



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter



Washington

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Volume 21, Issue 9

December, 2020

November in The George Washington Chapter



Left -- The SAR's Distinguished Service Certificate was presented to Jack Coulter, Covert Beach, Don Reynolds, and virtually to Dave Thomas -- GW President Jay Henn at right.



Right -- The Virginia Society Medal was presented to Rich Sherman, Jamie Callender, Tom Roth and virtually to Paul Walden by GW President Jay Henn.



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President's Corner



Compatriots:

This will be my last column, and as I look back on the past twelve months it was certainly an interesting time to serve as Chapter President!

All in all, however, I think we have managed to adapt to the conditions and restrictions of the pandemic environment and move the Chapter forward. After a short break, we began to hold virtual and in-person Chapter meetings; provide recognition to deserving students and first responders; mark Patriot graves; and conduct our annual observances at Mount Vernon on both the Fourth of July and Veterans Day.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication and support of many Chapter members. I was able to recognize some of them at our November meeting, but for those who were not able to join us then, allow me to do so again in this forum.

First, I was delighted to present the SAR's Distinguished Service Certificate to four Chapter members for their constant support: Covert Beach for his services as Master-at-Arms, including providing the Chapter with flags and banners for meetings and events; Jack Coulter, for compiling the Chapter's scrapbook and leading our participation in Wreaths Across America; Don Reynolds, for his many contributions as Chapter Chaplain; and Dave Thomas, for his development and updating of the annual Salute to Veterans slide show, as well as his guidance and counsel.

Next, I presented Richard Rankin, our Treasurer, and Rand Pixa, our Secretary, with the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal, in recognition of their contributions to the Chapter during the past year. Richard's duties are peaking with a "perfect storm" at year's end: dues

the development of next year's budget; and the preparation of taxable contribution letters. Rand, as our "Zoom master", has almost single-handedly enabled the Chapter (and the Board of Managers) to carry on with our meetings and to stay connected as a Chapter.

It was also my pleasure to award the Virginia Society Medal to four Chapter stalwarts: Jamie Callender, for years of service in multiple areas including grave marking and webmaster, and now with the Patriot Record System; Tom Roth, for service as Secretary, Treasurer, and now Vice President (not to mention Chapter Historian); Rich Sherman, for his many years of service with our Youth Awards Program and now as Chapter Registrar; and Paul Walden, who - even after his many years as a Chapter Officer were behind him - continued to devote his time and talents to needed activities such as grave marking and the Americanism Report.

Following those, I presented two other very deserving Compatriots with the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal: John Blair, for his many years as Chair of the Public Safety Committee, and Pete Farley, for his continued excellence in assembling and producing our Chapter newsletter.

It was also my great honor to present Past President Ernie Coggins with the SAR Meritorious Service Medal. Ernie has held multiple Chapter offices; represented the Chapter at countless State and National events - and on Committees; and been an invaluable voice of experience to me throughout my tenure. He is most deserving of this recognition.

As a fitting conclusion to the year, I presented the Lydia Darragh Medal to my wife, Bonnie. This medal, named after a Patriot who crossed British lines to deliver critical information to General Washington, is intended to recognize the assistance of the ladies who work behind the scenes supporting SAR programs. Her constant

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President's Corner (con't)

support, as well as her knowledge of lineage societies and how they operate, has been of great benefit to me in my five years as a Chapter Officer.

Yours in patriotism, and fraternally,

Jay Henn

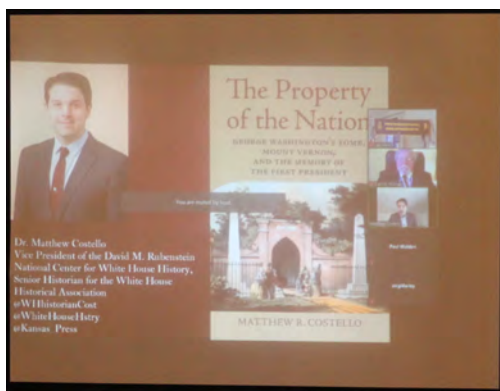
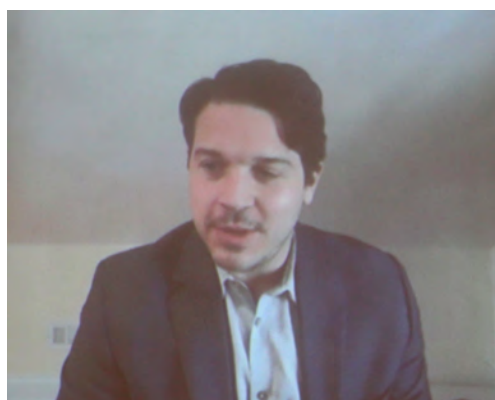
President of The

