



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



Newsletter

[Visit us online at www.gwsar.org](http://www.gwsar.org)

Volume 11, Issue 3

March, 2011



President General Wilcox Administers the oath of office to VASSAR's newly elected officers at the 121st Annual Meeting

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOLLOWS

The March luncheon meeting will be held on the third Saturday, March 19, not on our usual second Saturday. Meeting venue is unchanged. You may use the form at the end of this newsletter to make your reservation. This is a one-time change. In April we will meet on the second Saturday, as usual.

Corey A. Stewart will be our guest speaker at this meeting. He was re-elected Chairman of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors in 2007. Prior to being elected Chairman, he served as the

supervisor for the Occoquan District. Prince William is Virginia's second-largest county with a population of 400,000. Stewart has been instrumental in charting a fiscally conservative course for the county and county schools. Unlike many jurisdictions around the country, Prince William's finances are sound, and significant hiring occurred in 2010.

In addition to chairing the Board of County Supervisors, Chairman Stewart led the County's Economic Development Task Force, a public-private group charged with delivering specific recommendations on Economic Development to the Board of County Supervisors. Chairman Stewart is also Chairman of the Prince William County Government, Parks, and Schools Audit Committee

and the County's Board Audit Committee. Chairman Stewart has received national recognition for the County's efforts to deport criminal aliens. From 2007 to 2009, violent crime rates in the county dropped nearly 40 percent. He is a prominent advocate of the Virginia Rule of Law Act, which would (1) enhance police powers to capture, detain, and help deport criminal aliens; (2) adopt Virginia criminal penalties for illegal aliens; (3) outlaw sanctuary policies; (4) outlaw illegal day laboring and roadside solicitation; and (5) crack down on human smuggling.

Chairman Stewart is an international trade attorney in private practice. He earned his Juris Doctorate from William Mitchell College of Law in Saint Paul, Minnesota, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. Chairman Stewart received his Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. He resides in Woodbridge, Virginia, with his wife Maria and two sons, Isaac and Luke.

During the meeting, on behalf of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, we will present Stewart the Silver Good Citizenship Award.

* * * * *

President's Column

Fellow Compatriots, it has been a very busy February for your president. On February 7, we left for a week trip to Georgia to show two of our daughters where I grew up and to participate in the three day Battle of Kettle Creek celebration. We had also planned to mark my patriot's grave while there but due to the requirements of the Kettle Creek celebration conducted by the Washington-Wilkes and Samuel Elbert Chapters, it was impossible to squeeze the markings in. We are now planning to mark six graves on Oct 15, 2011 with the Georgia Society supporting the event. Two of the graves to be marked are my patriot's servant, Mammy Kate and her husband, Daddy Jack, who effected the rescue of Stephen Heard from prison the night before he was to be hanged.

The Kettle Creek celebration went extremely well and we had beautiful weather. There were seventy-nine organizations that presented wreaths at the battle site south of Washington, Georgia. The

weekend included a reenactment of the battle, a colonial church service as well as a parade through the town square.

The following weekend, February 19 and 20, Julia and I attended the 230th anniversary celebration of the Crossing of the Dan River. This event celebrates the escape of the southern revolutionary forces, under the command of General Green, from General Cornwallis's Army. By doing so, General Green was able to rest and refit his forces which later took part in the Battle of Guilford's Court House which is viewed by many as the turning point in the American Revolution. Shortly afterwards, General Cornwallis decided to withdraw all his forces to Yorktown and we all know what happened there. This is our second year at this celebration and it has grown each year. I encourage you all to attend next year.

On Friday, February 25, Julia and I along with Ray and Reba Hawn motored to Richmond to attend the 121st Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society, SAR. Our chapter was well represented. There were 92 delegates from 23 of the 26 state chapters. The Delaware and Georgia Society were represented along with several president generals and other national officers attending as well.

Unlike last year, the meeting occurred late enough in the month to allow our chapter to have its regular meeting on Saturday, February 12. Vice President Briggs chaired the meeting and from all reports did an out standing job. Thanks to Paul and all of you that attended and make this chapter tick.

