



George Washington Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Newsletter

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January, 2012

Annual Gala on January 14

On January 14, our Chapter is again privileged to host the Gold Good Citizenship Award Gala for the Virginia Society at which we will be honoring former U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese III with the presentation of the NSSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal. The Gold Good Citizenship Medal is awarded for OUTSTANDING AND UNUSUALLY PATRIOTIC ACHIEVEMENT and service of IMPORTANCE at the NATIONAL LEVEL.

Edwin Meese is an attorney, law professor, author, retired U.S. Army Colonel and former U.S. Attorney General. He served with Governor Ronald Reagan from 1967 through 1974. In 1980 he joined President Reagan's campaign and, following the election, served on the National Security Council staff and cabinet from 1981 to 1985. In February 1985 he became Attorney General, a position he held until 1988.

This is a very special evening for the Chapter and for VASSAR. We expect several VASSAR officers, members of other SAR chapters in the area, and members of our sister DAR Chapter, Kate Waller Barrett and other chapters to attend. We fully expect to sell out this event and seating is limited so I encourage you to sign up right away by either calling or e-mailing Mike Elston, Chapter Treasurer at 703-680-0866 or treasurer.gwsar@gmail.com, or use the reservation form on the last page of this newsletter.

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President's Column

Dear Compatriots,

I hope you and your families had a warm and meaningful Christmas celebration and holiday season. We can now look forward with anticipation to New Year 2012 in the George Washington Chapter.



During the past several years, the chapter benefitted from enlightened leadership. The results include significant improvements in business operations and high quality patriotic activities included on the annual calendar. We rectified a major problem in administration that had developed over time with respect to the accuracy of membership rolls, and timely payment of dues. For the health of a small organization this was an essential achievement. It took time, it was not pleasant, but it simply had to be done. With sound management going forward similar difficulties can be avoided.

We initiated a prize winning web site - - one of the first for a chapter and, importantly, the best in the State! This ensures better access to information regarding membership, meetings and events.

The Chapter took the lead in hosting a major State event annually, the Gold Medal Gala where an individual of national prominence receives the National Societies' highest award for patriotism. The most recent recipients were General Eric Shinseki,

USA Ret., former Chief of Staff of the Army and Secretary of the Veterans Administration; and General Peter Pace USMC Ret., former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Edwin Meese, former U.S. Attorney General under President Ronald Reagan, will accept this year's award on January 14, 2012 -- details are in this news letter and on the web site -- please do not miss this event!

The George Washington Chapter similarly took the lead in establishing an annual wreath-laying event at Arlington National Cemetery, where the President General officiates. Also, since it's inception about seven years ago, the George Washington Chapter is the anchor for SAR participation in the National Memorial Day Parade. This parade started small but now is a prominent nationally televised event.

Our high quality meeting programs over the past years are the result of continuous and ongoing efforts by many officers. Because of them, there is a high standard to meet each month in this regard, and you can expect terrific speakers and presentations for 2012.

We lead the State in new inductions and our recognition of law enforcement, fire and public safety officials is exceptional. Our newsletter has been of the highest quality, and we will sorely miss having Don Kraft as editor after so many years. We also hosted the SAR mid-Atlantic meeting this past year and participated in several events sponsored by the State society or other chapters. In short, we have a record of accomplishments to be proud of.

In terms of major improvement this year, I would like to see much higher levels of participation in meetings and events. We have a chapter that exceeds 225 in strength, and yet our effective turnout seldom exceeds ten to twenty percent of the total (regrettably, for some events these are generous numbers). This is not to diminish appreciation for the stalwarts who participate and volunteer regularly, yet many more should take part -- as compatriots we must always strive to contribute.

Happy New Year, and best wishes for a successful year -- we'll see you at the Gold Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club on January 14th, beginning at 6:30 PM!

Respectfully,
Paul

VASSAR Annual Chapter Report

Compatriots, the Chapter's annual report to VASSAR is due on January 13. Please provide any information you may have regarding your participation in any public service event, community service or civic programs in your community. Did you support any veteran programs through service or donations? If so please report this to me at capt7cs@aol.com. Please go to the VASSAR web page at www.virginia-sar.org/vassar/admin.htm and bring up the **Annual Chapter Report Form** and provide me any information you may have on any of the topics listed. We need your support and assistance to make a good showing at the VASSAR Annual Meeting in February.

