George Washington Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
Newsletter

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Volume 17, Issue 2 ***February 2016***

SAR to Honor the Four Decades of Public Service of Associate Justice Antonin Scalia at Annual Gala Event

The George Washington Chapter of the Virginia Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) will host a formal gala event at the Belle Haven Country Club in Alexandria, Virginia, at 6:00 PM on Saturday, March 26, 2016, to present the SAR's highest national award for public service to the Honorable Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. The SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal is awarded for outstanding and unusual patriotic achievement and service of national importance. Included among past recipients of the medal are former Presidents Truman, Ford, Carter, Reagan, and Bush. Past recipients at the Virginia gala have included former Secretary of Veterans Affairs General Eric Shinseki, two former Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (General Peter Pace and General Richard Meyers), former Attorney General Edwin Meese, and the late James C. Rees, President and CEO of George Washington's Mount Vernon.

Justice Scalia is the longest-serving justice currently on the Court, and his judicial opinions and other written works have had a profound impact on American jurisprudence. He has been described as the intellectual anchor of the Court's conservative majority, and he has championed the principle that the ordinary meaning of the text of a statute is the best guide to interpreting the statute.

In his book, *A Matter of Interpretation: Federal Courts and the Law* (1997), he defended his approach against those who would criticize it as "too hidebound to realize that new times require new laws," arguing

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

February 13 - Chapter meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

March 26 - VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Award Gala, Belle Haven County Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

April 9 - Chapter meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Events Information

February 13 – *Crossing of the Dan* Celebration, South Boston, Virginia 10:00 a.m.-2 p.m.

February 15 – Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 11:00 a.m.- 12 noon.

February 15 – George Washington's Birthday Parade, Alexandria, Virginia. 1:00-3:00 p.m.

February 19-20 – VASSAR Annual Meeting, Richmond, Virginia.

February 25-27 – **Spring Leadership Meeting**, Louisville, Kentucky.

March 12-13 – Commemoration of the ***Battle of Guilford Courthouse***, Greensboro, North Carolina.

that judges – in contrast to the elected representatives of the people – "have no authority to ... write those new laws."

Through rigorous scholarship, clear writing and sometimes biting wit, Justice Scalia has made important contributions to the ongoing national debate over the meaning of the Constitution. Describing the originalist approach to interpreting to the Constitution, Justice Scalia has explained that "the Constitution has a static meaning which does not change from generation to generation." Rejecting the living Constitution philosophy, which would allow judges and scholars "to update the Constitution according to their own preferences," he has argued that such an approach has the inevitable effect of transferring power from the elected branches of government to the judiciary. Such an approach undermines the right of the people to govern themselves within the boundaries of the clear text of the Constitution that the people adopted and which may be amended by them at any time.

President Ronald Regan nominated then Judge Scalia to the Supreme Court in 1986, and the Senate confirmed his nomination by a vote of 98 to zero. He had served as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit since 1982. Prior to his judicial appointments, he had been a professor of law at the University of Chicago since 1977 and at the University of Virginia from 1967–1971. His previous positions in public service include Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel (1974-77), Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States (1972-74) and general counsel of the White House's Office of Telecommunications Policy (1971-72).

Justice Scalia was born in Trenton, New Jersey, March 11, 1936. He married Maureen McCarthy and has nine children. He received his A.B. from Georgetown University and the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, and his LL.B. from Harvard Law School. He was a Sheldon Fellow of Harvard University from 1960–1961.

Virginia SAR President Dr. Reverdy Wright, announcing the award of the Gold Good Citizenship Medal to Justice Scalia, said, "The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is proud to honor this distinguished jurist for his service to our country. Through his judicial opinions and scholarship, he has spent most of his life honoring and extending the legacy of those American patriots who established the United States and gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights and an independent Supreme Court."

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February 2016 Speaker

Mr. Glenn F. Williams will be speaking on the Battle of Yorktown. A retired U.S. Army infantry officer, he achieved the rank of major in twenty-one years of service. Mr. Williams is now a senior Historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History. Previous to working for the Army historical program, he was the historian of the American Battlefield Protection Program in Historic Preservation Services Division of the U.S. National Park Service, and historian/ curator of exhibits for the USS Constellation Museum. He is nearing completion of a doctoral degree in history at the University of Maryland, College Park.

