



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter

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Volume 16, Issue 1

January 2015

Whitney, Bodge, Coggins and Walden to Lead Chapter in the New Year!

2015 George Washington Chapter Officers Inducted



Dwight Whitney (2015 President); Greg Bodge (2015 Vice President); Ernie Coggins (2015 Secretary); and Paul Walden (2015 Treasurer) are recognized after their induction by outgoing President Wagoner

GW Chapter Participates in SAR *Great Bridge* Event



President Wagoner (second from the left) represents the George Washington Chapter at the 4th Annual NSSAR Commemoration of the Battle of Great Bridge and the 61st NSDAR Annual Wreath Laying at Great Bridge

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

January 10: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

February 14: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

March 14: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Events Information

January 17: Battle of Cowpens Commemoration, Cowpens, South Carolina.

February 14: Crossing of the Dan Celebration, South Boston, Virginia.

February 16: George Washington's Birthday Parade, Alexandria, Virginia.

February 20-22: VASSAR Annual Meeting, Richmond, Virginia.

March 5-7: NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky.

March 14: Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina.

April 11: VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

President's Corner



My fellow compatriots, I have thoroughly enjoyed this past year serving as chapter president and thank you immensely for giving me the opportunity to do so. Continuing to build on the great tradition of the George Washington Chapter, 2014 was

another year of strong growth, made possible by the contributions of many members of our chapter. I am truly grateful for the friendship and dedication of those members who have worked so hard to provide a truly first class program.

As we close our 60th anniversary year, we had over 30 new members join the chapter this past year and remain Virginia's largest chapter with close to 300 members. We have been working hard to increase the level of communication to our members through an active email campaign and through additional enhancements to the chapter website. We have also been working hard to ensure that we retain our new members in an active way through our new member "Buddy" program initiated this year. Our collective efforts were recognized at both the VASSAR and National levels, where we earned VASSAR's Best Large Chapter Award and two of the SAR's top chapter awards, the Liberty Bell Americanism Award and the President General's Activities Award.

Our chapter organized and supported a number of important SAR and community events during the past year. These included the *Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala*, where we recognized the achievements of Gen. Richard B. Myers, USAF (ret), former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and we were entertained by a remarkable USAF Airmen of Note Band. At the Mount Vernon Independence Day event on July 4th, we celebrated our country's independence and birthday and participated in the Naturalization Ceremony for new U.S. citizens. We recognized

our country's veterans at the annual wreath laying ceremony at Mount Vernon on Veterans Day. We paid our respects to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with President General Brock at Arlington National Cemetery, and we honored our country's patriot ancestors through several patriot grave marking dedications and at the Wreaths Across America event.

On December 6th, we participated in the annual celebration of the Battle of Great Bridge in Chesapeake, Virginia. It was the 4th Annual NSSAR Commemoration of the Battle of Great Bridge and the 61st NSDAR Annual Wreath Laying at Great Bridge. I was honored to present a wreath on behalf of our chapter and we earned a streamer for our chapter flag.

On December 13th, in a joint meeting with the George Mason Chapter, we celebrated the end of a very fruitful and eventful year and the beginning of the holiday season. Many recognitions and awards were given by both chapters. Please see the December Meeting Highlights section of this newsletter for pictures of these award recognitions.

In addition to inducting several new members (Brett Decker, Thomas Ficarra, Michael Kane, Andrew Mills) into our chapter at the joint meeting, VASSAR President Bill Broadus inducted our new 2015 officers: Dwight Whitney as President, Greg Bodge as Vice President, Ernie Coggins as Secretary, and Paul Walden as Treasurer. I look forward to supporting them in the coming years in my role as a member of the board of managers and I ask that you support them too by your participation and assistance in our chapter internal and outreach activities. There are a number of program committees that can always use your help and we really appreciate your attendance and participation in chapter events. As we have said many times, just showing up at chapter events means a lot to us and the community we serve.

Please plan to attend the next chapter meeting on Saturday January 10th at Belle Haven and let us give a strong show of support for our new officer leadership team (reservation form is at the end of this newsletter).

In closing, 2014 has been a truly remarkable year, and I'm grateful for your support! I'm also confident that the George Washington Chapter will continue to serve its members and community well. I wish you the best for the New Year and may God continue to bless you and your families.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as president of the George Washington Chapter.

Scott Wagoner

Immediate Past President



C.A.R. Leaders to Speak at January Meeting

The Children of the American Revolution was founded in 1895, and today the C.A.R. is the nation's oldest, largest, patriotic youth organization. The SAR, in general, and the GW Chapter in particular, has enthusiastically supported the C.A.R. and its mission to train the future leaders on the nation "in true patriotism and love of country." In January, our guest speakers will be two young leaders in the Virginia C.A.R.

McGowan Virginia "Mackie" Storage (left) is the president of the Virginia Society of the C.A.R. A life member of the Surgeon Lawrence Brook

Society in Fredericksburg, she has served on the society level in numerous positions, including society president. Prior to her election as state president in 2014, Mackie served the state society as librarian, treasurer, corresponding secretary, and chaplain. Each year, the candidates for state president propose a project for the following year, and members throughout the state work toward the goals set by the elected candidate.

Mackie's project is centered on George Washington's boyhood home, Ferry Farm, in Fredericksburg. Ferry Farm is situated on the north bank of the Rappahannock River. Augustine Washington, George's father, bought the property in 1738. Augustine, his wife Mary Ball Washington, and their five children moved to the property later that year. Augustine Washington died in 1742 when George was 11, leaving Mary to take care of the farm, George, his sister Betty, and his other siblings. Mary continued to live on the farm until 1772 when she moved to town to be closer to Betty.

In 2008, archeologists found and started excavating the foundation of the original Washington House at Ferry Farm. Through the last seven seasons of excavation, archeologists have uncovered thousands of artifacts near the foundation of the Washington House. Mackie's state project is to raise money to preserve a fork and a knife found during the excavation -- silverware that may well have been used by the Father of Our Country as a boy. Additional funds will go toward outfitting traveling trunks for Ferry Farm staff to take to local schools and teach children about the formative years that General Washington spent at Ferry Farm. Mackie will give us an update on the discoveries being made at Ferry Farm and describe her state project.

Mackie is a rising sophomore at Fredericksburg Academy, where her peers elected her to be their representative on the Honor Council. She also plays varsity tennis, plays the violin, serves as a student ambassador, and is a Yearbook staff member. Outside of school, Mackie has played piano since she was three and is a Senior Girl Scout. Mackie's father, Mark, is a proud HODAR

and the Senior State Chairman for the C.A.R. Flag of the United States of America Committee, and her mother, Ginnie, is the State Regent of the Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution.

Our second C.A.R. speaker will be Emily Elston (right), the State Recording Secretary for the Virginia Society of the C.A.R. Emily's topic will be the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot, a little-known but nonetheless significant event during the Revolutionary War. The story involves George Washington, Ben Franklin and two Bermuda-born patriots who have been honored with SAR grave markings in the past two years. You'll also learn about how the gunpowder "borrowed" from Bermuda played a significant role in the defense of Charleston in 1776, and delayed any Southern Campaign until 1780, thereby indirectly setting up the Siege of Yorktown in 1781.

Emily will also talk about the plans for three Bermuda Gunpowder Plot events in 2015, including a trip to Bermuda for the 240th anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot. If you cannot wait for the meeting, more information on this exciting trip can be found at <https://prod.groupandevent.net/register/bermudapatriots>. Use the password "gunpowder15" to access the site.

This is Emily's second year as a Virginia C.A.R. officer. Last year, she served as state librarian. She is a past president of the "Light Horse Harry" Lee Society of the C.A.R. Emily is in eighth grade, plays volleyball, plays the clarinet, and is active in school and church groups. A recipient of the SAR Lydia Darragh Medal and the SAR-C.A.R. Bronze Medal of Appreciation, she is well known to the GW Chapter as the daughter of Past Chapter President and current VASSAR Third Vice President Mike Elston and his wife, Julie. Mike also serves the Virginia C.A.R. as Senior State 2nd Vice President.

If you sometimes wonder whether future generations will be equipped to lead our country, or you need to have your faith in our future reinforced, the January chapter meeting will be just the thing for you. Please prepare to be generous, as our tradition is to pass the hat for the C.A.R. state president's project. Additionally,

Emily will be selling limited-edition SAR-DAR-C.A.R. Bermuda Gunpowder Plot pins. Half of the proceeds from pin sales will go to the national C.A.R. 250th Anniversary of the Revolution fund and the other half will be donated to Bermuda charities to "pay Bermuda back" for the stolen gunpowder.



From the Editor

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this newsletter useful and interesting. Please submit stories, photos and suggestions to rg62@live.com. I will do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

<i>President:</i>	<i>Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375</i>
<i>Vice President:</i>	<i>Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Paul Walden: 703-347-9770</i>
<i>Registrar:</i>	<i>Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791</i>

Immediate Past President:

Scott Wagoner: 571-239-3221

This monthly newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to rg62@live.com or call 202-870-3762.

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report, one new member application was approved by NSSAR. There are eleven applications in review by NSSAR. Four new members were inducted at the December 13, 2014 meeting: Brett Decker, Thomas Ficarra, Michael Kane, and Andrew Mills. Their biographies and photos appear below.

New Member Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Joshua William Walker	John Armistead

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Andrew Heath Mills	Moses Hadley

New Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Mark William Burns	Jacob Kramer
Richard Ernest Rankin	George Fisher
Sean Michael Robbins	James Chitwood

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
David Robert Thomas	Robert Elliott
Paul Ashley Walden	John Tubbs

Paul Walden

Registrar

Bringing the Accomplishments of Patriots to Life

One of the responsibilities we have as members of SAR is the registration and marking of grave sites of military veteran and civilian patriots of the Revolutionary War. Last year we honored three local patriots and we have more to do in 2015.

The planned focus for 2015 will be Alexandria. My research has shown there are unmarked Patriot graves in the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex. I am also researching a couple of potential Patriot graves in Arlington National Cemetery and I am excited about the possibility of being able to conduct a grave marking there.

A key part of preparing for a grave marking ceremony is creation of a "life and times" summary highlighting the Patriot's key accomplishments and historically relevant facts. For me, this is the way I bring the Patriot to life and I would like to offer this opportunity to other interested Chapter members.

Another area of research for 2015 will focus on Patriots who either were born, lived or died in Fairfax County, VA or served in a Fairfax County unit during the American Revolutionary War. The George Washington Chapter has come into possession of 20+ years research on this topic. I would like to continue this research effort with the end goal being creation of a Revolutionary War Memorial honoring the Fairfax County Patriots who died during the war. The data is currently posted at <http://www.gwsar.org/patriotgravemarkings.html>.

If you are interested in joining me in this highly rewarding and worthwhile effort, please contact me at (703) 455-8317 or jamiecallender@callenderclan.com.

Jamie Callender

Chairman, Graves Registration Committee

New Member Biographies



Brett M. Decker

Compatriot Decker was born in Sandusky, Ohio, and raised in the suburbs of London, England, and Detroit, Michigan. He has a B.A. in Political Science from Albion College, an M.A. in Government from Johns Hopkins University, an M.A. in

National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College, and is a doctoral candidate in Management at the University of Southern California. Brett is currently a Director at the White House Writers Group, an Adjunct Professor at Johns Hopkins, and a regular columnist for USA Today. He has been an editor and writer for The Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Washington Times and many other publications. His two published books are "Bowling to Beijing" (2011) and "Global Filipino" (2008), and two more books are forthcoming in 2015.

He served in Congress as Speechwriter and Communications Advisor to the House Majority Whip and was appointed by President George W. Bush as Senior Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

Brett's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot Luke Decker, who during the Revolution served as an Ensign in the Virginia Militia and whose officer's commission was signed by then-Governor Patrick Henry.



Thomas Ficarra

Compatriot Ficarra was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania but spent most of his adult life in the San Francisco Bay Area. He

received a B.S. in Instructional Technology and Design from California State University in Chico, CA in 1995. He later received a M.S. in Information Systems from the University of Phoenix.

Tom is currently a Major in the US Army Reserves, currently working in the Pentagon supporting Army simulations training. He has served in both the California National Guard and Army Reserves, both enlisted and commissioned for over 26 years and will be promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in January. In the private sector, he worked as a graphic designer and

multimedia developer before transitioning into the military full time in 2009.

He and his wife Sue-Ann have a 5 year old daughter named Audrey and a 3 year old son named Jack. Tom's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot William Huff (Hough), who during the Revolution served as a soldier in the North Carolina Militia.



Michael Kane

Compatriot Kane was born and raised in Alexandria, Virginia. He received a B.S. in History, while minoring in Political Science, from

Clemson University. Michael is currently a Projects Assistant for a non-profit.

Michael's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot Elnathan Wilson, who during the Revolution served as a Private in the Connecticut Militia.



Andrew H. Mills

Compatriot Mills was born on Andrew's Air Force Base. His family lineage is from the Palmetto State of South Carolina.

He was raised as a military child living in: Omaha, Nebraska, Montgomery, Alabama, Brussels, Belgium, Beaufort, SC, and Fairfax, VA where he finished High School. Andrew is currently a Speech Writer for the Commandant of the Marine Corps in the Pentagon.

He received a B.A. in Journalism from the University of South Carolina with a specialty in Advertising and Public Relations. He later received a M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College, Newport, RI.

He and his wife Moira have an 11 year old son named Braeden and an 8 year old daughter named Emerson.

Andrew's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot John Knight, who served as a Corporal in the South Carolina Militia where he completed 9 enlistments. Corporal Knight served in the Southern Campaign under the leadership of Generals Greene, Sumter and Marion and fought in the battles of Waxhaw, Hanging Hook, Camden, Kings Mountain, Rugley's Mills and Eutaw Springs, where he was wounded in action.

Highlights of the December Chapter Meeting



Left: GW Chapter President Wagoner presents VASSAR President Bill Broadus with a George Washington bust gift and certificate for his outstanding support of our chapter.

Top Right: Several new GW Chapter members (Brett Decker, Thomas Ficarra, Michael Kane, Andrew Mills) are inducted by VASSAR President Bill Broadus.

Middle Right: Tom Burch, Don Baldwin, and Don Reynolds, all former VASSAR presidents and members of the GW Chapter, are presented the Silver Roger Sherman Medal.

Bottom Right: President Scott Wagoner and Awards Chairman Paul Wagoner present Mike Elston, VASSAR 3rd Vice President and Past President of the GW Chapter, with the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal. Mike also received the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal for his longstanding, faithful service as an officer of the GW Chapter.

Highlights of the December Chapter Meeting *(Continued)*



Top Left: Treasurer-Elect and Registrar Paul Walden is presented a certificate of appreciation for his outstanding service as Registrar during 2014.

Top Right: President Wagoner presents the Daughters of Liberty Medal to Julia Carr for her years of dedicated support to the SAR.

Bottom Left: President Wagoner presents GW Chapter First Lady Debbie Wagoner with the Lydia Darragh Medal for her dedicated support to the GW Chapter over the past three years.

Bottom Right: President-Elect Whitney presents President Wagoner with a Past President's Pin and certificate.

Other December Highlights



Left: William Elston, junior member of the GW Chapter and son of Mike Elston, receives recognition from William E. Ward, former Mayor of Chesapeake, Virginia.

Right: VASSAR President Bill Broadus and President Wagoner in front of the monument at Great Bridge, Chesapeake, Virginia.

Call for Papers on George Washington

In February the Chapter will participate in the George Washington Birthday Celebration which culminates with the parade on February 16, 2015. The George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee is encouraging a much larger participation of our Chapter in this year's celebration to include getting members and their family and friends to walk in the parade. As we did last year, we also will contribute articles relating to George Washington written by members that will be published in the *Alexandria Gazette*. The articles serve to publicize and heighten the spirit of the event. Anyone wanting to prepare articles for the *Gazette* or otherwise support the Chapter's participation in any way, contact Greg Bodge at gbodge@hotmail.com or by phone at **540-318-6717**



Wreaths Across America



Jamie Callender represented the George Washington Chapter at the Wreaths Across America event, held at the Alexandria National Cemetery on 13 December 2014.

The weather was great and volunteers were numerous – probably around 250 people participated in the event, including numerous girl and boy scouts.

A total of 1,754 wreaths were placed on veteran’s graves. That number equates to one wreath on every third grave, the largest number ever placed at a single event.

Historical background:

Alexandria National Cemetery: First known simply as “Soldiers’ Cemetery,” the Alexandria National Cemetery in Alexandria, Virginia is one of the original 14 national cemeteries established in 1862 by Congressional legislation¹. During the Civil War, there was a great need for a military cemetery in Alexandria. Many soldiers died in battles nearby and thousands died in Alexandria’s Union hospitals. There were 26 such hospitals in Alexandria. Many soldiers buried in this cemetery died of disease or wounds rather than on the battlefield. There are 3,533 Civil War veterans buried here, including 123 unknown soldiers. The original wooden headboards were replaced by marble headstones in 1876. A small stone monument across the road from the lodge commemorates four soldiers who died in 1865 chasing John Wilkes Booth.

Wreaths Across America: Their mission, *Remember, Honor, Teach*, is carried out in part by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at veterans’ cemeteries in all 50 states and beyond. They also organize a week of events including international veteran’s tributes, ceremonies at State Houses and a week-long “Veteran’s Parade” between Maine and Virginia where they spread the message about the importance of remembering our fallen heroes, honoring those who serve, and teaching our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms.

What a great way to remind the public to remember the Veterans, honor their service, and teach children the value of freedom.



¹ http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/national_cemeteries/virginia/Alexandria_National_Cemetery.html

Future Events 2015

January 10 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Our guest speakers will be the State President of the Virginia Children of the American Revolution, whose presentation will describe her state project at George Washington's Ferry Farm in Fredericksburg, and the State Recording Secretary of the Virginia Children of the American Revolution, whose topic will be the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot program. *

January 17 - Battle of Cowpens Commemoration, Cowpens, South Carolina. †

February 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Our guest speaker will be Compatriot Kurt Muse, author of *Six Minutes to Freedom*, the remarkable tale of his rescue from Panama by the elite Delta Force.*

February 14 - Crossing of the Dan Celebration, South Boston, Virginia. †

February 16 - George Washington's Birthday Parade, Alexandria, Virginia. *

February 20-22 - VASSAR Annual Meeting, Richmond, Virginia. †

March 5-7 - NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky. †

March 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. *

March 14 - Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina. †

April 11 - VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. **

May 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

September 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

October 10 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

November 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

December 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending.

January Dates in History *American Revolutionary War*

January 1776: Thomas Paine's *Common Sense* published providing strong arguments for American independence.

January 3, 1777: American victory at Princeton.

January 1781: Series of mutinies by American troops quashed.

January 17, 1781: American victory at Cowpens.

January 14, 1784: The Treaty of Paris is ratified by Congress and the American Revolutionary War officially ends.

Saturday, January 10, 2015

Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

Lunch Meeting Reservation Form

Please make your **reservation by telephone or e-mail**. This is the preferred way to ensure your reservation is received in time to get a seat. Please send reservations by Wednesday, January 7.

Please send reservations and payment to Paul Walden. For e-mail reservations, send to paulwalden@live.com with **RESERVATION** in the subject line.
For call-in reservations, call **Paul at 703-347-9770**.

The lunch cost is \$35.00 per person (\$12.00 per child) and you may pay at the door or send a check in the mail in advance of the meeting. Make checks payable to "**G.W. Chapter SAR**." Walk-ins will be accommodated if possible, but to cover the Club's charge for serving those without a timely reservation a walk-in price of \$40.00 is required.

When calling or writing, please include the following:

Compatriot Name: _____
Guest Name (s): _____

When mailing checks, be sure I'm notified in time to hold seating for you and your guests! Please include the following information:

Compatriot Name: _____
Guest Name (s): _____

A check for ____ persons in the amount of \$_____ payable to **G.W. Chapter SAR** is enclosed.

Mail this reservation form and your check to:

Paul Walden
Treasurer, G.W. Chapter SAR
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609
Alexandria, VA 22303

Check-in and social begin at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon. Valet parking is available.



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Volume 16, Issue 2

February 2015

V.S.C.A.R Officers Address the Chapter!



Left: The State President of the Virginia Society, Children of the American Revolution gave an informative presentation on the recent archeological finds at Ferry Farm, George Washington's boyhood home, and promoted her state project. The State President's project is two-fold, incorporating the aspects of conservation and education. The conservation side of the project is helping to conserve a fork and knife that were found in the excavation of the Washington House. The education aspect of the project is underwriting children's and school program materials that will give children a more authentic experience.

Right: The State Recording Secretary gave an interesting history lesson on the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot. The SAR, DAR and C.A.R. have joined forces to bring attention to Bermuda's role in the American Revolution with a series of events over a three-year period for which the V.S.C.A.R is raising funds.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

February 14: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

March 14: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

May 9: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Events Information

February 14: Crossing of the Dan Celebration, South Boston, Virginia.

February 16: George Washington's Birthday Parade, Alexandria, Virginia.

February 16: Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution, at The Old Presbyterian Meeting House.

February 20-22: VASSAR Annual Meeting, Richmond, Virginia.

March 5-7: NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky.

March 14: Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina.

April 11: VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.



President's Corner

My fellow compatriots:

Last Month. In last month's article, outgoing President Scott Wagoner gave a concise recap of the year's activities.

In mid-January, we submitted the Chapter's 2014 Annual Report to VASSAR. The data in the report confirm that the state of the George Washington Chapter remains vibrant and thriving. We ended the year with a net growth in membership of 34, leaving us at 297 at year's end. Our activities and member participation appear on par with previous years. We will see how this all stacks up to our peers at the VASSAR Annual Meeting in February.

The 2015 season began with a record turnout for our January meeting. We had over 60 in attendance, which I am reasonably certain is the largest turnout at a regular Chapter meeting since I joined back in 2010. It was a great time of fellowship with many of our newest members, and quite a few guests turned out to honor our special guest.

We inducted two new members at the meeting, John Darwin Martin and Joshua William Walker. Their buddies are Tom Roth and Greg Bodge, respectively.

Thomas Y. "Jay" Johnson Jr., President of the Alexandria Volunteer Fire Department, was presented the Fire Safety Medal Commendation Medal in recognition of his accomplishments and over twenty-five years of steadfast service to the Alexandria community. He was once asked what his proudest moment was, to which he replied "Every call is my proudest moment."

Congratulations to the Awards Committee for bringing attention to a deserving *volunteer* protector of the community.

The audience also enjoyed two interesting presentations from the Virginia Society of the Children of the American Revolution. State President "Mackie" Storage informed us of recent archeological finds at Ferry Farm, George Washington's boyhood home. She also explained her project to preserve and document articles of cutlery from among those finds. Then State

Recording Secretary Emily Elston gave a great show on the story behind the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot. She also came prepared with a poster display and "Bermuda Plot" pins for sale before and after the meeting. Both of these young ladies were well prepared and gave an impressive performance fielding many questions from the audience. Following the presentations, a hat was passed around the room for donations and yielded a sizable sum of \$924 to support the V.S.C.A.R. Ferry Farm project. Well done!

Upcoming Events. February is always a busy time for the Chapter, and this year is no exception. Please consider attending one or all of these great opportunities in February. Lord willing, I'll be at every one of the following events (except two). I hope to see you there!

February 7th: Members are requested to attend the rededication of the Grayson tomb, the last initiative of VASSAR President Bill Broadus' term. President Broadus has been a great friend to the Chapter and I'm hoping for a good show of support.

February 14th: Regular Chapter meeting at the Belle Haven Country Club. Make your reservations early to hear Kurt Muse talk about his "Six Minutes to Freedom!"

February 14th: The annual commemoration of the Crossing of the Dan occurs on the same day as our Chapter meeting this year. For the first time I will not be able to attend, but Compatriots Bob Carr and Mike Elston are planning to be there. This is a NSSAR national event and we could use more representation; so if you can go, please get in touch with one of us.

February 16th: We will celebrate the 283rd Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington on Monday, February 16th with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution and then Alexandria's Washington's Birthday Parade. Every member who marches in the parade will be awarded the Jack Evans Medal. While the full size medal is free, the mini is \$10.

February 20th – 22nd: The 125th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society will take place in Richmond. Hotel information, registration forms,

and conference schedules are available on the VASSAR website. We've already been notified of some state winners in the JROTC and Eagle Scout competitions that I'm looking forward to. Come and see how your state society operates, get to know other members across the state, and be there to support our Orations contest entrant. Your attendance counts! If you can't stay the whole conference, come out for the day on Saturday and hear the committee reports and see the presentation of awards.

March 6th – 8th: The Spring Leadership Conference will be held at the NSSAR Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky.

March 7th: Once again, the Chapter is supporting the National History Day Competition this year. The event will commence Saturday morning at the Mount Vernon High School. Judges are needed. If you want to get a lift, volunteer to be a judge and see young Americans show off their understanding of history. Notify the Chapter coordinator Rich Sherman for information and to get on the list.

Administrivia: Chapter Meeting Reservations.

I am very happy to see a growing trend in attendance at our monthly chapter meetings. With growth comes a challenge; that is, our attendance is beginning to reach the capacity of our regular room at Belle Haven. Now, we are working to manage this, but we cannot ensure success without your cooperation.

The reservation form asks for reservations by the preceding Wednesday. This last month, we had more than the usual number of responses rolling in as late as Saturday morning, and we even had a few surprise walk-ins. The situation was exacerbated when the head count climbed above the seating arrangement and a few people had to be squeezed in as there was no room for more tables. By the time we knew it, it was too late to request a larger room. With enough advance notice, however, we can manage.

So please, heed the reservation request and make your plans as early as possible. Submit your reservations by the preceding Wednesday as a rule. If your plans change, let us know. We will continue to honor late notices through Friday noon as an exception. Walk-ins on

Saturday will be accommodated if possible, but an extra fee will be charged to offset the club's added expense.