Faternally,

Bob Carr

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New Member's Corner

Having just celebrated my first anniversary with the SAR, I know what it is like for a new member to wonder how to support our chapter and the SAR -- especially younger members whose time is already limited by career and family obligations. Well, I'm still learning, but as I am able I'd like to help in any way I that I can to guide other new members through the myriad opportunities to serve.

The first suggestion I have is come out and support our chapter sponsored public events. There are a multitude of observances and patriotic events that take place all over the country, so many that one may have trouble prioritizing. Well, look first to those supported by our chapter so that by our showing we can demonstrate to VASSAR and NSSAR that we are active and live up to the distinction of second largest chapter in the whole country!

The chapter-supported events I refer to are but a few; they are:

1. Gala -- January
2. George Washington's Birthday Parade in Alexandria -- Presidents Day (February)
3. President General's Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns -- (April or May)
4. Memorial Day Parade in Washington -- Memorial Day (May)

5. Wreath Laying at George Washington's Tomb – Independence Day (July)

6. Chapter Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns – Veteran's Day (November)

Each one of these public events is an opportunity to show our chapter colors and support the SAR. It's also an opportunity for you to interact with other citizens and share your stories and zeal for our country.

I have to say that my experience in attending just four of these events last year was more rewarding than I ever expected. At the Gala I shook hands I enjoyed the company of several VASSAR dignitaries. I was genuinely thrilled to carry the Chapter banner and wave to the cheering throng of Americans and visitors at the Memorial Day Parade at our capital. After the Mount Vernon ceremony I was approached by folks in the crowd and asked to know more about the SAR and how to join. At Arlington I experienced the awesome feeling that cannot be avoided witnessing the ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns. There I had the good fortune of shaking hands with Robert Maxwell, the oldest surviving Medal of Honor recipient of WW II who just happened to be there. Then, as he was making his way out, I watched a group of visiting high-schoolers discover who he was and swarm to shake his hand and, with tears in their eyes, genuinely acknowledge his act of heroism so long ago.

Let me encourage you all to support the chapter at these events and expect more than you bargained for in return!

Dwight Whitney
Chapter Secretary

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Alexandria Law Enforcement Officers Recognized by Our Chapter

At our December meeting, we were pleased to recognize the following three Alexandria Law Enforcement Officers for their outstanding performance of duties.

Investigator Anton Keith

Investigator Anton Keith of the Alexandria Police Department was awarded the Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Commendation Medal for his quick response and compassionate actions that saved the life of a suicidal person.

When Investigator Keith went to the top level of a parking garage where police department vehicles were parked July 20, 2011, he encountered a 19-year-old man. Questioning the man about his reasons for being in the Police Department area of the garage, Investigator Keith noted that the man was vague and acted confused. Keith checked with Virginia and National Criminal Information systems, found the young man was not wanted on any warrants and told him he was free to leave.



As the young man was leaving, Investigator Keith noticed a small stack of the individual's personal items, including a folding knife with the blade extended. After the investigator secured the knife and began questioning the young man about it, the subject changed from confused

to focused and determined. Without warning, he began to run across the garage toward the wall. Investigator Keith pulled the young man back when he had a leg and arm on the wall preparing to jump five stories to the pavement below.

Investigator Keith took the young man into custody for a Mental Detention Order, and while examining his personal items found a three-page suicide note. During an interview, the young man told officers that he had searched all morning for a high place from which to jump. He said he had been trying to build up the nerve to jump for more than 30 minutes when Investigator Keith arrived on the scene.

Because of Investigator Keith's quick response, professional judgment and compassionate actions, the young man is undergoing mental health treatment. Investigator Keith's exemplary handling of this potentially tragic situation is in the highest traditions of law enforcement professionalism and community service and brings great credit to himself, the City of Alexandria and the Alexandria Police Department.

Sergeant Robyn Nichols

Sergeant Robyn Nichols was presented the Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Commendation Medal in recognition of her

distinguished service for 24 years with the Alexandria Police Department.

