



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 6

September, 2008

JOIN US AS CHAPTER MEETINGS RESUME FIRST MEETING THIS AUTUMN WILL BE SEPTEMBER 13 SAME TIME, SAME PLACE

Chapter President Kenan Torans will gavel the opening of the Chapter's 2008-2009 activities at the Belle Haven Country Club at noon on Saturday, September 13. Please plan to join your fellow compatriots as the George Washington Chapter begins another active season.

Professor Michael Myerson has agreed to serve as our guest speaker for this meeting. Professor Myerson's specialty is Constitutional Law and American Legal History. He is a distinguished professor and Piper Marbury Fellow at the University of Baltimore School of Law where he joined the faculty in 1985.

Prior to coming to the University of Baltimore, Professor Myerson served as an instructor at Brooklyn Law School, as an adjunct professor at New York Law School, and worked as a Consumer Protection Board advocate for the State of New York.

Professor Meyerson has authored two books and a number of scholarly articles in various Law Journals and Law Reviews nationwide. He is also a frequent contributor to national and local media on a variety of Constitutional issues.

He will talk to us about his most recent work, *Liberty's Blueprint; How Madison and Hamilton Wrote the Federalist Papers, Defined the Constitution, and Made Democracy Safe for the World*. Published this year, *Liberty's Blueprint* has already received rave reviews from historians and legal scholars. In it,

Professor Meyerson advances the idea that the *Federalist Papers* have broad application—and philosophies and ideas that ultimately shaped the U.S. Constitution.

A graduate of Hampshire College, Professor Myerson earned a Juris Doctor degree at the University of Pennsylvania in 1979. He currently lives in Ellicott City with his lovely wife Dr. Lesly Berger.

Please use the form at the end of this newsletter to make your reservation. We look forward to seeing you on September 13.

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The Chapter President's Column

Greetings. We have nearly completed a highly successful term with a series of outstanding luncheon speakers, oration contestants, and other activities that have enhanced our reputation as a leading Chapter both within the Commonwealth and nationally. It's September now, and moving forward, we continue to have an impressive lineup of programs and speakers for our monthly luncheons. We anticipate another successful year in a wide range of activities, including our Flag Certificate Program, grave-marking, and a number of initiatives that will benefit our nation's service men and women and their families.

Our Flag Committee Chair, David Grimes, has aggressively sought out individuals and organizations to be recognized in connection with NSSAR's Flag Certificate Program. We stand to do very well in the VASSAR as well as NSSAR competition this year, thanks not only to David's superlative efforts, but to your support as well. Our Grave-marking Committee Chairman and past Chapter President, Russell Shearer, has also been very active in identifying and making arrangements to mark a number of Revolutionary War patriot graves. We hope to resume our grave-marking activities during the weeks to come. Perhaps one of

our largest and most ambitious Chapter-wide initiatives this fall will involve our efforts to support our nation's brave service men and women.

Over the past several years, Compatriot Dick Kusserow has been assembling and sending care packages to troops and units in the field [see the following article]. We greatly appreciate those efforts, and want to ensure that they continue. To that end, we currently need contact information, e.g., names and overseas mailing addresses (APOs) for small unit leaders -- (company level and below commanders, e.g., platoon sergeants, platoon leaders, company commanders, et. al.) -- to send those care packages. In that way, the goods collected are sure to reach the troops who need them most. Your help in this endeavor is critical to its success. Any assistance is certainly appreciated.

Also in connection with our veterans' service activities, we note that many families of wounded service members must bear the cost of traveling from their homes to the Washington, D.C., metro area to visit their loved ones recuperating from wounds received in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan at Walter Reed and Bethesda Naval Hospitals. Often, the cost to make that trip is prohibitive. A relatively new foundation, Luke's Wings, has undertaken to assist those families and ease the burden of visiting their loved ones by raising the necessary funds and providing airline tickets to enable them to fly to Washington. A stretch goal for the foundation would be to assist the family members obtain low cost lodging in the area during their visits.

You will be hearing more about Luke's Wings in the near future. I have invited its co-founder and prospective SAR member, Fletcher Gill, to speak with us about the foundation and its activities. We hope to be able to assist Luke's Wings in some of its fund-raising events. I believe that this should benefit both of our organizations. Luke's Wings will be hosting a major fund-raising event in Washington in late November, and hopes to be able to include our Chapter in its host committee. You will be hearing more about this exciting opportunity in the weeks to come, and it is my hope that we will be able to mount a strong showing of support.

Best regards, and I look forward to seeing you at our chapter's September meeting.

Kenan Torrans

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URGENT NEED

Do you have the mailing addresses of any military men or women now serving in Afghanistan or Iraq? Compatriot Dick Kusserow needs them **NOW!** For the last three years, he has been sending **Care Packages** to our service personnel in those theaters of operation. Unfortunately, Dick's address list is almost exhausted. If you have current addresses of senior NCOs or company grade officers who can distribute the goodies, please forward that information to Dick.

His e-mail is rkusserow@strategicm.com; phone is 703-683-9600 ext 411.

Dick's care packages normally contain toiletries, snack bars, beef jerky, wipes, cookies and similar items. He says it is easy to select items that our service personnel would appreciate. A more complete list of suitable items is appended to this newsletter. If you would like to participate in this project, Dick will happily accept your contributions at our monthly meetings.

Although this is one of Dick's personal projects, his packages are sent in the name of our chapter.