Dwight Whitney

Chapter President

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

President: Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375
Vice President: Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252
Secretary: Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807
Treasurer: Paul Walden: 703-347-9770
Registrar: Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791

Immediate Past President:

Scott Wagoner: 571-239-3221

This monthly newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to newsletter@gwsar.org or call 202-870-3762.

Rumbaugh Oration Contest

Congratulations to Alexandra Rodriguez! She was the winner of the Chapter's first place award in the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Orations Contest. Her speech explained what it means to be an American, linking important Revolutionary principles with today's world.

Youth Activities Chairman Richard Sherman is shown here presenting Alexandra with her monetary prize of \$100 from the Chapter.



From the Secretary

Updates and time sensitive information are being sent to the membership via email as necessary. However, if I do not have your email address, you are not receiving these emails. If you fall in to this category, please send me your email address at sargw.secretary@gmail.com

Ernie Coggins

Secretary



From the Editor

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this newsletter useful and interesting. Please submit stories, photos and suggestions to newsletter@gwsar.org. I will

do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

Researcher Needed...

VASSAR is looking for volunteers to assist new applicants with their genealogy research. Although VASSAR has a registrar and assistant registrar, it is beyond their ability to conduct research for applicants. A volunteer can determine how much time he is willing to spend. It would be ideal however if he is familiar with the DAR Library and has access to various online tools (Ancestry.com, Fold3, genealogybank.com, etc.). The volunteer should also understand the SAR genealogy standards outlined in the *NSSAR Application Preparation Manual* (available at <https://www.sar.org/node/1846>).

If interested, please contact Paul Walden at PaulWalden@live.com and he will pass this along to the appropriate persons in VASSAR.

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report, six new member applications were approved by NSSAR. There are five new member applications in review and two supplemental applications in review by NSSAR.

New Member Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Garner Bennett	Archibald Barron
Joseph Gilliland	Charles Powell, Sr.
Robert Gilliland	Charles Powell, Sr.
John Martin	John Van Doren
John Markle	Gad Corse
Timothy Markle	Gad Corse

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Josh Martin	John Van Doren
Kevin Rogers	Poucey Bunch

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Dave Thomas

Registrar

Memorial Membership



Clarke Walden

31 Oct 1926 – 13 May 1999

Clarke Walden came from six generations of Georgians and was born in Macon, Georgia, 31 October 1926. His patriot ancestor was Edward Davies, who was a

member of the “rebel” Georgia Congress in 1780. He attended Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy and the University of Florida Law School. He served in the U.S. Merchant Marine Corps 1944-1948 and as LTJG in the U.S. Navy stationed in Japan during the Korean War. He settled in Dania, Florida after military service where he practiced law with his brother. He was also City Attorney for the City of Dania from 1955 to 1975, General Counsel for the Dania Bank from 1955 to 1988, and General Counsel for the South Broward Hospital District from 1988 until his retirement in 1997.

In Memory of Charles Joseph Herbert

Compatriot Charles (Chuck) Joseph Herbert on December 31, 2014 died after a long battle with lung cancer. He passed away peacefully surrounded by his family.

Chuck was born on October 4, 1931 in Capitol Heights, Prince George's County, Maryland to Charles Walter Herbert, Jr. and Hilda Bradley Meynell. He graduated from Bladensburg High School in Maryland in June 1950 and in November 1951 enlisted in the U.S. Army after

having worked as a meat cutter in a Safeway store in northeast Washington, D.C.

He graduated from the Signal Corps Fixed Station Radio Repair Course and later was assigned to the Army Security Agency Headquarters European Command in Frankfurt, Germany. He was promoted to Sergeant prior to his release from active duty on November 11, 1954, but kept in standby reserve for five more years. On November 25, 1959 he received his Honorable Discharge from the Army.

He returned to work at the Safeway store where he worked previously then went to work as a helper at J. E. Hurley Machine and Boiler Works, located in S.E. Washington. In 1958 he began a four year apprenticeship to become a boilermaker.

In 1964, he accepted a position with the federal government as an operating engineer working at the Pentagon Airport Field Office, Temporary Building 7 at National Airport. He retired December 31, 1993.

Chuck is survived by his wife Barbara, their two children Chuck, Jr. and Sharon (Shari) Rexrod, and their three grandchildren — Matthew, Michael and Christine. He and Barbara have been members of St. John's since 1958. Chuck served St. John's many years as a dedicated usher captain, an Institutional Representative for Boy Scout Troop 1107, and a Eucharistic Minister with Barbara for nearly 14 years. He also had helped with maintenance around the church whenever needed. He was a member of the George Washington Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution since 1994.

A funeral was held at St. John's Lutheran Church, January 8 and interment was at Fairfax Memorial Park.

Author Kurt Muse to Speak at February Meeting



Our own compatriot Kurt Muse, author of “*Six Minutes to Freedom*”, will be our February guest speaker. For those of you who are not familiar with Kurt, I think that you will find his story an exciting and captivating adventure.

Kurt spent most of his life in Panama City and considered himself “a true expatriate.” As Manuel Noriega extended his use of the Panamanian Defense Force as surrogates for his drug trafficking, money laundering, arms smuggling, and physical violence to consolidate his power and strangle Panamanian democracy, Kurt felt that something must be done.

Muse and his Panamanian friends decided that a peaceful revolution was required. He took on the leadership role of an underground movement, and used his lifelong American and Panamanian business connections for financial and technical assistance. The group decided the best method of reaching the common Panamanian citizen was through broadcasting anti-Noriega messages by radio and came to be known as The Voice of Liberty.

The Voice of Liberty decided a large mass event was needed to act as a revolutionary catalyst to support a peaceful demonstration to successfully overthrow Noriega. Muse and his group decided that the event would be Noriega’s official state address to the Panamanian people. On that day, just as Noriega began to talk, Muse’s group interrupted Noriega’s State of the Union address with a two-minute recording demanding free and democratic elections. Kurt’s actions resulted in his arrest in March, 1989 as he was returning to Panama from the United States, and his eventual imprisonment in the notorious Carcel Modelo.

While Kurt’s capture and imprisonment were harrowing, his eventual release would be the true adventure. In the early morning of December 20, 1989, in conjunction with the start of Operation Just Cause, which was the mission to expel Noriega from Panama, operators from the U.S. Army’s Delta Force executed Operation Acid Gambit, the mission to free Kurt from Carcel Modelo. That morning, 23 Special Forces soldiers, with elements of the 160th Special Operations Aviations Regiment, occupied the prison’s roof and moved to Kurt’s cell, where they were able to free him and move him to an MH-6 helicopter on the roof. But, despite his safe removal from his cell, Kurt’s adventure was not quite over.

Soon after the helicopter lifted off from the roof with Kurt and the soldiers onboard it crashed in the street near the prison. Kurt and the soldiers, some now wounded and injured, moved to a nearby building where they established a perimeter and began fighting off the now omnipresent Panamanian forces. During the fighting, the soldiers were able to contact a patrol from an armored cavalry regiment, who moved to Muse’s group and were able to get them into armored personnel carriers and to safety.

Kurt’s willingness to risk his life in order to spread the ideals of democracy in a dictatorship should be an inspiration to all of us, and uphold the true ideas of our Patriot forefathers.

New Member Biographies



JOHN D. MARTIN

Compatriot John Darwin Martin was born in Orlando, FL and raised in Canton, Georgia. He received a B.B.A. in Management Information Systems (MIS) from the University of Georgia. He later received a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from both the Naval War College and the Air War College.

John is a Colonel in the United States Air Force, where he has worked for over 22 years and is considering making it a career. A B-1 Weapon Systems Officer, he has over 2500 flying hours (approximately 1000 combat hours in the B-1).

He and his wife Susan have three sons: 17 year-old Josh, 15 year-old Dillon, and 9 year-old Jacob. Son Josh is currently a Junior Member applicant.

John's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot John Van Doren Sr. who served during the Revolution as a Private in Captain Conrad Ten Eyck's Company, 2nd Battalion, in the New Jersey Militia from Somerset County.



JOSHUA W. WALKER

Compatriot Joshua William Walker was born in Henderson, North Carolina and is from Richmond, Virginia, but was raised in Sapporo, Japan where his missionary parents have served since 1983. He received a double B.A. in Leadership Studies and International Economics from the University of Richmond. He later received a M.A. in International Relations from Yale University and a Ph.D. in Politics and Public Policy from Princeton University.

Joshua is currently the Vice-President of Global Programs at APCO Worldwide in the Office of the CEO, a Transatlantic Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, and an Adjunct Professor at the George Washington University teaching US National Security Strategy. Before joining the private sector, he worked at the U.S. Department of State in Secretary Kerry's Office of the Chief Economist in 2013, and served in Secretary Clinton's Global Partnership Initiative as a senior advisor; prior to this was an academic and researcher.

He and his wife Megan, who works at the United Way, have lived in Del Ray, Alexandria since 2012.

Joshua's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot John Armistead, who served during the Revolution as a Private in the Virginia Continental Line.

DID YOU KNOW?

The *Sons of Liberty* was an organization primarily composed of up-and-coming merchants who united to oppose the Stamp Act of 1765. They organized nightly marches in New York City that were attended by hundreds of people who cried out for "liberty," and they effectively reached out to mobilize the diverse ethnic communities of colonial urban centers and the sailors, laborers, and craftsmen of New York.

Prominent leaders of the Sons included Isaac Sears, John Lamb, and Alexander McDougall. The Sons were a driving force behind some of the first colonial boycotts of British goods. (Note that there is a bit of confusion here.) Tenants along the Hudson River (north of New York City) also called themselves the "Sons of Liberty" when they began seizing their own rented land and refusing to pay rent. But the original Sons of Liberty opposed these rebellious tenants, who were soon suppressed by a combination of British troops and colonial militia¹.

February Dates in History *American Revolutionary War*

February 10, 1763: Treaty of Paris ends French and Indian War (1754-1763). Canada (east of the Mississippi River) added to the British Empire

February 1764: James Otis urges a united response to the recent acts imposed by England. The phrase "Taxation without Representation is Tyranny" is usually attributed to James Otis.

February 9, 1775: English Parliament declares Massachusetts to be in a state of rebellion.

February 6, 1778: France signs a treaty of alliance with the United States and the American Revolution soon becomes a world war.

February 27, 1782: English Parliament votes against further war in America.

February 4, 1783: England officially declares an end to hostilities in America.

February 1783: Spain, Sweden, Denmark and Russia recognize the United States of America.

George Washington Quotes

"The house shakes...with the roar of the cannon. No sleep for me tonight."

August 1775²

¹ <http://www.shmoop.com/american-revolution/terms.html>

² Richard Norton Smith, *Patriarch: George Washington and the New American Nation* (New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1993), 14-15.

Highlights of the January Chapter Meeting



Jay Johnson (C), President of the Alexandria Volunteer Fire Department, was awarded the Fire Safety Commendation Medal, shown here with President Whitney (L) and Awards Committee Vice Chairman Paul Wagoner (R).



Two new members were inducted: Joshua W. Walker (L) and John D. Martin (R).

Highlights of the January Chapter Meeting (Continued)



Top: We had a large turnout for our first meeting of the year, including President General Joe Dooley, shown here with (L-R) Ann Whitney, Compatriot Brett Decker, and Julia Carr.

Bottom Left: The Virginia State President of the C.A.R. receiving a monetary gift for her state project from the generous attendees at the meeting.

Bottom Right: President Whitney with the Thomas Jefferson Medal recognizing support of the SAR Knight Essay Contest. The presentation was made by Past President Mike Elston.



Compatriot John Martin was the lucky winner of the door prize drawing.

Future Events 2015

February 7 - Grayson brothers' plaque dedication. This is a VASSAR Presidential Initiative sponsored by the Col. William Grayson Chapter. Service begins at 2 p.m. in the small family cemetery located at 2338 West Longview Dr., Woodbridge, VIRGINIA. †

February 14 - **Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. Our guest speaker will be Compatriot Kurt Muse, author of *Six Minutes to Freedom*, the remarkable tale of his rescue from Panama by the elite Delta Force.*

February 14 - [Crossing of the Dan Celebration](#), South Boston, Virginia. †

February 16 - Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony. *Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution* begins 11 a.m. at The Old Presbyterian Meeting House (OPMH), 323 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Please arrive 30 minutes early to prepare for the ceremony. *

February 16 - [George Washington's Birthday Parade](#), Alexandria, Virginia. * The assembly time is at **noon**. Our assembly area has not been assigned yet, but typically we are between S. Pitt Street between Wilkes Street and Gibbon Street.

February 20-22 - VASSAR Annual Meeting, Richmond, Virginia. † Dr. Reynolds will be leading a van pool leaving Belle Haven Country Club at 6 AM on the 21st for those who want to attend the business meeting only. Please contact him to coordinate.

March 5-7 - NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky. †

March 7 - [National History Day Competition](#), 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Mount Vernon High School, Alexandria. Judges needed - if interested contact [Rich Sherman](#). ‡

March 14 - [Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse](#), North Carolina. †

March 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

April 11 - VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. **

May 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

May 9 - Commemoration of the Raid at Martin's Station, Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, Virginia. †

May 25 - National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC. **

June 27 - July 1 - 125th Annual SAR Congress, Louisville, Kentucky. †

July 4 - 54rd Annual Independence Day Ceremonies, 10 a.m., George Washington's Mount Vernon, Virginia. *

August 7-8 - Atlantic Middle States District Meeting. †

August 12-17 - SAR-DAR Bermuda Gunpowder Plot Commemorations in Bermuda. **

September 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

September 17 - Constitution Day at Montpelier, Orange, Virginia. †

September 24-26 - NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky. †

October TBA - Point Pleasant Days, Point Pleasant, West Virginia. ‡

October 3-4 - Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain, North Carolina. ‡

October 10 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

November 11 - Veterans' Day Ceremony at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia. *

November 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

December 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending.

Saturday, February 14, 2015

Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

Lunch Meeting Reservation Form

Please make your **reservation by telephone or e-mail**. This is the preferred way to ensure your reservation is received in time to get a seat. Please send reservations by Wednesday, February 11.

Please send reservations and payment to Paul Walden. For e-mail reservations, send to paulwalden@live.com with **RESERVATION** in the subject line.
For call-in reservations, call **Paul at 703-347-9770**.

The lunch cost is \$35.00 per person (\$12.00 per child) and you may pay at the door or send a check in the mail in advance of the meeting. Make checks payable to "**G.W. Chapter SAR.**" Walk-ins will be accommodated if possible, but to cover the Club's charge for serving those without a timely reservation a walk-in price of \$40.00 is required.

When calling or writing, please include the following:

Compatriot Name: _____
Guest Name (s): _____

When mailing checks, be sure I'm notified in time to hold seating for you and your guests! Please include the following information:

Compatriot Name: _____
Guest Name (s): _____

A check for ____ persons in the amount of \$_____ payable to **G.W. Chapter SAR** is enclosed.

Mail this reservation form and your check to:

Paul Walden
Treasurer, G.W. Chapter SAR
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609
Alexandria, VA 22303

Check-in and social begin at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon. Valet parking is available.



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter



Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Volume 16, Issue 3

March 2015

Wreath-Laying and Musket Salute at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution!



Upcoming Chapter Meetings

March 14: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

May 9: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Events Information

March 5-7: NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky.

March 14: Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina.

April 11: VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia, 6 p.m..

April 25 - Commemoration of President James Monroe's 257th Birthday at the Monroe birthplace farm, 4460 James Monroe Highway, Colonial Beach, VA, 10 a.m.

April 28 - Annual wreath-laying ceremony at President James Monroe's tomb in Hollywood Cemetery, 412 South Cherry Street, Richmond.



Above: Vice President Bodge, shown here being assisted by a local Boy Scout, presented a wreath honoring the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution.



President's Corner

My fellow compatriots:

Last Month. February is always one of our busiest months, and maybe one of the coldest on record! So, I have

plenty of news to pass on to you.

We had a great turnout February 7th at the Grayson Brothers Tomb in Woodbridge for the grave marking and monument dedication ceremony hosted by the Col. William Grayson Chapter on behalf of the Virginia Society. It was a very nice ceremony and featured many leaders from the community, Prince William County, and local DAR and SAR Chapters -- plus a resounding musket salute by the VASSAR Color Guard! I'm proud to say George Washington Chapter was well represented by 11 members. Third Vice President Michael Elston spoke on behalf of President Broadus, I served in the Color Guard, and Vice President Bodge performed the wreath-laying honors. Thanks to all who came out and supported this presidential initiative.

Compatriot Mike Elston reported that he and Will attended the 234th Anniversary of the Crossing of the Dan commemoration on February 14th. While they were guarding the colors down there, those who attended our chapter meeting that day were treated to a very special presentation by Compatriot Kurt Muse. Kurt gave us an intimate account of his book *Six Minutes to Freedom*, explaining his personal efforts to rally Panamanians to vote their way out from under the cruel and dictatorial rule of Manuel Noriega, his incarceration for doing so, and his eventual rescue by the U.S. military. It was truly a remarkable story.

During the meeting we also honored Compatriot Jack Coulter with a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal for his volunteer services to the community, and we presented awards to our Chapter winners of the Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest (James Pala) and the Rumbaugh Orations Contest (Alexandra Rodriguez). By the way, both of these young people attended the VASSAR Annual Conference where James received his third-place award in the state contest, and

Alexandra did a fine oration there, taking second place overall in the state competition. I'll also mention here that Cadet Rhea Ambanta took the second place award in the JROTC contest. Congratulations to them; and to our Youth Activities Committee, led by Rich Sherman, and our Awards Committee, led by Jack Pitzer, a resounding Huzzah!

This year's George Washington Birthday Parade was called off due to the very cold temperatures and threatening snow on February 16th. Nevertheless, several members (Greg Bodge, Tom Roth, Carlisle Bean, and dual member Reverdy Wright) braved the weather to participate in the First Virginia Regiment's annual ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution. Vice President Greg Bodge presented a wreath on behalf of the Chapter. Thank you gentlemen!

The 125th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society SAR was held at the Omni Hotel in Richmond on February 20-22. I am thankful to the six regular members who attended with me: Covert Beach, Greg Bodge, Ernie Coggins, Mike Elston, Tom Roth, and Rich Sherman. A few members cancelled their trip due to the threatening weather. Not a bad move! Ann and I had an adventurous three-hour trip home Saturday evening through the slush and freezing rain, but arrived home safe and sound.

The highlights of the conference included the VASSAR youth orations contest and watching Mike Elston be sworn in as VASSAR 2nd Vice President. On Saturday evening, VASSAR President Bill Broadus gave his farewell address before the swearing-in of Reverdy Wright as the 2015-2016 VASSAR President.

We can all be proud as our chapter received many awards during the conference. I'm pleased to report we received VASSAR's Program Innovation Award, in recognition of the "Buddy System" for new members, inaugurated last year by Immediate Past President Scott Wagoner. We also received the Chapter Excellence Award, VASSAR's second highest chapter award, the Don Baldwin Award for the largest membership increase, and the History Day Support Award. In addition, the chapter earned two special awards

for participating in the Joint Revolutionary War/War of 1812 Monument Dedication, and the Grayson Family Grave Marking, each a 2014-2015 Presidential initiative; and we earned a streamer for Flag Program Participation. Congratulations to all our chapter members who helped make this happen and especially to Scott for his leadership and being responsive to ideas put forth by the members.

Upcoming Events. As I am writing this, Ann and I, alas, just cancelled our plans to attend the Spring Leadership Conference due to the Winter Storm Thor. I hope to see you at the following events:

March 7 – National History Day Competition, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Mount Vernon High School, Alexandria. Thanks to those who have heeded the call for Judges.

March 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Make your reservations early to hear our guest speaker, Chief Postal Inspector Guy J. Cottrell.

March 14 - Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina. If anyone attends, please send a photo and brief report for inclusion in the newsletter.

March 16 - James Madison Birthday Celebration, Monday, March 16, 2014 at 2:00 p.m., Madison Family Cemetery. Compatriot John Blair, a member of the National Society of Madison Family Descendants, will represent the chapter at the wreath-laying ceremony. Others planning to attend may get in touch with John to let him know you will be there to support.

April 11 - VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. This year we will honor General Earl E. Anderson, USMC (Ret.). During his 35-year Marine career, he served in combat actions in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Make your reservations now!

Ride Share Program: We have a few members who live in the community and, for one reason or another, are not always able to drive to our chapter meetings. I am aware that some of you have been providing rides to members and I commend you for your thoughtfulness.

Having received the suggestion from one of our members and after consultation with the Board of Managers, I want to extend this practice into a Ride Sharing Program. Members in need of a ride to a chapter meeting or a chapter sponsored event may contact the Amenities Committee Chairman, Don Reynolds. He will put you in touch with one of our members who can assist you. This *Ride Share* contact information is and will continue to be published in the newsletter in the contacts box placed in every issue (following my signature below).

In the mean time, I encourage all to be alert to members who may need a ride to our events. Get in touch with them ahead of time and offer them a ride. You can also help by contacting Don and have him put you on his list of members offering rides.

Dwight Whitney

Chapter President

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

<i>President:</i>	<i>Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375</i>
<i>Vice President:</i>	<i>Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Paul Walden: 703-347-9770</i>
<i>Registrar:</i>	<i>Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791</i>

*Immediate Past President:
Scott Wagoner: 571-239-3221*

Ride Share: *Members in need of a ride to a chapter meeting or a chapter sponsored event may contact the Amenities Committee Chairman, Don Reynolds, at (703) 765-4947.*

This newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to newsletter@gwsar.org or call 202-870-3762.

From the Secretary

Updates and time sensitive information are being sent to the membership via email as necessary. However, if I do not have your email address, you are not receiving these emails. If you fall in to this category, please send me your email address at sargw.secretary@gmail.com

Ernie Coggins

Secretary



From the Editor

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this newsletter useful and interesting. Please submit stories, photos and suggestions to newsletter@gwsar.org. I will

do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report three new member and one memorial applications were approved by NSSAR. There are two new member applications in review and two supplemental applications in review by NSSAR. Two new members were inducted at the January 10 meeting: John Martin and Joshua Walker.

New Members Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Mark Burns	Jacob Kramer
Richard Rankin	George Fisher
Sean Robbins	James Chitwood

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Memorial Membership Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Mark William Burns	Jacob Kramer
Richard Ernest Rankin	George Fisher
Sean Michael Robbins	James Chitwood

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Dave Thomas

Registrar

Chief Postal Inspector to speak at March Meeting



UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE

GUY J. COTTRELL
CHIEF POSTAL INSPECTOR



Guy Cottrell was appointed the 38th Chief Postal Inspector of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service in July 2010. Chief Cottrell oversees all operations of the Postal Inspection Service, which include National Headquarters offices, 17 field divisions, two service centers, and the National Forensic Laboratory. The offices are staffed by Postal Inspectors, Postal Police Officers, and professional support personnel. Chief Cottrell also serves as Chief Security Officer for the Postal Service and as Chairman of the Universal Postal Union's Postal Security Group of the United Nations.

Prior to his appointment, Chief Cottrell served as Deputy Chief Inspector at National Headquarters, where he oversaw all national security programs for the Postal Service. As a native of West Virginia who grew up in New Orleans, Cottrell joined the Postal Service in 1987 when he became a letter carrier there. In 1991, Chief Cottrell became a Postal Inspector at the New Orleans Division, where he investigated internal and external mail theft throughout Louisiana and southern Mississippi.

Since that time, Chief Cottrell has held a number of management positions in major metropolitan areas, including his appointment as Inspector in Charge of the Postal Inspection Service's Washington field office during the Amerithrax investigation.

In 2008, Chief Cottrell served as Inspector in Charge of Security & Crime Prevention and Communications, where he guided the Postal Inspection Service toward a risk- and management-analysis platform, streamlined security programs, and implemented numerous cost-effective and innovative solutions. Under his direction, the group produced security and crime prevention publications and videos that have reached millions of customers. Chief Cottrell holds a bachelor's degree from the University of New Orleans.

Chief Cottrell takes pride in his service for one of our nation's oldest federal law enforcement agencies. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service is a highly specialized, professional organization performing investigative and security functions essential to a vital, stable, and sound postal system.

New Member Biographies



MARK BURNS

Compatriot Burns was born in Davenport, Iowa and raised here in the greater

Washington, DC metropolitan area. He received a BFA degree from the Milwaukee Institute, and later received a M.S. in Military Art & Science from the Air University, Alabama.

Mark is currently a Reserve military officer, serving in a fulltime capacity as the Congressional Liaison to the Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force. He has worked there since this past July.

He and his wife Mimi have a 23 month old son named Elijah, and are pleased to announce that they have one on the way, due this summer. He is a member of defense and military-related organizations to include the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) Life Member, Air Force Association (AFA) Life Member, Military Officer Association of America (MOAA), and the Foreign Area Officer Association (FAOA). He was recognized in *Who's Who Among Executives and Professionals* in 2008, and was hand-selected to the U.S. Air Force High Potential Officer Program in 2012.

Mark's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot John Jacob Kramer, who during the Revolution served as an Ensign in the 5th Battalion, Berks County, Pennsylvania.



GARNER R. BENNETT

Compatriot Bennett was born in Murfreesboro, Tennessee and was raised in the suburbs of Nashville, Fraserburgh, Scotland, and Fairbanks, Alaska as his father traveled for Western Electric. He has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Tennessee Technology University and was designated as the link to the "Order of Engineers" Society. Garner is currently the President and CEO of Total Resource Management, Inc. whose corporate office is located in Alexandria, Virginia. Garner has worked as a robotics engineer and in international sales & marketing prior to settling in Alexandria, VA.

Garner and his wife Claire (a member of the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, NSDAR) have two children, Emily aged 19 and Nicholas 18. Garner's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot John Barron, who as a young man of 19 years, served during the Revolution as a Private in the South Carolina Militia under Col. Bratton and Gen. Henderson in the Southern Campaign.

