



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



Visit us online at <<http://colonelwilliamgrayson.virginia-sar.org>>

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cwgcsar/>

Follow us on Twitter: [https://twitter.com/VA\\_SAR\\_CWG](https://twitter.com/VA_SAR_CWG)

Volume 17, Issue 4

October – December 2024

## President's Comments – Michael Wilson

Since January 2023, I have had the pleasure of representing you and the great Compatriots of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter at several Chapter, State, and National Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) events throughout the great state of Virginia and neighboring states to the north and west of our state. Thank you, to each Compatriot and Officer, for allowing me this privilege and honor to serve as your President and representing our great chapter, within this great Society, and all that the *Sons of the American Revolution* has to offer. I have enjoyed each conversation I have had, each moment getting to know more about you and your Patriot(s), and the collaboration and dedication of each chapter officer and chairman and the devotion we all share and inspire to when honoring our family Patriots that gave us “... *our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an Independent Supreme Court, and a Nation of free men.*”

We begin a new year with a new slate of Colonel William Grayson Chapter officers this first meeting on January 11, 2025. Compatriot Andrew Mills and Compatriot Jeffrey “Jeff” Sterling will now become the President and Vice President of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution, as we enter the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of our Great Nation. I kindly ask you to pledge your support to the Colonel William Grayson Chapter 2025 officers as they prepare for State Society and National 2025 [events](#). This year's [135<sup>th</sup> Virginia Society \(VASSAR\) Annual](#), being held in February 2025, is a special event for the chapter, as our *Past President* (2019-2021) Dr. Michael Weyler will be sworn in as the 2025 VASSAR President. Our Chapter Officers will need your support as they prepare for Virginia Society 1775 events being held throughout 2025.

I encourage and invite each Chapter Compatriot to consider serving on one of the various standing, special, or ad-hoc committees within the Chapter or [Virginia Society](#). Such SAR programs like the [Youth Program](#), which promotes character and confidence in our youth – *leaders of tomorrow*, through fostering civic responsibilities and contest that challenges their critical skills. Take a look, and see if there is an [American Heritage Program](#)

and/or the [Community Affairs](#) committee you would be willing to join or support. With your philanthropy, our Society continues to flourish.

In closing, I would like to thank *Past President* Ross Schwalm and Compatriot George Ax (Sr) for their recommendation to the Board of Managers and supporting this Compatriot as a candidate to serve as the Colonel William Grayson Chapter President for 2023 and throughout 2024. I also thank you, the Colonel William Grayson Chapter Officers of 2023 and 2024: Richard Potter, Michael Blythe, Charles “Chuck” Mills, and Andrew Mills, and the Colonel William Grayson Chapter Committee Chairmen: John Callaway, *Outstanding JROTC Cadet Awards*, Tim Cline, *Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Program*, Gary Roseman, *The George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest*, William “Bill” Collier, *Public Safety and Heroism Program* and *USS Stark Committee*, George Ax, Sr., *Military Awards* and *Americanism Committee*, and finally Dave Button, *Flag Recognition Committee*, for your dedication and continuous support to the Colonel William Grayson Chapter SAR programs. And I especially thank you, Dave Button, *Secretary*, and Jeff Windland, *Treasurer*, and Owen Jacobs, *Awards and Certificate Committee*, for your hard work and fellowship through the past two years. A Special Thank You to *Colonel William Grayson Chapter Past President* and *VASSAR Vice President*, Dr. Michael Weyler, and Ross Schwalm for your continuous counsel and mentorship; and to all the VASSAR Compatriots: Dale Corey (CJWII), “Chip” Daniels (CJWII), Marc Robinson (CWJII), Ken Morris (GMC), Bill Schwetke (CM), Ken Bonner (SMJC), Barry Schwoerer (SMJC), Doug Hall (OFPA), Ernie Coggins (VASSAR), Bruce Meyers (VASSAR), Michael J. Elston (NSSAR), and every Compatriot of the SAR, Ladies of the DAR and Children of the American revolution that supported the Colonel William Grayson programs and events during 2023 and 2024.

