



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



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Volume **18**, Issue **2**

April-June 2025

President's Comments: Andrew Mills

Summer is upon us and there are many events which have been planned by multiple SAR Chapters over the next few months. I highly encourage all of you to try and attend at least one of these planned events and represent our Chapter. You will discover how enjoyable it is to spend time with your fellow Compatriots, not to mention venturing out into different parts of our state and experiencing new things.

Please join us on July 4 for the Dale City 4th of July Parade. This will be the first time in many years our Chapter has been a part of this parade, and it would be great for our Chapter to have a large turnout for this event.

One of the biggest themes our Chapter has been discussing since its creation has been increasing our involvement in our local community. For 2025, we have become more involved with our local community than ever before. Participation in SAR events is up. More members of our Chapter have been getting involved and we are seeing an increase in prospective members. Social media has been an excellent tool for promoting local events and fulfilling the mission statement of the SAR when it comes to educating people about the principles of the American Revolution.

Our YouTube series "Voice of Our Patriots" has brought to the attention of the world the lives of almost a dozen Patriots. At the time of this writing, the number of views these videos have accumulated equals to one person every hour learning about a Patriot and part of the American Revolution they did not know about since April 19. This is an amazing achievement for us. We can see there is a desire from people wanting to know more about the American Revolution.

Let us continue all of the fantastic efforts we have made in being a part of our community this summer and embody the mission statement of the SAR by ensuring we promote patriotism, serve the community, educate, and inspire future generations about the founding principles of our country.

Vice President's Report – Jeff Sterling

Completed all documentation for the Mentoring Program. The program is now active and will be offered to all incoming new members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter. The program is optional and will begin with the new member receiving a document describing the basic aspects of the SAR, its functions and methods including the Colonel William Grayson Chapter. If the new member desires a Mentor, it will be followed by one-on-one discussions with the new member to determine his desired goals and objectives within the SAR, and guidance will be offered to assist in orienting the individual and begin his involvement in the organization. Discussions with the new member will take place at his desired pace. If you are interested in becoming a Mentor, please contact Jeff Sterling.

Registrar's Report: Mike Blythe

Halfway through the year, and to date we've had twelve new member applications approved – that's a pretty good haul. Ten more are in the queue waiting for review either at the National Headquarters or with the State Registrar. My hope is we will welcome many new compatriots in October. The latest new member application to be approved took three and a half months to complete the process, which marks a small improvement. Supplemental applications take sixty-three weeks.

In addition to these new members, we identified two "Forgotten Patriots" in June; the patriot ancestors of our compatriots Lanny Tuthill and Gordon Strong. A forgotten patriot is one who has not been previously accepted as a patriot ancestor by either the SAR or DAR or whose previously approved line has been closed due to flaws in the original application. In both cases, the DAR had closed the lines because they found evidence associating Patriots Nathan Tuthill and Selah Strong with expressions of loyalty to the crown, or in Tuthill's case mistook him for someone who did. Additional evidence provided by local historians in Long Island proved the DAR wrong in both instances and the applications were approved and new forgotten patriots documented. Their descendants will be recognized at the October meeting. You may remember Selah Strong and his wife Anna from the TV drama series "Turn: Washington's Spies." Gordon Strong is his great-great-great-great grandson.

As of 1 September 2024, the cost of applying to the SAR increased to \$257: \$150 NSSAR new member application fee, \$50 first year's dues, \$12 VASSAR, and \$45 Col William Grayson Chapter. Junior Member applications increased to \$107: \$75 NSSAR application fee, \$5 first year's dues, \$12 VASSAR, and \$15 Col William Grayson Chapter.

PWC Revolutionary War Memorial – Ross Schwalm

Compatriots, thank you for answering the call to donate to the Prince William County Revolutionary War Memorial fund started at our chapter. To date, \$2175 is the amount you have collectively donated towards our chapter goal of \$5000.

Dave Button and I were at the first meeting for this project on March 1, 2022 and the progress made has been tremendous. The county board of supervisors approved \$130,000 for the FY 25 County Budget so detailed design will start this summer. I personally plan to spend several days a week at Williams Ordinary to ensure we continue to guide the project and raise more funds. Please encourage your chapter Compatriot Friends to donate to this project.