On Friday evening we attended an informal buffet dinner followed by the Board of Managers meeting which was followed by the out-going VASSAR President's reception. The BOM received reports from national and Virginia Society officers. The 2011 budget was presented and adopted. President Bowen presented Certificates of Appreciation to all his committee chairs and Mike Elston was recognized for chairing the George and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest committee.

Saturday started off with the General Membership meeting at 8:30 AM at which the slate of officers for 2011 was presented and voted on. Slate was approved as presented. All chapters were

given the opportunity to make a report on their activities for the year. I reported on the success of the recruitment of a color guard and invited all members to the wreath-laying by PG Sympton at the Tomb of the Unknowns on May 21, the Memorial Day Parade on May 30 and the January 7, 2012, Gala. President Bowen then presented Flag Appreciation Certificates to all chapters presenting at least one Flag Certificate during the year. All 26 chapters received a certificate.

At 10:00 AM the Rumbaugh Orations Contest was held with nine outstanding orators competing for the \$1,000 top prize. The winner was Matt Retterer from the George Mason Chapter. In fact all three winners were from George Mason Chapter.

At 2:00 PM on Saturday, the Annual Memorial Service, Awards Presentation and Installation of New Officers took place. Lou Beach was memorialized along with a number of other compatriots who died during the past year. During the Chapter Awards presentation, the George Washington Chapter received the following awards: The best Website and Mike Elston was recognized as the best Webmaster with an Acrylic Award – thanks, Mike; History Day support program for supporting the National History Day competition at George Mason University; and the Best Very Large Chapter Award. The Donald W. Baldwin Streamer which recognizes the Chapter with the greatest numerical gain in membership went to the Col. James Wood Chapter which had an additional 30 new members.

Following the awards ceremony, President General Bruce Wilcox administered the oath of office to the VASSAR officers for 2011. I was fortunate enough to be elected the State Secretary and I look forward to a steep learning curve and a busy and productive year.

At the Saturday evening Black Tie Dinner, retiring President Bowen presented Presidential Awards to individuals and groups. Julia was the recipient of one of five newly minted Virginia Society Ladies State Service Medals for exceptional service to the Virginia Society.



Five ladies recognized for their service to VASSAR
L to R: Bob Bowen, Beverly Alexander, Julia Carr, "Wink" Rouse, Theresa Wilcox and Helen Bowen

Your president was presented the Presidential Award for representing the Virginia Society at many National and State events and for the Chapter's support of the General Pace Program. Thanks to all of you who made this possible.

On Monday, February 28, with the help of Ray Hawn, the chapter acquired eight sets of colonial uniforms. Unfortunately, as our guard members try on the uniforms for a fit, we are finding that many of the regimental coats are miss-sized – either tailored after the individual received them or not marked correctly. We are working to rectify this problem. These uniforms will be used as an alternate set after we receive the George Washington Life Guards uniforms that will be ordered this week. Fortunately the accessories that each guardsman will need to purchase can be used with either uniform except for the Tricorn which is worn with the Continental. Stay tuned for more good news.

On March 9, Julia and I will be leaving for Louisville to attend the NSSAR Spring Leadership and Trustee Meeting on March 11 – 13. I will give you a report on this visit at our Chapter meeting on Saturday, March 19.

We are off to another very busy year. This past year has been a successful and rewarding experience and I hope that your new president in 2012 will be able to report that 2011 exceeded the chapters performance for 2010.

Faternally,

Bob Carr
President

We Remember Lou Beach

At a wake held on February 7, eleven Compatriots led by Chapter Chaplain Don Reynolds conducted a traditional SAR remembrance ceremony for Lou Beach. Recognized as a reliable work-horse in our Chapter, Lou was active in both chapter and VASSAR activities. He served as Chapter President (1999-2000), as Alternate Chapter Representative to the State Board of Managers; and as Chairman of the Knight Essay Contest for our chapter as well as for VASSAR. He will be greatly missed.



