George Washington Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
-Newsletter-

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Volume 18, Issue 6 ***September 2017***

George Washington Chapter Memorial Day Events

Above—George Washington Chapter Memorial Day Parade Contingent

Continuing a long-standing tradition, 29 compatriots from the D.C., Florida, and Virginia Societies of the SAR marched in what is considered the largest Memorial Day parade in the country on a warm and sunny afternoon along Constitution Avenue in Washington, D.C. We were honored to have President General Michael Tomme and his wife Cilla ride in the lead car and Children of the American Revolution (CAR) President Erin Moore and Virginia CAR President Emily Elston in the second car. The parade was televised by Washington, DC station WJLA and on a number of other television stations across the country and to the military overseas via the American Forces Network. The parade grand marshals were Air Force General Richard Myers, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and history documentarians Ken Burns and Lynn Novick.

Pohick Church—(left to right) GW Chapter VASSAR compatriot Dr. Donald Binder, Rector of Pohick Church; President General Michael Tomme and wife Cilla; Paul Walden, President, GWSAR; and VASSAR President Michael Elston

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

Sept 9—Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Oct 14—Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Nov 11—Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Dec 9—Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.

Chapter Events Information

15-16 September—VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Newport News Marriott at City Center, Newport News, Virginia. The George Washington Chapter will be the host chapter.

28-30 September—SAR Fall Leadership Meeting, The Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky.

It is a weary march. The soldiers are foot-sore, hungry, exhausted. Some drop from the ranks, and fall asleep in a moment upon the frozen ground. Mile after mile they drag themselves along. Little children give them bread, glad to do so much for those who have fought so bravely, and receive in return a kind 'God bless you!'—Coffin, 1879

President's Corner

My fellow compatriots:

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful summer and is geared up to another active fall for our chapter. It has been quite a busy summer though for our chapter. You will read the details of these throughout this newsletter.

On May 13, I traveled to Pickens County, SC to participate in a grave marking ceremony for my ancestor Moses Hendricks, who served in the SC Militia. This of course, preventing me from attending our May chapter meeting, so hopefully my absence will be excused. A video of the event can be viewed at https://vimeo.com/217331066. This was very meaningful for me, as of the 10 patriot ancestors I've proven, only two of their graves have been located. So, I encourage all members to research their ancestors and if possible, mark their graves. Regrettably, many of these old gravesites are being lost to vandalism, neglect, or development. By marking them, a permanent record will exist in the SAR Patriot Index for future generations.

On Memorial Day weekend, we were honored by a visit from President General Tomme and his wife Cilla, who were feted at a dinner at Belle Haven Country Club. The Tomme's then attended worship services at historic Pohick Church (parish church of George Mason and George Washington). Of course, one of chapter's annual highlight was marching in the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington. On June 10, our chapter participated in the Declaration Day ceremony at George Mason's home, Gunston Hall. On June 17, our chapter participated in the Fairfax 275 Anniversary fair as well as dedicated a plaque memorializing the Patriots from Fairfax County. This event also got some good press coverage. Dave Thomas and I gave a genealogy presentation to the Mount Vernon Genealogy Society on June 20, and in the process, met some prospective members. July 4, another banner day for our chapter, we again laid a wreath at General Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon. The event even received coverage by Kurdish Television. Several of our chapter compatriots travelled to Knoxville, TN for the SAR Annual Congress July 7-12. On July 22, our chapter participated in the commemoration of the 243rd anniversary of the signing of the Fairfax Resolves at the historic Fairfax County Courthouse. Then, on July 29, our chapter participated in the VASSAR and War of 1812 dedication of a plaque memorializing the 24 patriots of both of those wars buried at Pohick Church. Lastly, on August 19, we had an officers and board of managers meeting at Jay Henn's house to plan for the remainder of the year and check our accomplishments thus far. Whew…so it has been a busy summer for us!

We still have a lot going on before the fall is out. On September 9, President General Larry Guzy will participating in our wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. Our chapter is hosting the VASSAR Semi-Annual meeting in Newport News September 15-16 and I encourage everyone to attend. This is near a number of historic sites such as Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown. On September 17, at 1:00 PM, our chapter is doing something new, at last new in the few years that I have been a member of this chapter, when we commemorate Constitution Day at Pohick Church. As part of this ceremony, we will be distributing pocket books of the Constitution and Declaration of Independence to encourage all participants to study these founding documents of our nation.

