

Message to the Guard

Nr. 4

July 6th, 2022

Subj: VASSAR General Liability Insurance

Guardsmen,

Effective June 30th, 2022, VASSAR has general liability insurance coverage that includes the musket firing of black powder blank charges. --A huge shout-out to Compatriots Rankin and Burks for their expert insurance advice and diligent efforts. Thank you!

The insurance carrier is Lockton, which some of you know is well-versed in black powder handling and firing.

We also have a new VASSAR Insurance Committee appointed by President Meyer (I am the Chair; two insurance advisors and two members of the ExCom form the rest of the Committee). The VASSAR ExCom approved shifting insurance carrier at the recommendation of the Committee.

This all took a bit of coordination to accomplish, but I am confident we have the appropriate coverage for Color Guard activities in place.

The Insurance Committee will reconvene as required -- and at least annually several weeks prior to the insurance policy renewal date to review the current policy and any required adjustments.

We will need to keep track of all of our scheduled musket firing events for auditing purposes.

Accordingly, I ask that any black powder firing that occurs in a VASSAR sanctioned event (e.g., grave marking, wreath laying, etc.) be registered ahead of time in the Virginia Dispatch Color Guard event section.

<https://www.virginiasar.org/color-guard-schedule>

Scheduling these is easy. Go to:

<https://www.virginiasar.org/requesting-guard-support>

Once you complete the form click the “submit” button and the request/notification will be emailed to the CG commander for review and entry to the CG event list.

****A reminder that safety is an “all hands” responsibility. Look out for each other and if you see an unsafe practice call it out****

Next up: Color Guard Training. More to follow on this.

Again, thanks to everyone who helped on the insurance project.

Yours in Patriotism,

Chris Melhuish