### **Events Attended**

*Since JUL 2024*

- 21<sup>st</sup> Sep’24 – President General (NSSAR) Wreath Laying at Tomb of the Unknown, Arlington, VA – Colonial Attire
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep’24 – Commemoration of Robert Carter III, Heathsville, VA – Colonial Attire with Wreath and Chapter Flag
- 19<sup>th</sup> Oct’24 – Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr. Memorial Ceremony, Yorktown, VA – Colonial Attire with Wreath and Chapter Flag
- 19<sup>th</sup> Oct’24 – Yorktown Day Parade, Yorktown, VA — Colonial Attire
- 27<sup>th</sup> Oct’24 – 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration of the First Continental Congress, Aldie, VA – Colonial Attire with Wreath and Chapter Flag
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct’24 – Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Pomeroy Marker Dedication, Stephens City, VA – Colonial Attire with Wreath and Chapter Flag

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov'24 – Northern Virginia Veteran's Parade, Manassas, VA
- 7<sup>th</sup> Dec'24 – The Battle of Great Bridge, Chesapeake, VA – Colonial Attire with Wreath and Chapter Flag
- 14<sup>th</sup> Dec'24 – Wreaths Across America, Stonewall Cemetery, Gainesville, VA – Civilian Attire

## **Vice President's Corner – Andrew Mills**

The Colonel William Grayson Chapter participated in three very important patriotic events recently. The first was on November 2 as the Chapter took part in the Northern Virginia Veterans Day Parade. Supported by Barry Schwoerer of the Sergeant Major John Champe Chapter, President Michael Wilson, Vice President Andrew Mills, Secretary Dave Button, Vice President Elect Jeff Sterling, Past President Michael Weyler, Jon Huddleston, Ray Hawkins, Mel Hurley, and Bill Groth. The group proudly represented the Chapter as we marched through the center of Manassas. On November 10, President Wilson, Vice President Mills, and Quartermaster Jack Mills supported the DAR and the Sergeant Major John Champe Chapter at La Grange for their Veterans Day program. Included in the program was a skit and celebration of the Marine Corps birthday. On December 14, our Chapter proudly took part in Wreaths Across America at the Stonewall Memory Garden. Our new Color Guard Commander, Jon Huddleston, was joined by Vice President Andrew Mills, Quartermaster Jack Mills, Ray Hawkins, and Greg Hall as the Honor Guard for the event. President Michael Wilson was also in attendance supporting the Chapter and laying wreaths for veterans buried at the cemetery.

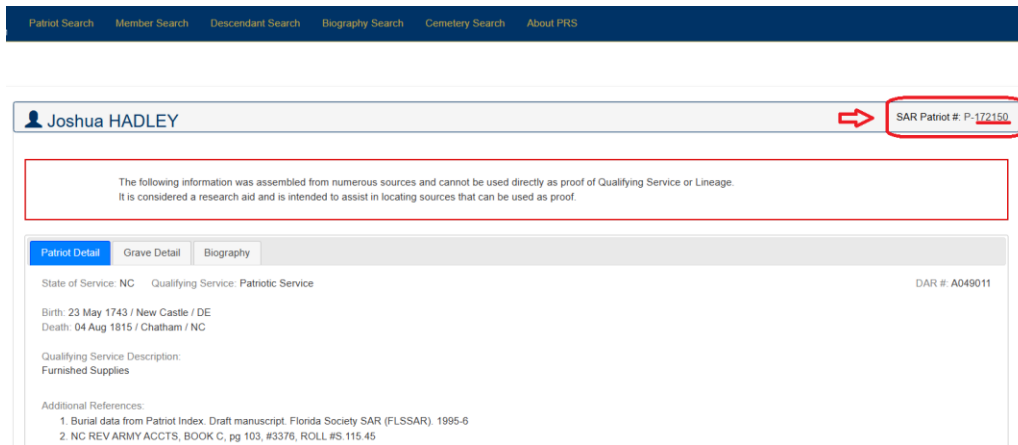
As 2024 ends and the Chapter prepares for the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of many early events in the American Revolution, let us remember how important it is for all of us to ensure the spirit of our Patriot ancestors are never forgotten in our local communities. As we enter a New Year, let us all make a resolution to remember these important words and say every day: It is a good day to be a Son of the American Revolution.

