George Washington Chapter

Sons of the American Revolution

Newsletter

Visit us online at www.gwsar.org

Volume 19, Issue 7 ***September 2018***

GWSAR Chapter Honors Our First President on 4th of July, 2018

The Sons of the American Revolution honored July 4 with their traditional march to President George Washington's Tomb at Mt. Vernon. The SAR contingent (with representatives of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Children of the American Revolution) began their march up the Bowling Green at Mt. Vernon. They are shown here receiving a salute from the First Virginia Regiment. The SAR contingent were led by the Virginia Society Color Guard commanded by Bill Schwetke (Second V-P, VASSAR) and by the Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps.

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President's Corner

Compatriots: Our busy summer is almost over, and, as usual, we have a number of activities scheduled until the end of the year. However it is not too soon to issue ***"A Call for Volunteers".*** The Virginia Society will host the 2020 Congress. It will be held in Richmond from Friday to Wednesday, 10-15 July 2020. There will be a need for many volunteers for actions before the Congress, during the Congress, and after the Congress. Please mark your calendars and consider volunteering whether you are a delegate or not. More information will be published as it becomes available.

A July edition of the Chapter's newsletter was published electronically. As such, I shall provide a brief summary of our activities covered in that edition.

On a sad note, many of us attended a memorial service at Aldersgate United Methodist Church on 31 May for past Chapter President Bob Carr, who died on 19 May 2018. His funeral and burial at Arlington National Cemetery will take place in November. Specific details will be sent out at later date.

At our 12 May Meeting, the following events took place:

Senior President, Virginia Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.), Mike Elston introduced Molly McCue, Virginia C.A.R. President, who introduced herself to the Chapter and explained her project. Passing the hat, we raised over $600 for her project.

Two SAR Eagle Scouts, brothers Eric and Sean Grapin, received SAR Eagle Scout Certificates of Recognition.

Co-Chairs of the Alexandria George Washington Birthday Committee presented an award to the Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps for it participation in the Alexandria George Washington Birthday Parade. Corps Chairman, Don Deering of Frederick, Maryland, accepted the award.

I presented four SAR Meritorious Awards to John Brigden, Jack Pitzer, Richard Sherman, and Scott Wagoner in recognition of their services to the Chapter.

Our Youth Awards Chairman, Hank Forseman, accepted checks to be presented to the First, Second, and Third place winners of our Sergeant Moses Adams Middle School Brochure Contest. All three winners were students of Julie Elston. Thank you Julie.

The Virginia Society sent the thirteen streamers that we were awarded at the Annual Meeting in February. In addition, we received two stars to be placed on existing streamers. All were given to our Master at Arms, Covert Beach.

Our speaker was Chris Herndon, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of White House Information Technology. He gave an extremely interesting presentation on White House communications.

After the meeting, we marked four Patriot Graves in the Old Presbyterian Meeting House (OPMH) Cemetery. Our thanks go to Paul Walden, Jamie Calendar, and Nat Ames.

On Friday morning, 11 May, the SAR Medal of Heroism was awarded to an Alexandria City Fire Marshal, and that afternoon, the SAR Medal of Heroism was awarded to three Alexandria City Police Officers. John Blair, Dave Thomas, and I made these presentations.

The Chapter led the participation in the televised National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC on 28 May. First time attendees were awarded the Dooley-Carr-Elston Medal. On the same day, Edgar Bates represented the Chapter at the wreath laying at the OPMH grave of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution.

On 09 June, Former Chapter President Larry Lisle represented the Chapter at the 238th Anniversary of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill, Lincolnton, North Carolina. Thanks to Larry,

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President's Corner *(con't)*

the Chapter has representation in the Carolinas.

Our Fourth of July Wreath Laying at General Washington's Tomb on Mount Vernon was well attended. Our procession up the Bowling Green and down to the Tomb Grove was led by the Virginia Society (VASSAR) Color Guard and the Frederick Town Fife and Drum. Vice President Dave Thomas was our master of ceremonies. Chaplain Dr. Don Reynolds gave the invocation, and National Vice President, Mid-Southern Region C.A.R., Emily Elston, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Past Chapter President Don Baldwin was recognized for his leadership in the founding of this event. Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Historian, Holly McKinley Schmidt gave the welcome from the DAR. I was honored to give the address. VASSAR Rumbaugh Orations winner, Gabby Luchetti gave her oration. After being led to General Washington's Tomb by the VASSAR Color Guard and the Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps, our wreath was laid by VASSAR First Vice President Pete Davenport and immediate past Chapter President Paul Walden. Afterward, members of the SAR, DAR, C.A.R., and visitors were invited to place a red carnation in front of the Tomb entrance. Compatriot Jack Coulter is to be recognized for keeping the area in front of the Tomb clear for participants. Our thanks to Color Guard Commander Bill Schwetke and the VASSAR Color Guard and to Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps Director, Don Deering and to the members of the Corps. Immediately after the ceremony, Mount Vernon staff member, Don Francisco was presented with the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal in recognition of his long-standing support of Chapter activities at Mount Vernon, and Compatriot Don Deering was awarded the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal for his support of Chapter functions.