Upcoming Events

Note: All events subject to change or cancellation; monitor e-mails and vssar.memberclicks.net for changes

July 4, 2025: 9:00 am, Independence Day and March to the Tomb at George Washington's Mount Vernon, VA

July 4, 2025: 9:00 am, Dale City Independence Day Parade

July 6th, 2025: 9:00 am – Commemoration of the Battle of Green Spring, Williamsburg, VA. Church on the Main, 2604 Sir Gilbert Loop, Williamsburg, VA.

July 12-18, 2025: Annual NSSAR Congress in Uncasville, Conn. NSSAR EVENT (NATIONAL)

July 19, 2025: 2:00 pm - Commemoration of the Fairfax Resolves Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway

July 26, 2025: 11:00 am 250th Bee Line march Commemoration. Winchester, Va. VASSAR Presidential event. The 250th Anniversary Commemoration of Daniel Morgan's Bee Line March will start at 302 E. Piccadilly St. (site of the Historic Daniel Morgan Statute/Marker), Winchester, VA and end after a short march to the Mount Hebron Cemetery (305 E. Boscawen St.)

August 2, 2025: Shootout for Soldiers. Gainesville, Va.

August 16, 2025: Reading of the Declaration of Independence, Leesburg. 11:00 am. Location: Loudoun County Courthouse, Spirit of Loudoun Rev War Memorial, 18 East Market St., Leesburg, VA.

August 23, 2025: 4:00 pm. William Elzy Grave marking. Leesburg, Virginia.

August 30, 2025: Color Guard Workshop. George Washington's Ferry Farm. Falmouth, Virginia.

September 19 - 20, 2025: VASSAR Semi-Annual Conference. The Westin Washington Dulles Airport 2520 Wasser Terrace, Herndon, VA 20171

Chapter Activities and News

April 5, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal Presentation

Cadet PO3 Tyler Higgs, Osbourn Park High School, was presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, JROTC Program Chairman, Mr. John Callaway. He was joined by Compatriot Ross Schwalm, Past President, Colonel William Grayson Chapter.



April 18, 2025: Commemoration of Paul Revere's Ride

CWG members participated in The America 250 official event “Two Lights for Tomorrow” which encouraged individuals, cities, towns, counties, and states to shine two lights on the evening of Friday, April 18th, in honor of Paul Revere's Ride.



April 19, 2025: Remembering Lexington and Concord - Aldie, Virginia

On April 19, members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR joined Compatriots of the Sergeant Major John Champe Chapter, Virginia SAR in Commemorating the 250th Anniversary of Lexington and Concord. President Andrew Mills, Quartermaster Jack Mills, and Compatriot Greg Hall took part in a reenactment and President Mills presented the Chapter wreath.



April 23, 2025: SAR Heroism and Life Saving Commendations to Virginia State Police Troopers.

Compatriot Bill Collier presented the SAR Heroism and Life Saving Commendations to Virginia State Police Troopers. The location of the presentations was at Virginia State Police Office Number 48, 9801 Braddock Road, Fairfax Virginia.22030.

The Heroism Commendation was presented to Virginia State Police Trooper Scott A. Jeltema. His Citation reads:

On Monday, November 25, 2024, troopers were in pursuit of a stolen vehicle that ultimately ran a red light at high speed and crashed, bursting into flames. Trooper Jeltema was the only trooper present at the end of the pursuit. The vehicle was occupied by four juveniles and due to the force of the collision, one of the juveniles was partially ejected and became trapped in the vehicle's front windshield. Amidst shattered glass and debris scattered across the scene, with flames erupting from the engine bay, Trooper Jeltema placed himself in imminent danger to save the life of the trapped juvenile. Despite the growing smoke and the constant risk of an explosion, Trooper Jeltema remained focused on the rescue. With tremendous strength and resolve, he managed to pull the unconscious juvenile out of the windshield, performing a daring rescue from the top of the burning vehicle.



