

# Fairfax Resolves Chapter

## Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution



### Upcoming Events:

September 10:  
Chapter Meeting

September 18-19:  
VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting  
Roanoke, Virginia

October 3-4:  
Battle of Point Pleasant  
Point Pleasant, WV

October 7:  
Battle of Kings Mountain  
Blacksburg, SC

October 10:  
Chapter Meeting

Unless specified, all Chapter functions will be held  
at:

Falcons Landing  
20522 Falcons Landing Circle  
Potomac Falls, VA 20165

<http://www.fairfaxresolvessar.org>

### President's Message July 2015



Chapter President Vern Eubanks

### Compatriots,

I look forward to working with all of the members of the Fairfax Resolves over the next year and a half as chapter president. I have big shoes to fill, especially since we have lost several long term hard-chargers with a wealth of corporate memory. I will need your help to sustain the good reputation Fairfax Resolves has earned among our brother chapters. I will start with – owing to relocations and such, we do not have a full slate of officers. We are one of the most active SAR Chapters in Virginia, and we have no plan to reduce our community and public service commitments. Our feedback is that Fairfax Resolves Chapter has a healthy impact within the community and we will stand the course. Please consider accepting an open vice president office, chaplain, or generally assisting the registrar, secretary, or other officer in some way.

Fairfax Resolves has recently been challenged to secure a conveniently located meeting place, a fact that has affected our membership attendance greatly. We will never locate a perfect meeting location, but a site easily accessible to the majority of members will increase our effectiveness in attracting prominent speakers and subject matter experts on the American Revolutionary Era. We have had fantastic speakers recently, such as Marc

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Leepson, who is scheduled for our September meeting.

No one SAR template fits every individual, yet every individual can support in one way or another. Attending meetings or taking an officer's position might not fit you because of professional, family, or health reasons. However, there are other things you can do that are even more fun. Being a service organization, our creed encourages us to conduct youth activities, such as History Day, essay, oration, and poster contests; and recognition of public service, including law enforcement, EMS, Fire Safety, and teaching. These are all enjoyable and you take pride that you have done something worthwhile by recognizing public service or by enriching the learning experience of the community's youth. Check out our Facebook and web page for a complete list and for photos of these events. You will find a place suiting your interests and skills. The photos on our social media were taken by the same 3 or 4 photographers. The photographers can use your help, because their attention is on working the event and they miss some excellent snapshots. If you are a shutterbug, consider coming along with our Revolutionary War color guard local/regional events (fun for the whole family too), or be our photographer of JROTC awards, for example. The historical events are not just for color guard participation, you and the family can have fun taking in the living history exhibits (surgeon, blacksmith, soldier), and wear a period outfit if you like. Photographing events is just one area where we can always use help from members and non-members. Note that Fairfax Resolves is a 501c3 organization - donations, including mileage & hotel expenses for participants, are tax deductible (refer to IRS rules & regs as to how this applies to you).

A chapter roster has been sent to each chapter member. My first objective is to validate and

update information on the roster the officers can alert the membership of upcoming meetings or changes of meeting venue. A second objective is to alert the membership to our social media presence of website and Facebook. We will not overload your email account with emails, but I do want to alert members to meetings and events by email a week or so before each event to encourage the fellowship and participation that comes from increased attendance. A third objective is to promote member-to-member communication.

Please check out our Facebook page, search on Fairfax Resolves Chapter.

I hope to see you at our Sept 10 meeting at Falcon's Landing Retirement home in Sterling.

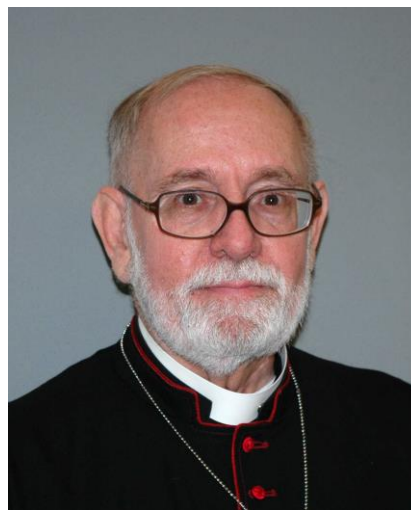
Very respectfully,

Vern Eubanks  
President

### **A WORD OF THANKS**

Compatriots,

During these past four years I have been honored to be allowed to serve the Fairfax



Past 1<sup>st</sup> VP and Chaplain The Reverend Cannon Howell Sasser

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Resolves Chapter as Chaplain and for the last year as First Vice President. In addition, the Virginia Society honored me by electing me as VASSAR Chaplain for the last two years.

