



September 2023

September 30th, 2023, Saturday (2:00 pm) -- Patriot Grave Marking, Colonial Williamsburg, VA

Event Level: Chapter

Host/POC: Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR / John Lynch.

Location: Bruton Parish Episcopal Church, 201 W Duke of Gloucester St., Williamsburg, VA.

Firing Event: No

Event Color Guard Commander: Melhuish.

Details: Color Guard muster at 1:30 p.m. The Williamsburg Chapter will honor four Patriots buried at the Bruton Parish Episcopal Church graveyard. They are Cyrus Griffin, the last President of the Continental Congress; James Pate Anderson, Public Armorer of Virginia; Richard Randolph III, Corporal, Light Dragoons; and William Plumber, Corporal, First Reg. Continental Light Dragoons. Click here for Flyer: [Grave Marking](#).

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Adolphi, Doucette, Dunaway, Hodges, Johnston, Lynch, Melhuish, Miller, Schwetke.

September 28th, 2023, Thursday (7-8:30 pm) - VASSAR CG Commander (Zoom) Town Hall Meeting / Workshop

Event Level: State

Host: VASSAR CG Committee / Melhuish (Chair).

Details: The VASSAR Color Guard Committee will host a virtual (Zoom) CG Workshop on Thursday, 28 September, for all VASSAR Guardsmen. The CG Commander Town Hall is designed to inform Guardsmen on the status of the Guard, initiatives, and upcoming focus, and offer Guardsmen an opportunity to provide feedback and comment to the CG Committee. Zoom joining instructions have been emailed separately.

September 24th, 2023, Sunday (Noon - 5:00 pm) - Grave Marking of three signers of the Fairfax Resolves, Lexington, KY

Event Level: Chapter

Host/POC: Lafayette Chapter, KYSSAR / Patrick Wesolosky; Fairfax Resolves Chapter VASSAR / Cook; 1774 Society / Thomas.

Location: Various in KY (see [flyer](#) for addresses)

Firing Event: TBA

Event Color Guard Commander: TBA

Details: The Fairfax Resolves Chapter and the 1774 Society are marking three graves in Lexington Kentucky.

Details in the flyer provided (click here): [KY grave marking](#).

Registration link here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdot4THA-ER2ilpfprRP28qqEty-QQ4geFrqnXs9-zVuwnYQQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Bonner, Cook, Kelly, Morris, Osborn, B.Schwetke, Weyler, M.Wilson.

September 24th, 2023, Sunday (10:00 am - 4:00 pm) - Abington Muster Commemoration, Abingdon, VA

Event Level: State

Host: Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA), with support from VASSAR.

VASSAR POC: Gen. William Campbell Chapter VASSAR/John Gullion
trapperjohn63@gmail.com 276-378-6605

Location: 1780 Muster Place, Abingdon, VA.

Firing event: Yes

Event Color Guard Commander: Gullion.

Heat Index:

Details: This event, organized by the OVTA, is supported by VASSAR. OVTA, SAR, and DAR will present a public education day on life in the colonial backcountry. The event will include stations where visitors learn about various topics, from salt making and cooking to land surveying and combat. A ceremony for the Abingdon Muster will occur at 1:30 that afternoon, honoring the 400 Virginians who participated in the Overmountain Campaign and those who lost their lives at the battle.

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Britton, Combs, Gullion, Jackson, Johnson, Richmond, Vaughn.



September 23rd, 2023, Saturday (07:30 am) - Honor Flight, Harrisonburg, VA

Event Level: National

Host/POC: Col. James Wood II and Fort Harrison Chapters VASSAR and the Honor Flight Top of Virginia/Corey.

Location: Rockingham County Fair Grounds, Harrisonburg, VA.

Firing Event: No

Event Color Guard Commander: Corey.

Details: TBA.

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Carrigan, Corey, Daniel, M.Robinson, Sink.



September 21st – 23rd, 2023 - NSSAR Fall Leadership Louisville, KY

Event Level: National

Host/POC: NSSAR

Location: The Brown Hotel, 335 West Broadway, Louisville, KY.

Details: Click here for the schedule: [Fall Schedule](#)

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Bonner, Cook, Davenport, Kelly, Morris, Osborn, B.Schwetke, Thomas, Weyler, M.Wilson.

September 17th, 2023, Sunday (4:00 pm) - Wreath Laying at the Grave of Brig. Gen. William Campbell, Abingdon, VA

Event Level: Chapter

Host/POC: General William Campbell Chapter VASSAR / John Gullion.

Location: 303 Seven Mile Ford Rd, Marion, VA.

Firing Event: Yes

Event Color Guard Commander: Johnson.

