



# Col. William Grayson Chapter

## *Sons of the American Revolution*

# —Newsletter—



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## Spreading the Word

**December, Bristow, Va.:** Compatriots Curtis Robb and Thad Hartman live in a community of 479 homes. They wondered why they were the only identified compatriots. As they asked around at different events, it was obvious many had not heard of the Sons of the American Revolution. It was also surprising to see how few flags were up on Veterans Day.

Curtis and Thad decided to use the Flag Certificate of Commendation as a mechanism to raise awareness of the SAR and provide education about how to correctly fly the flag.

After dividing the community in half and surveying approximately 240 houses on a night, Thad and Curtis found 12 good examples of well-lit flags standing proudly on the west side of the community.

Formal invitations for a gathering in the community center were mailed and followed up by emails and phone calls. People in the community started asking about the SAR event on the calendar. A small group gathered for coffee and donuts while Thad, dressed in his period Ranger uniform, and Curtis explained different aspects of the SAR. Some certificates were given out at the gathering for those in attendance. The remaining certificates were hand delivered. As you might expect, 11 of the 12 recognized with certificates were military veterans.

There is no doubt this event raised the awareness of the SAR in the community. Thad and Curtis are considering doing the second half of the community in 2019.



Curtis Robb and Thad Hartman present Flag certificates to Bill and Lorraine Craig (top), Russ Odom (center), and Susan McCauley (above).

## *President's Report*

As I review this past calendar quarter, I note that there were several opportunities where our chapter members took time from their lives to honor our Veterans. The objectives of our society are declared to be patriotic, historical, and educational. Patriotic goals include honor, respect, and support of our Veterans.

Patriotic events and observances this quarter included Honor Bus Tours to the War Memorials in Washington, D.C., the Northern Virginia Veterans Parade in Manassas, Va. Other Veteran's Day events, such as the Fairfax County History Commission's World War I Armistice Centennial event and Wreaths Across America were celebrated at cemeteries all across America. Participation by our chapter's junior members was especially evident this quarter. Junior members Christian, Erik, Otto and Henry Powers, marched in the Northern Virginia Veterans Parade in Manassas with their father, Steven, and grandfather, Nathan Gwaltney. Junior member Lincoln Duncan, grandson of Compatriot Leamon Duncan, along with his sister, laid a wreath at their great-uncle's grave as part of Wreaths Across America in Nebraska.

I want to congratulate the newly elected officers and wish them the best during the coming year. They will have my complete active support. Also, I want to thank each member for your support these last two years, and the opportunity to serve as the President of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter.

One does not realize what the Chapter has accomplished this past year until you complete the Americanism Report required by VASSAR and NSSAR. This year's Report shows that our accomplishments are almost 35% higher than last year when we place 5th nationally in the 200+ member category. We are also fortunate to have Grayson's Dispatch, our chapter newsletter, which reports our activities during the year. Please visit the chapter website and read our newsletters.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your Chapter President.

Mike Taimi

## ***Vice President's Report***

Our chapter has been represented each month at the state or regional patriot events.

On October 19, Yorktown Day, I presented the chapter wreath at the grave of Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr. Also in attendance were Steven Powers and his four young sons, Christian, Eric, Otto, and Henry, all of whom are members of our chapter.

On November 8, we had 10 Compatriots marching in the Northern Virginia Veterans Parade in Manassas. Those marching were Mike Taimi, Mike Weyler, Dave Button, Leamon Duncan, Steven Powers and his four sons, and Nathan Gwaltney, grandfather of the four Powers boys. Needless to say, the boys got quite a bit of applause along the way.

Finally, on December 8, Compatriot Mike DeWalt attended the commemoration of the Battle of Great Bridge in Chesapeake, Virginia.

Following our November meeting, we began the search for a new meeting venue. After looking at several county clubs in the area, we settled on Heritage Hunt Golf & Country Club. We are making the change to provide the setting and the service our chapter members expect and deserve, and we look forward to a great meeting venue.

Mike Weyler

## ***Upcoming Events***

**12 Jan. 2019: CWG Chapter Meeting.** The next regular meeting of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter will be on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019, at the clubhouse of the Heritage Hunt Golf & Country Club, VA 20169. We will meet in the Mountain View Card Room on the main level. 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 — \$15 for children under 12. Please notify Mike Wyler by Dec. 31, 2018, if you plan to attend.

**18 Feb.: George Washington's Birthday Parade** at 10 a.m. Monday in Old Town, Alexandria, Va.

**9 Mar.: CWG Chapter Meeting** 11 a.m. (meet & greet at 10:30) in the Mountain View Card Room at Heritage Hunt Golf and Country Club, Gainesville, Va.

**13 Apr.: Multi-Chapter Meeting** 11 a.m. (meet & greet at 10:30) at Graves Mountain Lodge, Syria, Va.

## *Chapter Activities*

**4 Oct:** Bill Collier, of the Col. William Grayson Chapter, presented the SAR Law Enforcement certificate to Master Police Officer Scott Bates at the Fairfax County Police Department's Traffic Division, 3911 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003.