The 128th Congress was held at the Westin Memorial City Hotel, Houston, Texas from Friday through Wednesday, 14-18 July. Mike Elston and I were the only two delegates from the George Washington Chapter. In addition to his duties as Virginia Trustee, Mike was elected to another three-year term as a member of the SAR Foundation Board. I spent the bulk of my time working on the Credentials Committee. It was a very good Congress; the Texas Society did a magnificent job.

The Virginia Society hosted the Atlantic Middle States Association Conference Friday through Saturday, 10 & 11 August, at the Marriott at City Center, Newport News. Again, Mike and I were the only two George Washington Chapter members attending. Mike served as master of ceremonies. The Saturday afternoon guided tour of Jamestown was especially interesting.

Our first monthly meeting after our summer break will be on Saturday, 08 September, commencing at 11:30 am at the Belle Haven Country Club. Our speaker will be President General Warren Alter. After the meeting, we shall go to Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) where the President General will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on behalf of the National Society. The meeting will be a short one as we must make certain that we have enough time to get to the Cemetery, park, and catch the trolley to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Unless you have a relative buried in ANC and have an access pass, you will not be able to drive onto the Cemetery. The wreath presentation is scheduled for 4:15 pm.

Later in September on Friday and Saturday, 14 & 15, the Virginia Society will conduct its Semiannual Meeting at the Holiday Inn in Charlottesville hosted by the Thomas Jefferson Chapter. On Sunday, 16 September at 1:00 pm, there will be a Constitution Day Ceremony at Pohick Church. Finally, the National Society's Fall Leadership Meeting will be held from Thursday through Saturday, 27-29 September, at the Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky. Also, Yorktown Day will be held, as usual, on Friday, 19 October in Yorktown. On Sunday, 11 November, Veterans' Day, we shall conduct

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4th of July, 2018 (con't)

Paul Walden (l), Past President, GW Chapter, VASSAR; and Pete Davenport (r) First Vice-President, VASSAR, placing a wreath on behalf of VASSAR at Washington's Tomb. Darrin Schmidt, VASSAR Color Guard is shown to the left.

Emily Elston, National Vice-President, Mid-Southern Region, CAR (l); and Holly Mckinley Schimdt, Historian, Virginia DAR (r), placed a wreath on behalf of the CAR and DAR at George Washington's Tomb

President	*Ernie B. Coggins: 703-241-2807*
Vice President	*David R. Thomas: 703-583-8791*
Secretary	*Thomas Roth, III: 703-739-8811*
Treasurer	*Jay M. Henn: 703-447-0820*
Registrar	*Richard Sherman: 301-654-6319*

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:
Paul Walden: 703-347-9770

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 Pete Farley. Inputs from chapter officers, committee chairmen, and fellow compatriots are always needed. Please send your inputs and comments to **nyyno7@verizon.net** *or call 703-585-3163.*

4th of July, 2018 (con't)

In accordance with long standing tradition, George Washington Chapter Vice-President, Dave Thomas was invited to participate in the annual July 4 Naturalization Ceremony at Mt. Vernon by leading our newest fellow citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Vice-President Thomas is shown here preparing to lead the Pledge.

President's Corner (con't)

our wreath laying ceremony at General Washington's Tomb on Mount Vernon in conjunction with the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, Virginia DAR. Should you need any additional information about any of these events, please see me or one of the other Chapter officers.

The members of the Chapter's Nominating Committee for 2019 Officers will be announced at our September meeting. The Nomination Committee's slate will be presented at our October meeting, and elections will be held at our November meeting. In December, we are planning to hold a joint meeting with the George Mason Chapter when Virginia Society President Pat Kelly will install the 2019 officers for both Chapters.

