



The Defender

Fairfax Resolves Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Resolved that the fundamental principle of the people is being governed by no laws to which they have not given their consent

BEST VERY LARGE CHAPTER IN VIRGINIA 2017

FAIRFAX RESOLVES IS BEST VERY LARGE CHAPTER IN VIRGINIA



VASSAR President Mike Elston (center) presents the Best Very Large Chapter in Virginia award to Fairfax Resolves members (left to right) Rick Abbott, Dave Cook, Jeff Thomas, Bill Denk, Elston, Larry McKinley, Ken Bonner, Tim Diquino, Vern Eubanks and Darrin Schmidt

The Fairfax Resolves Chapter was recognized as the Best Very Large Chapter in Virginia for 2017 at the Virginia Society Annual Meeting in Richmond in February.

The award was presented by VASSAR President Mike Elston to the chapter in the Old Hall of the House of Delegates in the Virginia State Capitol.

Nine members of the chapter attended the award presentation. The Fairfax Resolves also received a number of other awards for Chapter Excellence, Rumbaugh Orations, History Day, Flag Program and Best Website.

The chapter sponsored the Best Fire Safety Officer of the Year, Lt. Raymond Foster who attended the awards presentation with his family, and Joseph Chudzik, VASSAR Citizen of the Year.

FAIRFAX RESOLVES COMPATRIOT JEFF THOMAS IS ELECTED VASSAR 3RD VICE PRESIDENT

Compatriot Jeff Thomas of the Fairfax Resolves chapter was elected VASSAR 3rd Vice President at the 2018 Annual Meeting in Richmond. He has served as Chair of the VASSAR Americanism Committee, member of the NSSAR Americanism Committee and an active member of the Virginia Society Color Guard. He was the President of the Fairfax Resolves chapter in 2017.

He has served the Fairfax Resolves chapter as President, 1st Vice President, Americanism Chair, Knight Essay Chair and on the Rumbaugh Orations Committee. He is the current chapter Treasurer, newsletter editor and a recipient of the chapter's Meritorious Service Medal and Outstanding Compatriot Award.

His Patriot ancestor is Corporal David Baker from Culpeper County, VA, who served in the 3rd Virginia Continental Line from 1776-1778, and he has five proven supplemental ancestors. He lives in Centreville, VA with his wife Linda and son Justin.



Compatriot Jeff Thomas of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter was elected VASSAR 3rd Vice President for 2018-2019

President's Message



Greetings Compatriots!

To begin, I wish to thank you for the opportunity to serve the Fairfax Resolves membership as Chapter President. I look forward to joining you as we continue honoring our Patriot ancestors by promoting our Nation's history and founding principals.

In early February, Chapter leadership participated in the 128th Annual

Meeting of the VASSAR in Richmond, where the Fairfax Resolves was recognized for contributions and achievements over the last year. Among those, we were awarded the Best Very Large Chapter in Virginia in 2017, Registrar Dave Cook was awarded the VASSAR Distinguished Service Medal, and Color Guard Commander and Webmaster Darrin Schmidt was awarded the VASSAR State Service Medal. And, reflective of his leadership of our Chapter, and contributions to State and National initiatives, past President Jeff Thomas was inducted as Third Vice President of the Virginia Society, SAR.

I'm pleased to report that our Chapter is embarked on a new year of membership and community engagement. Planning for 2018 began in early January, when the Board of Managers established the organization of committees and assignment of chairmanships. We also firmed up the calendar of events for the spring. Our Chapter website (FairfaxResolvesSAR.org) contains the schedule of events and programs.

As we head into 2018, we will continue chapter initiatives through various activities and community outreach that promote the SAR brand: conducting Historical American Flags and U.S. Constitution presentations to elementary schools, organizing and leading the State annual Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Orations contest for high school entrants, recognizing citizens for noteworthy public service contributions, participation in citizenship ceremonies, and membership growth. I challenge each of you to active participation in Chapter, State, and National events and, where interested, find Committees and activities to contribute.

Let's make 2018 the best year yet!

