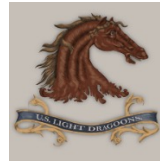




President Barry Schwoerer

THE ESCAPE OF JOHN
CHAMPEGUIDON OF THE U.S.
LIGHT DRAGOONS

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THE CIPHER

SGT MAJ JOHN CHAMPE CHAPTER

VIRGINIA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Outside Carpenters Hall



A meeting room in Carpenters Hall

250th Anniversary

First Continental Congress

Philadelphia, Historic Carpenters Hall, October 13, 2024. Ken Bonner represented the chapter by participating in Color Guard and presenting the chapter wreath. The 1st Continental Congress convened September 5 and met through October 26. Virginia Delegates were: Richard Bland, Benjamin Harrison, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Edmund Pendleton, Peyton Randolph and George Washington. Peyton Randolph was elected President. The principle outcome of the Congress was the passage of the Continental Association. They also adopted the Suffolk Resolves, a measure from counties in Massachusetts declaring grievances against the Crown, a boycott of English goods, and a request that each Colony establish and train a militia. The ceremony was held at Carpenters Hall. Attendees had the opportunity. to tour the Hall and see the rooms where delegates met 250 years ago.



Carpenters Hall Floor

PUBLIC OUTREACH

★ Newspaper articles ★

In October, the Chapter was featured in nine newspaper articles.

NEW MEMBERS INDUCTED

Please welcome new members inducted at the October 27 chapter meeting in Aldie. Photos in the right column.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Awards were presented at the October 27 Chapter meeting in Aldie.

SAR War Service Medal: Christopher Vaughan

SAR Military Service Medal:

- Jon Michael Watson
- Burton Henry Sullivan
- Steven Ray Powers

SAR Bronze 250th Anniversary Medal

- David Welker
- James Watts

VASSAR Black Powder Musketman Qualification

- David Welker (initial Qual)
- Mark Sink & Barry Schwoerer (Re-Qual)

Certificates of Appreciation,

- Tucker Withers, Valerie Sink, Mark Sink, Warner Workman, James Watts, David Welker, Steven Riddle



The Vaughan Family. Kristi, Christopher, Ryan, Connor. Their Patriot ancestor was John Sexton Private in the Virginia Continental Line



Martin Gainey. His patriot ancestor was Lieutenant George Tucker



Example of Certificate of appreciation. L-R: Jim Watts, Barry Schwoerer

Patriot Grave Marking Charles Thomson.

Philadelphia, October 13 Charles Thomson was secretary of the Continental Congress from 1774-1789. Mr. Thomson was born in Ireland in 1729, then migrated to the American Colonies in 1739 with his father and brothers. Mr. Thomson served as the only secretary to the Continental Congress and was at Philadelphia's Independence Hall when the Declaration of Independence was signed. The first published version of the Declaration included his name and role as Secretary. Thomson drew and submitted a proposal for the Great Seal of the United States. With some modifications his design was adopted by Congress.

Thomson was admired by Founding Fathers including John Adams who considered Thomson to be the Samuel Adams of Philadelphia. He was an ally of Benjamin Franklin and a member of the Philadelphia Sons of Liberty. Thompson spoke out against Britain's various Intolerable Acts and was an outspoken, and active proponent of Independence.

Thomson is buried at Laurel Hill Cemetery west of Philadelphia. He died in 1824. The last home he occupied is named "Harriton House", built in 1704 by Rowland Ellis. The next owner was Richard Harrison, father of Hannah Harrison Thomson, Charles Thomson's 2nd wife. He married Hannah September 1, 1774, shortly before the First Continental Congress convened.

The Philadelphia Chapter Pennsylvania SAR sponsored the Grave Marking for Charles Thomson. Ken Bonner represented the chapter. He participated in Color Guard, presented the chapter wreath, and was in the firelock squad volley.

Veteran Support. Presentation to Six Veterans

Falcons Landing , Sterling, October 10. DAR and SAR gave presentations to veterans at Falcons Landing Retirement Home. Barry Schwoerer presented an overview of SAR Sponsored Operation Ancestor Search, spoke about Chapter activities in Northern Virginia, and gave an overview of 250th anniversary events commemorated by Virginia SAR. The event was co-sponsored by the Cameron Station Chapter DAR.

Photos of the Grave Marking



SAR team at the obelisk and grave of Charles Thomson



Firelock squad firing a volley



Harriton House, last home of Charles Thomson



Ken Bonner at the grave of Charles Thomson

HISTORIC COMMEMORATION

200th Anniversary of the Return of Lafayette to Yorktown

Yorktown, Friday, October 18 A re-enactment of Major General Lafayette's arrival at Yorktown in October 1824 was celebrated at the Yorktown waterfront. The General was delivered to Yorktown by the tall masted ship Luna. A Virginia Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard advanced colors to open a ceremony honoring General Lafayette's arrival. The General was portrayed by Mark Schneider. After the General's remarks, a Sons of the American Revolution squad formed on the walk near the break water and executed a thirteen shot flintlock salute. The salute was executed by each squad member firing a round, then the next member, then the next, until thirteen shots were fired. A dinner honoring Lafayette was held at the Yorktown Museum of the American Revolution the evening of October 18.. Ken Bonner and Barry Schwoerer represented the chapter at all events on October 18.