Did You Know?

Washington was a Federalist, so he favored a strong central government. He also had a strong affinity for aristocrats. During the Constitutional Convention, he spent much of his time at the mansion of Robert Morris, the richest man in America. His closest political ally was Alexander Hamilton, whose policies inevitably leaned toward the upper classes.

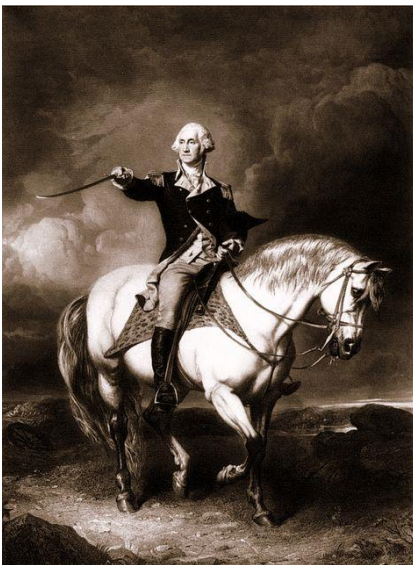
Washington was the only president to win unanimous approval (all of the votes cast) by the Electoral College. He did it twice.

In office, Washington served the nation best by keeping the government stable. He advocated a strong national defense, and kept the country out of the escalating tension between England and France.

His health failing, Washington begged out of the presidency after one term. Men from both sides of the political fence urged him to remain in office, however, so he stayed on. His second inaugural address may reveal his enthusiasm for the second term. At 135 words, it is the shortest inaugural address in history.

George Washington Quotes

*"Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable; procures success to the weak, and esteem to all."*¹



March Dates in History *American Revolutionary War*

March 22, 1765: The Stamp Act was passed by the British Parliament as a means to pay for British troops on the American frontier. Colonists violently protest the first direct tax on the American colonies. Americans were forced to pay tax directly to England, and not to their own local legislatures in America.

March 24 1765: The Quartering Act required American colonists to house British troops and supply them with food.

March 18, 1766: Stamp Act repealed - Ben Franklin argued for repeal and warned of a possible revolution in the American colonies if the Stamp Act was enforced by the British military

March 18, 1766: Declaratory Act passed asserting the British right to make laws binding on the colonies.

March 1769: Merchants in Philadelphia join the boycott.

March 1769: "The Boston Massacre" - Four workers shot by British troops in Boston.

March 1774: The Coercive Acts (called Intolerable Acts by Americans) in response to the rebellion in Massachusetts. The Coercive Acts included:

Massachusetts Government Act
Administration of Justice Act
Boston Port Act
Quartering Act

The Boston Port Act shut down all commercial shipping in Boston harbor until Massachusetts paid the taxes owed on the tea dumped in the harbor and compensation to the East India Company

March 23, 1775: Patrick Henry delivers the "Give me liberty or give me death!" speech

March 30, 1775: New England Restraining Act requiring New England colonies to trade exclusively with England

March 4-17, 1776: American forces capture Dorchester Heights and British evacuate Boston

March 16, 1778: A Peace Commission rejected by Congress.

March 15, 1781: Battle of Guilford Courthouse British victory

March 5, 1782: The British Parliament empowers King George to negotiate peace with the United States.

March 20, 1782: British Prime Minister Lord Rockingham starts negotiations with the American peace commissioners.

¹ <http://brainz.org/50-best-george-washington-quotes/>

Grayson Brothers Tomb Grave Marking and Monument Dedication Ceremony



Top: VASSAR 3rd Vice President Mike Elston addressed the crowd and presented awards on behalf of VASSAR President Broadus.

Bottom: George Washington Chapter Compatriots (L-R) Mike Elston, Vern McHargue, Dwight Whitney, John Blair, Dave Thomas, Paul Walden, John Lyreman, Greg Bodge, Jay Henn, and Tom Roth.

Highlights of the February Chapter Meeting



Top: New compatriots Garner Bennett, Mark Burns, and Robert Allen prepare for their induction. Paul Walden also received the Memorial Membership for his father, the late Clarke Walden.

Bottom: James received the SAR Eagle Scout Certificate of Recognition, the Eagle Scout Scholarship Chapter Medal and Patch from Vice President Bodge and President Whitney. He went on to take 3rd place in the scholarship competition at VASSAR.



Upper left: Compatriot Jack Coulter received the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal from President Whitney for his outstanding volunteer services to the community.

Lower left: Author and Compatriot Kurt Muse gave our audience powerful and inspirational account of his run-in with the Panamanian dictatorship in 1989 and the events that led to a heroic rescue by the U.S. military.

Right: Chapter winner of the Rumbaugh Oration Contest displaying her awards. Alexandra went on to capture 2nd place at the state competition.

Scenes from the 125th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society



Top Left: Compatriots Rich Sherman and Dwight Whitney celebrate with our 2nd Place winner of the state oration contest

Top Right: Compatriot Covert Beach received thanks from VASSAR President Broadus for serving as one of the judges

Bottom Left: Compatriot Ernie Coggins was honored with the Virginia Society State Service Award.

Bottom Right: The new 2nd VP Mike Elston was awarded the VASSAR Meritorious Service Medal



Above: On February 21st, Dr. Reverdy Wright was sworn in as 2015-2016 VASSAR President by Atlantic Middle States Association Vice President General J. Thomas Showler.

Future Events 2015

- March 5-7 - NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky. †
- March 7 – [National History Day Competition](#), 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Mount Vernon High School, Alexandria. Judges needed - [Rich Sherman](#). ‡
- March 14 - [Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse](#), North Carolina. †
- March 14 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- March 16 - James Madison Birthday Celebration. 2:00 p.m., Madison Family Cemetery. ‡
- April 11 - VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Reservations required, no later than April 3rd. **
- April 25 - Commemoration of President James Monroe's 257th Birthday at the Monroe birthplace farm, 4460 James Monroe Highway, Colonial Beach, VA, 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided afterward at the Moose Lodge nearby. †
- April 28 – Annual wreath-laying ceremony at President James Monroe's tomb in Hollywood Cemetery, 412 South Cherry Street, Richmond. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. (subject to change by the Army which conducts the ceremony). †
- May 9 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- May 9 - Commemoration of the Raid at Martin's Station, Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, Virginia. †
- May 25 - National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC. **
- June 27 - July 1 - 125th Annual SAR Congress, Louisville, Kentucky. †
- July 4 - 54rd Annual Independence Day Ceremonies, 10 a.m., George Washington's Mount Vernon, Virginia. *
- August 7-8 - Atlantic Middle States District Meeting. †
- August 12-17 - SAR-DAR Bermuda Gunpowder Plot Commemorations in Bermuda. **
- September 12 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- September 17 - Constitution Day at Montpelier, Orange, Virginia. †
- September 24-26 - NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky. †
- October TBA - Point Pleasant Days, Point Pleasant, West Virginia. ‡
- October 3-4 - Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain, North Carolina. ‡
- October 10 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- November 11 - Veterans' Day Ceremony at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia. *
- November 14 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- December 12 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- January 9 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia.

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending.

Saturday, March 14, 2015

Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. *Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia*

Lunch Meeting Reservation Form

Please make your **reservation by telephone or e-mail**. This is the preferred way to ensure your reservation is received in time to get a seat. Please send reservations by Wednesday, March 11.

Please send reservations and payment to Paul Walden. For e-mail reservations, send to paulwalden@live.com with **RESERVATION** in the subject line.

For call-in reservations, call **Paul at 703-347-9770**.

The lunch cost is \$35.00 per person (\$12.00 per child) and you may pay at the door or send a check in the mail in advance of the meeting. Make checks payable to "**G.W. Chapter SAR.**" Walk-ins will be accommodated if possible, but to cover the Club's charge for serving those without a timely reservation a walk-in price of \$40.00 is required.

When calling or writing, please include the following:

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name (s): _____

When mailing checks, be sure I'm notified in time to hold seating for you and your guests! Please include the following information:

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name (s): _____

A check for ____ persons in the amount of \$_____ payable to **G.W. Chapter SAR** is enclosed.

Mail this reservation form and your check to:

Paul Walden
Treasurer, G.W. Chapter SAR
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609
Alexandria, VA 22303

Check-in and social begin at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon. Valet parking is available.

Gold Good Citizenship Award Gala Reservation

Saturday, 11 April 2015

Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia

Please use this form to make a reservation for the Gold Good Citizenship Award Gala at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia. The cost for this black-tie optional event is \$85 per person. The reception and receiving line for the honoree will begin at 6:00 p.m. The program and dinner will begin at 7:00 p.m.

RSVP no later than April 3, 2015.

Name(s): _____

Entrée Choice(s): _____ Herb Seared Petite Filet _____ Roasted Salmon Filet

A check for _____ persons in the amount of \$ _____ payable to George Washington Chapter VASSAR is enclosed.

Mail this reservation form with your check to:

Paul Walden, Treasurer
George Washington Chapter, VASSAR
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609
Alexandria, VA 22303

You may also make your reservation by e-mail to PaulWalden@live.com



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter



Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Virginia Society, SAR!

Volume 16, Issue 4

April 2015

Past President Bob Carr Receives the Patriot Medal!



Above: Past President Bob Carr proudly displays the certificate and Patriot Medal. The Patriot Medal is awarded by the Virginia Society for long, faithful and outstanding service at the state and/or the chapter level.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

May 9: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

September 12: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Events Information

April 11 - VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia, 6 p.m.

April 13 - Celebration of Thomas Jefferson's birthday, Jefferson Memorial, Washington, DC (DCSSAR event).

April 18 - Patriots and Pathfinders Day celebration and wreath laying ceremony, Natural Tunnel State Park, Virginia, 10 a.m.; Sponsored by the Overmountain Men Chapter.

April 25 - Commemoration of President James Monroe's 257th Birthday at the Monroe birthplace farm, Colonial Beach, VA, 10 a.m.

April 28 - Annual wreath-laying ceremony at President James Monroe's tomb in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond.



President's Corner

My fellow compatriots:

Last Month. Our March chapter meeting was a well-attended and spirited affair.

Vice President Bodge set the stage early leading a toast to the Virginia Society in recognition of its 125th Anniversary.

Following the induction of two new members, VASSAR Second Vice President Mike Elston made two awards of the Virginia Society. Julia Carr was the recipient of the Martha Washington Medal for outstanding service to the SAR. We were also proud to witness chapter Past President (2011, 2012) and former VASSAR Assistant Secretary Bob Carr receive the Patriot Medal for his long, faithful and outstanding service to the chapter and to the state society. In his remarks, Bob credited our successes to getting new members involved right away with the governance, committees, and initiatives of the society, and he spoke of his satisfaction in witnessing the effectiveness and stimulation it has made. Congratulations Bob!

Immediate Past President Scott Wagoner was awarded the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal in recognition of his service to the chapter the previous three years. Recall, Scott was inducted to the chapter September 2010, and soon after was put to work as an officer. (Interestingly, Ernie Coggins and I were also among that group of eleven new members inducted that day.) We are grateful for Scott's service!

We were honored to have Chief Inspector Guy Cottrell of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service who gave us a very interesting lesson on the history of the service -- one of the oldest law enforcement agencies in America. We presented Chief Cottrell with the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and certificate in recognition of his outstanding service and accomplishments in law enforcement.

The Chapter made another good showing at the National History Day competition held at Mt. Vernon High School on March 7. My special thanks to Youth Activities Chairman Rich

Sherman for coordinating our participation and to Compatriots Dave Thomas, Carlisle Bean, Dale Killinger, and Tom Bland for volunteering their time as judges.

On March 10, the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the DAR celebrated their 90th Anniversary. We received invitations from Regent Penny Kales and three of our members were lucky enough to attend the affair. DAR Liaison Chairman Jay Henn, accompanied by his wife, Bonnie, went to convey our greetings and congratulations. Also attending the celebration were Scott and Debbie Wagoner and Paul and Peggy Wagoner. As you may know, Peggy Wagoner and Julia Carr are both members there.

On March 16 Montpelier hosted a celebration commemorating James Madison's birthday. Compatriot John Blair attended the celebration and presented a wreath on behalf of the Chapter.

Upcoming Events. Remember, there will be no regular chapter meeting in April. Instead, you all are invited to attend the VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala sponsored by the George Washington Chapter.

One of President Reverdy Wright's initiatives is that we all place added emphasis on chapters and activities west of the Blue Ridge. You will note below two opportunities coming up in April and May. In addition, the calendar is too full for me to attend everything, so I've noted where I need volunteers. If you are able to attend any of these events, please let me know.

April 11 - VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, honoring General Earl Anderson, USMC (ret). I hope you've made your reservations and will see you there!

April 13 - Celebration of Thomas Jefferson's Birthday, Jefferson Memorial, Washington, DC (DCSSAR event). **Notify me if you can attend.**

April 18 - Patriots and Pathfinders Day celebration and wreath laying ceremony at Natural Tunnel State Park, 10 a.m.; sponsored by the Overmountain Men Chapter. **Notify me if you can attend.**

April 25 - Commemoration of President James Monroe's 257th Birthday at the Monroe

birthplace farm, Colonial Beach, VA, 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided afterward at the Moose Lodge nearby. I plan to attend and hope to see some of you there.

April 28 - Annual wreath-laying ceremony at President James Monroe's tomb in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. (subject to change by the Army which conducts the ceremony). **Notify me if you can attend.**

May 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club. Our guest speaker will be a historian from the Naval History and Heritage Command.

May 9 - Wreath laying ceremony at Martin Station Monument, Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, VA. Continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m., the Ceremony begins at 10 a.m. **Notify me if you can attend.**

May 25 - Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC. Mark your calendar! This is a fun opportunity you don't want to miss.

Dwight Whitney
Chapter President

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

<i>President:</i>	<i>Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375</i>
<i>Vice President:</i>	<i>Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Paul Walden: 703-347-9770</i>
<i>Registrar:</i>	<i>Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791</i>

*Immediate Past President:
Scott Wagoner: 571-239-3221*

Ride Share: *Members in need of a ride to a chapter meeting or a chapter sponsored event may contact the Amenities Committee Chairman, Don Reynolds, at (703) 765-4947.*

This newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to newsletter@gwsar.org or call 202-870-3762.

Happy Anniversary!

April 2nd marks the 61st Anniversary of the George Washington Chapter. Since 1954 we have seen our chapter grow in membership and in the significance of our service to the mission of the Sons of the American Revolution. On this occasion, it is fitting to reflect a little on our history.

The SAR began its activities in Alexandria on February 16, 1940 when the President and Secretary of the Virginia society met with members of the Society living in the area who had signified their interest in forming a chapter in the city, so closely identified with the life of General Washington.

As a result, The Virginia Society at its February 22, 1940 annual meeting at Williamsburg, chartered the General George Washington Chapter, to meet in Alexandria.

This early Chapter dissolved itself into the Headquarters Chapter in mid-1951. The present Chapter was chartered by The Virginia Society on April 2, 1954 under the title of The George Washington Chapter. Why the military title was dropped does not appear on the record. There were

fourteen charter members and Robert V.H. Duncan was our first chapter president.

Until March, 1976, the Chapter functioned without either a written constitution or bylaws, governed only by the applicable provisions of the Constitutions and Bylaws of the State and National Societies. On March 6, 1976 the membership ratified the January 10, 1976 version of the Chapter's Constitution and Bylaws. The current version was amended and ratified by the membership November 10, 2012. (This version is due to be published in the 2015 Directory).

From fourteen members then, to over 275 members now, the George Washington Chapter is the Virginia Society's largest chapter and one of the largest SAR chapters in the world. Our members are active in preserving history, honoring patriots, and passing on the Spirit of '76 to the youth in Alexandria and the Mount Vernon area of Fairfax County.

From the Secretary

Updates and time sensitive information are sent to the membership via email as necessary. However, if I do not have your email address, you are not receiving these emails. If you fall in to this category, please send me your email address at sargw.secretary@gmail.com

Ernie Coggins

Secretary



From the Editor

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this newsletter useful and interesting. Please submit stories, photos and suggestions to newsletter@gwsar.org. I will

do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report two new members and one supplemental application were approved by NSSAR. There are four new member applications in review and two supplemental applications in review by NSSAR. Two new members were inducted at the February 14 meeting: Robert Allen and Mark Burns.

New Members Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Josh Daniel Martin	John Van Doren
Kevin Louis Rogers	Pouncey Bunch

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Robert August Whitehead	Henry Fowlkes

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
John Robert Edwards	James Huie
Tom Searle Jackson	Henry Barker
Jacob Alec Martin	John Van Doren
John Dillon Martin	John Van Doren

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Dave Thomas

Registrar

New Member Biographies

KEVIN LOUIS ROGERS



Compatriot Rogers was born and raised in Charlottesville, VA. He received a B.S in Administration of Justice with a

minor in Government from George Mason University.

After working for his father's commercial masonry company since graduating from George Mason, Kevin recently took a position with Better Living Building Supplies located in Charlottesville, VA.

He and his wife Jessica have a beautiful 6 year old daughter named Abbey. He is a member of the War of 1812 and enjoys traveling, golf, tennis, UVA sports, and spending time with his family.

Kevin's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot Pouncey Bunch, who during the Revolutionary War provided to the cause. Kevin is also a member of the *Society of the War of 1812*.

Please welcome our newest member Compatriot Kevin Rogers.

RICHARD ERNEST RANKIN, JR.



Compatriot Richard Rankin was born in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania and raised in

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He received a B.S. in Business Administration from American University in Washington, DC. He later received an MBA in Corporate Finance from American University.

Richard is currently a Managing Director for Brandywinecreek Associates LLC, a consulting firm specializing in risk management and insurance advisory services. Richard is a licensed Virginia insurance agent.

Richard is also a Board Member and Treasurer of the Falls Church City Cable Access Corporation. Additionally, he is a club officer of the DC Chapter of the American Revolution Round Table (ARRT).

In his spare time, Richard is the Club President of the Helen Burkett Toastmasters Club in Falls Church.

His daughter, Christina Morgan, recently announced her engagement and plans to marry next year.

Richard's membership in the Society is based on his decent from Patriot George Fisher, who during the Revolution, served as a Private in the Philadelphia County (now Montgomery County) militia, 1st Battalion.

Please welcome our newest member Compatriot Richard Rankin.

Did You Know?

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826), author of the Declaration of Independence and the third U.S. president, was a leading figure in America's early development.

During the American Revolutionary War (1775-83), Jefferson served in the Virginia legislature and the Continental Congress and was governor of Virginia. He later served as U.S. minister to France and U.S. Secretary of State, and was Vice President under John Adams (1735-1826).

Jefferson, who thought the national government should have a limited role in citizens' lives, was elected President in 1800. During his two terms in office (1801-1809), the U.S. purchased the Louisiana Territory and Lewis and Clark explored the vast new acquisition.

Although Jefferson promoted individual liberty, he was also a slave owner. After leaving office, he retired to his Virginia plantation, Monticello, and helped found the University of Virginia.¹

George Washington Quotes

"I hope I shall possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of an honest man."²



¹ <http://www.history.com/topics/us-presidents/thomas-jefferson>

² <http://brainz.org/50-best-george-washington-quotes/>

April Dates in History

American Revolutionary War

April 1770: Repeal of the Townshend Acts and the Quartering Act by the British. The only duties on imports into the colonies are for tea.

April 1775: Massachusetts Governor Gage is ordered to enforce the Coercive Acts and suppress the "open rebellion".

April 18, 1775: General Gage orders British soldiers to destroy the colonist's weapons depot in Concord. Paul Revere leaves Boston to warn colonists.

April 18, 1775: Shots fired at Lexington and Concord where weapons depot destroyed. "Minute Men" force British troops back to Boston. George Washington takes command of the Continental Army.

April 23, 1775: The Provincial Congress in Massachusetts orders 13,600 American soldiers to be mobilized and volunteers begin a year long siege of Boston which is held by the British.

April 27, 1777: American troops under Benedict Arnold defeat the British at Ridgefield, Connecticut.

April 1-30, 1779: In retaliation for Indian raids on colonial settlements, American troops from North Carolina and Virginia attack Chickamauga Indian villages in Tennessee.

April 8, 1780: British attack Charleston, South Carolina.

April 4, 1782: Sir Guy Carleton replaces General Clinton as the new commander of British forces in America.

April 12, 1782: Paris Peace talks begin.

April 11, 1783: Congress officially declares the end of the Revolutionary War.

ERMC CG, French DSG Honor Lafayette During Medical Conference

In March 2015, Compatriot Brigadier General Norvell V. Coots, Commanding General of the U.S. Army's Europe Regional Medical Command (ERMC), attended a conference in Paris. At the end of the conference, he was invited by the French Deputy Surgeon General to lay a wreath at the tomb of the Marquis de Lafayette and duplicate the scene of General John Joseph "Black Jack" Pershing laying a wreath there in 1917. It was during this 1917 ceremony that Lt. Colonel Charles M. Stanton, speaking for General Pershing, uttered the famous remark, "*Lafayette, nous ici!*" (Lafayette, we are here!).



Top: ERMC Commanding General BG Van Coots and French Deputy Surgeon General MG Patrick Godart lay a wreath at the tomb of the Marquis de Lafayette in Paris March 13, similar to a ceremony held by Gen John J. Pershing during WWI.

Right: Photograph of the 1917 wreath-laying ceremony by General Pershing. Lafayette assisted the United States and is considered one of the heroes of the American Revolution.

Bottom: Attendees of the ceremony included COL Nicolas Granger-Veyron (third from left), executive officer to the French Surgeon General and former liaison officer to the U.S. Army Medical Command; BG Coots; MG Godart; and BG Remi Macarez, director of research, Office of the Surgeon General. BG Coots was in Paris March 11-13 to present information about the U.S. Warrior Transition System during Patient Care Pathways Seminar.

Highlights of the March Chapter Meeting



Above: Chief Postal Inspector Guy Cottrell receives the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and certificate from President Dwight Whitney and Awards Committee Vice Chairman Paul Wagoner.



Above: President Dwight Whitney presents immediate past President Scott Wagoner with a gavel plaque commemorating his term as president in 2014. Scott also received the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal.

Highlights of the March Chapter Meeting (Continued)



Above: President Dwight Whitney swears in our two new members (L) Richard Rankin and (R) Kevin Rogers.



Above: Julia Carr, wearing the VASSAR Martha Washington Medal, poses with Mike Elston.

Other March Highlights



Above: At the celebration for the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter DAR celebration, Regent Penny Kales poses with (L-R) Compatriots Paul Wagoner, Scott Wagoner, Carl Floyd (Williamsburg Chapter), Jay Henn, and Jack Sweeney (Fairfax Resolves Chapter).



Above: Chapter Past President Larry Lisle (R) and VASSAR President Reverdy Wright (L) were on hand for the Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse March 14.

Other March Highlights (Continued)



Above: Five members (four shown) of the George Washington Chapter attended the History Day Contest, which was by far the largest contingent from any chapter in the area.

Over 300 presentations were made by students in a wide variety of categories. An extremely interesting event!

Future Events 2015

April 11 - VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Reservations required, no later than April 3rd. **

April 13 - Celebration of Thomas Jefferson's Birthday, Jefferson Memorial, Washington, DC (DCSSARevent). ‡

April 18 - Patriots and Pathfinders Day celebration and wreath laying ceremony; at the Block House at Natural Tunnel State Park in Scott County, Virginia, 10 a.m.; Sponsored by the Overmountain Men Chapter. ‡

April 25 - Commemoration of President James Monroe's 257th Birthday at the Monroe birthplace farm, 4460 James Monroe Highway, Colonial Beach, VA, 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided afterward at the Moose Lodge nearby. †

April 28 - Annual wreath-laying ceremony at President James Monroe's tomb in Hollywood Cemetery, 412 South Cherry Street, Richmond. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. (subject to change by the Army which conducts the ceremony). †

May 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

May 9 - Commemoration of the Raid at Martin's Station, Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, Virginia. †

May 25 - National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC. **

June 27 - July 1 - 125th Annual SAR Congress, Louisville, Kentucky. †

July 4 - 54rd Annual Independence Day Ceremonies, 10 a.m., George Washington's Mount Vernon, Virginia. *

August 7-8 - Atlantic Middle States District Meeting, Bridgewater, New Jersey. †

August 12-17 - SAR-DAR Bermuda Gunpowder Plot Commemorations in Bermuda. **

September 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

September 17 - Constitution Day at Montpelier, Orange, Virginia. †

September 18-19 - VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Roanoke, Virginia. †

September 24-26 - NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky. †

October TBA - Point Pleasant Days, Point Pleasant, West Virginia. ‡

October 3-4 - Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain, North Carolina. ‡

October 10 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

October 14 - The President General's Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 3:15 p.m., Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA. **

October 17-18 - Yorktown Victory Celebration. †

November 11 - Veterans' Day Ceremony at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia. *

November 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

December 5 - Commemoration of *The Battle of Great Bridge*, Chesapeake, Virginia. †

December 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

December 12 - Wreaths Across America, Alexandria National Cemetery. ‡

January 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia.

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending.

VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala

April 11, 2015 at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia



On Saturday April 11, 2015, VASSAR will award the *Gold Good Citizenship Medal* to General Earl Edward Anderson, USMC (Ret.). The reception and receiving line for the honoree will begin at 6:00 p.m. The program and dinner will begin at 7:00 p.m.

