



George Washington Chapter

Sons of the American Revolution

Newsletter



Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Volume 13, Issue 9

December 2013

SAR, DAR & CAR UNITE TO HONOR BERMUDA-BORN US HERO



Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the Children of the American Revolution (CAR) unite for a graveside ceremony to remember St. George Tucker, a Bermuda-born, American Revolutionary War hero. Full story can be read at www.royalgazette.com.



Upcoming Chapter Meetings

December 14, 2013

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

January 25, 2014

Informal Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton, VA.

February 8, 2014

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

Events Information

December 6-7, 2013
Battle of Great Bridge Celebration, Chesapeake, VA.
Details on page 8.

January 11, 2014
VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA.

President's Corner



My fellow compatriots,
this is my penultimate President's Column, and mainly I want to share with you my remarks at our Veterans' Day Ceremony on November 11, which are reprinted below. I will bid you

farewell in the January newsletter.

For now, let me just mention three things: our new officers, our December meeting, and the importance of paying dues.

Congratulations to our newly elected officers for 2014, and in particular, Scott Wagoner, our next president. I know he will do a great job for us, and likewise I know that he can count on your continued support.

Please plan to attend our December meeting, which will be held jointly with the George Mason chapter. The 2014 officers of both chapters will be installed by VASSAR President Kent Webber. I think it will be a really nice meeting with a great speaker -- just what you need to get you into the holiday spirit! Belle Haven is always decorated nicely for Christmas, so bring your kids along and take advantage of the \$12 chicken fingers entrée!

To those of you who have paid your dues already, THANK YOU. To the rest, please pay your dues as soon as possible. We have word that the deadline is a hard one this year, and anyone who fails to pay the deadline will have to be reinstated, which is an additional fee and paperwork. We'll be sending your state and national dues to VASSAR no later than 12/15 to make sure that we meet the deadline, so please make sure we have your check before that date.

We're in the home stretch for the Americanism and PG Cup awards. Our estimated points to date are in the following chart:

	2011 Winning Chapter Totals	GW 2012 Total	GW 2013 to Date
Americanism	13,210	2,145	7,605
PG Streamer	12,795	7,045	8,740

For those of you who were not able to join us at Mount Vernon on November 11th, here are the remarks that I gave:

Good afternoon. We are gathered together on this solemn day to honor all of the men and women who have served in our armed forces during the 238 years, 6 months, and 23 days that have passed since the Battle of Lexington and Concord. This year we gather on the eve of the 100th anniversary of beginning of World War I, a terrible struggle which gave us this date of November 11th -- Armistice Day, now Veterans Day. In that conflict, nearly 10 million military personnel were killed, including 116,708 Americans.

While we fought the British for our independence, by World War I we were their Allies. In Britain, they call this day Remembrance Day. The ceremony at the Cenotaph in London is the most sacred gathering in the national calendar, and it is the only occasion when the Queen, the Royal Family, the Prime Minister, and politicians from all parties gather in one place ... and no one says a word. On this, I think the British have gotten it right. For what words can be said to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice? Please join me in a moment of silence to remember the more than 848,000 Americans servicemen and women who have died in combat and the additional half million who have died from other causes during all of the wars fought from 1775 to the present. [Moment of Silence.]

Today, of course, we honor both those veterans who died fighting for our country and those who lived and fought on. It is particularly fitting to honor America's veterans in this place, in the presence of the earthly remains of one of first veterans and still our most important veteran, General George Washington. Although he was our first President, he asked that the title of "General" be carved over the gate leading to his tomb, because his service in the Continental Army was what mattered most to him. And I believe General Washington would be proud to have this site used to honor all of America's veterans because he was first and foremost concerned with the welfare of the ordinary soldiers under his command. He understood the importance of seeing to the needs of those men, even if the Continental Congress did

not. The letters of George Washington's time as commander in chief are replete with pleas to Congress for basic supplies such as shoes and blankets, not to mention food. This was no more true than during the winter at Valley Forge, when Washington promised in a general order to "share in the hardship" and "partake of every inconvenience" with his men.

