



**Virginia Society**

**2013**

**Semi-Annual Meeting**

**Registration Packet**



The George Washington Chapter  
**The Sons of the American Revolution**

Post Office Box 77 · Mt. Vernon VA 22121

[www.gwsar.org](http://www.gwsar.org)

REPLY TO: Michael J. Elston, President  
Post Office Box 336  
Lorton VA 22199-0336

July 26, 2013

Dear Fellow Virginia Compatriots:

On behalf of VASSAR President Kent Webber and the George Washington Chapter, I am pleased to invite you to attend the 2013 VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting in Old Town Alexandria, September 13-14, 2013. In this registration packet, you will find the registration form, the tentative agenda, hotel information and dining suggestions. You will also find information regarding two of President Webber's initiatives — support for the Knight Essay Contest and the November 2, 2013 grave marking of Bermuda-born patriot St. George Tucker (and the associated multi-year program).

The Saturday Ladies Program, arranged by President Webber, will be a tour of Historic Carlyle House. The house was completed in 1753 by British merchant John Carlyle for his bride, Sarah Fairfax of Belvoir. Their home quickly became a center of social and political life in Alexandria and gained a foothold in history when British General Braddock made the mansion his headquarters in 1755. Braddock summoned five colonial governors to meet there to plan the early campaigns of the French and Indian War. For more information on the house, visit its website at [http://www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle\\_house\\_historic\\_park](http://www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle_house_historic_park).

One of our honored guests at the luncheon will be Caitlin Collins, National President of the Children of the American Revolution. The registration packet includes information on her national project: Student Veterans of America. We'll be "passing the hat" to express our support for returning veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars who are pursuing higher education, so bring cash or your check made out to N.S.C.A.R. (or you can send it in with your registration).

No doubt President Webber has more surprises in store for you, but that should be enough to convince you this will be one semi-annual meeting not to miss! We look forward to welcoming you to George Washington's Alexandria!

Very truly yours,

Michael J. Elston  
President



**Virginia Society**  
 Sons of the American Revolution  
**2013 Semi-Annual Registration Form**  
**September 13-14, 2013**  
**Hotel Monaco - Alexandria**

480 King Street  
 Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: (800) 368-5047 Web: <http://www.monaco-alexandria.com/>

Name: _____	Wife/Guest: _____
Street: _____	Phone Number: _____
City/State/Zip: _____	E-Mail Address: _____
Chapter: _____	

	<u>Number</u>		<u>Total</u>
EARLY Registration (rec'd by 8/16/13) (SAR Compatriots Only):	_____	@ \$20.00 each	\$ _____
Registration (SAR Compatriots Only):	_____	@ \$25.00 each	\$ _____
Saturday Luncheon:	_____	@ \$38.00 each	\$ _____
<b>Total Amount Remitted:</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>

		<u>Compatriot</u>	<u>Guest</u>
SATURDAY LUNCHEON – MEAL CHOICE	(1) Roasted Chicken:	_____	_____
	(2) Scottish Salmon:	_____	_____
	(3) Vegetarian Option (Hotel Choice):	_____	_____
Do you and/or your guest need a name tag? (Yes/No):		_____	_____

**Make all checks payable to "George Washington Chapter, SAR"**

Mail this form and your check to:  
 George Washington Chapter, SAR  
 P.O. Box 336  
 Lorton, VA 22199

**Hotel arrangements must be made directly with the Hotel Monaco**  
**Cutoff Date for Hotel Reservations is Friday, August 23, 2013**  
**Cutoff Date for Registration Forms is Friday, August 30, 2013**

For questions please contact: Mike Elston (elston.sar@gmail.com or 703-680-0866)



# Virginia Society

Sons of the American Revolution

## *Semi-Annual Meeting Agenda*

September 13-14, 2013

Hotel Monaco - Alexandria

480 King Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

### **Friday, September 13th**

1:00 – 7:30 pm	Registration	Bombay Room
1:30 – 3:00 pm	Executive Committee	Tokyo Board Room
3:00 – 4:30 pm	Admin/Database Workshop	Paris West Room
3:30 – 5:00 pm	Registrar Workshop	Paris Central Room
5:00 – 7:00 pm	Dinner (on your own)	Hotel and Area Restaurants
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Board of Managers Meeting	Paris Central and West
8:00 – 9:00 pm	Ladies Program	Bombay Room
9:30 – 11:00 pm	President's Reception	Athens Room

### **Saturday, September 14th**

7:30 – 9:00 am	Registration	Athens Foyer
7:30 – 9:00 am	Breakfast (on your own)	Hotel and Area Restaurants
9:00 – 11:00 am	General Membership Meeting	Athens Room
9:30 – 11:00 am	Ladies Tour	Carlyle House
11:00 am – Noon	Social Time	Courtyard Room
Noon	Luncheon	Paris Central and West



## **VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting September 13-14, 2013**

### **Hotel Information**

#### **Hotel Monaco - Alexandria**

480 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-549-6080

*Please make your hotel reservations by phone at:*

*1-800-368-5047*

***(Group Code: Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution)***

Rate is \$139.00 per night, plus local room taxes.