## **Registrar's Report - Mike Blythe**

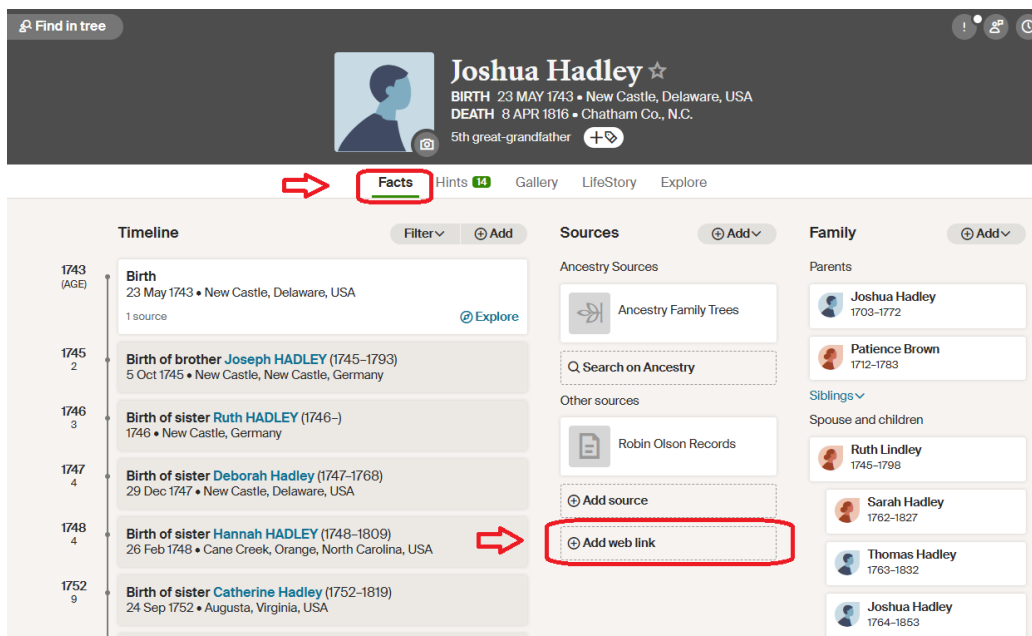
Our chapter has had eleven new member applications approved this year and three supplemental applications. Eight new member applications are in the queue waiting review, as are nine supplements. Unfortunately, the time required for these reviews continues to grow. The State Registrar tells me that the average wait for a new member application to be seen at National is now four months – it was two last year. Supplements are taking sixty-three weeks.

For Chapter members who use Ancestry, please note: the Patriot Records Committee has shared a simple technique to enhance recruiting new members. If you have your lineage stored on Ancestry.com, this technique will allow you to connect your patriots to the Patriot Research System (PRS). When you do this, someone using your data on Ancestry will have quick access to the PRS.

1. Go to PRS at [sarpatriots.sar.org](http://sarpatriots.sar.org). Search for your patriot ancestor and his ancestor number.



2. Log In to Ancestry.com
3. Go the page for your Patriot Ancestor
4. Click on “Facts” and then click on “Add web link”



5. Go to the top of the PRS Patriot Record page and cut and paste the web link at the top of the PRS Patriot Record page into the Add web link box in Ancestry.com
6. Add a link name to identify the link when it appears in Ancestry.com.
7. Click on “Add”

✕

### Add web link

**Web address**

✓

**Link name**

✓

**Add** **Cancel**

8. The link in ancestry.com will then appear as shown below

Find in tree

**Joshua Hadley** ☆  
 BIRTH 23 MAY 1743 • New Castle, Delaware, USA  
 DEATH 8 APR 1816 • Chatham Co., N.C.  
 5th great-grandfather

Facts Hints 14 Gallery LifeStory Explore

**Timeline** Filter Add

- 1743 (AGE) Birth 23 May 1743 • New Castle, Delaware, USA  
1 source Explore
- 1745 2 Birth of brother Joseph HADLEY (1745-1793)  
5 Oct 1745 • New Castle, New Castle, Germany
- 1746 3 Birth of sister Ruth HADLEY (1746-)  
1746 • New Castle, Germany
- 1747 4 Birth of sister Deborah Hadley (1747-1768)  
29 Dec 1747 • New Castle, Delaware, USA
- 1748 4 Birth of sister Hannah HADLEY (1748-1809)  
26 Feb 1748 • Cane Creek, Orange, North Carolina, USA
- 1752 9 Birth of sister Catherine Hadley (1752-1819)  
24 Sep 1752 • Augusta, Virginia, USA
- 1756 13 Birth of sister Lydia HADLEY (1756-1837)

**Sources** Add

Ancestry Sources

- Ancestry Family Trees
- Q Search on Ancestry

Other sources

- Robin Olson Records
- Add source
- Web links
  - Joshua Hadley SAR-PRS Link  
<https://sarpatriots.sar.org...>
  - Add web link

**Family** Add

Parents

- Joshua Hadley 1703-1772
- Patience Brown 1712-1783

Siblings

Spouse and children

- Ruth Lindley 1745-1798
- Sarah Hadley 1762-1827
- Thomas Hadley 1763-1832
- Joshua Hadley 1764-1853
- Simon T Sr Hadley