General Anderson (born June 24, 1919), was the youngest active-duty Marine ever promoted to the rank of General and the second active-duty Marine Naval Aviator to be promoted to a 4-star rank. He was promoted to General on March 31, 1972 and became Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps on April 1, 1972. During his 35-year Marine career, he has served in combat actions in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

With the outbreak of World War II in the Pacific, Anderson and the *Yorktown* were transferred there, where they participated in the Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaign, the Salamaua-Lae campaign, and the Battles of the Coral Sea and Midway. He was serving on the *Yorktown* when it was sunk during the Battle of Midway. During this period of time, he was promoted to first lieutenant in December 1941 and captain in May 1942. Following his rescue from the *Yorktown*, Anderson returned to the United States where he served briefly

with Marine Corps Base San Diego, California, and then with the 2nd Marine Division.

He was ordered to flight training at Naval Air Station Dallas, Texas in the spring of 1943. He was promoted to major in May 1943 and was awarded the gold wings of a naval aviator at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida in October 1943. His next assignment was as a flight instructor at Marine Corps Air Station Edenton, North Carolina. He remained there until December 1944, when he returned to duty in the Pacific Area and assumed command of Marine Bomber Squadron 443. He later served as the executive officer of Marine Aircraft Group 61 (MAG-61) in the consolidation of the Northern Solomon Islands and the recapture of the Philippines.

In November 1945 Anderson returned to the United States and served in a wide variety of post-war assignments including as a student at the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia; Administration Officer, Division of Aviation, Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC); and as the Administration Assistant to the Assistant Commandant for Air, HQMC. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in July 1949 and assigned to the Office of the Judge Advocate General, where he served in various branches while a post-graduate student at The George Washington University Law School.

In the summer of 1952 Anderson was ordered to Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, where he served as the Executive Officer for Marine Aircraft Group 16 until the spring of 1953 when he was ordered to Korea. In Korea, Anderson was the Commanding Officer, Marine Observation Squadron 6 (VMO-6), and later became the Assistant Chief of Staff G-1, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. Upon his return to the United States he was assigned as the Executive Officer and then Commanding Officer of Marine Aircraft Group 26.

During May 1956, Anderson was assigned back to [MCS](#), Quantico, Virginia, where he served first as an instructor, then Chief of the Air Section, Marine Corps Educational Center. He was promoted to [Colonel](#) in October 1957 and, during the summer of 1959, was ordered to the Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. He graduated in June 1960 and was ordered to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, where he served as the Staff Legal Officer until July 1961. He then assumed command of Marine Aircraft Group 36, Santa Ana, California, where his group participated in more than 13 separate amphibious and field exercises.

In 1970 he was appointed as the USMC member on the Board of Directors of the United States Olympic Committee and, in March 1971, was designated by the Secretary of Defense as the United States member of the Executive Committee of the Conseil International du Sport Militaire. In 1974 he was elected by the General Assembly to be the first Vice President. He served as President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Armed Forces Relief and Benefit Association (an insurance company catering to military service members) from 1972 to 1975. He was promoted to Lieutenant General in June 1971 and assumed duty as Commanding General Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic (FMFLant), Norfolk, Virginia, in July 1971. In April 1972 he was named the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps and promoted to General. At the age of 53, he became the youngest active duty Marine to be promoted to the rank of 4-star general in the history of the Marine Corps.



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter



Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Virginia Society, SAR!

Volume 16, Issue 5

May 2015

Gala Event Honors Hero of Three Wars!



The 8th Annual VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala was held on April 11th to honor General Earl E. Anderson (USMC, Ret.). Shown here is General Anderson holding his award and (L-R) Chapter President Dwight Whitney, Fairfax Resolves Chapter President Bill Price, Master of Ceremonies Larry McKinley, and VASSAR President Reverdy Wright.



The Earl Edward Anderson Family: Front row. General Anderson and his wife, Jane. Back row (left to right). Son, Mark Edward Anderson and wife Katherine; son, Colonel David Allen Anderson, United States Marine Corps (Retired) and his wife Darla Ann; son-in-law Peter O'Brien. Peter's wife, Susan, the Andersons' daughter, was unable to attend. General Anderson and his sons, David and Mark, are members of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

May 9: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

September 12: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Events Information

May 9: Commemoration of the Raid at Martin's Station, Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, Virginia.

May 25: National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC.

June 27 - July 1: 125th Annual SAR Congress, Louisville, Kentucky.

July 4: 54th Annual Independence Day Ceremonies, 10 a.m., George Washington's Mount Vernon, Virginia.

August 7-8: Atlantic Middle States District Meeting, Bridgewater, New Jersey.

August 12-17: SAR-DAR Bermuda Gunpowder Plot Commemorations in Bermuda.



President's Corner

My fellow compatriots:

One of the long-awaited highlights of the year was finally celebrated in April. The **8th Annual VASSAR Gold**

Good Citizenship Medal Gala was another joyous success! Seventy people gathered at Belle Haven on April 11th to honor General Earl E. Anderson (USMC, Ret.), a fellow compatriot who was nominated for the medal by the Fairfax Resolves Chapter. The ever-articulate and former President of the Virginia Society Larry McKinley, was the master of ceremonies for the evening. The opening ceremonies included the presentation of colors by an Armed Forces Color Guard to the patriotic music performed by "The President's Own" brass quintet of the U.S. Marine Corps Band. The VASSAR President Reverdy Wright, official host for the evening, presented the award to General Anderson who, in turn, gave a heartfelt tribute to his parents and a modest upbringing in rural West Virginia. The Fairfax Resolves Chapter and their President, Bill Price, are to be congratulated for nominating such a distinguished and deserving honoree from Virginia. Forgive me if I over-use the phrase, but I cannot help but summarize it in any other way than "an evening to remember!"

Within a week I received a warm letter from General Anderson thanking the chapter for co-hosting the event. Moreover, he thanked us for our gift of the George Washington bust, his "favorite President and the Father of our Country," and reports it is now prominently displayed in his home.

There are many to thank for the successful event. I am particularly indebted to Vice President Greg Bodge for arranging the U.S. Marine Band and Armed Forces Color Guard, to Treasurer Paul Walden's attentiveness to the arrangements at the club, to Secretary Ernie Coggins' careful attention to detail in getting the formal invitations sent and for his photographic documentation, and to the advice and counsel by your Board of Managers. Former VASSAR and GW Chapter President Tom Burch and the

National Vietnam Veterans Foundation provided significant financial support for the event. The VASSAR Color Guard, led by Commander Darrin Schmidt, was outstanding, as usual, in their participation. Finally, I am grateful to VASSAR President Reverdy Wright who entrusted the George Washington Chapter once again to be host chapter for this important Virginia Society event.

Upcoming Events. Dear compatriots, let us *remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court, and a Nation of Free Men.* Each one of us has a duty to uphold the mission of our society; it will not happen without you, so I urge you take advantage of some of the many opportunities to be involved in the George Washington Chapter. If you usually don't participate in our meetings and events, please come to one this year and enjoy the camaraderie of our society. If you usually just march with us on the 4th of July, join us also for the Memorial Day Parade or the Veteran's Day ceremony at Washington's Tomb. Just by showing up, you make the chapter stronger and add to your fulfillment of our obligations.

Our upcoming meeting May 9th features an historian from the Naval History and Heritage Command which will prove to be interesting. Remember, the next regular chapter meeting is in September. Until then, here are several opportunities for you to honor our forefathers and to represent our chapter in the coming months:

May 9 – Wreath-laying ceremony at Martin Station Monument, Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, Virginia. There will be a Continental breakfast in front of the Visitor's Center at 9:30 a.m. The Ceremony begins at 10 a.m. **Notify me if you can attend.**

May 16 - Joint Revolutionary War/War of 1812 Joint Plaque Dedication at the Masonic Cemetery located on Charles Street (between William and George streets) in Fredericksburg, 3:00 p.m. This is a VASSAR President's initiative being hosted by the Colonel Fielding Lewis Chapter. I plan to be there and hope you will also.

May 25 – Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC. We will host the Memorial Day Parade once again this year. For the second time will offer the Dooley-Carr-Elston Medal to any SAR member who attends. The medal is free; the optional mini medal will be available for \$10. This event normally draws in SAR members from all over the region. Assembly will begin at 12:30 on the National Mall (7th & Madison Dr. NW). The parade steps off at 2:00 p.m. A parade release agreement (attached at the end of this newsletter) must be completed and sent in advance to Mike Elston by e-mail (elston.sar@gmail.com) or U.S. Mail (P.O. Box 336, Lorton, Virginia 22199-0336). So, if you are even thinking about it, fill it out and send it to Mike, now!

June 12-15 - Sons of the American Revolution Annual Conference on the American Revolution, Mount Vernon, Virginia. Enjoy learning history from scholars at this distinguished event.

June 13 - Daniel Boone Trail Marker Rededication, Cumberland Gap NHP Visitor's Center, KY, 9:30 a.m. The DAR plans a rededication of the Daniel Boone Trail Marker that was originally placed 100 years ago. This is close to my heart and home in the mountains so I am planning to be there. Please consider this supporting this event.

July 4 - 54th Annual Independence Day Ceremonies, 10 a.m., George Washington's Mount Vernon, Virginia. On July 4th, we will conduct our 54th annual wreath laying at the tomb of General George Washington at Mount Vernon. We meet at the administration building by 9:30 a.m. At 10 a.m. the VASSAR Color Guard will lead us down the bowling green to the tomb grove. We have invited our chapter winner and runner-up to of the VASSAR Rumbaugh Orations contest to join us. Following the tomb grove ceremony and the wreath laying, each member will be able to present a carnation at the tomb. The Baldwin-Jones-Tabb medal will be awarded to SAR members attending for the first time.

August 12-17 - SAR-DAR-C.A.R. Bermuda Gunpowder Plot Commemorations in Bermuda. All members are invited to Bermuda for events commemorating the 240th anniversary of the

Bermuda Gunpowder Plot. Events will take place at Southampton, Hamilton and St. George's in Bermuda, and the group will stay at the world famous Fairmont Southampton. For more information or to register for the trip, contact VASSAR 2nd Vice President Mike Elston or visit <https://prod.groupandevent.net/register/berumudapatriots>. To access the site, use the password gunpowder15.

September 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria.

Dwight Whitney
Chapter President

May 2015 Speaker

Dr. Dennis M. Conrad is a historian at the Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHHC). He is associate editor for the Naval Documents of the American Revolution series and has published an essay on John Paul Jones. He is currently the lead historian for an electronic documentary edition on the US Navy in the Spanish-American War and a book-length study of Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy during World War I.

Prior to coming to the NHHHC, Conrad was the principal editor and project director for volumes 7 through 12 of the award-winning *Papers of General Nathanael Greene*, published by the University of North Carolina Press. Those volumes covered Greene's time as Continental Army commander in the South.

Conrad has published several essays concerning Greene's campaigns in the South, which were also the subject of his doctoral dissertation at Duke University.

From the Secretary



The reconciliation of the membership roster is nearing completion. A considerable effort has been made to ensure that all current members are included, that all data are as current as possible, and that our

roster agrees with the Virginia Society's records. However, with about 290 members, it is proving to be a work in progress. You should expect to receive your 2015 George Washington Chapter Directory sometime in May.

I also want to reemphasize the importance of keeping your contact information up to date, including your email address. While I know that some of you do not use email, the majority of you do, and this enables us to send you updates and time sensitive information quickly as necessary. These emails are not meant to be a replacement of the newsletter but rather a supplement to it. As such, it is very important that I have your current email address. Contact email address for me is sargw.secretary@gmail.com.

Ernie Coggins

Secretary



From the Editor

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this newsletter useful and interesting. Please submit stories, photos and suggestions

to newsletter@gwsar.org. I will do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report two supplemental applications were approved by NSSAR. There are currently four new member applications in review by NSSAR. Two new members were inducted at the March 14 meeting: Richard Rankin and Kevin Rogers.

New Members Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
David Robert Thomas	Robert Elliott
Paul A. Walden	John Tubbs

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Dave Thomas

Registrar

Patriot Biographies

One of President General Lindsey Brock's initiatives is to have Compatriots submit their Patriot Ancestor Biographies to the National Society. Last December, we sent out the request for you to send in your Patriot Ancestor Biographies (Bios). You did.

Compatriot Jamie Callender, our Webmaster and Chairman of the Graves Recognition Committee, took over management of this project. He has done an extraordinary job ensuring submittals are complete and meet NSSAR standards prior to submittal! To date, 86 Bios have been submitted to the National Society.

Counting the Bios you submitted and those for which we already had records, Jamie, assisted by Dave Thomas, our Registrar, and Paul Walden, our Assistant Registrar, have amassed about 170 Bios. All the Bios sent in were forwarded to Jamie and put on the web site.

However, only about 120 have Patriot Numbers. Additionally, some of these Bios require editing. There are also many that need to be expanded as they contain only a few sentences. The National Society has requested that these Bios not exceed 500 words (but, if your Bio is more than 500 words, do not worry about it.)

At this point, we are requesting that you look at your Bio(s) on the website at <http://gwsar.org/ancestors.html>, and edit and add to it as necessary. Once you have done this, please email your comments and corrections to Jamie at webmaster@gwsar.org. It is important that in the subject line, you put your Patriot's last name, first name, and rank. If you have his Patriot Number, please include that, too.

If you have not submitted your patriot's biography, please feel free to do so now. Use the same subject line format given above.

While email transactions are encouraged and expected, if you do not have access to the Internet, please mail your Bio to:

George Washington Chapter

Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution
ATTN: Patriot Biographies
P.O. Box 77
Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121

125th Anniversary of the Virginia Society!

This year marks the 125th anniversary of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. We should all take pride in one of the oldest and historically rich societies of the SAR! The following describes our origins (adapted from Volume 1 of the VASSAR Official Handbook):

The movement to organize the Virginia Society was started in the city of Washington in 1890. At a conference held in the nation's capital on February 10th, several Congressmen from Virginia constituted themselves as a committee to organize a Society in Virginia without delay.

On February 28th the committee reassembled at the Capitol, adopted a constitution and bylaws and elected the following outstanding Virginians as officers:

President: Honorable William Wirt Henry of Richmond (Grandson of Patrick Henry)

Vice President General: William H.F. Lee, son of Robert E. Lee and a member of Congress from Burke's Station, Fairfax County

Vice President: Colonel George Washington Ball of Alexandria (nearest living male relative of George Washington)

Secretary: Thomas Nelson Page of Hanover County, a man of letters

Treasurer: Joseph Poryall of Richmond

Registrar: J. William Jones of Richmond, a well-known historian.

Lieutenant J.C. Cresap, USN, of Annapolis, Secretary-General of the National Society, and Professor G. Brown Goode, Ph.D., Registrar of the District of Columbia Society, formally organized the Virginia Society at Richmond on July 7th, 1890. There were 62 charter members.

New Member Biographies



Robert Andrew Gilliland

Compatriot Gilliland was born in Syracuse, New York. He received a BA in Economics from the University of Maryland.

Robert is Director of Corporate Compliance for Florida Health Care Plan in Holly Hill, Florida and has also been the Zone 4 Daytona Beach City Commissioner since 2005.

Robert's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot Charles Powell, who was born on May 26, 1740 in Overwharton Par, Stafford, Virginia. Patriot Powell served during the Revolution as a militiaman in Virginia's Halifax County Militia.

Please welcome our newest member Compatriot Robert Andrew Gilliland!



Joseph William Gilliland

Compatriot Gilliland was born in Daytona Beach, Florida and has lived there since birth. He is the son of Compatriot Robert Andrew Gilliland and the nephew of Compatriot Richard Gilliland.

Joseph is a student at Spruce Creek High School, where he is a percussionist in the school band.

Joseph's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot Charles Powell, who was born on May 26, 1740 in Overwharton Par, Stafford, Virginia. Patriot Powell served during the Revolution as a militiaman in Virginia's Halifax County Militia.

Please welcome our newest member Compatriot Joseph William Gilliland!

In Memorium



Cameron B. "Bruce" Palmer

31 Oct 1926 – 31 Mar 2015

Compatriot Cameron Palmer of McLean, Virginia died on Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at his home. 90-year old

Cameron was the devoted husband of 64-years to Margaret "Peg" Wiles Palmer and father of Martha (Dave) Palmer Chambers of New Castle, Pennsylvania. He is also survived by his two cherished grandchildren, Caity (David) Chambers Booman of Charleston, South Carolina and Keven (Steph) Chambers of Greensburg, Pennsylvania and one great-grandchild, Daniel Asher Booman. A *Life Celebration* was held at Money and King Funeral Home, 171 West Maple Avenue, Vienna, Virginia on Tuesday, April 7 prior to the service.

Interment will take place at Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium at a later date.

Online condolences and fond memories of Bruce may be offered to the family at www.moneyandking.com

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

<i>President:</i>	<i>Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375</i>
<i>Vice President:</i>	<i>Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Paul Walden: 703-347-9770</i>
<i>Registrar:</i>	<i>Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791</i>

*Immediate Past President:
Scott Wagoner: 571-239-3221*

***Ride Share:** Members in need of a ride to a chapter meeting or a chapter sponsored event may contact the Amenities Committee Chairman, Don Reynolds, at (703) 765-4947.*

This newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to newsletter@gwsar.org or call 202-870-3762.

Did You Know?

George Mason (1725-1792)



Although George Mason refused to sign the Constitution, his ideas still had a major effect on the fabric of American political thought. He was one of the richest planters in Virginia and was involved early in his life with western land speculation. Mason served for a brief time in the Virginia House of Burgesses along with his close friend, George Washington. He was more concerned with the types of public duties that did not bring the kind of recognition that his contemporaries were interested in. However, he was one of the most

fundamental thinkers of the American Revolution and formed a close philosophical alliance with Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, James Madison, and George Washington.

His Politics: Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence was influenced greatly by Mason's work on the Virginia bill of rights, and Mason's ideas also had an impact on the development of the Bill of Rights to the United States Constitution. He eventually opposed the Constitution because of the compromise concerning slavery (known as the 3/5 Compromise) and the failure of the delegates to include a Bill of Rights. These objections to the Constitution became the focal point for the anti-federalists during the ratification process. He was chosen the first Senator from Virginia but refused the seat in 1789. Mason has been called the American example of the Enlightenment.¹



George Washington Quotes

We ought not to look back, unless it is to derive useful

lessons from past errors, and for the purpose of profiting by dear bought experience. To inveigh against things that are past and irremediable, is unpleasing; but to steer clear of the shelves and rocks we have struck upon, is the part of wisdom, equally as incumbent on political as other men, who have their own little bark, or that of others, to navigate through the intricate paths of life, or the trackless ocean, to the haven of security and rest.²

May Dates in History

American Revolutionary War

May 1765: Patrick Henry presents seven Virginia Resolutions claiming that only the Virginia assembly can legally tax Virginia residents.

May 1769: George Mason writes resolutions presented by George Washington to the Virginia House of Burgesses opposing taxation without representation.

May 10, 1773: The Tea Act claiming a threepenny per pound import tax on tea arriving in the colonies and provides the British East India Company a virtual tea monopoly by selling directly to chosen tea agents, bypassing and underselling American merchants who acted as middlemen.

May 12, 1774: Boston calls for a boycott of British imports.

May 13, 1774: General Thomas Gage replaces Hutchinson as Royal governor and places Massachusetts under military rule.

May 17-23, 1774: Providence, New York and Philadelphia call for an inter-colonial congress against the Coercive Acts.

May 20, 1774: The Quebec Act establishing a centralized government in Canada controlled by the British and extending the southern boundary of Canada into territories claimed by Massachusetts, Connecticut and Virginia.

May 10, 1775: Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold lead the capture Fort Ticonderoga in New York which contains weapons.

May 15, 1775: Congress places the colonies in a state of defense.

May 2, 1776: The American revolution gains support from King Louis XVI of France.

May 8, 1778: British General Henry Clinton replaces General Howe as commander of all British forces in the American colonies.

May 30, 1778: Iroquois Indians burn Cobleskill, New York.

May 6, 1780: British capture Fort Moultrie at Charleston.

May 12, 1780: Charleston falls to the British.

¹ Source: <http://www.constitutionfacts.com/us-founding-fathers/about-the-founding-fathers/#gm>

² Source: <https://commandperformanceleadership.wordpress.com/2012/02/22/the-leadership-of-george-washington/>

Highlights of the Gold Good Citizenship Award Gala



Above: General Anderson paid a heartfelt tribute to his parents and a rural upbringing in West Virginia.



Above: Senator John Warner stopped in to give his regards to an old friend. L-R General and Mrs. Anderson, John Warner, and Compatriot Tom Burch.

Highlights of the Gold Good Citizenship Award Gala (Continued)



Above: Vice President Greg Bodge presented General Anderson a gift from the George Washington Chapter.



Above: General Kroesen conveying his congratulations to General and Mrs. Anderson.

Highlights of the Gold Good Citizenship Award Gala (Continued)



Above: Bill Price presented General Anderson a gift from the Fairfax Resolves.



Top: The Armed Forces Color Guard posts the Colors.

Bottom: A Brass Quintet from the United States Marine Corps Band plays the National Anthem.

Future Events 2015

- May 9 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- May 9 - Commemoration of the Raid at Martin's Station, Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, Virginia. †
- May 16 - Joint Rev War/War of 1812 Joint Plaque Dedication, at the Masonic Cemetery, Fredericksburg, 3:00 p.m. VASSAR Presidential Initiative. †
- May 25 - National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC. Parade begins at 2:00 p.m. (7th and Constitution, NW). Assemble at 12:30 p.m. **
- June 12-15 - Sons of the American Revolution Annual Conference on the American Revolution, Rubenstein Leadership Hall, Fred W. Smith National Library 3600 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon, Virginia. Cost \$250. Register at: <http://www.mountvernon.org/library/events-programs-calendar/the-marquis-de-lafayette-and-the-european-friends-of-the-american-revolution/>.
- June 13 - Daniel Boone Trail Marker Rededication, Cumberland Gap NHP Visitor's Center, KY, 9:30 a.m.
- June 27 - July 1 - 125th Annual SAR Congress, Louisville, Kentucky. †
- July 4 - 54th Annual Independence Day Ceremony and Wreath Laying at General Washington's Tomb, 10 a.m., Mount Vernon, VA. Assemble at the administration building by 9:30 a.m.. *
- August 7-8 - Atlantic Middle States District Meeting, Bridgewater, New Jersey. †
- August 12-17 - SAR-DAR Bermuda Gunpowder Plot Commemorations in Bermuda. **
- September 12 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- September 17 - Constitution Day at Montpelier, Orange, Virginia. †
- September 18-19 - VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Roanoke, Virginia. †
- September 24-26 - NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky. †
- October TBA - Point Pleasant Days, Point Pleasant, West Virginia. ‡
- October 3-4 - Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain, North Carolina. ‡
- October 10 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- October 10 - The President General's Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 3:15 p.m., Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. **
- October 17-18 - Yorktown Victory Celebration. †
- November 11 - Veterans' Day Ceremony at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia. *
- November 14 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- December 5 - Commemoration of *The Battle of Great Bridge*, Chesapeake, Virginia. †
- December 12 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *
- December 12 - Wreaths Across America, Alexandria National Cemetery. ‡
- January 9 - Chapter Meeting** at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia.

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending.



Saturday, 9 May 2015
Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m.
Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia
Lunch Meeting Reservation Form

Please make your reservation by telephone or e-mail. This is the preferred way to ensure your reservation is received in time to get a seat. Please send reservations and check payable to *George Washington Chapter, VASSAR* by Wednesday, 6 May to Paul Walden. For e-mail reservations, send to paulwalden@live.com with RESERVATION in the subject line.

The lunch cost is \$35.00 per person (\$12.00 per child) and you may pay at the door or send a check in the mail in advance of the meeting. Walk-ins will be accommodated if possible, but to cover the Club's charge for serving those without a timely reservation a walk-in price of \$40.00 is required.

When mailing checks, please be sure I'm notified in time to hold seating for you and your guests!

Please include the following information:

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name (s): _____

A check for _____ persons in the amount of \$ _____ payable to George Washington Chapter VASSAR is enclosed.

Mail this reservation form and your check to:

Paul Walden
Treasurer, George Washington Chapter VASSAR
P.O. Box 77
Mt. Vernon, VA 22121

Check-in and social begin at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon. Valet parking is available.



THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

AGREEMENT OF RELEASE
DUE BY MAY 12, 2015

The National Memorial Day Parade
C/o American Veterans Center
1100 North Glebe Road Suite 910
Arlington, VA 22201

return completed, sign forms to this address:
Under the Sun Productions, Inc
882 South Matlack Street, Suite 202
West Chester, PA 19382

The undersigned will appear in the National Memorial Day Parade being produced by the American Veterans Center on Monday, May 25, 2015. The parade is being given as a public service.

I assume any and all risks associated with participating in the events and particular activities that I agree to undertake, including but not limited to negligent or reckless acts by other participants and volunteers, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. I also agree to abide by the rules of the events as set forth by designated officials and supervisors.

Knowing these facts, and in consideration for being permitted to participate in the parade, I hereby, for myself, and on behalf of the members of my organization and my heirs, executors, administrators, successors, assigns, or anyone else who might claim on my behalf, covenant not to sue, and waive release and discharge the American Veterans Center, The District of Columbia, The National Park Service, JM Best Entertainment Inc., Under the Sun Productions Inc., any and all parade sponsors, and each of them, their officials, agents, designated event supervisory personnel or anyone acting for or on their behalf, from any and all losses, costs (including without limitation, litigation costs, and attorney fees), claims, damages, suits, actions, demands, liability, and expenses in connection with loss of life, personal injury and/or property damage of any kind whatsoever, in law or in equity, arising out of or in the course of my participation in the event.

The undersigned does hereby release his/her voice, biography, audio/visual clips and likeness(es) solely in connection with the promotion, advertising for this year and subsequent festivals, and archival use of the Parade (including print, radio, television, and Internet advertising and promotions, including promotional materials). The undersigned hereby grants the American Veterans Center the right to broadcast, and/or to authorize others to broadcast, via radio, television, cable television, Internet, or otherwise. Clips provided that any such broadcast will be solely for purposes of promoting the Parade. Undersigned acknowledges and agrees that prior to, during or after the Parade, producers may, but will not be obligated to, disseminate information and various materials concerning the Event via the Internet, various online services or through other means or media.