Heat Index:

Details: Since 2012, the General William Campbell Chapter-VASSAR, Black's Fort Chapter, Virginia Society, DAR, and the Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA) have honored Brig. Gen. Campbell. At 4 pm, the groups will convene at Aspinvale Cemetery, the final resting place of Brig. Gen. Campbell.

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Britton, Carr, Combs, Johnson, Richmond, Shaver.

September 17th, 2023, Sunday (2:00 pm) - Wreath Laying and Grave Marking - Pvt. John Broddy, Abingdon, VA

Event Level: Chapter

Host/POC: General William Campbell Chapter VASSAR / John Gullion.

Location: GPS 36.894634, -81.756998.

Firing Event: **Yes**

Event Color Guard Commander: Johnson.

Details: Since 2012, the General William Campbell Chapter-VASSAR, Black's Fort Chapter, Virginia Society, DAR, and the Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA) have honored PVT John Broddy, Brig. Gen. Campbell's manservant and a patriot in the fight for independence at 2 pm on Sunday before Sept 24th. The African-American Broddy cemetery is located on land left to Broddy from Campbell's estate. The cemetery was not known publicly until its rediscovery in 2012.

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Britton, Carr, Combs, Johnson, Richmond, Shaver.

INFORMATION: September 17th, 2023, Sunday - Constitution Day

Event Level: **Chapter**

Location: Various

Details: www.constitutionday.com/the-constitution.html

September 16th, 2023, Saturday (8:00 am-4:00 pm) - Vigil at Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, VA

Event Level: **National**

Host/POC: NSSAR Color Guard / Scott Collins.

Location: George Washington's Mount Vernon, Alexandria, VA.

Firing Event: **No**

National Color Guard Commander: Collins.

Heat Index: 77F

Details:

The National Color Guard staff cordially invites you to honor our patriot commander. We will meet at the Administration (Ann Pamela Cunningham) Building at 8:00 AM. The March to the Tomb begins at 8:30 a.m. sharp. The first guard rotation will start at 9:00 AM and change every 15 minutes. The March from the Tomb back to the Mansion will start at 4:00 PM. Please join us to stand guard for one or more shifts. We also welcome participation in one or both marches as your schedule allows. A few Muskets / Rifles will be available for you to use while standing guard.

As we have done in the past several years, the signup will be done electronically using the following link: [Vigil Registration.](#)

Note: the annual Colonial Fair & Market will be held over the weekend. Click here for details: [Colonial Fair.](#)

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: A.Mills, J.Mills.

September 16th, 2023, Saturday, (9:00 am) – Beeline March Commemoration, Winchester, VA

Event Level: **State**

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

Location: The Old Stone Church, 304 East Piccadilly St., Winchester, VA.

Firing Event: **Yes**

Event Commander: Melhuish.

Event Adjutant and Narrator: Corey.

Formation Commander: Osborn.

Heat Index: 76F

Details: Guard muster at the George Washington Hotel at 8:30 a.m. Daniel Morgan's statue is located at the Old Stone Church (built in 1788), Winchester. VASSAR will render a final tribute to Morgan on the last day of the Semi-Annual Conference. "George Washington" (Phil Williams) will meet with his staff on the church grounds. "Daniel Morgan" (Brett Osborn) will lead a march from the George Washington Hotel to Washington's tent at the Old Stone Church (approximately a three-block walk). Note: Only a single representational wreath will be presented at this event. After musket volley firing, participants will form up and march back to the GW hotel. Guardsmen wearing Regimental uniforms will constitute Washington's staff, guard, and muster ahead of Morgan's march to the Church. Guardsmen in Militia attire will fall in with Daniel Morgan. [Additional details will follow in Orders to the Guard, promulgated on September 4th, and Change One, promulgated on September 13th.] Click here for the event diagram: [Beeline Playbook](#)

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Badamo, Bayliss, Bonner, Boulton, Buck, Carrigan, Christensen, Collins, Cook, Corey, F.Crain, M.Crain, Daniel, Day, Dunaway, Elston, D.Hall, Hamilton, Hodges, M.Jackson, Lynch, Kelly, McKinley, Melhuish, E.Moore, P.Moore, Morris, Osborn, Parrish, Phillips, E.Robinson, M.Robinson, Schmidt, B.Schwetke, D.Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Sink, J.Thomas, Tyler, Westenberger, Weyler, R.Williams, P.Williams, M.Wilson.



September 15th-16th, 2023, Friday-Saturday - VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Winchester, VA

Event Level: State

Host/POC: Col. James Wood II Chapter VASSAR / Corey; VASSAR Secretary / Dioquino.

Location: George Washington Hotel, 103 East Piccadilly St., Winchester, VA.

Firing Event: No

Guard Commander: Melhuish.

Guard Adjutant: Corey.

