



Col. William Grayson Chapter *Sons of the American Revolution* —Newsletter—



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Volume **15**, Issue **2**

April - June 2022

President's Comments: Ross H. Schwalm

April 7, 2022: Call to Duty Civil War event at Bristoe Station Battlefield Park – Compatriots Dave Button and Ross Schwalm were asked to support this event. This event is a collaborative effort between Prince William County Public Schools (6th grade students and teachers), PWC Office of Historical Preservation, and a host of volunteers from the Civil War Community of historic interpreters and subject matter experts. I was requested to cover the topic of immigrants answering the call to duty during the Civil War period. I agreed to cover German speaking citizens and immigrants, Irish, Scottish, Jewish and Chinese immigrants who fought for both the Union and Confederate armies. Due to inclement weather, day one became an indoor field trip at Stewart Belville Middle School where 12 groups of 6th graders rotated every 13 minutes over the course of three hours. Many of the students were surprised by the fact that some part of my DNA fought in the American Revolution and the Civil War. Due to the venue and format change, I was unable to conduct a Revolutionary War Flag Chest presentation with Andrew Mills at Holy Family Catholic School. He was able to conduct two of these on April 7.

April 22, 2022 - U. S. Grant's 200th Birthday Anniversary ceremony at Ellwood Manor, Wilderness National Battlefield Park. I was the acting chaplain and color guard participant. US Marine Corps veteran Kelvin Michael Davis Lt. Col Ret. was my guest and filled in as event photographer for the Irish Brigade Camp #4, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. I wrote two prayers for the event and created the event program. Approximately 35 attended this afternoon event including the SUVCW Commander in Chief, the Department of Chesapeake Commander, Irish Brigade Camp Commander, a US Grant reenactor and a direct descendant of U. S. Grant. Col William Grayson members Joe Dooley, Mike Wilson, and Leamon Duncan are also members of the Irish Brigade Camp.

April 29, 30 & May 1 - Revolutionary War Days at Mount Vernon. Spent the weekend setting up an encampment and interacting with the public as a Hessian Musketeer. Several SAR members attended and were given a good education on Hessians.

May 17, 2022 - Attended Book Talk via Zoom hosted by the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati. Dr. Friedericke Baer spoke on her new book - Hessians: German Soldiers in the American Revolutionary War. Several other SAR Compatriots attended, including Keith Rouleau.

May 20, 2022 - The Fifth Annual American Veterans Ball - MGM Casino Maryland

www.americanveteransball.org

"Where Passion Meets Purpose" - I was an invited guest to this event which was attended by 850 people. Former VA Secretary and the Former Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff were key note speakers concerning veteran suicide. Event was a fundraiser to provide resources to organizations to prevent veteran suicide. I spent \$100 in support of this event.

May 21, 2022 - Revolutionary War Living History and Battle Reenactment - Mount Harmon Historic Plantation in Cecil County, MD. I performed duties as a Hessian Musketeer and interacted with several dozen visitors. Ben Williams had us in fine form and my fire lock fired without fail 15 times. Musket was so hot it was hard to hold. We also sang German songs for our British allies.

May 26, 2022 - Conducted a phone interview with Denny Gillem, Army Lt. Col. Ret. who is the host of a radio program called Frontlines of Freedom. This program is broadcast on over 180 radio stations with 400,000 listeners. I am scheduled to record two 10 min segments on June 7 about the Hessians. Denny is linking this interview to his ramp up to the 4th of July this year. For more information, see FrontlinesOfFreedom.com

May 27, 2022 - Prince William County Memorial Day Tribute to honor DEA Special Agent Forres Nelson Leamon who was killed in Afghanistan in a helicopter crash. Event was conducted at Freedom Park War Memorial in Woodbridge, VA. This event was hosted by PWC Board of County Supervisors. I interacted with two supervisors and two commissioners on the Veterans Commission. All agreed to meet me to discuss the Revolution Memorial project.

