

On-line

Virginia Bulletin



Virginia Society
Sons of the American Revolution

2013-14 Volume XXXVII No. 3



SEMI-ANNUAL AT ALEXANDRIA





Liberty Medal recipients with President Webber, Board of Managers Meeting



Recipients of Certificate of Appreciation for support of the Semi-Annual with President Webber, General Membership Meeting

The VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting took place at the MONACO Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia on Friday,13 September 2013, The Board of Manager's meeting kicked off the meeting events at 7:00 PM. Mike Elston, President of the George Washington Chapter brought greetings to the group. IT was noted that this was the first time in many years that the Virginia Society had held their meeting in Alexandria, VA. We had the best turn-out in many years for the Semi-Annual with 85 registered Compatriots. Secretary General, Lindsey Brock and Registrar General Mike Tomme were introduced to say a few words. Past President Bruce Wilcox was also introduced and recognized. National Trustee, Phil Williams was recognized as well as Past Presidents of the Virginia Society, Bob Bowen, Bill Simpson, Larry McKinley, Don Reynolds and Trice Taylor. Carter Furr was thanked for his many years serving as Chairman of the Knight- Patty Fund. The President nominated Mike Elston to be Chairman of the Fund commencing on October 1, 2013. Dr. Christopher N. Sheap was nominated to serve as Trustee. They both will serve for a period of (1) year. The Board of Managers approved these appointments.

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The on-line Virginia Bulletin is published quarterly by the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Editor: Andrew "Andy" Doss. Chapters wishing to report on their activities, should send their reports to the Editor. Any items to be published on the website should also be sent to the address above—email is preferred. Editor/Webmaster reserves the right to decide what to publish.

Many different people contribute photos, but it is hard to find space to credit everyone, please know from the bottom of my heart that your photos are TRULY appreciated!



A Message From NSSAR Trustee for VASSAR Phil Williams

A year ago I had just returned from the commemoration of The Battle of Saratoga. Moved to better understand a part of the Country where my Patriot, Christopher Joseph Delezenne joined the Rebels as early as the fall of 1775, and where descendants of my Connecticut Patriots began to summer in the 1880s, my interest in the area was rekindled. From the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht to the 1794 Treaty of Canandaigua the head waters of the Susquehanna, the Allegheny and the Delaware rivers, the Catskills, the Adirondacks, and the Mohawk River valley, Tenonanatche to the Iroquois, Oneida, Tuscarora and Seneca Indians, was as rugged, fearsome and densely forested a place as can be imagined. It formed a fur trade and later farming axis intersect connecting the Great Lakes in the Old Northwest to the North South axis from Montreal to New York, via the Lakes Champlain and George to the Hudson. Here German palatine refugees, Scots Irish, Dutch immigrants and Native Americans, and those who had intermarried with the first Americans, lived in uneasy tension at best...more often than not engaged in genocidal warfare, first in the French and Indian War, and later with the sides changed, in the Revolution.

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For its commercial and strategic importance, these primordial mountains and river valleys were the scene of sectarian, tribal and fratricidal civil wars. Did you know that the single largest loss of life combatants in any single battle in the Revolution took place in August of 1777 at the Battle of Oriskany? Want to know more about the significance and interconnected of the Frontier Wars, from the Battle of Point Pleasant to the Battle of Fort San Carlos to Fort Niagara, order Bloody Mohawk by Richard Berleth. Learn how vital the control of the breadbaskets and the movement of men and supplies from Virginia, to Pennsylvania and New York, was to General Washington, his Army and the militias.

Since Congress, Virginia Compatriots have been actively fulfilling the mission and carrying the message in our neck of the woods. Compatriots and Color Guardsmen have journeyed to participate in commemorations beginning with VASSAR President Webber's Initiative at the Joint Rev War - War of 1812 grave marking of 82 Patriots, Veterans of America's first two wars. Participants included DAR, C.A.R. Scouts and Pipers at Mt. Hebron Cemetery in Winchester in late August, where Daniel Morgan is buried. Special thanks go to Compatriot Lyman for his extraordinary research for this marking and the hosting by the men of the Col. James Wood II Chapter.

Other commemorations followed, from Sycamore Shoals to Kings Mountain and Point Pleasant where fellow VASSAR Compatriot and President General, Joe Dooley, also appeared. The stalwart Guardsmen and Compatriots who trek about our region are to be heartily commended.