George Washington Chapter

*Thanks to
Jay and
Bonnie for
a job well
done this
year !!*



November in The GW Chapter (con't)



Matthew R. Costello, Ph.D., was the virtual Guest Speaker at our Chapter Meeting and gave a presentation on "The Property of the Nation: George Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, and the Memory of the First President", and GW Vice President Tom Roth virtually presented Dr. Costello with a replica of the Houdon bust of Washington.



Above--GW Chapter President Jay Henn presented the Lydia Darragh Medal to his wife, Bonnie.



Above--Richard Rankin, our Treasurer, and Rand Pixa, our Secretary, were presented with the Virginia Society Chapter Service Certificate and Medal--Rand's was presented virtually.

Right--New member Robert A. Dunk was sworn in by GW President Jay Henn.



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November in The GW Chapter (con't)



Left: President Jay Henn presented Compatriots John Blair and Pete Farley with the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal--Pete's was presented virtually.

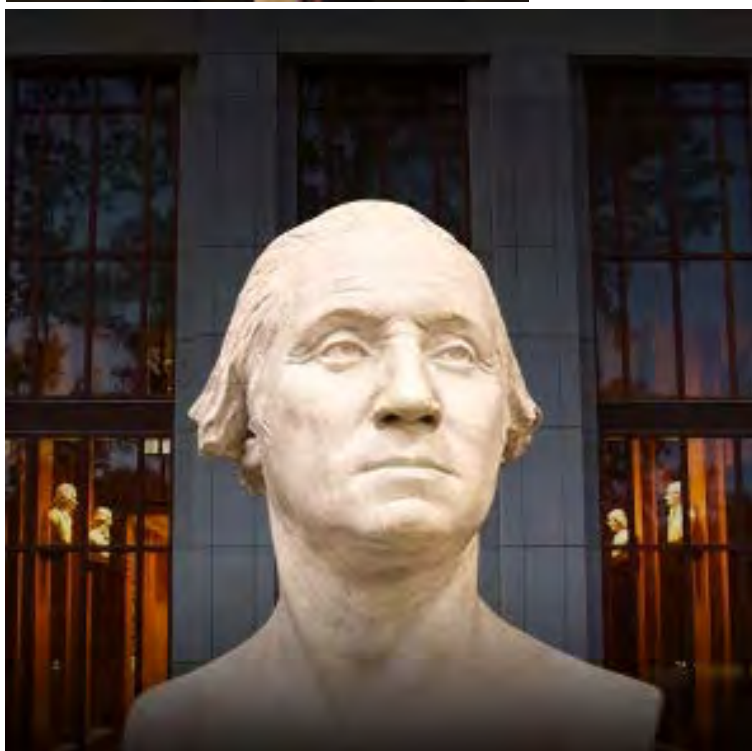


"A citizen, first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."-- Henry (Light Horse Harry) Lee--December 26, 1799.

"His example is complete; and it will teach wisdom and virtue to Magistrates, Citizens, and Men, not only in the present age, but in future generations."--John Adams--December 23, 1799



Left: President Jay Henn presented Past President Ernie Coggins with the SAR Meritorious Service Medal.



President	Jay M. Henn: 703-447-0820
Vice President	Thomas Roth, III: 703-739-8811
Treasurer	Richard Rankin: 703-538-5805
Secretary	Rand Pixa: 703-622-7001
Registrar	Richard Sherman: 301-654-6319

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 240 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.

Immediate Past President:

Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791

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 **Pete Farley**. Inputs from Chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow Compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to nyyno7@cox.net or call 703-585-3163.