On June 4, 2022 - I crossed the George Washington Bridge from NJ to NYC. This bridge crosses over two Rev War Forts captured by the Hessians, Fort Lee on the NJ side and Fort Washington on the NY side, in 1776. Johannes Schwalm participated in both attacks and Fort Washington was renamed to Fort Knyphausen by the Hessians.

I continued my travels to Oyster Bay on Long Island to visit the Cedar Swamp Cemetery. I met my guide Steve Russel Boerner at this cemetery. Steve is President of the Cedar Swamp Historical Society. The cemetery contains the unmarked graves of Hessian soldiers who died during occupation duty on Long Island. A Hessian Blue Spruce was planted at the grave site and is the focal point of a ceremony each December to remember the Hessian contributions to the British during the war and the impacts they had on American Christmas traditions. (For the record, a tree farm in Fairfax County, VA produces Hessian Christmas Trees for sale.) Steve is starting a monument project for official recognition of these Hessians.

The cemetery also contains graves from before the Revolution through the modern times. There are DAR, War of 1812, GAR, WW I, WW II, Korea and Vietnam veteran graves.

Steve gave me a tour of other sites on the island. We stopped at Raynham Hall, the home of Robert Townsend, one of Washington's spies. We also took a quick tour of the Underhill Society office and archives which is in the building used by the Matinecock Lodge of the Masons. This was the lodge of President Teddy Roosevelt.

On my route home, I crossed the Verrazano Bridge from Long Island to Staten Island which was the route Johannes took in reverse during the amphibious assault on Long Island in Aug 1776.

On June 7, 2022 - I was interviewed for Frontlines of Freedom on my links to the American Revolution and my veteran service. Frontlines of Freedom is hosted by Lt. Col. Denny Gillem, U.S. Army (Retired), a West Point graduate and highly decorated combat veteran who also served as a Mideast War Planner during his 22 years on active duty. To find a station near you, explore this link: <https://frontlinesoffreedom.com/radio-stations/> WWRC (AM band) has a webpage that you can access and they have a Listen Live option. Frontlines also posts Podcasts. Denny is using my interview to ramp up to 4th of July and he is interested in the plans for the 250th celebration cycle. I am supposed to stay in touch with him.

June 9, 2022 – I attended the Historic Dumfries Virginia Inc. annual membership meeting and talked to members about all things related to the Rev War Monument project and the Prince William Resolves event in June of 2024. We will nominate it as a State SAR 250th event which will allow quick merger with the DAR.

On June 14, 2022 - I had Citizens Time to introduce the project to the Prince William County Historical Commission. Compatriot John DuPree (CWGC) is a Commissioner appointed by the Coles District Supervisor. Rob Orrison was also present at the meeting.

I gave a brief synopsis of the project and handed out the current information paper. I indicated that I had already talked with the County Veterans Commission who are generally in support of this project and that the SAR and DAR support is rallying to the project.

The Commission had a few questions on location, funding to be raised, and our proposed timeline. My responses were that we evaluated 5 locations and really would like to put it in Dumfries as this was where the troops mustered. I indicated we have rough estimates for an Obelisk and want to include memorial benches and potentially memorial bricks. Once we have a location, we can move to design which will refine our initial estimates on cost and funds to raise. I indicated we would like to have this in place by 2026. Chairman Kim Brace asked for us to draft a Statement of Support and Commissioner DuPree volunteered to be the Commission Liaison to the Grayson Chapter.

Rob Orrison gave a quick synopsis of the draft plan for converting the current county property known as Williams Ordinary from an administrative building to a museum on the first floor and administrative offices on the second floor for the County Office of Historic Preservation. There are two other lots associated with this building and one is planned to become a community park. This is one of the five locations for the Rev War Memorial. Rob indicated these ideas are currently unfunded but a plan is in the works for funding in the next county budget. As a new museum in the county, the Historical Commission will need to be heavily involved in achieving success.

Thank you to all who volunteered to assist. I am moving to the next level of detail which is finding leaders for the subcommittees to support the planning and execution of this project. I will send out some slides that define the sub committees so you can get an idea of the talent we need.