The undersigned hereby accepts sole responsibility for the conduct and operation in the parade. The undersigned agrees that he/she/it will not involve or conduct itself in any manner that would negatively impact the good reputation of the parade. The undersigned agrees to be legally bound hereby.

Name _____

Name of Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date _____

Signature _____

(Parental signature required, if under 18 years of age)



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter



Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Virginia Society, SAR!

Volume 16, Issue 6

September 2015

GW Chapter Brings Home Honors from the 125th National Congress!



Newly Elected Vice President General – International District Mike Elston and Chapter President Dwight Whitney proudly display the President General's Activities Award to the George Washington Chapter at the 125th NSSAR Congress in Louisville.

54th Annual George Washington Celebration at Mount Vernon!



Upcoming Chapter Meetings

September 12: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

October 10: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

November 14: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Events Information

September 17: Constitution Day at Montpelier, Orange, Virginia.

September 18-19: VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Roanoke, Virginia.

September 24-26: NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.

October 7: 235th Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain National Military Park, Blacksburg, South Carolina.

October 2-4: 241st Anniversary Memorial Service, the Battle of Point Pleasant Point, Point Pleasant, West Virginia.



President's Corner

My fellow compatriots,

Greetings and welcome back from the summer break! Ann and I had a busy summer attending SAR events. The summer peaked for us in July with the marriage of our daughter Callie to Mr. Sam Hutchins in North Carolina. It was a joyous occasion and such a happy time for our family.

Back in May, our monthly chapter meeting featured Dr. Dennis M. Conrad, historian at the Naval History and Heritage Command, who provided authoritative perspective on American naval operations in 1778 based on the recently published documents compiled in Vol. 12 of *Naval Documents of the American Revolution*. We were pleased to award the SAR Heroism Medal to Officer Michael Szalach of the Prince William County Police. Compatriot Dr. Thomas C. Roberts was presented the Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award Medal, a national award. We also presented Certificates of Commendation to four compatriots recognizing their documentation of "lost patriots:" David Stringfellow (2), Michael Nugent, John Blair, and Paul Walden.

Chapter highlights of our activities during late spring and summer are presented below. Let me say how grateful I am for the members who came out to support our own chapter events and to those who represented the chapter at many events around the state and beyond.

May: On May 16th, the chapter supported the Joint Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Joint Plaque Dedication at the Masonic Cemetery in Fredericksburg. This was a VASSAR Presidential Initiative, hosted by the Colonel Fielding Lewis Chapter. It was attended by compatriots Dave Thomas, Tom Roth, Mike Elston, Will Elston, and me. Registrar Dave Thomas presented the chapter's wreath while I served duty in the VASSAR Color Guard. Earlier that day, I was at the Fairfax County Cemetery where I participated in the color guard and presented the chapter wreath for the grave markings of the Honorable Gustavus Scott and Ensign Thomas

Millan, hosted by Fairfax Resolves Chapter SAR and the Fairfax County Chapter of the DAR. Once again, we played host to SAR participation in the Memorial Day Parade on May 25th. We had a modest turnout of chapter members and other compatriots from across the region who earned the *Dooley-Carr-Elston Medal* for their participation.

June: Secretary Ernie Coggins attended the SAR Annual Conference on the American Revolution held this year at Mount Vernon June 12-15. On June 12th, Registrar Dave Thomas, along with his wife Carole, attended Gunston Hall's George Mason Day ceremony in honor of George Mason and the writing and passing of the Virginia Declaration of Rights. Dave presented the chapter wreath. On the same day, Ann and I enjoyed the DAR Centennial Celebration of Marking Daniel Boone's Trail at the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. The marker was erected in 1915 by the DAR from the states of Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina. The Centennial Celebration featured greetings from the DAR State Regents of all four states and remarks from DAR President General Lynn Forney Young. I served in the four-state SAR color guard, under Commander John Clines of the Tennessee Society, which presented the colors and performed a flintlock salute. Ann was one of the several DAR ladies there from Virginia and enjoyed her time visiting with many of her sisters from across the four states.

On June 20th, Historian Tom Roth represented the chapter at the memorial dedication for Major Gabriel Long in Yowell Meadow Park in Culpeper, sponsored by the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter.

June 27th to July 1st, the 125th SAR National Congress took place in Louisville, Kentucky. For the second year in a row, the chapter brought home the President General's Activities Award (200+ members) for most complete practice of implementing SAR programs and resolutions! In addition, GW Chapter members, including myself and Ernie Coggins, enjoyed watching Mike Elston's election to Vice President General of the International District and winning the election to a 3-year term as At-Large Member of the Board

of Directors of the SAR Foundation.
Congratulations Mike!

The chapter received two streamers: the President General's Activities Award and the President General's Initiative – Patriot Ancestor Biographies. Several of our members also received personal recognitions which I will announce at the chapter meeting.

July: We had a great time on July 4th, when we conducted our 54th annual wreath laying at the tomb of General George Washington at Mount Vernon. At 10 a.m., the VASSAR Color Guard led us down the bowling green to the tomb grove. We were honored to have both our VASSAR President, Reverdy Wright and the Regent of the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the DAR, Penny Kales, as well as former PG Joe Dooley in attendance. Special guest Alexandra Rodriguez, our candidate and runner-up to the 2015 VASSAR Rumbaugh Orations Contest gave her excellent oration to the large crowd that had assembled in the grove. Past President Scott Wagoner, Brigadier General Paul Wagoner, USAF (ret.), and VASSAR President presented the wreath. Following the tomb grove ceremony and the wreath laying, each SAR member presented a carnation at General Washington's tomb. The chapter awarded Baldwin-Jones Tabb medals to SAR members attending for the first time. Following the ceremony, Vice President Bodge participated in the naturalization ceremony held on the grounds of Mount Vernon. New member Kevin Rogers reported that he attended the naturalization ceremony at Monticello that day.

On July 25th, Historian Tom Roth represented the Chapter and presented a wreath at a plaque dedication ceremony held at the Augusta Stone Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Ft. Defiance, Virginia. Through this event, VASSAR and the Virginia Society of the War of 1812 honored Revolutionary War patriots and War of 1812 veterans. The event was hosted by the Gen. Daniel Morgan Chapter and was a 2015 VASSAR Presidential Initiative.

August: Ernie Coggins attended the 2015 Atlantic Middle States Conference at Bridgewater, New Jersey, hosted by the New Jersey Society on August 7th and 8th.

The much anticipated 240th Anniversary of the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot Commemorations in Bermuda took place August 12-17. Compatriots Mike Elston, organizer and co-chair for the joint SAR-DAR-C.A.R. organized event, and Ernie Coggins report that it was a grand affair. There were dedications of two historic markers and one interpretative sign, and meetings with the Acting United States Consul General, the Governor General of Bermuda, and the Premier of Bermuda.

Upcoming Events. Please join us for September 12th meeting at Belle Haven. I expect another professional and informative presentation from our guest speaker. We will also be presenting some very special awards to members of the community and need your show of support. Make those reservations today!

Also coming up in September is the VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting in Roanoke and the NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference in Louisville, KY. Your attendance is important to the chapter, and always a great time of fellowship with like-minded men who love our country.

See the events calendar for the line-up of activities within the chapter and state society. Keep in mind that in October we will continue our tradition of organizing the President General's wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. It will take place after our regular chapter meeting on October 10th. In November we will celebrate Veteran's Day with our annual wreath laying at Washington's tomb November 14th, and Vice President Bodge is lining up a program to recognize our members during our chapter meeting November 14th.

I look forward to seeing you all again soon!

Dwight Whitney

Chapter President

September 2015 Speaker

Dr. Charles Neimeyer is currently the Director of Marine Corps History and the Gray Research Center at Marine Corps University, Quantico, Virginia. Prior to coming to Quantico, Dr. Neimeyer was the former Dean of Academics at the Naval War College and Forrest Sherman Chair of Public Diplomacy in Newport, Rhode Island and a former Vice President of Academic Affairs at Valley Forge Military Academy and College. Prior to his stint as Academic Dean at the Naval War College, he was a full time professor of National Security Affairs from 1997-2002. He also previously served as an award winning history professor at the U.S. Naval Academy and the University of Central Oklahoma where he was named Liberal Arts "Outstanding Professor of the Year." During his 20 year career as a military officer, Dr. Neimeyer served in a variety of posts and stations in the Marine Corps, including tours in all three active Marine Divisions and service at the White House. While on active duty, he earned a Masters Degree and Ph.D. in History (with distinction) from Georgetown University, and an additional Masters Degree from the Naval War College, where he graduated with highest honors. He retired from the Marines in 1996 as a Lieutenant Colonel and is married to Janet [Bell] Neimeyer of Glen Echo, Maryland.

Dr. Neimeyer has authored a variety of history and national security affairs articles and has published in 1996, *America Goes to War: A Social History of the Continental Army, 1775 - 1783*, by the New York University Press. He published a second monograph, *The Revolutionary War*, (Greenwood Press, 2007) and recently edited a volume titled, *On the Corps: USMC Wisdom from the pages of Leatherneck, Marine Corps Gazette and Proceedings*. He has another monograph to be published by the U.S. Naval Institute on the *Chesapeake Campaigns in the War of 1812* in the Spring, 2015.

From the Secretary



As of the end of May, the *George Washington Chapter* had 291 members. Of this number there were about 245 valid email addresses. The 2015 Directories were mailed in May. If you did not receive yours; please contact me.

Email addresses appear to change more often than mailing addresses. It is very important that you provide us with your current contact information (including telephone numbers). In October, we shall be mailing renewal notices; please be prompt with your renewals. Contact email address for me is sargw.secretary@gmail.com.

Additionally, the National Society is continuing to collect Patriot Biographies. Jamie Callender, our Webmaster, has done an outstanding job of posting our Patriot Biographies on our website and submitting them to the National Society. Statistics published at Congress in Louisville this summer, indicated that six percent of all the Patriot Biographies submitted to the National Society at that time, were from the George Washington Chapter. Thank you and thank Jamie! If you have not submitted your Patriot's biography(ies), please do so. We would like for them to be at least 200 words but not to exceed 500 words. Patriot Biographies are posted at <http://gwsar.org/ancestors.html>.

Email any comments or corrections to Jamie at webmaster@gwsar.org. It is important that in the subject line, you put your Patriot's last name, first name, and rank. If you have his Patriot Number, please include that, too. If you do not have access to the Internet, please mail your Bio to:

George Washington Chapter

Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution
ATTN: Patriot Biographies
P.O. Box 77
Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121

Ernie Coggins

Secretary

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report in the May GWSAR Newsletter, four new member applications and one Memorial application were approved by NSSAR. VASSAR bestowed one Forgotten Patriot Certificate. There are currently two supplemental applications under review by NSSAR. There were no new member inductions during June, July or August.

New Members Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Jay Randall Franklin	James Pemberton Dejarnette
Thomas Searle Jackson	Henry Barker
Jacob Alec Martin	John Van Doren
John Dillon Martin	John Van Doren

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
James Robert Beall	Richard Bard
Jay Randall Franklin	James Pemberton Dejarnette

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Jack Todd Pitzer	John Hartzell
Jack Todd Pitzer	George Henry Hartzell
Jack Todd Pitzer	Frederick Kleinhans
Paul Ashley Walden	Ebenezer Stewart
Robert August Whitehead	Seth Farley

Memorial Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
James Stuart Jackson	Henry Barker

Forgotten Patriot Recognition and Certificate

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Robert August Whitehead	Henry Fowlkes

Dave Thomas

Registrar



From the Editor

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this newsletter useful and interesting.

This month, we had more comments and submissions from our leadership than at any time since I have been editor! Thank you to all contributors.

Please submit stories, photos and suggestions to newsletter@gwsar.org. I will do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

President: Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375
Vice President: Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252
Secretary: Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807
Treasurer: Paul Walden: 703-347-9770
Registrar: Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791

*Immediate Past President:
 Scott Wagoner: 571-239-3221*

Ride Share: *Members in need of a ride to a chapter meeting or a chapter sponsored event may contact the Amenities Committee Chairman, Don Reynolds, at (703) 765-4947.*

This newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to newsletter@gwsar.org or call 202-870-3762.

John Barron Grave Marking

In June, Compatriot Garner Bennett, attended a grave marking ceremony for his Patriot ancestor, John Barron, conducted by the SCSAR. Patriot Barron is buried in the Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, in Rock Hill, York County, SC.

Patriot John Barron (#ANC62183) was born in 1763, the son of Archibald Barron and Elizabeth Ingram, who initially emigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania and then to South Carolina.

John's father Archibald Barron, buried near him, rendered aid to the Revolutionary War effort in 1780, and this support made an impression on the 17 year old John. Two years later, at 19 years of age, John would join the SC Militia to fight for America's independence serving "as private footman under Colonel Bratton and Direction of General Henderson".

The British pulled out of the Camden District SC in December 1781, but Charleston was still under the grips of the British when John Barron enlisted in the summer of 1782. This year marked the last efforts for the South Carolina Militia which led up to the defeat of the British and their final departure from South Carolina in December 1782.

Before 1789, John Barron married Jane Duncan, daughter of John and Jane Duncan of York County SC. In 1790 John Barron as the Executor of her parents' estate, records show Col. Bratton, Col. Watson, and Col. William Hill were acquaintances of the Barron and Duncan families.

John and Jane Duncan Barron had 9 children; Jane Barron [Barry] born 1789, Elizabeth 1791. John Barron Jr., became a state Legislator and successful businessman in Alabama. William (1796) would follow his brother John Jr. to Alabama and become a prosperous farmer. Polly (1797) died at the age of 17 and is buried in the Ebenezer Cemetery SC near her grandmother. Archibald Barron (1800) stayed in SC. Nancy Barron [Wallace] (1802), Violet Barron [Baxter] (1805) moved to Alabama and Arkansas. Thomas Y. Barron's (1807) last residence was Texas.

Patriot John Barron died in 1841 York Co. SC and his wife Jane Duncan Barron died in 1854 Perry Co., AL. John Barron is buried just behind his parents Archibald and Elizabeth Ingram Barron in the Ebenezer Presbyterian Church cemetery. Jane Duncan Barron is buried in the Fairview Cemetery, Alabama near three of her children John Jr., William,

Nancy, and 5 infant grandchildren born to Thomas Y. and his wife Mary Barron from whom Compatriot Garner Bennett is descended.

Mr. Barron was a successful farmer and was well known in York County, South Carolina. Land records show, for \$300, he purchased 200 acres originally granted to (Col.) Samuel Watson. A widely accepted Barron family biography written by James A. Barron (John's great-grandson) states, "John was the first owner of a cotton gin in York County. Two bales of cotton ginned in a day was considered a fine day's work. He received one fifteenth of the cotton ginned as pay. He raised cotton, wheat, and hay...John owned one of the first mules in the State; people came from all around to see it. And the whiskey from his still-house was fine... He received his religious education in the A.R.P. Church. He and his father were ruling Elders in the Presbyterian Church at Tirzah. He held a leading position in the New District, SC."

Forgotten Patriots Recognition

As a result of diligent genealogical research by four GWSAR members, who proved their respective bloodline linages to Patriot Ancestors, who have never been documented before, the GWSAR Chapter, VASSAR and NSSAR recognized and bestowed Forgotten Patriot Certificates to John Blair III (Patriot William Hooe), Paul Walden (Patriot John Tubbs), Michael Nugent (Patriot Willoughby Nugent) and David Stringfellow (Patriots Daniel Edmonds & Richard Calkins). The Forgotten Patriot certificate recognizes these GWSAR members for their hard work, and honors these once Forgotten Patriots.



(Right to Left) Dwight Whitney, John Blair III, Paul Walden, Michael Nugent, David Stringfellow and Dave Thomas.

New Member Biographies



John R. Edwards

Compatriot Edwards was raised in Honolulu, HI. He received a B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Hawaii. He later received an M.A. in Organizational

Sciences from The George Washington University, Washington D.C., as well as graduating from the Air Force's School of Advanced Air and Space Studies and the Air War College.

John is an Air Force Colonel where he has served for nearly 20 years, primarily as a combat aviator in the B-52 bomber. He is currently assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon.

He and his wife Jennifer have a 9 year old daughter named Anna-Claire, a 6 year old daughter named Elizabeth, and a 4 year old son named James.

John's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot James Huie, who during the Revolution served as a Constable for Rutherford Co., North Carolina.

Sean M. Robbins



Compatriot Robbins was born in Beaufort, South Carolina in 1986 to H. Michael and G. Denice (Jordan) Robbins, the younger of two children. His father served twenty-two years in the United States

Marine Corps, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, followed by a career in business. His mother, Denice, was a teacher for a number years until her retirement in 2012.

Because of his father's career, Sean spent his youth moving from place to place, including North Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, and Virginia. In 1998, the Robbins family moved to Dumfries, Virginia for the third and final time, which Sean considers his hometown.

Sean received a B.B.A. in Finance from James Madison University in 2008. He is currently a Senior Financial Analyst at Avendra, a procurement company in the

hospitality industry, where he has worked for 4 years.

Most recently on March 7, 2015, Compatriot Robbins married P. Jimena Lona Benavides. Sean's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot James Chitwood, who assisted in establishing American independence while acting in capacity of Private in the Light Dragoon, South Carolina Line, serving under Captain Levi Johnson, Col. Thomas and General Thomas Sumter.

Memorial Membership



James Stuart Jackson

31 March 1970 – 24 April 2010

James Stuart Jackson came from 16 generations of Virginians. The first being

Francis Mason in 1613 at Jamestown. His Revolutionary War Patriot Ancestor was Henry Barker who served in the 2nd *Virginia Continental Regiment of Foot* for three years as a private. James' lineage also includes William James Barker, who served during the Civil War in the 12th *Virginia Infantry*, and Chaplin Rev. Mills Burwell Barrett, Jr., who was killed in action at Spotsylvania Court House April 2, 1865 in the *Confederate Cause*.

James graduated from North Dorchester High School in Dorchester County, Maryland in 1988. He worked for Robbins Boat Works in Dorchester County, started Shearwater Marine and was the owner of Diver Services in Ocean City, Maryland. In April 2010 while working in the Bahama's, James died in a work related accident.



George Washington Quotes

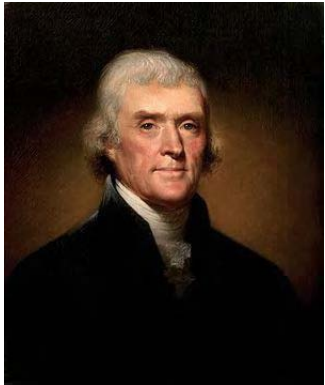
True friendship is a plant of slow growth, and must undergo and withstand the shocks of adversity, before it is entitled to the appellation.¹

¹ Source:

http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/g/george_washington.html#k5uerqCpoErHrTw6.99

Did You Know?

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826)



President (1801-1809)

Other Accomplishments: Wrote the Declaration of Independence, served as Minister to France (a pivotal diplomatic position) as the Constitution was being drafted.

Jefferson was nicknamed "Long Tom" because he

stood 6' 2 1/2" tall, with long, slender limbs. He had carrot-red hair that paled with age. A fiddle player, Jefferson wooed his wife with violin serenades. Jefferson eschewed the uniforms of nobility, choosing instead to dress himself in sometimes dirty and tattered clothing.

Although his wife died at the age of 33, Jefferson never remarried. He did, however, allegedly father five children by Sally Hemings, one of his slaves.

Jefferson was the quintessential Renaissance man and has been described as a(n): lawyer, linguist, diplomat, astronomer, naturalist, political philosopher, educator, statesman, president, "farmer," musician, scientist, inventor, agriculturalist, horseman, geographer, theologian and paleontologist. Jefferson was fluent in Greek, Latin, French, Spanish, Italian, German, and was a supporter of equal rights and education for women, the right of all to have a free public education, a free library system and the creation of decimal system of weights and measures. He is also considered one of the preeminent architects in the history of the country.

His Politics: Jefferson was a Republican, which at that time was the party of the common man. He envisioned a nation built on agriculture, not industry. The formal name for the "Republican" Party of Jefferson was the Democratic-Republican Party from which our present day Democratic party evolved. (The Republican party of today was created in 1854 by the joining of anti-slavery Democrats, the Free Soil Party and factions of the Whig Party.) The formal name of the opposing party (led by Alexander Hamilton) was the Federalist Party.

Jefferson was renowned for being a terrible public speaker due to a speech impediment, although he is certainly regarded as one of the most facile writers ever to hold the office of the presidency. He alone wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence.

He doubled the land size of the United States when he made the Louisiana Purchase from Napoleon. Napoleon

needed cash to conquer Europe; Jefferson wanted the land to safeguard against a future French invasion and to encourage his vision of American being a land of small independent (yeoman) farmers. The selling price: \$15 million.

After his two terms as president, Jefferson retired to his Virginia estate, Monticello. He spent much of his time pursuing his dream of establishing a university. That dream was realized when he founded the University of Virginia.

What He Said: "A little rebellion now and then is a good thing." "Science is my passion, politics my duty."

September Dates in History

American Revolutionary War

September 8, 1760: Pierre de Rigaud, Governor of New France, capitulates to Field Marshal Jeffrey Amherst.

September 1, 1764: The *Currency Act*, prohibiting the colonies from issuing paper money, is passed by Parliament.

September 1768: English warships sail into Boston Harbor, then two regiments of English infantry land in Boston and set up permanent residence to keep order.

September 1, 1774: The Powder Alarm, General Gage's secret raid on the Cambridge powder magazine.

September 11, 1776: Staten Island Peace Conference

September 15, 1776: Landing at Kip's Bay

September 16, 1776: Battle of Harlem Heights

September 19, 1777: First Battle of Saratoga

September 21-22, 1776: Great Fire of New York

September 22, 1776: Nathan Hale captured and executed for espionage

September 11, 1777: Battle of Brandywine

September 20, 1777: Battle of Paoli

September 26, 1777: British occupation of Philadelphia

September 23, 1780: John Andre captured and the treason of Benedict Arnold is exposed

September 26, 1780: Battle of Charlotte

September 5, 1781: Battle of the Chesapeake

September 8, 1781: Battle of Eutaw Springs

September 3, 1783: The *Treaty of Paris* ends the American Revolutionary War

Awards Committee Report



Above: JROTC Cadet Johnathan Flowers of West Potomac High School receiving the Bronze JROTC Medal and Certificate from Paul Wagoner, Vice Chairman of the committee.

During April and May, BG Paul Wagoner and I presented SAR JROTC Awards to the following students at area high schools:

- Cadet 2LT Rheeliza Ambanta, Mount Vernon HS, VSSAR 2nd place -- Enhanced JROTC Medallion, Bronze JROTC Medal and \$500 cash.
- Cadet MAJ Joseph J. Brewster, Woodbridge HS, VSSAR finalist -- Enhanced JROTC Medallion, Bronze JROTC Medal.
- Cadet CPT Jacob Campbell, Edison Academy -- Enhanced JROTC Medallion, Bronze JROTC Medal.
- Cadet SFC Nicholas C. Scheets, T. C. Williams HS -- Bronze JROTC Medal
- Cadet 2LT Aaron Colby, Hayfield Secondary -- Bronze JROTC Medal.
- Cadet Jonathan Flowers, West Potomac HS -- Bronze JROTC Medal
- Cadet Jacqueline Settel, Lake Braddock HS -- Bronze JROTC Medal.

BG (R) Jack T. Pitzer, Ph.D., CPPO
Awards Committee Chairman

Highlights of the May Chapter Meeting



Above: Vice President Greg Bodge presents our May speaker, Dr. Dennis Conrad, with a gift from the chapter.



Above: The photo is from the *Public Service Award for Heroism* made to Prince William County Police officers Michael R. Szalach and Robert W. Minnick. Pictured in the photo from left to right are President Dwight Whitney, Supervisor Sgt. Michael J. Headrick, Officer Michael R. Szalach, John Blair and Awards Chair, Jack Pitzer.

Summer Events



Top Left: Dwight & Ann Whitney at the DAR Marker at Cumberland Gap

Top Right: On July 4th, VP Greg Bodge addressed newly sworn-in citizens at the naturalization ceremony held on the grounds of Mount Vernon. CIA Director John Brennan, seated just to the right of Greg, was the keynote speaker.

Middle Left: Registrar Dave Thomas attended the George Mason Day services at Gunston Hall. (L-R): Gene Thomas, President of the George Mason Chapter; Al Lewis, Vice-President of the George Mason Chapter; Pete Davenport, Secretary of the George Mason Chapter; Jackie Ehrman, Susan Hayward and Dave's wife Carole Thomas, Living History actors for Gunston Hall; and Compatriot Dave Thomas.

Middle Right: Group shot of the SAR members who marched in the 2015 Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC.

Bottom Left: Paul Walden, Treasurer and 2014 Registrar for the George Washington Chapter, presented Carol Sweeney a certificate of appreciation during the chapter meeting of the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, DAR, in May. In 2014, Mrs. Sweeney assisted our chapter in finding documents that allowed several SAR applications to be approved for membership.

Bottom Right: Past President Mike Elston (2013) was elected Vice President General – International District at the 125th NSSAR National Congress in Louisville.

George Washington Chapter's 54th Annual Independence Day Wreath Laying at George Washington's Tomb



Despite the heavy rains early in the morning, we enjoyed a great turnout at this year's event!