(L-R) Compatriot Bill Collier, Trooper Scott Jeltema

The Lifesaving Commendation was presented to Virginia State Police Trooper Sesaly Barden. She was one of three State Troopers involved in the commendation. The other two presentations will be accomplished at a later date. Her citation reads:

On Thursday, August 15, 2024, troopers were involved in the pursuit of a vehicle linked to the kidnapping of three children, ages 16 months, five, and seven years old. The vehicle, driven by their biological father who had kidnapped the children after stabbing their mother and older brother, crashed at high speed during the pursuit. Upon approaching the vehicle, the troopers were met with a horrifying situation. The father held one of the

children up as a shield. Despite this, the troopers successfully apprehended the father and rescued the five and seven-year-old boys. However, it was then discovered that the 16-month-old girl who had also been kidnapped was unconscious and bleeding from her head on the backseat floorboard. Senior Trooper Vajglova and Trooper Barden displayed remarkable compassion and care as they tended to the two young boys who had endured unimaginable trauma within the preceding 24 hours, witnessing their mother and brother being stabbed and being abducted by the very person meant to protect them. One of the boys had suffered a broken leg and was in excruciating pain. Senior Trooper Vajglova and Trooper Barden provided comfort, administering both physical and emotional care. They gave the boys “Trooper Teddies” to hold, offering a sense of security in the midst of chaos. Their extraordinary empathy and attention to the boys will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on the children’s lives. Meanwhile, Trooper Chappell rendered critical life-saving care to the 16-month-old girl. As the Division’s CPR instructor, Trooper Chappell’s skills and experience made him exceptionally suited for the task. He performed CPR on the toddler and refused to stop until Emergency Medical Services arrived 15 minutes later. Throughout the ordeal, Trooper Chappell provided continuous updates on her condition, which were relayed to fire and rescue teams enroute to the scene. His unwavering efforts extended the child’s life, giving her a fighting chance. She was airlifted to the Children’s National Hospital in Washington, D.C. but tragically succumbed to her injuries shortly after arrival. The actions of Senior Trooper Vajglova, Trooper Chappell, and Trooper Barden exemplify the highest standards of professionalism, compassion, and humanity. The heinous act of kidnapping three innocent children, compounded by the violence perpetrated by their own father, was an unimaginable tragedy. Yet the troopers rose to the occasion, offering not only immediate life-saving care, but also emotional support to the surviving boys in the aftermath of this horrific event.



(L-R) Compatriot Bill Collier, Trooper Sesaly Barden

April 23, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal Presentation

Cadet Technical Sergeant Zachary Johnson of Battlefield High School, was presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by Mr. Dave Button, Secretary, Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR. He was joined by compatriots John Callaway and Ross Schwalm.



April 23, 2025: SAR, JROTC Programs Certificate of Appreciation Presentation

SMSgt David Shuler of Battlefield High School, was presented a certificate of appreciation by Compatriots Ross Schwalm and Dave Button for his 10 year association with the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, JROTC programs, service to community and commitment to the development of young leaders. Also shown is Cadet Johnson recipient of the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal. Compatriot John Callaway was also in attendance.



April 25, 2025: SAR JROTC Program Certificate of Appreciation Presentation

LCDR James S. Ogawa, Osbourn Park High School, was presented a certificate of appreciation by Compatriots John Callaway and Dave Button for his 10 year association with the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR JROTC programs, service to community and commitment to the development of young leaders. Also Present is OP Principal Ms. Lisamarie Kane (4th L) and Vice Principal Ms. Artise Gill (5th L)



April 28, 2025: James Monroe's 267th Birthday Celebration at His Tomb - Richmond, VA.

Compatriot Dave Button presented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter's Wreath at the commemoration of the birthdate of President James Monroe at the site of his tomb at the historic Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia. Approximately fifty organizations, including representatives from the state and local governments, were there presenting their wreaths on the anniversary of President Monroe's birth.



April 29, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal Presentation

Cadet MSG Russell Powers, Woodbridge High School, was presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, JROTC Program Director, Mr. John Callaway. Kristen Morgan, Bill of Rights, DAR was in attendance.



April 29, 2025: “Celebrating Our American Dream” – Haymarket, Va.

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter assisted the Regency Dominion Valley States “Celebrating Our American Dream” Program. CWG President Andrew Mills, Registrar Mike Blythe, and Compatriot Jay Little were on hand for the event. President Mills led some 50 participants in a 3K hike with multiple spots designed to talk about the American Revolution. By guiding the participants through the war, the Compatriots were demonstrating the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution mission statement of honoring Revolutionary War Patriot ancestors, promoting Patriotism, serving the community, and providing education about the founding principle of the United States.