Upcoming Events

July 4, 2022: 9:00 am - Independence Day and March to the Tomb of George Washington
Event Level: National. Host/POC: George Washington Chapter, Virginia SAR/Paul Walden
at PaulWalden@live.com. Location: George Washington's Mount Vernon

July 9, 2022: 246th Anniversary of the Battle of Cricket Hill, Saturday, Jul 9, 11:00am, Morningside Marina,
249 Mill Point Road, Hudgins, VA.

July 10-14, 2022: 132nd NSSAR Annual Congress, Sunday, July 10 - Thursday, Jul 14, Hyatt Regency
Savannah, 2 West Bay Street Savannah, GA.

July 16, 2022: 248th Commemoration of the Signing of the Fairfax Resolves, 11:00am, Pohick Church 9301
Richmond Highway Lorton, VA (US 1 & Telegraph Road)

August 5th - 6th, 2022: Atlantic Middle States Association (AMSA) Conference
Event Level: Region. Host/POC: Atlantic Middle States Association SAR. Website
Location: Princeton Marriott at Forrestal, 100 College Road East, Princeton, NJ 08540

August 20, 2022: Nansemond Indian Pow Wow, Mattanock Town, 1001 Pembroke Lane, Suffolk, VA. Color
Guard will participate in opening and closing ceremonies each day and man a recruiting tent - come help the
Nansemond Indian Patriots Chapter and have a great time!

September 3, 2022: 241st Commemoration of the Battle of the Capes
Host/POC: Norfolk Chapter VASSAR/Gary Pridgen at gpridgen@cox.net
Location: Vice Admiral François Joseph Paul de Grasse Statue, Intersection of New Guinea Rd. and Atlantic
Ave, JEB Little Creek-Fort Story, Virginia Beach, VA. (Near the Cape Henry Lighthouse.)

September 10, 2022: - President General's Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns
Event Level: National, Host/POC: George Washington Chapter VASSAR/Richard Rankin
at brandywinecreek@aol.com Location: Arlington National Cemetery.

September 16 -17, 2022: VASSAR Semi-Annual Conference Williamsburg
Event Level: State
Host/POC: VASSAR.
Location: Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel & Suites, 105 Visitor Center Drive, Williamsburg, VA.

September 17, 2022: SAR Vigil at Washington's Tomb
Event Level: National
Host/POC: George Washington Chapter VASSAR/Paul Walden at PaulWalden@live.com.
Location: George Washington's Mount Vernon, Alexandria, VA

Registrar's Report: Mike Blythe

Halfway through 2022 we have had 9 new member applications approved with 10 more pending approval. That's potentially a significant increase over 2021 where 14 were approved during the entire year. 5 supplemental applications have been approved so far this year with 6 more in the pipeline. Current waiting times for review of applications is 5 months for new members and 9 months for supplements.

I'm looking forward to introducing the following new members at our next meeting, 1 October:

- (1) **Elosser, Ralph Edward Jr. (Eddie)** whose Patriot ancestor, Benjamin Marshall, served as a Private in the Virginia Militia under LT Samuel Hornbeck, LT Lemon Hornbeck, and CAPT M. Stump. His application was approved on 6 May. His national number is 222383.
- (2) **Nelson, Joshua M. (Josh)**, whose sixth great-grandfather, Ebenezer Andrews, served as a Sergeant in the Bristol County, Massachusetts, Militia under Captain Pitt and Colonel Walker. His application was approved 24 June. His national number is 222899.