His current work, to be released in September 2016, is *Dunmore's War: Last Conflict of America's Colonial Era*. He has also authored *Year of the Hangman: George Washington's Campaign Against the Iroquois*, *USS Constellation: a Short History of the Last All-Sail Warship Built by the U.S. Navy*, and was a contributor to *The Panama Canal: an Army Enterprise.*

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Wreaths Across America Update

Did you ever wonder what happens to all of the wreaths that are placed in cemeteries in December? Find out, and stay current with related WAA activities via the WAA eNewsletter. Issue #104 can be found at http://us9.campaign-archive2.com/?u=5151acbc06701cfb3e5cb2004&id=f55e85dab5&e=949f31a45d

President's Corner

My fellow compatriots:

Last Month. January's meeting was my first opportunity to preside as President, and I am grateful for your support. It was also an opportunity for us to present outgoing President Dwight Whitney with the Chapter Meritorious Service Medal, a well-deserved symbol of his years of service and dedication to the chapter. We were also fortunate enough to present Sargent O'Dell of the Alexandria Sherriff's Office the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal at the meeting, and hear Ms. Lipsey discuss the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association's efforts to ensure that local cemeteries are maintained, and the groups hope that a monument to Fairfax County's Revolutionary Patriots are recognized with an appropriate memorial. We were also pleased to bring another compatriot, Chris Cook, into the fold.

The end of the year also brings the flurry of reporting requirements to the National Society and the Virginia Society. Compatriot Coggins forwarded the 2016 membership count to VASSAR and reports that we stand at 299 members, an increase of 2 members for the year. This should ensure that we retain our position as Virginia's largest chapter, and keep us in the running as one of the largest SAR chapters. Compatriot Whitney is working on the Americanism report, and we are working on the Stark Award report. As a reminder for next year, please let me know if any of you are appointed to a VA Hospital Council or equivalent organization; serve in VA Hospital Volunteer Service; visit a Veteran in a VA Hospital, Nursing home or his home; donated personal care items (hygiene products, playing cards, combs, puzzles, etc.) to a Veteran in VA Hospital, nursing home, donate money to VAVS projects, or donate reading materials to a VA library or reading room; take a veteran on an outing or host a part with veteran patients; attend a patriotic event that includes other veteran organizations; attend a Revolutionary War patriot grave marking; participate in or attend a veteran's funeral; or donate goods to a VA facility or other location whose primary clients are veterans. All of these events, typically done by members through the year, will help the chapter win the Stark award.

Upcoming Events. February is a historically busy month for the chapter. If any of you have the opportunity to attend any of February's events, I highly encourage it. It is an opportunity to see what the SAR does outside of our monthly meetings.

February 13th: Regular chapter meeting at the Belle Haven Country Club. Mr. Glen Williams, a senior Historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History, will be our guest. He will discuss the Battle of Yorktown.

February 13th: Commemoration of the Crossing of the Dan. Again, the commemoration falls on the same weekend as our chapter meeting. This is a NSSAR event, and I am hoping that we are able to get some new members to attend. If you are interested, please contact me.

February 15th: The George Washington Birthday celebration in Alexandria kicks off in the morning with the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution, followed by Alexandria's Washington's Birthday Parade. This is another good "beginner" event, with an opportunity to see the 1st Virginia Regiment in action then to march in the parade. The Chapter awards the Jack Evans Medal to members who march in the parade. While the full size medal is free, the mini is $10.

February 19th-20th: The 126th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society will take place in Richmond. Hotel information, registration forms, and an agenda is available on the VASSAR website. If anyone wants to see how the society functions at the state level, or if you are interested in finding out about the state committees, please come by.

Greg Bodge
President

From the Secretary's Desk

As I mentioned last month, as the Chapter Secretary I also serve as the Chairman of the Public Relations Committee. This Committee, which includes the Newsletter Editor and the Webmaster, is responsible for preparing and distributing news of Chapter activities to members, National and State SAR Societies, and local news media. We are also charged with staying current on SAR activities and encouraging Chapter participation as appropriate.