As a gauge of our chapter's activities supporting the SAR programs, we track points for the Americanism award. So far, we have earned 3,155 points, which is about 72% of our total of 2016, so we have been doing a lot. There are areas of opportunities however. We are hoping to conduct a few grave markings this fall as there are 47 unmarked, existing Revolutionary War patriot graves in Alexandria and Fairfax County. I am trying to distribute the SAR CD "Keyhole to History" to as many local high schools as possible. We are also trying to coordinate with more Boy Scout Troops in the area to present certificates to new Eagle Scouts. Another opportunity to consider is if you belong to an organization such as Rotary or the American Legion, why not consider giving a presentation on the SAR to that group? All these activities help spread the word about the SAR, promote the study of the American Revolution, and preserve our heritage. Thanks again for your continued support and participation.

Fraternally,

Paul Walden

President, GWSAR

Treasury Notes

I am delighted to report that – thanks to the generosity of our Chapter members – we raised almost $3,000 through our 2017 Mid-Year Appeal. Your contributions will enable us to continue to expand our recognition of deserving law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other public safety personnel; honor additional Patriot ancestors through grave markings and other ceremonies; and keep the ideals of the Revolution alive in the next generation by sponsoring more JROTC, Eagle Scouting, and other Youth Programs. We will also be in a position to increase our support for important SAR, VASSAR and Children of the American Revolution initiatives.

Also, I know that many members make expenditures on behalf of the Chapter throughout the year and do not request reimbursement for those expenses. These expenses qualify as in-kind donations and are generally deductible for income tax purposes. If you have made, or wish to make, an in-kind donation, please make sure that you provide me with documentation regarding the date, amount, and purpose for the expenditure so that I may maintain an accurate record and provide official acknowledgement at the close of the calendar year.

Thanks, and with much gratitude,

Jay M. Henn

Treasurer

Ten facts about George Washington and the Revolutionary War (second of ten installments)

Prior to his appointment as head of the Continental Army, Washington had never commanded a large army in the field.

George Washington was but one of only a handful of candidates considered by the Second Continental Congress who possessed any significant military experience. But by European standards Washington's experience in commanding large conventional armies was non-existent. Leading up to the French & Indian War, Washington had ably commanded the Virginia Regiment, but this provincial military unit never had more than 2,000 men in its ranks. In 1754 Washington commanded roughly 100 regulars and 300 militia at the ill-fated Battle of Fort Necessity.

Despite this seeming lack of experience in managing large army formations, Washington brought a number of strengths to his new position as commander of the Continental Army. Washington had learned many important command principles from the British regular officers that he marched with during the French & Indian War and British army manuals that he studied. He also witnessed, firsthand, how vulnerable British formations could be in the rough, timbered frontier land that predominated in North America. His verve, impressive physical presence, and command instincts helped to hold together an ill-equipped force that outlasted his more experienced opponents. And as Benjamin Franklin would famously state, "[a]n American planter, who had never seen Europe, was chosen by us to Command our Troops, and continued during the whole War. This man sent home to you, one after another, five of your best generals, baffled, their Heads bare of Laurels, disgraced even in the Opinion of their Employers."

So much for conventional experience...

Editor's Report

A primary goal of the newsletter editor is to ensure the scheduled publication of the GWSAR newsletter. As editor, I seek to encourage a wide range of articles that will inspire and inform the community about the principles on which our nation was founded. Our newsletter is a primary method of communication between the GWSAR Executive and the GWSAR Membership. I would also like to commend Compatriot Craig Batten for accepting the role of Assistant Newsletter Editor and look forward to his input.

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 newsletter@gwsar.org. I will do my best to include them in future issues.

Richard Gilliland

Editor

Registrar's Report

Since the last Registrar's report in May, there have been 4 new members approved by NSSAR, along with 1 Supplemental application. There are currently 1 New Member application and 5 Supplemental applications under review at NSSAR. There were no new member inductions during the May Chapter meeting.

New Member Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Steven Richards Valentine Jr.	Daniel Morrill
David James Zunker	Joshua Stevens
Patrick Wayne Zunker	Joshua Stevens
William Emerson Whitney	Samuel Whitney

Supplemental Applications Approved

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Paul Ashley Walden	John DeVane Sr.

New Member Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Virgil Carnett Farley	Thomas Farley Jr.

