

THE DEFENDER

FAIRFAX RESOLVES CHAPTER WINTER/SPRING 2012

President's Message

It's hard to believe that 2012 is half over. We had a great first half of the year, including many community and SAR activities. Our meetings have been very enjoyable with some interesting speakers presenting to the chapter.

I am excited to announce that the Fairfax Resolves Chapter has 108 members! I think that might be a record in our chapter's history. I would like to send out a special thanks to our Registrar and Genealogist, Jack Sweeney, for doing a terrific job with streamlining the membership process. I would also like to thank the chapter members as a whole for all the hard work and great programs that you support. You are the key to our retention success!

Since our last meeting in May, I presented medals to fine young individuals in JROTC programs at two high schools in our area. Recently, I had the honor to present Law Enforcement Commendation Medals to two Fairfax County Police Officers. I wish everyone in the chapter could have joined me for these two events. I felt so proud to recognize such deserving individuals and it reaffirmed why I love being a member of the Sons of the American Revolution.

As you will see from other

member reports and pictures, the Chapter has been very active this year, especially during the summer months. We have been involved with grave markings, July 4th events, National Congress, support at VASSAR events, and many other chapter initiatives.

We held a very enjoyable new member orientation meeting at the Schmidts' in June. I would like to thank Darrin and Holly Lynne for hosting a lovely dinner and meeting for the new members. As new members join, we will try to continue holding these informative sessions to educate members on chapter activities.

As we start our fall schedule, I hope to see everyone getting involved in chapter activities and joining me at the monthly meetings starting in September. I'm looking forward to the many great programs we have planned for the fall.

Fraternally,

Dan Rolph, President

Use these email addresses to contact the Chapter:
president@fairfaxresolvessar.org
secretary@fairfaxresolvessar.org
registrar@fairfaxresolvessar.org
treasurer@fairfaxresolvessar.org
webmaster@fairfaxresolvessar.org



"Saratoga: The Turning Point" is the 2012-13 C.A.R. National Theme. Led by National President Greg Thorne from Texas, members in nationwide societies are learning about the importance of the Battle of Saratoga and supporting a monument being built at the Saratoga Sword Surrender Site in NY.

Registrar's Report—05 July 2012



**Registrar
John E. Sweeney**

Assistant Registrars:

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

There are eighteen Prospective Members assessed by the Registrar as actively working on SAR New Member Applications. One of these could involve a family application package of up to seven applicants. Membership recruiting comprises brochures placed at the Fairfax City Regional Library Virginia Room

and Alexandria City Library Kate Waller Barrett Branch Virginia Room and the DAR Library in Washington, DC. These combined with the Chapter website and some VASSAR New Member Helper referrals only compliment the all important referrals of prospective members by Chapter Compatriots

hopefully providing the Registrar with prospective member information (name, address, phone #, & e-mail address) to the Chapter Registrar at e-mail: registrar@fairfaxresolvessar.org or mobile 703-470-2264.

Follow routine updates on our [Registrar's Page](#).

Encourage family members to join SAR! Your hard work makes their application easier!

New Members	Ancestor	Service	Approved - NSSAR
Matthew A. Bursley	Benjamin Bursley	MA	01/04/2012
Michael C. Bursley	Benjamin Bursley	MA	01/04/2012
Stewart W. Bentley	Efford Bentley	VA	01/26/2012
Stewart W. Bentley, Jr.	Efford Bentley	VA	01/26/2012
Melvin R. Woolf	Jared Stephens	NY	02/02/2012
Lawrence W. DeMoss	John DeMoss	VA	02/08/2012
Lawrence A. DeMoss	John DeMoss	VA	02/08/2012
Stanley C. Plummer	Godfrey Settlemeier	PA	02/23/2012
John Paul Plummer	Godfrey Settlemeier	PA	02/23/2012
Mark Steven Padgett, Jr.	Daniel Maupin	VA	04/18/2012
Zachary Allen Bumpus	John Bumpass	NC	05/08/2012*
John Elliott Bumpus	John Bumpass	NC	05/08/2012*
Richard Jamard Holt, Jr.	Joshua Palmer	PA	05/10/2012
Kevin Caldwell Holt	Joshua Palmer	PA	05/10/2012*
Richard Jarnard Holt, III	Joshua Palmer	PA	05/10/2012
Robert J. Ballantyne	Joseph Jeremiah Jadwin	NC	05/17/2012*
John Henry Walker	James Prichard	MD	05/17/2012
Stuart McCoy Steen, III	Frederick Smith	NC	07/05/2012*
Ethan McCoy Steen	Frederick Smith	NC	07/05/2012*
Jared McCoy Steen	Frederick Smith	NC	07/05/2012*
Applicants	Ancestor	Service	Date Received - NSSAR
Richard Brian Weaver	Jedediah Cleaveland	MA	06/08/2012
Thomas Arthur Kane	Abraham Winslow	MA	06/26/2012
Michael William Kane	Abraham Winslow	MA	06/26/2012
Approved Supplementals	Ancestor	Service	Date Approved - NSSAR
Andrew W. Gutowski	Baldwin Dade, Sr.	VA	03/17/2011*
D. G. "Steve" Stephens	William Brooks	VA	05/07/2012*
William M. Walker, Jr.	Henry Christian	VA	06/19/2012*
Submitted Supplementals	Ancestor	Service	Date Received - NSSAR
Andrew W. Gutowski	Jonathan Cowherd.	VA	03/10/2011***
Kenneth D. Williamson	Mary Howell	VA	VASSAR06/22/2012