Sergeant Nichols has served in the Patrol, Street Crimes, Fiscal/Fleet Management and Criminal Investigations units during her career. Since 2003, she has provided exceptional service as Violent Crimes Sergeant in the Criminal Investigations Section of the department.



During her tenure in the Violent Crimes Section, she has supervised all homicide investigations by two assigned detectives. In addition to supervision, Sergeant Nichols actively participates in response to crime scenes, attending

autopsies, obtaining court orders and relieving the detectives from administrative tasks to allow them to spend time in the community following up on investigations. She has become the location of institutional knowledge and history for all major crimes since joining the Division. She dedicates the same time to all cases, regardless of the profile or status of the victim.

When an arrest is made, Sergeant Nichols follows through with witnesses, court appearances and testimony. In several cases, she has provided, at her own expense, transportation, clothing and meals for witnesses. After a brutal rape case, she provided clothing and money to the victim and helped her gain admittance to a nearby military school.

In addition to her police duties, she serves as a mentor for children in the City in need of responsible adult examples. In the case of one family, she includes two siblings of the mentored child on outings in the community.

Well respected by her peers in the Alexandria Police Department and nearby jurisdictions, Sergeant Nichols represents the highest standard of law enforcement professionalism for the City of Alexandria and the Alexandria Police Department.

Deputy Sheriff Teneke King

Deputy Sheriff Teneke King of the Alexandria Sheriff's Department was awarded the Sons of the American Revolution Heroism Award for demonstrating great courage and unselfish disregard for her personal safety October 2, 2010, after witnessing an automobile crash while off-duty and traveling westbound on Interstate 64.

An automobile approached Deputy King from the rear traveling at excessive speed, tailgating and flashing its high beam headlights. The vehicle was erratically jerked into the left lane and then quickly into the right lane after passing Deputy King. The driver lost control, struck the median, and the car flipped over. It crashed into barriers on the opposite side of the road and landed on its wheels. The front of the vehicle erupted in flames as Deputy King approached on foot. A passenger was in her seat crying, and the driver was slumped into the passenger's seat.



Deputy King attempted to open the driver's side door, but it was jammed. She quickly went to the passenger's side, pulled the passenger from the car, helped her to her feet and moved away from the burning vehicle.

She then returned to the vehicle and with utter disregard for her personal safety, entered the vehicle to free the driver from her seat belt. Deputy King pulled the driver from the car and fell into a ditch with her. Aided by a passerby, Deputy King then moved the driver away from the burning vehicle just before it exploded and was engulfed in flames. Because of Deputy King's prompt and heroic actions, both the driver and passenger survived.

Deputy King's courage and quick thinking is a testament to her character and brings great credit to herself and the Alexandria Sheriff's Department.

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Introducing Our Newest Compatriots

Please welcome to our Chapter the following new members:

Ben Dutton

Compatriot Ben Dutton was born Honolulu, Hawaii. His father, who was a Navy Captain, then moved all over the world including Copenhagen, Denmark, and Manama, Bahrain. When Ben was 10 his father returned to Alexandria, Virginia, to raise his family. In 1974, Ben received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Virginia Tech.



Ben is currently a Project Manager and Senior Engineer with Synthetic Materials, LLC. He has been with Synthetic Materials for 4 years. In his spare time he likes to build & repair computers, collect stamps, bicycle and travel.

He is not married.

Compatriot Ben's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot John Harper. During the Revolution John Harper, as a friend of George Washington, contributed a substantial sum of money to the revolutionary effort.

Christopher W Dutton

Compatriot Chris Dutton was born and raised in Alexandria, VA. In 1990, Chris attended high school at TC Williams High School. After high school Chris went to trade school to become an electrician. He



He worked for Mona Electric, A&D Service and O'Dell Electrical contractors till 1991. In 1991 Chris went to work for General Electric. That division was sold off to Martin Marietta Corporation 2 years later. In 1995

Martin Marietta merged with the Lockheed Corporation to become Lockheed Martin Corporation. He has been with Lockheed Martin for 20 years. In his spare time he has a small electrical contracting business that he works in evenings and weekends. He also enjoys riding bicycles and tinkering with cars and computers

He is married to Paulette Dutton, who is originally from Alexandria, Virginia. They have a 23-year-old daughter named Ashley. She is currently a student at NVCC.

