

THE DEFENDER

FAIRFAX RESOLVES CHAPTER FALL 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall is a busy time of year for everyone — Many SAR Historical Observances take place in October, particularly celebrating the Southern Campaign. We also reconvene after the Summer / Congress break and participate in community Activities.

This newsletter contains a summary of LOTS of positive work completed by Fairfax Resolves in the community and within SAR. Many thanks are due to the gentlemen (and ladies) responsible for these events. These members are helping to create great awareness of SAR and of Fairfax Resolves in the community.

Included in our awareness activities is making our own members aware of our purpose, programs and initiatives. An orientation session was held on

October 2 with several new Compatriots in attendance. If you weren't able to attend, or would like a refresher on any of the information discussed at the workshop, our Chapter Web Site is a good place to start.

I hope that all Compatriots would take a few minutes over a cup of coffee to peruse the Chapter Web Site: www.fairfaxresolvessar.org . There is a wealth of information about our programs and activities, links to DAR and C.A.R., as well as Member announcements. Constructive criticism is always accepted, so please provide feedback to the Webmaster.

Our new program year is off to a great start — with more to come! Keep an eye on the website for meeting dates and information.



As we approach Thanksgiving and the holidays, I give thanks for the many hands that make light work in this Chapter. It's truly an honor to serve as your Chapter President.

Fraternally,
Darrin M. Schmidt

Use these email addresses to contact the Chapter:

president@fairfaxresolvessar.org
secretary@fairfaxresolvessar.org
registrar@fairfaxresolvessar.org
treasurer@fairfaxresolvessar.org
webmaster@fairfaxresolvessar.org

DUE TO CHANGES IN VASSAR REPORTING REGULATIONS, ALL DUES MUST BE PAID BY DECEMBER 1, 2011. PLEASE HELP FAIRFAX RESOLVES MAINTAIN ITS "LARGE CHAPTER" STATUS BY PAYING YOUR DUES ON TIME! CONTACT treasurer@fairfaxresolvessar.org WITH QUESTIONS!

REGISTRAR'S REPORT—03 NOVEMBER 2011



**Registrar
John E. Sweeney**

Assistant Registrars:

- J. Clarke Bursley
- Donald G. Cooper
- Lawrence E. McKinley

Yearly Totals for 2011:
Fifteen New Member applications and ten

Supplemental applications have been approved.

Working: There are about eight Prospective Members which appear serious about submitting a viable SAR application. The previous number of twenty three prospective members included too many individuals who are not believed to genuinely motivated to accomplish the necessary research, in concert with the Registrar, to achieve membership.

Accordingly, all but nine of the previous list of 23 have been dropped as prospective members.

Chapter Compatriots are encouraged to actively seek more prospective members.

Finalization of the applications of the remaining nine has progressed more slowly than expected. Therefore, only three New Member applications are currently awaiting NSSAR Genealogy Division review.

Membership recruiting activity comprises brochures placed at selected genealogical

research sites such as the Fairfax and Alexandria City Libraries' Virginia Rooms, Church of Latter Day Saints Family History Centers, and the DAR Library in Washington, DC. These combined with the Chapter website and some VASSAR New Member Helper referrals compliment the all-important Chapter Compatriot prospective member referrals.

Compatriots with prospective member information (name, address, phone #, & e-mail address) should expeditiously provide it to the Chapter Registrar at registrar@fairfaxresolves.sar.org.

The Chapter Registrar's report is updated frequently! Look for updates on the Fairfax Resolves' Web site, click on "Membership" then on "Registrar's Report."



Compatriots participate in inductions at the September, October and November meetings

ATLANTIC MIDDLE STATES REVIEW

The Atlantic Middle States meeting was held in Alexandria on August 12 and 13. This was a meeting of the North Atlantic District and the Mid-Atlantic District. Hosting responsibilities shift between the two Districts each year.

Larry McKinley, Mid-Atlantic District Vice President

General and Past President of Fairfax Resolves, presided at this year's meeting.

The weather generally cooperated for events in the shadow of Mount Vernon. A nice Wreath Laying at General Washington's Tomb started the weekend, and a tour of the mansion for all atten-

dees followed on Saturday Afternoon.

Wanting attendees to walk away from the function with more than just knowledge of who is running for National Office, Saturday morning was a workshop on Youth Activities. The Saturday night banquet was a celebratory affair.