In and around these commemorations, VASSAR held a very successful Semi-Annual meeting in Alexandria, with special kudos go to George Washington Chapter President and VASSAR Chancellor Mike Elston, and his Chapter for organizing and orchestrating the event. As usual, behind the scenes, VASSAR Secretary Rouse also worked tirelessly to seem together the business meeting, the awards and God knows what else. News that the Virginia Society is holding firm with membership approaching 1900, firmly holding its ground as the second largest Society – behind Texas and ahead of Florida – is most encouraging.

A number of your fellow brothers headed to Louisville for Fall Leadership. The meeting was good, productive and fun. Individuals, Chapters and VASSAR donated to several of the NSSAR endowments, some of which are still being match by NC Compatriot Powell and now, President General Dooley. If the Center for Advancing America's Heritage (CAAH) can raise a fresh million dollars by the Greenville Congress next July, PG Dooley will be shaved bald. The Barber of Seville, a member of the Spanish Society, has marked his calendar! That sight just might be worth a million bucks. But, there is no question about whether or not the Center is. To date, some 10 million has been raise. Another 1.5 million will finish the Center in time for the 2015 Congress. Thousands and thousands of students will pass through its portals for generations to come – not to mention other visitors and genealogic research historians. Discovering the truth of this Country's Founding is in some ways becoming more challenging. This will be one of America's premier venues where people can learn of, honor and hold sacred the sacrifices made by thousands for the freedom hundreds of millions. Keep the support of the Center in your prayers and your plans.

One of the highlights of the Leadership meeting was the culmination of NSSAR recognition of The Crossing of the Dan as a National Event, a process which began by then Sec. Gen. Dooley, tasking the author to form an ad hoc committee to prepare for and secure this recognition. The committee was formed and included VASSAR Historian and author of The Race to the Dan, Larry Aaron, Dan River Chapter President Bernard Baker and past GW Chapter President and VASSAR Secretary Bob Carr. Armed with a fabulous film documentary made by Larry Aaron and South Boston videographer and media figure, "Hutch" Hutchinson and a National Event application briefing document prepared by the author, the case was made to the AMS District in August, VASSAR at the Semi where a supporting State Resolution was unanimously approved, and on to Louisville where it was pitched to the NSSAR Committee of Historic Sites and Observances.

The Committee, VASSAR and the Dan River Chapter are pleased to announce that it received unanimous approval! So mark your calendars, February 21st (evening) and 22nd. Beautiful new streamers are being offered to attending Chapter and State Society representatives. Remember, attendance also counts for Chapter and Americanism reports. Participants are expected to come from AMS Societies and Color Guards, neighboring West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida.

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The National Officers, VADAR, C.A.R. President and Senior President among others are coming. event was a Presidential Initiative in my term, with 12 VASSAR Chapters attending. President-Elect Broadus will make this the first Initiative of his term. He says he's going to get more than 12. So, plan to come.

The Crossing is a spectacular and growing event in a wonderful part of the Commonwealth, Halifax County. Among many other things, you will see intrepid re-enactors crossing the swollen banks of the Dan in a new 28 ft. replica of the one of the ferries used to move Gen. Greene's army to the safety of the Virginia side of the river – mere hours before the British arrived on that fateful morn of February 1781. The Army of the South would seize the advantage but a month later at Guildford Court House, precipitating Cornwallis' withdrawal to the Carolina coast and his fateful decision to concentrate his forces in Virginia at Yorktown. The details of the celebration may be accessed from the home page of the VASAR website.

Speaking of Cornwallis, one of England's most talented Generals who would recover handsomely in his home country from the ignominy of Yorktown and serve the Crown admirably on into the Napoleonic Wars, don't miss the opportunity to pick up a copy of former VASSAR Teacher of the Year and head of the International Thomas Jefferson Studies Center at Monticello, Andrew Jackson O'Shaughnessy's new book, The Men Who Lost and Empire. This is a must read for students of the Revolution. Learn about the conflict through the eyes of King and Parliament, the British Public and the key players on the British side, from King George to Lord North, St. Germaine, Generals Howe (both brothers), Clinton, Burgoyne and Cornwallis.

