



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



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July - September 2023

President's Comments – Michael Wilson

Now that the fall season is upon us and school is in session, our chairmen of various S.A.R. Youth Education programs are hard at work to find that perfect candidate to compete at the state and national level and need your support. How, you say? One way is by getting the word out to our local community (*churches, youth groups, schools*) about the eight (8) different Youth Awards Programs (*see brochure below*).

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution has eight (8) categories within the Youth Award Program: *Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence Teacher Award; the Arthur M. and Berdena King Eagle Scout Program; the Americanism Poster contest; Outstanding JROTC Cadet award; the George S. & Stella M. Knight essay contest; the SGT. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure contest; the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration contest; and the Children of the American Revolution award*. Each of these programs promote character, increase the confidence of tomorrow's leaders, foster civic responsibility in today's youth, and emphasize the development of critical thinking skills.

Last year, the chapter won first place at the state level at the *Virginia Sons of the American Revolution 2023 Annual Meeting* on February 10th through 12th in South Boston, Virginia, for the *Outstanding JROTC Cadet* and the *Arthur M. and Berdena King Eagle Scout* contests. This is due to the hard work of Tim Cline who chairs the chapter's *Eagle Scout Recognition* program and John Callaway who chairs the chapter's *ROTC/JROT/Sea Cadet* program, respectively. Both have done a spectacular job the past two years and are now seeking out this year's candidates.

To better assist our Youth Award Program, the executive officers of the chapter have created a Challenge Coin Program – fundraising through the sale of a challenge coin—your choice, either with the image of Colonel William Grayson and the seal of State Society on the opposing side, and/or another challenge coin having the image of a 17th century colonial soldier with the Latin phrase “*Aut Liber, Aut Nullus*” next to him and the George Washington's Inaugural Button on the opposing side. Both challenge coins' sales support funding of the

Permanent Fund and **Youth Funds** within the Colonel William Grayson Chapter and will be available for purchase at the October Chapter meeting. Should you not be able to attend and wish to support the Permanent fund and Youth Funds program, please contact the chapter Treasurer, Secretary, or myself.

Closing Remarks

I would like to thank Vice President Andrew Mills, Quartermaster Jack Mills, Historian Chuck Mills, and 2nd VICE VASSAR Commander Dr. Michael Weyler for representing the Colonel William Grayson Chapter at this year's 133rd S.A.R. National Congress held in beautiful Orlando, Florida. I would also like to thank Past President Ross Schwalm for representing us at the Commemoration of the Battle of Brooklyn, New York; and Vice President Andrew Mills and Quartermaster Jack Mills for standing guard at the National Annual Vigil at the Tomb of George Washington and representing both the chapter and state society at a national society event. Special thanks to Past President William C. Collier and the Colonel William Grayson Compatriots that support and assist in the chapter's Public Safety and Heroism Program. And thank you to each chapter officer that dedicates their time to keep this chapter great.

In closing, election season is upon us, and the chapter nominating committee has convened. Should any Colonel William Grayson Chapter compatriot in "good standing" wish to be nominated to either the Chapter Officer position of *President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian* or *Registrar*, please contact Past President Ross Schwalm via email. Elections for the positions mentioned above will be held at the November Chapter meeting scheduled for 18th of November 2023.



YOUTH AWARDS PROGRAMS

- Promote character
- Increase confidence
- Foster civic responsibility
- Develop critical thinking skills




YOUTH AWARDS



CONTACT INFORMATION

Colonel William Grayson Chapter - VASSAR

Serving the Gainesville/ Haymarket and Prince William County in Northern Virginia school area for over a decade and half.