We could use your help. There are many ways - large and small - that you could assist. For example, you could:

- Contribute a notice or an article (even just a couple of sentences) to the monthly newsletter…
- Help prepare press releases highlighting major Chapter activities…
- Scan the SAR, VASSAR, DAR and other websites to stay on top of related events…
- Or anything else that comes to mind…it's totally up to you! Just give me a call or drop me a line at sargw.secretary@gmail.com and let's chat!

The monthly newsletter is, of course, a major avenue for communicating with our membership, and for implementing the mission of the Public Relations Committee. Make sure to look elsewhere in this issue, for example, for the latest on the 2016 DAR Library Lecture Series, Virginia National History Day, and a variety of upcoming George Washington birthday events. And, if you'll be in southern Virginia on February 13 (instead of at the Chapter meeting!) don't forget to visit South Boston for the Crossing of the Dan Commemoration.

Jay M. Henn
Secretary

But what do we mean by the American Revolution? Do we mean the American war? The Revolution was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people; a change in their religious sentiments, of their duties and obligations...This radical change in the principles, opinions, sentiments, and affections of the people was the real American Revolution.

John Adams in a letter to H. Niles,
February 13, 1818

Source: http://westillholdthesetruths.org/quotes/category/american-revolution

George Washington Birthday Events

Commemorating the birth of our Chapter's namesake is a major milestone in our annual calendar. This year, the George Washington Chapter will be participating in:

February 9: The reading of an official proclamation (see attached) honoring General Washington: 6:45 pm, 2nd floor Council Chambers, City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria.

February 15: Wreath laying at tomb of unknown soldier of the American Revolution, beginning at 10:30 am, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 South Fairfax Street, Old Town Alexandria.

February 15: George Washington Birthday Parade, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm (more details at http://www.washingtonbirthday.net/events). Parade units are to be at the assembly area at noon. More details will follow.

February. 22: Reenactors are requested for a George Washington Birthday celebration (for children) at the Alexandria Public Library-Duncan Branch, 2501 Commonwealth Ave, from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Particularly wanted are those who can speak on Washington.

Please contact Paul Walden, Chapter Vice President, at PaulWalden@live.com, or 202 360 9254 if you can participate in any of these events. We particularly need a headcount for the parade participants.

Editor's Report

It is an honor to serve in the role of newsletter editor and I look forward to interacting with all of my fellow compatriots to make this newsletter more useful and interesting. Please submit stories, photos and suggestions to rg62@live.com. I will do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's Report in January, 2 new member and 2 supplemental applications were approved by NSSAR. There are currently 4 new member applications under review by NSSAR. There was 1 new member induction performed during the January Chapter meeting.

New Member Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Jim Robert Beall	Richard Bard
Paul Charles Washington	Job Buckley

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Michael Patrick Kane	Henry Shaffner
Paul Ashley Walden	David Mewshaw

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
None	

Forgotten Patriot Certificate Requested

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Paul Ashley Walden	David Mewshaw

Dave Thomas

Registrar

DAR Library Lecture Series

One of the many benefits of living in the Washington, DC area is our proximity to the resources of the DAR Library. Following up on its success with the 2015 Lecture Series, the Library has now announced its line-up for the 2016 lectures. These lectures spotlight award-winning authors and professors on subjects pertaining to history and research. The monthly programs are held on Saturdays at 1:00 pm in the O'Byrne Gallery at the DAR Headquarters at 1776 D Street SW in Washington, DC. All programs are free to the public and book signings follow the talks. Please consider taking advantage of the following lectures:

February 20: Dr. Alice Reagan, "The Suffrage Prisoners at the Occoquan Workhouse"
March 19: Richard Cerasani, *Love Letters from Mount Rushmore*
April 16: Professor Charlie Grymes (George Mason University), "Using Maps in Historical Research"
May 14: Todd W. Braisted, *"The Grand Forage 1778: The Revolutionary War's Forgotten Campaign"*

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Virginia National History Day

What Is History Day?

National History Day is not just a day, but every day! The National History Day program is a year-long education program that culminates in a national contest every June.

NHD is a year-long education program that engages students in grades 6-12 in the process of discovery and interpretation of historical topics. Students produce dramatic performances, imaginative exhibits, multimedia documentaries and research papers based on research related to an annual theme. These projects are then evaluated at local, state, and national competitions.