Louis Andrew Beach
(June 2, 1925 - February 3, 2011)

Louis of Alexandria, Virginia, was preceded in death by his parents, George Covert and Clara (Kiesler) Beach, siblings; Mary Catherine Beach, Julia and Arthur Bierman, Jr. and Herman and Mary Beach. Louis is survived by his wife of 54 years, Virginia A. Beach, Children: Andrew Beach of Dallas, Texas, Ann Marie Telepak (Chris) of Dayton, Ohio, Ruth Patel (Jamie) of Annandale, Virginia and Covert Beach of Alexandria, Virginia, Grandchildren: Laura and Adam Telepak and Michael and Daniel Patel, Siblings: Robert (Anne) of Naples, Florida, William (Juanita) of Floyd Knobs, Indiana and Kathleen Krue (Roy) of Greenville, Indiana. Louis had a PhD in Nuclear Physics from Indiana University. He retired after 36 years from the Naval Research Laboratory. He was a World War II Veteran (1944-1946). Finishing his enlistment, Louis assisted in test firing V-2 rockets at White Sands Proving Grounds. Louis was a 4th degree Knights of Columbus – a former Faithful Navigator. He was a Son of the American

Revolution, Past-President of the George Washington Chapter. He was active at Good Shepherd Catholic Church. There he was the Treasurer of Housing and Family Services. He was also an usher and a religious education teacher.

* * * * *

Highlights of the February Meeting

New Members Inducted

Four new members were welcomed to the chapter at this meeting. They are:

Brian Herbert

Compatriot Brian Herbert was born and raised in Bronxville, New York. In 2001, Brian received a B.A. in Sociology from Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia.

Brian is currently a Manager and Business Architect for Accenture where he specializes in IT strategic management and biometric/multimodal technologies. He has been with Accenture for five years. Brian's previous business experience includes four years with Baker & McKenzie in Washington, DC. He worked as a Global Custody Specialist where he was responsible for monitoring the custody risks associated with maintaining assets with eligible securities depositories around the world.

His wife Mary is a local girl from Alexandria. They have 9-month-old daughter named Katherine.

He is also a member of the Metropolitan Club of Washington, DC.

Compatriot Herbert's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot Meriwether Smith. During the Revolution Meriwether Smith was active in the militia, rising to colonel and commander of the Essex County unit. In 1766, Smith was a signer of the Westmoreland Association in opposition to the Stamp Act. In 1774, he became a member of the Essex Committee on Safety, and he served in the colonial House of Burgesses from 1774 to 1775. He was a delegate to Virginia's conventions held to consider separating the American colonies from England in 1775 and 1776. Smith was a member of Virginia's post-colonial House of Delegates from 1776 to 1778. He served in the Continental Congress from 1778 to 1779, and again in 1781. Smith served again in the House of Delegates from 1781 to 1782,

and in 1785 and 1788. He was a delegate to Virginia's 1788 constitutional convention, and is believed to have been the author of the Bill of Rights that became part of this document and served as a model for the first ten amendments to the new US Constitution.

Daniel Westlake

Compatriot Daniel Westlake was born and raised in Readfield, Maine. In 2004, Dan received a B.A. in Political Science from Wheaton College in Massachusetts. He went on to receive a M.A. in Statecraft and National Security Affairs with a specialization in Intelligence from the Institute of World Politics in Washington, DC, in 2007.

Dan is currently an intelligence analyst for the Bureau of Diplomatic Security. He has been with the State Department for three years.

His wife Lydia is a native of California. She is a defense and foreign policy adviser for US Senator Jim DeMint of South Carolina.

Compatriot Westlake's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot Levi Stone. During the Revolution, Stone was a private in the Fifth Connecticut Regiment.

Joseph James Spurr, IV

Compatriot Jay Spurr was born in New Jersey on March 2, 1949, and raised in McLean, Virginia and Haverford, Pennsylvania. After graduating high school in 1967, he enlisted for four years in the US Navy. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina, in 1975 and was commissioned an ensign. He completed undergraduate pilot training in 1977 and went on to fly several types of aircraft but accumulated the majority of his time in the A-6 'Intruder' in squadrons based in Whidbey Island, Washington. He made seven deployments aboard six aircraft carriers. He retired as a captain in 2000. He currently works for the General Services Administration in Washington as an IT program manager for an application that tracks all cost and utilization data for the thirteen federal agencies that own or operate aircraft. He has attended the National War College and received a Master's Certification in Joint Strategic Studies, a Master's Certification in IT Program Management from

George Washington University. He also attended the John F. Kennedy School of Government's Executive Leadership Program at Harvard University.