While all of you are to be commended for your dedication to and support of the Chapter, WE ALL need to concentrate more on membership. Our Chapter needs new members, and it needs more of the membership to step forward to support our programs and activities. If you are interested in helping out, please contact me or one of our other Chapter officers.

Finally speaking of membership, it will soon be time to renew yours. Please be prompt and I would ask that you make a contribution to support our Chapter's many activities.

My thanks to all of you!

Ernie Coggins, GWSAR President

4th of July, 2018 (con't)

After the official commemorations at General Washington's Tomb, GW Chapter President Ernie Coggins (r) presented the NSSAR Bronze Roger Sherman Medal to Don Deering (l), former President, Maryland Society, Sons of the American Revolution, and founder–director of the Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps, in recognition of the assistance of the Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps in many GW Chapter sponsored commemorations.

George Washington Chapter President Ernie Coggins (r) presented the NSSAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to Sgt. Don Francisco (l) in recognition of his help with our commemorations of July 4 and Veterans Day over many years. Sgt. Francisco is fifer in residence at Mt. Vernon, and formerly a member of the President's Own Fife and Drum Corps (3rd U.S. Infantry).

(Below) Daughters of the American Revolution members attending, together with the Virginia Society Color Guard.

(Above) Jay Henn (r), Treasurer, and Jack Coulter (l) member, of the GW Chapter are shown here preparing to place carnations.

4th of July, 2018 (con't)

Virginia Society Color Guard together with the Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps.

Sons of the American Revolution members attending, together with the Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps.

Wren-Darne Family Cemetery Dedication
Falls Church, VA
14 July 2018

On 14 July 2018, members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Children of the American Revolution, National Society United States Daughters of the War of 1812, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Sons of the American Revolution, and Society of the War of 1812, attended a unveiling and dedication of grave markers for members of the Wren and Darne families who served in the American Revolution, War of 1812, and Civil War. The event was sponsored by the Freedom Hills Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Eliza Monroe Chapter of the National Society United States Daughters of the War of 1812, and the General Robert E. Lee Chapter 233, United Daughters of the Confederacy. Beth VanDoren Boswell, Regent, Freedom Hill Chapter NSDAR served as master of ceremonies.

Four grave markers were dedicated: Colonel James Wren, Col. VA Militia, American Revolution; John S. Wren, VA Militia, War of 1812; Robert Darne, Corps d'Elite VA Militia, War of 1812; and John Robert Darne, CSA, Civil War. These patriots are interred in the old family graveyard on the grounds of Longview Plantation in Falls Church, Virginia, built by Patriot James Wren. James Wren was a Colonel in the Fairfax Militia during the American Revolution and later served as Justice of the Peace, Commissioner of Land Tax, and County Sheriff. His manor house, built in 1770, still stands and in fact, the current owners, Mr. and Mrs. David Magness, hosted a reception in the house following the ceremony. Patriot Wren also operated a tavern in Falls Church which was visited by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, who sought refuge here when the Capital was burned by the British in 1814. Wren also designed the Falls Church and Pohick Church, both which still stand today and remain active Episcopal parishes.

Paul Walden, Board of Managers, George Washington Chapter, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution, and Secretary, Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia, represented both societies at the event.

Wren-Darne Family Cemetery (con't)

(Right) Beth VanDoren Boswell, Regent, Freedom Hill Chapter NSDAR serves as master of ceremonies.

(Above) National Society United States Daughters of the War of 1812 and Society of the War of 1812 members standing in front of Robert Darne grave. Paul Walden, 3rd from left.

(Right) Color guard posts colors

Sons, Grandsons, Brothers and Nephews-- Members in the SAR?

For those George Washington Chapter members who have a son, grandson, brother or a nephew and have not yet submitted or encouraged them for SAR membership this is an excellent time to consider their respective membership. By submitting their names for membership you continue to honor your patriot ancestor, and the unique history of your family as descendants of a Revolutionary War era ancestor.

The process is not hard and the document requirements are minimal, given they can use your approved SAR membership Record Copy document as the core evidence to prove their individual lineage to the Revolutionary War patriot. Birth certificates/records will be needed and some cases a marriage certificate may be required, with guidance being provided by the George Washington Chapter Registrar, Richard Sherman.