The ice seems to have melted inside the Beltway. The "sequestration" and "shut down" have held many of the plans for Yorktown in abeyance. Nevertheless, the sun will rise on the 19th. The Parade is on. The Battle of the Hook reenactment is on. HUZZAH!

Sincerely,

Phil

GOOD CITIZENSHIP NOTICE

The Good Citizenship Committee urges all chapters to recognize and promote good citizens in their community and present to them Good Citizenship medals and certificates. Select your best Good Citizen and enter that person in the Good Citizen of the Year 2013 contest by December 31, 2013. For information contact Walt Neville at inouno3@juno.com or any member of the committee.















Operation Ancestor Search

Operation Ancestor Search Seeks State, Local Committee Members

by Rick Kincaid, Program Director Operation Ancestor Search

Operation Ancestor Search (OAS) is a free NSSAR genealogy training program for Wounded Warriors and their families. It provides participants with the knowledge and tools that allow them to conduct their own genealogy research as they recover from their injuries at military hospitals and VA medical centers across the country.

The OAS program is conducted through SAR state societies and local affiliate chapters and their volunteer members. The national committee evolved from a local program developed at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center (now the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center) by the DCSSAR. The program proved so successful that Ancestry.com became a major national sponsor, contributing a \$180,000 grant over three years, renewable for another three years after the initial period.

National Chairman Carl Bedell presides over the OAS Committee. Each State Society has its own OAS Chairman to spearhead these efforts and organize each state's program. State chairmen serve as ex officio members of the national committee.

State OAS Committee Members are volunteers who desire to share the genealogy expertise within the SAR in order to give back to the Wounded Warriors who were injured in their service to our nation. They provide injured service members with the knowledge and tools they need to conduct their own genealogy research in training classes, work sessions, individual hands-on assistance, and most notably, access to Ancestry.com databases.

OAS volunteers perform the following:

- 1. Help target the military medical facilities within their respective states that are most open and receptive to offering the OAS program to their Wounded Warriors.
- 2. Help identify the key personnel at those facilities and ensure that the facilities have adequate meeting space and computer facilities.



- 3. Help match the facilities with the leadership of the SAR local chapters in their closest geographic proximity in order to ensure adequate volunteer support.
- 4. Ensure that the state and local OAS committees are "visionary," meaning that they will not only serve the needs of the Wounded Warriors while they are inpatients, but that they will collaborate with local genealogical societies, lineage societies, libraries and other organizations as appropriate for support with training, reintegration and mentoring after they transition back to their local communities.
- 5. Ensure that the SAR's greatest resources our MEMBERS in local chapters across the country, in concert with our State and National Societies continue to develop Operation Ancestor Search as the preeminent SAR program, not only for us, but for our OAS partners who provide the resources that support our nation's Wounded Warriors and their families.

* * * * *

If you are interested in helping with Operation Ancestor Search at the state or local level, please contact your State OAS Chairman. If your state does not yet have an OAS Chairman, please contact your State President if you are interested in serving in that position.

For additional information on the OAS program, please contact Rick Kincaid, the National Program Director, at rkincaid@sar.org or (502) 588-6147.

FAIRFAX RESOLVES - ARMED FORCES DAY

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The VASSAR nominating Committee gave their report. The following have agreed to serve, if elected.

President- William A. Broadus
First Vice President- Reverdy E. Wright
Second Vice President –Edward W. Truslow
Third Vice President –Michael J. Elston, Esq.
Secretary- R. Wayne Rouse
Treasurer- Frederick N. Elofson
Chancellor- Eric H. Monday
Registrar- John E. Sweeney
Chaplain-Rev, Dr, Howell C. Sasser
Surgeon- W. Wallenborn, MD
Historian- Larry G. Aaron
National Trustee- Kent S. Webber
Alternate National Trustee- William A. Broadus

The following Resolutions were passed:

Crossing of the Dan Commemoration 2013 Semi-Annual Meeting Resolutions

The Board of Managers approved the list of Officers nominated at the Mid Atlantic States Meeting held in Washington, DC. A recap of the Virginia Society Awards won at National was presented. It was noted that this time Virginia won more awards than the Texas Society.

Several Members of the Virginia Society were also recognized with awards from National.

The various committees gave their reports It was noted that Mark Brennan was appointed to the NSSAR Executive Committee and Mike Elston was appointed as Chairman of the Essay Committee by President General Joe Dooley. The Council of State Presidents elected Kent Webber to be a member of the National Nominating Committee. Following the Board of Managers' meeting, the compatriots adjourned for an attitude adjustment hour in the Hospitality Suite.