Top left: The President of the Light Horse Harry Lee Society of the Virginia Society, Children of the American Revolution led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

Top Right: The chapter's winner of the Rumbaugh Orations Contest treated the crowd to her award-winning oration at the Tomb Grove

Middle Left: President Whitney used Washington's words about the "concatenation of causes" in the Revolution that resulted in victory over the British

Middle Right: Vice President Greg Bodge was the master of ceremonies

Bottom Left: Presentation of the chapter's wreath was made by Compatriots Scott Wagoner, VASSAR President Reverdy Wright, and Paul Wagoner

Bottom Right: The group of attending SAR, DAR, and C.A.R. members pose for a picture following the ceremony

Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award

At the chapter meeting in May, Dr. Thomas C. Roberts was presented the *Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award* by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Dr. Roberts has distinguished himself as both a Scout and as a Scouting volunteer. As a Cub Scout, he earned the *Arrow of Light Award*. He is an Eagle Scout with Bronze Palm and the God and Country Award. As an adult Scouter, Dr. Roberts has been a Cubmaster, a Troop Committee Chair and Assistant Scoutmaster. He served on staff at the 2005, 2010 and 2013 National Jamborees. He has led Scouts on high adventure experiences to northern Maine hiking Mt Katahdin and the Knife Edge and a 10-day canoe trip along the Canadian Border up the Allagash River. He led a 7-day Sea Base adventure in the Bahamas. He serves as merit badge counselor for Dentistry and Fly Fishing and is a certified Boy Scout Angling instructor.

He is president nominee of the Alexandria Rotary Club. He has represented the Rotary Club with an overseas dentistry mission to improve the dental health of children in Botswana and South Africa. He has been leader of the Rotary bell-ringers for the Salvation Army for a number of Christmas seasons. He is a member of the Rotary Club Day Nursery and Children's Home Foundation board.

Other civic activities include being a board member of the Alexandria Citadel of the Salvation Army and deacon and Sunday School teacher at Old Presbyterian Meeting House. He also volunteers for Meals on Wheels and the Christ House food kitchen.

His continued commitment to leading young men and women is in the highest tradition of the Boy Scouts of America and the Sons of the American Revolution.



Above: Dr. Thomas C. Roberts received the Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. L-R: Jack Pitzer, Compatriot Roberts, Dwight Whitney.

Future Events 2015

September 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

September 17 - Constitution Day at Montpelier, Orange, Virginia. †

September 18-19 - VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Roanoke, Virginia. †

September 24-26 - NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference, Louisville, Kentucky. †

October 7 – 235th Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain National Military Park, Blacksburg, SC, 11 a.m. Sponsored by The Battle of Kings Mountain Chapter, NCSSAR, and the Daniel Morgan Chapter, SCSSAR <http://scssar.org/october-7-2015-the-235th-anniversary-of-the-battle-of-kings-mountain/> †

October 2-4 – 241st Anniversary Memorial Service, the Battle of Point Pleasant Point, Point Pleasant, West Virginia. <http://wvssar.org/point-pleasant-battle-days-2015/> ‡

October 10 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. Our special guest will be President General Thomas E. Lawrence.*

October 10 - The President General's Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 3:15 p.m., Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. Be at the tomb site by 2:30 p.m.**

October 17-18 – Yorktown Victory Celebration. †

November 11 - Veterans' Day Ceremony at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia. *

November 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

December 5 - Commemoration of *The Battle of Great Bridge*, Chesapeake, Virginia. †

December 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

December 12 – Wreaths Across America, Alexandria National Cemetery. ‡

January 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia.

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending.



George Washington Chapter, VASSAR

Luncheon Meeting Reservation Form

Chapter Meeting: 11:30 am, 12 Sep 2015

Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA

It is requested that reservations be made by completing this form and mailing it to the Chapter Treasurer at the address below so that he **receives it by 9 Sep 2015**. It is preferred that payment be received in advance to avoid having to track down the Treasurer at the meeting to collect checks or cash. It also ensures that the caterer is given adequate notice to prepare enough tables for the meeting.

If you chose to notify us by email, please ensure your email has the word **“RESERVATION” in the subject line**. The Treasurer will confirm your reservation by **email as well. This will ensure your email is not lost by “spam” filters. The Treasurer’s** email address is PaulWalden@live.com.

The lunch cost is \$35 per person (\$12 for a child). The check should be made payable to **G.W. Chapter, SAR**. Again, checks are preferred over cash. Walk ins will be accommodated, provided there is space. However, if you have not notified the Treasurer by 5:00 pm on the preceding Wednesday, the walk-in price of \$40.00 is requested.

Please provide the following when making the reservation:

Meeting Date: _____

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name(s): _____

A check in the amount of \$ _____ payable to **G.W. Chapter, SAR** is enclosed.

Please note if any of the guests are children.

Please return this form and check to: Paul Walden, Treasurer
George Washington Chapter, VASSAR
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609
Alexandria, VA 22303-2522

The check-in and social begins at 11:30 with a cash bar. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon and is typically concluded by 2:30. Valet parking is available.



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter



Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Virginia Society, SAR!

Volume 16, Issue 7

October 2015

Virginia Society Semi-Annual Meeting



Above: Attending the Virginia Society's Semi-Annual Meeting in Roanoke on 18-19 September 2015 are: President Dwight Whitney, Vice President Greg Bodge, Secretary Ernie Coggins, Treasurer Paul Walden, and Registrar Dave Thomas. Former Chapter President; Second Vice President, Virginia Society; and Vice President General, International District; Mike Elston was also present. Also in attendance were dual members: President General Joe Dooley and Virginia Society President Reverdy Wright.

Preston Memorial Dedication



Above: Attending the Colonel William Preston Memorial dedication in Daleville, Virginia, on Saturday, 19 September 2015 are from left to right: Vice President Greg Bodge, President Dwight Whitney, Virginia Society President Reverdy Wright, Registrar Dave Thomas, and Secretary Ernie Coggins.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

October 10: Chapter Meeting at 11:15 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

November 14: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

December 12: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Events Information

October 10 - The President General's Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 3:15 p.m., Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.

October 18-19 - Yorktown Victory Celebration.

November 11 - Veterans' Day Ceremony at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia.

December 5 - Commemoration of the Battle of Great Bridge, Chesapeake, Virginia.

December 12 - Wreaths Across America, Alexandria National Cemetery.



President's Corner

My fellow compatriots:

Last Month. We had a great turnout for the September chapter meeting where we inducted newest member Sean Robbins, honored three heroes from the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, and enjoyed a great speaker. Dr. Charles P. Neimeyer gave an authoritative and interesting presentation on the activities of the Marine Corps during the Revolution.

The Medals for Heroism were presented to Lt. Everett Hinson, Technician I Andrew Morris, and Technician I Jake Forestiere for their river rescue of four juveniles trapped in a frowning hole hydraulic after their boat filled with water and became pinned against a rock. At that time the men happened to be training on the Potomac near Great Falls. When they heard the calls for help, they raced their boat to the trouble site and, putting their training to good use, swiftly and safely pulled the four victims from the water. Everyone came out of the water alive and unhurt!

Six members, including all four officers represented the chapter at the VASSAR Semi-Annual Conference in Roanoke September 18th - 19th. The chapter received the Partners in Patriotism Certificate for "working hand-in-hand with a veterans group in pursuit of a common goal," including the American Legion and patriotic programs such as Wreaths Across America, Blue Star Salute, Operation Ancestry Search, and the like. In addition, Paul Walden and Jim Mobley received Liberty Medal awards for each 10 new-member applications on which they were first-line sponsors. Congratulations to Paul and Jim!

Following the Semi-Annual Meeting, several of us ventured over to Botetourt County and attended the ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating completion of the first phase of the Col. William Preston Memorial, a project of the Fincastle Resolutions Chapter. The event was well attended by members of the SAR and DAR and by descendants of William Preston.

Coming up. I'm looking forward to a great turnout for the President General's visit at our next chapter meeting October 10th. At the meeting we will also receive the report of the 2016 Officer Nominating Committee (Mike Elston, Chairman, Scott Wagoner,

and Don Reynolds) on the slate of nominations for next year's officers and managers. The elections will be held at the November meeting.

Immediately following the October meeting, we will host the President General's Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 3:15 p.m. Due to the timing of the event, the reception will begin earlier at 11:15 a.m., and the **chapter meeting will convene 15 minutes early at 11:45 a.m., and finish by 1:30 p.m.** in order that we can get everyone to the site in time for preparations. If you have never attended one of these ceremonies before, don't miss this opportunity! It is a moving experience to witness the ceremony and to interact with the many visitors, including veterans, school children, and foreigners, there to pay their respects.

In November will be our annual Veterans' Day Wreath Laying with Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the DAR at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon. We are also preparing a recognition for our veteran chapter members for the November chapter meeting. The program last year was well received and a great way of showing appreciation for our veterans. If you are a veteran and did not send your information last year, please send it right away to Vice President Greg Bodge. **Send a military photo and brief description of service, including name, rank, dates of service, and branch of service.** It will be a special time!

Call to Chapter Service. With the preparations for 2016 on the horizon, it is a good time to remind you all that the chapter is continuously in need of your service. The donations you send in with your dues or during the year continue to sustain our many outreach activities. Our committees provide the leadership and people that maintain our presence in the community through youth activities, community awards, and patriot ceremonies. Without these volunteers and your resources, we could not fulfill the obligations to our forefathers we are pledged to remember and to defend.

I am grateful to the several members who have informed me on occasion of their willingness to serve in some capacity. I keep their names on a list and forward them to a committee chairman or officer as appropriate. It has been my practice to reach for my list when there is a need that turns up. That list is not very long so there have been times when I've had to reach for the membership directory to find help. I'm

happy to say that I've never been turned down by anyone who was able to pitch in

The need for committee participants never goes away. I ask that you make your interests known through one of the officers, a committee chairman, or your "buddy." In your membership directory you will find a list of committees and their respective leaders whom you can contact. If you are interested in serving in some way, send me an e-mail or give me a call. I would be glad to have you on my list!

I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Dwight Whitney

Chapter President

From the Secretary



This month, we shall be mailing out renewal notices. At Congress in Louisville this summer, the delegates voted to raise the National Society dues by \$5.00. Note that this does not apply to junior members.

National dues have not been increased since 2009, and the increase will be used to enhance the IT infrastructure and provide funding for the digitalization of records.

Please be prompt with your renewals. Our Chapter is fortunate in that we continue to grow. Make certain that your information including your mailing address and your email address are correct. Many of you make the effort to contribute extra money along with your dues. This extra funding enables us to continue our youth programs, public safety awards, grave markings, and other activities such as Wreaths Across America. We have received the President General's Activities Award for two consecutive years. You are members of one of the most active chapters in the nation, and you should all take great pride in this achievement. As Dwight says, I would also encourage all of you who have the time to volunteer to assist our committee chairmen and help make all these things happen. A list of committees is given in your 2015 Directory. If you have not received your copy, contact me at secretary@gwsar.org.

Finally, we are still continuing our efforts to collect Patriot Biographies of between 200 and 500 words in length. Email these to our webmaster, Jamie Callender at webmaster@gwsar.org, or mail them to the George Washington Chapter; Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution; ATTN: Patriot Biographies; P.O. Box 77; Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121.

Ernie Coggins

Secretary

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report in September no new member applications were approved by NSSAR. There are currently 2 new member and 6 supplemental applications under review by NSSAR. There was 1 new member induction during the September chapter meeting.

New Members Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Robert Lee Fitton II	Richard Marshall
Michael Paul Pillsbury	Stephen Pillsbury

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Tom Mosser Roth	Henry Jarboe

Dave Thomas

Registrar

Emeritus Certificate

Our dual member, Judge Richard B. Abell, will receive an Emeritus Certificate from the President of the Philadelphia Continental Chapter at our October meeting.



From the Editor

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this newsletter useful and interesting.

Last month, we had more comments and submissions from our leadership than at any time since I have been editor! Thank you to all contributors.

Please submit stories, photos and suggestions to newsletter@gwsar.org. I will do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

<i>President:</i>	<i>Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375</i>
<i>Vice President:</i>	<i>Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Paul Walden: 703-347-9770</i>
<i>Registrar:</i>	<i>Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791</i>

*Immediate Past President:
Scott Wagoner: 571-239-3221*

Ride Share: *Members in need of a ride to a chapter meeting or a chapter sponsored event may contact the Amenities Committee Chairman, Don Reynolds, at (703) 765-4947.*

This newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to newsletter@gwsar.org or call 202-870-3762.



George Washington Quotes

"Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair; the rest is in the hands of God".¹

2016 Dues Notices

At the July, 2015 Congress in Louisville, KY, the NSSAR general membership voted to increase the national dues to \$35, effective 1 Jan 2016. This is a \$5 increase over the 2015 dues. There is no change for the VASSAR or chapter dues. Therefore, for regular members of the George Washington Chapter, the total dues would be \$80: (\$35 NSSAR, \$20 VASSAR, and \$25 Chapter).

We will be mailing dues notices the second week in October. If you do not receive your dues notice by 15 October, please let me know by email at PaulWalden@live.com.

We hope to collect all dues by 30 November 2015. Every member who pays on time will win for the chapter 10 points towards the President General's/Americanism award.

As we did last year, in an effort to reduce postage costs, we are offering members the option of receiving the newsletter via email, rather than U.S. Postal Service mail. The dues notice will have a checkbox to indicate if you prefer to opt out of receiving the newsletter via U.S. Postal Service mail. The postage for each monthly newsletter mailing costs the chapter approximately \$75, so every penny counts.

Paul Walden,
Treasurer

October 2015 Speaker

President General Thomas E. Lawrence



Our October speaker will be President General, Tom Lawrence. Tom was elected at our 125th Congress in Louisville this summer. Previously he served as chancellor general, treasurer general, and secretary general of the

¹ Source: <http://brainz.org/50-best-george-washington-quotes/>

National Society. He was an elected Justice of the Peace for Harris County, Texas from 1983 until his retirement on 31 December 2014. Judge Lawrence was appointed by the Supreme Court of Texas to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct in 1991 and is the only Justice of the Peace to serve as chairman of the Commission. Additionally, the Supreme Court of Texas appointed him to the Supreme Court Advisory Commission in 1999; he is only the second Justice of the Peace to serve on this committee.

October Dates in History

American Revolutionary War

October 7, 1763: The Proclamation of 1763 issued by King George III after the end of the French and Indian War / Seven Years' War to organize the new North American empire and stabilize relations with Native Americans. No British settlements allowed west of the Appalachian Mountains. Settlers already in these areas required to return east.

October 1765: The Stamp Act Congress prepares a resolution to be sent to King George III requesting the repeal of the Stamp Act.

October 1767: Boston reinstates boycott of English luxury goods.

October 1769: Boycott of English goods spreads to Rhode Island, New Jersey and North Carolina

October 1773: Colonists in Philadelphia force British tea agents to resign their positions.

October 28, 1776: Battle of White Plains force General Washington to retreat to the west pursued by Cornwallis

October 7, 1777: American victory at Battle of Saratoga

October 17, 1777: Americans capture Burgoyne and his army at Saratoga.

October 17, 1781: American victory at Yorktown terms discussed for the British surrender.

October 19, 1781: The British army surrenders at Yorktown - a devastating effect on the British.

Source - www.datesandevents.org

In Memory of Compatriot Dr. Robert K. Wineland



Dr. Wineland in the Army in Belgium during World War II.

It is with heavy heart that we must say goodbye to Compatriot Robert Kenneth Wineland who passed away from illness on Sunday, 20 September 2015.

In World War II, Dr. Wineland was a 20-year old Army Medic assigned to 106th Infantry Division that was stationed in the Ardennes in Belgium. On 16 December 1944, he became a participant in the Battle of the Bulge, the German operation to split the Western Front and capture port of Antwerp. This was the largest battle fought by American forces during the war and one of the bloodiest. The 106th bore the brunt of the entire German offensive. It suffered the loss of 60 percent of its personnel, the largest of any American Division in World War II.

Our Compatriot, Robert Wineland experienced this combat first hand. His involvement as a medic in the war convinced him that he wanted to advance his medical training in order to continue to help people. After his discharge in December 1945, he returned home to Anacostia and earned a medical degree from George Washington University in 1951.

That same year he married Stuart de Murguiondo and later settled in Alexandria to practice medicine as pediatrician. He was instrumental in creating the Mount Vernon Hospital that opened in 1976. He served as the first president of the hospital's medical staff. He made frequent medical trips to treat children in Algeria and Honduras. He celebrated his 91st birthday in July.

We shall fondly remember "Dr. Bob" as a compassionate patriot and loyal supporter of the George Washington Chapter, Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

A Liturgy in Celebration of Compatriot Wineland's life will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Saturday, 10 October at 11:00 AM. The family invites all to attend a reception following the service in Norton Hall.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
228 South Pitt Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 549-3312

Founding Fathers

James Madison, Jr. (1751-1836)²



The oldest of 10 children and a scion of the planter aristocracy, Madison was born in 1751 at Port Conway, King George County, VA, while his mother was visiting her parents. In a few weeks she journeyed back with her newborn son to Montpelier estate, in Orange County, which became his lifelong home. He received his early education from his mother, from tutors, and at a private school. An excellent

scholar though frail and sickly in his youth, in 1771 he graduated from the College of New Jersey (later Princeton), where he demonstrated special interest in government and the law. But, considering the ministry for a career, he stayed on for a year of postgraduate study in theology.

Back at Montpelier, still undecided on a profession, Madison soon embraced the patriot cause, and state and local politics absorbed much of his time. In 1775 he served on the Orange County committee of safety; the next year at the Virginia convention, which, besides advocating various Revolutionary steps, framed the Virginia constitution; in 1776-77 in the House of Delegates; and in 1778-80 in the Council of State. His ill health precluded any military service.

In 1780 Madison was chosen to represent Virginia in the Continental Congress (1780-83 and 1786-88). Although originally the youngest delegate, he played a major role in the deliberations of that body. Meantime, in the years 1784-86, he had again sat in the Virginia House of Delegates. He was a guiding force behind the Mount Vernon Conference (1785), attended the Annapolis Convention (1786), and was otherwise highly instrumental in the convening of the Constitutional Convention in 1787. He had also written extensively about deficiencies in the Articles of Confederation.

Madison was clearly the preeminent figure at the convention. Some of the delegates favored an authoritarian central government; others, retention of state sovereignty; and most occupied positions in the middle of the two extremes. Madison, who was rarely absent and whose Virginia Plan was in large part the basis of the Constitution, tirelessly advocated a strong government, though many of his proposals were rejected. Despite his poor speaking capabilities, he took the floor more than 150 times, third only after Gouverneur Morris and James Wilson. Madison was also a member of numerous committees, the most important of which were those on postponed matters and style. His journal of the convention is the best single record of the event. He also played a key part in guiding the Constitution through the Continental Congress.

Playing a lead in the ratification process in Virginia, too, Madison defended the document against such powerful opponents as

Patrick Henry, George Mason, and Richard Henry Lee. In New York, where Madison was serving in the Continental Congress, he collaborated with Alexander Hamilton and John Jay in a series of essays that in 1787-88 appeared in the newspapers and were soon published in book form as *The Federalist* (1788). This set of essays is a classic of political theory and a lucid exposition of the republican principles that dominated the framing of the Constitution.

In the U.S. House of Representatives (1789-97), Madison helped frame and ensure passage of the Bill of Rights. He also assisted in organizing the executive department and creating a system of federal taxation. As leaders of the opposition to Hamilton's policies, he and Jefferson founded the Democratic-Republican Party.

In 1794 Madison married a vivacious widow who was 16 years his junior, Dolley Payne Todd, who had a son; they were to raise no children of their own. Madison spent the period 1797-1801 in semiretirement, but in 1798 he wrote the Virginia Resolutions, which attacked the Alien and Sedition Acts. While he served as Secretary of State (1801-9), his wife often served as President Jefferson's hostess.

In 1809 Madison succeeded Jefferson. Like the first three Presidents, Madison was enmeshed in the ramifications of European wars. Diplomacy had failed to prevent the seizure of U.S. ships, goods, and men on the high seas, and a depression wracked the country. Madison continued to apply diplomatic techniques and economic sanctions, eventually effective to some degree against France. But continued British interference with shipping, as well as other grievances, led to the War of 1812.

The war, for which the young nation was ill prepared, ended in stalemate in December 1814 when the inconclusive Treaty of Ghent which nearly restored prewar conditions, was signed. But, thanks mainly to Andrew Jackson's spectacular victory at the Battle of New Orleans (Chalmette) in January 1815; most Americans believed they had won. Twice tested, independence had survived, and an ebullient nationalism marked Madison's last years in office, during which period the Democratic-Republicans held virtually uncontested sway.

In retirement after his second term, Madison managed Montpelier but continued to be active in public affairs. He devoted long hours to editing his journal of the Constitutional Convention, which the government was to publish 4 years after his death. He served as co-chairman of the Virginia constitutional convention of 1829-30 and as rector of the University of Virginia during the period 1826-36. Writing newspaper articles defending the administration of Monroe, he also acted as his foreign policy adviser.

Madison spoke out, too, against the emerging sectional controversy that threatened the existence of the Union. Although a slaveholder all his life, he was active during his later years in the American Colonization Society, whose mission was the resettlement of slaves in Africa.

Madison died at the age of 85 in 1836, survived by his wife and stepson.

Highlights of the September Chapter Meeting



Top: Award of the *SAR Medal for Heroism* to three members of the Prince William County Fire Department. From left to right: John Blair, Coordinator for Public Safety Awards Program; Captain Stephanie Clarke; Chief Kevin McGee; and Honorees: Lieutenant Everett Hinson and Technician Jake Forestiere; and President Dwight Whitney. Not pictured is Technician Andrew Morris; Chief McGee is holding his medal and certificate.



Right: Our newest Compatriot Sean Robbins. His wife, Jimena, pins on his SAR rosette.

Left: Vice President Greg Bodge presents our September speaker; Charles P. Neimeyer, Ph.D., Chief, Marine Corps History, Marine Corps University, Quantico, Virginia, with the Houdon bust of George Washington and a certificate of appreciation.

Virginia to Have New License Plate Recognizing the Culpeper Minutemen!

The Culpeper Minutemen Chapter, VASSAR, is leading an effort to issue a new Virginia license plate honoring the Culpeper Minutemen. This will be the only current VA license plate related to the American Revolution. Details for ordering the plate are on that chapter's blog site: <http://culpeperminutemen.weebly.com/>



History

At the Virginia convention held May 1775 in Richmond, the Colony of Virginia was divided into 16 districts and each district instructed to raise and discipline a battalion of men "to march at a minute's notice."

Culpeper, Fauquier and Orange counties, forming one district, raised a cadre of 350 men, 150 men from Culpeper, 100 from Orange and 100 from

Fauquier. Called the *Culpeper Minute Men*, they were organized July 17, 1775 under a large oak tree in "Clayton's old field" (later known as Catalpa Farm).

The Culpeper Minute Men adopted uniforms consisting of hunting shirts of strong, brown lines, dyed with an extract of the leaves of trees (probably the broad of oak leaves). The Minute Men took part in the *Battle of Great Bridge*, the first Revolutionary battle on Virginia soil.

No sooner were they formed than the companies of Culpeper Minute Men were absorbed into regiments of the Continental Line, and by Act of Assembly in October 1776, they were dissolved and merged into the militia. Several original Culpeper Minute Men were sufferers at Valley Forge.

Future Events 2015

October 3-4 - Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain, North Carolina. ‡

October 10 - Chapter Meeting at 11:15 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

October 10 - The President General's Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 3:15 p.m., Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. **

October 18-19 – Yorktown Victory Celebration. †

November 11 - Veterans' Day Ceremony at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia. *

November 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

December 5 - Commemoration of *the Battle of Great Bridge*, Chesapeake, Virginia. †

December 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia. *

December 12 – Wreaths Across America, Alexandria National Cemetery. ‡

January 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the [Belle Haven Country Club](#), Alexandria, Virginia.

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending.



George Washington Chapter, VASSAR

Luncheon Meeting Reservation Form

Chapter Meeting: 11:15 am, 10 Oct 2015

Please note that given the President General's visit and the need to get to Arlington National Cemetery after the Chapter Meeting on a timely basis, the Chapter meeting will begin *promptly* at 11:45 am

Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA

It is requested that reservations be made by completing this form and mailing it to the Chapter Treasurer at the address below so that he **receives it by 7 Oct 2015**. It is preferred that payment be received in advance to avoid having to track down the Treasurer at the meeting to collect checks or cash. It also ensures that the caterer is given adequate notice to prepare enough tables for the meeting.

If you chose to notify us by email, please ensure your email has the word "RESERVATION" in the subject line. The Treasurer will confirm your reservation by email as well. This will ensure your email **is not lost by "spam" filters.** The Treasurer's email address is PaulWalden@live.com.

The lunch cost is \$35 per person (\$12 for a child). The check should be made payable to **George Washington Chapter, VASSAR**. Again, checks are preferred over cash. Walk ins will be accommodated, provided there is space. However, if you have not notified the Treasurer by 5:00 pm on the preceding Wednesday, the walk-in price of \$40.00 is requested.

Please provide the following when making the reservation:

Meeting Date: _____

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name(s): _____

A check in the amount of \$ _____ payable to **George Washington Chapter, VASSAR** is enclosed.

Please note if any of the guests are children.

Please return this form and check to: Paul Walden, Treasurer
George Washington Chapter, VASSAR
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609
Alexandria, VA 22303-2522

The reception begins at 11:15 am, and the meeting will be called to order at 11:45 am and will be concluded by 1:15 pm. Valet parking is available.



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter



Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Virginia Society, SAR!

Volume 16, Issue 8

November 2015

GW Chapter Attends Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown!



Above: President General Tom Lawrence, accompanied by his wife, Mickey Jo, present the National Society's wreath to the Honor Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington National Cemetery. Escorting them are President Dwight Whitney and VASSAR Second Vice President Mike Elston.