C: 540-935-4469

URL: <http://colonelwilliamgrayson.virginia-sar.org/committees.html>

502-589-1776

education.sar.org

809 W. Main St., Louisville, KY 40202




YOUTH AWARDS PROGRAMS

**DR. TOM & BETTY LAWRENCE
AMERICAN HISTORY
TEACHER AWARD**

(Educators for Grades 5-12)

The Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award winner will attend one of the following graduate summer seminars:

- Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Valley Forge, PA
- Colonial Williamsburg at Williamsburg, VA
- Jefferson Symposium at University of Virginia, VA
- SAR Annual Conference on the American Revolution

Judges will choose one award winner each at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. The teacher will represent classroom instruction that outperforms curriculum requirements for the Revolutionary War era 1750-1800. Winners qualify for a cash award upon the successful completion of the summer seminar.

**THE ARTHUR M. AND BERDENA
KING EAGLE SCOUT PROGRAM**

(Eagle Scout prior to 19th birthday during year of application)

Competition is open to all Eagle Scouts registered in an active unit. The year that the scout received the Eagle rank is unrestricted. Application year is 01 January to 31 December and conducted in three phases, local (Chapter), State (Society), and National levels. Judging begins at the local Chapter with the submitted entry that includes an application form, four-generation ancestry chart, and a 500-word patriotic themed essay. First-place winner will receive recognition and presented either a cash award or scholarship to an educational institution at the SAR Annual Congress.

**THE AMERICANISM POSTER
CONTEST**

(Grades 3-5)

The contest is open to public, private, parochial, charter, and home-schooled students as well as C.A.R., Cub Scouts, and Brownies at the grade level that includes the American Revolution curriculum. Permanent themes are "Revolutionary War Events" for even numbered school years, and "Revolutionary War Persons" for odd numbered years. Judging is based upon theme portrayal, originality, research evidence, neatness, artistic merit, and creativity. All competition begins at the local SAR Chapter level with National winners receiving a ribbon, certificate, and cash award.

**OUTSTANDING JROTC CADET
AWARD**

(Nominated cadet must be a High School Junior)

This award fosters the principle of "citizen-soldier" as exemplified by the American Revolution's Minuteman. Selection process begins with the JROTC Unit's Senior Military Instructor (SMI). Selection criteria includes demonstrated leadership potential, military bearing, and scholastic achievement. Each cadet must submit an original essay on a topic designated by the SAR ROTC / JROTC & Services Academy Liaison Committee. The unit's JROTC Commanding Officer will select the winning Outstanding JROTC cadet.

**THE GEORGE S. & STELLA M.
KNIGHT ESSAY CONTEST**

(Grades 9-12)

Competition is open to public, private, parochial, and home-school high school students interested in the American Revolution. Students must submit an original 800 to 1,200-word essay based on an event, person, philosophy or ideal associated with the American Revolution, Declaration of Independence, or the framing of the US Constitution. Student essays are judged based upon their historical accuracy, clarity, organization, grammar and spelling, and documentation. Competition begins at the local SAR Chapter level and progresses through the State Society and National levels. The winning essay will be submitted to the SAR Magazine for publication.

**THE SGT. MOSES ADAMS
MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
BROCHURE CONTEST**

(Grades 6-9)

The contest is open to middle school students in public, private, parochial, charter and home-school at the grade level containing American Revolution or Government curriculum. C.A.R., Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts in these grade levels are also eligible. The permanent theme is "The Founding Documents of the United States." They are: Articles of Confederation, Declaration of Independence, Federalist Papers, US Constitution, and Bill of Rights. All competition begins at the local SAR Chapter level with National winners receiving a ribbon, certificate, and cash award.

**THE JOSEPH S. RUMBAUGH
HISTORICAL ORATION
CONTEST**

(Grades 9-12)

Competition is open to all public, private, parochial, and home-school high school students to perpetuate the stories of patriotism, courage, tragedy, and triumph of the men and women who achieved America's independence. Students must write an original oration of not less than five minutes or more than six minutes. The student must present their oration to an audience without the use of notes or props. The oration's subject shall be an event, a personality, or a document pertaining to the Revolutionary War with an emphasis on our nation's 250th anniversary. Judging will be based on composition, delivery, significance, historical accuracy, and relevance to our 250th anniversary. Preliminary rounds begin at the Chapter level with winning entries advancing to the State Society and National levels where SAR awards scholarships and cash prizes.