Supplemental Applications Submitted

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
Dwight Emerson Whitney	Ezra Murray
Paul Ashley Walden	George Bannerman
Paul Ashley Walden	Francis Davis

2017 GWSAR Registrar Cumulative Approval Totals

Regular	12
Junior	1
Supplemental	5
Memorial	1
Transfers and Dual Memberships	1
Total New Members	15
Forgotten Patriot	0

Richard Sherman

GWSAR Registrar

An old sign for King's Ferry on the Hudson River.

September Dates in History
American Revolutionary War

September 8, 1760: Pierre de Rigaud, Governor of New France, capitulates to Field Marshal Jeffrey Amherst..

September 1, 1764: The *Currency Act*, prohibiting the colonies from issuing paper money, is passed by Parliament.

September 1768: English warships sail into Boston Harbor, then two regiments of English infantry land in Boston and set up permanent residence to keep order.

September 1, 1774: The Powder Alarm, General Gage's secret raid on the Cambridge powder magazine.

September 11, 1776: Staten Island Peace Conference

September 15, 1776: Landing at Kip's Bay

September 16, 1776: Battle of Harlem Heights

September 19, 1777: First Battle of Saratoga

September 21-22, 1776: Great Fire of New York

September 22, 1776: Nathan Hale captured and executed for espionage

September 11, 1777: Battle of Brandywine

September 20, 1777: Battle of Paoli *(see story later in this publication)*

September 26, 1777: British occupation of Philadelphia

September 23, 1780: John Andre captured and the treason of Benedict Arnold is exposed

September 26, 1780: Battle of Charlotte

September 5, 1781: Battle of the Chesapeake

September 8, 1781: Battle of Eutaw Springs

September 3, 1783: The *Treaty of Paris* ends the American Revolutionary War

Step Up Now for Chapter Leadership Opportunities in 2017

Chapter President Paul Walden 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 paulwalden@live.com or call him at (703) 347-9770 .

All positions allow 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 Paul Walden if you would like to discuss any of these leadership opportunities or serve on one of the chapter's committees.

The Great Fire was a devastating fire that burned through the night of September 21 – September 22, 1776 on the west side of what then constituted New York City at the southern end of the island of Manhattan.

Sons of the American Revolution
Lapel Pins for Sale

The George Washington Chapter still has some distinctive SAR lapel pins for $20 each. Proceeds will be split evenly to support the chapter and the Sons of the American Revolution Foundation. The SAR Foundation was established in 2000 as the fundraising arm of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Contact Paul Walden, President, at the next chapter meeting if you wish to buy one of these pins and support the chapter and the Foundation.

May Chapter Meeting

Above: Compatriot Craig Batten (left) converses with Compatriot John Brigden

Above: Compatriots engage in light-hearted conversation before the Chapter meeting

Above: GWSAR leadership discusses Chapter business before the meeting

Above: Mike Elston addresses a group of Compatriots

Above: Jamie Callender receives certificate for Paul Austin Callender from Vice President, Ernie Coggins

Above: May speaker addresses the Chapter

Other June through August Events

July 4th at Mount Vernon

Above: DAR, SAR, and CAR members participating in the wreath-laying ceremony at George Washington's tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia

Dedication of Plaque Commemorating Patriots from Fairfax County

On June 17, 2017, as part of Fairfax County, Virginia's 275th Anniversary celebrations, the George Washington Chapter, VASSAR, organized a booth educating the public about the SAR and a ceremony to dedicate a plaque honoring 47 Fairfax Citizens, who died in the cause of liberty during the Revolutionary War. George Washington Chapter President Paul Walden was the Master of Ceremonies and 3rd Vice President Bill Schwetke represented the Virginia SAR. Distinguished guests included Nicholas, 14th Lord Fairfax of Cameron, Sharon Bulova, Chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and Fairfax Mayor David L. Meyer. Re-enactors in Hessian, English, and Scottish uniforms provided a colorful backdrop to the Plaque Dedication Ceremony. Wreaths were presented by the Virginia SAR, George Washington Chapter, Colonel William Grayson Chapter, Fairfax Resolves Chapter, and Culpeper Minutemen Chapter, as well as the local County and City Governments, the Fairfax County Chapter, NSDAR, and

Other June through August Events (continued)

Fauquier Court House Chapter, NSDAR. The event received coverage in the Fairfax Times newspaper as well.