On Saturday, the meeting continued with various Chapter reports from the Presidents of the Chapters present. The ladies went on a tour of the Carlyle House where they were treated to a 15 minute video on the history of the house and then conducted on a 45 minute tour of the house. At 11:30 AM, the Light Horse Harry Lee Encampment of the Heroes of "76" put on a presentation of Historic Flags. This was followed by dinner. The Virginia Children of the American Revolution was presented a check from the Virginia Society for \$1,000.00.

Respectfully, Kent



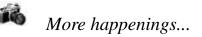












BATTLE OF GREAT BRIDGE

2013 Celebration of the Battle of Great Bridge

3rd Annual NSSAR Celebration & 60th Annual Great Bridge NSDAR Wreath Laying

Friday & Saturday, December 06 & 07, 2013



The 2013 Great Bridge Celebration begins with a reception on Friday, December 06, and concludes with the 3rd Annual NSSAR Ceremony that begins at 11:00 am. The event will thus formally conclude around noon on Saturday, since there is no additional colonial church service on Sunday this year. The culmination is the 3rd Annual NSSAR Formal Ceremony that begins at 11:00 am, Saturday 07 December, at Great Bridge Battlefield Memorial Park, Chesapeake, Virginia. This ceremony includes the 60th Annual Wreath Laying hosted by Great Bridge Chapter NSDAR. NSSAR President General Joseph Dooley is the featured speaker. The ceremony will be simpler and briefer than in the past with only one main speaker, but the firing of cannons and muskets, music performances, and the parading of the SAR Color Guards will provide colorful pageantry appropriate for this grand occasion. See the attached ceremony agenda.

The official hotel for the Great Bridge Weekend is the Hyatt Place Chesapeake/Greenbrier. Contact Information for HYATT PLACE Chesapeake/Greenbrier:

709 Eden Way N., Chesapeake, VA 23320 direct 757.553.9053 email libby.ross@hyatt.commain 757.312.0020 fax 757.312.0037 hyattplacechesapeake.com

Hyatt Place is providing a courtesy block offering a special room rate of \$77.00 for the SAR (Sons of the American Revolution 12/5/2013-12/9/2013). Be sure to make your reservation prior to the release date which is November 5, 2013, to ensure availability of rate. After the release date, the group rate will no longer be available. Please do not put off booking your room & miss out on the special rate. Rates are subject to applicable taxes, which are currently 8% city, 6% state, + \$1.00 per room, per night, and subject to change without notice.

See the VASSAR Website for more information.













NOW A NATIONAL SAR RECOGNIZED EVENT!

The Grossing of the Dan

233rd Anniversary Commemoration February 20-22, 2014 The Prizery South Boston, Virginia

Sponsored by Dan River Chapter Virginia Society SAR, Berryman Green Chapter NSDAR, Halifax County Historical Society, Town of South Boston, and Halifax County Middle School.

Thursday February 20, 7 pm

At the The Prizery's Chastain Theatre, the 6th Grade Crossing Players, Singers, and Musicians from Halifax County Middle School present the story through verse and song. Essay winners recognized.

Friday, February 21 Previous program repeated for all 6th graders at the middle school. Travis Bowman, portraying Peter Francisco, the Hercules of the Revolution, will address the students.

Friday Evening 6 pm: Dutch treat Meet and Greet
Seafood Dinner at Ernie's Restaurant, 1010 John Randolph Blvd, South Boston, VA.
Reservations appreciated. Respond to Anne Raab at 434.470.1350/tsraab@comcast.net.

<u>Saturday, February 22 10 am Annual crossing of the Dan Program in Chastain Theatre, including greetings, presentations of wreaths, key note address by Patrick Henry Jolly, a descendant of Patrick Henry.</u>

Following program, Brunswick Stew for \$5 at the Riverside Exhibit followed by dramatic portrayal of the Crossing by American and British reenactors complete with replica ferry boat and cannon and musketry fire.