This year's Virginia District 5 judging will take place on **Saturday, March 5, from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm** at Mount Vernon High School in Alexandria. George Washington Chapter Compatriots "have a history" of volunteering for this event and we are hoping for even more volunteers this time around. Please see the attached flyer (the deadline is soon!) or contact Richard Sherman for more information. If you sign up on line, please also notify Richard directly so that we can get a full record of chapter participation.

New Member Biographies

Chris Cook

Compatriot Chris Cook was born in Atlanta, GA and raised in Rome, GA. He has received a B.A. in Political Science from Jacksonville State University and a M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College.

Chris is currently a Professional Staff Member for the Senate Budget Committee, and has worked in the United States Senate for the past eight years. Chris also serves as an officer in the US Navy Reserve.

He and his wife Karen have a 2 year old daughter named Abigail. Chris volunteers weekly in Washington, D.C. as a Reading Mentor for the *Everybody Wins!* Program that promotes children's literacy through shared reading experiences.

Chris' membership in the Society is based on his descent from Patriot Joel Phillips Senior, who during the Revolution served as a soldier in the Georgia militia with his son, Joel Phillips, Junior. Joel Phillips served under Colonel Samuel Elbert in the 2nd Battalion of Georgia Militia and saw action at the Battle of Kettle Creek in 1779. However, following the defeat of the Patriot forces at Augusta in the fall of 1780, Joel Phillips and his family left Wilkes County with Colonel Elijah Clarke who led a band of refugees, including 400 women and children, from Wilkes County to the Watauga and Nolachucky river valley in the Colony of North Carolina – today's northeastern Tennessee. Reportedly, they traveled two hundred miles in 11 days; part of the journey without food. Joel Phillips and his son, Joel Phillips, Jr., received bounty land for his service from the State of Georgia, as well as for being refugees. He is buried at the cemetery at Phillips' Mills Baptist Church, Wilkes County, Georgia, which was organized in the mill of Joel Phillips, Sr. in 1785 on land he donated to the congregation.

Chapter Submits its Knight Essay Contest Winner!

President Greg Bodge and Chairman of the Youth Activities Committee Richard Sherman are pleased to announce that this year's Knight Essay Contest winner at the George Washington Chapter level was Ms. Emily Elston, for her essay entitled "Voices of the Revolution." Emily is a freshman at C.D. Hylton High School in Dale City, Virginia, and the 2nd Vice President of the Virginia Society Children of the American Revolution.

The SAR's George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest gives high school students an opportunity to explore events that shaped American history. Conducted at the Chapter, State Society and National Society levels, students submit an original essay with topics based on original research and deal with an event, person, philosophy or ideal associated with the American Revolution, Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the United States Constitution.

Chapters that sponsor essays submit their winning essays to the State level, and the winning entry from each State is forwarded to the National level. The National Chairman will notify all state chairmen who submitted an essay whether their entry was among the finalists by early April. The national winners will be informed in order to be able to attend this year's Congress. The first-place national winner will read the winning essay at the Youth Awards Luncheon, and the winning essay will be published in The SAR Magazine.

Congratulations to Emily and best wishes in the VASSAR competition.

Step Up Now for Chapter Leadership Opportunities in 2016

Chapter President Greg Bodge is looking for a number of compatriots to fill leadership positions and other key roles in the chapter. If you are interested in getting more involved, please e-mail him at gbodge@hotmail.com or call him at 540-318-6717.

One of the key positions available is the appointed office of **Graves Registration Committee Chair**. Compatriot Jamie Callender is stepping down after many years of service as he has increased his graves registration work at National, but he has volunteered to help get the new man started. As the Graves Registration Committee chair, you will perform the important task of helping the chapter identify and mark the graves of Patriots in the area. You will become the chapter's face in much of the community, and perform the vital task of maintaining the legacy of those who we honor.

We are also looking for a **Newsletter Editor**. You will be responsible for working with the officers in getting the newsletter put together and forwarded for printing. Chapter members submit the articles and photos and the editor will collect them and place them in the newsletter format. Richard Gilliland will be available to ease the transition for the new editor.