The following members have had supplemental applications approved this quarter:

- (1) **Blythe, Devin M. (Devin)**, a descendant of Robert Sumner, who was a member of the Provincial Congress of North Carolina from 1776 - 1779 and the convention that wrote the state constitution. No NSDAR member claims Robert Sumner, and only one NSSAR member descends from him – that application was approved in 1942.
- (2) **Blythe, Devin M. (Devin)**, whose Patriot ancestor, Samuel Hurlburt, served as a First Lieutenant in Captain Tuttle's 5th Company of the 7th Continental Regiment, Connecticut Line, under Colonel Webb.
- (3) **Blythe, Michael J. (Mike)**, descended from the Patriot Evan James who signed the Oath of Allegiance and Fidelity in Maryland in 1778. Evan James' grandson, Andrew James, gave his nephew by marriage, Mike's great-great grandfather, a job after his father had abandoned the family. As a result, six consecutive generations of Blythe men have "James" as their middle name in his recognition.
- (4) **Blythe, Michael J. (Mike)**, whose Patriot ancestor, Nathan Spencer, a Loudoun County Quaker, rendered material aid by donating beef to the Army.
- (5) **Burch, James G. (Greg)**, a descendant of Nathaniel Gardner who was a Soldier in the Virginia Militia, Pittsylvania County, under Captain Isaac Clemments and a Signer of the Oath of Allegiance in 1777.

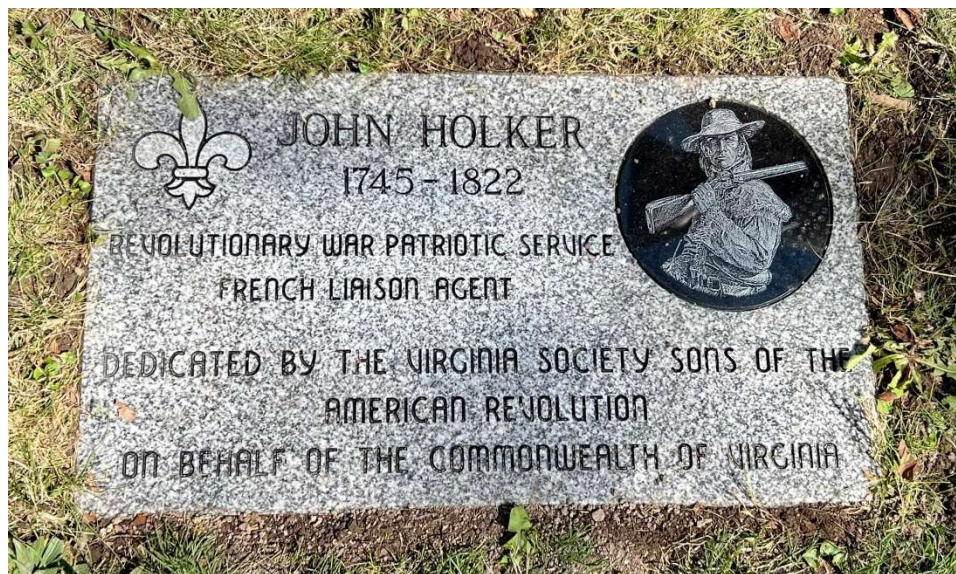
I've heard that when you plant a tree – particularly at my age – you're doing it for your children and grandchildren. I think the same thing is true for supplemental applications. All it does for you is validate your research, which is important. But it also becomes a permanent record and someone someday down your line will benefit from your work. And that Patriot will receive the honor he's due for generations to come.