For more information follow this link: www.prizery.com/Crossing/Celebration.htm



FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - BY KENT WEBBER

Fall Leadership Meeting
Louisville, Kentucky
Brown Hotel
Thursday, 26 September to Sunday, 29. September 2013

The Virginia Society had a great turnout for the Fall Leadership Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky with the following Compatriots in attendance; Robert Bowen, President-General- Joseph Dooley, Mark Brennan, Bill Broadus, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carr, Michael Elston, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence McKinley, Kent Webber, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Wilcox. and Phil Williams.

We attended different Committee Meetings, among them the Veterans Recognition Committee, the ROTC/ JROTC Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee, the Eagle Scout Committee, Historic Sites, Celebrations and Reenactments, Germany Society and various other committees.

The Thursday evening was the Candidates Forum where all potential candidates presented themselves and gave brief speeches. Friday, most of the committees met with carry over meetings scheduled for Saturday.

Two committees met and as a result of these meetings, the Historic Sites Committee voted to have the "Crossing of the Dan" a National Historic Event. The ROTC/JROTC Committee voted to award the Bronze Good Citizenship award only to High School age Sea Cadets. These Cadets are not eligible for the JROTC Awards but are edible for the Bronze Good Citizenship awards per the Medals and Awards Manual. Note these Cadets range in age from 13 to 17 years old. There is another group called the Navy League Cadet Corps whose members range in age from 11 to 13 years old.

It was noted that many of the attendees were not able to check into the Brown Hotel and it seems to be outgrowing the number of attendees.

THE GATHERING AT SYCAMORE SHOALS - BY BOB VOGLER

The weekend of September 20th & 21st, marked the annual celebration of the Gathering of the Overmountain Men at the Shoals

of the Sycamore and Fort Watauga in Elizabethton, Tennessee.

The weekend began on Friday in Johnson City with a ceremony at the grave of Robert Young who served in the battle of Kings Mountain. Later that evening, there was a reception and dinner to celebrate the 230th Anniversary of the Treaty of Paris.

The 233rd anniversary of "The Gatherings at Sycamore Shoals" was held at the Tennessee State Historic Area and was marked by speeches, dramatic story telling, and wreath

presentations by representatives from the SAR, DAR, Descendents of Washington's Army at Valley Forge, and others. While Saturday's activities were moved indoor due to rain, it did not dampen the enthusiasm of those in attendance. Participants were able to enjoy the park's visitor center and its renovated exhibit area and its new displays.

Participants included SAR members from Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio, Georgia, Kentucky, and Mississippi.

The Virginia contingent, led by the guest of honor, President General Joe Dooley, included Compatriots from nine chapters: Clinch Mountain Militia, Colonel Fielding Lewis, Colonel George Waller, Colonel William Grayson, Culpeper Minute Men, George Mason, George Washington, Overmountain Men, and Thomas Jefferson.

COL. JAMES WOOD II CHAPTER HEADS EVENT—BY LARRY W. JOHNSON

Monuments were dedicated to veteran soldiers on August 24 in Winchester, Virginia. The Commonwealth of Virginia saw a great gathering on a bright sunny day of members of the Sons of the American Revolution, Society of the War of 1812, and the United States Daughters. The site of the event was the Daniel Morgan Veterans' Cemetery at Mt. Hebron Cemetery. Two stone monuments were dedicated bearing the names of 40 Revolutionary War Soldiers and 42 War of 1812 Soldiers.

Funds for securing the monuments were donated by the three non-profit civic organizations whose members participated in the dedication. The Knight-Patty Trust Fund of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, United States Daughters of 1812, and the Society of the War of 1812. Officials representing the respective organizations in unveiling the monuments were Captain Kent Webber, USN Retired, Colonel Mike Lyman, Army Retired., and Jacque-Lynne Amman Schulman all head of their respective organizations.

The remains of these patriots are buried throughout Mt. Hebron. A number of the soldiers' remains are in unmarked graves but most of the 82 were located by Jack Lillis of Winchester and Ray Goff of the James Wood

II Chapter. Jack Lillis, Event Chair, stated, "I liked seeing relatives attend our festivities." Scores of guests, SAR chapter officers and members were present to lay wreaths at the beautiful monuments. Compatriot and overall coordinator of the event went on to say, "Most of graves are in the old part of Mt. Hebron, the Lutheran or the Reformed German cemeteries." Assisting and the on-site program chairman was Compatriot David Carpenter. A list of veterans is available at www.coloneljameswood.virginia-sar.org/coljameswood11.html.