Either position allows chapter members to become more involved in the SAR without taking on the burden of an officer position. There are, of course, opportunities to serve as a member of any of the chapter's **Committees** (except for the Nominating Committee, which is appointed by the Board of Managers each autumn). Please contact Greg Bodge if you would like to discuss any of these leadership opportunities or serve on one of the chapter's committees.

Call for George Washington Articles

In February the Chapter will participate in the George Washington Birthday Celebration which culminates with the parade on February 15, 2016. As we have in previous years, we want to contribute short newspaper articles on topics relating to George Washington. These articles are to be published in the *Alexandria Gazette* in January and early February. The articles serve to publicize and heighten the spirit of the event.

Anyone willing to prepare articles for the *Gazette* or otherwise support the Chapter's participation in any way, contact Paul Walden at paulwalden@live.com.

February Dates in History

American Revolutionary War

February 10, 1763: Treaty of Paris ends French and Indian War (1754-1763). Canada (east of the Mississippi River) added to the British Empire.

February 1764: James Otis urges a united response to the recent acts imposed by England. The phrase "Taxation without Representation is Tyranny" is usually attributed to James Otis.

February 9, 1775: English Parliament declares Massachusetts to be in a state of rebellion.

February 6, 1778: France signs a treaty of alliance with the United States and the American Revolution soon becomes a world war.

February 27, 1782: English Parliament votes against further war in America.

February 4, 1783: England officially declares an end to hostilities in America.

February 1783: Spain, Sweden, Denmark and Russia recognize the United States of America.

George Washington Quotes:

"Nothing can be more hurtful to the service, than the neglect of discipline; for that discipline, more than numbers, gives one army the superiority over another."

Source: brainz.org/50-best-george-washington-quotes/

Edmund Randolph (1753-1813)

Highest Political Office: U.S. Attorney General and U.S. Secretary of State

Other Accomplishments: Helped draft the constitution for the state of Virginia; Member, Continental Congress (1779-1782); Governor or Virginia (1786-1788); Member, Virginia Ratification Convention; chief counsel for Aaron Burr during his treason trial (1807).

Edmund Randolph graduated from the College of William and Mary and practiced law until the American Revolutionary War disrupted his personal and professional life. At the outbreak of the war in 1775, his father, mother, and sisters moved back to England. Randolph supported the rebellion and served for a short time as an aid to General George Washington, but soon returned to Virginia to become the youngest member of the convention to write Virginia's state constitution. He then became the mayor of Williamsburg and later the "state's" attorney general.

His Politics: Randolph's political experience also involved becoming a member of the Continental Congress, Governor of Virginia, and a delegate to the Annapolis Convention of 1786.

He was chosen to be a delegate to the U.S. Constitutional Convention in 1787, and is best known for presenting a proposal supporting the large states known as the Virginia Plan. The plan called for a bicameral legislative body and each state represented by population with the first house (representatives) elected by the people and the second house (senators) elected by the first house. The Virginia Plan eventually became part of the Great Compromise or Connecticut Compromise submitted by Roger Sherman. He also wanted a committee of three to act as president. Randolph also served on the Committee on Detail that prepared a first draft of the new constitution. However, because of philosophical differences over the final Constitution, he refused to sign it. He did eventually support its ratification when the agreement was made to include amendments to protect the rights of individuals and the states (Bill of Rights). Randolph referred to the Constitution as "the anchor of our political salvation".

Closest Crony Among the Founding Fathers: Thomas Jefferson

What He Said: "There are great reasons when persons with limited powers are justified in exceeding them, and a person would be contemptible not to risk it."

Source: constitutionfacts.com/us-founding-fathers/about-the-founding-fathers

Did You Know?

In 1745 Horatio Gates, his victory at Saratoga far in the future, was commissioned an ensign in Colonel Thomas Bligh's Twentieth Regiment of Foot. This gave him the entry rank from which he was promoted to the regiment of his family's long-time patron, the duke of Bolton. On October 14, 1745, a clerk at the War Office wrote down "Horatio Gates, Gentleman to be Lieutenant" as the fifteenth entry on the roster of Bolton's officers. Astoundingly, the sixteenth name was "John Burgoyne," likewise "Gentleman to be Lieutenant."