*Fraternally,
Ken Bonner, President
Fairfax Resolves, SAR*

Fairfax Resolves 2018 Board of Managers

President	Ken Bonner
1st VP	Tim Dioquino
2nd VP	Rick Garlick III
3rd VP	Rick Abbott
Secretary	Larry McKinley
Treasurer	Jeff Thomas
Registrar	Dave Cook
Chaplain	Larry McKinley
PR/Historian	Bill Denk
Webmaster	Darrin Schmidt
Past President	Jeff Thomas
3-Year Term	Vern Eubanks
2-Year Term	Allen Sackadorf
1-Year Term	Carl Loveland

Emeritus Officers

Secretary	Richard Spurr
Chaplain	William Youngs

The Defender is the quarterly newsletter of the Fairfax Resolves. Submit articles for publication to the editor by the first day of February, May, August and November at editor@fairfaxresolvessar.org

Editor	Jeff Thomas
--------	-------------

In honor of Bill Youngs, Emeritus Chaplain and a member of the Fairfax Resolves chapter for 30 years, who created *The Defender* newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming 2018 Events

- April 7** Robert Vicars Gravemarking
Scott County, VA
VASSAR Presidential Initiative
- April 8** Col. William Grayson Gravemarking
Virginia C.A.R., Woodbridge, VA - 2pm
- April 19** Patriots Day Commemoration
Arlington National Cemetery - 5pm
- April 21** James Monroe Commemoration
Colonial Beach, VA - 10am
- Apr 26-29** 18th Century Craft Fair
Brunswick, MD
- April 28** James Monroe Birthday
Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond - 11am
- April 29** Blockhouse at Natural Tunnel
Duffields, VA, VASSAR President Initiative
- May 12** Chapter Spring Luncheon
Raid at Martin's Station
- May 28** Memorial Day Parade
- June 2** Wayne's Crossing, Leesburg, VA
- June 14** Flag Day Retirement Ceremony

Fairfax Resolves Signer William Ramsay and Business in 18th Century Alexandria

March 28, 2018 - 7:30pm

Dr. Nancy Davis, curator emeritus at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, will discuss Fairfax Resolves signer and Alexandria merchant, William Ramsay, and 18th century business in Alexandria.

Sponsored by the Alexandria Historical Society at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria VA. Free and open to the public, no reservations needed.

Fairfax Resolves Signer John Carlyle "The Grandest Congress" French and Indian War in Alexandria

April 7, 2018 - 12:00pm

Re-enactment of the historic meeting between Major General Edward Braddock, Commander of His Majesty's Forces, and five colonial governors in the home of Alexandria merchant John Carlyle on April 15, 1755. Braddock sought funding for his upcoming campaign against the French. Carlyle called this gathering "the Grandest Congress."

The event will be held at the Carlyle House in Alexandria, VA. Admission is free.

The American Revolution: A World War

Opening June 26, 2018

Exhibit at the Smithsonian Museum of American History presents the Revolution in its global context. The exhibit will examine American motivations and contributions alongside those of the British, French, Spanish, and Dutch. It presents America's fight for independence as one of the first global struggles for power.

The companion book can be found at:
<https://www.smithsonianbooks.com/store/history/american-revolution-world-war/>

Lafayette and the Yorktown Campaign Bus Tour with Dr. John Maass

April 28, 2018 - 8:30am - 5:00pm

Tour of sites associated with Lafayette and his 1781 campaign in the Williamsburg and Yorktown areas.

Registration includes bus transportation, lunch, drinks & snacks during tour breaks, and an information package.

\$95 for SAR members (\$55 discount). Email cwea@earthlink.net for the discounted rate.

Information can be found at the link below:
<http://www.cwea.net/programs/1804-lafayette-and-yorktown-campaign-field-tour>

***From the Gazette-Virginian
February 18, 2018***



Crossing of the Dan

It was a chilly Saturday morning as the color guard marched from The Prizery across the street to Constitution Square for the closing ceremony honoring ancestors who served in the American Revolution, an event memorializing the 237th Anniversary of the Crossing of the Dan.

Understanding the importance of having children involved was Jeff Thomas of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter who participated in the color guard with his 11-year-old son, Justin.

It's a real, tangible piece of history that's he's able to share with his son. "I think it's very important that these kind of events take place in communities to see the celebration of heritage and to be reminded of our freedoms and how they came to be," said Thomas.

