



George Washington Chapter

Sons of the American Revolution

Newsletter



Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Volume 14, Issue 3

March 2014

GW CHAPTER MARCHES IN GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY PARADE



Top: VASSAR Color Guard at the George Washington Birthday Parade. L-R: David Adamy, VASSAR Color Guard Commander Darrin Schmidt, Dwight Whitney, Allen Brahin, Brett Osborn, Mike Elston, President General Joe Dooley, and Peter Davenport.

Bottom Left: Escorting the Chapter banner in the George Washington Birthday Parade. L-R: Kenan Torrans, Tom Bland, Charles Flinn, Covert Beach.

Bottom Right: VASSAR Color Guard in the George Washington Birthday Parade.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

March 8, 2014

Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA.

April 12, 2014

Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA.

May 10, 2014

Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA.

Events Information

March 14-15, 2014

Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC.

March 16, 2014

James Madison's Birthday, Orange, VA.

President's Corner



My fellow compatriots,

February is always one of our chapter's busiest months. At our February chapter meeting, we were treated to a very special presentation on Benedict Arnold made by Mr. Robert Rice. We also honored the

service of a number of our chapter members and presented them with certificates of appreciation.

The 124th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society SAR was held at the Omni Hotel in Richmond on February 14, 15 and 16. I am thankful to the nine members that attended with me: Covert Beach, Greg Bodge, Ernie Coggins, Mike Elston, Vern McHargue, Wayne McHargue, Jim Mobley, Paul Walden, and Dwight Whitney.

Among the highlights of the conference were the VASSAR youth orations contest; watching Mike Elston be sworn in as VASSAR 3rd VP; and visiting the Old Hall of the House of Delegates at the Capitol Building. The Old Hall has been the setting for many historic events. We can all be proud as our chapter received many awards during the conference, including VASSAR's highest award for a chapter – The Best Very Large Chapter Award! Congratulations to all of our chapter members who helped make this happen and especially to Mike Elston for guiding us to victory! If that was not enough, we also received VASSAR's second highest chapter award – The Chapter Excellence Award.

In addition to the chapter awards, we received streamers for helping VASSAR achieve 100% participation in the flag certificate program; a streamer for our support of History Day; and streamers for sustained achievement in the Orations Program and for support of the Knight Essay Contest. We also received one star for our Forgotten Patriots streamer in recognition of registering a new Virginia patriot and one star

for our success in graves registration. This was achieved for cumulative grave registrations starting with Bob Carr's year as president and continuing through last year, where Jamie Calendar with Mike Elston's support, led our efforts in this important area of our mission.

On Saturday evening (February 15th), VASSAR President Kent Webber gave his farewell address before swearing in Bill Broadus as the 2014-15 VASSAR President. At the Executive Committee meeting on Sunday, our own Bob Carr was reappointed as VASSAR Assistant Secretary. Congratulations to Bob!

On February 17th, the nation observed George Washington's Birthday, and SAR members Addison Smith, Charles Flinn, Dwight Whitney, Mike Elston, Darrin Schmidt (Fairfax Resolves Chapter), Tom Bland, Paul Wagoner, and Greg Bodge participated in the First Virginia Regiment's wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House. Chapter Vice President Dwight Whitney presented the chapter wreath and our VASSAR 3rd Vice President and Chapter Past President Mike Elston presented VASSAR's wreath. Everyone was grateful to the good folks of the Presbyterian Meeting House for providing warmth and refreshments before and after the ceremony.

Following this event, at the Alexandria George Washington's Birthday Parade, many members of our chapter and family, including Mike Elston with his daughter Emily of the C.A.R., Dwight Whitney, Kenan Torrans, Tom Bland, Charles Flinn, Greg Bodge with his wife Christina and son Isaac, and Covert Beach, all joined up for the parade. The VASSAR Color Guard was led by Commander Darrin Schmidt that included Chapter guardsmen Dwight Whitney and Mike Elston. NSSAR President General (and Chapter dual member) Joe Dooley was our guest of honor, hailing the crowd from a chauffeured convertible driven by our own Chapter Treasurer Greg Bodge. The SAR contingent marched behind the First Virginia Regiment, providing a firsthand view of the musket salutes that took place every couple of blocks and the

canon salute for the grand finale at the viewing stand – a real crowd pleaser! Five SAR members were awarded the John C. Evans Medal for the first time: Tom Bland, Dwight Whitney, Brett Osborn, Allen Brahin, and Darrin Schmidt. It was an exciting experience for all.