(L-R) Compatriots Mike Blythe, Andrew Mills, Jay Little

April 30, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal Presentation

Cadet Franco Gonzalez, American Military Academy, Puerto Rico, was presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by the school's Military Instructor, SFC Carlos Sosa, for the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR.



May 3, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal Presentation

Cadet CPT Alejandro Lievano Rosado, Antilles Military Academy, Puerto Rico was presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by Senior Military Instructor (SMI) LTC Victor Morales for the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR.[Picture not available.]

May 3, 2025: Dedication of William Lindsay Marker, Lorton, Va.

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter took part in a plaque dedication in Lorton jointly hosted by the DAR and the George Mason Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. CWG President Andrew Mills, Quartermaster Jack Mills, and Guardsman Greg Hall were joined by George Washington Chapter, Virginia SAR Chaplain Paul McComb in the Color Guard as they presented the colors and conducted a firing demonstration at the event. The event was well attended by local politicians, historians, DAR, SAR, and CAR representatives.



(L-R) Compatriots Greg Hall, Paul McComb, Andrew Mills, Jack Mills

May 3, 2025: Commemoration of Gunpowder Incident, Williamsburg, Va.

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter took part in a presidential initiative by Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution President Michael Weyler commemorating the Gunpowder Incident of 1775. CWG Historian Chuck Mills and CWG Past President Michael Wilson represented the Chapter with Compatriot Wilson presenting the Chapter wreath.



(L-R) Compatriots Michael Wilson and Chuck Mills



May 7, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal Presentation

Cadet Senior Airman Benjamin Vuong, Freedom High School, was presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, JROTC Program Director, Mr. John Callaway. Chapter Compatriots Ross Schwalm and Charles Wagner, were also in attendance.



May 8, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal Presentation

Cadet Seaman Marco Rivera, Potomac High School, is presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, President Mr. Andrew Mills. Compatriots, John Callaway and Ross Schwalm were in attendance as was Susan Schneider Prince William Resolves, DAR.



May 13, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal Presentation

Cadet Makhi Phillips, Unity Reed High School, is presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, Secretary Mr. David Button.



May 13, 2025: SAR, JROTC Programs Certificate of Appreciation Presentation

LtCol Darryl Robinson, Unity Reed High School, was presented a certificate of appreciation by Chapter Secretary Mr. David Button for his 10 year association with the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, JROTC programs, service to community and commitment to the development of young leaders. Compatriot Charles Wagner was present representing the National Sojourners, and recited "The Flag".



May 16, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal Presentation

Cadet Carson Flaherty, CD Hylton High School, is presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, President Mr. Andrew Mills. Compatriot Ross Schwalm was also in attendance.



May 16, 2025: SAR JROTC Programs Certificate of Appreciation Presentation

Col Richard (Storm) Petersen, CD Hylton High School, was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by Chapter President Mr. Andrew Mills for his 5 year association with the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, JROTC programs, service to community and commitment to the development of young leaders.



May 17, 2025: CWG Chapter Meeting Highlights, Manassas, Virginia

(L-R) Essay Contest Chair, Compatriot Gary Roseman introduced Samuel Wikle the CWG Chapter winner of the George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest. CWG President Andrew Mills congratulates the winner.



(L-R) Chair of the Eagle Scout Recognition Program, Compatriot Tim Cline looks on as Eagle Scout Anthony Haas is congratulated by CWG President Andrew Mills.



