



George Washington Chapter

Sons of the American Revolution

Newsletter

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February 2013

Gala Event Honors Hero of Three Wars



General Kroesen receiving the SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal with VASSAR President Phil Williams, President General Stephen Leishman, and Chapter President Mike Elston.

President General Stephen A. Leishman presented the SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal to General Frederick J. Kroesen, Jr., at a Virginia Society black-tie gala event held at in Alexandria, Virginia, on January 26, 2013. Leishman called the evening a "momentous occasion" and recognized General Kroesen for his "significant contributions of national importance in the areas of military service, government and diplomacy." General Kroesen commanded troops in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, and served as Commanding General, United States Army Forces Command (1976 to 1978), Vice Chief of Staff of the Army (1978 to 1979), Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, and Commander, NATO Central Army Group (1979 to 1983). The event was sponsored by the Virginia Society, co-sponsored by the National Vietnam Veterans Foundation, and hosted and co-sponsored by the George Washington Chapter.

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Upcoming Chapter Meetings

February 9, 2013

11:30 a.m., Belle Haven Country Club. Guest Speaker - The Honorable Stuart Bowen, Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction.

March 9, 2013

11:30 a.m., Belle Haven Country Club. Guest Speaker - Jessica J. Sheets, Archives Technician, U.S. Army Military History Institute, U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center

April 13, 2013

11:30 a.m., Belle Haven Country Club.

Event Information

123rd VASSAR Annual Meeting

– 22-24 February 2013, Omni Hotel, Richmond, VA. For those desiring to attend the Saturday sessions only, a carpool caravan will leave from the Belle Haven Country Club at 6 a.m. Registration forms may be found at

<http://www.virginia-sar.org/vassar/>

President's Message



Gentlemen, we have work to do. If you are reading this newsletter, you share my commitment to the principles of the SAR and to achieving its historical, patriotic and educational goals. These things will not happen without you, and I urge you take advantage of some of the many opportunities to get involved in the George Washington Chapter this year. If you usually don't personally participate in our meetings and events, please come to one this year. If you usually just march with us on the 4th of July, join us for Washington's Birthday or the Memorial Day Parade. Just by showing up, you make the chapter stronger and help us to further our important work.

We have hit the ground running in 2013 with one chapter meeting and the 4th Annual Gold Good Citizenship Award Gala already behind us. Both events were well attended.

At our **January 12th chapter meeting**, we put away the blue blazers and dined on less refined fare in order to spend some time getting to know each other and reviewing the chapter's state and national annual reports. The importance of these reports is not in the various awards that are based on the data in them, or even in the satisfaction of racking up more "points" than other chapters. Instead, the reports offer a way to look at our chapter in a different way. A well-rounded chapter, with a range of activities that hit on all of the SAR's goals, with a balance between external and internal activities, will score more points -- and do more to advance the SAR's goals -- than a chapter that does one thing, even if it does that one thing very well.

The George Washington Chapter does many things well, and I have no doubt that we will receive our fair share of honors and awards when our 2012 activities are evaluated. But the reports demonstrate that we can do better in some areas. The Board of Managers is committed to

focusing on those areas while maintaining the excellent programs we carry out each year. To start, we will be making better use of our committee structure. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will see the list of appointments for 2013. Please give your support to these compatriots who have stepped forward this year. There are still a couple of vacancies, so if you are interested in getting more directly involved, give me a call.

The **4th Annual VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala** was a stunning success. About 80 people gathered at Belle Haven on January 26th to honor fellow chapter member General Frederick J. "Fritz" Kroesen, Jr. The SAR President General, Stephen A. Leishman, and the VASSAR President, Dr. Henry P "Phil" Williams, made the presentation, and General Kroesen demonstrated that you can say a great deal without taking up a great deal of time. In addition to a variety of SAR luminaries, we were joined by five retired general officers including two lieutenant generals and two major generals.

Earlier in the evening, President General Leishman and President Williams presented General Kroesen with the SAR War Service Medal with World War II, Korea and Vietnam campaign bars. They also presented C.A.R. Appreciation Medals to our two hostesses: C.A.R. National Librarian Elyse Hawley (silver) and "Light Horse Harry" Lee Society President Emily Elston (bronze).

There are many people to thank for the success of the evening, but I am particularly indebted to our chapter Vice President Scott Wagoner and Treasurer Dwight Whitney, who played key roles in this year's event. Former VASSAR and GW Chapter President Tom Burch and the National Vietnam Veterans Foundation provided significant financial support for the event. The VASSAR Color Guard did an outstanding job opening and closing the ceremonies as it has on several previous occasions. Finally, I am grateful to VASSAR President Phil Williams, who served as Master of Ceremonies and once again allowed us to serve as the host chapter for this important VASSAR

event. Planning is already underway for the 5th Annual Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, and I guarantee you won't want to miss it.