Veterans Day at General Washington's Tomb



Top Left--Welcome by Tom Roth,VP, GW Chapter, VASSAR; **Top Right**--National Anthem (On Fife) Don Francisco, Compatriot, GW Chapter. **Bottom picture**--All are GW Chapter Members unless otherwise noted. Jay Henn-President; Don Reynolds-past VASSAR & GWC President; Compatriot Don Francisco-SGT 1st Class, USA ret.; Ken Bonner-Fairfax Resolves Chapter & VASSAR Color Guard Commander; Richard Rankin-Treasurer GWC; Barbara McJoynt-Past Regent, KWB Chapter NSDAR; Tom Roth VP, GWC & Historian VASSAR; Young Compatriot-GWC & President, Light Horse Harry Lee Society V.S.C.A.R.; Mike Weyler-President, Col. William Grayson Chapter; Greg Bodge-Past President GWC; Dave Cook-First VP, Fairfax Resolves Chapter; Rand Pixa-Secretary GWC; Ernie Coggins-3rd VP VASSAR, Past President GWC.

General Washington's Tomb (con't)



Genevieve Chase represented the Daughters of the American Revolution (Kate Waller Barrett Chapter). Genevieve is Founder and Executive Director of the American Women Veterans Association and is a Master Sergeant in the United States Army Reserve. Don Francisco represented the Sons of the American Revolution (George Washington Chapter). Don is Fifer-in-Residence at Mt. Vernon. He is a retired Sergeant First Class in the United States Army and served with the Third Infantry Regiment (the Old Guard) and in The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps.



The VASSAR Color Guard this year was Ken Bonner, Color Guard Commander, Mike Weyler (President Col. William Grayson) and Dave Cook (First VP Fairfax Resolves).



Remarks were given by Left--Clotilda "Tillie" Cassidy, Regent Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, NSDAR and Right--Barbara McJoynt, Past Regent of Kate Waller Barrett Chapter gave the George Washington Prayer.

George Washington



Battle of Great Bridge, VA



Map Copyright by Steven Stanley, American Battlefield Trust.



Jay Henn, President of the GW Chapter presented the Chapter wreath on the 245th Anniversary of the Battle of Great Bridge ceremony--Saturday, December 5, 2020.



Evacuation of New York by the British--November 25, 1783



Upcoming Events

**December 10, 2020–Thursday: Noon
Silver Good Citizenship Award
Presentation**

Betty Sixsmith–Alexandria Police Dept.
HQ–Alexandria Police Department
3600 Wheeler Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

**December 12, 2020–Saturday: Joint
Meeting of the George Mason and
George Washington Chapters-12 Noon
Lunch, 1:00 PM Program and Speaker.**

ZOOM begins at 12:45–Attendance Open

Installation of 2021 Officers

*Speaker: Mr. William Schwetke,
President, VASSAR*

Mount Vernon Country Club
5111 Old Mill Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22309

In-Person Attendance Totally Filled

**December 19, 2020–Saturday: Noon
Wreaths Across America**

Alexandria National Cemetery
1450 Wilkes Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

*Limited Attendance-by invitation (Jack
Coulter)*

**January 9, 2021–Saturday:
George Washington Chapter
Meeting-11:30 am**

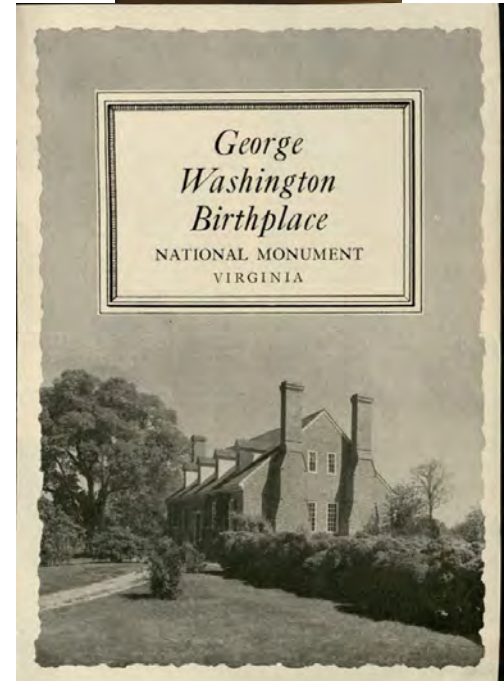
Speaker: David Muraca.

*VP-The George Washington Foundation
(Kenmore & Ferry Farm)*

Mt. Vernon Inn
3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy, Mt
Vernon, VA 22121

**February 5- 6, 2021–Friday-Saturday:
Virginia Society 2021 Annual Meeting**

Omni Richmond Hotel
100 S. 12th Street,
Richmond, VA 23219



**George Washington HQ
Valley Forge**



December through the years with George Washington

- 1776** on the 25th--Washington crosses the Delaware River.
- 1776** on the 26th--Victory at the Battle of Trenton.
- 1783** on the 23rd--Washington resigns his military commission at Annapolis.
- 1791** on the 15th--Ratification of the Bill of Rights.
- 1792** on the 5th--Electoral college unanimously elects Washington to second term as President.
- 1799** on the 14th--Death of George Washington.
- 1799** on the 18th--Funeral and burial of George Washington



The photo at left of GW Compatriot Don Francisco was in a 4-page supplement in the recent Mt. Vernon Magazine. This was a lead-in to staff employees at Mt. Vernon.