The 233rd Anniversary Commemoration of the Crossing of the Dan was celebrated February 20-22, and what a great time it was. This year marked the first recognition of the commemoration by the SAR as a National event. Dr. Phil Williams, NSSAR Trustee for VASSAR and VASSAR Past President, addressed the audience on Saturday to explain the significance of the SAR's recognition, noting that Virginia has become the only state to have three SAR national historical events. Secretary General Lindsey Brock was there to convey greetings from NSSAR. Other dignitaries attending the event included 5th District U.S. Congressman Robert Hurt, officials from the towns of Halifax and South Boston and from Halifax County, and Nancy Chandler, Regent of the Berryman Green Chapter, DAR. Dan River Chapter President Bernard Baker introduced the keynote speaker, Patrick Henry Jolly, a descendant of Patrick Henry. Mr. Jolly portrayed Patrick Henry and gave a very entertaining first-person talk on the significance of various historical events that led to winning independence from Great Britain. Following the ceremonies, the attendees marched behind the SAR Color Guard led by NSSAR Color Guard Commander (and Chapter dual member) Mike Tomme that included Chapter Guardsman Dwight Whitney. A wreath laying ceremony was conducted at the monument on the river where our Chapter Vice President, Dr. Whitney, presented our chapter's wreath. Also, a grand "Huzzah!" was lifted by the crowd in recognition of George Washington's birthday that day, February 22nd. The highlight of the day was the reenactment of General Green's army escaping the British, replete with canon fire, musket shots, hand-to-hand combat, and a ferry crossing of the Dan. Last but not least was the banquet of Brunswick stew at the Prizery afterwards. It was a beautiful sunny day, full of significance and enjoyed by one and all.

Following this exciting event, the SAR Spring Leadership Meeting was held over the first weekend in March in Louisville, Kentucky.

March has a number of events on tap that I encourage you to attend. First, our monthly chapter meeting will feature Sergeant at Arms of the United States Senate, Terrence W. Gainer as our guest speaker. The weekend of March 15 has two great events scheduled: the Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in Greensboro, North Carolina and James Madison's Birthday at Montpelier in Orange, Virginia. If you would like to participate, please let me know.

Please consider joining in on these great opportunities in March. Your participation is always greatly appreciated!

Scott Wagoner

President

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 275 members, it is Virginia's largest SAR chapter. Meetings are held at 11:30a.m. on the second Saturday of each month (June, July & August excepted) at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Present officers are:

*President: Scott Wagoner 571-239-3221
Vice President: Dwight Whitney 540-349-2375
Secretary: Jim Mobley 202-465-6680
Treasurer: Gregory Bodge 770-789-3252
Registrar: Paul Walden 703-347-9770*

*Immediate Past President:
Mike Elston, 703-680-0866*

This monthly newsletter is edited by Matthew Jones. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to mpjones36@gmail.com or call 217-246-2687.

March Guest Speaker



The speaker for our March luncheon is the Honorable Terrance W. Gainer, United States Senate Sergeant at Arms. Mr. Gainer's talk will be on security at the Capitol.

Mr. Gainer began his law enforcement career as a

policeman in the Chicago Police Department ultimately becoming the Department's chief legal officer. He then served as the Deputy Inspector General and Deputy Director of the Illinois State Police. After working as a special assistant to the United States Secretary of Transportation, he was appointed Director of the Illinois State Police in the Cabinet of Governor Jim Edgar in March 1991. He went on to serve as Executive Assistant Police Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia in March 1998 and as Chief of the United States Capitol Police from 2002 to 2005.

On November 14, 2006, Mr. Gainer was appointed by incoming Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to be the Sergeant-at-Arms of the U.S. Senate for the 110th United States Congress.

As chief law enforcement officer of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms is charged with maintaining security in the Capitol and all Senate buildings, as well as protection of the members themselves. The Sergeant at Arms enforces the rules of the Senate in the Senate Wing of the Capitol and the Senate Office Buildings, and has responsibility for and immediate supervision of the Senate floor, chamber and galleries. The Sergeant at Arms is authorized to arrest and detain any person violating Senate rules, including the President of the United States.

