



Col. William Grayson Chapter *Sons of the American Revolution* —*Newsletter*—



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Aug.-Sept. 2019

9/11 National Day of Remembrance

On 11 Sept. in Culpeper, Virginia, Colonel William Grayson Chapter members, Paul Chase, the VASSAR Color Guard Commander; and Michael E. Weyler, our chapter President, represented the chapter at the National Day of Remembrance, sponsored by Bugles Across America.

Bugles Across America organized the four distinct ceremonies to coincide with the times of the four Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. The massed color guards were under the command of Bill Schwetke, our VASSAR First Vice President.

A bugler first played Taps in front of the fire station on W Davis St. at precisely 8:46 a.m.; the time that American Airlines flight 11 crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

Taps was sounded in front of the Sherriff's Office on W Davis St. at 9:03 a.m.; the time that United flight 175 crashed into the South Tower.

Taps was sounded at Wine Street Veterans Memorial Park at 9:37 a.m. to honor the members of the Military killed when American Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon.

Taps was again sounded, at the intersection of Main and Davis streets, at 10:03 a.m. to honor the heroic civilians who gave their lives when United Flight 93 crashed in a field in Somerset County, Pa.

An additional playing of Taps was done to honor those killed in Benghazi, Libya, on Sept. 11, 2012.



9:03 am, playing of Taps in front of the County Sheriff's Office.



9:37 am, playing of Taps at the Veterans Memorial.

President's Report

While it has been almost five months since our last chapter meeting on May 12, our chapter members have been very busy.

Our May-July Newsletter, which was sent to all members early in August, enumerated many activities in which our chapter members participated, i.e., grave markings, award presentations, the March to the Tomb on the 4th of July, and the celebration of the Fairfax Resolves.

August was also a busy month, which included the SAR Atlantic Middle States Association annual meeting in Wilmington, Delaware, and our Night at the Ball Park where we presented the colors at a Potomac Nationals game in Woodbridge, Virginia. Sadly, August also saw the passing of one of our charter members, Roger Boyce.

September saw even greater participation. On September 7, we presented our wreath at the Pentagon Memorial. On September 11, we presented our colors at the National Day of Remembrance in Culpeper. On September 13 and 14, we attended the VASSAR Semi-Annual meeting in Fairfax County, which included accompanying President General Manning to Arlington National Cemetery where he placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown. From September 19 to 22, your chapter president attended the SAR Fall Leadership Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. Finally, on September 28, Patriots Pride Day in Middletown, Virginia, our chapter wreath was presented at the Middletown Veterans Memorial.

In that May-July newsletter I referenced above, I mentioned one vital area where our committee chairmen can use help now, and it needs repeating.

We need someone willing and able to focus on contacting schools, public, private, Christian, Parochial, and Home school Associations, on behalf of our youth programs. While our youth programs from elementary to middle school to high school are all active, I am looking for someone who will be dedicated to the task of establishing and maintaining contacts with as many schools in our area as possible. Hopefully, this will allow the current committee chairmen to focus on the details of their respective contests and contestants. We need to increase the number of schools willing to participate in our poster, brochure, essay, and oration contests. If you are willing to help, please get in touch with me at your earliest convenience.

Michael E. Weyler

SPEAKERS NEEDED TO INFORM THE PUBLIC ON WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO.

Do you have a story about your Revolutionary War ancestor? Or a story about a famous Revolutionary War event, person, or place? How about knowledge of little known Rev War events that make interesting presentations? If so, the chapter needs you for our Speaker's Bureau. Remember, the objectives of SAR are declared to be patriotic, historical, and educational; to inspire the community-at-large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom.

We frequently receive requests from NSDAR, NSCAR, Rotary Clubs, Historical Societies, and other Social or Lineage organizations for presentations. Presentations are typically 20-30 minutes in length, not counting questions. You NEED NOT be a polished, professional speaker but have an interest in your topic and a willingness to share what you know. If you want to be part of the Speaker's Bureau contact Barry Schwoerer at bschwoerer@comcast.net or at 703-859-3407 to discuss becoming a speaker.