## ***Muster Role – Color Guard Commander - Andrew Mills***

For the last three and half years, I have had the privilege of serving as the Color Guard Commander for the Colonel William Grayson Chapter. It has been a great honor to serve alongside so many great men who have worked together to represent the Sons of the American Revolution at numerous events in Northern Virginia. I would like to congratulate Compatriot Jon Huddleston for accepting the position of Color Guard Commander and wish him the best of luck for 2025. For anyone who might be interested in becoming part of the Color Guard, I can assure you it will be the best decision you ever made when it comes to being more active within our Chapter. The comradery, memories, and adventures you will have in being part of this unique group will strengthen your conviction on why it is great to be a Son of the American Revolution. So, what are you waiting for? JOIN TODAY!

## **Quartermaster Report**

As 2024 ends, there may be some Compatriots or people in your life who may have colonial period attire which is in search of a new home. If you know a person who is willing to donate their gently used colonial clothing or accessories to the Chapter and the Color Guard, please email the Quartermaster at [fedallgen@yahoo.com](mailto:fedallgen@yahoo.com) to schedule a pick up.

### **SAR Military Recognition, 2024 – George Ax**

During 2024 the Colonel William Grayson Chapter recognized the four members below for their military service to our country.

#### SAR War Service Medal:

Lanny Young Tuthill, USAF (Ret.), Vietnam Conflict

Henry E. McClaren, USMC Aviator (Ret.), Global War on Terrorism – Kuwait

#### SAR Military Service Medal:

John Woodward Patterson III, USN (Ret.)

Stephen A. Stoops, USAF (Ret.)

## *Upcoming Events*

*Note: All events are subject to change or cancellation; monitor e-mails and [vssar.memberclicks.net](http://vssar.memberclicks.net) calendar for changes*

January 11, 2025: CWG Chapter Meeting, Sat., 11 a.m. (meet & greet at 10:30). **The meeting will be held at the VFW Post 7589 at 9304 Centreville Road, Manassas.** Installation of Officers for 2025 will take place at this meeting. Since parking is limited in the post's parking lot, arrangements have been made with the dental practice next door to use their parking lot. We have been asked to NOT use the parking lot of the Volunteer Fire Department which is next door on the "downtown" side of the post. The dental practice is on the right, past Maple Street, and just before the VFW Post, if you are coming from the intersection of Sudley Road and Centreville Road.

January 18, 2025: The 250th Anniversary of the Fincastle Resolutions Black Tie Gala Banquet

January 19, 2025: Battle of Cowpens Commemoration at Mt. Hebron Cemetery, 305 East Boscawen St, Winchester, VA

January 20 -31, 2025: VASSAR Virtual Workshops (see Virginia SAR MemberClicks Calendar)

January 25, 2025: Peter Muhlenberg Commemoration at Shenandoah County Historical Society, 103 N Main Street, Woodstock, VA

January 25, 2025: 249<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Burning of Norfolk & Defeat of Lord Dunmore Wreath Ceremony, Saturday 11am at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 201 St Paul's Blvd, Norfolk, VA, Sponsored by the Norfolk Chapter (VASSAR) & The Old Cannonball Society (VSCAR)

February 7 - 8, 2025: Virginia SAR Annual Meeting, Location: Virginia Crossings Hotel, Tapestry Collection by Hilton Address: 1000 Virginia Center Parkway, Glen Allen, VA 23059

February 15, 2025: Anniversary of the Crossing of the Dan, 10:00, 700 Bruce Street, South Boston, VA.

February 15, 2025: Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution, Noon, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 S Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA.

February 15, 2025: George Washington Birthday Parade, 1:00pm, Alexandria, VA. Watch for details on muster location.

February 22, 2025: Wreath Laying at George Washington's Tomb (Birthday), Mount Vernon. Plan to arrive 30 minutes before the ceremony start time, in front of the Gift Shop. Ceremony 9:00 -9:30.

March 1, 2025: History Day Competition will be held on March 1 at West Springfield High School.

March 8, 2025: CWG Chapter Meeting, Sat., 11 a.m. (meet & greet at 10:30). The meeting will be held at the VFW Post 7589 at 9304 Centreville Road, Manassas.

March 16, 2025: 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty or give me death" speech. Historic St. John's Church, Richmond, Va.