Front Row (L-R): Bob Carr, Tom Roth, Dwight Whitney, Mickey Jo Lawrence, President General Thomas Lawrence, Will Elston, Mike Elston, Dave Thomas, Jamie Callender, James Mitchell (TXSSAR), Bill Price (Pres. FFR Chapter)

Back Row (L-R): Ellis Adams (PASSAR), Phil Anders (PASSAR), Darrin Schmidt (FFR Chapter), NSSAR Color Guard Commander David Hoover, Bill Schwetke (CMM Chapter), Larry McKinley (FFR Chapter), Lance Lyngar (CMM Chapter), Ernie Coggins.

Attending from GW Chapter but not pictured: Jay Henn, Don Reynolds

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

November 14: Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Tribute to member veterans and 2016 elections.

December 12 - Joint chapter meeting with the George Mason Chapter. 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. VASSAR President Reverdy Wright will speak and install the Chapter's 2016 officers.

Events Information

November 11 - Veterans' Day Wreath Laying at Washington's Tomb, with Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, NSDAR, 2:00 p.m.

December 5 - *Battle of Great Bridge*, Chesapeake, Virginia.

December 7 - Plaque dedication Honoring Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in St. Mary's Church Cemetery, 1000 South Royal Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Arrive by 9:00 a.m.

December 12 - *Wreaths Across America*, 12:00 noon at Alexandria National Cemetery, 450 Wilkes Street, Alexandria. Join up with Compatriots Carlisle Bean and Jack Coulter.



President's Corner

My fellow compatriots:

November is election season in Virginia, and that includes the George Washington Chapter! The nominating committee has

proposed the following slate for election: Greg Bodge, president; Paul Walden, vice president; Jay Henn, secretary; Ernie Coggins, treasurer; and yours truly for a three-year term on the board of managers. There were no nominations from the floor, and thus I feel safe in predicting the election of this slate at our November meeting!

The 2016 slate of candidates is a great group of dedicated, hard-working leaders and I look forward to working with them all next year in their new roles. I have very much enjoyed being your president, but it is good to pass on the gavel to your next leader and continue the process of one-term presidencies begun a few years ago. We have nearly 300 accomplished and talented members, and more opportunities for leadership mean more opportunities for leaders to step forward and serve. It is also good that we are able to have former presidents sitting on the Board of Managers. This ensures continuity in the leadership with the coaching and the knowledge resources they avail to the new officers. I look forward to the opportunity of supporting the next team of officers and having more time for the comradery that this great chapter has to offer!

Last Month: What a pleasure it was to have Tom and Mickey Jo Lawrence visit us and attend our meeting last month! We enjoyed their company at our chapter meeting. The President General spoke to us about the several initiatives and changes underway to improve the national society's structure and to improve communications at every level. His remarks were of great interest and drew a number of questions and comments from the members.

Following the chapter meeting, we participated in the annual President General Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery, an annual event hosted by our chapter. In front of a large crowd, the presentation was made by President General Lawrence, escorted by his wife Mickey Jo Lawrence (the granddaughter of a WWII veteran), VASSAR 2nd VP Mike Elston and your chapter president. The SAR Color Guard, comprised of guardsmen from Virginia, Maryland, and Texas and led by NSSAR Commander David Hoover, added an impressive component to the ceremony as they took

formation along the stairs leading to the Tomb. There was also a good showing of members there to watch and pay respects to the memory of all those who lost their lives in the military service of the United States. It was a true honor for me to be a part of the ceremony.

Compatriots Ernie Coggins, Don Reynolds, Mike Elston, and Will Elston participated in the annual Yorktown Victory Day celebrations October 19th. In the morning, VASSAR 2nd VP Mike Elston presided over the wreath laying at the grave of Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr., and Secretary Ernie Coggins presented our chapter's wreath. The afternoon parade through Yorktown contained a contingent of the SAR, including President General Lawrence and many other members from around Virginia and other parts of the country.

This Month: On Wednesday **November 11th**, we hold our annual Veterans Day Wreath Laying with the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the DAR at George Washington's Tomb at Mount Vernon. I hope to see many of you there to pay tribute to the service of George Washington and honor our country's veterans (many veterans will be there).

The focus of our chapter meeting on **November 14th** will be on service -- to our nation, our community, and the SAR. We will carry over the spirit Veterans Day with a tribute to our member veterans led by Vice President Greg Bodge. We have several members of the local law enforcement community who we will honor for their service. And we have a number of awards to present to quite a few members in recognition of their service to the SAR. This is also the meeting to vote for the 2016 officers. It will be a special day that you won't want to miss!

St. Mary's Church Cemetery Plaque Dedication: I am pleased to announce that the Graves Registration Committee has made big plans for a plaque dedication ceremony honoring Revolutionary War patriots buried in St. Mary's Church Catholic Church Cemetery in Alexandria. The event is in the morning of Monday **December 7th** and includes a program involving the church and the St. Mary's School students and faculty. The committee has been working on this project for years and we are all excited to see this come to fruition. Please come out and support this very special event.

Wreaths Across America: On **December 12th**, the same day as our chapter meeting, we will be participating in this annual event at Alexandria National Cemetery. Our coordinators for the event are Carlisle Bean and Jack Coulter. Look for them at

the event or contact one of them to arrange carpooling. And don't forget to send in your donations for the wreaths!

Share a Ride: When making your plans to attend the Veterans Day ceremony and the chapter meeting, please remember your fellow members who don't get out regularly. Consider calling them up and offering a ride. To anyone needing a ride, please remember we have a Ride Share program. Contact Don Reynolds and he will assist you in finding a ride to the meeting or an event.

I look forward to seeing you all again soon!

Dwight Whitney

Chapter President



From the Secretary

We are well into our membership renewal effort. Our Treasurer, Paul Walden, reports that as of the end of October almost 40 percent of you have paid your dues for 2016. He and

I both encourage you to write that check now and mail it to him (the address is on the form) or give it to him at our 14 November meeting. If you did not receive your dues statement, Paul requests that you email him immediately at PaulWalden@live.com or phone him at (202) 360-9254. Our By-Laws require that dues be paid by 15 November, and the Virginia Society will drop any compatriot who has not paid by 01 January "...from the roles of membership...". Also, our Chapter earns ten points towards the National Society's Americanism award for every member who pays on time. Please do not procrastinate; pay your 2016 dues now. I would very much appreciate your providing us with your current email address as we do send out time sensitive event information via the Internet.

Also, I would ask that you consider making an additional contribution to the Chapter. These monies may be earmarked for our youth programs such as JROTC, Rumbaugh Orations, Knight Essay, and Scouting; veteran services, and grave markings. Moreover, you may make a general contribution to the Chapter's operation or specify some other purpose such as Wreaths Across America. You are

members of a very active Chapter, and one that has been recognized as the best large Chapter by the National Society two years running. In order to do this, we need manpower and funding.

As our President Dwight Whitney as mentioned, we are going to have a special ceremony on Monday, 07 December 2015, to commemorate those patriot veterans of the War for Independence buried at Saint Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Alexandria. We are specifically asking for donations to cover the costs for the plaque and supporting expenses for this cemetery and for future grave markings generally. Please be generous.

On Veteran's Day, 11 November, we shall hold our traditional ceremony at General Washington's Tomb at Mount Vernon. This observance will not be as involved as our Fourth of July ceremony, but it is still a very moving tribute to the Father of our Country and to our veterans. If you were not able to attend in July, please consider attending.

Finally, we are still collecting Patriot Biographies. If you have not done so, please send to our Webmaster Jamie Callender at webmaster@gwsar.org. We would like for them to be at least 200 words. If you would rather mail you Patriot Biography, the address is:

George Washington Chapter

Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution
ATTN: Patriot Biographies
P.O. Box 77
Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121

Ernie Coggins

Secretary

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report in October 1 new member and 1 supplemental application were approved by NSSAR. There are currently 2 new and 10 supplemental applications under review by NSSAR. There were no new member inductions during October.

New Members Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Michael Pillsbury	Stephen Pillsbury

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Paul Ashley Walden	Ebenezer Stewart

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
William Christopher Cook	Joel Phillips

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Isaac Gregory Bodge	Ruben Pound
Michael Kane	Henry Shaffner
Leyton Todd Pitzer	Thomas Lewis
Leyton Todd Pitzer	John Pitzer
Leyton Todd Pitzer	Anthony Shomo
Paul Ashley Walden	David Mewshaw

Dave Thomas

Registrar



From the Editor

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this newsletter useful and interesting.

Please submit stories, photos and suggestions to newsletter@gwsar.org. I will do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

President: Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375
Vice President: Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252
Secretary: Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807
Treasurer: Paul Walden: 703-347-9770
Registrar: Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791

*Immediate Past President:
Scott Wagoner: 571-239-3221*

***Ride Share:** Members in need of a ride to a chapter meeting or a chapter sponsored event may contact the Amenities Committee Chairman, Don Reynolds, at (703) 765-4947.*

This newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to newsletter@gwsar.org or call 202-870-3762.



George Washington (1793)

“There is a rank due to the United States, among nations, which will be withheld, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness. If we

desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it; if we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity; it must be known that we are at all times ready for war.”¹



Living History Interpreters on the steps at Pohick Church

Discovering George Washington’s Church

At the corner of U.S. Route 1 and Telegraph Road in Lorton, Virginia, stands Pohick Church, a colonial church that has witnessed over 240 years of American history. This is the church of influential men such as Founding Fathers George Washington and George Mason, both of whom were on the building committee.

The Historic Pohick Church Docent Guild has developed an interactive, hands-on children’s tour to teach school-age children about life in northern Virginia in the 18th century.

Students will have an opportunity to compare life in 1775 to their lives today. How did people travel during the colonial period? What did their clothing look like? Did they grow their own food? Other topics will address the architecture of the colonial church, the type of box pews that parishioners sat in and why, as well as the differences between church services during George Washington’s time and now. During the colonial period, religion and the church were important in daily life. The children will learn about the church’s call to take care of the poor, widows and orphans, and to organize apprenticeships for young boys, so those children could learn a trade and take care of themselves in the future. Meeting in the courtyard after the service was an opportunity to discuss family business, such as baptisms and upcoming marriages, and sometimes the politics of the day.

¹ http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/washs05.asp

Students have a chance to discuss pictures and short biographies of church members. Included in the profiles are George and Martha Washington, George Mason and his family members, and Alexander Henderson, father of Archibald Henderson, the longest serving commandant of the Marine Corps. As an activity, a Pohick Docent will demonstrate the bricklaying techniques used in building Pohick Church.

School groups, Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups, homeschoolers and children visiting the church with their parents and grandparents are all welcome.

To support the educational programs and initiatives of the SAR, please consider this opportunity to have family and friends with young children join us for this educational tour.

To schedule a tour, please call 703-339-6572. The address of Pohick Church is 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton, Virginia, 22079.

Pohick Episcopal Church is still active, with several hundred members. For additional information, please visit the parish web site: www.pohick.org We look forward to seeing you soon.

The Historic Pohick Church Docent Guild



George Washington -- A Founding Father for St. Mary’s Catholic Church and Cemetery

Alexandria, Virginia has many ties to the American Revolution, including George Washington, often referred to as the founding father of the United State. After

securing American independence, many of General Washington’s staff from the Continental Army moved to Alexandria to be near their old commander. One of Washington’s closest friends was his Aide de Camp, Col. John Fitzgerald, who served with him throughout the Revolutionary War. He had, in his own right, played a prominent role during the War. He was also a very prominent Alexandria citizen and was elected and served as Mayor 1786-7.

Washington and Fitzgerald remained close friends in the years following the War and Washington’s retirement from the Presidency. What is not generally known is that Washington played a very significant role as a founding father of St. Mary’s Catholic Church and cemetery, the oldest Catholic parish and cemetery in Virginia. In 1795, Col. Fitzgerald with the help of Washington founded St. Mary’s, along with their cemetery. St. Mary’s is still

located at the original site at 310 South Royal Street, Alexandria. The cemetery occupies an oblong plot between Royal and Washington Streets bounded on the north by St. Mary's School and on the south by the busy Interstate I-95 approach to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. It is bounded by a wrought iron and brick fence with a gate at the north end at Washington Street indicating a "1795" date. There is a plaque at the church which states:

"In grateful acknowledgement of their aid in establishing this church the three trees to the north of this stone have been dedicated as follows: To General George Washington as subscriber to the building; Colonel John Fitzgerald, his favorite aide de camp, as the collector of the building fund; Colonel Robert Hooe, Mayor of Alexandria as the donor of the acre of land."

Col. Fitzgerald died on December 16, 1799. Although reported as having been buried at St. Mary's cemetery, the better evidence suggests he was buried across the Potomac River on property he owned in Maryland.

A few years ago the George Washington Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution marked the grave of Private Lawrence Hurdle who died in 1848 at the age of 98. Full honors were provided, including a color guard. Two of the church Parish Priests participated in the ceremony. There is a brass plaque and commemorating marker at his grave in the Hurdle family plot that cites he service in the American Revolution. Members of the Hurdle family are still members of the church and attended the program.

Several other Revolutionary War soldiers are known to be buried in the cemetery. Unfortunately, the early records of burial plots are missing. Alexandria Historian Michael Miller, in his book "Burials in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery 1799-1983", identified the first known burial at the new Cemetery as Caven Boa who died August 20, 1799. He was a member of the Corps of Artillery and was buried by full military honors. His grave site is among those unknown. Local historian Wesley E. Pippenger in his "Tombstone Inscriptions of Alexandria" identified known Revolutionary Soldiers buried at St. Mary's that included Hurdle. Two other identified were Francis Ignatius Hagen who died in 1830 at age 76; and

Pierre La Croix who died in 1830 at the age 88. La Croix served in the French and Indian War under Gen. Montcalm and later in the Revolutionary War under General Montgomery.

This historic cemetery includes many other soldiers from other wars. For example there are over 40 soldiers from the Civil War buried there. All of this is a reminder of the importance that Alexandria has in the history and development of the United States.

Plaque Dedication Ceremony. The Graves Registration Committee has just completed a years-long project that will culminate in a ceremony and the placement of a plaque identifying the known patriots buried there at the St. Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery. The ceremony will be conducted at the cemetery on December 7, 2015 by the George Washington Chapter, SAR, in partnership with Saint Mary's Catholic Church and the Students of Saint Mary's Catholic School.

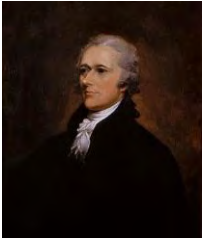
Please Donate to our Graves Marking Program

The George Washington Chapter, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution, is engaged in a rigorous program to mark the graves of Revolutionary War Patriots, especially those that are unmarked by other means. We seek in this way to preserve the memory of the service these Patriots rendered and to preserve the only tangible reminder of that service—their grave—for posterity.

Please give generously to this program so that the George Washington Chapter may mark the graves at the St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery now and at many other sites in the future. Compatriots making contributions of \$250.00 or more will be recognized. Donations earmarked for grave marking on your 2016 dues renewal will count toward the \$250.00 threshold. Thank you for your support of this important project!

Donations and pledges can be given to Paul Walden at the chapter meeting, included with your dues, or mailed to him separately at:

Paul Walden, Treasurer
George Washington Chapter
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609
Alexandria, VA 22303-2522



Did You Know?

Alexander Hamilton (1755-1804)

Highest Political Office: Treasury Secretary

Other Accomplishments: Along with Madison and John Jay, authored the Federalist Papers, rallying support for the new Constitution. Led the effort to convene the Constitutional Convention when the nation was verging on anarchy.

Hamilton called for a meeting of all 13 states at Annapolis, Maryland in September, 1786 to discuss the economic situation in the country at that time. However, only five states sent representatives. There were not enough states for a quorum and the conference had no real authority. Undaunted, Hamilton then requested permission from the Congress of the Confederation (under the Articles of Confederation) to invite representatives from the thirteen states to assemble in Philadelphia with the express purpose of “revising” the Articles of Confederation. Behind closed doors and with no real authority, the delegates decided to write an entirely new constitution.

Hamilton was consumed by his passion for a nation built around a strong and fiscally stable central government. He was born out of wedlock in the West Indies, and moved to the colonies at the age of 17. His father, a Scottish trader, went bankrupt when Hamilton was 15, and the boy went to work in a counting house to help support the family.

Fresh out of Columbia University, he organized artillery regiments in New York for the Revolutionary War, and from 1779 to 1781 he was Washington’s chief aide. When Washington assumed the presidency, he named Hamilton as Secretary of the Treasury.

Ironically, before Washington was elected president, Hamilton was one of a group of politicians who felt that the U.S. needed a king. The group wrote to Prussia’s Prince Henry and asked if he wanted the job. Before he replied, the group changed its mind.

His Politics: Hamilton was the one who most advocated an elitist political vision. He believed that the intellectual aristocracy should rule the nation.

Hamilton’s political legacy is embodied in the Federal Bank. He led the effort to establish the first such bank, which he saw as critical for sustaining the government’s fragile finances. His opponents saw the bank as an evil tool for expanding the power of the federal government, at the expense of the states. Hamilton is regarded as the “Father of the National Debt” because he felt that a national debt was really a “blessing.” The more money the government owed to the people of the country, the more the people had a stake in the success of the country!

When Jefferson ran for president in 1800, he and Aaron Burr (both Republicans) tied. The election went to the Federalist-controlled House. Hamilton, founder of the Federalist Party, convinced his colleagues to elect Jefferson over Burr. Burr then campaigned for governor of New York. Again, Hamilton swayed voters against Burr. Finally, Burr challenged Hamilton to a duel. Fatally wounded by his rival, Hamilton died one day later.

Closest Crony among the Founding Fathers: *George Washington*

What He Said: *“The sacred rights of mankind are not to be rummaged for among old parchments or musty records. They are written, as with a sunbeam, in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of the Divinity itself, and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power.”*

November Dates in History American Revolutionary War

November 1, 1765: Many daily transactions cease as the Stamp Act goes into effect. Violence breaks out in New York City

November 1772: Boston town meeting endorses proclamations asserting the rights of the colonies to self-rule.

November 6, 1773: Colonists in Boston fail to force their British tea agents to resign

November 20, 1773: Three ships carrying tea sail into Boston harbor.

November 29/30, 1773: Colonists decide to send the tea ships Dartmouth back to England without paying any import duties

November 30, 1773: The Royal Governor of Massachusetts, Thomas Hutchinson (1711 – 1780), orders harbor officials not to let the ship sail out of the harbor unless the tea taxes have been paid.

November 15, 1777: Articles of Confederation - Congress is made sole authority of the new national government.

November 11, 1778: Loyalists and Indians massacre American settlers at Cherry Valley, New York.

November 10, 1782: The final battle of the Revolutionary War when Americans retaliate by attacking a Shawnee village in Ohio.

November 2, 1783: George Washington delivers farewell address.

Source – www.datesandevents.org

Highlights of the October Chapter Meeting



Left: President Whitney thanks the President General Lawrence for being guest speaker with a George Washington bust.

Top: President General Lawrence thanks Don Reynolds with the PG's Aide de Camp pin for assistance rendered to him and Mrs. Lawrence during their stay in Alexandria.

Bottom: President Phil Anders of the Philadelphia Continental Chapter presents Compatriot Richard Bender Abell, a dual member of our chapter, with his Emeritus Membership Certificate and 50-year pin.



Top: Registrar Dave Thomas, Youth Activities Committee Chairman Rich Sherman, President General Tom Lawrence, and Compatriot Richard Rankin pause from a moment of conversation.

Left: President General Lawrence addressing the chapter with news on his national initiatives.

Right: The Texas hot sauce flowed during lunch!

Other October Highlights



Above Right: Second VASSAR Vice President and past George Washington Chapter President Mike Elston emcees the Yorktown Ceremony at Governor Nelson's grave marking.

Above Left: VASSAR President and dual George Washington Chapter member, Reverdy Wright leads the SAR contingent in the Yorktown Victory Parade on Monday, 19 October 2015.

Bottom: The SAR contingent at the Yorktown Victory Celebration on Monday, 19 October 2015.



Top Left: The George Washington Chapter's wreath on the grave of Virginia Governor and General of the Virginia Militia Thomas Nelson, Jr., 19 October 2015.

Top Right: All of the wreaths laid at Governor Nelson's Grave, Grace Episcopal Church Cemetery, Yorktown, Virginia, 19 October 2015. Secretary Ernie Coggins made the presentation of the chapter's wreath.

Bottom Right: Ann Whitney and Secretary Ernie Coggins at the October chapter meeting.

Other October Highlights (Continued)



Top Left: The official party, including Chapter President Dwight Whitney, VASSAR Second Vice President Mike Elston, and the Tomb Sentinel of the 3rd United States Infantry Regiment, United States Army, return after the ceremony.

Top Middle: President General Lawrence and his wife descend with the Tomb Sentinel to the Wreath Laying.

Bottom Left: President General Lawrence prepares for the for the Wreath laying.

Bottom Middle: President General Lawrence placing the Wreath

Right: VASSAR Color Guard attends the ceremony.

Future Events 2015

November 11 - Veterans' Day Wreath Laying with Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, NSDAR. Begins 2:00 p.m. at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, VA. This year, there is no parking by the Administration Building. Park in the regular visitor parking lots or use the CCVC employee parking lot, located across the street from the Mount Vernon Post Office if available. Since it is a long walk from the parking lot to the Tomb, you may check in at the Volunteer Center (the building next to the lot) and request a golf cart ride to the Tomb. Arrive early to allow time for parking and meet at the tomb before 2:00.*

November 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Tribute to member veterans and 2016 elections.*

December 5 - Commemoration of *the Battle of Great Bridge*, Chesapeake, Virginia. †

December 7 - Plaque dedication Honoring Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in St. Mary's Church Cemetery, 1000 South Royal Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Arrive by 9:00 a.m.*

December 12 - Joint chapter meeting with the George Mason Chapter. 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. VASSAR President Reverdy Wright will speak and install the Chapter's 2016 officers.*

December 12 - Wreaths Across America, 12:00 noon at Alexandria National Cemetery, 450 Wilkes Street, Alexandria. Join up with Compatriots Carlisle Bean and Jack Coulter. ‡

January 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending.



George Washington Chapter, VASSAR
Luncheon Meeting Reservation Form
Chapter Meeting: 11:30 am, 14 Nov 2015
Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA

It is requested that reservations be made by completing this form and mailing it to the Chapter Treasurer at the address below so that he **receives it by 11 Nov 2015**. It is preferred that payment be received in advance to avoid having to track down the Treasurer at the meeting to collect checks or cash. It also ensures that the caterer is given adequate notice to prepare enough tables for the meeting.

If you chose to notify us by email, please ensure your email has the word "RESERVATION" in the subject line. The Treasurer will confirm your reservation by email as well. This will ensure your email is not **lost by "spam" filters**. **The Treasurer's email address is PaulWalden@live.com.**

The lunch cost is \$35 per person (\$12 for a child). The check should be made payable to **George Washington Chapter, VASSAR**. Again, checks are preferred over cash. Walk-ins will be accommodated provided there is space. However, if you have not notified the Treasurer by 5:00 pm on the preceding Wednesday, the walk-in price of \$40.00 is requested.

Please provide the following when making the reservation:

Meeting Date: _____

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name(s): _____

A check in the amount of \$ _____ payable to **George Washington Chapter, VASSAR** is enclosed.

Please note if any of the guests are children.

Please return this form and check to: Paul Walden, Treasurer
George Washington Chapter, VASSAR
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609
Alexandria, VA 22303-2522

The check-in and social begins at 11:30 with a cash bar. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon and is typically concluded by 2:30. Valet parking is available.



The George Washington Chapter
Virginia Society
The Sons of the American Revolution
P.O. Box 77, Mount Vernon, VA 22121
www.gvssar.org

12 Sep 2015

Dear Compatriots:

Once again, the George Washington Chapter, VASSAR, is supporting Wreaths Across America (WAA) in their mission to honor the memory of the men and women who served our country by placing a wreath on their graves at veterans cemeteries across the nation during the month of December. Specifically, our chapter supports the placing of wreaths at the Alexandria National Cemetery.

Please help us in honoring these brave men and women by purchasing a wreath for \$15. This can be done with a credit card by going to our chapter's WAA donation website:

http://waa.convio.net/site/TR/NationalWreathsAcrossAmericaDay/General?team_id=10075&pg=team&fr_id=4746

If you prefer, you may make a check payable to the George Washington Chapter, VASSAR and mail to me at 5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609, Alexandria, VA 22303 and the chapter will forward your donation to the WAA. Please make sure you indicate "WAA" on the memo line of your check.

The deadline for receipt of donations is 30 Nov 2015. WAA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Background:

Alexandria National Cemetery: This is one of the oldest national cemeteries in the nation, if not the oldest, based on 1862 Congressional legislation. During the Civil War, there was a great need for a military cemetery in Alexandria. Many soldiers died in battles nearby and thousands died in Alexandria's Union hospitals. There were 26 such hospitals in Alexandria. Many soldiers buried in this cemetery died of disease or wounds rather than on the battlefield. There are 3,533 Civil War veterans buried here, including 123 unknown soldiers. The original wooden headboards were replaced by marble headstones in 1876. A small stone monument across the road from the lodge commemorates four soldiers who died in 1865 chasing John Wilkes Booth.

Wreaths Across America: Their mission, Remember, Honor, Teach, is carried out in part by coordinating wreath laying ceremonies at veterans' cemeteries in all 50 states and beyond. They also organize a week of events including international veteran's tributes, ceremonies at State Houses and a week-long "Veteran's Parade" between Maine and Virginia where they spread the message about the importance of remembering our fallen heroes, honoring those who serve, and teaching our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms.

What a great way to remind the public to remember the Veterans, honor their service, and teach children the value of freedom.

Sincerely,

Paul Walden
Treasurer

What is a VETERANS' WREATH?

A veterans' wreath is a symbol of HONOR, RESPECT and VICTORY.