In addition to Washington's own letters and orders during the war, no veteran has been written about by others more than George Washington. So we know a great deal about what he said and did during the Revolution. The same is not true of the ordinary soldier. Today historians pour over the few surviving journals of men who fought in the Revolutionary War or Civil War to gain clues as to what their lives were like. Their stories are important to us today, and we have far too few of them. As General George Patton told the Third Army in 1944, "All of the real heroes are not storybook combat fighters.... Every single man in this Army plays a vital role. Don't ever let up. Don't ever think that your job is unimportant. Every man has a job to do and he must do it. Every man is a vital link in the great chain."

So to the veterans here present, I would ask you to do one more thing for your country: share your story. Write it yourself, or tell someone else who will write it down. I understand that for some that may be difficult, but it is so important. The reason is that these stories are too easily lost over time. Let me give you just two examples from my own family's story.

First, my great-great-great-grandfather, Hugh Barnett, fought for the Union during the Civil War and was killed at the Battle of Chickamauga in September 1863. When I was born, his granddaughter – my great-grandmother – was still alive. Yet no one knew his story, or even that he had fought and died in the Civil War. It was something I unearthed through research just a couple of years ago.

Second, a family connection to this man, George Washington, seems like the kind of thing that would be honored in a family, and passed on from generation to generation. Yet my family was completely unaware of its descent from George Washington's maternal great-grandfather, William Ball, until I re-discovered it a few years ago. How does a family forget that connection to

the most important man in our national history? How is that history lost over the generations?

It is just too easy to forget the past. So, please consider writing your story down. It is an important part of our history – no one's role was unimportant. Future historians – not to mention your own posterity – will thank you and honor your memory.

My God bless all of you, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

Michael J. Elston

President



Veterans' Day Ceremony at Mount Vernon

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 250 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 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.

December Guest Speaker



Donald A. Ritchie, Ph.D. will be our honored guest speaker for December and will be speaking on: "The History of the United States Senate."

Dr. Ritchie is currently Historian of the United

States Senate. He joined the Senate Historical Office in 1976.

In past assignments, he has served as president of the Oral History Association and on the councils of the American Historical Association, the Society for History in the Federal Government, and the International Oral History Association. He also served in the United States Marine Corps.

A frequent contributor of historical commentary on C-SPAN, NPR, and other networks, he has also written several books, including:

Press Gallery: Congress and the Washington Correspondents (which won the Richard Leopold Prize from the Organization of American Historians); *Reporting from Washington: The History of the Washington Press Corps*; *Our Constitution*; *Electing FDR: The New Deal Campaign of 1932*; and *The U.S. Congress: A Very Short Introduction*.

Dr. Ritchie graduated from the City College of New York with his bachelor and master degrees and earned his Ph.D. in history from the University of Maryland in 1975.

This will be an exciting presentation; so please plan to attend.

New Member

CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL TUTTLE



Compatriot Christopher Michael Tuttle was born and raised in Racine, Wisconsin. In 1996, Tuttle received a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin. He later received an M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College.

Tuttle is currently the director of the Washington Program at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). He has been with CFR for five years. Prior to his time at CFR he served at the U.S. Department of State and as a chief of staff in the U.S. House of Representatives.

He is married to Johanna Nesselth Tuttle, who is originally from Nerstrand, Minnesota. They have a seven-year-old son named Christian and a five-year-old son named Maximilian.

Compatriot Tuttle's membership in the Sons of the American Revolution is based on his bloodline descent from Patriot Walter Worden. During the Revolution, Worden was a private in the 1st Regiment, Connecticut Continental Line (Militia).

Please welcome our newest member, Compatriot Chris Tuttle.

Veterans' Day Ceremony at Mount Vernon



General Washington's Tomb
on Veterans' Day.



Don Francisco (Fife), SAR Color Guard, Bill Messerschmidt (Drum), and Scott Stephens pays tribute to General Washington's tomb and to all who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report two New Member Applications were approved by NSSAR, and eight New Member applications were submitted to VASSAR. There are currently six New Member Applications awaiting review by NSSAR, and another six New Member Applications awaiting review by VASSAR. Assuming these applications are approved before the end of the year, they will bring the total number of New Member applications approved up to 33 for the year 2013.