The Col. James Wood II Chapter of the Northern Shenandoah Valley was chosen to manage the event activities by Captain Kent Webber, President of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. This was one the president's initiatives for his term of office. Capt. Webber was a featured speaker along with Jacque-Lynne Amann Schulman, and Mike Lyman. The Honorable Elizabeth Minor, Mayor of Winchester, spoke of the important the event to the city and Commonwealth.

Funds to purchase the monuments donated by three foundations amounted to more than fivethousand dollars.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS KNOWN TO BE INTERRED OR MEMORIALIZED IN THE HISTORIC BURIAL GROUND PRIVATE HERRY BAKER PRIVATE JOHN MERRYMAN PRIVATE JOHN SCHULTZ PATRIOT MICHAEL COPENHAVER PATRIOT LEWIS HOFF PRIVATE GEORGE SHAPP PATRIOT JOHN HUFF SURGEONS MATE JACOB TROUTUINE SERGEANT BASIL LUCAS CAPTAIN WILLIAM BALL BRIGADIER GENERAL DANIEL ROBERDEAU PRIMATE JOHN CRIM PATRIOT EDWARD SMITH 20 LIEUTENANT JOHN HOOVER PRIVATE JOHN SPERRY PRIVATE PETER LAUCK PRIVATE WILLIAM H BAKER BRIGADIER GENERAL DANIEL MORGAN PATRIOT CHRISTOPHER FRY SURGEON FREDERICK SEIGLE ENSIGN DANIEL HOLLENBACH PATRIOT JACOB SOWERS PRIVATE CORRAD KREMER PRIVATE JOHN C WALL MAJOR CHARLES MAGILL PRIVATE HERRY BEATTY PRIVATE PETER RUST MAJOR PETER HELPHENSTINE MAJOR GENERAL JOHN SMITH PRIVATE JOHN H. HOOVER CHAPLAIN CHRISTIAN STREIT PRIVATE SIMON LAUCK SURGEON CORNELIUS BALDWIN PRIVATE GEORGE OVERRORE PRIVATE CHARLES GRIM BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN SINGLETON PATRIOT HUGH HOLMES CAPTAIN JACOB SPERRY PRIVATE ADAM KURTZ LT COLONEL ROBERT WHITE DEDICATED BY THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AUGUST 24, 2013

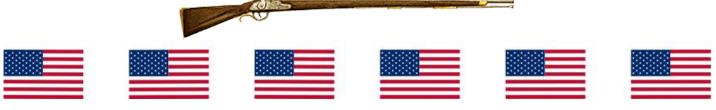
Presiding was the Col. James Wood II Chapter president, the Rt. Rev. Larry W. Johnson who was attired in period dress. The Chapter Color Guard headed by Brett Osborn and Rob Andrews were outstanding presenting the colors and musket salutes. The War of 1812 Color Guard was present and did an outstanding job as well.

YORKTOWN - BY WAYNE ROUSE

Representatives from 12 VASSAR Chapters along with several compatriots from Maryland and Georgia, joined a number of VASSAR Officers and NSSAR President General and VASSAR Past President Joe Dooley in paying tribute to Gov. Thomas Nelson, Jr. at the annual wreath laying at his gravesite in the cemetery adjoining Grace Episcopal Church in Yorktown on Saturday, October 19th. There were also representatives of the DAR and C.A.R. as well as a number of other organizations present which yielded a great turnout at this important event commemorating the end of America's military struggle for independence. The annual parade was also a resounding success with the Sons of the American Revolution marching as the lead unit.



President General Joe Dooley (left) and VASSAR President Kent Webber (right) addresses the attendees



Richmond Chapter Celebrates 90th Birthday

The Richmond Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, celebrated it's 90th birthday on 11 April 2013. Present for this august occasion were seven past chapter presidents, three which were also past VASSAR presidents. During the celebration, Compatriot Roderick Brown, Past Chapter and VASSAR President, read a short history of the chapter highlighting several major events in the chapter's history and notable personages. The Richmond Chapter, Sons of the American revolution, is the oldest continuously active chapter in the Virginias Society. The chapter was granted it's charter by a special committee of the VASSAR on 11 April 1923.