**THE CHILDREN OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION
AWARD**

(C.A.R. member)

This award is presented to C.A.R. members who have performed outstanding service in the furthering of the principles of freedom, and knowledge about and appreciation of the American Revolution, and in supporting C.A.R. goals at local Chapter, State Society, and National levels.



Vice President's Corner – Andrew Mills

This past July I attended the 133rd SAR Congress in Orlando, Florida. Joining me in this experience were past Chapter President Michael Weyler, Historian Charles Mills, and Quartermaster Jack Mills. As a first timer going to an event such as this, I truly did not know what to expect when I arrived.

In a previous newsletter, our current Chapter President, Michael Wilson, discussed being green dotted, a custom whereby first-time attendees to SAR conferences receive a green dot to put on their name tag to let other members know it was their first time. For this Congress, there were many first timers there who all had the privilege of getting to personally meet with the outgoing President General C. Bruce Pickette.

During this Congress, several topics were discussed amongst the delegates. These topics included funding renovations at the National Headquarters, reevaluating the status of the International Society for the SAR, and the one which drew the most scrutiny: raising of dues. The issue of the dues was greatly debated amongst the delegates for almost two full sessions before being resolved. Yet Congress is not just a time for people to sit in a large ballroom and discuss the working parts of the SAR.

Before the first session of Congress, the SAR held a solemn memorial service for those Compatriots for whom we lost over the course of the past year. This moving tribute saw nearly seventy members of the Color Guard muster and take an active part in the event.

Each evening there were social gatherings to bring members from across the country together to get to know each other and learn from each other about what happens in their respective states. The final two evenings saw two separate banquets honoring both the outgoing and incoming President General.

The true take away from this Congress was that if you had never been to one before, a compatriot should make the effort to participate in a Congress at least once. The irony is that once you have been to one you will more likely want to go to the next Congress. Luckily for us, the 2024 Congress is being held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The drive there is approximately 3 hours and the earliest pieces of information being provided about the Congress indicate there were be special SAR tours of Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Campaign for those who are attending the conference next year.

I hope many of you will come out to Lancaster next summer to take part in the 134th SAR Congress. I believe you will have a great time and an enjoyable experience.

America 250th Committee – Ross Schwalm

Planning for the Prince William County Revolutionary War Memorial has continued at a more detailed level. The County Landscape Architect crafted an initial drawing of park options in the land behind Williams Ordinary in Dumfries, VA.

The Design subcommittee met on June 14, 2023, at Williams Ordinary. An informal poll of visitors to William Ordinary indicated that a majority of folks prefer an obelisk monument over a memorial wall. Estimates were received for both options but the cost of the wall was considered prohibitive. The requirements list as written and approved is for an obelisk. The requirement list was sent to the landscape architect to craft a new diagram so we can include it in future fundraising efforts. The last major decision of the subcommittee was the deadline for park completion. This has been established as 2031, before the Yorktown 250th.

Registrar's Report - Mike Blythe

To date we have had fourteen new members approved in 2023. Three more applications are waiting for review at State or National, one memorial is waiting for a signature, and two more new member applications have been initiated this week.

During our summer hiatus several new members were approved and will be inducted at a future meeting:

- Robert Borka, Bob, who resides in Dumfries. His ancestor patriot is Thomas Horton, a Sergeant in the 17th Regiment, Albany County Militia, New York.
- Richard Carey, Rich, who lives in Haymarket and is a descendant of Private James Boynton, killed at Bunker Hill.
- James Chesley, Jim, lives in Clifton, and descends from William White, a soldier in the 11th Battalion, Prince George's County, Maryland Line.
- Jesse Inestroza, a Gainesville resident, and descendant of Josias Beall, a member of the Maryland Legislature (1775-1780), and the 5th-8th Conventions and Lower House representing Prince George's County.

Muster Role – Color Guard Commander - Andrew Mills

The Color Guard has had a busy summer this year. I would like to thank all the members of the Guard who took the time out of their busy schedules to come out and support the numerous events being held throughout the state. Listed below are the months and most of the events we took part in. If any are missing, please let me know so it can be included for our Year in Review.