Chapter Activities and News

April 2, 2022: Grave Marking Ceremony honoring Patriot John Holker

John (Jean) Holker (1745-1822), born in Manchester, was the son of Chevalier Jean Holker, an English Jacobite who fled to Rouen, France, in 1745 and became prominent in French textile manufacturing. The younger Holker returned to England between 1769 and 1772 to study the Hargreave and Arkwright manufacturing processes. In 1777, father and son were involved in helping the American commissioners in Paris obtain military clothing and other supplies. In 1778, with Benjamin Franklin's support, John Holker and Conrad Alexandre Gérard came to America as the first French ministers to the United States. Holker was the agent for the French navy in American ports and consul of France, and took up permanent residence in Philadelphia. During the war, he supplied arms and provisions to the French fleet, with Robert Morris acting as Holker's American agent in Philadelphia and William Smith as his agent in Baltimore. By 1780, Holker had become consul general for Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, and New York. While acting in this official capacity, he was engaged in extensive private business speculations with Robert Morris, William Turnbull, and Peter Marmie. Complaints from local authorities on his financial activities led the French government to demand that he either observe the prohibition against public officials engaging in trade or resign. Holker resigned in 1781, preferring to continue his various business ventures that included supplying clothes to Continental troops during the war, and later investing in western land speculation, Pittsburgh ironworks, distilleries, saw mills, and salt works. He and his partners William Turnbull and Peter Marmie formed the Alliance Iron Works, which was important to the early development of Pittsburgh as an urban center. The death of his father and the turmoil of the French Revolution diminished his assets and left him with fewer business ties in France. Following the war, Holker settled in Springsbury, Virginia, where he remained until his death in 1822, with the exception of a brief sojourn in France from 1800 to 1804.

Compatriots from the Colonel William Grayson Chapter participated in the grave marking ceremony of Patriot John Holker. The ceremony was hosted and expertly executed by the SAR Colonel James Wood II Chapter. The ceremony was well attended by NSDAR and CAR participants and officers from the French Embassy.





**L-R: Dale Corey, Mike Weyler, Ernie Coggins, CWG Vice President Leamon Duncan
(Photo credit: Leamon Duncan)**

April 9, 2022: “Ceremony to Gather and Bless Virginia Soil for Waxhaws”

This annual ceremony is to collect and bless Virginia soil to be taken by VASSAR to the Commemoration of the Battle of Waxhaws (also known as the Waxhaws Massacre or Buford’s Massacre) in South Carolina and spread on the mass grave to honor Virginia and South Carolina soldiers who died at that battle.

For this ceremony the Color Guard carried the Betsy Ross Flag, the flag of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the 3rd Virginia Detachment Flag, under which the Virginians we will honor fought and died.

CWG Chapter members Mike Weyler and Thad Hartman participated in the Honor Guard, and George Ax attended the ceremony.



April 9, 2022: Eight-Chapter Meeting at Graves Mountain Lodge, Syria, VA.

Chapter members Mike Weyler and Thad Hartman were part of the Combined Color Guard, and George Ax also attended and presented the CWG Chapter comments. VASSAR President Bruce Meyer was the guest speaker.



April 10, 2022: Multiple Patriot Grave Marking, Lovettsville, VA.

On Sunday, April 10, 2022, Compatriots Leamon Duncan and Mike Weyler supported grave marking ceremony for five patriots in Lovettsville, VA. Compatriot Duncan presented the CWG Chapter wreath. Both compatriots participated in the Color Guard as well. The ceremony was hosted by the Fairfax Resolves Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. The attendance also included presentations and wreath presentations by members of the DAR and CAR.





L-R: Compatriots Leamon Duncan, Mike Weyler

April 20, 2022: ROTC Awards at Battlefield High School

Cadet Staff Sergeant Carson Cho, Battlefield High School, was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by Compatriot John Callaway during a Battlefield High School awards ceremony.



Compatriot John Callaway presented Cadet Senior Master Sergeant Owen Wolf, Battlefield High School, a Certificate of Achievement for his nomination to compete in the Colonel William Grayson Chapter SAR Enhanced JROTC Cadet Competition during a school awards ceremony.



April 22, 2022: Retirement Ceremony of Compatriot Master Sergeant (Ret.) Jerad Myers from the Army

The Colonel William Grayson Chapter was honored to assist the Colonel Fielding Lewis Chapter in the retirement ceremony of Compatriot Master Sergeant (Ret.) Jerad Myers from the Army at the Museum of the United States Army. Color Guard Commander Andrew Mills, Quartermaster Jack Mills represented the chapter. Representing Colonel Fielding Lewis was Compatriot John Hamilton.

We congratulate Compatriot Myers on his retirement and thank him for his service in protecting and defending our country, like his Patriot ancestor before him.