Upcoming Events

5 Oct: Battle of Kings Mountain Commemoration; Sat., 10 a.m. at Kings Mountain, N.C.

12 Oct: CWG Chapter Meeting, Sat., 11 a.m. (meet & greet at 10:30) in the Mountain View Card Room at Heritage Hunt Golf and Country Club, 6901 Arthur Hills Drive, Gainesville, Va. 20155. The price of lunch is \$35 per person.

19 Oct: Yorktown Victory Celebration; Sat., 10 a.m. at the Yorktown Monument, Yorktown, Va.

2 Nov: Annual Northern Virginia Veterans Day Parade; Sat., 11 a.m. in Manassas, Va.

16 Nov: CWG Chapter Meeting, Sat., 11 a.m. (meet & greet at 10:30) in the Mountain View Card Room at Heritage Hunt Golf and Country Club, 6901 Arthur Hills Drive, Gainesville, Va. 20155. The price of lunch is \$35 per person.

7 Dec: Commemoration of the Battle of Great Bridge; Sat., 11 a.m. at Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways History Foundation, Chesapeake, VA.

Chapter Activities

9-10 Aug., Newark, Delaware: CWG Compatriots Michael Weyler, CWG Chapter President, and Paul Chase attended the SAR Atlantic Middle States District Meeting at the Hilton Wilmington in Newark, Delaware. Both wore regimental uniforms. While there was color guard participation, there were no chapter wreath presentations. Cat Schwetke and Jennifer Kelly were the two more notable DAR ladies present.



The Virginia representatives are L-R: Treasurer General Bruce Pickette (dual), Ernie Coggins, Cat Schwetke, Mike Elston, Joe Dooley, Mary Addington, Surgeon General Darryl Addington (dual), Bill Schwetke (in back), VASSAR President Peter Davenport, Tim Dioquino, Michael Weyler, Jennifer Kelly, VASSAR Immediate Past President Pat Kelly, Kelly Granddaughter, Jeff Thomas, Ken Morris, Liz Morris, Dave Cook, Joe Vermaelen (dual), President General 2018-2019 Warren Alter (dual), Nancy Alter.

11 Aug., Gainesville, VA: Colonel William Grayson Chapter compatriot Barry Schwoerer, wearing a militia uniform, presented Eagle Scout Austin Jake Newman, troop 1882, the SAR certificate of Recognition and SAR-Scout Partnership patch. Austin is the son of Assistant Scout Master John Newman and his wife, Gena. The family received a handout on the SAR Eagle Scout scholarship program, and Barry encouraged Austin to participate.



Austin Jake Newman
and Barry Schwoerer.

12 Aug.: CWG Chapter Compatriot Curtis Robb presented Charter Member David A. Doliber a Certificate of Appreciation that reads: "David A. Doliber is hereby awarded this Certificate of Appreciation for his generous contribution to the library of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. David was a Charter Member of the Col. William Grayson Chapter."



L-R: Thad Hartman, David Doliber, Curtis Robb.

12 Aug.: Sergeant First Class (E-7) Samuel Ortiz, United States Army, was presented the NSSAR Wounded Warrior coin by Colonel William Grayson Chapter compatriot Barry Schwoerer. After the presentation, compatriot Schwoerer gave SFC Ortiz a two-hour session of Operation Ancestor Search (OAS). OAS includes giving the Warrior a one-year subscription to Ancestry.com, renewable for an additional year. While he was learning how to navigate ancestry.com, Sgt. Ortiz discovered his great grandparents in Puerto Rico and several related documents on his family.

Sgt. Ortiz was wounded in Kuwait while serving in the 335th signal Battalion. He is currently assigned to the Transition Battalion at the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital.



Sgt. First Class Samuel Ortiz.