Key:

- * Not yet inducted
- ** Patriot Life & Times not yet presented
- *** Pended by NSSAR

RICHARD BLAND LEE GRAVE MARKING

On Saturday, November 19, 2011, Compatriot Bill Price led Chapter members and the Chapter Color Guard in a grave marking at Sully Plantation in Chantilly, Virginia.

"In 1780, the Virginia Assembly passed "An act procuring a supply of provisions and other necessities for the use of the [Continental] Army". This act authorized the Governor of Virginia to appoint commissioners in each County to acknowledge receipt of donated materials and services for later

reimbursement. Under the provisions of this Act, and as a resident here in Loudoun County, the then twenty-year old and recent College of William and Mary student Richard Bland Lee donated 223 pounds of beef to help feed the Revolutionary Army."

Members of the Lee family were in attendance as well as representatives of Sully Plantation. For the complete Life and Times presentation by Bill Price, please see the photo gallery on

www.fairfaxresolvesa.org.



Bill Price poses with a picture of Richard Bland Lee. Steve Stevens and Adam Freeman presented the Fairfax Resolves wreath.

CHRISTMAS AND OFFICER INDUCTION

December marked the annual Chapter Christmas party. This festive event was an opportunity to relax and socialize with fellow compatriots and families. The Chapter welcomed VASSAR President Mark Brennan who was on hand to install the new 2012 officers.

2012 Officers

President - Dan Rolph

1st Vice - Phil Ray

2nd Vice - Vernon Eubanks

Secretary - Larry McKinley

Treasurer - Bill Price

Registrar - Jack Sweeney

Chaplain - Howell Sasser

Historian - Richard Weeks.



Above: VASSAR President Mark Brennan presents new Chapter President Dan Rolph with the ribbon of the office.



Members gather around the Vinson Hall Christmas tree as new officers are installed

Below: President Brennan swears in the remaining Officers.



JANUARY MEETING - ORATIONS

At the January Chapter meeting at Falcons' Landing, contestants presented orations demonstrating their understanding of Revolutionary War topics, and how those topics relate to today. Thanks to Larry McKinley for coordinating the contestants. Claire Wang of Trinity Christian School was the 2012 Fairfax Resolves Chapter Orations Contest winner.

Clare participated with other Chapter winners at the State contest in Rich-

mond at the VASSAR Annual Meeting. She was coached by Cody Phillips, a History teacher at Trinity Christian School.

President Dan with left, Clare Wang, Trinity Christian School; runner up Annmarie Baxter, and third place Forbes McKay, Bishop O'Connell High School.



COWPENS

On January 14th, the VASSAR Color Guard joined other National Guard members at the Cowpens observance in South Carolina.

The day was brisk and overcast as participants visited the National Battlefield Park where celebrations included cavalry demonstrations, flintlock firing

presentations, and exhibits where reenactors demonstrated life during the revolutionary war era.

National Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme led the procession to present wreaths at the Battle of Cowpens .



Chapter and Color Guard Members Darin Schmidt (right) and Larry McKinley (center) stand by the Cowpens Monument with Nation Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme (left). Also pictured: VASSAR Representative Bill Broadus and Peter Davenport (left and right center)

CROSSING OF THE DAN

The “Retreat to the Dan” began in January 1781, following an American victory at Cowpens in South Carolina and became a “Race to the Dan” across North Carolina and into Virginia. The race was won by General Nathanael Greene with his “Crossing of the Dan” on February 14th at Irvin’s and Boyd’s ferries on the Dan River.

This tactical retreat

saved the American Southern Army and was one of the turning points in the war. The historical significance of the event places the Dan River crossing on a unique list of landmark sites of the American Revolution.