Details: Registration and hotel details will be promulgated. Click here for the latest agenda: [Semi-Annual Agenda](#). Hotel reservation link here: [Hotel reservation](#). Expect to conclude by about 2 pm on Saturday. A detailed "Orders to the Guard" has been promulgated (September 4th).

One safety note: the floor outside the ballroom is highly polished marble and for those Guardsmen wearing shoes/boots with smooth leather soles, you may wish to apply non-slip tape to the bottom of your footwear for improved grip.

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees in period attire: Badamo, Bayliss, Bonner, Boulton, Christensen, Cook, Corey, F.Crain, Daniel, Day, Dunaway, Ford, D.Hall, Hamilton, Hodges, M.Jackson, Lynch, Kelly, McComb, McKinley, Melhuish, Morris, Osborn, Parrish, Phillips, M.Robinson, B.Schwetke, D.Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Sink, J.Thomas, Tyler, Westenberger, Weyler, M.Wilson.

September 15th, 2023, Friday (2:00 pm) - Grave Marking Ceremony, Winchester, VA

Event Level: State (change)

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

Location: Wood Family Cemetery, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, 901 Amherst St., Winchester, VA.

Firing Event: No

Event Color Guard Commander: Osborn.

Heat Index: 72F

Details: Grave Marking Ceremony for Robert Wood, son of James Wood I. This will be held at the Wood Family Cemetery, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley (MSV). Wreaths will be presented. All participants from semi-annual are required to stop at the gatehouse to receive a sticker to be worn on their clothing from a member of the MSV staff. FYI, there is a wedding on Saturday at the museum, and a private wedding rehearsal will take place in the gardens at the same time as our ceremony (in an adjacent garden).

Guard muster at 1:15 p.m. Do not arrive earlier than 1:00 p.m. Those arriving earlier than 1:00 must pay a non-reimbursable entrance fee. *****NO WEAPONS ALLOWED (swords, bayonets, firelock)*****

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Badamo, Bayliss, Bonner, Boulton, Carrigan, Christensen, Cook, Corey, F.Crain, Daniel, Dunaway, D.Hall, Hamilton, Hodges, M.Jackson, Lynch, Kelly, McComb, Melhuish, P.Moore, Morris, Osborn, Parrish, Phillips, Reynolds, M.Robinson, B.Schwetke, D.Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Sink, J.Thomas, Tyler, Westenberger, Weyler, M.Wilson.

September 15th, 2023, Friday (11:00 am) - Dedication of plaque to Daniel Morgan, Burwell-Morgan Mill, Millwood, VA

Event Level: State (change)

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

Location: Burwell-Morgan Mill, 15 Tannery Ln., Millwood, VA.

Firing Event: Yes

Event Color Guard Commander: Osborn.

Heat Index: 72F

Details: This is a wreath presentation ceremony. Guard muster at 10:15 a.m.

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Badamo, Bayliss, Bonner, Boulton, Carrigan, Christensen, Collins, Cook, Corey, F.Crain, Daniel, Dunaway, Elston, D.Hall, Hamilton, Hodges, M.Jackson, Lynch, Kelly, McComb, Morris, Osborn, Parrish, Phillips, Reynolds, M.Robinson, B.Schwetke, D.Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Sink, J.Thomas, Tyler, Westenberger, Weyler, R.Williams, M.Wilson.

INFORMATION: September 15th, 2023, Friday - National POW / MIA Day

Event Level: Chapter

Location: Various.

Note: The POW / MIA flag should generally not be carried in a parade or by a Color Guard (except by an honor guard member carrying it as a Personal Color at a military funeral). Follow the background here: thedrillmaster.org/2019/01/15/all-about-the-pow-mia-flag-protocol/

One comment from the Drillmaster: "The POW / MIA flag is always posted alone before the ceremony without any ceremony for its posting. It is helpful if it is posted near the missing man table... Posting it near the table, which is off on its own, creates a special place for both as a whole."

September 11th, 2023, Monday – 22nd Anniversary of the 9/11 Attack on America, Culpeper, VA

Type: Massing of the Colors

Event Level: National [Note: This event was first approved in 2017 by the NSSAR Color Guard Commander for Massing of Colors credit.]

VASSAR Host/POC: Culpeper Minutemen Chapter VASSAR / Bill Schwetke (**please RSVP** to schwetke.sar@gmail.com)

Location: Fire Station, 1121 North Main St, Culpeper, VA.

Firing Event: No

Event Color Guard Commander: Schwetke.

Heat Index: 93F (peak)

Details: No wreaths - No musket firing - just four presentations of the colors. We would like individual color guards of four-five compatriots (we can mix chapters), with two or three flags made up of US and one or both of Virginia & Chapter Flags, flanked by two compatriots with weapons. We will not fire the firelocks. We expect to be joined by, at a minimum, the American Legion, VFW, Culpeper Fire Department, Culpeper Sheriff's Dept, Culpeper Police Dept, and the Virginia Defense Force Mounted Color Guard.