Source: Adapted from Max Mintz, The Generals of Saratoga

President	*Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252*
Vice President	*Paul Walden: 703-347-9770*
Secretary	*Jay Henn: 703-447-0820*
Treasurer	*Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807*
Registrar	*Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791*

The George Washington Chapter was chartered in its present form on April 2, 1954. With over 280 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.

Immediate Past President:
Dwight Whitney: 540-349-2375

Ride Share: *Members in need of a ride to a chapter meeting or a chapter sponsored event may contact the Amenities Committee Chairman, Don Reynolds, at (703) 765-4947.*

This newsletter is edited by Richard Gilliland. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to ***newsletter@gwsar.org*** *or call 202-870-3762.*

Award of the Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Commendation Medal to Corporal Harvey Snook, Arlington County Police Department

The SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal was awarded to **Corporal Harvey Snook** in a private ceremony on Thursday, 17 September 2015. Corporal Snook completed 26 years of service with the Arlington County Police Department last December. Most of this time was as a uniformed patrol officer with the Operations Division. For about ten years, he served as a K-9 officer until his canine partner, Russell, known as Russ, had to retire. Corporal Snook was among the first to respond to The Pentagon after the terrorist attack on 11 September 2001 and participated in both the rescue and recovery efforts that followed. He was recognized as an informal leader who was well respected by both his peers and superiors alike. Known for his dependability and conscientiousness, he was courageous and intrepid in his approach to his law enforcement duties. His actions were always tempered with good judgment, reason, and patience. He was a mentor to young officers, but did not hesitate to share his guidance and expertize with all officers. Corporal Snook's distinguished service made a difference in the community he served, and his accomplishments reflect great credit on him, the Arlington County Police, and on all law enforcement officers.

Corporal Snook was diagnosed with cancer over a year ago. In spite of chemo and radiation treatments, and towards the end frequent hospitalizations, he continued to serve as best he could. In mid-August, his doctors gave him no more than sixty days to live. His valiant and tenacious efforts to beat the cancer in spite of his being in constant pain amazed everyone. He lost his battle and passed away Thursday, 14 January 2016.

Battle of Cowpens Commemoration[1]

Above: President General Thomas Lawrence speaking at the Washington Light Infantry Monument

Above Left: Presenter and wreath at 235 anniversary of Battle of Cowpens. Picture taken after ceremony.

Above Right: List of wreath presentations.

[1] The **Battle of Cowpens** (January 17, 1781) was a decisive victory by Continental Army forces under Brigadier General Daniel Morgan in South Carolina over the British Army led by Colonel Banastre Tarleton, during the Southern campaign of the American Revolutionary War. It was a turning point in the patriots' re-conquest of South Carolina from British control. It took place in northwestern Cherokee County, South Carolina, north of the town of Cowpens

Highlights of the January Chapter Meeting

George Washington Chapter compatriots and guests gathered on Saturday, January 9, 2016 to kick off the New Year. Our featured speaker was Ms. Mary Lipsey, member of the Board of Directors of the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc. (FCCPA). The FCCPA works with local communities, scouting organizations, DAR Chapters, and others to identify, document, and preserve cemeteries in Fairfax County.

Upper Left: Ms. Lipsey briefing the group on the Wren-Darne Cemetery. James Wren served as a Colonel during the Revolution and later owned a tavern visited by Thomas Jefferson on his way to his inauguration in 1801.
Upper Right: The grave marker of Lieutenant William Triplett, brick mason, neighbor and friend of George Washington.
Middle: On behalf of the Chapter, Vice President Paul Walden accepts a copy of the FCCPA's map of the over 400 known cemeteries in Fairfax County.
Bottom: Vice President Walden presents Ms. Lipsey with the traditional Houdon bust of George Washington.

Highlights of the January Chapter Meeting (*continued*)

January 9, 2016 was also National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. The George Washington Chapter was delighted and honored to present the Law Enforcement Commendation Award to Sergeant Chris O'Dell of the Alexandria Sheriff's Office. Sergeant O'Dell has been with the Sheriff's Office since 1994. He has been a member of the Color Guard as well as the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team and Crisis Intervention Team. Sgt. O'Dell was recognized by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce with a life-saving award in 2015.