Larry McKinley represented the Fairfax Resolves this year, carrying the Virginia Blue in the procession down to the river’s edge.



Fairfax Resolves Compatriot Larry McKinley, in his Continental Line uniform, carries the “Virginia Blue” in the procession of Color Guard and dignitaries down to bank of the Dan River where General Nathanael Greene crossed with his army.

VASSAR ANNUAL MEETING

Several Fairfax Resolves members made the annual trek to Richmond this February to attend the Virginia State SAR meeting.

Dan Rolph, Darrin and Holly Lynne Schmidt, Larry and Mary Frances McKinley, and Howell and Elaine Sasser cheered on our Orations Contestant, who represented our chapter well. The chapter also received numerous streamers including Chapter Excellence, Sustained Achievement for Orations, and various participation events (Sept. 11th ceremony, History Day, St. Paul’s Church, and Battle

of Great Bridge) as well as one new star each for new Graves Registration and Forgotten Patriot. All of these awards have been proudly added to our Chapter streamer collection.



Chapter President Dan Rolph (right) receives the Chapter Excellence banner. VASSAR President Mark Brennan also pictured for this group photo.



VASSAR Color Guard Commander Rob Andrews Presents Darrin Schmidt with the Bronze Color Guard Medal

SAR—Honoring Germany



the wreath layings, Larry McKinley was asked to lead the singing of our National Anthem, and Holly Lynne Schmidt presented a wreath on behalf of the Children of the American Revolution.

In late April, Larry McKinley and Darrin Schmidt represented the Fairfax Resolves Chapter and the Virginia Society on the National-sponsored SAR trip honoring Germany. During this trip, several educational and ceremonial stops were made to place wreaths or learn more about the support that the Germans provided to the Revolutionary War cause. In particular, many lessons were learned about the "Royal Deux-Ponts" and the support they provided during the Battle of Yorktown. At one of



Chapter members Darrin Schmidt (left) and Larry McKinley (right) stand with members of the Color Guard in front of the wreaths laid at the tomb of Counts Christian and Wilhelm de Forbach

CHAPTER LECTURE SERIES

Fairfax Resolves continues to provide stellar presentations at each of its chapter meetings..

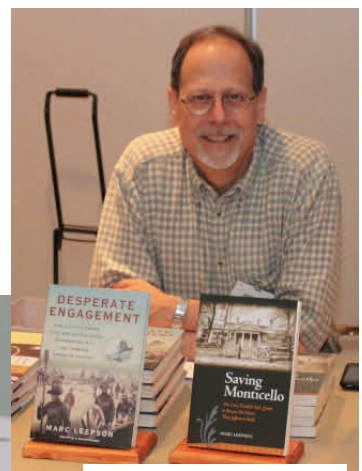
Mike Cecere (below) presents "Light Horse" Harry Lee's Revolutionary War service and how Lee turned down a prestigious promotion because he was "Wedded to his



Fairfax Resolves' first chapter president Stephen Habrook (below) talks about some details of starting the chapter and the origins of the second amendment.



Lynn Price (left) discusses the intriguing aspects of George Washington's business management and how account ledgers could reveal details of life on his



Marc Leepson (above), the author of numerous books, condenses the amazing life of Marquis de Lafayette down to the "good parts" version in his book on Lafayette. His lecture draws from his vast research on Lafayette.

GUILFORD COURTHOUSE

The Battle of Guilford Courthouse was a turning point in the British southern campaign during the American Revolutionary War. Fought on March 15, 1781, General Cornwallis led his troops against General Nathanael Greene in what is now Greensboro, North Carolina. While the battle was technically a blow to the American forces, who retreated from the battlefield, the win cost the British dearly in men and morale. Charles Fox, a British statesman remarked of the battle that, "Another such victory would be the ruin of the British army." The National Park Service maintains the

battle site as well as a museum and monument dedicated to the battle.

Each year, the Park Service hosts a day of activities that includes reenactments and ceremonies commemorating the American victory and the Patriots that fell there. Historical organizations gather on this day to participate in a ceremony that pays homage to the sacrifices of our ancestors. This year's observance occurred on March 17th, 2012 in Greensboro, North Carolina. The Virginia Color Guard was present. Vice President General Larry McKinley participated and laid a wreath on behalf of Fairfax

Resolves as well as the Mid-Atlantic District.



The Nathanael Greene Monument



Vice President General Larry McKinley participated and laid a wreath at the Nathanael Greene Monument on behalf of Fairfax Resolves as well as the Mid-Atlantic District.