Also marching in the color guard was Richard Abbott of Leesburg, and supporting him in colonial attire was his wife. This was the second year they had participated in the event, and they said, "It's a lovely event, and we enjoyed it so much we want to come back next year."

Now in their retirement, the couple enjoys participating in historical events two to three times a year, and they called the Crossing of the Dan "something special."

"We really enjoy the pageantry of it all with the color guard and the wreath laying, and of course, the Brunswick stew," the two agreed.

Her husband added, "My ancestors fought in the revolution, and I try to honor them this way."

**Compatriot Dioquino Inducted
Into Society of the Cincinnati**



On February 17th, Compatriot Tim Dioquino, accompanied by his wife Judy, was inducted into The Society of the Cincinnati of Maryland at the Maryland Club in Baltimore, MD to represent his fifth great grandfather Brigadier General Mordecai Gist who was an Original Member and their first Vice President on November 21, 1783.

The members of the Society share a personal connection to the officers in the Continental and French service who secured the independence of the United States. With a current membership of over 3900, they also share a personal tie as fellow members of the oldest hereditary society in the United States. In most cases, only one descendant of a qualified officer of their native state can be a hereditary member of the Society.

As a Major, Mordecai Gist led the now legendary Maryland 400 of the First Maryland Regiment at the Battle of Brooklyn (Long Island) who repeatedly charged a numerically superior British force in one of the first engagements of the Revolutionary War. While sustaining heavy casualties on August 27, 1776, his delaying action allowed General Washington to successfully evacuate the bulk of his troops to Manhattan to continue fighting in the New York and New Jersey campaigns. Congratulations Compatriot Dioquino for representing your propositus and our Chapter!

Teacher of the Year



The chapter presented it's Teacher of the Year award to Erik Sasser at our March meeting. Sasser is a Social Studies and U.S. History teacher at Brambleton Middle School where he has taught early American history including the Revolutionary War. He is also an Adventure Summer Camp Instructor for middle school students, leading tours of local historic sites and teaching students about the actions and impacts of historical figures during Colonial America, the American Revolution and other time periods.

Wonderful Presentation!

Hi Mr. Thomas & Friends,

My fourth graders really enjoyed your flag presentation today. We had no idea how many flags our country went through while we were changing from British colonies into our present day United States. The way you all came dressed in your Revolutionary Continental Army uniforms, held up each flag and discussed each one at just the right level for fourth graders to understand was terrific. You were very patient with students' questions and answered them all. Special experiences like the one you provided to our class today, are the ones fourth graders will remember for the rest of their lives.

*Thanks so much,
Sherry Watkins
4th Grade Teacher*

Elementary Schools - Fun With Flags



Virginia Society C.A.R. Annual Conference

Four Compatriots of the Fairfax Resolves chapter attended the Virginia Society C.A.R. Conference in Richmond on March 9-11. Larry McKinley, National Personnel Chair, Darrin Schmidt, State Committee Chair, Jeff Thomas and Justin Thomas, Delegate for the Col. William Grayson C.A.R. Society. Larry McKinley and Darrin Schmidt with stormtroopers in the photo to the right; Jeff and Justin Thomas at the awards banquet below right; Justin Thomas in the C.A.R. Color Guard below.



Virginia DAR Conference



Fairfax Resolves Compatriot Jack Sweeney (second from right) attended the Virginia DAR Conference with his wife Carol.

Virginia C.A.R. Conference



VASSAR President Pat Kelly and Secretary Wayne Rouse with wife Wink present award to VSCAR President Emily Elston

Chapter Orations



The chapter orations contest was held in January at Falcon's Landing. There were four participants, all hailing from Bishop O'Connell High School.

Orations Chair Larry McKinley and Chapter President Ken Bonner presented certificates of participation to all of the students and awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Emily Fisk was the chapter winner.

State Orations

Chapter winner Emily Fisk placed second in the state Orations contest in Richmond.

VASSAR President Mike Elston presented her with a certificate and cash award after the state contest.



Mrs. Wentzel, teacher at Bishop O'Connell High School, was recognized at the state contest for her commitment to Orations over the years.