Pictured (L to R): Andrew Mills, Jack Mills, John Hamilton, Jerad Myers

April 23, 2022: James Monroe's 264th Birthday Celebration at His Birthplace

On Saturday, April 23, Compatriot Dave Button presented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter's Wreath at the commemoration of the birthdate of President James Monroe at the reconstruction of his birthplace in Colonial Beach, Westmoreland County, Virginia. Approximately fifty organizations, including representatives from the state and local governments, were there presenting their wreaths on this the 264th anniversary of President Monroe's birth.



April 27, 2022: ROTC Awards at Freedom High School

Cadet 1LT Kasey Diggs, Freedom High School, was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by Compatriot Dave Button, Assisted by Compatriot John Callaway, during a Freedom High School awards ceremony.



Lt Col Michelle Waldron, Senior Military Instructor (SMI), Freedom High School, was presented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter Certificate of Appreciation for five (5) years Association with the Chapter and service to the community by Compatriot Dave Button during a Freedom High School awards ceremony. Compatriot John Callaway assisted.



MSgt Anthony Hagan, Military Instructor (MI), Freedom High School, was presented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter Certificate of Appreciation for five (5) years Association with the Chapter and service to the community by Compatriot Dave Button during a Freedom High School awards ceremony. Compatriot John Callaway assisted.



April 28, 2022: James Monroe's 264th Birthday Celebration at His Tomb, Richmond, VA.

Compatriot Dave Button presented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter's Wreath at the commemoration of the birthdate of President James Monroe at the site of his tomb at the historic Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia. Approximately fifty organizations, including representatives from the state and local governments, were there presenting their wreaths on this the 264th anniversary of President Monroe's birth.



April 28, 2022: SAR Life Saving Commendation and Medal Awarded to Virginia State Police Trooper

Compatriot Bill Collier presented the SAR Life Saving Commendation and Medal, on behalf of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, to Virginia State Trooper Jordan S. Corvin at the Virginia State Police Area Office #48, 9801 Braddock Road, Fairfax Virginia 22032. Trooper Corvin saved the life of an individual who was going to jump off the Woodrow Wilson Bridge into the Potomac River.



April 30, 2022: John Ford Grave Marking, Fordsville, VA

Compatriot George Ax presented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter Wreath at the grave marking of Patriot John Ford, 1755-1825, at the family cemetery in Fordsville, VA. The ceremony was sponsored by the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter, and VASSAR President Bruce Meyer was in attendance. CWG Chapter member and Past President Mike Weyler, current VASSAR 3d Vice President, spoke at the ceremony, presented the OFPA wreath, and participated in the Color Guard.



May 6, 2022: ROTC Awards at Woodbridge High School

Cadet 1LT Erika Spear, Woodbridge High School, was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by Compatriot Ross Schwalm, Chapter President, during a Woodbridge High School awards ceremony.



Compatriot Ross Schwalm, Chapter President, presented Cadet 2LT Lia Torres-Borrero, Woodbridge High School, a Certificate of Achievement for her nomination to compete in the Colonel William Grayson Chapter SAR Enhanced JROTC Cadet Competition during a school awards ceremony.



May 12, 2022: Multiple ROTC Awards

Cadet 2LT Joshua Rapin, Quantico Middle/High School, was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by Compatriot Ross Schwalm, Chapter President, during a Quantico Middle/High School awards ceremony.

Compatriot Ross Schwalm, Chapter President, presented Cadet 1stSgt Devin Williams, Quantico Middle/High School, a Certificate of Achievement for his nomination to compete in the Colonel William Grayson Chapter SAR Enhanced JROTC Cadet Competition during a school awards ceremony.

Cadet Giovanny Benitez, Unity Reed High School, was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by Compatriot Dave Button during a Unity Reed High School awards ceremony.

May 13, 2022: ROTC Awards at CD Hylton High School

Cadet Ashley Sagastizado, CD Hylton High School, was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by Compatriot John Callaway during a CD Hylton High School awards ceremony. Cadet Sagastizado was not able to attend but was “face timed” by a friend for the presentation. DAR was in attendance.