20 Aug., Browntown, Va.: At 9:00 am in Browntown, Virginia the Colonel James Wood II Chapter, NSSAR, sponsored a grave marking ceremony for Patriot Jeffrey Collins, a Private in the Virginia Militia. Patriot Collins served from March 1777 to March 1778; first at Fort Pitt and then at Fort Wheeling. Patriot Collins died at ninety-five years leaving a large family, with several descendants still living in the area.

SAR Officers present included VASSAR President Peter Davenport, VASSAR First Vice President Bill Schwetke, Colonel James Wood II President Dale Corey, Culpeper Minutemen Vice President Charles Jameson, and Colonel William Grayson President Mike Weyler.



CWG President Mike Weyler at Grave of Patriot Collins.

21 Aug., Quantico, VA: Colonel William Grayson Chapter Charter member Roger Boyce was laid to rest at Quantico National Cemetery 21 August 2019. Roger was born 7 March 1944 in Richmond, Virginia. He married Alverda Ball in Sandusky, OH on 24 August 1968. Roger was a Veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He served at RAF Alconbury in Huntington, England where he served as a Chaplain's Assistant. Later, he served on active duty in the National Guard.

Roger was active in the American Legion where he served as Sergeant of Arms for Post 364 and District 16. After serving in the military, Roger became a Charter bus driver traveling throughout the United States and Canada. He then purchased a truck, delivering freight in the United States and Canada. In retirement, Roger was an avid model railroader and HAM Radio operator.



L: Alverda (Ball) Boyce (seated).

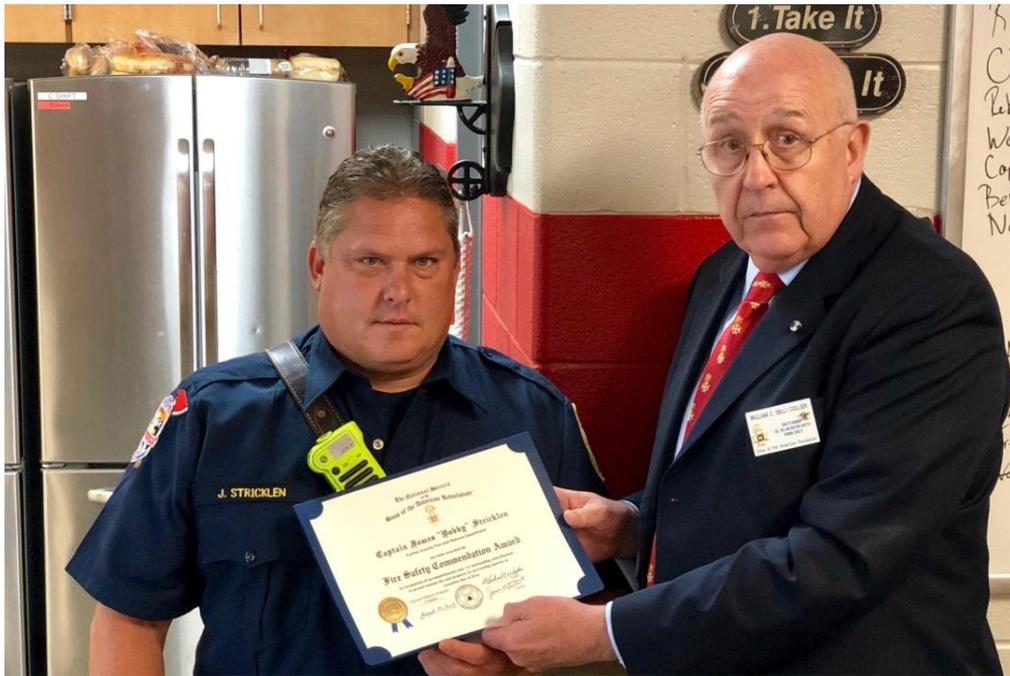


Saluting the Flag.

23 Aug., Vienna, VA: Compatriot Bill Collier of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, NSSAR, presented the Fire Safety Commendation Certificate and Medal to Fire Captain James Stricklen at Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Station No. 42 in Vienna Virginia.