However, life changes and things have happened to force me to make decisions about my future. As a result of my declining health, (six hospital visits plus one operation for me and pending operations for Elaine), Elaine and I have been forced to make plans to move from our most pleasant townhouse here in Fairfax County to a retirement community. Our new home will be in Mechanicsburg, PA. I will be unable to serve as Chapter President in the coming year.

I take this opportunity to thank each and every member of Fairfax Resolves Chapter for their kindness and support during my tenure of office. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve the Chapter. Be assured that as soon as I am settled in Pennsylvania I will seek out and become active in the Harrisburg Chapter.

With fraternal gratitude,  
Howell C. Sasser

### **2015 VASSAR KNIGHT ESSAY WINNER**

Our 2015 Knight Essay Chapter winner, Sierra Chen, was selected as the 2015 Virginia Society winner of the Knight Essay Competition. Sierra, a junior at Trinity Christian School in Fairfax, Virginia, attended our April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at Falcons Landing. She presented her essay entitled "The Sacrificial Preservation of American Ideals" and received her Chapter award and her VASSAR \$1000 award and State Medal. Congratulations, Sierra!



Knight Essay Committee Chairman Jeff Thomas presents the Thomas Jefferson Medal to 2015 Chapter winner Sierra Chen.

### **GEN. EARL ANDERSON RECEIVES THE GOLD GOOD CITIZENSHIP MEDAL**

The Virginia Society presented the Gold Good Citizenship Medal (GGCM) to General Earl Anderson at the 8th Annual GGCM gala held on April 11, 2015 at the Belle Haven Country Club in Alexandria, Virginia. In honor of General Anderson and in memory of his Patriot ancestor, Captain Randall Wells, First and Second Hopkinton Companies, Rhode Island



Seated: General Earl Anderson. Standing, L to R: Dwight Whitney, George Washington Chapter, Bill Price, Fairfax Resolves Chapter, Emcee Larry McKinley, and Reverdy Wright, VASSAR President.

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Militia, Fairfax Resolves donated two copies of "Marines in the Revolution" by Charles Smith to the West Virginia University Library.

### FAIRFAX RESOLVES REPRESENTS VASSAR AT DC SOCIETY EVENT HONORING THOMAS JEFFERSON

The District of Columbia Society held its seventy-second annual Jefferson Memorial Ceremony on the grounds of the memorial on April 13, 2015. The event marked the 272nd anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson.



L to R: Oliver Schwab and Ana Ellis, representatives of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation, and Chapter President Bill Price

If you are in the Charlottesville area this summer, be sure to visit Monticello and see for yourself the outstanding work being done by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation (<http://www.monticello.org>).

### LOC FUNDRAISER COMPLETED

Magna Carta celebrates its 800th birthday this year, and Fairfax Resolves was an active supporter and fund raiser for the Library of Congress exhibit Magna Carta: Muse and

Mentor. You can read more about the exhibit at <http://1.usa.gov/1IKYf0f>.



Chapter President Bill Price presents the final fund raising check for the Magna Carta exhibit to Library of Congress Chief of Staff Robert Newlen in this photo from April 17th.

### SCOTT-MILLAN GRAVE MARKING AT FAIRFAX CEMETERY

On May 16th, we joined with the Fairfax County Chapter NSDAR to mark the graves of the Honorable Gustavus Scott and Ensign Thomas Millan. Both men are Revolutionary War Patriots, and are buried at Fairfax City Cemetery in Fairfax, Virginia. A joint SAR-NSDAR Color Guard presented the colors, and featured



Combined SAR-NSDAR Color Guard at Fairfax Cemetery on May 16, 2015.

members of the Maria Mitchell Chapter NSDAR. Both Scott and Millan family members provided the "Life and Times" presentations for their respective ancestor. Floral tributes were presented by each of the different organizations

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that attended, and Fairfax County Chapter NSDAR provided refreshments for over 80 guests once the event had concluded. Thanks to all for making the day a success!

