



Col. William Grayson Chapter

Sons of the American Revolution

—Newsletter—



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Nansemond Indian Patriots Remembered.

One of the highlights of the SAR 2018 Atlantic Middle States Association (AMSA) Conference held in Newport News, Virginia, 10-11 August 2018, was the chartering ceremony of VASSAR's twenty-eighth chapter; the Nansemond Indian Patriots Chapter. This chapter is the first SAR chapter composed predominantly of Native American descendants. Paul Chase, our chapter's Color Guard Commander, participated in the ceremony as part of the VASSAR Color Guard.

For those unfamiliar with the AMSA, it is one of fifteen regional districts that make up the NSSAR, with each district headed by a Vice President General. The AMSA consists of the seven state societies of Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Virginia was the host for this year's annual AMSA Conference, which is what brought the meeting to Newport News.

In addition to Paul Chase, Vice President Mike Weyler also represented our chapter. Check out the Nansemond Indian Nation and the new chapter through their website at <https://nansemond.org/2018/07/04/nansemond-indian-patriots-remembered/>



Newly Chartered Nansemond Tribe Patriot Chapter showing tribal members and chapter officers at the 2018 Atlantic Middle States Conference. The tribe's chief stands in the center, President General Warren Alter is on the extreme left, and Paul Chase, our chapter Color Guard Commander is standing just to the right of the PG, partially hidden by the American Flag.

President's Report

On September 8th, I attended the NSSAR Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. Leading the NSSAR Wreath Laying Ceremony this year was NSSAR President General Warren Alter and VASSAR President Pat Kelly. It was truly an honor to represent the Compatriots of the Colonel William Grayson chapter, VASSAR at this ceremony.

Honoring and recognizing those men and women who have served our country and have paid the ultimate sacrifice is one of the core missions of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Throughout the year there are several events and ceremonies honoring our nations Veterans. Many of the local events are announced by email from our Chapter Secretary. If time allows, please consider joining your CWG Chapter Compatriots at these events. See you there.

Mike Taimi
President, Colonel William Grayson Chapter
Virginia Sons of the American Revolution



Tomb of the Unknowns; Arlington National Cemetery.

Vice President's Report

Even though we haven't met since May, our chapter has seen much activity since our last meeting. Here are a few highlights, beginning with two notable events in July that didn't make it into the May-July Newsletter.

July 4: Eight compatriots participated in the March to the Tomb at Mount Vernon, which again included Steven Powers and his young sons.

July 28: Four compatriots participated in the 244th Anniversary Celebration of the Fairfax Resolves at the Old Fairfax Courthouse. The highlight of that ceremony for us was the induction of one of our junior members, Jacob Duncan, Leamon Duncan's grandson from Nebraska, who was in town for a visit and had not previously been inducted. All of those in attendance were reminded that young men like Jacob are our Society's future.

August 10 & 11: Two compatriots who participated in the Atlantic Middle States Association's Annual Meeting in Newport News, Virginia. The highlight of that meeting was the chartering ceremony for the 28th VASSAR chapter, the Nansemond Indian Patriots Chapter, whose charter members are from the Nansemond tribe.

September 14 and 15: Five compatriots in attendance at the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution Semi-Annual meeting in Charlottesville; President Mike Taimi, Vice President Mike Weyler, Past President Thad Hartman, Americanism Chairman George Ax, and of course Paul Chase. As usual, Mike Taimi and Paul were part of the VASSAR Color Guard.

At that Semi-Annual meeting, VASSAR President Pat Kelly presented our chapter with four certificates that had initially been presented at the SAR Congress in July.

The first was a Partners in Patriotism Certificate for our chapter's participation in Wreaths Across America.

The second was a Certificate of Appreciation for our past chapter president and past VASSAR president, Bill Broadus, for serving as chairman of the VASSAR Independent Audit Committee.

The third and fourth were Liberty Medals, one presented to Barry Schwoerer and one to Mike Weyler. The liberty medal is a reflection of the number of new member applications where you show up as the first-line sponsor on an approved SAR Application. Sponsor 10 and you win the Liberty Medal. For each ten after that, you get an oak leaf cluster. Last year Barry Schwoerer got a record six oak leaf clusters. This year he got two more. This year Mike Weyler got the medal and one oak leaf cluster.

