeting, Public Service, Memorial, and Chapter Awards, as well as the installation of 2023 - 2024 Officers and the Society's 103rd President. Click on the links below to take you to (a) the agenda and (b) general information. If you plan to attend, book your room early and mention that you are with the VASSAR to obtain a room discount.

A tailored "**Orders to the Guard**" (Updated to **Final Version**) document can be found at the following link: [Orders to the Guard](#)

Updated Conference agenda in the following link : [Agenda](#)

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Abbott, Adolphi, Badamo, Bonner, Cook, Corey, Crain, Daniel, Davenport, Day, Driscoll, Greaf, Hall, Hamill, Hodges, Huxsoll, Kelly, Lynch, McKinley, Melhuish, Morris, Parrish, M. Robinson, Schmidt, Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Thomas, Thompson, Weyler (but not Saturday dinner), Williams (but not Saturday dinner).



---

**February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Saturday (4:00 pm) - Honoring Black and Native American Patriots**

**Event Level:** Chapter

**Host/POC:** Culpeper Minutemen Chapter VASSAR/Hamill.

**Location:** Culpeper History Museum 113 Commerce St. Culpeper, VA.

**Firing Event:** Yes

**Event Color Guard Commander:** Schwetke.

**Details:** Kick-off to Black History Month - The Culpeper Minutemen Chapter has recognized African American and Native American Patriots during other events. The Chapter hopes this will become an annual event fully recognizing the efforts and sacrifices of Black and Native American Patriots in the Revolution.

**Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees:** Bonner, Carrigan, Cook, Corey, Crain, Daniel, Dennis, Hamill, Jameson, Reynolds, M.Robinson, Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Tyler, Weyler.

---