In his spare time he participates in Civil War living history programs as a Private in Company 'A' of the 4th Virginia Infantry Regiment, the 'Stonewall Brigade.' Jay is a member of the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States, Descendants of the Knights of the Garter, Windsor Castle and will be inducted as a member of the Society of Colonial Wars in April. He REALLY enjoys his two (soon to be four) grandchildren, collects first edition books and tries to keep his bride happy at all times.

Jay's wife Gayle is the president of the Alexandria Rotary Club, a former marketing executive at Springfield and Landmark malls and a former member of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce and the Board of the Alexandria Symphony. They have five children in Texas, Massachusetts and California.

Compatriot Spurr's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Major Nicholas Fish and Elizabeth Stuyvesant. When the war started, Fish was a lieutenant in the 1st New York Regiment. In November 1776, he was promoted to major and reassigned to the 2nd New York Regiment. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel at the close of the war. He participated in the battles of Long Island, Monmouth and Saratoga. He served as a staff officer under Lafayette and participated in the final assault at Yorktown. He enjoyed the confidence of General Washington who appointed him a division inspector in 1778 under General von Steuben. He commanded a regiment of infantry at Fort Macintosh and other points on the Ohio River in 1785 and 1786. He was an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati and its President from 1787 to 1804.

Samuel Dangremond

Compatriot Samuel (Sam) Dangremond was born and raised in Kingston, New Hampshire. In 2003, Sam received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Tufts University in Somerville, Massachusetts. In 2007, he received a Juris Doctorate from the George Washington University School of Law specializing in intellectual property law.

Sam is currently a patent attorney for The Plumsea Law Group. He has been with The Plumsea Law Group for almost two years.

He is married to Dr. Kristine Dangremond, who was born and raised in Montana. They have a one-year-old daughter named Cora.

Compatriot Dangremond's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot Joseph Buell. During the Revolution, Joseph Buell was a signer of "The Association Test" in the State of New Hampshire, and a member of the New Hampshire militia.

+ + + + +

Police Officers Honored

At this luncheon, we honored Jerry McHugh, a 34-year employee of the Alexandria Police Department for heroism. A retired vice/narcotics detective who now supervises the warrant and records division for the department, McHugh received the SAR Medal for Heroism for his actions on August 30, 2010, when he bravely exposed himself to danger to aid an injured motorist trapped in a burning automobile on I-95 south of Alexandria.

Also recognized by the chapter was Police Chief Earl L. Cook, who received the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal for his long and distinguished service to law enforcement in the City of Alexandria.



Vice President Briggs presents the Medal for Heroism to Supervisor McHugh

McHugh was enroute to his home from duty at the Police Department when he arrived on the scene of an automobile-tractor-trailer crash. He hurried to inspect the burning automobile and to render aid to the injured driver. Calmly, he instructed an off-duty police officer to direct traffic around the scene and to clear the area because of the danger of explosion. He continued to assist the motorist until he was removed from the vehicle. Approximately 15 minutes after removal of the driver, the vehicle exploded, but there were no injuries because of the prompt and heroic actions and leadership of Supervisor McHugh.



Police Chief Cook receives the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from Vice President Briggs

Chief Cook, who joined the department in 1979, is the first African-American chief since the city was founded nearly 260 years ago. A native of Alexandria and a graduate of T.C. Williams High School, Chief Cook graduated from Duke University before joining the department. Initially serving as a patrol officer, Chief Cook moved into criminal investigations, and his advancement was rapid. From 1989 to 1995, he was promoted to sergeant, lieutenant, captain and assistant chief. As assistant chief he commanded the criminal investigations bureau. In 2006, he became Deputy Executive Chief, and he was selected as chief in 2009. During his tenure as chief, he has reorganized and updated the 400-member department in spite of a period of fiscal uncertainty. Under his leadership, the city has experienced a significant decrease in major crimes

and the department has been recognized nationally for its professionalism.
[The Editor thanks Jack Pitzer for providing this article.]

+ + + + +
Guest Speaker John Marshall

Since 2001, our luncheon speaker John Marshall has served in a variety of positions in the Education, Guest Services, and Special Events Departments at George Washington's Estate and Gardens. In his current role as Manager of Guest Relations, he shares Mount Vernon's story one-on-one with many special guests.