A special award was also given to Paul Chase at the Semi-Annual meeting. Bill Schwetke, Commander of the VASSAR Color Guard, completely surprised Paul with a plaque honoring him as the VASSAR Color Guardsman of the year for 2017.

Upcoming Events

19 Oct.: Yorktown Day, Yorktown, Virginia, commemorating General George Washington's victory over British General Cornwallis in 1781. The Colonel William Grayson Chapter will present its wreath at Governor Thomas Nelson Jr.'s grave.

3 Nov.: CWG Chapter to participate in the annual Greater Manassas Veterans Day parade.

12 Nov.: Veterans Day; Chapter to place flags on the graves of known/locatable Rev. War Patriot graves in Prince William County.

17 Nov.: CWG Chapter meeting. The next regular meeting of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter will be on Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018, at Giuseppe's Ristorante Italiano, located at 15120 Washington Street, Haymarket, VA 20169. Opportunity to meet and greet starts at 10:30 AM, with the meeting being called to order at 11:00 AM. Dress code now includes business casual, optional. The cost of lunch is now \$30 — \$10 for children. Please notify Mike Wyler by Nov. 13, 2018, if you plan to attend.

December, date TBD: Chapter to participate in the Sgt. Mac wreath-laying event on veteran graves at Quantico National Cemetery. Also will participate in Wreaths Across America.

12 Jan.: CWG Chapter meeting: Venue as above. Our guest speaker will be Peter Davenport, VASSAR First Vice President.

Chapter Activities

28 July: On Saturday, July 28, 2018, the Fairfax Resolves Chapter, VASSAR, hosted the 244th Anniversary of the signing of the Fairfax Resolves. The celebration took place in the historic Fairfax Courthouse in Fairfax, Virginia. The Colonel William Grayson Chapter was represented by four of our members who participated in the ceremony, the color guard and the presentation of wreaths. Those Compatriots present were Mike Weyler, Leamon Duncan, Jacob Duncan, and Don McAndrews.

The Fairfax Resolves was a set of resolutions adopted by a committee chaired by George Washington in Fairfax County in the colony of Virginia on July 18, 1774, in the early stages of the American Revolution. That committee was. The resolutions, written primarily by George Mason, rejected the British Parliament's claim of supreme authority over the American colonies. More than thirty counties in Virginia passed similar resolutions in 1774, but the Fairfax Resolves were felt by many to be the most detailed, the most influential, and the most radical.

The main focus of the program was the reading of a number of the resolutions by interpretive readers, most of whom were in period dress, speaking as various members of the original committee, including a couple of readings and interpretations by George Mason, portrayed by our own Don McAndrews.

A highlight for the Colonel William Grayson Chapter was the chance to conduct a SAR induction ceremony immediately following the celebration of the Resolves. Leamon Duncan's grandson, Jacob Michael Duncan, who lives in Omaha, Nebraska, was approved as a Junior Member in 2017 but had never been formally inducted into the SAR. Since Jacob was visiting Leamon for the week, the Fairfax Resolves Chapter graciously granted us the privilege of inducting him into the SAR as an adjunct to the Fairfax Resolves Ceremony. The Master of Ceremonies invited all present to remain for the induction, and all present did indeed remain. Jacob's induction was a well-received part of the event, and he was warmly welcomed into the SAR by those present. Many commented on the value of keeping our youth involved with our historic remembrances.



L-R: Mike Weyler, Jacob M. Duncan,
and Leamon Duncan.



George Mason, portrayed
by Don McAndrews.

12 Aug.: Leamon Duncan presented SAR Certificates of Recognition and accompanying patches to Jeffrey and Robert Lazar. Jeffrey and Robert earned the rank of Eagle Scout in Troop 1882. Leamon dressed in militia uniform for the occasion. The scouts also received applications for the Arthur M. & Brenda King Eagle Scout Award.



L-R: Jeffrey Lazar, Leamon Duncan, and Robert Lazar.

17 Aug.: The Colonel William Grayson Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution presented a certificate to both the Novant Health University of Virginia Health System's Prince William Medical Center and Haymarket Medical Center through Justin Jordan and John Williams, representatives of both facilities. The presentation took place at the Manassas Medical Center on August 17, 2018. Presenting the certificates on behalf of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter was Dave Button, Flag Committee Chairman.