*Reservations for rooms at the above rate must be received by the  
Hotel Monaco no later than*

**Friday, August 23rd, 2013**

## DINING SUGGESTIONS IN OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

*Old Town Alexandria has some fantastic restaurants within a short walk of the Hotel Monaco. There is no way to describe them all on a single sheet of paper, but here are some suggestions. Bon Appetit!*

**Jackson 20** (703-842-2790) is adjacent to the Hotel Monaco. This local favorite features modern American tavern fare, craft beers and cocktails and a wine list with bottles priced at a palate-pleasing and wallet-satisfying \$20.

**Gadsby's Tavern**, 138 North Royal Street (703-548-1288). The ultimate SAR experience -- fine dining since the 1770s. Jefferson had his second "inaugural ball" at the tavern in 1805, and George Washington, John Adams, James Madison & James Monroe were regulars. They probably missed out on the outstanding (if expensive) crab cakes.

**Columbia Firehouse**, 109 South Saint Asaph Street (703-683-1776). This is "cool remake of an old firehouse" that describes itself as a modern American brasserie and offers a moderately priced American menu alight with "interesting twists." Specialties include onion rings, oysters, lobster salad, and steamed mussels.

**Il Porto Ristorante**, 121 King Street (703-836-8833). You guessed it -- Italian! An Old Town institution since 1973, its midpriced menu remains a favorite of fans who swear by its sauces, both "light and complex" and so "rich" and "meaty" they taste as if they'd "been cooking for hours." The plaster-and-beam construction lends it an "old-world charm."

**The Wharf**, 119 King Street (703-836-2836). History has been written inside the walls of the Wharf, with its 1790's style architecture featuring original wood columns and beams that are charred black from a Civil War fire. Since 1971, satisfied diners have been heading to The Wharf for whole Maine lobster, local soft shell crabs and prime steaks and chops. The restaurant has recently been renovated and remodeled and the menu updated to include many contemporary seafood items along with their traditional Chesapeake Bay creations.

**Union Street Public House**, 121 South Union Street (703-548-1785). Located in a renovated colonial waterfront warehouse, Union Street has been serving locals and visitors with fresh seafood, grilled steaks and chops in a warm convivial atmosphere since 1986 and has earned its reputation as "Old Town's Favorite Tap & Grill."

**Fontaine Caffe and Creperie**, 119 South Royal Street (703-535-8151). A casual European style restaurant serving Steak Frites, Mussels, Pates, Cheese, Vegetarian dishes, authentic savory and sweet French crêpes and Cidres. The restaurant also has an excellent craft beer and boutique wine selection.

**Chipolte Mexican Grill**, 601 King Street. For the compatriot with only a little time between meetings.

**Subway** at 320 King Street. For the cost-conscious compatriot - they bake their bread daily!



## 2013-14 VASSAR Presidential Initiative Support of the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest

The SAR's youth essay contest is named for a former Virginia Society president and first lady who contributed the money that today forms the core of the SAR's essay endowment fund. George S. and Stella M. Knight were committed to advancing the SAR's mission among the youth of America, and their vision has enabled the SAR to support the college dreams of many students over the past two decades. The Virginia Society has sponsored the winning essay in the national contest four times during that period, including the last three years in a row, and thus our efforts have enabled Virginia high school students to bring significant prize money home to Virginia.

But due to the extended period of low interest rates that we have all experienced during the past five years, the endowment has not been able to produce a sufficient amount of income to support the national-level scholarships that have been given in the past. Accordingly, the SAR has adopted a medal to recognize financial support for the SAR's essay endowment fund. The medal is named for Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, governor of Virginia, and 3rd President of the United States.

The connections between the Knight Essay Contest and Virginia are significant and long standing. Accordingly, it is appropriate to encourage support for the Knight Essay Contest through a 2013-14 VASSAR Presidential Initiative. ***Each chapter that makes a contribution of at least \$250 to the SAR essay endowment fund between July 4, 2013, and December 31, 2013, will be recognized with a streamer at the 2014 VASSAR Annual Meeting.*** The three Virginia chapters that contribute the most to the fund between those dates will receive special recognition at the VASSAR Annual Meeting.