May 14, 2022: Colonel William Grayson Chapter Meeting



The Colonel William Grayson Chapter welcomed four new compatriots into our Chapter.
(L to R) Charles Wagner, Gary Bresnahan, Timothy Miller, Terry Krebs.

Chapter awards for 2021 were presented at the May meeting. Those awards are listed below:

- Certificate of Appreciation: Tim Cline, Ross N. Schwalm
- Chapter Certificate for Distinguished Service: George Ax, Mike Blythe, John Callaway, Bill Collier, Leamon Duncan, Thad Hartman, Chuck Mills, Andrew Mills, Jack Mills, Richard Potter, Keith Rouleau, Jeff Windland
- Bronze SAR Color Guard Certificate and Medal: Andrew Mills, Jack Mills, Mike Weyler
- Bronze Roger Sherman Certificate and Medal: Aaron Bills
- Military Service Medal: Charles Wagner
- War Service Medal: Gary Bresnahan, Terry Krebs, Tim Miller
- Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service: Dave Button



Congratulations to our Compatriots who were awarded Certificates of Distinguished Service by CWG Vice President Leamon Duncan (L-R) Leamon Duncan, George Ax, Michael Blythe, John Callaway, Thad Hartman, Andrew Mills, Jack Mills, Jeff Windland.



(L-R) CWG Vice President Leamon Duncan, Compatriot Dave Button

Congratulations to Compatriot Dave Button on receiving his Distinguished Service Medal. His dedication and service to the Chapter is a shining example for everyone.

May 17, 2022: ROTC Award at Potomac High School

Cadet SN Jordan Hemmings was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by Compatriot Richard Potter during a Potomac High School awards ceremony.



May 17, 2022: Flags of the Revolution presentation at Wakefield High School

Compatriot Dave Button (left) presented the educational program “Flags of the Revolution” to Peter Findler's Advance Placement United States History class. Following his presentation to the class, Compatriot Button presented Peter Findler with a Certificate of Appreciation for teaching United States History.



May 17, 2022: SAR flag certificate presented to Wakefield High School

Compatriot Dave Button presented the SAR flag certificate to Wakefield High School's Head of School Ashley Harper, in recognition of the school's flying the lighted flag 24/7.



May 18, 2022: SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Certificates and Medals Awarded to Virginia State Police Troopers

Compatriot Bill Collier, on behalf of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, presented SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Certificates and Medals to Virginia State Police Troopers Edward A. Burns, Darius Henry, Sean M. Hovendon, and Sarah L. Jezioro at the Virginia State Police Area 45 Headquarters, 1426 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA 22204.



Compatriot Bill Collier (L) with Troopers Burns, Henry, Hovendon, and Jezioro

May 21, 2022: Relay for Life in Manassas

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter participated in the opening ceremonies of the Relay for Life in Manassas. Color Guard Commander Andrew Mills and Quartermaster Jack Mills presented the colors at this event. Relay for Life is a fundraising event for the American Cancer Society as it attempts to eradicate cancer from the nation.



(L-R) Compatriot Andrew Mills, Manassas Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger, Compatriot Jack Mills

May 23, 2022: ROTC Award at Osbourn Park High School

Cadet Aiden Toor, Osbourn Park High School, was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by Compatriot Dave Button during an Osbourn Park High School awards ceremony.



May 25, 2022: ROTC Award at Antilles Military Academy

Cadet LTC Belen Caraballo was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by the Senior Military Instructor (SMI), CSM Cardonavega during an Antilles Military Academy awards ceremony.

May 26, 2022: ROTC Award at American Military Academy

Cadet LTC Victoria Aponte was presented the Sons of the American Revolution ROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate by the Senior Military Instructor (SMI), SFC Sosa during an American Military Academy awards ceremony. As a note, Cadet Aponte has been accepted to attend West Point this year. American Military Academy has 10 Former cadets attending US Military Academies; 4 at West Point, 4 at Annapolis, and 2 at Colorado Springs.