JROTC

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

SAR ROTC Silver Medal Recipient

- Recipient: Austin E. Price, Army ROTC George Mason University

SAR JROTC Bronze Medal Recipients

- Link A. Arouz, USAF JROTC Chantilly High School
- Alexander Polk, USN JROTC Herndon High School
- Timothy P. Kim, Army JROTC South Lakes High School
- Timothy Kaufman, USN JROTC Loudoun County High School

Many thanks to Chairman Jack Sweeney for his coordination efforts. Compatriots Dennis Hickey, Bill Price, Dan Rolph, Larry McKinley and Darrin Schmidt for presented these medals at individual school functions so the awardees were recognized in front of their peers.



Larry McKinley presents the award to Cadet Kaufman of Loudoun High School

ORIENTATION

A casual Chapter Orientation was held at the Schmidts' home in Herndon. New Compatriots and spouses attended and got to know each other.

Through understanding the work of the SAR, Compatriots can actively participate in the activities of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter, the Virginia Society and the National Society. President Rolph and VPG McKinley gave an informal presentation of the Chapter's Work Program, focusing on what made the Fairfax Resolves Chapter the "Best Large Chapter" in Virginia for four years in a row.

President Dan Rolph and the South Lakes award recipient, Cadet Timothy P. Kim



Many questions about insignia, Color Guard, program activities and the work of the SAR were covered... but there's always another question to ask! We would like to hold another informal session in Fall, so keep an eye out for more information! This session is geared toward new Compatriots, or those who are interested in reactivating their membership.

Attendees at the orientation converse on important SAR topics.



FLAG DAY FLAG RETIREMENT IN GREAT FALLS

Fairfax Resolves and members of Northern Virginia C.A.R. Societies conducted the annual flag retirement ceremony at Great Falls Library on Flag Day (June 14), 2012.

The Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department was on hand to help dispose of worn out flags safely and properly.

Flags flown at Revolutionary Patriot graves were among those retired during this ceremony.

For future years, worn flags may be brought to any Chapter meeting (collected by Larry McKinley), brought to the ceremony or left at the Great Falls Library.



The C.A.R. participants with a Great Falls Volunteer Firefighter who participated in the flag retirement ceremony.

KNIGHT ESSAY

The Knight Essay Contest is a nationally sponsored contest designed to give high school students an opportunity to explore the influence of the Revolutionary War on present day America.

The Fairfax Resolves proudly sponsors local 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students to submit essays on aspects of American History such as historical persons, philosophies, or ideals that are associated with the American Revolution or related

topics such as the Declaration of Independence or the framing of the United States Constitution.

The 2012 winner from the Fairfax Resolves Chapter is Annmarie Baxter of Bishop O'Connell High School. Annmarie presented her essay "The Separation of Powers" at the March 2012 Chapter Meeting.

President Dan Rolph presents Ms. Baxter a certificate and check for winning the Chapter Essay contest.



LAW ENFORCEMENT

Annually, Fairfax Resolves participates in the Fairfax County Police Department's Awards program. This effort, coordinated by Compatriot Bud Walker, recognizes exceptional law enforcement personnel with the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal. This year, the Chapter was honored to award two of these medals.

Detective Robert J. Murphy

Detective Robert "Bob" Murphy is being recognized today for his outstanding work over thirty years, particularly as a major crimes detective. Bob has also served in the Property Crimes unit, the Auto Theft squad, the Sex Crimes squad, the Homicide squad, and currently serves in the Cold Case squad.

Detective Murphy has worked numerous high profile and complex cases including the tragic and very emotional killing of two Fairfax County police officers at the Sully station. Bob is known for his consistent

professionalism and communication skills. His attention to detail is legendary throughout the department. Bob is an active board member of the Virginia Homicide Investigators Association and serves as their training director. He teaches at the police academy and surrounding police academies and is consulted by detectives from up and down the East Coast.

Detective Bob Murphy is presented with the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal for his outstanding commitment of service to Fairfax County.

Detective James N. Sparks III

Detective James Sparks is being honored today for his extraordinary work in his nearly twenty-four years with the department. Jim began his career at the Reston station and has served in the Street Crimes Unit, the Electronic Surveillance Section, the Auto Theft Squad, the Child Exploitation Section, and the Fugitive Squad.

Detective Sparks is not only a

veteran of the United States Marine Corps but after the events of September 11th, 2001, he joined United States Army National Guard so he could continue to defend the nation. In several deployments overseas, he has served in both Afghanistan and Iraq. Because of his unique experience, has become a speaker in the "Battlefield to the Street" seminar, which supports law enforcement officers and their

families prior to, during, and after their military deployments.

Detective Sparks is presented with the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal for his outstanding commitment of service to Fairfax County. Not surprisingly, Jim has been once again deployed overseas and so his wife, Carla, is present to receive the medal on his behalf.