### COLOR GUARD HONORS REV. WAR AND 1812 VETERANS

At 3PM on May 16th, the Fairfax Resolves Color Guard represented the Chapter at a plaque dedication honoring 20 Revolutionary War Patriots and 19 War of 1812 Veterans buried at Fredericksburg Masonic Cemetery. The cemetery is located on Charles Street between George and William Streets in downtown Fredericksburg. The Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution (VASSAR), Society of the War of 1812, and Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge #4 hosted the event. Leaders from the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) and Children of the American Revolution (CAR) were also in attendance.



Children of the American Revolution (CAR) Virginia contingent at Fredericksburg Masonic Cemetery on May 16, 2015.

### SCOTT GRAVE MARKINGS HELD AT AQUIA CEMETERY

At 2PM on May 17th, we conducted a grave marking ceremony at Aquia Episcopal Church in Stafford, Virginia. The ceremony was conducted with the Colonel Fielding Lewis Chapter SAR and the Overwharton Parish Chapter NSDAR. Members of the George Washington Chapter were also in attendance. The graves of the

Reverend James Scott and his son William Scott were marked to acknowledge their contributions of food and horses to the Continental Army. These acts of public service were recorded in Fairfax, Fauquier, and Prince William Counties, Virginia.



Members of the Fairfax Resolves, George Washington, and Colonel Fielding Lewis Chapters at Aquia Church on May 17, 2015.

### NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Several Chapters (including Fairfax Resolves) participated in the 2015 Memorial Day Parade in Washington DC. Members gathered together for the photo below before the parade stepped off at 2PM on May 25, 2015.



Several Virginia chapters met to represent the Sons of the American Revolution at the 2015 National Memorial Day Parade.

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### TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECOGNIZED

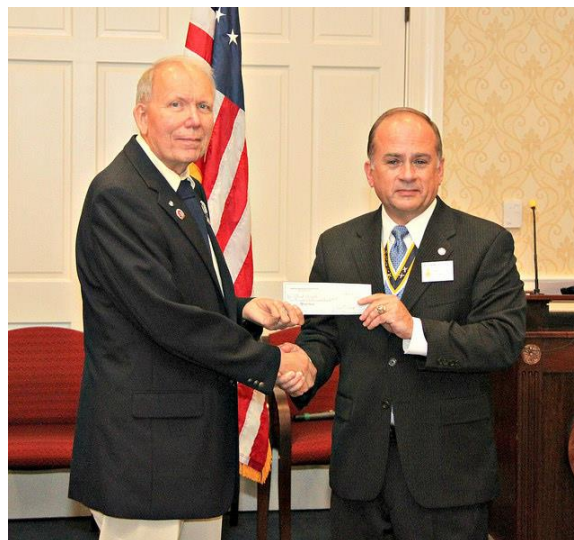
Mrs. Barbara Ruff, AP History teacher at McLean High School, was recognized at our December 2014 as Chapter Teacher of the Year. This February, the Virginia Society designated Barbara as its 2015 Teacher of the Year! We were able to present Mrs. Ruff her State awards in early June. McLean High School Principal Ellen Reilly also attended the brief outdoor ceremony. Congratulations Mrs. Ruff!!



Chapter President Bill Price (L, Principal Ellen Reilly, R) presents Mrs. Ruff with her trophy and \$500 award check.

### FUNDRAISING GOAL REACHED FOR THE PATRIOT PROJECT

Fairfax Resolves is a Yorktowne contributor to the Patriot Project! For more information about the Patriot Project, see their web site at <http://thepatriotproject.org/Home.aspx>. Thanks to all who contributed!!



Compatriot Donald G. Cooper, Historian for the Patriot Project (L) accepts a check for \$2,500 from Chapter President Bill Price.