May 26, 2022: SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Certificate and Medal Awarded to Retired Virginia State Police Trooper Dean Jones

Compatriot Bill Collier, on behalf of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, presented the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Certificate and Medal to retired Virginia State Police Trooper Dean Jones at the Virginia Department of Transportation Office at 10228 Residency Road, Manassas, VA.

The SAR Law Enforcement Commendation citation for Dean Jones reads:

Dean Jones served with distinction in the Virginia State Police for 41 years as a uniformed State Police Trooper. After joining the Virginia State Police in 1973 as a Trooper Trainee, he progressed through the ranks. In 1984 he was promoted to Sergeant, where he worked in several Area Offices, The training Academy, the Motor Squad supervisor in Northern Virginia, and the Executive Protection Unit Supervisor in Northern Virginia. After retiring as a sworn law officer in 2014 he continued to work for the Virginia State Police as a background investigator and Line-of-Duty Death Investigator. His methodical approach to his responsibilities, attention to detail, and professional performance of duty is an example for all to emulate. Dean Jones' performance then and now, bring great credit not only to himself and the Virginias State Police, but the entire law enforcement profession.



(L-R) Trooper Dean Jones (Ret.) with Compatriot Bill Collier

June 11, 2022: Commemoration of the Anniversary of the Virginia Declaration of Rights

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter attended a Naturalization Ceremony at Gunston Hall followed by attending a ceremony hosted by the George Mason Chapter commemorating the anniversary of the Virginia Declaration of Rights.



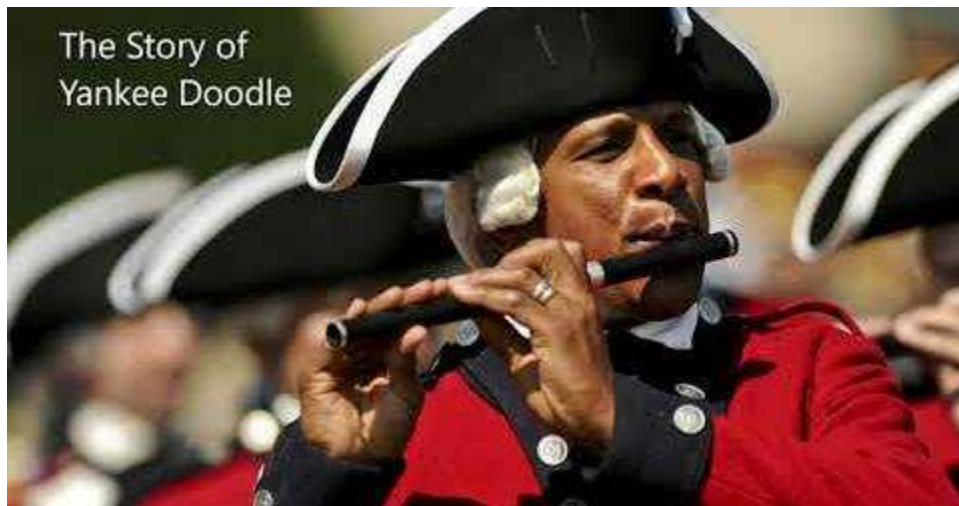
Pictured (L-R): Jack Mills, George Ax, Dave Button, Andrew Mills

June 11, 2022: Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Michael Kegley Court of Honor ceremony was Saturday, June 11th in Lake Ridge, VA at the Lake Ridge Marina/Park. CWG President Schwalm gave comments on service to the community, the state and the nation as the next steps for an Eagle Scout to pursue.



Historical Notes:



Yankee Doodle is one of the most patriotic songs a person can sing, but do you know what the words in the song mean? Did you know that the song was meant to be an insult, but was changed to become a song of pride? Check out the CWG video on Yankee Doodle to learn more about it and the pivotal moment it became a patriotic theme.

<https://youtu.be/1BWViEOLvUU>