Mid Atlantic VPG Larry McKinley with Secretary General Stephen Leishman, President General Larry Magerkurth and Virginia SAR President Mark Brennan



Congratulations to all on a well received and successful event!!

SEPTEMBER MEETING AT VINSON HALL

Rain, Sleet, Snow, or torrential downpour will prevent the stalwarts of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter from gathering at Vinson Hall for a meeting! The speaker, Bill

Simpson, presented an interesting talk on Revolutionary War Myths and Controversies. Several new compatriots were inducted throughout the meeting.



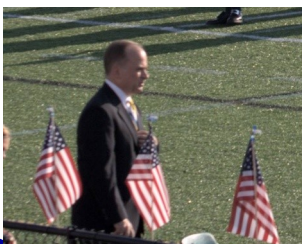
Bill Simpson speaking to the Fairfax Resolves Chapter and Vinson Hall Audience

SEPTEMBER 11 AT WESTFIELDS HIGH



The Fairfax Resolves' Color Guard presents colors for the Opening Ritual.

Below, Compatriot Bill Price with some of the flags lining the stadium



The Fairfax Resolves Chapter participated in a 9/11 Memorial Ceremony on Patriot Day 2011 at Westfield High School. The ceremony, co-sponsored by the Fairfax Resolves Chapter and the Sully Station II Neighborhood Watch, was hosted by ABC7/WJLA news reporter Gail Pennybacker, and highlighted the impact of the First Responders on 9/11/01. Attendees were welcomed by local Boy Scouts and saw US flags

lining the stadium field - one for each Police, Fire, and EMS personnel killed during the attacks in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. The memorials even included Sirius, the K-9 Explosives Detection dog who was killed at the World Trade Center site. The Fairfax Resolves Color Guard presented colors for the beginning ritual as well as for the playing of Taps. Guest Speakers and the Westfields High School Band

added significantly to the ceremony.

Fairfax Resolves Compatriot Bill Price coordinated the Fairfax Resolves Chapter's participation in the ceremony. Father Edward C. Hathaway, also a Fairfax Resolves Compatriot, provided the ceremony's benediction.

ROTC AND JROTC YOUTH AWARDS

ROTC and JROTC Medals were presented to students participating in JROTC Leadership programs:

SAR ROTC Silver Medal Recipient: Chase Thomas Neely, Army ROTC George Mason University

SAR JROTC Bronze Medal Recipient: Charles R. Keith, Air Force JROTC Chantilly High School

SAR JROTC Bronze Medal Recipient: Ian C. Martin, Navy JROTC Herndon High School

SAR JROTC Bronze Medal Recipient: William R. Stockdale, Army JROTC South Lakes High School

SAR JROTC Bronze Medal Recipient: Jordan Robert Willhelm-Wenzel, Navy JROTC Loudoun County High School

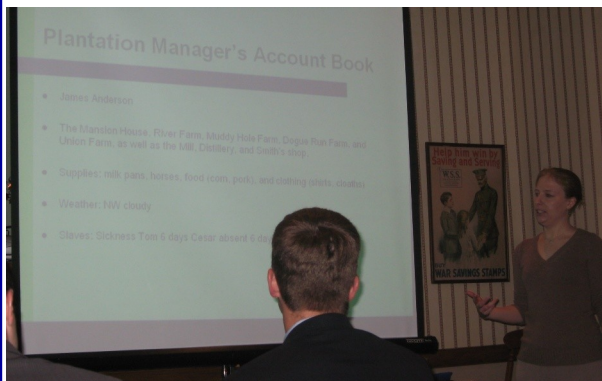
Many thanks to Compatriots Dennis Hickey, Jack Sweeney, Dan Rolph, Bill Price, Jim Compton and Don Fenton for presenting these medals at the school functions so the awardees were recognized in front of their peers!!



Pictures from JROTC presentations. From Top to Bottom: Chantilly High School, Herndon High School, South Lakes High School, Loudoun County High School



OCTOBER MEETING AT FALCONS LANDING



Lynn Price provides interesting insights on George Washington's accounting practices.

The Fairfax Resolves Chapter held its October Luncheon meeting at Falcons Landing with more than 35 members and guests in attendance. Compatriots and guests enjoyed conversation and camaraderie during the plated luncheon.