Vice President Briggs presents the coveted Washington Bust to John Marshall

John held our attention with a presentation on the changes and future of the educational programs at George Washington's home.

* * * * *

Compatriots and Others Participate in Special Washington's Birthday Events

Vice President Briggs reports that the annual wreath-laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier incorporated some special features this year. The Old Presbyterian Meeting House bells were tolled to replicate the original ceremony. Officers of the SAR, DAR and First Virginia Regiment read aloud "The Centenarian" by Walt Whitman. During the Civil War time frame, Mr. Whitman was responsible for a reawakening of interest in the history of the American Revolution. This poem is an emotionally moving rendition of

what a one-hundred-year-old patriot soldier witnessed during key battles under General Washington's leadership early in the war for independence.



VP Briggs presents our wreath
Photo by M. Elston

The Captain and select crew members from the nuclear attack submarine *Alexandria* (in port at the Washington Navy Yard) laid the first wreath, followed by our Chapter and the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the DAR.

Brief remarks were offered by the senior officer laying the respective wreaths.



1st Virginia Regiment fires a rifle salute at the wreath-laying ceremony

Photo by M. Elston

Cold and damp weather limited participation in the parade but a good time was had by all who attended.

* * * * *

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

I began my tenure as Registrar by meeting with Bob Carr to discuss registrar duties and to be briefed on the current state of outstanding applications. To ensure a smooth transition, Bob graciously decided to continue work on the applications he had already started and let me start by

taking on the brand new applications. I want to thank Bob for his advice and assistance.

New Members

Since the report in the January newsletter, one new member has been approved: Joseph James Spurr IV (Major Nicholas Fish). In addition, five previously approved new members await induction: Zachary William Haywood Schmidt (Petrus Krum), Richard Lee Latimer, Jr. (David Child), Matthew Bret Hurley (William Norcross) and David Lawrence Gosinski, Jr. (Thomas Cantrell), Robert David Andrews (Ashbel Crampton). Eleven new member applications are at National awaiting approval and nine new applications are being processed at the Chapter level.

Supplemental Applications

Fifteen supplemental applications are at National awaiting approval and sixteen new supplemental applications are being processed at the Chapter level.

Application Notes

Any Compatriot having the name of someone who is interested in joining our chapter or was a former member and has dropped out, please e-mail Bob Whitehead (rowhi@comcast.com) or Mike Elston (treasurer.gwsar@gmail.com) with their name and address and we will send them an information packet along with a letter explaining the application/reinstatement procedures and the benefits of being a member of our chapter. If you would like to have a New Member Packet to give to someone, pick up a packet at the meeting.

SAR National Web Site

I encourage all chapter members to log on to the Chapter, VASSAR, and NSSAR web sites. These web pages contain significant information concerning Chapter, State and National events.

Bob Whitehead
Registrar

Calendar of Coming Events

March 2011

- 10-12 NSSAR Spring Leadership/Trustee Meeting - Louisville
- 16 Celebration of James Madison's birthday
- 19 Regular meeting of our Chapter. Note change in date.**
- 26 National History Day competition. Details TBA**

April 2011

- 9 Regular meeting of our Chapter.**

May 2011

- 13-15 Raid on Martin's Station - Ewing, Virginia. 10 a.m.
- 14 Regular meeting of our Chapter**
- 21 President General Simpson will present a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns.**
- 30 National Memorial Day Parade**

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 200 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.

Present officers are:

President: Bob Carr 703-780-3066
Vice President: Paul Briggs 703-768-6910
Secretary: Don Kellerman 703-768-2442
Treasurer: Mike Elston 703-680-0866
Registrar: Bob Whitehead 703-203-1465

This monthly newsletter is edited by Don Kraft, who depends heavily on inputs from chapter officers and committee chairmen. Inputs from others are always welcome. Please send your inputs and comments to kraftdon@att.net or call 703-451-6132.

March 19, 2011

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 Wednesday, March 16th.

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: Michael J. Elston, Treasurer

P.O. Box 336

Lorton, VA 22199

You may also make your reservation by e-mail to treasurer.gwsar@gmail.com or call Mike at 703-680-0866.

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

Valet parking is available.