June: 242nd Commemoration of Wayne's Crossing, Commemoration of the Virginia Declaration of Rights, Dumfries History Day, Commemoration of Dr. Joseph Warren, Regional Color Guard Workshop, General Daniel Morgan's Commemoration and Beeline March, 248th Commemoration of Loudoun Resolves, 242nd Commemoration of the Battle of Spencer's Ordinary, Mt. Crawford Grave Marking Ceremony, Funeral of Compatriot Wayne Rouse

July: Reading of the Declaration of Independence and Wreath Laying, Mount Vernon March to the Tomb, 133rd NSSAR Congress

August: Atlantic Middle States Association Meeting, Reading of the Declaration of Independence, Lt. George Kilgore Grave Marking,

September: Dedication of plaque to Daniel Morgan, Winchester Grave Marking Ceremony, VASSAR Semi Annual Meeting, Beeline March Commemoration, Mount Vernon Vigil at the Tomb

While at the Vigil at the Tomb at Mount Vernon, a guest at the estate asked members of the Color Guard about their clothing, inquiring how we got our costumes. Very politely, a Georgian Compatriot informed this guest that the clothing we wear is not a costume, but a uniform. For members of the Color Guard, the uniform being worn is special in that it is our way of honoring our Patriot ancestor who fought to ensure the freedoms we hold so dear.



This explanation of why we wear our uniforms in the Guard was truly inspiring to me. When we put on our militia uniform or Continental uniform, we do this as a symbol why we live in the country we are in today. These were the men who faced great odds, great adversity, and prevailed. There are those who might believe wearing colonial period clothing is nothing more than wearing "silly costumes," but the truth is it is perhaps one of the best forms of honoring our past.

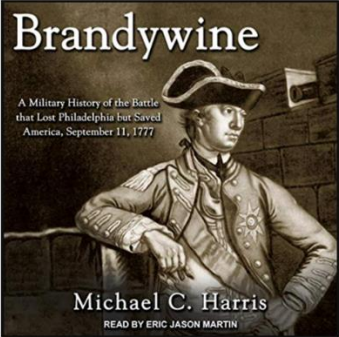
If you feel inspired to join our Color Guard or get more information, please contact me at fedallgen@yahoo.com to get more information.

Upcoming Events


October 8, 2023: Founding of the Fairfax Independent Company at Fairfax City Veterans Amphitheater in Fairfax. (VASSAR EVENT)

October 14, 2023: CWG Chapter Meeting will be held at the American Legion Post 364, 3640 Friendly Post Lane, Woodbridge, VA, 22192. The gathering will begin at 12:00 noon with the meeting's start time being 12:30. The guest speaker will be Michael C. Harris. He will be speaking on the Battle of Brandywine.

 CWG Lecture Series Presents 




Brandywine
A Military History of the Battle that Lost Philadelphia but Saved America, September 11, 1777
Michael C. Harris
READ BY ERIC JASON MARTIN



Germantown
A Military History of the Battle for Philadelphia

Please welcome
Michael C. Harris



mharris28thpa@gmail.com
<http://revwarramblings.wordpress.com>

October 15, 2023: Joint Maryland/ Virginia Grave marking Ceremony for Robert Hanson Harrison, Najemoy, MD (VASSAR EVENT)

October 19, 2023: 242nd Anniversary of the Battle of Yorktown, Thursday, 9:15 am. Yorktown, VA. **National event.** Hosted by the Virginia SAR including a wreath laying at the grave of Gov. Thomas Nelson Jr. at Grace Episcopal Church, 111 Church St., in Yorktown and followed by the Yorktown Victory parade. Rev War uniforms preferred, Standard SAR civilian attire ok.

November 4, 2023: Annual Northern Virginia Veterans Day Parade; Sat., 11 a.m. in Old Town Manassas, Va.

November 5, 2023: Grave Marking for Patriot Maj. Joseph Eggleston, Amelia Court House, VA

November 11, 2023: Veteran's Day Wreath laying at the tomb of George Washington, Mount Vernon Estate.