Monday, 11 Sep, Color Guard first **musters at 8:15 am**, in front of the Culpeper Volunteer Fire Department, 153 West Davis Street, Culpeper, VA, then sequences through the following schedule, starting promptly at the listed time, which you may join or leave at any point (click here for graphics: [map](#)):

- 08:46 - Fire Department

- 09:03 - On the Courthouse Green (across from the Fire Department)
- 09:37 - Wine Street Military Memorial
- 10:03 - Intersection of Davis and Main

(The times are the impact times of the four planes on 9-11-2001)

Afterwards, we will gather at the Frost Cafe at the intersection of Davis & Main for food and camaraderie.

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Bish, Carrigan, Christensen, Cordes, Corey, Daniel, Dennis, Jameson, Morris, Osborn, M.Robinson, B.Schwetke, D.Schwetke, B.Schwoerer, Sink, Tyler.

September 9th, 2023, Saturday (4:15 pm) - President General's Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington, VA

Event Level: National

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

Location: Tomb of the Unknown, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

Firing Event: No

VASSAR President Escort: B.Schwetke.

Heat Index: 99F

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Christensen, McComb, Jackson, B.Schwetke, D.Schwetke, Whitney.



September 9th, 2023, Saturday (11:00 am) – 242nd Commemoration of the Battle of the Capes, Virginia Beach, VA

Event Level: Chapter

Host/POC: Norfolk Chapter VASSAR / Robert Bruce.

Location: Francois Joseph Paul de Grasse Statue, Fort Story, Virginia Beach, VA. (For

inclement weather, the ceremony will be held indoors at the First Landing Chapel, 600 Port au Prince Rd., VA. This is a few hundred yards away from the outdoor site.)

Firing Event: No

Event Color Guard Commander: Thompson.

Heat Index: 94F (peak)

Details: Event flyer click here: [Flyer](#). Click here to register: [Battle of Capes Registration](#). This ceremony is held on a military base, and therefore a military or government ID is required for access. All participants and attendees who don't have access to the installation must complete and return the BASE ACCESS PASS REGISTRATION form (Click here: [Access Form](#)).

The Battle of the Chesapeake, also known as the Battle of the Virginia Capes or simply the Battle of the Capes, was a crucial naval battle in the American Revolutionary War that took place near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay on September 5, 1781. The combatants were a British fleet led by Rear Admiral Sir Thomas Graves and a French fleet led by Rear Admiral Francois Joseph Paul, the Comte de Grasse. The battle strategically prevented the Royal Navy from reinforcing or evacuating the besieged forces of Lieutenant General Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia. The French achieved control of the sea lanes against the British and provided the Franco-American army with siege artillery and French reinforcements. These proved decisive in the Siege of Yorktown, effectively securing independence for the Thirteen Colonies. The guest speaker is **Rear Admiral Samuel Cox USN (ret.)**, Director, Naval History and Heritage Command. The senior French Navy representative will be **Rear Admiral Frederic de Rupilly**, J5 Plans, Joint Force Command, Norfolk. **The Hon. Bobby Dyer**, Mayor of Virginia Beach, will also attend.

Note: Thomson and Melhuish have the Base Commander's permission to bring two muskets and two swords for the Color Guard. **No other VASSAR owned weapons will be permitted on the Base.** Some pop-up shelters will be provided.

Color Guard movement (click here): [Playbook](#)

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Bonner, Cook, Daniel, Davenport, Hodges, McKinley, Melhuish, Osborn, Schmidt, Thompson.

French Military Color Guardsman: Chief Petty Officer Jerome Henri, FRA N.



September 9th, 2023, Saturday (10:00 am) – 243rd Anniversary of the Gathering at Sycamore Shoals, Elizabethton, TN

Event Level: National

Host/POC: Kings Mountain Chapter TNSSAR / Joe Chambers.

Location: Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park, 1651 W. Elk Ave., Elizabethton, TN.

Firing Event: Yes

National Color Guard Commander: Collins.

Heat Index: 93F (peak)

Details: The Gathering is in honor of the Overmountain Men and their victory over loyalist forces at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

On September 25 1780, a force of over 900 Patriots met at Fort Watauga near the Sycamore Shoals of the Watauga River to organize an expedition to cross the mountains to meet British Army Major Patrick Ferguson and his 1,100 Carolina Loyalists at Kings Mountain. The 243rd anniversary of the Gathering at Sycamore Shoals will be celebrated with a memorial service and a ceremonial wreath laying.

Virginia SAR Color Guard Attendees: Britton, Butterworth, Carr, Combs, Davenport, Gullion, Richmond, Shavers.