Our speaker, Lynn Price, provided an excellent talk on a recent research endeavor: George Washington's Financial Records. Ms. Price is a

doctoral student in American History at George Mason University.

Several awards were presented on behalf of VASSAR: Jack Sweeney (Meritorious Service Medal), Larry and Mary Frances McKinley (Certificates of Appreciation—AMS Conference). Several Compatriots were inducted, and welcomed into membership in Fairfax Resolves.

FIRE/EMS/FLAG CERTIFICATE

Technician Warren Artis was recognized as the Fairfax Resolves EMS Provider of the Year. Technician Artis is assigned to Fire Station 09 and has been a proud member of the Fire and Rescue Department for over 24 years.

Captain Mark Feaster was recognized as the Fairfax Resolves Firefighter of the Year. Captain Feaster is assigned to Fire Station 12 and has been a proud member of the Fire and Rescue Department for over 25 years.

Technician Artis' and Captain Feaster's nominations will be forwarded as Fairfax Resolves' nominations for the State Level Awards. These awards are presented in February at the VAS-SAR State Conference.



President Schmidt presents Public Service awards to Captain Feaster (top) and Technician Artis.



SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING IN FREDERICKSBURG

Hosted by the Col. Fielding Lewis and James Monroe Chapters, the Virginia Society SAR participated in a weekend of education, fun, history and VASSAR business.

Held in Fredericksburg, the Semi-Annual meeting is the mid-year business meeting for the VASSAR.

Larry McKinley and Darrin Schmidt attended on behalf of Fairfax Resolves. President Schmidt presented a report on the multitude of Fairfax Resolves activities during the first part of the VASSAR year.

In the stead of several Compatriots and Ladies who could not attend, President Schmidt accepted awards that were later presented at the October Luncheon.



NOVEMBER MEETING AT VINSON HALL



A nice Fall evening brought the Fairfax Resolves Chapter meeting at Vinson Hall in McLean.

The evening's speaker, Peter Badger, gave a presentation titled "Short History of Mount Vernon, Then and Now". Mr. Badger is a volunteer at Mount Vernon. His presentation

described the estate as visitors and volunteers know it today and how it has come to be. He also presented a brief history of volunteering at George Washington's home under the direction of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, including history of the construction, enlargement, and preservation of the mansion.

Compatriots and attendees asked so many questions, that we'll put Mr. Badger on the list of return attendees to address some of the questions!

Several members were inducted at this meeting, and welcomed into membership in Fairfax Resolves.

(At left, Peter Badger speaks to the Fairfax Resolves Chapter)

Several speakers' presentations are available on the Fairfax Resolves' Web site. Look for "Chapter Activities" then click on "Presentations" from the main menu.

VETERANS DAY IN GREAT FALLS

Compatriot Larry McKinley was the guest speaker at the Great Falls Veterans Memorial on a very cold and windy 11/11/11. He presented a speech that focused on his wartime experience, and how teamwork and working together was critical to a successful mission.

Along with Larry's speech, the ceremony involved elementary school students leading the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Langley High School Madrigals Choir.

The Memorial is next to the Great Falls Library, and is the site of the annual C.A.R. Flag Retirement activity.



Larry McKinley speaks at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial on Veterans Day

COLOR GUARD MUSTERS

The Fairfax Resolves Regiment of the Virginia Society SAR Color Guard has been very busy, mustering at Chapter events, or with the Virginia and National Color Guards.

At most events, a wreath was laid on behalf of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter.

RECENT EVENTS:

- Atlantic Middle States
- 9/11 Patriot Day Ceremony at Westfields HS
- Kings Mountain
- Point Pleasant
- Yorktown Day
- Prince William Choraliers Concert
- Valley Forge



Upcoming Events:

Watch the website for more details about these upcoming events and more!
<http://www.fairfaxresolvessar.org>

November

- HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

December

- 3—Inaugural Great Bridge Historical Observance
- 10 - December Meeting & Social / Officer Induction

January

- 26- January Meeting—Orations Contest at Falcons Landing

In the Next Issue:

November 19 Grave Marking at Sully Plantation

December Meeting and Officer Introduction

... And Much More...

Input Requested:

If you have any suggestions for interesting programs that you would like to see in our upcoming meetings, please let Dan Rolph know! He is putting together the lineup for the 2012-2013 Event Calendar.

Now's your time to speak up!