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Yorktown Day 2008

We have received the following preliminary information about this year's Yorktown Day event:

October 18, 2008

There will not be the traditional banquet at Fort Eustis this year. The club was already rented for the 18th. Instead, there will a Cocktail Buffet at the Yorktown Victory Center (cash bar), no dinner! The cost is \$32.00 per person. **Please send your intentions** via email to sar1812@cox.net and, if necessary, you will be sent an invitation.

October 19, 2008

There will be a Hospitality Open House, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Historic Freight Shed, Riverwalk Landing, down by the beach in Yorktown. Ticket price is \$25.00 per person for access to both morning and afternoon sessions. There will be no activities scheduled at the Coast Guard Training Station this year.

October 19, 2008

Please NOTE Carefully. The Thomas Nelson Wreath Ceremony, sponsored by VASSAR, is scheduled to start this year at 10:15 a.m. as per the

wishes of Grace Episcopal Church. The planning officials need to know if you are going to participate, or if someone from your chapter is going to present a wreath. This is important as space is limited and an accurate count needs to be made.

The parade is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. and a large number of SAR members are needed to form up and present an impressive contingent.

Invitations will be sent out after September 2nd. There will be an RSVP form to pay the fees included in the invitation packet.

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Registrar's Report

Membership

Our Chapter continues to grow with the addition of new members, transfers and reinstatements. Since my report in February, one transfer, two reinstatements, four new members and two supplemental applications have been approved. The following is a list of our new or renewed Compatriots:

Charles Martin Hansen - new

Neal Charles Davis - new

Herbert Michael Robbins – new

Christopher John Blumberg – new

John Arthur (Jack) Hurley – reinstated

Col Rodney H.C. Schmidt – reinstated

Charles William Hansen – new, transfer from Maryland

Colonel Nicholas Ruxton Moore Chapter

Presently there are five new applications that are either at State or National level for approval. There is one supplemental as well. Twelve supplemental applications are completed in draft and ready to be returned to the applicant for attachment of supporting documentation.

We will hopefully induct five new members at our September meeting. Four from the summer break and one approved in January.

Application Notes

In July 2008, NSSAR revised the Form 0910, the old blue form which explained “Requirements for Membership and for Applications”. There are extensive revisions in the new form which is available for viewing and downloading from the SAR.org web site under the “For Members” tab and the “Forms” line. The revision contains the latest information on categories of membership, fees and in general, what needs to be submitted for each category. I will be

making copies of the new form to provide to all our new applicants. You may wish to take a look at the new form so you will have the latest information while recruiting new members

Compatriots with names of prospective members should provide the prospective member's telephone number and home address to Bob Carr at 703-780-3066 or e-mail capt7cs@aol.com. A New Member packet with application instructions and membership benefits information will be provided. If you would like a New Member packet to give to a prospective member, pick a packet up from Bob at the meeting.

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September 13, 2008

Lunch Meeting Reservation Form

Please use this form to make a reservation for the chapter's lunch at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia. The lunch cost is \$35.00 per person. Check in and social time begin at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon. Feel free to invite your wife and friends as your guests. **RSVP no later than Monday, September 8th.**

Walk-ins will be accommodated if possible, but note that to cover the Club's charge for serving those without a timely reservation a walk-in price of \$37.00 is required.

Name: _____

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

Mail this reservation form with your check to:

Vern McHargue, Treasurer

6846 Ericka Avenue

Alexandria, VA 22310

You may also phone (703) 313-0671 and leave a message or e-mail vern.mchargue@heritage.org.

It is important to provide advance notice of attendance to be sure you get a seat.

Valet parking is available.

SUITABLE CARE PACKAGE ITEMS

- * Gum, Lifesavers, Mints (blister pack gum is best because of the intense heat)
- * Fruit: individual serving size cans of fruit, dried fruit (Note: Plastic fruit cups with the plastic seal are not recommended as they can open in transit; individual-size cans are preferred.)
- * Nuts, sunflower seeds, peanuts, trail mix
- * Power bars, protein bars, nutritional bars
- * Beef jerky, beef summer sausage (non-perishable; labeled USDA Beef)
- * Single-serving bags of snacks, crackers, chips, snack mixes
- * Pop Tarts, cereal bars, "milk & cereal" bars, granola bars
- * Ramen Noodles, Cup-O-Noodles serving cups
- * Ravioli and other canned ready-to-eat meals (canned or styrofoam single serving are best)
- * Tuna lunch kits (includes foil pouch of tuna, crackers, and condiments in each single-serving kit)
- * Canned sardines, smoked oysters
- * Torengos® nacho-style chips and canned nacho cheese dip
- * Jalepeno Velveeta® and crackers
- * Taco Bell® Sauce Packets
- * Seasoning salts, flavoring salts
- * Coffee, coffee mixes, tea
- * Hot cocoa mix
- * Lemonade mix, Koolade mix, Tang, Iced Tea mix
- * Gatorade mix (powdered only)
- * Crystal Light (or other brand) "On The Go" flavor packets (these come in a box of several sleeves of flavoring that can be added to a 16-20 oz. water bottle)
- * Sugar and creamer packets for coffee
- * Disposable cameras
- * Envelopes, paper, pens
- * Small pads of paper
- * Notebooks (a size they can keep in a pocket and keep dry)
- * Drawing pads (small)
- * Small, blank journals
- * Batteries (AA are most requested, then AAA)
- * Cigarettes, chew, cigars
- * Tactical Duct tape: military green, tan or black
- * Electrical tape
- * Super glue
- * 72" Bootlaces (brown or tan preferred)
- * Leatherman All-in-One Tool
- * Sandwich size, Quart-size and 1-gallon ziploc plastic bags
- * Small travel pillow or inflatable pillows
- * Disposable, instant hand warmers (during the winter months only)