All participants in the state contest this year were from Bishop O'Connell High School.



Chapter Presents Eagle Scout Awards

The Fairfax Resolves Chapter presented certificates of recognition for achievement to four new Eagle Scouts of Troop 956 during their Court of Honor, held in January at the Galilee United Methodist Church in Sterling.

"We were honored to be invited by Scout Master Wayne Newcomb to participate in the Troop 956 Court of Honor and recognize the achievement of those who attained the rank of Eagle Scout," said Ken Bonner, President of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter.

The Eagle Scouts recognized during the Tuesday evening event on the 9th of January, include Zachary Lipschultz, Joseph Shangraw, James Sherwood, and Joshua Tilghman.



Pictured (left to right) with Eagle Scouts Joseph Shangraw and Joshua Tilgham are chapter officers Bill Denk, Larry McKinley, Ken Bonner, Vern Eubanks and Darrin Schmidt. Not pictured are Eagle Scouts Zack Lipschultz and James Sherwood.

VASSAR Fire Safety Officer of the Year



The Fairfax Resolves Chapter sponsored the VASSAR 2017 Fire Safety Officer of the Year, Lt. Raymond Foster, who attended the award ceremony with his family at the Virginia State Capitol in Richmond in February.

The chapter presented Lt. Foster with the SAR Fire Safety Commendation Medal during Fire Safety Week in October 2017. Lt. Foster is an officer on Tiller Truck 429 of Fire Station 29 in Tysons Corner.

Chapter Sponsors Citizen of the Year

The Fairfax Resolves Chapter sponsored the VASSAR 2017 Citizen of the Year, Joseph Chudzik. President Ken Bonner accepted the award on his behalf.

The chapter will present the award to Chudzik at a meeting of the Masons Neck Lions Club on March 28th at 7pm. President Bonner will present the award and be the keynote speaker at the Lions Club meeting.

Chudzik was awarded the Bronze Good Citizen Medal as the chapter's Citizen of the Year at its Constitution Day program..



Chapter President Ken Bonner accepts the award for VASSAR Citizen of the Year from President Mike Elston at the Virginia State Capitol in Richmond.



George Washington Birthday Parade

Compatriots Jeff Thomas and Vern Eubanks participated in the Color Guard during the George Washington Day Parade on February 19 in Old Town Alexandria.

Over 20 VASSAR Compatriots marched in the parade, led by the Frederick Town Fire and Drum Corps. VASSAR President Pat Kelly rode in the parade car.

Chapter Honors Veterans at Holiday Luncheon



The Fairfax Resolves chapter presented SGT Cameron Benton Clawson, USMC (ret) with the SAR War Service Medal with Afghanistan Bar at its holiday awards luncheon. Clawson was also presented with a Certificate of Patriotism as a member of the Southwest Asia Veterans Corps. This certificate was signed by President General Larry Guzy and authorizes the recipient to wear the War Service Medal with Afghanistan Bar “in grateful recognition of his service to our country during Operation Enduring Freedom.”

Compatriot Clawson (third from left in photo) was an Intelligence Specialist who was deployed to Afghanistan for 17 months, serving with the 3rd Marine Intelligence Battalion and the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. He received the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with 3 stars among other unit and personal medals.

Taking part in the presentation were other members of the chapter who have received the War or Military Service Medal including Woody Bentley, Tim Dioquino and Rick Garlick.

Operation Deploy Your Dress

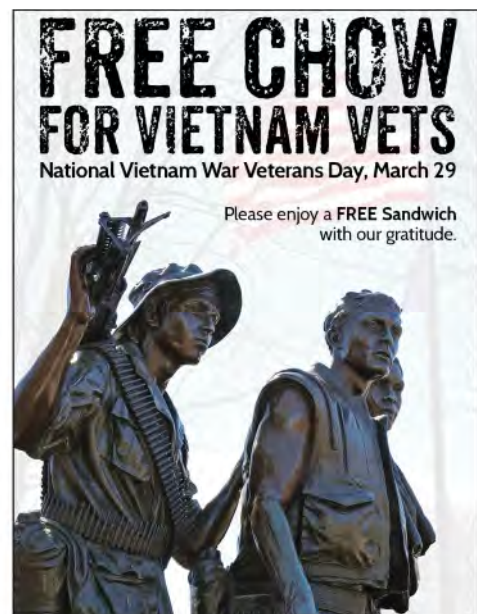
The Fairfax Resolves chapter joined the Providence Chapter of the NSDAR in a holiday project collecting formal wear for active duty military personnel. The project collected donations of new or gently used formal wear to help defray the costs of attending military balls and galas.