The responsibilities of the Sergeant at Arms extend beyond police work. The Sergeant at Arms acts as the chief operating officer of the Senate, and oversees a staff of about 1000 people

who run Senate telecommunications, information technology, postal services, the TV and radio recording studio and the media galleries. The Senate pages and doorkeepers are also his responsibility.

Born in Evergreen Park, Cook County, Illinois, Mr. Gainer is a decorated veteran who served in Viet Nam and retired as a Captain in the United States Navy Reserve. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology, a Master of Science degree in Management, a Juris Doctor degree, and an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

March Dates In History American Revolutionary War

1776

March 3 - The Continental fleet captures New Providence Island in the Bahamas

March 17 - The British evacuate Boston; British Navy moves to Halifax, Canada

1777

Jan. 6-May 28 - Washington winters in Morristown, NJ

1778

March 7 - British General William Howe replaced by Henry Clinton

1779

March 3 - British Lt. Col. Jacques Marcus Prevost defeats Americans under Gen. John Ashe at Brier Creek, GA

1781

March 2 - Articles of Confederation adopted

March 15 - British win costly victory at Guilford Courthouse, NC

1782

March 20 - Lord North resigns as British prime minister

Source – www.ushistory.org

Richard Wall Scott, Jr.



passed away on December 21, 2013 in Falls Church, Virginia.

He was born on October 27, 1938 to Richard and Catherine Scott in Oklahoma City.

Mr. Scott had a long, successful career in the USAF and retired as a full Colonel in

1989. Some of his fondest memories came from his overseas assignments due to his love of travel.

During his second career he worked for retired astronaut Deke Slayton at Space Services Inc. as their Washington liaison. He then went to work for the Department of Transportation's Commercial Space Division until he officially retired in 1996.

Mr. Scott graduated from Texas A&M University in 1960 and exemplified the Aggie Spirit. Mr. Scott recruited for A&M at local Virginia high schools and single handedly made the Texas A&M license plate available to Aggies in Virginia. He loved Aggie football and never missed a game. Mr. Scott volunteered at Paul Spring Retirement Home and The Washington Ear.

He enjoyed participating in several clubs including the Sons of the American Revolution, the Order of the Daedalians, the Victorian Society, the National Capital A&M Club and the St. Andrews Society.

Mr. Scott was a kind, smart, generous man with a wonderful sense of humor. He brought joy and laughter to all who knew him. He will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Carol, his daughter, Shannon, his brother Steve and his sister Robin Hanifen. Memorial donations can be made to the Scleroderma Research Foundation.

The funeral service will take place on March 26, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Old Post Chapel at Fort Myer, Virginia with internment at Arlington Cemetery.

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report one new member application was submitted and four new membership applications have been received.

Below is a summary of the applications that were approved and submitted since the last Registrar's Report. The applications are listed in the approximate order in which they were approved or submitted.

New Member Applications Approved

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Patriot</i>
None	None

New Member Applications Submitted

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Patriot</i>
Robert Eugene Anthony Crane II	Thomas Crane

Supplemental Applications Approved

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Patriot</i>
None	None

Supplemental Applications Submitted

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Patriot</i>
None	None

Paul Walden, Registrar

Highlights from January & February Chapter Meetings and Battle of Cowpens



Top Left: Compatriot Floyd Ryan receives the Virginia Chapter Service Medal from Chapter President Scott Wagoner at the January Informal Chapter meeting.

Top Center: Compatriot Ernie Coggins represents the GW Chapter at the Battle of Cowpens Commemoration with President General Joe Dooley.

Top Right: Chapter President Scott Wagoner leads the Informal January Chapter Meeting at Pohick Church.

Bottom Left: Chapter President Scott Wagoner inducts our newest compatriots – Shaun Blair and David Rogers at our February Chapter Meeting. Pictured from left to right are Olivia Blair, Shaun Blair, David Rogers, Scott Wagoner, and Richard Rogers.

Bottom Right: Four compatriots (from right to left) Don Reynolds, Jack Pitzer, Dick Kusserow and Ernie Coggins receive certificates of appreciation from Chapter President Scott Wagoner.

New Members



SHUAN PATRICK BLAIR

Compatriot Shaun Blair was born in Alexandria, Virginia and raised in Woodbridge, Virginia. In 2006, he received a Bachelor of Science in Education from George Mason University.