Membership in the SAR and the George Washington Chapter would be uniquely diverse--joining an organization that actively honors current day men and women who are law enforcement officers, fire & rescue and EMS personnel serving our local communities with distinction. A Chapter that supports a variety of youth programs and offers participation in patriotic ceremonies that celebrate the foundations and commemorations associated with our Nation's history--marching in the George Washington Birthday and National Memorial Day parades, celebrating and recognizing the significance of the 4th of July and Veterans Day with ceremonies at Mt. Vernon, and the solemn ceremony of recognition and remembrance at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery--with these and other activities providing a wide range of interests and opportunities to participate for new members.

Membership applications can be submitted individually, or as gifts by the Chapter member if they prefer. Further, more than one application can be submitted at the same time potentially qualifying and saving money for applicants under the SAR Family Plan discount.

For questions and information on the application process, needed documentation and fees, please contact the George Washington Chapter Registrar, Rich Sherman at email: *rmsalp@gmail.com*

The George Washington Chapter's wreath with carnations placed by SAR compatriots on July 4th, 2018

Sunday, September 16
1 - 1:30 PM

Pohick Church
9301 Richmond Highway
Lorton, Virginia 22079

The George Washington Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution, will be commemorating Constitution Day at 1:00 pm on Sunday, Sept. 16 at historic Pohick Episcopal Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton, VA. The Rev. Tom Costa will be portraying Rev. Lee Massey, the colonial rector of Pohick Church, which was the parish church of George Washington and George Mason and is the final resting place of 15 Patriots of the American Revolution. Constitution Day commemorates the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution by thirty-nine brave men on September 17, 1787. The public is welcome to attend.

4th of July March to the Tomb at Mount Vernon

Following the completion of the Tomb Grove Ceremonies, the VASSAR Color Guard, together with the Frederick Town Fife and Drum Corps, led the assembly to General Washington's Tomb for the Wreath Laying Ceremony.

(Right) Holly McKinley Schmidt, Historian, Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution, brought greetings from the Virginia DAR.

(Below) Pete Davenport, 1st Vice-President of the Virginia Society, SAR presented greetings from VASSAR. Vice-President Davenport is shown here flanked by the VASSAR Color Guard, including Bill Schwetke, VASSAR 2nd V-P; Joe Dooley, former President-General NSSAR; and Jeff Thomas, VASSAR 3rd V-P.

Registrar's Report – August 2018

Since the last Registrar's report in May, there has been 1 new member approved by NSSAR. There are currently 4 New Member applications and 2 Supplemental applications under review at NSSAR. There were no new-member inductions at the May meeting. There are up to 6 inductions pending for the fall, 3 are pretty definite, it's a matter of availability.

APPLICATION STATUS

APPLICANT	PATRIOT
New Members Approved	
Rand Pixa	Nathaniel Redd
New Member Applications Submitted	
William, Brendan, and Joseph Johnson	Richard Johnson
David Kunsman	George Gilbert
Supplemental Applications Submitted	
Jamie Callender	Daniel Bissell
Paul Walden	Nathaniel Reid

2018 GWSAR REGISTRAR CUMULATIVE APPROVAL TOTALS

Regular	2
Junior	0
Supplemental	0
Memorial	0
Transfers and Dual Memberships	1
Total New Members	3
Forgotten Patriot	0

Richard M. Sherman
Registrar, GWSAR

4th of July March to the Tomb (con't)

(Left) Gabby Luchetti, participant in the 2018 VASSAR Rumbaugh Orations Contest, reprised her contest oration.

(Right) Following our March to the Tomb of Gen.Washington, the members of GW Chapter, other SAR compatriots and members of the DAR and CAR gathered in the grove below the Tomb for a commemorative ceremony.

4th of July March to the Tomb (con't)

(Above) Ernie Coggins, President of the GW Chapter delivered a set of extended remarks in honor of Independence Day and the Washington family.

(Left) GW Chapter Chaplain, Don Reynolds offered an invocation. Compatriot Reynolds is a former President of the GW Chapter and of VASSAR.

4th of July March to the Tomb (con't)

(Left) Emily Elston, National Vice-President, Mid-Southern region, Children of the American Revolution, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Emily is shown here with Dave Thomas.

(Right) Don Baldwin, GW Chapter President in 1963 was recognized for his role in originating the GW Chapter's March to the Tomb and Wreath Laying Ceremony on July 4. Compatriot Baldwin is also a former President of VASSAR.

(Below) The Tomb Grove Ceremony was led by GW Chapter Vice-President and VASSAR Registrar, Dave Thomas.

