

Plans for May 17 Old Donation Dedication Events (Revised 3/19/14)

4449 Witchduck Road, Virginia Beach, VA

- **Dedication of new monument for the grave of Col. Edward Hack Moseley, soldier of the Colonial Wars and the American Revolution**
- **Dedication of plaque listing the names of founders, patriots, and veterans interred in the historic cemetery and the surrounding area**
- **Colonial church service commemorating the history of Old Donation Episcopal Church from May 1637 when the Reverend William Wilkinson conducted services in the home of Adam Thoroughgood and his wife**
- **Reception at the church**

The plan for the May 17, 2014 events now again includes the plaque dedication. It derives from the minutes of the February 18 Planning Meeting of Fr. Bob Randall and Pete Owens, Historic Traditions Committee, of Old Donation Episcopal Church, and Norfolk SAR President Tom Whetstone.

The schedule for Saturday, May 17, 2014:

11:30 am Colonial Church Service

12:15 pm Monument and Wreath Laying

12:45 pm Reception

The reception provided by the church will end about 2:00 pm, prior to a wedding scheduled for the sanctuary at 3:00 pm. Photos are allowed during the church service and afterwards. If the weather is inclement, the dedication ceremony and wreaths can be moved into the sanctuary.

The Vestry of Old Donation Episcopal Church of Virginia Beach has written to the sponsors a letter of permission for setting and dedicating the monument and the plaque. Fr. Bob Randall and I agreed to discuss further the official name for the May 17 events.

Father Bob Randall will conduct the Colonial Morning Prayer service according to the Anglican Book of Common Prayer liturgy used in 1637. He will prepare a printed program that will include a complete schedule of events including the church service, dedications and wreath layings, and reception. He indicated that he anticipates delivering a homily and calling upon several organization members to read scriptures at the service. The church choir will sing and the VASSAR Color Guard will join the opening procession and the recession to the cemetery after the service. Members of the church's Historic Traditions Committee, in Colonial-era attire, will serve as guides for all events.

The sponsoring organizations are responsible for printing a sheet(s) with the biographical information of Col. Moseley and the others named on the plaque. Old Donation Historic Traditions Committee will assist in distributing the biographical sheet(s) to attendees.

For the dedication and wreath laying ceremony, I suggest that a representative(s) of the sponsoring organizations be designated to speak only briefly, basically welcoming those gathered and dedicating the monument of Col. Moseley. Then, a speaker designated by Mike Lyman (of OFPA, Society of 1812, and VASSAR) will dedicate the plaque. Introduction of those laying wreaths will follow. The wreaths will be laid at the new monument and plaque and patriot gravesites indicated by the church. After a photo session, attendees will move to the reception. The VASSAR Color Guard will participate as it deems appropriate.

The reception will commence around 12:45 pm. If posing for group photos extends beyond 12:45, the subjects can proceed to join the reception when the photo session is completed. The reception will conclude around 2:00 pm.

Lynnhaven Parish Chapter NSDAR Regent Vicki Kendall is arranging for the local press and television stations to cover this event. She is also preparing invitations. Norfolk Chapter SAR President Whetstone will write an article for submission to *SAR Magazine* and the Virginia Society's online *Bulletin*. Each organization is encouraged to publicize this event. The church sanctuary holds 180-200.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sponsoring Organizations:

Colonial Dames XVII Century-Suffolk Chapter
Fort Norfolk Chapter United States Daughters of 1812
Lynnhaven Parish Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution
Norfolk Chapter, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution
Old Donation Episcopal Church
Virginia Society, Order of Founders and Patriots of America
Virginia Society of the Colonial Wars
War of 1812 Society of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Cavalier Society, Children of the American Revolution will lay a wreath.