Contributions made by a chapter or by individuals will be credited to the chapter for purposes of this initiative. Individuals making a contribution of \$250 or more will receive the Jefferson Medal. For each \$250 contributed by a chapter (and not by a particular individual), the chapter will be entitled to present a Jefferson Medal to a person of its choosing. The recipient need not be a member of the SAR. The Jefferson Medal is a particularly appropriate way to recognize a teacher or principal who has promoted the contest for many years or a chapter essay contest chairman who has served for several years. Medals will be presented at both the Semi Annual Meeting in September and the Annual Meeting in February.

**Checks should be made payable to "NSSAR," noting "Essay Endowment" and your chapter name in the memo line, and sent to Michael J. Elston, National Chairman, Knight Essay Contest, P.O. Box 336, Lorton, VA 22199-0336.**



# The Bermuda Gunpowder Plot

August 14, 1775

The SAR, DAR and C.A.R. have joined forces to bring attention to Bermuda's role in the American Revolution with a limited-edition commemorative pin and a series of events over a three-year period. Bermuda is a British territory located 640 miles off Cape Hatteras. It was settled in 1609 when a storm drove the Jamestown-bound *Sea Venture* onto the reefs around its 181 islands.

The Bermuda Gunpowder Plot pin commemorates a little-known event in the struggle for independence and honors the service of Bermuda-born Patriots Thomas Tudor Tucker of South Carolina and St. George Tucker of Virginia. The Tuckers were younger sons of Henry Tucker Sr., a prominent Bermuda trader and a member of the Governor's Council. As tensions between the colonies and Great Britain increased, the brothers separately advised American leaders that desperately needed gunpowder could be found in the unguarded magazine at St. George's, Bermuda. Meanwhile, their father traveled to Philadelphia to negotiate with Benjamin Franklin for an exemption from the trade embargo imposed on loyalist colonies by the Continental Congress. Franklin suggested that such an exemption could be arranged – in exchange for the gunpowder.

On the night of August 14, 1775, a group of Bermudians, led by Henry Tucker Sr., "borrowed" about 100 barrels from the magazine and rolled them down a hill toward Tobacco Bay. There small boats took the barrels to two waiting American schooners – the *Lady Catherine* and the *Packet*. St. George Tucker was in the town of St. George at the time, but as a known rebel he spent the night strolling with Bermuda's chief justice to establish an alibi. The *Lady Catherine* brought its precious cargo of gunpowder to Philadelphia while the *Packet* went to Charleston. Some of the *Packet's* gunpowder was used in the defense of Sullivan's Island by patriot forces (led by Colonel William Moultrie) on June 28, 1776. The successful defense of Sullivan's Island prevented the British from occupying Charleston for nearly four years until 1780.

Pin sale proceeds will establish a fund for the **Children of the American Revolution** to prepare for the 250th Anniversary of the Revolutionary Era (2023-2031) and support Bermuda charities selected by the Somers Isles Chapter of the **Daughters of the American Revolution** – partial compensation for the gunpowder stolen nearly 240 years ago.

## Tentative Schedule of Bermuda Gunpowder Plot Events

**March 25, 2013**

Wreath Laying at Tucker House Museum with the Governor of Bermuda and the Bermuda National Trust, St. George's, Bermuda

**November 2, 2013**

Marking of the Grave of St. George Tucker  
Warminster, Nelson County, VA

**May 3, 2014**

Marking of the Grave of Thomas Tudor Tucker  
Congressional Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

**Fall 2014**

Wreath Laying at the Home of St. George Tucker  
Williamsburg, VA

**Spring 2015**

Wreath Laying honoring Thomas Tudor Tucker  
at Fort Moultrie, Sullivan's Island, SC

**July 2015**

Commemoration of the Negotiations Between  
Benjamin Franklin and Henry Tucker Sr.  
Philadelphia, PA

**August 2015**

Dedication of Marker near the birthplace of St. George and Thomas Tudor Tucker  
Southampton Parish, Bermuda



**Sponsored by the Virginia, District of Columbia, South Carolina and Pennsylvania Societies  
of the Sons of the American Revolution;  
the Virginia Society of the Children of the American Revolution;  
and the Somers Isles Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Hamilton, Bermuda.**

\* \* \* \* \*

For more information or to purchase pins, contact Michael J. Elston at [elston.sar@gmail.com](mailto:elston.sar@gmail.com) or 703-915-9396.





# Pursuit of Happiness

Caitlin M. Collins



National Project 2013-2014

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A foundation that provides educational scholarships and student support centers to student veterans working to obtain a college degree.



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### The "Pursuit of Happiness"

As Americans, we are entitled to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."



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### How C.A.R. Can Help

Local and state C.A.R. societies can get involved in many different ways to raise funds and support for SVA.