March 15, 2025: Vigil at the Tomb of Colonel William Grayson, Woodbridge, Virginia. 11:00 AM

*For information on statewide events, go to the VASSAR website [virginia-sar.org/vassarpress22/](http://virginia-sar.org/vassarpress22/) and click on calendar. (You may have to set up an account, your login is your national SAR membership number.) As events are posted by various chapters, they will appear.*



## *Chapter Activities and News*

October 12, 2024: CWG Chapter Meeting



Chapter President Michael Wilson inducted Compatriots (L-R) David Whittington, Robert Wagner, Stephen Stoops and Lanny Tuthill into the Chapter.



The guest speaker (L) Stephen Wilson receives thanks from CWG President Michael Wilson. Stephen Wilson is Executive Director of the St. John’s Church Foundation, a non-profit organization established in 1938 whose mission is to spark a global appreciation for understanding the role that Patrick Henry’s “Give me liberty or give me death!” speech had in setting America on its path to liberty for all, and to ignite the public’s interest in preserving the historic site where it happened.

**November 2, 2024: Veteran's Day Parade in Manassas, Virginia**



Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, SAR took part in the Manassas Veterans Day parade. Pictured are Michael Wilson (R) and Jeff Sterling (L) carrying the Chapter banner while (L-R) Compatriots Andrew Mills, Bill Groth, Ray Hawkins, Jon Huddleston and Mel Hurley served as the Color Guard.



Compatriots (L-R) Dave Button and Mike Weyler aboard the SAR float.

## November 2, 2024: Revolutionary War Days at Rippon Lodge, Woodbridge, Virginia



Rippon Lodge hosted "Road to Revolution" focusing on 1774 and the creation of the Prince William Rifles commanded by William Grayson. Compatriot Ross Schwalm talked about how Hessians prepared for war in Hessen in 1774.

About 125 visitors attended from 1100 to 3 pm and received training as volunteer troops under the direction of Compatriot Andrew Mills.

**November 16, 2024: CWG Chapter Meeting**



President Michael Wilson (R) inducted Compatriot Greg Hall into the chapter.



CWG President Wilson commended color guard members (L-R) Andrew Mills, Jon Huddleston and Ray Hawkins for their support of the Veterans Day Parade.



CWG President Michael Wilson (R) presented the SAR War Service Medal to Compatriot "Mac" McClaren



CWG President Michael Wilson thanked guest speaker LCDR. Doyl McMurry for his talk on the "Birth of the Navy Chaplain Corps"

**December 14, 2024: Wreaths Across America, Stonewall Memory Gardens in Gainesville, VA**

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter took part in Wreaths Across America at the Stonewall Memory Gardens. The Color Guard was commanded by Color Guard Commander Jon Huddleston and was supported by Vice President Andrew Mills, Quartermaster Jack Mills, Compatriot Ray Hawkins and Compatriot Greg Hall. Also in attendance at the event was CWG President Michael Wilson. The Chapter members were able to place a wreath at the Dogan family gravesite.



**(L-R) Compatriots Jon Huddleston, Jack Mills, Michael Wilson, Greg Hall, Ray Hawkins, Andrew Mills**

## **December 27, 2024: Passing of Compatriot Stephen Boulton, Fredericksburg, Virginia**

It is with sorrow that we announce the passing of Compatriot Stephen Boulton. Compatriot Boulton served for many years as a member of the Prince William County Fire and Rescue Department and as a member of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter before his retirement and move to Fredericksburg.

Members of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter supported the VASSAR Color Guard while attending the funeral of Compatriot Boulton of the Colonel Fielding Lewis Chapter. Vice President Andrew Mills and Quartermaster Jack Mills were dressed in period attire and were part of the musket salute. Also in attendance was Compatriot Greg Hall, who represented both the CWG Chapter and the Sons of Confederate Veterans.



**Compatriot Stephen Boulton**



---

## *Historical Notes:*

### **Rare Copy of Constitution Sold at Auction**



On October 17, 2024, a rare privately owned copy of the U.S. Constitution was sold at auction by Brunks Auctions of Asheville, North Carolina for \$9 million. The final bid far outstripped the reserve price of \$1 million. The bidding lasted seven minutes and bids came in at \$500,000 intervals.

This rare artifact is one of the 100 official copies printed in 1787 that were sent to state leaders for review before being formally adopted, and is among only eight copies known to exist today, and is the only one still in private hands. The document was sold to an anonymous bidder.

The almost 237 year old document was found inside a battered filing cabinet in a long neglected storage room on a property in Edenton, North Carolina once owned by the state's first governor Samuel Johnston. Johnston was governor from 1787 to 1789, and oversaw the state convention that ratified the Constitution. Also found with the copy of the Constitution was an original letter from George Washington asking for ratification!