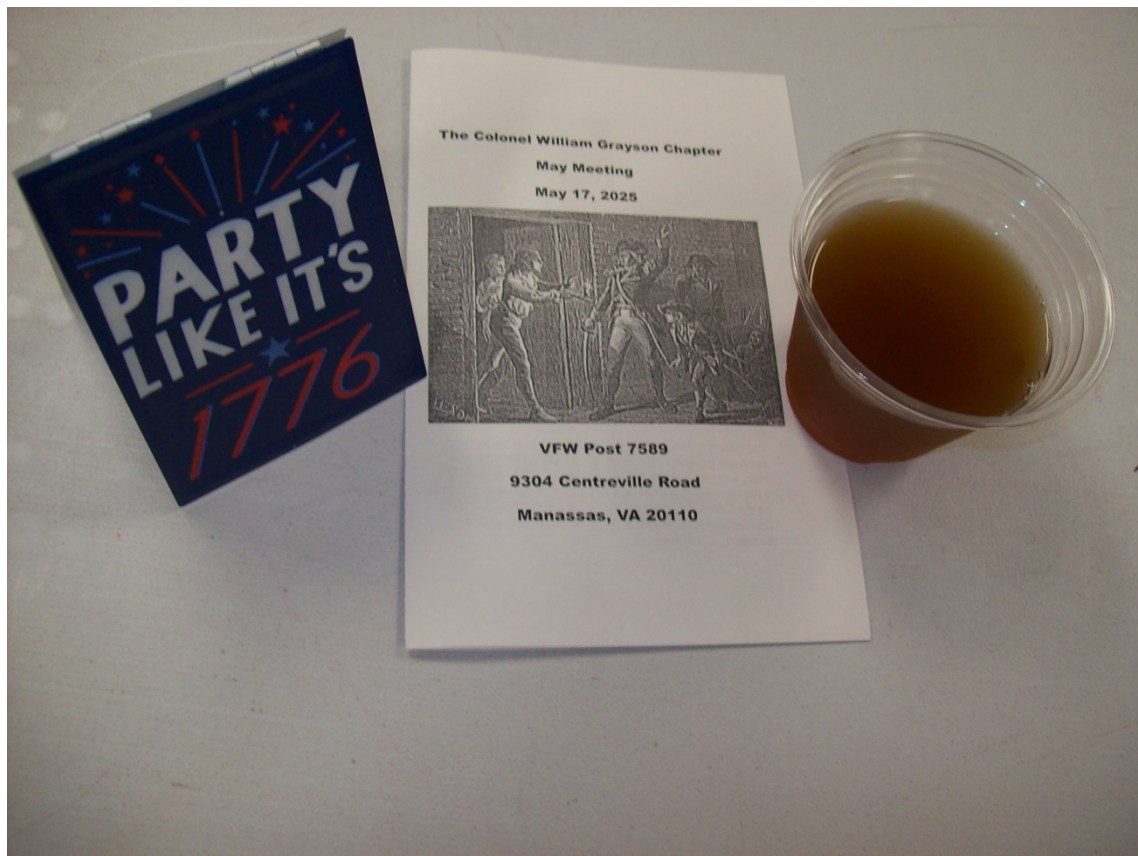
(L-R) Two new Compatriots, Parker Bowling and Gordon Strong were inducted into the Chapter



Compatriot Kevin Moriarty was posthumously inducted into the Chapter. His widow Jeri accepted his certificate and pin and was presented a flag flown over Mount Vernon as a sign of the Chapter's respect.



Guest speaker Mark Maloy received thanks from CWG President Andrew Mills. Mark Maloy is the author of *Victory or Death: The Battles of Trenton and Princeton*.



May 21: SAR Heroism Commendations to Virginia State Police Troopers.

Compatriot Bill Collier presented SAR Heroism Commendations to Virginia State Police Senior Troopers James L. Collins and Monica D. Hart. The commendations were presented to the State Troopers at the Virginia State Police Area 45 office in Arlington, Virginia.

Their Citation reads:

Virginia State Trooper James L. Collins and Monica D Hart's courage in the face of imminent danger was exemplified during a recent pursuit related to an amber alert. They were alerted to a vehicle linked to a missing children case, driven by a male suspect wanted for abducting his three children—aged 16 months, 5 years, and 7 years—after stabbing his stepdaughter and the children's mother multiple times. In response, the Virginia Beach Police Department requested the issuance of an AMBER Alert, which was promptly activated. Responding, both Troopers positioned themselves in monitoring the suspected vehicle. As the pursuit began, Trooper Collins exhibited composure under pressure, maintained communication with dispatch, provided accurate updates on the pursuit's speed, and coordinated effectively with fellow troopers. During the pursuit, he successfully navigated traffic, reaching speeds of up to 125 mph. His decisive actions and leadership were instrumental in bringing the suspect vehicle to a stop and ensuring the safe recovery of two of the abducted children. Acting as backup, Trooper Hart's actions were crucial in the apprehension of the suspect and the safe recovery of two abducted children after the pursued vehicle crashed. Specifically, she carried one child, who had a broken leg, from the vehicle while the suspect was still unsecured inside. Senior Troopers James L. Collins and Monica F. Hart exemplified the core values of the Virginia State Police: professionalism, integrity, and dedication to service.