Compatriot Chris Dutton's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot John Harper. During the Revolution John Harper supplied munitions to the Revolutionary Army.

Dal Teer Hardy, III

Compatriot Dal Hardy was born on a US Air Base in South Ruislip, England, Yes, he is both a citizen of the Republic and a subject of the crown. He spent most of his youth in Virginia, but has also lived in Nebraska and Alaska. Nevertheless, he considers Virginia to be home. In 1981 he received a Bachelors Degree in History from Radford University.



Dallas is currently a Mortgage Counselor with the Real Estate Lending Division of Navy Federal Credit Union.

Although divorced he has four wonderful children. Two of them have graduated from college and are married. His two young children are still in college.

He also has one grandson with another on the way in March.

Dallas is also a member of the Sons of the Republic of Texas.

Compatriot Dallas Hardy's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot John Donelson. During the revolution John Donelson commanded the Pittsylvania County Virginia militia. He was a surveyor by trade and a member of the House of Burgesses. During the war he was appointed by the

Governor of Virginia to establish the line between the state of Virginia and the Cherokee territory.

After the Revolutionary War Colonel Donelson was co-founder of the town of Nashborough, Tennessee, (the town name was later changed to Nashville).

Dal Teer Hardy, IV

Compatriot Teer Hardy was born in Rockville, Maryland, and raised in Frederick, Maryland. In 2006, Teer received a B.A. in Criminal Justice from West Virginia Wesleyan College with minors in Sociology and Political Science. While at Wesleyan he served as the vice-president and community service coordinator for the Kappa Tau chapter of the Theta Xi Fraternity. He is currently pursuing a Masters' of Divinity at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. He is also in the candidacy process for ordination as an Elder in the United Methodist Church.



Compatriot Teer is currently a Project Coordinator and a Preventative Maintenance Manager for Siemens Government Technologies. He has been with SGT for 5 years. He is also an active member at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in

Alexandria. At Aldersgate he works with the youth group, leading mission teams, and is currently coordinating a church wide study.

He is married to Allison Long Hardy, who is originally from Frederick, Maryland. They have been married for two years and have a 10-year-old basset hound named Rufus and a 10-month-old beagle named Rosie. They reside in Woodbridge, Virginia.

Compatriot Hardy's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot Col. John Donelson. Col. Donelson was a land surveyor by profession and served in the Virginia House of Burgesses. He was appointed to the Pittsylvania County militia in 1771. After the war Col. Donelson was a co-founder of Nashborough, later this city would be know as

Nashville. Theodore Roosevelt described Col. Donelson's party's trip down the Tennessee River as the "greatest adventure in the winning of the west. In its political and historical consequences, it was one the eventful occasions of the life of this nation, being equal in importance to the settlement of Jamestown or the landing at Plymouth Rock."

David Benjamin Hardy, Sr.

Compatriot David Benjamin Hardy, Sr. was born in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1961, and is the youngest son of Lt.Col.(ret) Dal T. Hardy and Sarah Hardy. David was raised in Alexandria, Virginia. In 1990, David received a B.S. in Physics from George Mason University, and later attended Johns Hopkins University for Masters work in Applied Physics. Prior to becoming a Senior Patent Agent with various international law firms, David was a Primary Examiner with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. He is currently a Patent Agent in the Washington, D.C. office of the law firm Fish & Richardson P.C.

In his spare time David enjoys planning and working on home improvement projects, cooking, football, and conducting historical research of his neighborhood, Hayfield Farm. In addition, he enjoys the trials and tribulations of raising two teenagers. David is a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Alexandria, Virginia.



David is married to his beautiful wife Jennifer, and has a seventeen year old daughter Kathryn Grace and a sixteen year old son David Benjamin, Jr., both of whom attend David's alma mater,

Hayfield Secondary School.