HISTORIC COMMEMORATION

243rd Anniversary Victory at Yorktown

Yorktown, Saturday 19 October Ken Bonner and Barry Schwoerer marched in the Yorktown Victory Parade led by National SAR President General Darryl Addington, National Color Guard Commander Scott Collins and Virginia SAR State President Bill Greaf. The parade marched down Main Street in Yorktown to the Revolutionary War Victory Monument.

HISTORIC COMMEMORATION

Honors to Virginia Rev War Governor Nelson

Grace Episcopal Church, Yorktown Saturday, 19 October.. Ken Bonner and Barry Schwoerer participated in honoring Governor Thomas Nelson Jr, Revolutionary War Governor of Virginia. The ceremony took place at the grave of Gov. Nelson in the church cemetery. Both Barry and Ken participated in Color Guard, Barry presented the Chapter wreath.

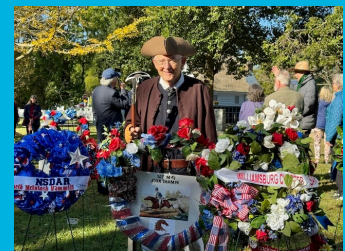
YORKTOWN EVENTS



The Luna docked at the Yorktown Harbor



Lafayette (Mark Schneider) giving remarks at the Friday night dinner at the Yorktown Museum of the Revolutionary War



Barry with Wreath for Gov. Nelson

VETERAN SUPPORT Honor Flight (Chicago to Dulles)

Dulles International Airport October 23. Barry Schwoerer and Mark Sink joined Virginia SAR Members from Fairfax Resolves and Col James Wood II to welcome 115 veterans, eight serving in the Korean War and one-hundred and seven who served in Vietnam. There were twelve (12) United States Air Force Veterans, Sixty-seven (67) United States Army Veterans, ten (1) United States Marine Corps Veterans, and twenty-six (26) Navy Veterans.

TRAINING VASSAR COLOR GUARD & Musket SQUAD Color Guard Workshop

Ruritan Facility, Clear Brook VA October 26. Barry Schwoerer, Mark Sink and David Welker participated in a semi-annual Color Guard workshop sponsored by the Virginia SAR Color Guard Commander, Brett Osborn. Training included order of arms (rev war style), marching with muskets, flag procedures and etiquette, cartridge making, procedures for using a sword, safety procedures and musket fire. Mark Sink acted as event Safety officer. Barry Schwoerer presented "How to make Revolutionary War cartridges", and all three Sgt Maj John Champe members fired muskets. Barry and Mark were requalified as VASSAR Certified musketmen. with David Welker receiving certification for the first time. HUZDAH DAVID

CHAPTER RECOGNIZED Partners in Patriotism Certificate

National SAR recognized our chapter with the "Partners in Patriotism Certificate for 2023". The certificate is issued for chapters who participate in an organized program or event with another veterans organization. Our Chapter partnered with VFW, and American Legion. We are a member of the Martinsburg, WV VA Medical Center Volunteer Coordination Committee that serves Veterans who are in-patients or receiving out-patient care at the Medical Center.



The SAR Color Guard inside the Terminal



Honor Guards from Loudoun and Fairfax Sheriff, police and fire rescue outside the terminal



Color Guard Musket fire with David Welker 3rd from right

250th ANNIVERSARY First Continental Congress (Local)

Old Town Aldie, October 27 At the 1810 vintage home of Chapter applicant Tucker Withers in Old Town Aldie, the Sgt Maj John Champe Chapter performed a skit summarizing the Accomplishments of the First Continental Congress. Players in Colonial Attire read their parts. David Welker played Secretary Charles Thomson, Steve Riddle portrayed President Peyton Randolph, Jim Watts played Reverend Jacob Duché, Mark Sink played Patrick Henry, Warner Workman played John Adams, Valerie Sink (Lanes Mill Chapter DAR) played Hannah Thomson, and Barry Schwoerer was the narrator. Randolph and Thomson discussed the accomplishments of the Congress including adopting the Continental Association; Reverend Duché recreated his prayer that greatly impressed the delegates; John Adams read a letter to his wife, Abigail, summarizing the impact Duche's prayer had on delegates; Patrick Henry recreated his remarks to Congress "The distinctions between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers, and New Englanders, are no more. I am not a Virginian, but an American." Mark Sink as Patrick Henry also recreated the last part of Henry's famous "Give me Liberty or Give me Death Speech" as the narrator summarized the impact of the Congress and events to come. The audience stomped, cheered and clapped at Henry's remarks. Hannah Thomson (Valerie Sink) brought news of Resolves issued by 51 ladies of Edenton, NC.

The skit was performed 250 years and one day after the First Continental Congress adjourned from Carpenters Hall in Philadelphia.