His citation reads:

“Captain James “Bobby” Stricklen has served with distinction the Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department for over 24 years. He ensures continued operational readiness for both equipment and personnel that results in the ability to respond to any and all emergencies. He also ensures seamless operations between the professional and volunteer firefighters. His leadership by example, Technical knowledge, and his keen interest in the community is an example for all to follow. Captain James “Bobby” Stricklen’s professional performance of duty reflect great credit not only on himself, but on the Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department and the entire Fire Safety profession.”



Capt. Stricklen and Bill Collier.

24 Aug., Woodbridge, VA: The Colonel William Grayson Chapter, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution, led the Presentation of Colors at the start of the ballgame between the Potomac Nationals and the Winston-Salem Dash at the Potomac Nationals' home field, Pfitzner Stadium in Woodbridge.

Three SAR Chapters from Northern Virginia participated: Colonel William Grayson, Fairfax Resolves and Colonel Fielding Lewis. The Prince William Resolves Chapter represented the Daughters of the American Revolution. The Colonel William Grayson Chapter, C.A.R. represented the Children of the American revolution. Presenting Colors at a ballgame is an initiative of the Virginia Society SAR designed to place SAR in the public eye.

The Public Address announcer for the Potomac Nationals introduced the Color Guard with this announcement:

“Ladies and Gentlemen, please rise for the presentation of Colors and the National Anthem. Leading the presentation of colors tonight are representatives of the Sons of the American Revolution accompanied by Daughters and Children of the American Revolution. Each of the participants is wearing the uniform or clothing representative of their Patriot Ancestors. Each of the participants you see before you are descendants of men or women who contributed in a material way to the American Revolution. Some were soldiers; others served in civil office in the newly formed States. Others executed oaths of allegiance to the new United States, and many gave money, weapons, food, or other material goods to the cause. Please welcome the Sons, Daughters, and Children of the American Revolution.”



The Color Guard.



Outside the Stadium, pre-game, L-R:
Darin Schmidt, Dave Adamy, Mike Weyler,
John Patterson, Jacob Schwoerer, Larry
McKinley, Leamon Duncan, Barry Schwoerer,
Sheri Dagg, Richie Dagg, Dave Cook.

31 Aug., Trinity Episcopal Church, Manassas, VA: At an Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Patrick Keplinger became the newest Eagle Scout from Troop 1882 of Haymarket, VA. Colonel William Grayson Chapter, VASSAR, Compatriot Barry Schworer, wearing a Revolutionary War militia uniform, presented Patrick with the SAR-Scout Partnership Patch and a Certificate of Achievement. Compatriot Schworer explained the NSSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship program, gave Patrick and his parents details on the program, and encouraged Patrick to submit a Scholarship application.



L-R: Matt Gallagher, unknown, Brian Keplinger (Father), Patrick Keplinger, and Bethany Keplinger (Mother).



Barry Schworer and Patrick Keplinger.

2 Sept.: Compatriot Leamon Duncan of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, Virginia SAR, presented the SAR Certificate of Recognition and the SAR-BSA Partnership patch to Troop 924's newest Eagle Scout, Zachary Wallace. Compatriot Duncan was in militia uniform. Also in attendance from the CWG Chapter were Compatriots Pete Candland, Prince William County Supervisor, and Edward Shanahan.



L-R: Zachary Wallace and Leamon Duncan.



L-R: CWG Compatriots Pete Candland, Leamon Duncan, and Edward Shanahan.

6 Sept., Manassas, VA: The Elizabeth McIntosh Hammill Chapter, NSDAR, donated a Free Little Library to the City of Manassas and had it placed on the West side of the Historic Manassas Train Station. The “Take a book, donate a book” program promotes literacy and fosters neighborhood book exchanges.

Dedication of the Free Little Library took place at 5:00 pm, Friday 5 Sept., with Manassas City Mayor Hal Parish joining Elizabeth McIntosh Hammill Chapter Regent, Melyssa Webb, in a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Three Colonel William Grayson Chapter Compatriots: Barry Schwoerer; Chapter Secretary, Dave Button; and Ken Webb attended the dedication. The Revolutionary War Adventures book “Patriots, Redcoats & Spies” by Robert J. Skead, with Robert A. Skead, was placed in the kiosk on behalf of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter by Compatriot Schwoerer.