In addition to the eight New Member applications submitted this month, John Robert and James Lewis Mobley each submitted twelve supplemental applications. There are six New Members awaiting induction. Below is a summary of the New Member 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>
Shaun Patrick Blair	William Daingerfield
James Robert Sandidge	Samuel Humber

New Member Applications Submitted

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Patriot</i>
Lee Wilson Bettis	John Betts
Lee Wilson Bettis, Jr.	John Betts
William Harrison Huff IV	Joseph Sutton
William Harrison Huff V	Joseph Sutton
Michael Joseph Huff	Joseph Sutton
James Thomas Huff	Joseph Sutton
Jason Alexander Turner	William Bowden
Brisbane Alexander Turner	William Bowden

Jim Mobley
Registrar

Highlights from the George Washington SAR November Chapter Meeting

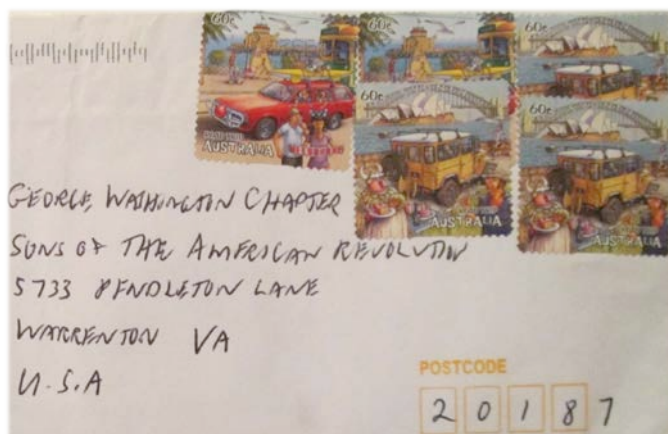


Top Left: Eagle Scout Brian Womeldurf receives Eagle Scout Award from Paul Wagoner
Top Center: Mr. Kenneth Melson receives SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from Chapter President, Mike Elston (right).
Top Right: Alexandria Police Officer Peter Laboy receives SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal. L-R: Paul Wagoner, Captain Jamie Bartlett, Peter Laboy & Mike Elston
Middle Left: Gina Briggs & Past President Paul Briggs
Middle Center: L-R Paul Wagoner, Rich Sherman, Don Reynolds & Mike Elston
Middle Right: L-R Mike Elston & Ray Hawn
Bottom Left: L-R Dwight Whitney, Scott Wagoner, W. Vernon McHargue, Jr. & Mike Elston
Bottom Center: L-R Don Kraft, Dick Kusserow & Mike Elston
Bottom Right: Scott Wagoner, Guest Speaker Mr. Peter Mollema, Deputy Chief of Mission for the Netherlands Embassy & Mike Elston

Treasurer's Report

The 2014 Dues Deadline has Passed!

Congratulations to everyone who paid their dues on time! And a big *Huzzah!* to the many who made a contribution along with their dues payment! Your gifts will be used wisely to fulfill the Chapter's service and recognition duties of the SAR. Thank you all for your timely response and gifts – and for some interesting stamps from around the world!



As of this writing, not all members have responded and there are only two weeks left to the November 30th deadline. Anyone not having paid their dues by then is at risk of being dropped from the SAR. *We don't want to lose you!* If you find that you have not paid your dues for any reason, please contact me immediately and I'll do all I can to keep you from getting dropped from the rolls!

2014 Luncheon "Season Ticket" May Come with a Tax Deduction on the Side

Once again this year, the chapter will offer members the chance to purchase a 2014 "season ticket" for our eight regular monthly meetings (February-May and September-December). The cost is \$280. Please note that this does not include the January special meeting or the annual gala on January 11.

By paying for your lunches prior to December 31, the chapter will provide you with a letter

acknowledging that portion of the ticket price that exceeds the cost of the food you will receive at the luncheons as a charitable contribution to the chapter.

Whether you can deduct the contribution depends on your individual circumstances. Consult your tax advisor, etc., etc. If you would like to purchase your "season ticket," please send a check for \$280 made payable to "GW Chapter, SAR" to Dwight Whitney, Chapter Treasurer, 5733 Pendleton Lane, Warrenton, VA 20187, ***before December 31, 2013.***

On a Personal Note...

The books are balanced, the 2014 budget is turned in, and reservations for the Gala are due by December 31st. Soon I'll be handing off the checkbook to Greg and getting started in my new role next year. It has been a pleasure serving as your Treasurer this year and being a part of a great leadership team under Mike Elston. My time has been especially rewarding in getting to know more of you, and being Treasurer afforded more opportunities to do so.