RECOGNIZING PATRIOTISM Chapter Challenge Coin presented to Hammerdown BBQ

Aldie, October 27 The Chapter presented Ken Soohoo, Hammerdown BBQ owner, pitmaster and Veteran of the United States Marine Corps, a Chapter Challenge Coin. Mr. Soohoo is a supporter of First Responders (Fire-Rescue, Police, Sheriff, EMT) and Patriotic Organizations.

Hammerdown BBQ is located at 41153 John Mosby Highway, Aldie, VA. They display Challenge coins from a variety of military, police, sheriff, fire & rescue and patriotic organizations. The display of challenge coins is on the wall behind Mr. Soohoo and Mr. Schwoerer.



players. L-R: Jim Watts, Valerie TheSink, Mark Sink, Barry Schwoerer, David Welker, Steve Riddle, Warner Workman



The players reading their parts of the skit



Ken Soohoo receiving chapter challenge coin from Barry Schwoerer

HISTORIC COMMEMORATION

Virginia SAR Honors Susanna Bolling, Virginia's Paul Revere

North Chesterfield, VA October 27. One evening in May 1781 a sixteen year old girl overheard a plot to capture Major General Lafayette, commander of Revolutionary War Continental Forces in Virginia. Susanna Bolling left her home, rowed across the Appomattox River, then borrowed a friend's horse to make the ride to warn Lafayette.

On October 27, 2024 the Richmond Chapter, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution sponsored a ceremony that dedicated a sign commemorating Susanna's act of bravery. By making the ride, she became the Paul Revere of Virginia. The sign reads:

"HERO OF THE REVOLUTION: Susanna Bolling was 16 when British General Cornwallis Quartered in her City Point, Hopewell, VA home. She overheard him plotting to capture Continental Army General Lafayette who headquartered here at the Half Way House. Susanna snuck out of her home, crossed the Appomattox River and rode almost 10 miles through the night to warn Lafayette who escaped. Susanna's heroism allowed Lafayette to continue leading the Virginia Campaign which ended with Cornwallis in Yorktown and set the Stage for the Decisive American Victory"

The sign was dedicated at the Halfway House where Lafayette had his headquarters. The house was built in 1760, still stands and today is the Halfway House Restaurant at 10301 Jefferson Davis Highway, North Chesterfield, VA. The Virginia General Assembly declared December 5, Susanna's birthday, as Susanna Bolling Day throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ken Bonner represented the chapter. He participated in Color Guard and presented the Chapter wreath.



Sign dedicated in honor of Susanna Bolling



Color Guard for the sign dedication. Ken Bonner far right



SAR and DAR attendees at the sign dedication. Ken Bonner top row, 3rd from left

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Leesburg Kiwanis Halloween Parade

Leesburg, October 31. The Float entered by Chapter member Warner Workman was awarded The Leesburg Kiwanis **“Best Interpretation of the Halloween Theme”**. This award reflects a great deal of planning and effort by Compatriot Workman. Warner was joined by Barry Schwoerer, Steve Van Deusen, Ken Bonner and Lanes Mill Chapter DAR Regent, Anita Bonner. The parade went from Ida Lee Park north of Leesburg, down King Street to Fairfax Street.

Residents with a great number of youngsters lined the parade route to receive candy delivered by Ken Bonner, Anita Bonner and Steve VanDeusen. Barry Schwoerer rode the float ringing the replica Liberty Bell as the float progressed down King Street.



The team with the Leesburg Kiwanis member who presented the award.



Barry Schwoerer next to British Major André, who Collaborated with the traitor Benedict Arnold. André was tried and sentenced to death by hanging,



Right side of the Float



Left side of the float with Ken Bonner and Warner Workman

SALE CORNER

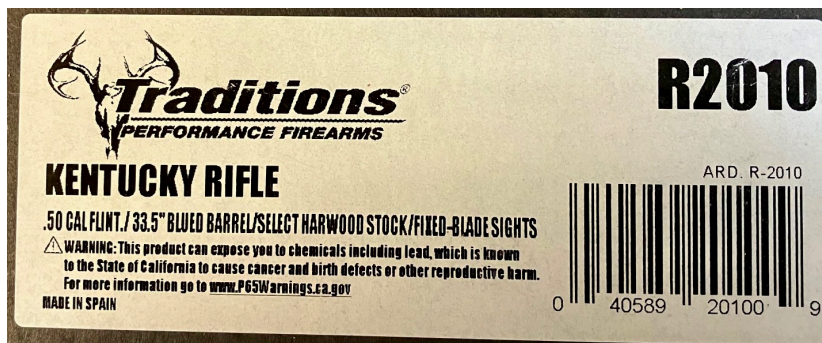
NEW. Traditions Flintlock Kentucky Rifles. Two (2) available. Seller has flints, flash guards and hammerstalls plus new screws to install the flash guard. \$500 each rifle, \$20 for flint, flash guard and hammer stall.

Exact copies sold to other SMJC Compatriots and operate very well. These may be used in SAR Black Powder firing events.

Contact Warner Workman or Barry Schwoerer



Background check not required for black powder weapons sales.



If you have Rev War clothing or equipment you wish to sell, contact the Newsletter editor with a description and cost of the items.

For clothing include sizes.

The Newsletter will be published monthly