Southwest Asia Veterans Corps

125 members of the SAR are members of the Southwest Asia Veterans Corps. The Fairfax Resolves chapter has two members. Compatriots Cameron Clawson and Sean Cook have both been recognized by the SAR Veterans Recognition Committee.

Compatriots who served in the Persian Gulf War (2 August 1990 – 30 November 1995) or in the Iraq War (20 March 2003 – 18 December 2011) are eligible to be recognized.

The purpose of the SW Asia Veterans Corps is to recommend to the President General that a Compatriot be presented a Certificate of Patriotism and have his name added to the NSSAR SW Asia Veterans Corps. The verifying instrument shall be the appropriate campaign medal, service medal, or expeditionary medal as associated with a particular operation and/or several operations.



Vietnam Veterans can enjoy a free sandwich all day at Mission BBQ in Chantilly, VA on March 29. The Voice of Freedom Mobile Studio will also be on site at noon.



Crossing of the Dan

Five members of the Fairfax Resolves chapter participated in the Commemoration of the Crossing of the Dan on February 17, 2018 in South Boston, VA. The Crossing of the Dan is one of four national SAR events held in Virginia each year.

Members in the photo (left to right) were Rick Abbott, Jeff Thomas, Ken Bonner, Justin Thomas and Dave Cook. After a presentation by Mike Cecere on the British Invasion of Virginia, we marched to Constitution Square for the wreath ceremony.

Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary Soldier

Fairfax Resolves Color Guard members Jeff Thomas and Vern Eubanks took part in the annual ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Alexandria on President's Day.

Compatriot Vern Eubanks presented a carnation at the grave of the unknown soldier on behalf of the chapter during the ceremony.



James Madison's Birthday

Five members of the Fairfax Resolves chapter participated in the Commemoration of James Monroe's Birthday on March 16, 2018 at Montpelier. Chapter President Ken Bonner presented the chapter wreath.

Chapter members in the photo (left to right) were Vern Eubanks, Bill Denk, Dave Cook, Ken Bonner, VASSAR President Pat Kelly and Tim Dioquino.

Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death

Fairfax Resolves Color Guard members Jeff Thomas and Dave Cook participated in the 243rd Anniversary of Patrick Henry's Speech at Historic St. John's Church in Richmond, VA, on March 16, 2018, including a re-enactment of the speech.

In the photo below left, Jeff Thomas participated in the VASSAR Color Guard for the ceremony. In the photo below right, Jeff Thomas stands with Edmund Pendleton (left) and Patrick Henry (right) with the chapter wreath.



VASSAR 2018 Presidential Initiative



Date: Saturday, April 7, 2018
 Time: 2:00 pm
 Place: Old Vicars Cemetery
 County Rd. 680 & VA-71 Russell
 County, VA

April 7, 2018
Patriot Robert Vicars
Grave Marking Ceremony



Please join in honoring a patriot of the American Revolution who served in the militia and the Continental Army of Virginia. The cemetery is on land once owned by Robert Vicars, the farmer. The ceremony is sponsored by the John Sevier Chapter of the TNSSAR. Participants will include members of the TNSSAR and VASSAR as well as DAR members and Color Guards of both states in period dress. After the ceremony you are invited to join us at the Historic Old Russell County Courthouse, Co Rd. 836 (Alt. Hwy 58) for a reception with light refreshments provided and hosted by the Tabitha Adams Russell Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. You are also invited to tour the Historic Old Russell County Courthouse and Dickenson Home, schoolhouse, and grounds. **NOTE: Please bring a folding chair. Ladies are advised to wear flat shoes as the cemetery is on a grassy knoll.**



Patriot Grave Marker Ceremony
Colonel William Grayson
April 8, 2018 at 2 p.m.