Pohick Church, July 29th

Above: Color Guard at Pohick Church

Above: Reverend Costa preaches at Pohick Church on July 4th

Left to right: GW Chapter VASSAR compatriot Dr. Donald Binder, Rector of Pohick Church; President General Michael Tomme and wife Cilla; Paul Walden, President, GWSAR; and Michael Elston, VASSAR President

Declaration Day at Gunston Hall

June 10, 2017

Left to Right: Scott Stroh, Executive Director, Gunston Hall, Frank Barker, Education Coordinator, Gunston Hall, Dave Thomas, VASSAR Registrar, Paul Walden, President George Washington Chapter

Tom Roth, VASSAR Historian, Pete Davenport, George Mason Chapter, Carole Thomas, wife of Dave Thomas

Above: Plaque listing the patriots buried at Pohick Church (dedication held July 29th)

Above: Mike Elston and Paul Walden at the Pohick Church Plaque Dedication Ceremony.

Emily Elston's State C.A.R. Project

Emily Elston, President, Virginia Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.), will give us a description of her State Project at our September 2017 meeting and will provide us with the opportunity to make contributions to support this endeavor.

The Virginia C.A.R. is raising funds to replace the entry steps on the south side of the historic Pohick Church building (George Washington's Church). This south entrance is the main entryway into the sanctuary. The current steps would be replaced with a set more in keeping with the colonial character of the building. Additionally, this restoration will provide a safer access into the church for both parishioners and tourists.

Pohick was the first permanent church established north of the Occoquan River in Virginia sometime prior to 1724. In 1767, the Vestry decided to replace the existing building with a brick structure. Vestrymen George Washington, George Mason, and George William Fairfax supervised the construction, which was completed in 1774. Union Soldiers essentially destroyed the church building in the 1860s.

Services resumed in 1874, and a major restoration of its colonial interior was begun in 1890 and was largely completed by 1917. With funding from the Historic Pohick Church Foundation, smaller restoration and conservation projects continue. Emily's project is part of this ongoing effort.

The total cost of restoring the south-side steps is about $25,000. Emily and the Virginia C.A. R. hope to raise at least $12,500. The balance would come from matching grants.

As many of you know, we have watched Emily grow up. She has regularly attended our Chapter meetings and assisted with many George Washington Chapter events. We now have an opportunity to help Emily and the Virginia C.A.R.

Please consider making a generous contribution. Checks should be made payable to the George Washington Chapter, VASSAR. If you are unable to attend our September meeting, you may mail your contribution to the George Washington Chapter, P.O. Box 77, Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121.

Other June through August Events

Reading of the Declaration of Independence

On July 1, 2017, the Rev. Thomas Costa, portraying Parson Massey, colonial Rector of the Historic Pohick Church, where George Washington and George Mason were vestrymen, read the Declaration of Independence. Compatriots Dick Hamly, Edgar Bates, and Paul Walden attended. The reading was followed by a docent tour of the church.

Grave Marking for George Washington Compatriot Ancestor, Moses Hendricks

On May 13, the Col. Robert Anderson Chapter of the SCSAR conducted a grave marking ceremony for Patriot Moses Hendricks at the Oolenoy Baptist Church Cemetery in Pickens County, SC. Chapter Compatriot Paul Walden had the honor of reading his biography then unveiling his tombstone with the newly installed SAR Patriot marker. A number of his descendants were also in attendance. The event was further honored by the SCSAR Color Guard.

On 1 Dec 1776, Moses Hendricks enlisted in the 3rd Regiment of the SC Militia. About 1778 Moses married Susan Glenn in what was then known as the Pendleton District of South Carolina. The names of 7 of their maybe 12 children are shown on a 2nd stone installed here. He left his family to again serve 104 days in the militia during 1781 and 1782 under Capt. Hughes and Col. Winn. SAR-approved records also show that on 18 April 1785, he was issued a payment of 7 Pounds, 8 Pence for this service in the militia. According to family lore, Moses was descended from the early Dutch settlers of New York who ventured down the Great Wagon Road to the Carolinas in the mid 1700s.

Above—As part of the Memorial Day commemorations, Compatriot Edgar Bates lays wreath at Tomb of Unknown Revolutionary Soldier at Old Presbyterian Meeting House, Alexandria, Virginia.