Upper Left: Chapter President Greg Bodge and Public Safety Awards Coordinator John Blair present Sgt. O'Dell with the Law Enforcement Commendation Award.
Upper Right: Alexandria Sheriff Dana Lawhorne thanks Sgt. O'Dell for his outstanding service.
Below: (From left to right) President Bodge, Sgt. O'Dell, John Blair, Sheriff Lawhorne, Captain Mavis Thomas and Lt. Monique Rea.

Highlights of the January Chapter Meeting (*continued*)

The January meeting also presented an opportunity to recognize multiple compatriots for their service to the Chapter, conduct formal and informal Chapter business, and enjoy the hospitality of the Belle Haven Country Club.

Upper: President Bodge looks on as Vice President Walden recognizes Chapter Registrar Dave Thomas and Chapter Treasurer Ernie Coggins for their support of the GW Grave Marking Program, and most recently the St. Mary's Grave Marking in December, 2015.
Lower Left: President Bodge recognizes Immediate Past President Dwight Whitney for his outstanding and continuing service to the Chapter.
Lower Right: Newsletter Editor Richard Gilliland and Compatriot Richard Rogers chat before the meeting. Compatriot Gilliland was also recognized with a certificate during the meeting by Dwight Whitney.

Left: President Bodge welcomes the Chapter's newest member, Christopher Cook.
Right: Chapter Secretary Jay Henn and Chairman of the Youth Activities Committee Rich Sherman discuss the finer points of the Knight Essay contest.

2016 Chapter Meeting Dates and Other Known Events

February 13 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*
February 13 – Commemoration **Crossing of the Dan**, South Boston, Virginia 10:00 a.m.-2 p.m. *†*
February 15 – **Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution**, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 11:00 a.m.- 12 noon. *‡*
February 15 – **George Washington's Birthday Parade**, Alexandria, Virginia. 1:00-3:00 p.m.*
February 19-20 – **VASSAR Annual Meeting**, Richmond, Virginia. *†*
February 25-27 – **Spring Leadership Meeting**, Louisville, Kentucky. *†*
March 12-13 – Commemoration **Battle of Guilford Courthouse**, Greensboro, North Carolina. *†*
March 26 – **VASSAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal Award Gala**, Belle Haven County Club, Alexandria, Virginia.**
April 09 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*
May 13-14 – Commemoration **Raid at Martin's Station**, Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, Virginia. *†*
May 14 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*
May 30 – **National Memorial Day Parade**, Washington, DC. Time: TBD. *†*
July 04 – **Fourth of July Ceremony and Wreath Laying at General Washington's Tomb**, Mount Vernon, Virginia.**
July 08-13 – **126th Congress**, Boston, Massachusetts.*†*
August 12-13 – Atlantic Middle States Conference, Albany, New York. *‡*
September 10 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.*
September 10 – **President General's Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier** at 4:15 p.m., Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.**
September 16-17 – **VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting**, Williamsburg, Virginia. *†*
September 29-October 01 – **Fall Leadership Meeting**, Louisville, Kentucky. *†*
October 07 – Commemoration **Battle of Kings Mountain**, Kings Mountain National Battlefield
October 08 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Nominating Committee reports 2017 Slate of Candidates.*
October 19 – Wreath Laying Ceremony and Commemoration **Battle of Yorktown**, Yorktown, Virginia. *†*
November 11 – **Veterans Day Wreath Laying** with the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution beginning at 2:00 p.m. at **General Washington's Tomb**, Mount Vernon, Virginia.*
November 12 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Election of 2017 Officers.*
December – Commemoration **Battle of Great Bridge**, Chesapeake, Virginia. Date: TBD *†*
December 10 – Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Joint Meeting with the George Mason Chapter for the installation of the 2017 Officers for both Chapters.*

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.

Judges' Invitation for Virginia History Day

"I have learned there is always a different side to the story that's just under the surface that's waiting to be discovered, and that no opinion is not worth at least some level of consideration, no matter how outlandish it may seem." National History Day student

Dear Friend of History,

Do you enjoy historical topics? Do you find it rewarding to mentor young people?

Do you like working in a small team to discuss history with adults and students?

Have you have answered YES to these questions? Then, we would love to have you volunteer as a Judge for the District 5 Competition of Virginia History Day! If you teach history or social studies, give history-based tours, or are an enthusiastic reader of history, you are qualified to serve as a judge. You do not need to be a history expert.