Thank you for your vote of confidence in electing me Vice President for 2014. I look forward to serving Scott and the membership through another rewarding year in the greatest SAR Chapter!

Dwight Whitney
Treasurer

Call for Papers on George Washington

In February the Chapter will participate in the George Washington Birthday Celebration which culminates with the parade on February 17, 2014. The George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee is encouraging a much larger participation of our Chapter in this year's celebration to include getting members and their family and friends to walk in the parade in period dress (including color guard members in uniform). As we did last year, we also will contribute articles relating to George Washington written by members that will be published in the *Alexandria Gazette*. The articles serve to publicize and heighten the spirit of the event.

Anyone wanting to prepare articles for the *Gazette* or otherwise support the Chapter's participation in any way, contact Dwight Whitney at dwhitwhitney@comcast.net or by phone at (540) 349-2375.



"Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable; procures success to the weak, and esteem to all."

General George Washington

Future Events 2013

December

December 6-7 - Battle of Great Bridge Celebration, Chesapeake, VA. DAR/SAR Reception, Hyatt Place Hotel, Chesapeake, 5 p.m. Friday, December 6; NSSAR/NSDAR Celebration, Great Bridge Battlefield Memorial Park, Chesapeake, 11 a.m., Saturday, December 7. ‡

December 7 - Wreath Laying with St. Andrew's Society and Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk.

December 14 - Wreaths Across America at Alexandria National Cemetery (you can DONATE TODAY to support the GW Chapter team - details below).

December 14 - Joint Chapter Meeting with the George Mason Chapter at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. VASSAR President Kent Webber will install the 2014 officers of both chapters. Our guest speaker will be Donald A. Ritchie, Ph.D., Historian, United States Senate, who will speak on the history of the United States Senate. *

Future Events Continued on Next Page

Future Events 2014

January 11 - VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala, honoring former Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Richard B. Myers, USAF (ret.) and benefiting the U.S.O., Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. **
(Reservations required).

January 18-19 - Battle of Cowpens, Gaffney, SC. ‡

January 25, 2014 - Informal Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Hwy, Lorton, VA.

February 8 - Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA. * Our speaker will be Mr. Robert Rice, the current Chief of National Reconnaissance Office Counterintelligence Operations.

February 14-16 - VASSAR Annual Meeting, Omni Hotel, Richmond, VA. †

February 17 - Wreath Laying at Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, Old Presbyterian Meeting House Cemetery. (Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria Approximately) 11 a.m. until noon.

February 17 -- George Washington Birthday Parade in Alexandria @@.

February 20-22 - The Crossing of the Dan in South Boston, Halifax County. † For more information, contact Anne Raab, Regent, Berryman Green Chapter, VADAR, P.O. Box 515, Halifax, VA 24558. Email tsraab@comcast.net or call (434) 470-1350.

February 28 - March 2 - NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting, Louisville, KY. †

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

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

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

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

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

Saturday, December 14, 2013

**Joint Chapter Meeting with George Mason Chapter
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, December 11.

For e-mail reservations, send to [dwightwhitney@comcast.net](mailto:dwrightwhitney@comcast.net) with **RESERVATION** in the subject line.
For call-in reservations, call **Dwight at 540-349-2375**.

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:

Dwight Whitney

Treasurer, G.W. Chapter SAR

5733 Pendleton Lane

Warrenton, VA 20187

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.

Gala Evening Reservation

Saturday, January 11, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

Please use this form to make a reservation for the Gold Good Citizenship Award Gala at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia. The cost for this black-tie optional event is \$100 per person. The reception and receiving line for the honoree will begin at 6:30 p.m. The program and dinner will begin at 7:30 p.m. **RSVP no later than December 31, 2013.**

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 Ln., Warrenton, VA 20187. You may also make your reservation by e-mail to dwightwhitney@comcast.net or by phone at (540) 349-2375.

Informal Chapter Meeting Reservation

Saturday, January 25, 2014, 11:30 a.m.

Please use this form to make a reservation for the Informal GW Chapter Meeting at Pohick Church located at 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton, Virginia. The cost for this meeting is \$7 per person to cover the cost of a lunch. The meeting will begin at 11:30am. **Please RSVP no later than January 15, 2014.**

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 Ln., Warrenton, VA 20187. You may also make your reservation by e-mail to dwightwhitney@comcast.net or by phone at (540) 349-2375.