President	*Paul Walden: 703-347-9770*
Vice President	*Ernie Coggins: 703-241-2807*
Secretary	*Dave Thomas: 703-583-8791*
Treasurer	*Jay Henn: 703-447-0820*
Registrar	*Richard Sherman:*

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:
Gregory Bodge: 770-789-3252

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.*

Other June through August Events (continued)

Grave Marking in Upstate New York

In January my cousin Lou Davis of Bridgeport, CT announced that he was going to host a family reunion and musical jamfest at his summer home in Eagle Bridge, New York (about 20 miles northeast of Albany) on the first weekend in August. He expected that several of my cousins would attend, so I was eager to attend, along with my bass fiddle (for the jamfest). Since my patriot ancestor, James Coulter, was buried in Old Turnpike Cemetery in Cambridge, NY, the next town north of Eagle Bridge, I realized that this would be a good opportunity to perform an SAR grave marking ceremony at his grave.

Patriot James Coulter (1748-1783) served as a private in the Albany County Militia under Col. Van Woert. We believe that James fought in the victorious Battle of Saratoga (about 15 miles west of Cambridge) in 1777. Many scholars claim that this victory prompted the French to formally declare war on Great Britain and increase their military aid to the American cause for independence. James Coulter fathered six children, and his great-grandnephew Clarence Coulter served in the 123rd New York Infantry during the Civil War. Clarence's wounds suffered during the Battle of Chancellorsville proved fatal, and he is buried in Alexandria National Cemetery.

Prior to the ceremony at the grave, my cousin Glenn Davis, a metalworking artisan, welded a steel mounting bracket to which we affixed the SAR grave marking lug. On August 5th six cousins drove to Old Turnpike Cemetery and performed an informal grave marking ceremony, whose results are documented in the preceding photograph.

Obituary

Jack Leon Elston, 72, of Rockford died, Saturday July 22, 2017 in his home. Born August 7, 1944, in Rockford; son of LaVerne and Katherine (Hamm) Elston. Jack was joined in marriage with Carolyn Marie Silvis on November 11, 1978. Jack served proudly in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War aboard the U.S.S. Mississinewa and the U.S.S. Fiske. Jack worked twenty seven years at Warner Lambert as a production supervisor, retiring in 1996. Jack was a lifetime member of the LLL Society. Jack loved hockey following both the Rockford Ice Hogs and the Chicago Blackhawks, he also enjoyed playing golf. Most of all Jack loved and adored his family. Jack will be remembered always as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Jack is survived by his wife, Carolyn; sons, James (Amie) Elston and Chad Elston; grandchildren, Justin, Nicholas, Ashlynn; special nephews, Mike (Julie) Elston and Richard (Melanie) Elston; niece, Kathy Hendrickson; nephew, Robert Hopkins; sisters and brothers in-law, Anne (Gene) O'Brien, Kay Silvis, Robert (Debra) Silvis, David (Susan) Silvis, Steven (Ingegerd) Silvis, Patti (Mark) Glendenning, Rodney (LeeAnn) Silvis, Lori (Jeff) Donovan, Mary (Kirk) Larson, Gerald Emanuel, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He is predeceased by his parents; siblings, James & Judy; sister in-law, Barb Emanuel, aunts & uncles.

Right bank of the Potomac

The Battle of Paoli

Background:

In the late summer of 1777, General Sir William Howe embarked his army at New York City and sailed south with the goal of capturing the American capital of Philadelphia. Moving up the Chesapeake Bay, he landed at Head of Elk, MD and began marching north towards Pennsylvania. Acting to protect the city, General George Washington attempted to make a defensive stand along the Brandywine River in early September. Meeting Howe at the Battle of Brandywine on September 11, Washington was flanked by the British and forced to retreat east to Chester. While Howe paused at Brandywine, Washington crossed the Schuylkill River at Philadelphia and marched northwest with the goal of using the river as a defensive barrier.

Reconsidering, he elected to re-cross to the south bank and began moving against Howe. Responding, the British commander prepared for battle and engaged the Americans on September 16. Clashing near Malvern, the fight proved brief as a massive thunderstorm descended on the area forcing both armies to break off the battle.

Wayne Detached:

In the wake of the "Battle of the Clouds", Washington first retreated west to Yellow Springs and then to Reading Furnace in order to obtain dry powder and supplies. As the British were badly hampered by the rutted and muddy roads as well as the high water of the Schuylkill, Washington decided to detach forces led by Brigadier Generals William Maxwell and Anthony Wayne on September 18 to harass the enemy's flanks and rear. It was also hoped to that Wayne, with 1,500 men that included four light guns and three troops of dragoons, could strike at Howe's baggage train. To assist him in these efforts, Washington directed Brigadier General William Smallwood, who was moving north from Oxford with 2,000 militia, to rendezvous with Wayne.