10 BALSAM BOUQUETS = **10** SPECIAL QUALITIES
comprising each veterans' wreath that our veterans embody



Evergreens =
LONGEVITY & ENDURANCE



Red Bow =
GREAT SACRIFICE



Forest Scent =
PURITY & SIMPLICITY



Circular Shape =
ETERNITY

REMEMBER, HONOR and TEACH. Don't say "I should have." Say "I did."



WreathsAcrossAmerica.org



"THIS YEAR, WHEN YOU PLACE A WREATH ON A VETERAN'S GRAVE, you will know it is not just a wreath. It's *your* personal gift to an American hero, and you'll swell with pride and have a tear in your eye knowing you've done something very, very special.

God bless our veterans and
God bless America."

—MORRILL WORCESTER,
FOUNDER OF WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



WATCH THE VIDEO AT
bit.ly/veteranswreath



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter



Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Volume 16, Issue 9

December 2015

Veterans Day Observance at George Washington's Tomb!



Chapter members pose after the ceremony at Mount Vernon:

Front Row (L-R): Paul Wagoner, Greg Bodge, Edgar Bates, Paul Walden, Gina Briggs, Will Elston, Ernie Coggins

Back Row (L-R): Don Reynolds, Scott Wagoner, Kenan Torrans, Covert Beach, Jack Coulter, Dave Thomas, Tom Bland, Paul Briggs, Mike Elston, Tom Roth, Dwight Whitney



Top: The George Washington Chapter's wreath stands in front of General Washington's Tomb to honor him and all veterans on Veterans Day 2015

Bottom: Brigadier General Paul Wagoner, United States Air Force (Retired) and Lieutenant Colonel Ernie Coggins, Army of the United States (Retired) lay the Chapter's wreath at General Washington's Tomb on Veterans Day 2015

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

December 12 - Joint chapter meeting with the George Mason Chapter. 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. VASSAR President Reverdy Wright will speak and install the Chapter's 2016 officers.

January 9: Chapter meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Events Information

December 5 - *Battle of Great Bridge*, Chesapeake, Virginia.

December 7 - Plaque dedication Honoring Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in St. Mary's Church Cemetery, 1000 South Royal Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Arrive by 9:00 a.m.

December 12 - *Wreaths Across America*, 12:00 noon at Alexandria National Cemetery, 450 Wilkes Street, Alexandria. Join up with Compatriots Carlisle Bean and Jack Coulter.

January 16 - 235th Anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens, Cowpens Battlefield Park, Gaffney, South Carolina 10:00-11:30 a.m.

February 13 - Crossing of the Dan Celebration, South Boston, Virginia 10:00 a.m.-2 p.m.



President's Corner

My fellow compatriots,

The chapter's activities in November focused on veterans. We did so with our annual ceremony at Washington's Tomb on Veterans Day, held jointly

with the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. It was a perfect autumn day and we enjoyed a great turnout of members and visitors. I couldn't help but notice a number of veterans in the crowd who identified themselves by the caps and sweatshirts they wore. I enjoyed speaking to a few of them before and after the service. The address I gave spoke about respecting the commitment that our service men and women make in joining a military service of our country. Those remarks are reprinted elsewhere in the newsletter.

The November chapter meeting program was dedicated to our own veterans who are members of the chapter. Vice President Bodge led with a slide show depicting the service of individual members. Those who were in attendance spoke about their service and what their service meant to them. It was a memorable occasion.

We also used the meeting to recognize service to the SAR and service to our community. For SAR service, our officers and committee members were recognized for their efforts toward fulfilling the patriotic, historic, and educational goals of the society. I cannot express enough my gratitude for the volunteers who make it happen. In demonstration of that work, we also awarded commendation medals to three members of the Alexandria Fire Department – two for Fire Safety to Captain Jason Wehmeyer and Battalion Chief Gerald Fair, and one for Emergency Medical Services to Kelsea Bonkoski. One could say it was a rewarding chapter meeting!

Finally, congratulations to our newly elected officers for 2016, and in particular, to Greg Bodge, our next president. I know he will do a great job for us, and likewise I know that he can count on your continued support!

Looking ahead, on December 7th, we will dedicate a marker identifying five patriots buried in the Saint Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery. It is being held on a weekday (Monday) so that we can include the students and faculty of the Saint Mary's School. A grand program is planned that will include essays and readings from several students. Thank you for

your donations toward this ceremony and for your continued financial support of our Graves Registration program.

Please plan to attend our December 12th meeting, which will be held jointly with the George Mason chapter. The 2016 officers of both chapters will be installed by VASSAR President Reverdy Wright. I think it will be a really nice meeting -- just what you need to get you into the holiday spirit! Belle Haven is always decorated nicely for Christmas, so bring your kids along and take advantage of the \$12 chicken fingers entrée!

If you don't attend the chapter meeting, please remember we are supporting the Wreaths Across America event at the Alexandria National Cemetery on December 12th. Join up with Carlisle Bean and Jack Coulter to participate in the placing of wreaths. A big thanks to everyone who donated!

To those of you who have paid your dues already, THANK YOU. To the rest, please pay your dues as soon as possible. There is a deadline and anyone who fails to pay by the deadline will have to be reinstated, which is an additional fee and paperwork. Avoid the hassle and send that payment today!

Share a Ride: Last month I asked you all to remember to share a ride with a veteran when you attend our November events. I want to recognize Jay Franklin for driving his father, a veteran, to the chapter meeting. I hope those in need of a ride will remember the Ride Share program. The information is provided monthly in the chapter information box of the newsletter.

Dwight Whitney

President



From the Editor

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this

newsletter more useful and interesting. Please submit stories, photos and suggestions to rg62@live.com. I will do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor



Secretary's Report

I have enjoyed serving as your Secretary for the past 21 months. It has been very challenging but also very gratifying. Jay Henn, your new Secretary and I shall be beginning our transition this month. I know that

you will all be as supportive of him as you have been of me. My thanks to all of you!

Paul, our Treasurer, has reported that well over half of you have renewed your membership for 2016. I echo both Dwight and Paul in urging you to write and mail that check today or bring it to our December meeting. And do not forget to ensure that your postal and email addresses are correct.

If you are able, please consider making a contribution to support the many activities in which your Chapter engages. You are members of an outstanding Chapter that has been recognized as such by both the Virginia and National Societies. One of these actions will occur this coming Monday, 07 December 2015, when we dedicate a plaque commemorating the patriots buried at Saint Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Alexandria. We are always looking for members to volunteer to assist with all of our endeavors; you should feel free to contact me or any of our officers to express your interest.

We are still interested in your submitting the biography of your patriot ancestor. These should be sent to our Webmaster, Jamie Callender, at webmaster@gwsar.org. If you would rather mail your Patriot Biography, you should send it to:

George Washington Chapter, Virginia Society,
Sons of the American Revolution

ATTN: Patriot Biographies
P.O. Box 77
Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121

Ernie Coggins

Secretary



Treasurer's Report

Annual Dues Status

As of this writing, dues have been paid by 73% of our membership. A reminder notice was sent the week of 9 Nov to members who had not yet paid. The Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution (VASSAR) bylaws (Section IV) require that members pay dues by 1 January or be dropped from the membership rolls. Also, the chapter earns 10 points towards the President General's Americanism award for each member who pays on time.

I am therefore requesting that you mail your dues to me at your earliest convenience if they have not been paid. If you did not receive your dues statement or need another copy, please email me at PaulWalden@live.com). All dues must be received at VASSAR by January 1, 2016 so if you wait to mail your dues until December 31, it will be too late for me to process the check and submit the payment to VASSAR. Because of the approaching holiday mail rush, please mail your check to me as soon as possible so that I have time to process it.

Wreaths Across America

Our *Wreaths Across America (WAA)* fundraising drive was a big success this year and, in fact, we raised more funds than last year. We have raised \$1,255 as of 30 November, which was the last day WAA could accept donations. Thanks again for your generosity by honoring those who served our country. Our chapter has purchased a total of **83** wreaths, which will be placed on veterans' graves at Alexandria National Cemetery on 12 December.

Prepaid Lunches for 2016

Once again this year, the Chapter will offer members the chance to purchase a 2016 "season ticket" for our eight regular monthly meetings in 2016 for \$280. Please note that this does not include the Gala in

March. By paying for your lunches prior to December 31, the chapter will provide you with a letter acknowledging that portion of the ticket price that exceeds the cost of the food you will receive at the luncheons as a charitable contribution to the chapter.

Whether you can deduct the contribution depends on your individual circumstances and is a question for your tax advisor. If you would like to purchase your "season ticket," please send a check for \$280 made payable to "George Washington Chapter, VASSAR" to:

Paul Walden, Chapter Treasurer
5902 Mount Eagle Drive, #1609
Alexandria, VA 22303

The check should be received by 31 Dec 2015. Remember to include a memo on the check *prepaid 2016 lunches*.

Paul Walden

Treasurer



Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report, two new members and four supplemental applications were approved by NSSAR. Two Forgotten Patriot recognition certificates were approved by VASSAR. There are currently two new and seven supplemental applications under review by NSSAR. There were one new member and one existing member (who missed the initial induction ceremony) inducted in November.

New Member Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
William Christopher Cook	Joel Phillips
Robert Lee Fitton II	Richard Marshall

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Robert August Whitehead	Seth Farley
Jack Todd Pitzer	John Hartzell
Jack Todd Pitzer	George Henry Hartzell
Jack Todd Pitzer	Frederick Kleinhans

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Maurice Gene Gilliland	William McFerrin
Mark Alan Samples	Henry Peyton
Paul Charles Washington	Job Buckley

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Forgotten Patriot Recognitions Submitted and Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Paul Ashley Walden	Ebenezer Stewart
Robert August Whitehead	Seth Farley

Dave Thomas

Registrar

New Member Biographies



Jay R. Franklin

Compatriot Jay Franklin grew up on his family's tobacco farm not far from Appomattox, Virginia. He graduated from *Lynchburg*

College with a business degree after which he spent five years in restaurant management before getting his Master's degree in IT from *Central Michigan University*, leading him to his present career in IT with Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) where he is a software test manager, and a resource manager in Washington, D.C., and has traveled to several exotic places for work, including Jordan.

Jay's interests include: Gun target practicing, bass fishing; photography, antiques, carpentry, Web site building, birding, hiking and travelling. Jay is a Nat's and Redskins fan, and enjoys family in Appomattox, Lynchburg and Florida.

Jay has a diverse family lineage with names of *Dejarnette, Hodnett, Wade, Sampson and Hunt*, who hailed from England, Scotland, Ireland and France as Huguenots, immigrating via ships to Yorktown in the late 1600s, to start a new life in America free of religious persecution. Jay's membership in the Society is based on his decent from Patriot James P. Dejarnette who served in the American Revolution as Captain, Virginia Militia, Halifax County, 1774 - 1777.

Jay lives in Woodbridge with his girlfriend, Helen, who is from Wyoming, and looks forward to meeting fellow Chapter compatriots, and getting involved with SAR projects to preserve our great nation's history for the next generations.



Richard L. Johnson

Compatriot Richard Johnson was born in Chicago, Illinois and raised in Evergreen Park, Illinois. He received his B.A. in Business and Economics from

MacMurray College, a M.A. in Economics from the University of Missouri, and a Ph. D. in Economics from The George Washington University. He taught

at the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh, and worked as an economist at the Federal Trade Commission, Civil Aeronautics Board, and Department of Justice. He retired in 2011. He was commissioned in the Army Reserve and was honorably discharged as a Captain on 4 September 1980.

He and his wife, Mary, have two married sons (David (wife Emer) and Matthew (wife Maggie)) and three grandchildren (Nora (7), Cole (4) and Helen (2)). His brother Compatriot Martin R. Johnson is also a member of the George Washington Chapter.

Richard's membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot Remember Ingraham, who served as Corporal in Captain Stephen Richardson's Company, Attenborough/Bristol, Massachusetts serving from 1 December 1776 to 18, January 1777.



To be in the Fight

The following is the address given by President Whitney at

Mount Vernon on 11 November 2015.

Today I wish to pay my respects to our veterans with brief remarks that bring to light a bit of history. And the most important message I wish for you to take away from here is an appreciation for the commitment our veterans have made to be in the fight.

In 1954 President Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed November 11, 1954 Veterans Day. The proclamation states that we are to "... solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heretage of freedom..." and to "... reconsecrate ourselves to the task of promoting an enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain." The proclamation goes on to say "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose."

So here we are, one of many observances in this nation today, joined together to perpetuate this tradition of remembrance - remembrance of service, of sacrifice, and the hope for an enduring peace.

We, the Sons of the American Revolution, celebrate Veterans Day with you as part of our society's mission to honor, respect, and support our veterans.

We share in this with our sisters of the DAR who have a likeminded purpose to celebrate patriotism. We choose this setting, the tomb of George Washington, in honor of the great general who secured and preserved for us a nation.

Let me take you further back in history for a moment and tell you a story. I'll tell you the story as it was told in a speech to the 1896 convention of the Utah Society of the Sons of the American Revolution on the anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill. I discovered this speech by chance in a newspaper archive just a few years ago. The title of the speech is "The Genius of Americanism," and the author, I was surprised to learn, was my great-grandfather, Orson F. Whitney, at that time a visiting lecturer at Brigham Young Academy, and not a member of the SAR. Listen to this story, told with the flourish of a 19th century writer and historian...

It was David of old who said: "As his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff; they shall part alike." The occasion was the rout of the Amelekites, and the recovery from them, by the Jewish hero and his warlike band, of the spoil taken at Ziklag. Two hundred of David's men had not been in the fight. Exhausted by previous action, they had remained behind to guard the baggage, while their four hundred comrades continued the pursuit and vanquished the foe. The fighting over, a question arose as to the proper division of the spoil. Some of the victors were unwilling that any but actual combatants should share in the division and they proposed that their brethren who had not been in the battle, but had guarded the baggage of those who fought, should only be given their rescued wives and children and allowed to depart. It was then that David, scouting the ungenerous and unjust proposition, laid down the rule, to be permanently observed as an ordinance in Israel: "As his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff; they shall part alike."¹

In this story we find an example of wisdom and of gratitude and respect. To be sure, the heroes of the day were the men who fought and who secured the victory. Yet David, in his wisdom, saw that it was right to pay respect to all those who came to the fight, though their assignment that day may have kept them from the battle. He was grateful to every man

¹ Whitney, Orson F., "A Patriotic Address," Delivered at the Banquet of the Sons of the American Revolution, by Bishop Orson F. Whitney of Logan - The Second Celebration in Utah of the Battle of Bunker Hill - Other Exercises, The Utah Journal Newspaper June 27, 1896.

that had followed him, committed and *ready to be in the fight*.

On this Veterans Day, let us remember that every member of the U.S. Armed Forces has made a commitment to be *in the fight* for this country and for its people. Those who answered the call to serve during a time of war could expect it. Even in a time of peace, those that serve stand ready to be called into action at any time. And think about it: when has there been, in our lifetime, a time of peace and no threat of war?

To be in the fight - that is the commitment of every man and woman in uniform. For that commitment, for your patriotic service and for every sacrifice, *may you part from here alike* with the thanks of a grateful people.

Thank you all for coming...God Bless our Veterans and God Bless America!

Obituaries



Edward S. Johnson

We have learned of the death of Compatriot Edward S. Johnson last year on 06 October 2014. He was 93 years old. He was born on a farm in Pawnee

County, Nebraska and moved to Washington, DC in 1941. After serving in World War II, he married Esther Facko in 1946 and graduated with an accounting degree from Benjamin Franklin University in 1949. He retired from Federal Service as Comptroller for the Civil Defense Agency in 1973. He was a member of Hope Lutheran Church in Annandale, Virginia.

Step Up Now for Chapter Leadership Opportunities in 2016

Chapter President-Elect Greg Bodge is looking for a number of compatriots to fill leadership positions and other key roles in the chapter. If you are interested in getting more involved, please e-mail him at gbodge@hotmail.com or call him at 540-318-6717.

One of the key positions available is the appointed office of **Graves Committee Chair**. Compatriot Jamie Callender is stepping down after many years of service as he has increased his graves registration work at National, but he has volunteered to help get the new man started. This position comes with *ex officio* membership on the chapter's Board of Managers. As the Graves Committee chair, you will perform the important task of helping the chapter identify and mark the graves of Patriots in the area. You will become the chapter's face in much of the community, and perform the vital task of maintaining the legacy of those who we honor.

We are also looking for a **Newsletter Editor**. You will be responsible for working with the officers in getting the newsletter put together and forwarded for printing. Chapter members submit the articles and photos and the editor will collect them and place them in the newsletter format. Richard Gilliland will be available to ease the transition for the new editor.

Either position allows chapter members to become more involved in the SAR without taking on the burden of an officer position. There are, of course, opportunities to serve as a member of any of the chapter's **Committees** (except for the Nominating Committee, which is appointed by the Board of Managers each autumn). Please contact Greg Bodge if you would like to discuss any of these leadership opportunities or serve on one of the chapter's committees

Call for George Washington Articles

In February the Chapter will participate in the George Washington Birthday Celebration which culminates with the parade on February 15, 2016. As we have in previous years, we want to contribute short newspaper articles on topics relating to George Washington. These articles are to be published in the *Alexandria Gazette* in January and early February. The articles serve to publicize and heighten the spirit of the event.

Anyone willing to prepare articles for the *Gazette* or otherwise support the Chapter's participation in any way, contact Paul Walden at paulwalden@live.com.

December Dates in History *American Revolutionary War*

December 1765: Over 200 Boston merchants refuse to pay the Stamp Tax.

December 1766: New York legislature is suspended after voting against compliance with the Act.

December 16, 1773: The Boston Tea Party occurs when activists disguise themselves as Mohawk Indians then board the ships and dump all 342 containers of tea into the harbor. The Colonial activists were believed to be organized by Samuel Adams and the "Sons of Liberty" group. Samuel Adams then began to make his case for independence to John Adams, his second cousin, and a wealthy merchant named John Hancock.

December 26, 1776: Washington crosses the Delaware River and captures a Hessian force (German mercenaries) at Trenton, New Jersey.

December 29, 1778: British capture Savannah and Augusta.

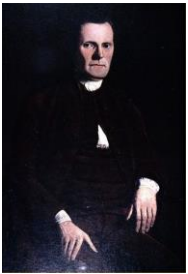
December 23, 1783: Washington resigns his commission as commander-in-chief to the Congress of the Confederation.



George Washington Quotes

"My observation is that whenever one person is found adequate to the discharge of a duty...it is worse executed by two persons, and

scarcely done at all if three or more are employed therein."²



Did You Know?

Roger Sherman (1721-1793)³

Highest Political Office: United States House of Representatives (1788-1791); United States Senator (1791-1793).

Other Accomplishments: Member, Continental Congress (1774-1781, 1783 and 1784); Helped draft the *Declaration of Independence*; Helped draft the *Articles of Confederation*; Was responsible for the *Great Compromise* (Connecticut Compromise) at the Constitutional Convention.

Sherman was a self-made man, married twice and fathered fifteen children. Before the Revolutionary War he held positions in the Connecticut government in all three branches (legislative, executive, and judicial). He was a political conservative, but strongly favored the American Revolution once it began. Sherman was in support of the colonial boycotts of the 1760's and was in charge of the New Haven committees of correspondence (organizations that promoted inter-colonial communication). He was not known as a gifted speaker, but he toiled hard in various committees in order to make sound and lasting policy. However, at the Constitutional Convention he did speak 138 times on various issues, and only James Madison, James Wilson, and Gouverneur Morris spoke more often. Roger Sherman was the second oldest delegate there (right behind 81 year old Benjamin Franklin). Thomas Jefferson once remarked, "There is Mr. Sherman of Connecticut, who never said a foolish thing in his life."

His Politics: He was in favor of the President being appointed by the Legislature for a three year term of office. However, his most important accomplishment was the compromise on representation in Congress

he suggested that broke the "deadlock" between large and small states. This compromise was called the "Great Compromise", and it showed the delegates that they could and should compromise in order to accomplish the writing of a new constitution. Thus, the Constitution has been characterized historically as a "bundle of compromises". He was, however, opposed to a separate "bill of rights" to be added to the Constitution. By the time Sherman served in the United States Congress he was an advocate of the Federalist philosophy. He ended up supporting Alexander Hamilton's financial program of assumption of state debts, the establishment of a national bank, and enactment of a tariff to help the young nation to stabilize its economy.

Closest Crony among the Founding Fathers:

William Johnson

What he said: "The question is, not what rights naturally belong to man, but how they may be most equally and effectually guarded in society."

"When you are in a minority, talk; when you are in a majority, vote."

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

<i>President:</i>	<i>Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375</i>
<i>Vice President:</i>	<i>Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Paul Walden: 703-347-9770</i>
<i>Registrar:</i>	<i>Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791</i>

Immediate Past President:

Scott Wagoner: 571-239-3221

Ride Share: *Members in need of a ride to a chapter meeting or a chapter sponsored event may contact the Amenities Committee Chairman, Don Reynolds, at (703) 765-4947.*

This newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to newsletter@gwsar.org or call 202-870-3762.

² <http://brainz.org/50-best-george-washington-quotes/>

³ <http://www.constitutionfacts.com/us-founding-fathers/about-the-founding-fathers/>

Highlights of the November Chapter Meeting



Top Left: Vice President Greg Bodge prepares to begin his slide presentation for the Chapter's Salute to Veterans

Top Right: Vice President Greg Bodge accepts the National Society's 'The Partners in Patriotism Certificate' on behalf of the George Washington Chapter

Center Left: Recipients of the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal: Back Row - Don Reynolds, Greg Bodge, Covert Beach, Jack Pitzer, Mike Elston, Rich Sherman, and Paul Wagoner. Front Row: Paul Walden and Ernie Coggins

Center Right: John Blair and Dwight Whitney pose with members of the Alexandria Fire Department who received SAR Public Service Awards. The Fire Safety Commendation went to Battalion Chief Gerald Fair (second from left) and Captain Jason Wehmeyer (middle). Supervisor Michael Sharp (second from right) accepted the Emergency Medical Services Commendation for Kelsea Bonkoski

Bottom Left: Recipients of Certificates of Appreciation for their chapter service: Dave Thomas, Tom Roth, Jay Henn, and John Blair. Not pictured: Kevin Kline, Richard Gilliland, and John Brigden

Bottom Right: Paul Walden is recognized for having submitted a Forgotten Patriot Ancestor

Highlights of the November Chapter Meeting (Continued)



Top Left: Newly elected 2016 George Washington Chapter officers - Greg Bodge, President; Paul Walden, Vice President; Jay Henn, Secretary; and Ernie Coggins (not pictured), Treasurer

Top Right: New member Jay Franklin poses with President Whitney, his parents, Faye and Harry Franklin, and his girlfriend Helen.

Center Left: Jamie Callender receiving the Bronze Roger Sherman Award

Center Right: Paul Walden receiving the Distinguished Service Medal

Bottom Left: Covert Beach receiving the Certificate for his award of the Dr. Joseph Warren Medal from the National Society

Bottom Right: Compatriot Martin Johnson pins the rosette on his brother, Richard Johnson, at his induction.

Other Veterans Day and Chapter Meeting Highlights



Top Left: Penny Kales, Regent of the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, gives welcoming remarks at Mount Vernon

Top Right: Vice President Greg Bodge serves as our Master of Ceremonies at Mount Vernon

Center Right: Jamie Callender receiving recognitions at the November Chapter meeting from the Chapter and the National Society for his outstanding work on the Patriot Biographies project this year, including a Louisville Slugger bat autographed by the officers of the chapter

Center Left: Ann Whitney receiving the Martha Washington Medal at the November Chapter meeting for her dedicated service to the SAR

Bottom Left: Compatriot Will Elston leads us in the Pledge of Allegiance at Mount Vernon

Bottom Right: Barbara McJoynt of the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the DAR gave the benediction at Mount Vernon

Future Events

December 5 - Commemoration of the *Battle of Great Bridge*, Chesapeake, Virginia. †

December 7 – The George Washington Chapter VASSAR, along with Saint Mary’s Catholic Church and the Students of Saint Mary’s Catholic School, will host the Plaque Dedication Honoring Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in St. Mary’s Church Cemetery. At 8:30 AM, members of the George Washington Chapter will present a George Washington framed print at Saint Mary’s School. Afterwards, participants in the plaque dedication will gather in the school’s parking lot beginning at 9:00 AM to take part in the procession to the graveyard, which steps off at 9:30 AM. The parking lot is located at the terminus of South Royal Street and parking will be available there.*

December 12 - Joint chapter meeting with the George Mason Chapter. 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. VASSAR President Reverdy Wright will speak and install the Chapter’s 2016 officers. *

December 12 –Wreaths Across America, 12:00 noon at Alexandria National Cemetery, 450 Wilkes Street, Alexandria. Join up with Compatriots Carlisle Bean and Jack Coulter.

January 09 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. *

January 16 – 235th Anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens, Cowpens Battlefield Park, Gaffney, South Carolina 10:00-11:30 a.m.

February 13 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. *

February 13 – Crossing of the Dan Celebration, South Boston, Virginia 10:00 a.m.-2 p.m. †

February 15 – Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 11:00 a.m.- 12 noon

February 15 – George Washington’s Birthday Parade, Alexandria, Virginia. 1:00-3:00 p.m.*

February 19-20 – VASSAR Annual Meeting, Richmond, Virginia. †

February 25-27 – Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky.

March 26 – VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Award Gala, Belle Haven County Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

April 09 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*

May 14 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*

May 30 – National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, DC. Time: TBD.

July 04 – Fourth of July Ceremony and Wreath Laying at General Washington’s Tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia.*

July 08-13 – 126th Congress, Boston, Massachusetts.

September 10 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*

September 10 – The President General’s Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns, 4:15 p.m., Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.**

September 16-17 – VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Williamsburg, Virginia. †

September 19-October 01 – Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky

October 08 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*

November 11 – Veterans Day Wreath Laying, General Washington’s Tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia.*

November 12 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*

December 10 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending.