There are several events planned for February, and I hope you will be able to participate in some or all of them. As detailed elsewhere in this newsletter, we have a fantastic speaker lined up for our **February 9th Chapter Meeting**. Then, we will celebrate the 281st Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington on February 18th with a wreath laying at the **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution** and then **Alexandria's Washington's Birthday Parade**. Every member who marches in the parade will be awarded the Jack Evans Medal. Bring a sawbuck with you because, while the full-size medal is free, the mini will set you back \$10. Finally, the **123rd Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society** will take place in Richmond February 22-23. You need not spend the whole weekend in Richmond – a group of us will meet at Belle Haven at 6 a.m. and then carpool down to Richmond for the day as most of the business of the state society takes place during the day Saturday. The registration forms are available on the VASSAR website. This is one of those events where just showing up will help the chapter.

Please consider attending one or all of these great opportunities in February. *You* are always the indispensable man in the George Washington Chapter's events.

Mike Elston
President

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 11:30a.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: Mike Elston 703-680-0866
Vice President: Scott Wagoner 571-239-3221
Secretary: Gregory Bodge
Treasurer: Dwight Whitney 540-349-2375
Registrar: Jim Mobley 202-465-6680*

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

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Virginia Society President Henry P. "Phil" Williams and George Washington Chapter President Michael J. Elston assisted the President General in the presentation. Attendees included members of General Kroesen's family, President General Bruce Wilcox, Secretary General Joe Dooley, C.A.R. Honorary Senior National President Suzanne Reynolds, C.A.R. National Librarian Elyse Hawley,

and a host of current and former state and chapter officers and members



of the DAR and SAR. This is the first time the

Elyse Hawley, was presented the SAR Silver Medal of Appreciation. Also pictured: Chapter President Mike Elston, VASSAR President Phil Williams, and President General Stephen Leishman.

current President General has attended a Virginia Society Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala since 2007 when PG Wilcox presented the medal to Mount Vernon President and Chief Executive Officer James C. Rees IV, who now serves as honorary president of the George Washington Chapter.

In his after-dinner remarks, General Kroesen traced the history of the "feasts and famines" for the Army. He shared his deep concern for the Army's situation today and expressed hope that we would not repeat the mistakes of the past by cutting funding for the Army to the point where the Army

is unprepared for the next crisis, whatever that crisis may be.

Virginia Society President Williams said, "It is hard to imagine a more deserving recipient of the Gold Good Citizenship Medal. General Kroesen gave



VASSAR President Henry P. "Phil" Williams III presided over the evening's ceremonies.

our country long, faithful and distinguished service, and the Virginia Society

is proud to have nominated General Kroesen for this honor." Over his 40 years of service in the Army, General Kroesen received numerous medals and awards, including the Silver Star (twice), the Legion of Merit (three times), the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star (three times, with valor device), and the Purple Heart (three times). General



The Kroesen family pose for a family portrait. From L-R: Adrianna Kroesen (Mrs. F.J. Kroesen III), Col. Kief Tackaberry, Rowene Kroesen (Mrs. F.J. Kroesen, Jr.), Frederick J. Kroesen III, General Frederick J. Kroesen, Jr., and Gretchen Tackaberry (Mrs. K.S. Tackaberry).

Kroesen earned the Combat Infantryman Badge three times and thus is one of only about 325 men authorized to wear the badge with two stars for the second and third awards.

Since retiring from the Army he has been an independent consultant offering observations and counsel concerning national and international military affairs. Among other activities, he is currently a contributing editor of ARMY Magazine and a member of the Board of Directors of the Army Historical Foundation. In 2011, General Kroesen joined the SAR as a member of the George Washington Chapter.



Emily Elston, President of the Light Horse Harry Lee Chapter of the C.A.R., receives the SAR Bronze Medal of Appreciation. Also pictured: Chapter President Elston, VASSAR President Williams, and President General Leishman.

February Guest Speaker



The Honorable Stuart W. Bowen, Jr., the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, will be our guest speaker for the February chapter meeting. He was appointed Inspector General for the Coalition Provisional

Authority in January 2004, and, he has held his current position since October 2004. As the "taxpayer's watchdog" in Iraq, Mr. Bowen has overseen more than \$63 billion in U.S. funds, including the Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund, the Iraq Security Forces Fund, the Economic Support Fund, the International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement funding, and the Commander's Emergency Response Program.