George Washington Chapter, Virginia SAR

Luncheon Meeting Reservation Form

Chapter Meeting: 11:30 a.m., **Saturday, September 8, 2018**

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

It's too early to say that autumn is just around the corner, but our next Chapter meeting is! Please join us as we welcome NSSAR President General Warren M. Alter as our guest speaker for September. Compatriot Alter had a thirty-nine year career as a law enforcement officer and then taught law enforcement-related courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. He joined the SAR in 1998 because of the SAR's Law Enforcement Commendation program, as well as an interest in geneaology.

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 mehtods, please make sure that your reservation is received no later than **Tuesday, September 4** 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 8, 2018**

(1) Compatriot Name: _____

(2) Guest Name(s): _____

Please note if any of the guests are children

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

$ _____ is enclosed.

(4) 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.

VIRGINIA SAR

Sons of the American Revolution

Semi-Annual Meeting Agenda

September 14-15, 2018

Holiday Inn
Charlottesville--Univ. Area
1901 Emmet Street North
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Friday, September 14th

11:00 am – 1:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting	Board Room
2:00 – 4:00 pm	Board of Managers Meeting	Madison & Monroe
1:00 – 7:00 pm	Registration	Ballroom Foyer
4:30 – 7:00 pm	Dinner (on your own)	Hotel/Area Restaurants
7:30– 9:00 pm	Ladies' Program	Monticello
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Registrar/Genealogy Workshop	Madison & Monroe
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Administrative/Awards Workshop	Jefferson
8:00 – 9:00 pm	Color Guard Workshop	Madison & Monroe
8:00 – 9:00 pm	Americanism Workshop	Jefferson
9:30 – 11:00 pm	President's Reception	Room 629

Saturday, September 15th

6:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast (on your own)	Hotel/Area Restaurants
7:00 – 9:00 am	Registration	Ballroom Foyer
8:30 – 10:30 am	General Membership Meeting	Madison & Monroe
9:00 – 10:30 am	Ladies' Program	Monticello
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Social Time	Ballroom Foyer
12:00 – 2:00 pm	Luncheon	Presidential Ballroom
2:00 – 4:00 pm	VA Society of the War of 1812 Meeting	Monticello

Cutoff date for registration is

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

Upcoming Events

08 September – Saturday: **George Washington Chapter Meeting at 11:30**
Speaker: **President General Warren Alter**
Belle Haven Country Club
6023 Fort Hunt Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22307
President General Wreath Laying at 4:15
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington, Virginia 22211

14-15 September – Friday and Saturday: **Virginia Society Semi-Annual Meeting**
Holiday Inn
1901 Emmet Street N
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

16 September – Sunday: **1 p.m. -- Constitution Day Ceremony**
Pohick Church
9301 Richmond Highway
Lorton, Virginia 22079

27-30 September – Thursday-Sunday: **NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting**
The Brown Hotel
335 W Broadway
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

05-06 October – Friday and Saturday: **Point Pleasant Battle Days Celebration**
Tu-Endie-Wei State Park
1 Main Street
Point Pleasant, West Virginia 25550

06 October – Saturday: **Battle of Kings Mountain**
Kings Mountain National Military Park
2625 Park Road
Blacksburg, South Carolina 29702

13 October – Saturday: **George Washington Chapter Meeting at 11:30**
Speaker: **Katrina Krempasky**, Fairfax County Courthouse Historic Records
Belle Haven Country Club
6023 Fort Hunt Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22307

19 October – Friday: **Yorktown Day**
Grace Episcopal Church
111 Church Street
Yorktown, Virginia

10 November – Saturday: **George Washington Chapter Meeting at 11:30**
Speaker: **William Webber**
The Weems-Botts Museum
Belle Haven Country Club
6023 Fort Hunt Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22307

11 November – Sunday: **Mount Vernon Veterans Day Ceremony**
Wreath Laying Washington's Tomb
Mount Vernon Estate
3200 Mount Vernon Highway
Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121

08 December – Saturday: **Joint Meeting of the George Mason and George Washington Chapters Meeting at 11:30**
Speaker: **Pat Kelly**
Virginia Society, President
Installation of 2019 Officers – Virginia Society President Pat Kelly presiding
Mount Vernon Country Club
5111 Old Mill Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22309

Has Your Patriot'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 rights 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 the flag is displayed. 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 to paulwalden@live.com Thanks!

The majority of photos in this newsletter and previous editions are attributed to Tom Roth, the GW Chapter Historian--and Photographer.