As Washington resupplied and began marching to re-cross the Schuylkill, Howe moved to Tredyffrin with the goal of reaching Swede's Ford. Advancing on Howe's rear, Wayne encamped two miles southwest of the Paoli Tavern on September 19. Writing to Washington, he believed that his movements were unknown to the enemy and stated, "I believe [Howe] knows nothing of my situation." This was incorrect as Howe had been apprised of Wayne's actions through spies and intercepted messages. Recording in his diary, British staff officer Captain John Andre commented, "Intelligence having been received of the situation of General Wayne and his design for attacking our Rear, a plan was concerted for surprising him, and the execution entrusted to Major General [Charles] Grey."

The British Move:

Seeing an opportunity to crush part of Washington's army, Howe directed Grey to assemble a force of around 1,800 men consisting of the 42nd and 44th Regiments of Foot as well as the 2nd Light Infantry to strike at Wayne's camp. Departing on the evening of September 20, Grey's column moved down the Swede's Ford Road before reaching the Admiral Warren Tavern approximately one mile from the American position. In an effort to maintain secrecy, Andre reported that the column "took every inhabitant with them as they passed along." At the tavern, Grey coerced a local blacksmith into serving as a guide for the final approach.

Wayne Surprised:

Advancing around 1:00 AM on September 21, Grey ordered his men to remove the flints from their muskets to ensure that an accidental shot would not alert the Americans. Instead, he instructed his troops to rely on the bayonet, earning him the nickname "No Flint"... Pushing past the tavern, the British approached around a set of woods to the north and quickly overwhelmed Wayne's pickets who fired several shots. Alerted, the Americans were up and moving in a matter of moments, but were unable to resist the force of the British attack. Assaulting with around 1,200 men in three waves, Grey first sent forward the 2nd Light Infantry followed by the 44th and 42nd Foots.

Pouring into Wayne's camp, the British troops were able to easily spot their adversaries as they were silhouetted by their campfires. Though the Americans opened fire, their resistance was weakened as many lacked bayonets and could not fight back until they reloaded. Working to rescue the

situation, Wayne was hampered by the chaos caused by the suddenness of Grey's assault. With British bayonets slashing through his ranks, he directed the 1st Pennsylvania Regiment to cover the retreat of the artillery and supplies. As the British began to overwhelm his men, Wayne directed Colonel Richard Humpton's 2nd Brigade to shift left to cover the retreat. Misunderstanding, Humpton instead shifted his men right and had to be corrected. With many of his men fleeing to the west through gaps in a fence, Wayne directed Lieutenant Colonel William Butler's 4th Pennsylvania Regiment to assume a position in nearby woods to provide covering fire.

Wayne Routed:

Pressing forward, the British drove the disorganized Americans back. Andre stated, "The Light Infantry being ordered to form to the front, rushed along the line putting to the bayonet all they came up with, and, overtaking the main herd of the fugitives, stabbed great numbers and pressed on their rear until it was thought prudent to order them to desist." Forced from the field, Wayne's command retreated west towards White Horse Tavern with the British in pursuit. To compound the defeat, they encountered Smallwood's approaching militia who were also put to flight by the British. Breaking off the pursuit, Grey consolidated his men and returned to Howe's camp later in the day.

Aftermath:

In the fighting at Paoli, Wayne sustained 53 killed, 113 wounded, and 71 captured while Grey lost a mere 4 killed and 7 wounded. Quickly dubbed the "Paoli Massacre" by the Americans due to the intense, one-sided nature of the fight, there is no proof that British forces acted inappropriately during the engagement. In the wake of the Paoli Massacre, Wayne criticized Humpton's performance which led to his subordinate preferred charges of negligence against his superior. A subsequent court of inquiry found that Wayne was not guilty of any misconduct but stated that he had made errors. Angered by this finding Wayne demanded and received a full court martial. Held later that fall, it exonerated him of any blame for the defeat. Remaining with Washington's army, Wayne later distinguished himself at the Battle of Stony Point and was present at the Siege of Yorktown.

Though Grey had succeeded in smashing Wayne, the time taken for the operation allowed Washington's army to move north of the Schuylkill and assume a position to contest a crossing of the river at Swede's Ford. Frustrated, Howe elected to move north along the river towards the upper fords. This forced Washington to follow along the north bank. Secretly counter-marching on the night of September 23, Howe reached Flatland's Ford, near Valley Forge, and crossed the river. In a position between Washington and Philadelphia, he advanced on the city which fell on September 26. Eager to rescue the situation, Washington attacked part of Howe's army at the Battle of Germantown on October 4 but was narrowly defeated. Subsequent operations failed to dislodge Howe and Washington entered winter quarters at Valley Forge in December.