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## National Project

N.S.C.A.R. will raise funds in support of the Student Veterans of America (SVA). The funds raised will go towards helping veterans with the following:

- Educational scholarships
- SVA Student Chapters
- Campus Veteran Centers
- Leadership Development
- Advocacy Work

The plan is to raise **\$50,000!**



# Student Veterans of America (SVA)

## What is SVA?

### Mission

To provide military veterans with the resources, support, and advocacy needed to succeed in higher education and following graduation.

### Vision

All veterans will succeed in higher education, achieve their academic goals, and gain meaningful employment.

### About SVA

Today's veterans face numerous obstacles in their path of attaining a college degree. These challenges range from a missing sense of camaraderie to feeling like an outsider amongst 18 year old traditional students to a lack of understanding by university faculty. When coupled with the visible and invisible wounds of war, a college degree can be an elusive goal for men and women returning from military service. Student Veterans of America (SVA) makes that goal a reality.

SVA is a 501(c)(3) coalition of student veterans groups on college campuses across the globe. These member chapters are the "boots on the ground" that help veterans reintegrate into campus life and succeed academically. Each chapter must be an officially recognized student group by their university or college and provide a peer-to-peer network for veterans who are attending the school. Additionally, chapters often coordinate campus activities, provide pre-professional networking, and generally provide a touchstone for student veterans in higher education.

Student Veterans of America is a registered 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. It is not affiliated, connected, or associated in any way with the School of Visual Arts in New York, nor is it sponsored or approved by the School of Visual Arts.



SVA  
Chapters

SVA chapters are located on over 750 college campuses, in all 50 states, and in 3 foreign countries. A majority of student veterans who get involved with these chapters GRADUATE with a college degree.



# Theme: “Pursuit of Happiness”

## WHY?

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are **Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.**” – The United States Declaration of Independence.

We, as members of the Nation’s oldest and largest patriotic youth organization in America owe this to our veterans because of the many sacrifices that they have made to keep us safe. After Americans in the past abandoned our returning service men and women, it is our chance to right those wrongs.

## WHO?

We will be helping veterans who have returned home from serving our country. The support that SVA provides also helps families of those who are returning from service. The family services that may be provided could include childcare, educational funds for future, job assistance, and much more. EVERY member, senior and friend can participate in meeting, talking to and supporting these veterans and the National Project.

## WHAT?

We will be providing financial support to SVA to be passed down to individual members who may need financial support for their education, to new/forming chapters for growth and outreach on campus, to existing chapters for needed supplies and services, or to erecting new veteran student centers on campuses nationwide.

The summer tour will focus on the theme and the idea that everyone deserves to be happy. As members of the Children of the American Revolution, we can affect the lives of so many. Simple outreaches may change people’s lives in their quest for the Pursuit of Happiness.



## How the project/theme connects

The N.S.C.A.R. has six primary objectives in its Bylaws; these objectives are the foundation of the organization.

1. To acquire knowledge of American History.
2. To preserve and restore places of Historical importance associated with men and women who forwarded American Independence.
3. To ascertain the deeds and honor the memories of the men, women and children who rendered service to the cause of the American Revolution.
4. To promote the celebration of patriotic anniversaries.
5. To honor and cherish the Flag of the United States of America above every other flag.
6. To love, uphold and extend the principles of American liberty and patriotism.

# How C.A.R. Can Help



## LOCAL AND STATE SOCIETY PARTICIPATION

Local and State societies can participate in the following ways:

- **Visit and Support Local SVA Chapters.**
  - SVA Chapters are located at colleges and universities around the country. There may very well be a SVA chapter at a nearby college or university where each chapter may visit. If there is none close, societies may choose to support a SVA chapter from anywhere around the country.
  - Support to SVA chapters may include monetary donations as well as donations of items that may be needed in a college environment (school supplies, clothing, etc.). Younger members may also want to write notes and color pictures to send to these chapters and members. Although these heroes are not overseas currently, a picture/letter to thank them for their service is always a great thing for them to cherish.
- **Chose SVA as a state project for the year if a state project has not already been determined.**
  - If a state has not chosen a state project for the year, they may want to choose and support a fund that is the same or similar to this National. This allows members to support their state and National Project in a connected way.
- **Raise funds to support their state and National Project during N.S.C.A.R. National Veterans Awareness Month in the month of November 2013.**
  - Funds can be raised through sales of the state and national sales items as well as fund raisers that can be split to support state and National Projects. These fund raisers can include but are not limited to:
    - Bake Sales
    - Luncheons
    - Candy Sales
- **Reach out to DAR and SAR members**
  - Visit local and state meetings and share information about C.A.R. and this year's project.
  - Encourage membership of their family into C.A.R.
- **Contact local business and solicit donations and grants.**
  - Local and state societies can contact local businesses and solicit donations in support of both state and national projects.
  - Local and state societies can apply for grants from local 501©3 organizations in support of both state and national projects.