L-R: Dave Button, Flag Committee Chairman,
Justin Jordan, and John Williams.

Summer: Colonel William Grayson Chapter (CWG) presented two Wounded Warrior Challenge Coins this summer.

On Friday, August 24, Compatriot Barry Schwoerer, presented a Wounded Warrior Challenge Coin to Specialist Raymond McKennon, United States Army (Retired) at the Serve our Willing Warriors Retreat in Haymarket, Va.

Specialist McKennon was wounded in Iraq while serving with the Third Armored Cavalry Regiment. His wounds resulted in medical retirement with 100% disability.

Following the presentation of the SAR Wounded Warrior Coin, Compatriot Schwoerer conducted Operation Ancestor Search for Specialist McKennon and presented him with a subscription to Ancestry.com. Specialist McKennon received information allowing him to develop a personal Family Tree on Ancestry.com and how to import genealogical documents from Ancestry.com searches into his Family Tree.

On Monday, September 17, Compatriot Schwoerer presented a Wounded Warrior Challenge Coin to Silver Star recipient Daniel E. Harper at the Cardiac Rehabilitation Clinic at Ft. Belvoir, Va. Daniel is a three times recipient of the Purple Heart with combat experience in Korea and Vietnam. He is one of the few survivors of the Korean War battle known as “Pork Chop Hill.” His citation for the Silver Star details heroic action that prevented additional casualties at a battle north of Chon Thanh on 23 November 1967. During that battle, Daniel was severely wounded.

Daniel wrote a book about his combat and general military experiences. He established many firsts for the U.S. Army as he quickly rose through the ranks to E-9. He retired to care for his ailing Father, and the Army lowered his rank to E-8 for retirement. His book is titled: “Life of a Soldier” and may be found on eBay and other book sales sites. Daniel has agreed to be the guest speaker at the Colonel William Grayson Chapter May 2019 meeting.



Specialist McKenneon and Barry Schwoerer.



Daniel E. Harper and Barry Schwoerer.

24 Aug.: On Friday, 24 August 2018, members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, VASSAR, Culpeper Minutemen Chapter, VASSAR, and VASSAR President Pat Kelly provided outstanding support to the frocking ceremony of Chaplain (Colonel) Kevin L. Guthrie. The Historical Pohick Episcopal Church in Lorton, VA, hosted the event. Compatriots and other participants were dressed in period uniforms and appropriate period dress for the ladies adding a colonial “feel” to the already historic environment. Compatriots served as greeters and handed out event programs, and as colonial guards for the attendees, and special guards to the presiding Army General Officer during the ceremony. In addition to the general support to the program, Colonel William Grayson Chapter Compatriot and author, Paul Chase, presented Chaplain Guthrie with a copy of his book, “The American Revolution: A Compendium of Terms and Topics.”

Members in attendance included: Pat Kelly, VASSAR President; Colonel William Grayson Chapter Compatriots: Mike Taimi, President; Mike Weyler, Vice President; Paul Chase, Color Guard Committee Chairman; Barry Schwoerer, Immediate Past Vice President; and, Leamon Duncan, Quartermaster; Culpeper Minutemen Chapter Compatriots: Charles Jameson and Alonzo “Lon” Lacey, Jr. Other non-SAR/DAR members supporting the event included the Rev. (Dr.) Thomas Costa as the Rev. Lee Massey, first Rector of the Pohick Church, and Mrs. Susan Costa as Mrs. Massey.



L-R: CWG Compatriots Paul Chase & Leamon Duncan; VASSAR President Pat Kelly; CWG VP Mike Weyler, CWG Immediate Past VP Barry Schwoerer, CWG President Mike Taimi. Not Pictured: Compatriots Charles Jameson and Alonzo “Lon” Lacey, Jr. of the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter.

11 Sept.: Bugles Across America Honors 9-11 Victims. On September 11, in Culpeper, Virginia, the Col. William Grayson Chapter joined with the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter, the Fairfax Resolves Chapter, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Culpeper Police Dept., the County Sheriff's Office, and the Culpeper Volunteer Fire Department in a ceremony to honor the victims of the attacks on September 11, 2001, and the attack on Benghazi on September 11, 2012.