Eagle Scout Award Presented

On May 6, The George Washington Chapter presented an Eagle Scout Certificate to Patrick Gilley, BSA Troop 899, at his Court of Honor at Pohick Church, Lorton, Virginia.

Left to right: Compatriots Hank Foresman, Rev. Don Binder, Paul Walden, and Eagle Scout Gilley

JROTC Awards in May

The JROTC Awards Program of the George Washington Chapter recognized six outstanding junior class cadets from Alexandria and Fairfax County during the 2016-2017 Chapter year. One of the awardees received third place in the Virginia Society competition while two others were finalists at VASSAR.

In May, three of these cadets were recognized. One was Cadet David A. West of the Thomas Edison High School JROTC Battalion. Cadet West attends South County High School and travels to Edison for JROTC training. As a member of a military family, Cadet West aspires to attend a service academy prior to a career in the military. His principal says Cadet West is a "quiet and unassuming" leader who leads by example and action. At the JROTC summer camp in 2016, David was the top cadet in his company. He was the number one cadet in drill competition and is a member of the Cadet Color Guard. He has a cumulative GPA of 3.353. He states that membership in JROTC has taught him leadership, organizational skills, respect for authority, and a sense of civic and community responsibility. He received the Enhanced Medallion and Bronze Medal at the Edison High awards ceremony in May.

Above (Left to right) - Jack Pitzer, GWSAR Chapter ROTC Chair , Cadet David A. West, and Paul Walden, GWSAR President

Receiving the Bronze Medal at the T.C. Williams High School awards ceremony was Cadet Ahmed Jasim. He served his junior year as the battalion Command Sergeant Major. Born in Diyala, Iraq, he moved to the United States at age 11 and is a naturalized citizen. He states that out of the seven Army values, he believes respect is the most important. With a cumulative GPA of 3.3, he intends to graduate a year early and pursue a commission in the United States Marine Corps.

Above (Left to right) - Paul Walden, Cadet Jasim, and Jack Pitzer, GWSAR Chapter ROTC Chair

The Bronze Medal awardee at the West Potomac High School dining-in ceremony in May was Cadet Matthew Weber. Cadet Weber is an honor roll student, whose extra-curricular activities include drill team, marching band, drum line, wind ensemble and symphonic winds. He is active in his church and traveled in Europe as a member of the Virginia Ambassadors of Music (top band in Virginia).

May 12, 2017—Chapter President Paul Walden presented the Bronze JROTC medal to Cadet Matthew Weber at West Potomac High School

Atlantic Middle States Association August 2017 Conference

Mike Elston, Virginia President and George Washington Chapter Member, gives his report on the Virginia Society to the Atlantic Middle States Association in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania at the August 2017 Conference.

Scene of Arnold's naval battle. This sketch was made from the pilot's room of the steam-boat just after leaving Port Jackson. On the left is a point of the main land, and on the right is seen a portion of Valcour's Island. The high ground in the extreme distance, on the left, is Cumberland Head, and that dimly seen in the center of the picture is the Vermont store.

Members of the Virginia Society delegation to the Atlantic Middle States Association August 2017 Conference held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. George Washington Chapter members attending were Mike Elston, Ernie Coggins, and Tom Roth. Attending but not pictured is Will Elston.

Has Your Patriot Ancestor's Grave Been Recognized and Marked?

There is perhaps no more fundamental or sacred activity for the SAR than the registration and marking of Revolutionary patriot graves – a ceremony that serves to cherish, honor and preserve the memory of those that fought valiantly in order that their descendants could be endowed with those inalienable right that we now enjoy.

Accordingly the George Washington Chapter Graves Registration and Marking Committee has made it a priority objective to honor with formal grave markings as many as possible GW Chapter member patriot ancestors. The first step is the identification, documentation and registration of the Patriot grave. Many thanks to Compatriot Jamie Callender for his remarkable effort in reconciling disparate and in many cases ambiguous Patriot ancestor data bases resulting in a comprehensive list of patriot ancestors and the status of any grave marking (see http://www.gwsar.org/ancestors.html).