L-R: Jim Robeson, Roderick Brown, Arthur Taylor, George Corbett, Tom Burch, Mark Brennan, Brian Miller and Taylor Cowardin

The Muster Grounds at Abingdon, VA - By Bob Vogler

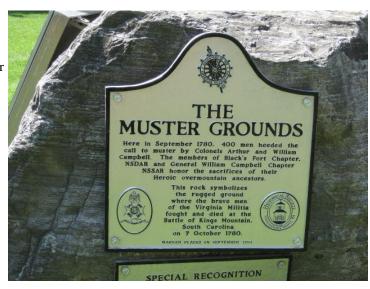
The Abingdon Muster Grounds is the northern trailhead of the 330-mile Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail. The Washington County militia mustered here on September 24, 1780 under Colonels Arthur and William Campbell in preparation

for a two week campaign and the subsequent battle of Kings Mountain, SC.

The muster grounds, operated by the town of Abingdon, are a National Park Service certified site which is used for living history events and historical interpretations.

Patricia Hatfield, the immediate past state regent of the Virginia DAR, recently raised \$40,000, as her project, to provide museum quality display cases at the Keller Interpretive Center located within the 9 acre muster grounds. The Center is devoted to presenting the colonial backcountry's history during the Revolutionary War.

The General William Campbell Chapter - SAR, Fort Black Chapter- DAR, and the Washington County Historical Society have contributed funds for several commemorative plaques which been installed on the muster grounds.



Awards and Recognitions from Semi-Annual

Awards presented at NSSAR Congress:

<u>The George & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest Award</u> (2013 National Winner – Bryan Habashi sponsored by the George Mason Chapter. This is the third year in a row that the Virginia Society has sponsored the national winner)

<u>The Admiral William R. Furlong Memorial Award</u> (12th consecutive year that VASSAR has been presented this award with last 3 years having 100% participation by Virginia Society chapters)

CAAH Financial Support:

Col. James Wood II and Rockbridge Volunteers contributed \$500 or more.

In 2013, 28 compatriots representing 16 VASSAR chapters were recognized with the CAAH Lamplighter Awards for donations totaling \$21,000.

<u>Liberty Medals and/or Oak Leaf Clusters</u> (first line signer on new applications)

Steve Bush, Pete Davenport, Joe Dooley, Robert Dorshimer, Dennis Hickey, Jim Mobley, Brent Morgan, Skip Nolan, Jim Sample, Jack Sweeney, Brett Sweeney, Ed Truslow, Robert Whitehead & Phil Williams

Gold Roger Sherman Medal (significant service to NSSAR)

Bob Bowen (serving as American Legion Coodinator) Bill Broadus (serving on the PG Transition Team)

Individual Awards in connection with the Semi-Annual:

Thomas Jefferson Medal for financial support of the Knight Essay Contest:

Ernie Coggins, Larry McKinley, Darrin Schmidt & Kirk Sheap

<u>Semi-Annual Meeting</u> (for support in the planning, coordinating and execution of the meeting):

Certificate of Appreciation

Covert Beach, Bill Bland, Thomas Bland, Bob Carr, Ernie Coggins, Rick Elofson, Don Kraft, Vern McHargue, Jack Pitzer, Don Reynolds, Wayne Rouse, Bill Simpson, Jack Sweeney, Paul Wagoner, Scott Wagoner, Dwight Whitney, Julia Carr, Julie Elston, Suzanne Reynolds, Wink Rouse, Ann Whitney & Emily Elston

Certificate of Distinguished Service

Mike Elston

<u>Mt. Hebron Cemetery Joint Plaque Dedication</u> (for support in the planning, coordinating and execution of the event):

Certificate of Appreciation

Rob Andrews, David Carpenter, Paul Chase, Don Dusenbury, Ray Goff, Todd Golding, Steve Kerchner, Jack Lillis, Brett Osborn, Raph Pierce, Jim Rust & Bill Wood

Certificate of Distinguished Service

Larry Johnson

<u>History Day</u> (acrylic awards to sponsoring schools)

Bedford Middle School (Bedford, VA)

Lois C. Hornsby Middle School (Williamsburg, VA)

Silver Color Guard Medal

Pat Kelly & Darrin Schmidt

Joseph Warren Medal for financial support of the Rumbaugh Orations Contest:

Mark Day, Rick Elofson, Pat Kelly & Ken Wood

AMS CONFERENCE



President General Joe Dooley addressed the attendees of the Atlantic Middle States conference in Washington DC, August 10.







Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution

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