The citation reads:

“Master Police Officer Scott Bates, Fairfax County Police Department, has served with distinction for over 23 years. He has achieved many notable distinctions that include: a Certificate of Valor, Life-Saving Award, 2004 Fairfax County Motorcycle Trainer of the Year, 2007 Team Excellence Award, and 2008 Meritorious Service Award. Master Police Officer Bates is a certified General Law Enforcement Instructor, Police Motorcycle Instructor, and an Emergency Vehicle Operator Course Instructor. He has greatly improved the skills and abilities of his fellow Police Officers. Master Police Officer Bates continually sets the example for reliability, demeanor, judgment, attitude, and dedication to duty for his fellow Officers to emulate. Also, Master Police Officer Bates is an informal leader and mentor to the junior members of his organization. His advice is greatly valued by his peers and supervisors. Master Police Officer Scott Bates’ sustained performance of duty is a great reflection on him, the Fairfax County Police Department, and the Law Enforcement Profession.”



Compatriot Bill Collier and Officer Bates.

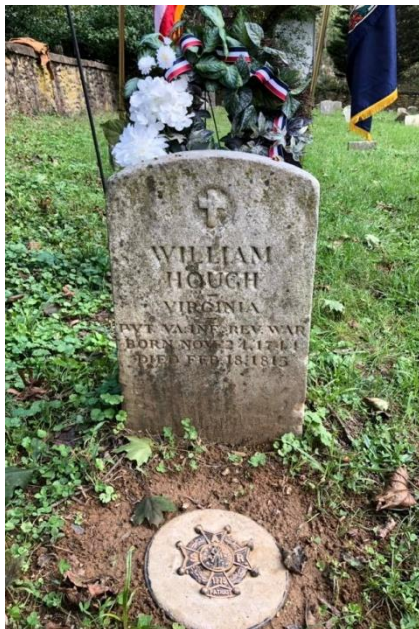
**13 Oct.:** Following the Col William Grayson chapter meeting on October 13, several members traveled to Waterford, Virginia for a Grave Marking ceremony for Pvt. William Hough and Pvt. Benjamin Hough in the Quaker Cemetery at Fairfax Meeting House.

The program started at 2:30 PM with Paul Chase leading the color guard consisting of Barry Schwoerer, Thad Hartman, Leamon Duncan and Jacob Schwoerer to the site of William Hough's grave. Curtis Robb, Grave Marking Chairman, led the program along with Richard Potter as Chaplain.

Several guests were present including six members of the Goose Creek Friend's Grave Yard Committee, the Waterford Foundation and three descendants of William Hough. There were approximately 30 people in attendance.

Eight wreaths were laid by Patrick Kelly, President of VASSAR; Mike Weyler, Vice President of Col William Grayson Chapter; Ken Morris, Vice President of George Mason Chapter SAR; Sandra Hodges, Regent of the Ketocin NSDAR; Jennifer Kelly, Montpelier DAR; Marie Vayer Prince William Resolves; Paula Schwoerer, Elizabeth McIntosh Hammill Chapter DAR; Lisa Maloney, Falls Church DAR; Sophia & Gracelynn Schwoerer, C.A.R., Col. William Grayson Society.

The ceremony concluded with TAPS, played by bugler SGT Kari Brewton, USA Retired.



William Hough's Grave.



L-R: Paul Chase, Barry Schwoerer, Thad Hartman, Leamon Duncan and Jacob Schwoerer.

**19 Oct:** Compatriot Leamon Duncan, on behalf of Virginia SAR President Pat Kelly, presented the Virginia SAR Challenge Coin to Chaplain (Colonel) Kevin Guthrie, U.S. Army, and to the U.S. Army Chief of Chaplains (not pictured) with great thanks for their service to our country.



Leamon Duncan and  
Chaplain Kevin Guthrie.



Challenge Coin.

**20 Oct.** CWG Compatriots Barry Schwoerer and Leamon Duncan, accompanied by Mrs. Paula Schwoerer (Elizabeth McIntosh Hammill Chapter DAR), welcomed Veterans from their Honor Buses at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Quantico, Va. It was a well-attended event. It's always a great day to honor our Veterans and to be an American.

For more photos see the chapter Facebook page.



Honor Bus Veterans with  
Compatriot Barry Schwoerer.

**11 NOV.:** Compatriot Ian Anspaugh, of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, volunteered at the Fairfax County History Commission's World War I Armistice Centennial event held at the Old Fairfax County Court House, Fairfax., Va.



Ian Anspaugh with the poppies  
He was handing out to visitors.

**17 Nov.:** Col. William Grayson Chapter presented Compatriot Leamon Duncan with a flag certificate for flying the flag at his home 24/7 and lighted at night. Making the presentation was Dave Button, Flag Committee Chairman of Col. William Grayson Chapter.



Compatriots Dave Button and Leamon Duncan.