With less than ten percent of ancestor Patriot graves marked, there is both a challenge and incredible opportunity. If you would like your ancestor's grave marked the Committee will assist you in navigating and completing the established SAR process, specifically with the creation of a biography which brings to life the Patriot's key relevant accomplishments and with conducting the grave marking ceremony procedure itself which includes the placement of a brass marker as a visible symbol to the public that the person buried at that place aided in the cause of the American Revolution.

If you think you might be interested in having your ancestor appropriately recognized with a grave marking ceremony please contact the Committee at gravemarking@gwsar.org Also, the Committee always welcomes volunteers to help with this highly rewarding effort which is one of the primary means for the SAR to keep the memory and ideals of the Revolution alive.

Recognize a Patriotic Citizen!

Recognize your patriotic neighbors and friends while helping out our Chapter. Here is a great way to start conversation with your neighbors and friends and let them know about your involvement in the George Washington Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. If anyone you know displays an American flag on their home or property, in a way you deem to be respectable and patriotic, let's recognize them and present them with a personalized Flag Certificate from the George Washington Chapter. Each flag certificate our committee issues on behalf of our chapter earns our chapter points.

The rule for issuing a flag certificate is that the flag must be displayed in a respectable way and not for commercial use. A neighbor displaying an American flag in their yard or on their home is a perfect example. A local business or office park might have an American flag displayed in a way that is patriotic and respectable and that's great too. However, the local McDonald's displaying 10 American flags on the top of their building to attract business and attention does not qualify. Use your common sense or if you are not sure, take a picture and email it to me. Most importantly, this certificate is a way to recognize someone you feel is displaying the American Flag in a way that might instill pride and patriotism within our community!

Just email me the person's name and address of where they are displaying the flag. Make sure to include your name and your mailing address. I will issue the certificate and have it sent to you to present. Email requests tokevin@gemsinblue.com. Thanks!

2017 Chapter Meeting Dates and Other Known Events

15-16 September—VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Newport News Marriott at City Center, Newport News, Virginia. The George Washington Chapter will be the host chapter.**

28-30 September—SAR Fall Leadership Meeting, The Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky. *†*

14 October—Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.* Nominating Committee will report its slate of 2018 Chapter Officers. Carole Thomas will speak to us about George Mason and Gunston Hall.

11 November—Chapter Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia.* Elections will be held for 2018 Chapter Officers. After lunch, Chapter will conduct its Wreath Laying Veterans Day Ceremony at Mount Vernon.*

09 December—Joint Chapter Meeting with the George Mason Chapter at 11:30 a.m. at the Mount Vernon Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia. Officers of both Chapters will be installed for 2018.*

Tentative 2018 Meeting Dates

13 January—Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

10 February—Omni Hotel, Richmond, Virginia in conjunction with the VASSAR Annual Meeting

10 March—Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

14 April—Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

12 May—Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

08 September—Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

13 October—Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

10 November—Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Virginia

08 December—TBD

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.

George Washington Chapter, Virginia SAR

Luncheon Meeting Reservation Form

Chapter Meeting: 11:30 a.m., **Saturday, September 9, 2017**

Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA 22307

Please join us as we welcome NSSAR President General Larry Guzy - in town for our afternoon wreath-laying at Arlington National Cemetery - and Children of the American Revolution Virginia State President Emily Elston, who will be talking about her State Project to help restore portions of historic Pohick Church.

You may make your reservation in one of two ways. First, you may complete this form and mail it with your check to the address below. The cost of the meal is **$35.00** per person (**$12.00** for a child). Please make checks payable to *George Washington Chapter, VASSAR*. Second, you may email the Chapter Treasurer at jaymhenn@gmail.com. To help ensure receipt, please put "RESERVATION" ***followed by your last name*** in the subject line. You will receive an email confirming receipt of your reservation. Payment will be collected at the door. Checks are preferred over cash, and - if paying with cash - exact change is appreciated.

For both methods, please make sure that your reservation is received no later than **Tuesday, September 5** so that we may provide the Club with our anticipated attendance. Walk-ins (members and guests who have not made reservations) will be charged **$40.00**.

Please provide the following information when making reservations:

Meeting Date: **Saturday, September 9, 2017**

❶ Compatriot Name: _____

❷ Guest Name(s): _____

Please note if any of the guests are children

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

$_____ is enclosed.

❹ Return this form and check to:

Jay M. Henn, Treasurer

16920 Chapel Hill Court Woodbridge, VA 22191-4569

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.