### DAR MEMBER RECEIVES SAR MEDAL OF APPRECIATION

Mrs. Marsha L. Price of the Providence Chapter, NSDAR, was presented the SAR Medal of Appreciation at the June 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meeting. In announcing the award, Chapter President Bill Price noted "she always puts others before herself, and has the uncanny ability to identify and meet the needs of others before they even realize those needs themselves." Marsha is the wife of our outgoing Chapter President.



NSDAR member Marsha L. Price receives the SAR Medal of Appreciation.

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### 2015-2016 OFFICERS INDUCTED

VASSAR 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Mike Elston presided at the June 13<sup>th</sup> induction ceremony of our Chapter Officers for 2015-2016. Pictured from right to left are 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Elston, Chapter President Vern Eubanks, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Jeff Thomas, Secretary Larry McKinley, Treasurer John Terry, Registrar Dave Cook, Webmaster and Past President Darrin Schmidt, Board of Managers member Marv Murray, and Board of Managers member Bill Price.



VASSAR 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Mike Elston inducts Fairfax Resolves Chapter Officers for 2015-2016.

### CHAPTER ATTENDS MEMORIAL DEDICATION IN CULPEPER

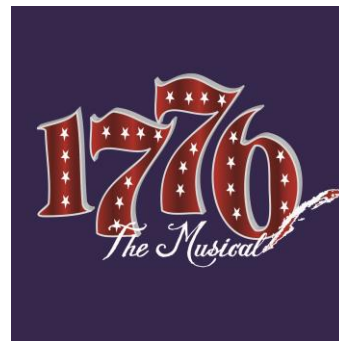
On June 20, the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter presided at the dedication of a memorial for Gabriel Long (b. 1751), who served in Captain John Jameson's Company, Culpeper Minutemen Battalion in Culpeper in the fall of 1775. Long fought victoriously at Great Bridge in December, 1775 to rid Virginia of British control. Commissioned Captain in Colonel Daniel Morgan's 11th Virginia Regiment, he served in all major engagements under General George Washington to include the defeat of General John Burgoyne in the Saratoga Campaign, and the Siege of Yorktown.

President Vern Eubanks led the chapter delegation, and placed a wreath in honor of Gabriel Long and on behalf of Fairfax Resolves. The U.S. Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps participated in the event, and demonstrated a

series of Revolutionary-era maneuvers as part of the dedication. At the end of the ceremony, VASSAR President Reverdy Wright and Culpeper Minutemen Chapter President Bill Schwetke presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the members of the Old Guard. Approximately 75 local citizens, SAR members, and NSDAR members were in attendance.



VASSAR President Reverdy Wright and Culpeper Minutemen Chapter President Bill Schwetke present a Certificate of Appreciation to the members of the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps at the conclusion of the ceremony.



### GUEST CONTRIBUTOR: 1776

(Our guest contributor for this issue of our newsletter is Jamie Highfill, wife of Compatriot Brian Eubanks. Jamie has kindly contributed a review of the musical 1776.)

The 1972 musical comedy, 1776, is a light-hearted, slightly slapstick and sometimes bawdy, snapshot of the weeks leading up to the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Told from the point of view of John Adams, played by William Daniels (The Graduate, Two for the Road, and Oh, God!), and through a

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series of letters and imaginary conversations to his wife, Abigail, we see a man with firm convictions, almost to the point of alienating his fellow senators, but also a man with a strong sense of moral courage.

Benjamin Franklin, played by Howard de Silva (The Man from U.N.C.L.E., The Great Gatsby, and The Lost Weekend), is his practical and witty self, and provides the perfect sidekick for Adams, and with Thomas Jefferson (played by Ken Howard of The White Shadow and Murder, She Wrote fame) as the one delegated to write the document, the three make a delightful triumvirate.



The disagreement between Adams and Jefferson during revision of the Declaration about the use of the word “inalienable” made this English teacher chuckle, and Benjamin Franklin’s witticisms keep the mood of the story from falling into a historical drudge.

John Cullum (Northern Exposure), as Senator Edward Rutledge from South Carolina provides the perfect foil to the progress of the three, by refusing to sign unless references to slave-ownership are deleted, and he sings a powerful argument as his defense of the Southern way of life.

A Fourth of July tradition with my husband’s family, this film was a lovely reminder of what the holiday means to the history of our country and our culture.