Gerry Schuck, past Virginia State Director of Bugles Across America, organized the first ceremony in 2008. The only participants at that time were Gerry and the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter Color Guard and other compatriots of the chapter. The ceremony, a salute and the playing of Taps, is carried out at four locations in Culpeper and timed to match the times that the four planes crashed. This year's locations were:

8:46 a.m. North Tower; at the Culpeper Vol. F.D.

9:03 a.m. South Tower; at the County Sheriff's Office.

9:37 a.m. Pentagon; at the Military Memorial in Wine Street Park.

10:03 a.m. a field near Shanksville, Pa.; at Main and Davis Streets in Culpeper.

In 2013, a second playing of Taps was added to honor those Who died in the attack on Benghazi on Sept. 11, 2012.

Many other Virginia chapters have participated in this event over the years. This year, the National Society Color Guard Commander named the ceremony a *Massing of the Colors* National Event.



Color Guard at the Fire House (L) and at Main and Davis Streets.

14-15 Sep.: On Sept. 15, at the Virginia Society SAR (VASSAR) Semi-annual meeting in Charlottesville, Va., Bill Schwetke, Commander of the VASSAR Color Guard, presented Paul Chase of Haymarket, Virginia, a member of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter of VASSAR, with the 2017 VASSAR Color Guardsman of the Year plaque. This honor recognizes Paul's outstanding contributions over the past year to the Virginia Society and the Colonel William Grayson Chapter.

Compatriot Chase is Adjutant of the VASSAR Color Guard and Commander of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter Color Guard. In winning this prestigious award, Paul Chase exemplifies the spirit of the Sons of the American Revolution by his participation in or attendance at special observances and ceremonies sponsored by Sons of the American Revolution. Previously Mr. Chase has been awarded the SAR Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals.



Paul Chase (L) receives Color Guardsman of the Year plaque from Bill Schwetke.

Preparation for Grave Marking Ceremony

1 Oct.: In preparation for a scheduled Grave Marking ceremony, members of the Colonel William Grayson chapter reset headstones and placed Grave Marking lugs at the graves of Patriots William Hough and Benjamin Hough at the Quaker Cemetery, Fairfax Meeting House in Waterford, Virginia. The Grave Marking ceremony is scheduled for 2:30 pm on 13 October 2018 at the Quaker Cemetery. Colonel William Grayson chapter members providing labor at the gravesite include Mike Taimi, Mike Weyler, Thad Hartman, and Curtis Robb. Curtis Robb is the chapter's Grave Marking Chairman.



Mike Weyler, Thad Hartman & Curtis Robb.



Thad Hartman & Curtis Robb.

[Registrar's Report](#)

NEW MEMBERS APPROVED

APPLICANT	DATE	PATRIOT
John Robert Baker , Gainesville, Va.	13 Jul 2018	John Baker, Soldier in Virginia Militia
John Jacob Baker , Gainesville, Va.	13 Jul 2018	John Baker, Soldier in Virginia Militia
Mitchell Simmons, Centreville, Va.	13 Jul 2018	Jonas Simmons, Captain in New York Militia
Todd Carter, Purcellville, Va.	20 Jul 2018	Thomas Carter, Captain in Virginia Militia
Chris Houser, Aldie, Va.	20 Jul 2018	John Houser, Pvt in Pennsylvania Militia
Robert Moen, Memorial member	20 Jul 2018	Jedediah Pratt, Rendered Material Aid
David Brickley, Woodbridge, Va.	27 Jul 2018	James Packer, Oath of Allegiance
Roderick Rigden, Winchester, Va.	27 Jul 2018	Richard Hawkins, Signer Assc. Freemen
Jim Ford, Lake Ridge, Va.	10 Aug 2018	James Smith, Rendered Material Aid

SUPPLEMENTALS APPROVED

APPLICANT	DATE	PATRIOT
Curtis Robb, Bristow, Va.	6 Jul 2018	Nathaniel Austin, Committee Service in Mass.
Kevin Schwoerer, Aldie, Va.	10 Aug 2018	Seneca Nelson, Oath of Allegiance
Kurtis Schwoerer, Aldie, Va.	10 Aug 2018	Seneca Nelson, Oath of Allegiance
Jacob Schwoerer, Aldie, Va.	10 Aug 2018	Seneca Nelson, Oath of Allegiance
Sean Schwoerer, Aldie, Va.	10 Aug 2018	Seneca Nelson, Oath of Allegiance