November 18, 2023: CWG Chapter Meeting, Sat., 11 a.m. (meet & greet at 10:30) in the Mountain View Card Room at Heritage Hunt Golf and Country Club, 6901 Arthur Hills Drive, Gainesville, Va. 20155. Officer elections for next year will take place at this meeting.

December 2, 2023: Anniversary of the Battle of Great Bridge. Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways Historical Foundation, 1775 Historic Way, Chesapeake, VA. **National event.**

December 15 -17 , 2023: Wreaths Across America. **National event.**

Chapter Activities and News

July 4, 2023: March to the Tomb of George Washington

The Colonel William Grayson Chapter was well represented as many members came out for the March to the Tomb at Mount Vernon. Marching with the Color Guard was our Commander Andrew Mills, Quartermaster Jack Mills, and Compatriot Mike Weyler. Marching with other members of the SAR were President Michael Wilson, Secretary Dave Button, Historian Charles Mills, and Compatriot Ray Hawkins, all of whom were able to place carnations at the Tomb of General Washington.



(L-R) Compatriots Dave Button and Chuck Mills with carnations

July 8, 2023: Visit to a Revolutionary War Display in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania

While driving through Schuylkill County, PA, Compatriot Ross Schwalm noticed a roadside display near a church. There were multiple signs with individual names and the America250 DAR logos were on each sign. Each sign listed a Revolutionary War Patriot and his service as a military man or function and the state in which the service was performed. This display was at Jacobs Lutheran Church and the signs reflected all of the known Patriots buried in the Jacobs Cemetery. A stone monument with a plaque was also located on this site.



July 9, 2023: America 250 event in Valley View, Pennsylvania

Compatriot Ross Schwalm hosted James and Dolley Madison at an America250 event in Valley View, Pennsylvania on July 9, 2023. The event was held at Valley View Park and included the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association (JSHA) Annual Meeting. DAR representatives from two Pennsylvania chapters attended. The Col. Grayson Chapter lent JSHA an America 250 Flag for use during the event. The focus of the event was a play-let by President Madison and his First Lady as he left White House (War of 1812) to visit the troops while Dolley stayed behind and prepared artifacts and state papers for removal ahead of the British invasion.

A question and answer period followed the play-let facilitated by Compatriot Schwalm. Approximately 100 people visited the event from 10 AM to 4 PM. JSHA treated guests to German Black Forest Cake and the Madisons treated guests to ice cream as was their tradition at the White House.



July 14 – 20, 2023: 133rd SAR National Congress, Orlando, Florida

Vice President Andrew Mills, Quartermaster Jack Mills, Compatriot Chuck Mills, and Compatriot Mike Weyler represented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter at the 133rd SAR Congress.



(L-R) Compatriot Jack Mills, Compatriot Andrew Mills



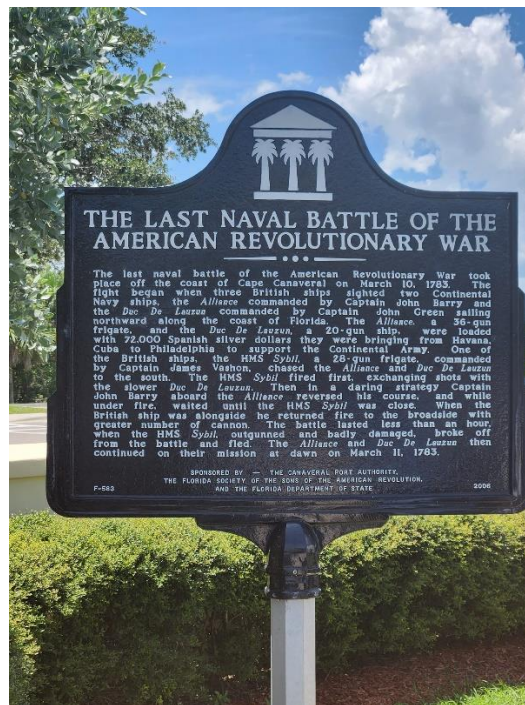
SAR 133rd Congress General Session



SAR member, Senator Rick Scott of Florida addresses SAR Congress

July 19, 2023: Commemoration of the Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War, Merritt Island, Florida

Compatriots Chuck Mills, Andrew Mills, and Jack Mills represented the CWG Chapter at the Commemoration of the last naval battle of the Revolutionary War.



