



VASSAR Color Guard Workshop & Town Hall

Zoom February 15, 2024

Final



Town Hall Agenda

- **Call to Order (Corey)**
- **Pledge of Allegiance and SAR Pledge (Corey)**
- **VASSAR Color Guard 2023 Annual summary (Osborn)**
- **New VASSAR CG Committee (Osborn)**
- **CG Awards (Corey)**
- **Key Takeaways from Annual (Osborn)**
- **Adjutant's Time (Corey)**
- **Town Hall – Discussion (Osborn)**
- **SAR Recessional and Adjourn (Corey)**



Color Guard Summary (as of 1 JAN 24)

	CY 2022	CY 2023	Trend
Number of Guardsmen	116	134	↑
Number of Events	127	176	↑
Musket Firing Events	51	67	↑

18 new members in the past 12 months

49 VASSAR Guardsmen are Black Powder Certified



Color Guard Awards - 2023

Award	Number Presented
Von Steuben CG Medal	1
Silver CG Medal	6
Bronze CG Medal	7
Billy Flora Medal	17
Billy Flora Oak Leaf Cluster	33
Regional CG Men of the Year	4

**2023 VASSAR Color Guardsman of the Year:
Chip Daniel**



New VASSAR CG Committee

- **Voting Members**

- **Brett Osborn** - Commander
- **Dale Corey** - Adjutant / Vice-Commander
- **Barry Schwoerer** - North Region Color Guard Commander
- **Kimball Thompson** - East Region Color Guard Commander
- **Gary Hall** - Central Region Color Guard Commander
- **John Gullion** - Frontier Region Color Guard Commander
- **Ken Bonner** - State CG Training Officer
- **Paul Christensen** - State CG Safety Officer
- **Mark Day** - State CG Quartermaster
- **Richard Rankin** - State CG Insurance Advisor

- **Non-Voting Member**

- **Chris Melhuish** - State CG Handbook Editor



Key Takeaways From Annual

- **Drumhead Muster**
 - New initiative to allow Guardsmen to socialize
 - Hunting shirt sale – proceeds to VASSAR
 - Positive informal feedback so far
 - Will repeat – with tweaks – at Semi-Annual and Annual Meetings
- **Annual General Meeting**
 - CG Committee Chairman's verbal brief on the Guard; French military engagement
 - Rankin / Melhuish presentation on Liability Insurance and Accident-Incident Procedures
- **Annual Banquet**
 - New State President's priorities (see next slide)



New State President's Priorities

- **Schedule Items**
 - 250th focus and new events: e.g., Fairfax Resolves, First Virginia Convention, etc.
- **DAR and C.A.R. Relations**
 - Each Chapter appoint a DAR and C.A.R. Liaison
 - Each Chapter conduct at least one DAR and one C.A.R. activity during the year
- **SAR Relations**
 - Each VASSAR Chapter interact with at least one other VASSAR Chapter
- **VASSAR Structure**
 - Evaluate the current Regional, Committee, and State Officer structure
 - Report due at next Semi-Annual
- **Chapter Membership**
 - Goal: increase by 5% and set up a mentor program



CG Commander's Priorities

- **Training & Certification**
 - Continue to improve our CG professionalism
 - Continue to improve standardization across the Commonwealth
 - NSSAR Youth Protection Training (online) for all Guardsmen
 - <https://www.sar.org/courses/youth-protection-training/>
 - Focus on black powder firing recertification before 1 May
- **Safety**
 - Increase broader awareness in host Chapters
 - “Slip and Trip” & other non-firing risks
- **Camaraderie**
 - Drumhead Musters (one example)



Adjutant's Call

- **Requirements for Bronze Color Guard Medal and Billy Flora Medal**
- **Keep us informed of activity**
- **Workshops**



Commander's Trivia Question

Question:

**How many VASSAR Compatriots
have been awarded the NSSAR
Gold Color Guard Medal?**





Answer

Answer:

Two -- Andrew Johnson & Joe Dooley



Questions and discussion