The only problem was that Don was never mentioned anywhere in the supplement!

EDUCATING ABOUT THE PAST,
FOR OUR PRESENT AND FUTURE



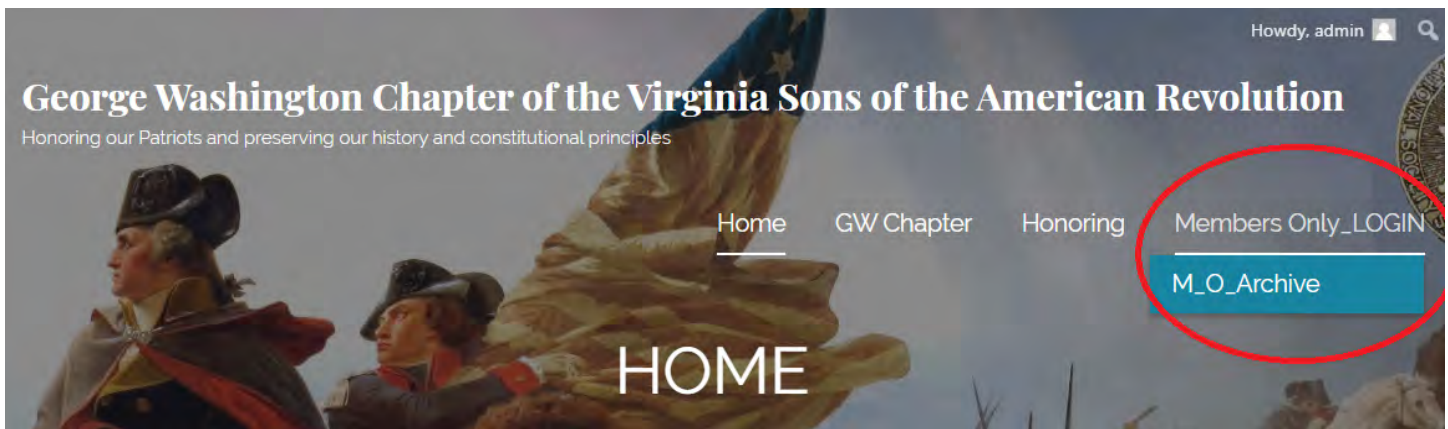
**We are either a
united people, or
we are not. If the
former, let us in
all matters of
general concern
act as a nation.**

-George Washington



Members Only Section of GWSAR.ORG

It's There For You!



In case you have never established a Members Only linkage, or you have forgotten your username & password, I am here to remind you of how you do it and what you'll find there when you visit this part of the George Washington Chapter's website.

Go to our Chapter website and click on the Members Only Login link (far right side) at the top of the Home page on the Chapter's website and then use either your website account (username and password) or social media account to gain access. For those that either don't have an account or have forgotten their username and/or password, I can help you with that if you send me an email at:

WEBMASTER@GWSAR.ORG

I will need to verify who you say you are, so include your full name, email and phone number you provided for your GW Chapter membership and your State and/or National SAR numbers, if you know them. With this information, I can verify your account and then provide you with your password so you can gain access.

There is also another sign on option if you have a social media account (Google / Twitter / LinkedIn / Instagram / Amazon / Microsoft / Yahoo). The website will use your social media account to verify who you are thus providing easy and seamless access. I use a Google Chrome browser and am thus always logged into my Google account, so I use the "Login With Google" button and I get right in without having to remember another username and password. Use whichever option you are most comfortable with.

After gaining access to the Members Only site, you have access to the following information:

- Membership Directory – the latest and historical versions dating back to 2013
- References - SAR Brochure / Application Form / Grave Markings Research Material
- Reports – Americanism / Committee
- GWSAR Business – Approved Budgets / Chapter Board Meeting Minutes

This is your section of the website and it can host anything you think is important to share exclusively with the members of this Chapter. If you have some ideas, please share them.

Jamie Callender, Webmaster