July 22, 2023: 249th Anniversary of the Signing of the Fairfax Resolves, Lorton, Virginia

Compatriots Michael Wilson, Mike Weyler and Don McAndrew represented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter at the Anniversary of the signing of the Fairfax Resolves. Compatriot Don McAndrews portrayed George Mason. CWG President Michael Wilson presented the Chapter wreath.



CWG President Michael Wilson (Center)

July 23, 2023: Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Clifton, Virginia

Compatriots George Ax, Sr. and Aaron Bills attended an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Iliyaan Siddiqi, Troop 577, held at the Little Rocky Run Recreation Center #3, Clifton, VA.



Compatriot George Ax, Sr. presented Iliyaan Siddiqi the SAR Eagle Scout Certificate of Recognition and a SAR-BSA Partnership for Good Citizenship Patch.



Compatriot Aaron Bills representing the Boy Scouts of America administered Iliyaan the Eagle Charge and Oath and presented him the Eagle Scout Pin.

August 12, 2023: 247th Commemoration of the 1st Reading of the Declaration of Independence in VA.

Compatriots Michael Wilson, Dave Button and Ray Hawkins represented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter at the 247th Commemoration of the 1st Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Virginia on Saturday, 12th of August, at the Loudoun County Courthouse in Leesburg, VA. Chapter President Michael Wilson presented the chapter wreath and flag, participated in the color guard and read pages 7 and 8 of the Declaration of Independence to an enthusiastic crowd.



CWG President Michael Wilson (third from L)

August 13, 2023: Revolutionary War Days at Mount Vernon Estate

Compatriots Michael Wilson and Ross Schwalm participated in a Living History event at Mount Vernon on August 13, 2023. Compatriot Wilson mustered with the 1st Virginia Regiment and Compatriot Schwalm mustered with the Regiment von Huyn. Units performed various drill and manual of arms demonstrations and provided information on how these regiments provided support during the American Revolution.



August 22, 2023: Kutztown University becomes Home of Digital Military Archives, Kutztown, Pa.

Compatriot Ross Schwalm, a past president of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, and current president of The Johannes Schwalm Historical Association, announced that Kutztown University has been selected to be the new home of a military archive collection from the American Revolution, courtesy of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association. Rohrbach Library manages the digital collection, which launched in August. The collection is made up of thousands of pages of original documents from the United States, Britain and Germany.

The Johannes Schwalm Historical Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to researching those German auxiliary troops (generically called Hessian) who remained in America after the Revolutionary War, became loyal citizens, made cultural contributions and were the progenitors of any thousands of Americans living today.

Researchers from across the world can now access these digital archives through Kutztown University's Rohrbach Library at <https://research.library.kutztown.edu/schwalm/>. Questions can be directed to Dr. Michael Gabriel, department chair, History, at gabriel@kutztown.edu.

August 26, 2023: Lt. George Kilgore Grave Marking Ceremony, Herndon, Virginia

Chapter President Michael Wilson presented the Chapter wreath and rendered a military salute with arms as a member of the VASSAR Color Guard.



Compatriot Michael Wilson (5th from the L)

August 26, 2023: Commemoration of the Battle of Brooklyn, NY: National Event

The Battle of Long Island, also known as the Battle of Brooklyn and the Battle of Brooklyn Heights, was an action of the American Revolutionary War fought on August 27, 1776, at the western edge of Long Island in present-day Brooklyn. The British defeated the Continental Army and gained access to the strategically important Port of New York, which they held for the rest of the war. It was the first major battle to take place after the United States declared its independence on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia. It was the largest battle of the Revolutionary War in terms of both troop deployment and combat.