Over the past 7 years, Mr. Bowen has made 30 trips to Iraq, managed the production of 364 audits and inspections, issued 5 comprehensive lessons learned reports, and provided 30 quarterly reports on Iraq reconstruction to the Congress. His oversight work has produced financial benefits to the U.S. Government in excess of \$1.1 billion and has yielded 56 convictions for fraud and other crimes. In 2006, the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency awarded Inspector General Bowen the Gaston L. Gianni, Jr. Better Government Award for "demonstrating integrity, determination, and courage" in providing independent oversight and unbiased review of U. S. reconstruction efforts in Iraq. And in May 2010, the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum presented him with its David M. Walker Excellence in Federal Government Performance and Accountability Award for outstanding oversight work. That award is named for the Honorable David M. Walker, president emeritus of the George Washington Chapter.

Inspector General Bowen's public service career includes service to President George W. Bush as Deputy Assistant to the President, Deputy Staff Secretary, Special Assistant to the President, and Associate Counsel. From 1994 to 2000, he held a

variety of positions on Governor Bush's staff in Texas, including Deputy General Counsel. Prior to that, Mr. Bowen served as an Assistant Attorney General of Texas and as Briefing Attorney to Texas Supreme Court Justice Raul Gonzalez. Mr. Bowen served four years on active duty as an intelligence officer in the U.S. Air Force, earning the rank of Captain and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

A native of Washington, D.C., Mr. Bowen attended Episcopal High School in Alexandria. He holds a B.A. from the University of the South and a J.D. from St. Mary's Law School, where he served on the Law Journal's Editorial Board. He is a descendant of John Marshall, the fourth Chief Justice of the United States and a Patriot of the American Revolution. Marshall served first as a Lieutenant in the Culpeper Minutemen (1775 to 1776), and later as a Lieutenant and then a Captain in the Eleventh Virginia Continental Regiment (1776 to 1780). That makes our guest speaker *eligible* for membership in the S.A.R.



VASSAR Color Guard Commanded by Peter Davenport



From Dec 2012 - Chapter members participated in the Wreaths Across America at Alexandria National Cemetery.

Youth Contest Winners To Be Honored at February Luncheon

The George Washington Chapter will honor winners of the Rumbaugh Oration Contest and the Knight Essay Contest, as well as acknowledge our Eagle Scout scholarship recipient, at the February luncheon. Members are encouraged to attend and support efforts to spread knowledge and interest in history of the Revolutionary period among today's youth.

In Memory

Charles "Dan" McGuire



The chapter mourns the loss of Brigadier General Charles D. "Dan" McGuire, a former president of the chapter. Dan died on Saturday, January 19, 2013, at his home in Reston, Virginia.

In addition to serving as President of the George Washington Chapter in 2001 and 2002, he served as Governor (national president) of the Jamestowne Society from 2000 to 2002. He is survived by his wife, Edie, son Shannon and daughter Kirsty, and sister Joy Breeze. Members of the chapter conducted the SAR memorial service during the visitation for Compatriot McGuire on January 28 and attended his funeral at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Reston on January 29. His interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Charles Bill W. Truxall Jr.

Charles "Bill" W. Truxall Jr., 79, passed away on Friday, January 4, 2013. Compatriot Truxall was a retired Navy Commander and past commander of the USS Robert L. Wilson. Commander Truxall was born in San Mateo, California on 23 May 1933. He was accepted to the US Naval Academy in 1954 and upon graduation and commissioning, reported aboard USS BON HOMME RICHARD CVA-31. He went on from there to a Long and Exemplary Career. He is survived by his wife, Kathrine Rockne-Truxall.

Washington Birthday Celebration

The George Washington Birthday Celebration is fast approaching and will be held on February 18th. It is the largest parade celebration of George Washington's Birthday in the nation and has been celebrated for over 200 years in the City of Alexandria.

The George Washington Birthday Celebration is encouraging a much larger participation of our Chapter in this year's celebration. This includes getting as many of our members as possible to participate in the parade in period dress, including color guard members in uniform and GW Chapter DAR and CAR family members and friends.

There is quite a lot of information contained on the George Washington Birthday Celebration event website (<http://www.washingtonbirthday.net/>); so please visit the site to learn of all the planned events. Of particular importance to the George Washington Chapter is maximum attendance of our membership at the:

Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House (OPMH) (11:00 a.m. to noon): Conducted by the First Virginia Regiment, the event is in recognition of and a great tribute to the patriots killed during the American Revolution. Please join us for the annual wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier at Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria.

George Washington Birthday Parade (12:00 pm Chapter arrival. Parade starts at 1:00 pm and ends at 3:00 pm): After the wreath laying, our Chapter will participate in George Washington Birthday Parade. For about one mile in length, the parade averages nearly 3,500 participants. We will marshal at noon on Pitt Street between Wilkes and Gibbons Streets (about two blocks east of the Fire Hook Bakery at the intersection of South Washington and Wilkes Streets) in Alexandria. The parade steps off at 1 p.m.

Please contact Scott Wagoner, GW Chapter Vice President, with any questions you might have on this important event. He can be reached by e-mail at swagoner@X4-LLC.com or by phone at 571 239-3221.