(L-R) Trooper Hart, Bill Collier, Trooper Collins

May 22, 2025: Honoring Compatriot “Bill” Broadus – Manassas, Virginia

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter bid farewell to CWG past president W.A. "Bill" Broadus at the Baker Post Funeral Home in Manassas, Virginia. Chapter President Andrew Mills led the SAR procession to provide Compatriot Broadus with the SAR funeral service. Assisting in the service were past Chapter presidents Gary Howard, Mike Taimi, and Ross Schwalm. Also in attendance were Chapter past President William Collier, CWG Vice President Jeff Sterling, Secretary Dave Button, Quartermaster Jack Mills, and JROTC Chairman John Callaway. Letters of Condolence were sent in by Virginia Society President Michael Weyler and the first President of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, Thad Hartman. Joining the Chapter Compatriots were President Ken Morris of the George Mason Chapter and Culpeper Minutemen Chapter Chaplain Reverend John Allen Kuvakas.

May 23, 2025: SAR Bronze ROTC Medal and SAR JROTC Programs Certificate of Appreciation Presentation

Cadet Major Aidan Hickey, Quantico Middle/High School, was presented the SAR Bronze ROTC Medal by Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, Past President Mr. Ross Schwalm. (No Picture Available)

Principal Miles Shea (Left), Quantico Middle/High School, was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by Chapter Past President Mr. Ross Schwalm for his 5 year association with the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, JROTC programs, service to community and commitment to the development of young leaders.



1stSgt Tommy Hamilton (Right), Quantico Middle/High School, was presented a SAR Certificate of Appreciation by Chapter Past President Mr. Ross Schwalm for his 5 year association with the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, JROTC programs, service to community and commitment to the development of young leaders.

May 24, 2025: Honoring Patriots on Memorial Day Weekend, Dumfries, Virginia

CWG President Andrew Mills and family placed flags at the graves of Revolutionary War Patriots buried in the Dumfries Cemetery. The family has surveyed the cemetery multiple times and have found almost all of the Patriots buried there.



May 26, 2025: National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, D.C.

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter took part in the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington DC. Pictured below are Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution President Michael Weyler, Chapter Color Guard Commander Jon Huddleston, National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution President General Daryl Addington, and CWG Guardsman Greg Hall. Huzzah!



(L-R) Compatriots Mike Weyler, Jon Huddleston, Daryl Addington, Greg Hall

June 6, 2025: SAR JROTC Programs Certificate of Appreciation Presentation

SGM Todd G. Ellis, Gar-Field High School, is presented a SAR Certificate of Appreciation, 6 June 2025, by Chapter JROTC Program Director, Mr. John Callaway, for his 10 year association with the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR, JROTC programs, service to community and commitment to the development of young leaders. SGM Ellis was honored during a retirement gathering at Gar-Field High School. LTC Kelly, SMI, SGM Ellis, MI, Mr. John Callaway, CWG JROTC Program Director, Tiffany Gresham, Garfield Asst Principal, Matthew Mathiason, Principal. Compatriot Ross Schwalm, CWG Past President acted as Photographer.



June 11, 2025: Presentation of SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Certificates and Medals

Compatriot Bill Collier presented SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Certificates and medals to two Fairfax County Department Police Officers at the Sully District Police Station, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, Virginia 20151.

The Officers honored were Police Officer First Class Lauren Ritter and Jacob R. Juranek.

Officer Ritter's citation reads: Officer Lauren Ritter has continually performed her duties in a professional manner. Her constant performance of duty sets the example for the rest of her peers to emulate. In addition to making arrests, covering guard responsibilities, and receiving and making official reports, her peer's welfare is always above her own. Officer Lauren Ritter performance brings great credit to herself, the Fairfax County Police Department and the entire Law Enforcement Profession.