On August 26, 2023, Compatriot Ross H. Schwalm traveled with the Maryland SAR members on a bus trip to an event in remembrance of the Battle of Brooklyn of August 27, 1776. The event was held at the Old Stone House and was attended by Maryland National Guard members whose unit is the lineal descendant of the 1st Maryland Regiment, American Legion members, VFW members, reenactors, MD, NJ, NY, and VA SAR which included a combined color guard, NY DAR, Maryland Society of the Cincinnati, representatives of the NY City Parks and Recreation Division and the public. The event centered around the Maryland 400 which was a subset of troops from the First Maryland Regiment (Old Main Line) which counterattacked British and Hessian Troops in order to allow General Washington's remaining troops to escape. Only eight men made it to safety with the rest of the 400 either killed or captured.

Compatriot Schwalm et al. also visited the 1st Maryland Regiment Monument in Prospect Park. This monument is placed near the spot where the regiment first encountered the British on the left and the Hessians on the right attempting to cut off a path of retreat.



September 9, 2023: 242nd Anniversary of the Battle of Virginia Capes

Chapter President Michael Wilson attended the 242nd anniversary Battle of the Virginia Capes and brought greetings on behalf of CWG and presented the Chapter wreath.

The Battle of the Chesapeake, also known as the Battle of the Virginia Capes or simply the Battle of the Capes, was a crucial naval battle in the War that took place near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay on 5 September 1781. The battle was strategically decisive, in that it prevented the Royal Navy from reinforcing or evacuating the besieged forces of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia. The French were able to achieve control of the sea lanes against the British and provided the Franco-American army with siege artillery and French reinforcements. These proved decisive in the Siege of Yorktown.



CWG President Michael Wilson presents Chapter wreath (3rd from L)

September 11, 2023: Prince William County 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, Woodbridge, Va.

On Monday, September 11, 2023, Compatriot Ross Schwalm attended the Prince William County 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the McCort Government Complex in Woodbridge, VA . County First Responders, military veterans, county employees, DAR and elected officials along with the public were in attendance. All four county DAR chapters were represented and were happy to be joined by a CWG chapter SAR Compatriot. Names of the fallen county citizens were read in remembrance.



September 15- 16, 2023: VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Winchester, Va.

Compatriots Michael Wilson, George Ax, Sr., and Mike Weyler attended the VASSAR General Membership meeting and participated in the opening VASSAR Color Guard ceremony.

September 15, 2023: Daniel Morgan Plaque Dedication, Burwell-Morgan Mill, Va.

Compatriots Michael Wilson, George Ax, Sr., Thad Hartman and Mike Weyler attended the Daniel Morgan Plaque Dedication at 11 am on September 15th, hosted by COL James Wood II Chapter. CWG President Michael Wilson presented the Colonel William Grayson flag and wreath.



September 15, 2023: Robert Turtheford Wood Grave Marking, Winchester, Va.

Compatriots Michael Wilson, George Ax, Sr., Thad Hartman and Mike Weyler attended. CWG President Michael Wilson presented the Colonel William Grayson flag and wreath.



September 16, 2023: Bee Line march Commemoration, Winchester, Va.

CWG President Michael Wilson attended the Bee Line March Commemoration at 9 am on September 16th, hosted by COL James Wood II Chapter.



September 16, 2023: SAR Color Guard Annual Vigil at the Tomb of George Washington

On September 16, The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard conducted a day long vigil at the Tomb of George and Martha Washington. SAR members from as far away as Texas and Kentucky participated in the annual event. After posting the U.S. and Washington Commander-in-Chief's flag, the Compatriots were divided into groups of two to stand fifteen-minute tours throughout the day. Compatriots Andrew Mills and Jack Mills from the Colonel William Grayson Chapter represented Virginia at this National event.



(L-R) Compatriots Jack Mills and Andrew Mills

September 21-24, 2023: NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference, Louisville, Kentucky

Col. William Grayson President Michael Wilson attended the NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference.