Shaun Blair is currently a physical education teacher and football coach Lake Braddock Secondary School in Burke, Virginia, where he has worked since 2011. Prior to Lake Braddock, Shaun taught and coached at Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax, Virginia. Starting this Fall, he will begin teaching at McLean High School, where he will also assume the Head Varsity Football Coach position.

He is married to Olivia Blair, who is originally from Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Compatriot Shaun Blair's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline decent from Patriot Colonel William Daingerfield, 7th Virginia Regiment.



DAVID MICHAEL ROGERS

Compatriot Rogers was born in Washington DC and raised in Arlington, VA. He attended George Mason University, Gonzaga and Wakefield.

For the last 7 years, David has been working for an IT firm specializing in e-commerce and social media.

David is a proud season ticket holder of the Redskins and Capitals, even when they sometimes make it so difficult to be proud.

Compatriot David's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot Thomas Mullikin. During the Revolution Thomas Mullikin served as a Captain in the Severn Battalion of the Maryland Militia.

Please welcome our newest members, **Compatriots Shuan Blair and David Rogers.**

Highlights from the 2014 VASSAR Annual Meeting – Richmond, VA



Top Right: VASSAR President Kent Webber handed out (and GW Chapter President Scott Wagoner collected) streamers for a variety of achievements during 2013.

Center Right: GW Chapter Past President Michael J. Elston was sworn in as VASSAR Third Vice President at the Virginia State Capital on Saturday afternoon.

Top Left: Posing with the VASSAR Best Very Large Chapter Award are (L to R) VASSAR President Kent Webber, Immediate Past Chapter President Michael J. Elston, Chapter President Scott A. Wagoner, and President General Joseph W. Dooley.

Bottom Left: VASSAR President Kent Webber awarded the Virginia Society James Madison Medal to four compatriots, including the GW Chapter's James Mobley (for serving as VASSAR Asst. Registrar) and Mike Elston (for serving as VASSAR Chancellor and organizing the St. George Tucker grave marking in Nelson County).

Bottom Right: GW Chapter members in attendance join the Chapter's Rumbaugh Orations Contest winner at the end of the state competition Saturday morning.

Future Events 2014

March 8 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. Our invited guest speaker is the Honorable Terrance W. Gainer, Sergeant at Arms of the United States Senate who will have a presentation on security at the Capitol. *

March 14-15 - Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC. ‡

March 16 - James Madison's Birthday, Orange, VA; begins at 1:30 p.m. in the Madison Family Cemetery. Join Montpelier in commemorating the 263rd anniversary of James Madison's birthday. The service will be accompanied by a presentation by the United States Marine Corps and remarks by Michael Signer, lecturer in the Woodrow Wilson Department of Politics at the University of Virginia and Visiting Full Professor at the School of Public and International Affairs at Virginia Tech. Signer is the author of the upcoming book, *Becoming Madison: The Making of an American Statesman* (PublicAffairs 2015). Following the ceremony, Mr. Madison will accept birthday wishes at the mansion. †

March 29 - Two Grave Marking Ceremonies will be performed by the Chapter. (1) 10:00 a.m. ceremony for John Orr at St. John's Episcopal Church, 5649 Mt Gilead Rd, Centreville. (2) 12:00 noon ceremony for Richard Major at the Hutchison/Major Family Cemetery, Chantilly. Members are encouraged to attend one or both of these important community events. For further details, check the gwsar.org web site or contact Jamie Callender, Graves Registration Committee Chairman. *

April 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. Our guest speaker, LTC Les Melnyk, will present a discussion on the Colonial militia in the War for Independence. *

April 13 - Celebration of Thomas Jefferson's Birthday, Jefferson Memorial, Washington, DC (DCSSAR event). ‡

April 26 - Commemoration of James Monroe's Birthday at the Monroe birthplace farm, 4460 James Monroe Highway, Colonial Beach, VA, 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided afterward at the Moose Lodge nearby. †

April 28 - James Monroe Gravesite Ceremony, Hollywod Cemetery, 412 South Cherry Street, Richmond, VA. The wreath-laying ceremony is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. (subject to change by the Army which conducts the ceremony). †

May 9-11 - Raid on Martin's Station, Cumberland Gap, VA. †

May 10 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. *

May 26 - National Memorial Day Parade, Washington, D.C. **

May 31 - Wreath laying at the grave of Bermuda-born patriot and Treasurer of the United States Thomas Tudor Tucker, at Congressional Cemetery, Washington, DC (DCSSAR event). **

June 21-22 - SAR Conference on the American Revolution, Williamsburg, VA. †

June 28 - VASSAR Executive Committee Meeting, Fredericksburg, VA.