(L-R) Officer Ritter, Compatriot Bill Collier

Officer Juranek's citation reads:

On October 24, 2023, Officer Juranek displayed extraordinary courage and dedication to duty in a life-threatening situation that unfolded in a Chantilly intersection. Responding to a call involving a man with blood on his shirt,

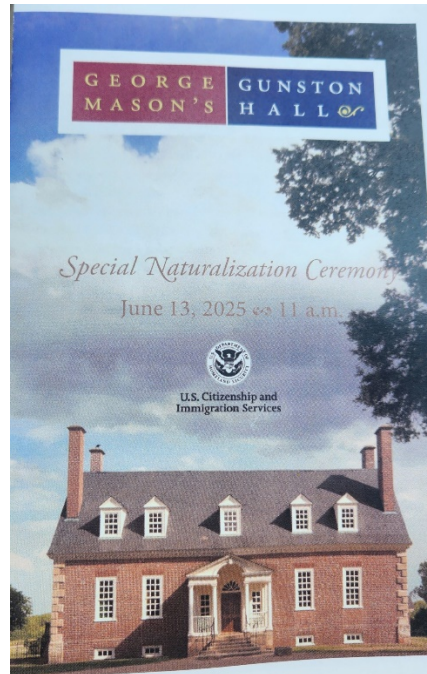
Officer Juranek was met with an unexpected escalation when updated information revealed a subject armed with a knife was chasing the injured individual. The armed man had fled prior to arrival; however, the officers discovered the bloody man seated in the passenger seat of a Good Samaritan's vehicle. Shockingly, he was suffering from several stab wounds to his upper torso, head, and neck. He applied a Tactical Emergency Casualty Care kit (TECC), and applied chest seals to the more significant wounds. Despite the gravity of the situation, Officer Juranek remained calm and reassuring, instilling hope in the victim that he would be okay. Officer Juranek's actions epitomize the highest standards of law enforcement and exemplify the values of courage, compassion, and selflessness.



(L-R) Officer Juranek, Compatriot Bill Collier

June 13, 2025: Special Naturalization Ceremony – Gunston Hall, Virginia

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter attended the Naturalization Ceremony of 49 new citizens from twenty eight countries at Gunston Hall. Representing the SAR were CWG President Andrew Mills, Historian Chuck Mills and Quartermaster Jack Mills.



**(L-R) Compatriots Chuck Mills,
Andrew Mills, Jack Mills**

**Chapter President Andrew Mills with
Gunston Hall First Regent Virginia Nicholson**

June 13, 2025, SAR Life Saving Certificate and Medal to Fairfax County Police Department Officers

Compatriot Bill Collier presented the SAR Life Saving Certificate and Medal to Fairfax County Police Department Officers First Class Henry D. Viar and Kyler S. Racey. Their citation reads:

On the evening of August 20, 2023, PFC Henry Viar and PFC Kyler Racey responded to a shooting call for service, in a parking lot off of Route 29, in Centreville. Both officers arrived in the parking lot at the same time and encountered two community members trying to assist another community member who had just shot herself in the chest, while seated in her vehicle, in an attempt to commit suicide. The community members were trying to hold a sweatshirt against the victim's chest and apply pressure. PFC Racey quickly took over applying pressure to the chest while PFC Viar utilized the TECC (tactical emergency casualty care) kit from his police vehicle. Both officers confirmed the gunshot was to her chest. PFC Viar took out chest seal from the TECC kit and the two worked together to quickly lift the sweatshirt and apply the chest seal. However, the victim was bleeding so much that the chest seal was not able to be applied. PFC Racey continued pressure by replacing the sweatshirt and held it to stop the bleeding. PFC Viar continued to keep the victim calm. Both officers maintained their situational awareness by ensuring the firearm was no longer reachable by the victim. Fairfax County Fire and Rescue units arrived and these officers' actions allowed paramedics to set up their equipment and come up with a plan to quickly move her from the driver's seat to the ambulance gurney. This was done seamlessly by PFC Viar and Racey, who were then relieved by paramedics. These officers' quick response, action, and poise ultimately provided valuable time to control the bleeding till paramedics could arrive and begin advanced life support. The victim was ultimately transported to Fairfax Hospital where she ultimately survived this suicide attempt and was able to get mental health services.