September 21, 2023: Four Patriots Grave Markings, Kentucky

CWG President Michael Wilson attended a Four Patriot Grave Markings hosted by Fairfax Resolve's (VASSAR), Lafayette and Governor Issac Shelby Chapters of Kentucky Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (KYSSAR). THIS WAS A MULTI-STATE SAR CHAPTER EVENT. CWG President Michael Wilson presented the Colonel William Grayson flag and wreath.

Thomas Pollard (P-346457) at 12 noon on Sunday, September 24th at Pollard Cemetery, 9068 Cropper Road, Pleasureville, KY

Edward Payne (P-267052) and Lewis Turner (P-346517) at 2:30pm on Sunday, September 24th at Payne Cemetery, 2590 Sandersville Road, Lexington, KY.

Thomas Lewis (P-236177) at 4pm on Sunday, September 24th at Lewis Manor, 2613 Coronado Ridge, Lexington, KY.



CWG President Michael Wilson salutes the fallen Patriots

September 21, 2023: Lifesaving Commendations to Fairfax County Police Department Officers

Compatriot Bill Collier presented two Lifesaving Commendations to Fairfax County Police Department Officers. Their citation read:

On December 28, 2022, PFC Taimur Mirza and MPO Gerard Sullivan of the Sully District Station responded to a suspicious person event where a subject was seen standing on the Poplar Tree Road overpass to Sully Road. PFC Mirza was the first to arrive on the scene and began a dialogue with the subject while MPO Sullivan assisted. The scene was very tense as the officers worked together to establish a rapport with the subject who was in a mental health crisis. The subject was talking about religion and made statements that he was going to die today. Additionally, both officers had to deal with traffic trying to maneuver around the incident. The traffic underneath them on Sully Rd was busy and required all lanes to be shut down below the bridge to protect citizens traveling below. The subject kept making statements to jump and was positioned on the opposite side of the guard rail, giving the impression that he was going to jump any second. He continued his dialogue with the officers and at one point looked down. PFC Mirza took this moment of opportunity to grab the subject as he was now straddling the guard rail, pulling him over to safety and securing him on the ground along with MPO Sullivan. The subject made a statement that was captured on Body Worn Camera, "I wanted to die, but you took that from me." The subject was transported to a mental health evaluation and received the treatment he needed. Police Officers are sometimes faced with stressful situations that require patience, quick thinking, and immediate action to save lives. PFC Mirza and MPO Sullivan demonstrated quick thinking and compassion towards a community member that was in a mental health crisis. The subject presented a danger not only to himself but to the people traveling below the bridge on Sully Rd which both officers had to take into consideration. MPO Sullivan and PFC Mirza remained calm during a highly stressful event. They demonstrated professionalism, teamwork, and dedication to save a life.



MPO Gerard Sullivan, Compatriot William C. Collier and PFC Taimur Mirza

September 21, 2023: Plaque Unveiling and Grave Recognitions, Bruton Parish Church, Williamsburg, VA

Col. William Grayson President Michael Wilson presented the Chapter wreath at the Plaque Unveiling and Grave Recognitions of Cyrus Griffin, James Pate Anderson, Richard Randolph III and William Plummer at the beautiful Bruton Parish Church located in Williamsburg, VA



Historical Notes:

The British at Mount Vernon



In April, 1781 the British warship *H.M.S. Savage* anchored off George Washington's plantation, Mount Vernon. The British raiders took seventeen of Washington's slaves from the Mount Vernon plantation. Lund Washington, a cousin who was watching over the plantation during the General's absence, went on board the *Savage*, took refreshments to the British officers, and tried to negotiate the return of the slaves. He failed. A week later Lafayette wrote General Washington criticizing Lund's actions, "This being done by the gentleman who, in some measure, represents you at your house will certainly have a bad effect, and contrasts with spirited answers from some neighbors, that had their houses burnt accordingly." The General sent the unfortunate Lund a stinging letter rebuking him for "...communing with a parcel of plundering Scoundrels...."