Compatriot David's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent through Patriot John Donelson who helped found Nashville, Tennessee. As a land speculator and surveyor, Patriot Donelson had served in the

Virginia House of Burgesses before moving to the Watauga settlements on the Holston and Watauga rivers in East Tennessee. In 1775, Patriot Donelson became county lieutenant, with rank of colonel, and served in campaigns against the Overhill Cherokees. In December of 1779, Patriot Donelson organized and led a flotilla of approximately thirty boats from the Holston River to the Tennessee River, up the Ohio River, and then up the Cumberland River to the present site of Nashville, approximately 1000 miles. In 1785, Patriot Donelson was mysteriously killed on the trail between Kentucky and Nashville while returning home to his family. Interestingly, his tenth child (out of eleven) was Rachel Donelson, the future wife of Andrew Jackson, seventh president of the United States.

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REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Since the last Registrar's Report five New Member Applications were approved by NSSAR, one New Member Application was submitted to VASSAR for approval, and three Supplemental Applications were submitted to VASSAR for approval. They are listed below.

Six applications are at VSSAR awaiting review, ten applications at NSSAR awaiting review, and eleven new members await induction.

New Member Applications Approved

Thomas A. Neal (Anc: Oliver Hartshorn)

William J. Ritter (Anc: Isaac Chaapel)

William T. Ritter (Anc: Isaac Chaapel)

Joseph W. Ritter (Anc: Isaac Chaapel)

Blair P. FitzGibbon (Anc: William Lord)

New Member Applications Submitted

Christopher D. Sorrells (Anc: Zachariah Johnston)

Supplemental Applications Submitted

Robert A. Whitehead (Anc: Uriah Lipscomb)

James M. Mobley (Anc: William Burns)

James M. Mobley (Anc: William McCain)

Bob Whitehead
Registrar

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Please Welcome Your New Newsletter Editor

The Board of Managers is pleased to announce that Compatriot Derek Loveland has volunteered to assume the responsibility for editing the Chapter's monthly newsletter.



We ask that all contributors support Derek in this time-consuming task. Please remember that Derek has a full time job and a large family - that is, he does have a life outside of our Chapter and job and family responsibilities beyond the needs of the Chapter newsletter. Therefore, it will be greatly appreciated if your newsletter inputs can be forwarded to him each month in a timely manner.

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Calendar of Coming Events

January

14 Our Chapter's Gala Evening. SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal will be presented to the Honorable Edwin Meese III.

February

11 Regular meeting of our Chapter

19 Crossing of the Dan, South Boston

20 Washington Birthday Parade, Alexandria

25-27 VASSAR Annual Meeting, Richmond.

March

10 Regular meeting of our Chapter

16 President James Madison's Birthday,
Montpelier

April

13 President Thomas Jefferson's
Birthday, Jefferson Memorial,
Washington DC

14 Regular meeting of our Chapter

16-17 Battle of Petersburg, Petersburg, VA

28 President James Monroe's Birthday,
Richmond, 11:00

30 President Monroe's Birthplace,
Westmoreland County, VA

May

12 Regular meeting of our Chapter

13-15 Raid on Martin's Station, Ewing, VA,
10 am

**21 President General's Wreath-laying
at Tomb of the Unknowns,
Arlington Cemetery, 6:15 pm**

**28 National Memorial Day Parade,
Washington, DC**

29 Special Memorial Day Service, St.
John's Church, Richmond, VA, 4 pm

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: Paul Briggs 703-768-6910

Vice President: Mike Elston 703-680-0866

Secretary: Dwight Whitney 540-349-2375

Treasurer: Scott Wagoner 703-690-5090

Registrar: Bob Whitehead 703-203-1465

This monthly newsletter is edited by Derek Loveland, who depends heavily on inputs from chapter officers and committee chairmen. Inputs from others are always welcome. Please send your inputs and comments to derek.loveland@gmail.com or call 703-373-3087.

January 14, 2012
Gala Evening Reservation Form

Please use this form to make a reservation for the Chapter's Gala Evening at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia. **The cost for this special formal event is \$70.00 per person. Dress for this occasion is black tie or military formal.** Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be available at 6:30 PM. Dinner will be served at 7:30 PM.

RSVP no later than Monday, January 9th.

Name: _____

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

My entree choice is (circle): BEEF FISH

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.

Valet parking is available.