July 4 - 53rd Annual Independence Day Ceremony and Wreath Laying at General Washington's Tomb, 10 a.m., Mount Vernon, VA. *

July 19-24 - 124th National Congress in Greenville, SC. †

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending

Future Events 2014 Continued

August 8-9 - Atlantic Middle States Conference. †

September 13 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. *

September 17 - Constitution Day at Montpelier, Orange, VA. †

September 19-20 - VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, near Manassas, VA. †

September 25-28 - NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY. †

October 3-5 - Point Pleasant Days, Point Pleasant, WV. ‡

October 6-7 - Battle of Kings Mountain, Kings Mountain, NC. ‡

October 11 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. *

October 18-19 - Yorktown Victory Celebration, Yorktown, VA. †

November 8 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. *

November 11 - Veterans' Day Wreath Laying with Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, NDSAR, at General Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, VA.

December 5-6 - Battle of Great Bridge Celebration, Chesapeake, VA. †

December 11 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. *

Legend:

* Chapter event;

** Chapter-sponsored state or national event;

† VASSAR/NASSAR event in which GW members are encouraged to participate;

‡ Other SAR event of significance that GW members should consider attending

A faded, grayscale portrait of President George Washington serves as the background for the quote. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark coat and a white cravat, with his right arm extended.

*I have no other view than to promote the public good, and am
unambitious of honors not founded in the approbation of my
Country.*

President George Washington

233RD Anniversary of the Crossing of the Dan South Boston, VA. - February 22, 2014



Top Right: Keynote speaker Patrick Henry Jolly, a fifth generation grandson of Patrick Henry, presented *The Race to Victory* to a rapt audience in the Chastain Theatre.

Top Left: Spectators enjoyed watching the Crossing of the Dan reenactment.

Center Left: Dr. Henry "Phil" Williams III, NSSAR Trustee for VASSAR, announced NSSAR National Status recognition for The Crossing of the Dan annual event during the 223rd Anniversary Commemoration ceremonies in South Boston.

Center Right & Bottom Right: Reenactors portray Green's army firing back at the British while ferrying across the Dan to escape Cornwallis' advancing troops. This year's reenactment included for the first time an authentic replica of a Revolutionary War era ferry boat. The boat was built by Emmett Abernathy (L) and David Haney (R), shown here polling the ferry across the river. The ferry boat was funded in part by VASSAR's Knight/Patty Memorial Trust Fund which is named in part for a former president of the GW Chapter, George S. Knight, and currently chaired by a former president of the GW chapter, Mike Elston. Contributions to the Knight/Patty Fund are tax deductible and can earn individual recognition from VASSAR. If interested in making a contribution, contact Mike Elston.

Bottom Left: Dwight and Ann Whitney participated in the day's events.

Saturday, March 8, 2014

Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA

Lunch Meeting Reservation Form

Please make your **reservation by telephone or e-mail**. This is the preferred way to ensure your reservation is received in time to get a seat. Please send reservations by Wednesday, March 5.

This month only, send reservations and payment to Gregory Bodge. For e-mail reservations, send to gbodge@hotmail.com with **RESERVATION** in the subject line.
For call-in reservations, call **Greg at 540-318-6717**.

The lunch cost is \$35.00 per person (\$12.00 per child) and you may pay at the door or send a check in the mail in advance of the meeting. Make checks payable to "**G.W. Chapter SAR.**" Walk-ins will be accommodated if possible, but to cover the Club's charge for serving those without a timely reservation a walk-in price of \$40.00 is required.

When calling or writing, please include the following:

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name (s): _____

When mailing checks, be sure I'm notified in time to hold seating for you and your guests! Please include the following information:

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name (s): _____

A check for ___ persons in the amount of \$___ payable to **G.W. Chapter SAR** is enclosed.

Mail this reservation form and your check to:

Gregory Bodge
Treasurer, G.W. Chapter SAR
14 Northampton Blvd
Stafford, VA 22554

Check-in and social begin at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon. Valet parking is available.