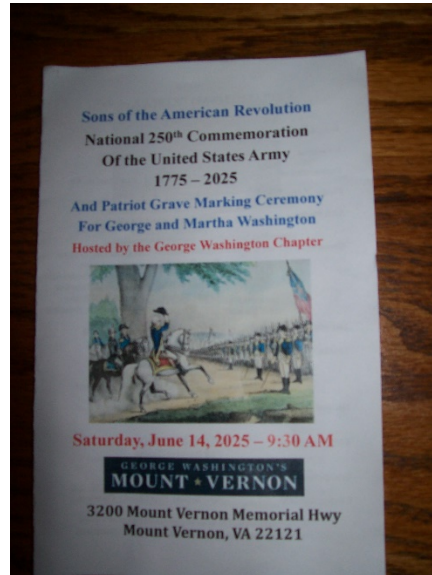


Officer Racey with Compatriot Bill Collier

Officer Viar with Compatriot Bill Collier

June 14, 2025: 250th Anniversary of the Army and George and Martha Washington Grave Marking

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter joined with Compatriots from the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution and National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, at George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, in honoring the 250th Anniversary of the Founding of the Army. General George Washington was given his SAR Grave Marking. In attendance from the Chapter were Virginia Society President Michael Weyler, Historian Charles Mills, Color Guard Commander Jon Huddleston, Ross Schwalm, Michael Wilson, Greg Hall, Ray Hawkins, and Bill Groth.



(L-R) Compatriots Ray Hawkins, Bill Groth, Greg Hall



(L-R) CWG Historian Chuck Mills, CWG Color Guard Commander Jon Huddleston



Compatriot Ross Schwalm



VASSAR President and CWG member Michael Weyler delivers remarks



Compatriots Jon Huddleston and Ray Hawkins present floral tribute at Washington's tomb

Compatriots toured the new American Revolution exhibit at the National Museum of the Army in the afternoon as part of this SAR National event



June 14, 2025: Flag Day - Compatriot Charles Wagner's Toast to the Flag



<https://fb.watch/lgpulgqj9d/>

June 14, 2025: Support for Prince William County Office of Historic Preservation - Dumfries, Va.



Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR took part in the Prince William County Office of Historic Preservation event held at Williams Ordinary in Dumfries. (L-R) Compatriots Jim Ford, Andrew Mills, and Ross Schwalm were on hand discussing the impact of Prince William County and its citizens in the American Revolution. Re-enactor Mark Maloy was our guest speaker at the May CWG Chapter meeting.

Historical Notes:

The Virginia Gunpowder Plot of 1775



In April 1775, Royal Navy sailors, under the direction of the Governor, Lord Dunmore, arrived in Williamsburg with the intention of removing all of the gunpowder from the public magazine and transporting it to the British ship HMS *Magdalen*. Townspeople discovered what was happening and raised an alarm. An incensed crowd gathered and faced the governor and his servants who were now armed with muskets. Town officers demanded the return of the powder, claiming it was the property of the colony to which the royal governor had no right. Lord Dunmore said that he had learned of a planned slave uprising and was removing the powder for reasons of public safety. The Speaker of the House of Burgesses, Peyton Randolph calmed the situation, at least for the moment.

Suspensions of the governor's motives persisted. On April 22, after a second angry crowd, fully capable of storming the Governor's palace, was convinced to disperse by local leaders, Lord Dunmore angrily declared that if attacked he would, "...declare freedom to the slaves, and reduce the city of Williamsburg to ashes."

By April 29, militia men all over Virginia had learned about the battles in Massachusetts at Lexington and Concord on April 19. Hundreds of men mustered at Fredericksburg and decided to send a messenger to Williamsburg before marching on the capital. Once again, Peyton Randolph sought to prevent violence and urged restraint. The militiamen at Fredericksburg voted not to march. But there were others who were more hot-headed. On May 2, the Hanover County militia, led by Patrick Henry, voted to march on Williamsburg. On May 3, Patrick Henry and the militia were fifteen miles from Williamsburg. Lord Dunmore and his family

departed for the governor's hunting lodge, Porto Bello, and from there to HMS *Fowey* at anchor in the York River.

Moderates were still looking for ways to ease tensions. Carter Braxton, a moderate member of the House of Burgesses came up with a solution. Braxton negotiated a settlement with royal officials such that the colony would receive payment for the gunpowder. On May 4, Patrick Henry received a full bill of exchange, signed by an intermediary (a wealthy planter), as payment for the powder. A triumphant Patrick Henry then set off for Philadelphia to take his place as a Virginia delegate to the Second Continental Congress, where he presented the payment to the other Virginia delegates at the Congress.

On May 6, Lord Dunmore issued a proclamation charging that the money had been extorted and that "a certain Patrick Henry...and a number of deluded followers who had organized an independent company and put themselves in a posture of war be arrested as traitors."