History Day Judging Details

Date & Time: Saturday, March 5, 2016, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm (some judging ends at 1 pm)

Place: Mount Vernon High School (8515 Old Mount Vernon Rd, Alexandria, VA 22309)

To Sign Up: It is easiest to reserve your place by registering through the Virginia History Day website at http://va.nhd.org/ud/templates/register.php (works best in Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome web browsers). Or, you can complete the attached Judges Form and email it to VirginiaHistoryDayJudgeDistrict5@verizon.net.

Tips for Signing Up on the VHD Website: Go to the web address listed above. Select "District 5." Then, use the drop-down menu to select "Judge." Even if you registered last year, you will have to register again, so select "Register now."

Deadline: We ask that you sign up by **Wed., February 3**. Guidelines on the competition will be provided in advance.

Benefits of Judging: An opportunity to foster the love of history among middle and senior high schoolers in northern Virginia, a fun day of discussion among colleagues -- & a complimentary breakfast and lunch!

Please join us as a judge at the District 5 competition. It will be one of your history highlights of the year! In the meantime, our best wishes for a momentous 2016.

District 5 Virginia History Day Planning Team

The District 5 Virginia History Day Planning Team is composed of educators from George Washington's Mount Vernon, the Office of Historic Alexandria, Gadsby's Tavern Museum, the Manassas Museums, the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Fairfax County Public Schools, and Mount Vernon High School.

Check this out for a lively intro to National History Day:
http://servicesaetn-a.akamaihd.net/pservice/embed-player/?siteId=hist&tPid=21149172

George Washington Chapter, VASSAR

Luncheon Meeting Reservation Form

Chapter Meeting: 11:30 a.m., **13 February 2016**

Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia

Request that reservations be made by completing this form and mailing it to the Chapter Treasurer at the address below so that he **receives it by Wednesday, 10 February 2016**. It is preferred that payment be received in advance to avoid having to track down the Treasurer at the meeting to collect checks or cash. It also ensures that the caterer is given adequate notice to prepare enough tables for the meeting.

If you chose to notify us by email, please ensure your email has the word "RESERVATION" ***and then with your last name*** in the subject line. The Treasurer will confirm your reservation by email as well. This will ensure your email is not lost by "spam" filters. The Treasurer's email address is coggins.sar@gmail.com .

The lunch cost is $35 per person ($12 for a child). The check should be made payable to ***George Washington Chapter, VASSAR.*** Again, checks are preferred over cash.

Walk-ins will be accommodated, provided there is space. However, if you have not notified the Treasurer by 5:00 p.m. on the preceding Wednesday, the walk-in price of $40.00 is requested.

Please provide the following when making the reservation:

Meeting Date: **Saturday, 13 February 2016**

Compatriot Name: _____

Guest Name(s): _____

A check payable to **George Washington Chapter, VASSAR** in the amount of

$ _____ is enclosed.

Please note if any of the guests are children.

Please return this form and check to:

Ernie Coggins, Treasurer
George Washington Chapter, VASSAR
P.O. Box 5204
Preston King Station
Arlington, Virginia 22205-5204

Check-in and social begin at 11:30 a.m. with a cash bar. The meeting will be called to order at 12:00 noon and is typically concluded by 2:30 p.m. Valet parking is available.

9th Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala

Reservation Form

The George Washington Chapter will again host the Gold Good Citizenship Medal Gala for the Virginia Society on **Saturday, 26 March 2016**, at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Our honoree this year is

The Honorable Antonin Scalia,

Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States

Please use this form to make your reservations. The cost for this formal, black-tie event is $100.00 per person. The reception and receiving line for the honoree will begin at 6:00 p.m., and the program and dinner will begin at 7:00 p.m. Please **RSVP** no later than **15 March 2016**.

Name(s):_____

Entrée Choice(s):_____Herb Seared Petite Filet _____Roasted Salmon Filet

A check for _____ persons in the amount of $_____ payable to
George Washington Chapter, VASSAR is enclosed.

Mail this reservation form with your check to:

Ernie Coggins, Treasurer
George Washington Chapter, VASSAR
P.O. Box 5204
Preston King Station
Arlington, Virginia 22205-5204