Melyssa Webb and Mayor Parish are preparing to cut the ribbon.



Barry Schwoerer & Dave Button.



Ken Webb.

7 Sept., The Pentagon: On Saturday, the Pentagon Chapter, DAR, sponsored a ceremony at the Pentagon Memorial honoring those who died when terrorists crashed an airplane into the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. Four SAR chapters attended the ceremony, and the VASSAR First Vice President, Jeff Thomas brought greetings.

Nancy Hill, the Honorary Regent of the Pentagon Chapter, DAR, pointed out that the incentive for the formation of her chapter was the need to honor those lost in the terrorist attack and the need for continuous remembrance.

The DAR, the SAR, and the C.A.R. each placed a wreath at the Memorial; Jeff Thomas presented the VASSAR wreath.

Following the ceremony, many of the DAR, SAR, and C.A.R. attendees placed roses on some of the 184 benches that form a significant part of the Pentagon Memorial, with the name of one of those lost that day engraved on each bench. CWG Chapter President Michael Wyler placed a rose.



L-R: Bill Brand GWC; James Crook, Historian CFL; Dave Thomas, President GWC; Jeff Thomas, First Vice President VASSAR; Jay Henn, Vice President GWC; Tom Roth, Historian VASSAR; Ken Bonner, Past President, FFR; Justin Thomas, President CWG Society, C.A.R.; Michael E. Weyler, President, CWG.



CWG Chapter President
Michael Weyler Places a Rose.

12 Sept.: During a nearly week-long trip to visit family and attend the Duncan Family Reunion in Scott County, Tennessee, Compatriot Leamon Duncan cleaned a total of eleven ancestor's gravestones, going back to his 3x great-grandparents. Of those eleven stones, two were of his Veteran ancestors dating back to service during the Spanish-American War and Civil War. Duncan's great-grandfather, Private Russell M. Sharp served in Company D. of the First Tennessee Infantry, and his 2x great-uncle, Private Stephen Jeffers served in Company A. of the East Tennessee National Guard, under the command of Captain Dennis Trammel. After cleaning the stones, Compatriot Duncan placed an American Flag and rendered a hand-salute to honor his veteran ancestors.



Before. Private Russell M. Sharp. After.



Before. Private Stephen Jeffers. After.

14 Sept., DeWitt, Mo.: At a bi-annual family reunion at the Audsely Farm, Gregory Wayne Elson and his son, Michael Aaron Elson, were inducted into NSSAR by Barry Schwoerer from the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution. Gregory and Michael are cousins of Barry's wife, Paula. Acceptance into NSSAR was the result of years of research proving lineage from Gregory and Paula's common grandfather, Arthur Elson, through Arthur's mother Sarah Elizabeth Wilkinson then via the Hamilton family and eventually to Patriot David Betts of Berkshire County, Massachusetts, who served under Captain John Spoor at the Battle of Saratoga.



L-R: Gregory Elson, Michael Elson, and Barry Schwoerer.



L-R: Michael Elson, Susan Elson, Beverly Elson, and Gregory Elson.

Registrar's Report

NEW MEMBERS APPROVED

APPLICANT	DATE	PATRIOT
Bruce Jones, Bristow, Va.	9 Aug 2019	John C. Karr, Pvt. N.J. Militia 1776
Ross Schwalm, Woodbridge, Va.	9 Aug 2019	John Adam Lebo, Soldier Pa. Militia
Gregory Elson, Linneus, Mo.	16 Aug 2019	David Betts, Pvt.
Michael Elson, Linneus, Mo.	16 Aug 2019	David Betts, Pvt.
Herbert Campbell, Gainesville, Va.	6 Sep 2019	Daniel Evans, Ens. Pa. Militia 1777