Sponsored by the Children of the American Revolution. **The Fairfax Resolves chapter will provide Color Guard for the ceremony.**

Col. Grayson was an aide to George Washington during the Revolutionary War and one of the first two U.S. Senators from Virginia.

The Grayson Burial Site is located at 2336-2338 West Longview Drive, Woodbridge, VA.



Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony
May 12, 2018

The George Washington Chapter will mark the graves of four Patriots located at the Presbyterian Cemetery, 600 Hamilton Lane, Alexandria, VA.

The four Patriots are John Turpin Brooks, Joseph Dean, William McKnight and Dennis Ramsay.

Dennis Ramsay is the son of Fairfax Resolves signer William Ramsay.

Member Awards at Chapter Holiday Luncheon



Chapter Minuteman Medal

Vern Eubanks and Larry McKinley were awarded the inaugural Chapter Minuteman Medals



Distinguished Service Medal

Darrin Schmidt received the Distinguished Service Medal, the highest award by a chapter



Meritorious Service Medals

Ken Bonner, Bill Denk, Rick Abbott, Dave Cook



Bronze Roger Sherman Medal

Tim Dioquino was awarded the Sherman Medal

Awards at the Virginia Society Annual Meeting



Distinguished Service Medal

Dave Cook was awarded the State Distinguished Service Medal at the VASSAR Annual Meeting



Best Chapter Website

Darrin Schmidt accepted the award for Best Chapter Website at VASSAR Annual Meeting

Descendants of Fairfax Resolves Signer



Wesley and Raymond Dade are descended from the Rev. Townsend Dade, Jr., a signer of the Fairfax Resolves.

Wesley and Raymond Dade, descendants of Fairfax Resolves signer Rev. Townsend Dade, Jr., were inducted into the Fairfax Resolves chapter on January 25, 2018.

Both attended the 243rd Anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves in July 2017 and Raymond Dade portrayed his ancestor during the ceremony.

Rev. Townsend Dade, Jr. was one of 25 signers of the Fairfax Resolves on July 18, 1774, which outlined the key constitutional issues between the colonies and the crown.

Rev. Townsend Dade, Jr. was the first rector of Christ Church in Alexandria 1765-1778.



Kevin Kline
Inducted January 25, 2018
Ancestor John Jacob Mickley, PA



James and John Murphy
Inducted January 25, 2018
Ancestor Nicholas Brower, NY



Jeffrey Riner
Inducted January 25, 2018
Ancestor Peter Troutman, PA

New Members Inducted at March Chapter Meeting

President Ken Bonner welcomes new members at the chapter meeting at The Falls Church on March 10, 2018. From left to right are Stephen, Houston and Bradley Nelson, descended from ancestor Daniel Shedd of NH; Bryan DeWinter, descended from ancestor Levi Goddard of CT; and Joyce Reif, accepting for her son Aaron Reif, descended from ancestor Joshua Brush of NY.





Outstanding Compatriot

Jeff Thomas accepted the 2017 Outstanding Compatriot award from namesake Larry McKinley

Holiday Awards Luncheon

The chapter held its holiday awards luncheon at Hamrock's Restaurant in the Moore-McCandlish House in Fairfax. Compatriots enjoyed a social hour and luncheon buffet. VASSAR 2nd Vice President Tom Whetstone attended and installed the chapter's 2018 officers. Members were recognized for achievement in the Outstanding Compatriot Program at the Patriot, Commander and Defender level for chapter service in 2017 with awards for participation, attendance and leadership in the chapter's events and activities. 55 compatriots earned points in the program this year and 18 achieved one of the three recognition levels. One compatriot is recognized as the Outstanding Compatriot each year.



Patriots

Jeff Thomas , Larry McKinley, Rick Abbott, Ken Bonner, Darrin Schmid, Bill Denk, Vern Eubanks, Justin Thomas and Dave Cook



Commanders

Tim Dioquino, Carl Loveland, Rich Garlick and Rick Garlick



Defenders

Jack Sweeney, Woody Bentley



Orations Contest

The chapter's orations contest and January meeting was held at Falcon's Landing. President Ken Bonner led the meeting and Larry McKinley was MC for the Orations contest.