Police Chief Rohrer (left) stands with President Dan Rolph (right) as Detective Murphy receives his medal and certificate

Detective Spark's wife, Carla, receives the award from President Dan Rolph



WALKER INDUCTION

The Fairfax Resolves Chapter conducted a special induction ceremony over Memorial Day weekend. A small group of Chapter Compatriots assembled with the Walker family and the Compatriots conducted the meeting ritual and induction ceremony. John Henry (Jack) Walker was sworn in with all of his adult children, his wife (Joan), multiple grandchildren, and close friends and neighbors present.

Compatriot Walker received his SAR Membership certificate, proven Record Copy application, SAR Membership Card, and his SAR Rosette. He recounted his Patriot's service (Private James Prichard, MD) and life for his family, explaining that his first

foray into family history was coloring in the family history book at a very young age. This was a very emotional event and all attendees understood the importance of this ceremony.

Up until this point, this account sounds like a typical new member induction. However, due to the SAR Genealogy Department's policy for expedited applications, this application went from signature to rosette in less than one month. Due to critical medical issues, Compatriot Walker was installed in his home instead of at a regular Chapter Meeting.

The success of this ceremony is an enormous credit to National Headquarters' Genealogy Department, and the thorough work of the Chapter Reg-

istrar, Jack Sweeney. Compatriot Walker and his family now have a proven line through which his son, daughters and grandchildren can apply for membership.

The Fairfax Resolves Chapter is honored to help him recognize his Patriot Ancestor's service. Attendees for this event were Mid-Atlantic VPG Larry McKinley and Fairfax Resolves Past President Darrin Schmidt in uniform, Fairfax Resolves Registrar and Past President Jack Sweeney, Fairfax Resolves Chaplain Rev. Howell Sasser, Fairfax Resolves' Board of Managers Member CAPT Paul Peak, Jr., Fairfax Resolves Past President CAPT Dennis Hickey, and Thomas Nelson Chapter DAR Vice Regent Holly Lynne M. Schmidt.



Chapter Registrar Jack Sweeney presents Compatriot Walker with his membership certificate as members of the Chapter Color Guard provide a ceremonial backdrop.

Joan Walker (wife) pins the SAR rosette on the Chapter's newest member.

DR. JOSEPH WARREN MEDAL



Joseph Warren, a Boston doctor, was the orator selected to commemorate the anniversary of the Boston Massacre. Because the orator would be heckled by unforgiving British officers and sympathizers, Warren bravely presented his speech with a steady and firm voice. Warren's stirring oratory skill recruited more patriots and moved others to support the Revolution.

The Rumbaugh Orations Contest's National level awards are not currently competitive among nation-

wide contests, and the national Youth Activities Coordinator (Compatriot Larry McKinley) and the Orations Committee are seeking to rectify this with an enhancement to the current endowment. Significant financial support is required annually to operate the orations contest. The goal of the committee is to increase the national award to \$30,000 annually. This represents awards given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place contest finalists and recognition to all national competitors. The current disbursement is \$11,000 annually.

A donation of \$250 or more will be recognized with the standard and miniature sized medal set, and donations of \$1,000 or more will be recognized with a campaign bar for the standard medal.

The medal features a picture of Dr. Joseph Warren, with a quote from his Boston Massacre oration, and is suspended from a blue, gold and white drape.

Donations of any amount will help support the growth of the endowment and can be sent to Larry McKinley.



Color Guardsmen Larry McKinley, Darin Schmidt, and Vernon Eubanks represent the Fairfax Resolves at July 4th ceremonies at Mt. Vernon (left) and the C.A.R. State Workshop held at the Old Pohick Church (right).



The Fairfax Resolves Chapter and DC Society marked the grave of Captain Mountjoy Bayly at Congressional Cemetery on July 4th. Past President Jack Sweeney and Compatriot Bill Price were in attendance.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

August

- 10th-11th—Atlantic Middle States Conference in Delaware

September

- 13th — Chapter Meeting— 7:00PM at Vinson Hall*. Watch for details on the website!
- 15th-16th — VASSAR Semi-Annual meeting in Charlottesville.

October

- 5th-7th — Point Pleasant Battle Days and Wreath Laying
- 7th — Kings Mountain Historical Observance
- 13th — Chapter Meeting—Luncheon at Falcons Landing*
- 19th — Yorktown Day Historical Observance (SAR Wreath Laying at Thomas Nelson grave + Parade)

* Directions to Vinson Hall and Falcons Landing are available on the Chapter website

Input Requested:

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

Now's your time to speak up!