Military and War Service Medals

Are you a veteran? It seems that most of the George Washington chapter compatriots are. If so, you are eligible for either the SAR's Military Service Medal or War Service Medal. Both have been established for the SAR to recognize compatriots who served in the military.

The War Service Medal was first authorized in 1899 to recognize compatriots who served in the War with Spain, with specific medals developed for veterans of World War I and World War II. Eventually, a generic War Service medals was authorized for compatriots who have served in the armed forces of the United States (or a country that was an ally of the United States or in a United Nations Peace Keeping Force) and fought against a common enemy of the United States in a war or action that has been recognized by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and for which a campaign medal and ribbon are authorized. The current War Service Medal is worn either with bars denoting the conflicts in which the compatriot served or oak leaf clusters for each conflict, and a Purple Heart device for compatriots who were wounded and awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

The Military Service Medal was authorized in 2006 to recognize compatriots who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States, Coast Guard, or a country that was an ally of the United States, or in a United Nations Peace Keeping Force, who otherwise do not qualify for the SAR War Service Medal.

If you are eligible for either medal, proof of such service, in the form of a copy of the member's discharge papers or DD-214 (or other U.S. Government proof in the case of a member, in active service), must be presented to me or state society secretary before the medal can be purchased and/or worn. We do not need to keep a copy of your military paperwork, we just need to verify the service to ensure that the correct medal is awarded.

Please contact me with your military paperwork either at a meeting or via e-mail and I will process ensure that you receive the certificate for the medal and that it is properly entered into the SAR member database.

Greg Bodge
Secretary

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report three New Member Applications were approved by NSSAR. Three New Member Applications have been submitted to VASSAR. The three New Members were registered December 31, 2012; therefore, for the year 2012 the George Washington Chapter had 37 New Member Applications approved by NSSAR. There are two New Member Applications awaiting review at NSSAR, and four New Member Applications awaiting review at VASSAR.

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

New Member Applications Approved

<u>Compatriot</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Brian Wesley Baker	Patrick Kendrick I
John Robert Mobley	Thomas Mobley
James Lewis Mobley	Thomas Mobley

New Member Applications Submitted

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Roy Reed Heddleston	John Gray
Darrel Andrew Briggs	Joshua Tanner
James Kyle Lynch	Jospeh Yaden

Jim Mobley
Registrar

Future Events

2013

Feb 8-10 - 234th Anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek, Washington, Georgia.

Feb 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. Our guest speaker will be the Honorable Stuart Bowen, Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction.

Feb 16 - Crossing of the Dan in South Boston, VA @@

Feb 18 - Wreath laying at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House/Tomb of the Revolutionary Unknown, 11:00 a.m. Alexandria VA @@

Feb 18 - George Washington's birthday Parade in Alexandria, VA @@

Feb 18 - George Washington Birthday Service
Historic Pohick Episcopal Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton (corner of Telegraph Rd)
The service begins at 8 am with the Morning Prayer service from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, used at the time of Washington's tenure as vestryman at Pohick. The service is followed with a breakfast and guest speaker on Washington, hosted by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's.

Feb 22-24 - 123rd Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society SAR, Omni Hotel, 100 S. 12th Street, Richmond, VA @@

March 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA

March 16 - James Madison's Birthday in Montpelier, VA @@

March 16-17 - Battle of Guilford Courthouse in Country Park, Greensboro, NC @@

April 13 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. Our guest speaker will be the new President & CEO of

George Washington's Mt. Vernon, Curtis G. Viebranz.

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

July 4 - Mount Vernon wreath laying, 9:30 a.m. step off ##

July - 2013 National Congress in Kansas City, MO

Sept 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA

Oct 12 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA

Nov 9 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA

Nov 11 - Mount Vernon wreath laying at George Washington's Tomb with Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, DAR ##

Dec 14 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA

2014

January - GMGC Gala

Legend

** Chapter sponsored state or national event

Chapter event where other chapters may participate

@@ Non-Chapter event of significance that GW members should consider attending

February 9, 2013
Lunch Meeting Reservation Form

Please make your reservation by e-mail to [dwightwhitney@comcast.net](mailto:dwrightwhitney@comcast.net) with **RESERVATION** in the subject line. This is the preferred way to make a reservation. The lunch cost is \$35.00 per person. Check-in and social begin at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon. 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 \$40.00 is required.

For call-in reservations, you can call Dwight at **540-349-2375**.

For e-mail and phone reservations, please include the following:

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name (s): _____

For mail-in reservations, 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 with your check to:

Dwight Whitney
Treasurer, G.W. Chapter SAR
5733 Pendleton Lane
Warrenton, VA 20187

It is important to provide the first and last name of all guests.

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

Valet parking is available.

Thank you.