The Falls Church

At the chapter's March meeting, Docent Joe Ewbanks led members on a tour of The Falls Church, built in 1769. George Washington and George Mason were Vestrymen of the church.

National Society Spring Leadership Meeting



Fairfax Resolves Compatriots Darrin Schmidt and Larry Mckinley (standing behind VASSAR President Pat Kelly in uniform) attended the National Spring Leadership Meeting in Louisville, KY

From the Virginia Society National Trustee's Report

- PG David Appleby gave the report of the Minute Men committee and announced the Class of 2018: C. David Billings, Mark Boyer, Doug Collins, Ed Rigel Sr., Robert Sapp, and John Sinks.
- PG Mike Tomme gave the report of the Nominating Committee. The committee nominated the following compatriots to serve our society for terms beginning in July 2018: President General - Warren Alter (AZ), Secretary General - Jack Manning (MA), Treasurer General - Davis Wright (DE); Chancellor General - Dick Bryant (MO); Genealogist General - Jim Faulkinbury (CA); Registrar General - Bruce Pickette (AL); Historian General - John Thornhill (NC); Librarian General - Doug Collins (KY); Surgeon General - David Addington (TN); Chaplain General - John Wakefield (TN); and SAR Foundation Board (three-year terms) Sam Powell (NC) and Michael Elston (VA).
- The ExCom recommended that the trustees approve an RFP for a website overhaul to be issued within 60 days in accordance with specifications provided by IT committee. The recommendation was approved unanimously.
- The ExCom recommended that the trustees authorize RFP for membership database system within 60 days. The recommendation was approved unanimously.
- The ExCom recommended that the trustees approve the donor agreement creating the John Michael Tomme & Pricilla G. Leed Youth Awards Fund. Approved unanimously.
- Trustees approved a contract to build out the second floor of HQ at a cost not to exceed \$200,000.
- The SAR Education Committee presented its Teaching of America's Founding Documents curriculum and workbook; recommended beta-testing of the curriculum.
- Color Guard Commander Mark Anthony announced the guardsman of the year: Ed Rigel Sr. (GA)
- Community Engagement Committee Chairman Mickey McGuire (MI) announced that a new PR How-To guide is available.
- Registrar General Bruce Pickette reported on behalf of the Membership Committee that we now have 36,961 members (+11,000 approximately since 2011). About 75% of the state societies have completed the reconciliation process.

VASSAR 2018-2019 Presidential Initiatives

Dress Your Lines and Advance Toward the Foe

Establishing Partnerships and Building Relationships

- A. Youth Contests - Increase chapter participation in Orations contest and raise \$10,000 for Brennan fund
- B. Mount Vernon - Raise \$50,000 to launch Washington's Friends and Foes Project at Library
- C. 116th Regiment Museum - Raise \$10,000 to construct Revolutionary War exhibit
- D. Thomas Jefferson Heritage Society Journal - Raise \$,000 to support journal
- E. SAR Night at the Ballpark - Color Guard at minor league baseball games

Honoring our Patriot Ancestors

- A. Grave Marking for Soldier Robert Vicars in Scott County, VA on April 7
- B. Lynchburg Cemetery Grave Marking June 2018 for Revolutionary and War of 1812 soldiers
- C. Blockhouse Event, Natural Tunnel State Park April 29 to recognize contribution of Virginia Frontier settlers during the Revolution
- D. Martin's Station on May 12 National SAR Event in Virginia

Membership and Retention

- A. Lands End SAR Storefront to show our pride in the Virginia Society
- B. Chapter Operations Grant Program for chapters that achieve a net increase in membership
- C. Chapter Service Medals for members who actively serve their chapters in leadership roles
- D. Nansemond Indian Tribe Chapter - charter Virginia's first predominantly American Indian chapter

Learn more at <http://www.virginiasar.org/latest-news/virginia-society-presidents-initiatives-2018-19>

Virginia Society Annual Meeting



Compatriots and spouses above after the Saturday night banquet; Compatriots gather at Washington's statue in the Old Hall of the State Capitol after the Awards Ceremony (upper right photo); Compatriots at the chapter dinner at Trevi's on Friday night (lower right photo)