**26 Nov.:** Compatriot Dave Button, at the Manassas Campus of Northern Virginia Community College Provost's Staff Meeting, presented the Staff with a certificate for flying the flag 24/7/365 and lighted at night.

The day-to-day maintenance of the flag is under the direct supervision of the NVCC Manassas Police force. The police force, represented by Officer John Staniowski, sees to it that the flag is flown in accordance with proper flag etiquette and is adjusted daily depending on proclamations of both the Federal Government and the Commonwealth of Virginia. To ensure that the flag is properly displayed, the facilities staff under the direction of Mr. Dan Bieger checks the physical condition of the lighting system, the halyard, and the flag to ensure that all are in appropriate condition for operation and display.



Provost's Staff from left to right: Ms. Nadine Moscosco, Dr. Diane Mucci, Dr. Molly Lynch (Provost), Ms. Jennifer Bartlett, Dr. Evette Hyder-Davis, Mr. Dan Bieger, Dr. Mark Kidd (Dean of Students), Mr. Lynn Bowers, Officer John Stasiowski, Ms. Lisa Branson, Ms. Essala Lowe, Ms. ThuyTien Ngo-Nguyen; and Compatriot Dave Button CWG Chapter.

**1 Dec.:** The Colonel William Grayson Chapter participated in the Wreath Placement Ceremony at Quantico Veterans Cemetery, Quantico, Va. In total, 14,500 wreaths were placed. The event, sponsored by The Sergeant Mac Foundation ([www.sgtmac.org](http://www.sgtmac.org)), was attended by Compatriots Barry Schwoerer and Leamon Duncan.



Barry Schwoerer (L) and Leamon Duncan.

**8 Dec.:** Compatriot Mike Dewalt represented the Colonel William Grayson Chapter at the Commemoration of the Battle of Great Bridge, near the City of Chesapeake, Va. The Great Bridge, the site of the Battle of Great Bridge on December 9, 1775, spans the Albemarle & Chesapeake Canal that connects the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River and the North Landing River.

The event featured the re-enactment of the Battle, Revolutionary War encampments, demonstrations, character portrayals, camp life, historical displays and lectures, skilled artisans demonstrating early American trades, and children's crafts and activities.

The battle, though very short (about five minutes) and consisting of a combined total of about 300 Patriots and British soldiers, had a major impact on the War. It caused the British basically to abandon Virginia. With Virginia being free of any organized British presence for five years, the colony was able to provide large amounts of men and supplies to the Continental Army with virtually no enemy interference.



L-R: Ken Hawkins (Pres., Norfolk SAR), Rick West (Mayor of Chesapeake, Va.), and Donnar Crisp (Regent, Great Bridge NSDAR).



Robert Hitchings  
Keynote speaker.

**15 Dec.: Wreaths Across America.** The Col. William Grayson Chapter was represented at four of the many Wreaths Across America events this year.

Compatriot George Ax participated in the Wreaths Across America activities at Stonewall Memorial Gardens, Manassas, Va.

Chapter president Mike Taimi joined the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter color guard for the wreath laying at Culpeper National Cemetery, Culpeper, Va. They got a little bit of a break in the weather, and it was a very moving ceremony for a great cause.

George Raymond was at Arlington National Cemetery where he placed wreaths at his father's grave and the grave of CWG President Mike Taimi's father.

Lincoln Duncan — a Junior SAR member and grandson of Compatriot Leamon Duncan — placed a wreath on the grave of his granduncle in Omaha, Nebraska.



George Ax pays his respects at Patriot Pvt. Henry Dogan's Grave.



Mike Taimi (third from R) and members of the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter color guard.



George Raymond at his father's grave.



Lincoln Duncan (R) and his Sister lay a wreath.

## **Registrar's Report**

### **NEW MEMBERS APPROVED**

APPLICANT	DATE	PATRIOT
Torry Huff; Nokesville, Va.	2 Nov. 2018	Micajah Frazier; Pvt., Va. Line
Joseph Carroll; Gainesville, Va.	9 Nov. 2018	Martin Root Jr.; Pvt., Mass. Militia
Jake DeWilde; Manassas, Va.	7 Dec. 2018	Calvin Stevenson; Pvt., Mass. Militia
Jonathan O'Rourke; Albuquerque, N.M.	14 Dec. 2018	Oliver Stoughton; Pvt., Lexington Alarm
Terence O'Rourke; Haymarket, Va.	14 Dec. 2018	Oliver Stoughton; Pvt., Lexington Alarm
Frederick Stoughton; Vista, Cal.	14 Dec. 2018	Oliver Stoughton; Pvt., Lexington Alarm

### **SUPPLEMENTALS APPROVED**

APPLICANT	DATE	PATRIOT
Christian Powers; Leesburg, Va.	26 Oct. 2018	Andrew Edmondson; Ens., Kings Mountain
Erik Powers; Leesburg, Va.	26 Oct. 2018	Andrew Edmondson; Ens., Kings Mountain
Henry Powers; Leesburg, Va.	26 Oct. 2018	Andrew Edmondson; Ens., Kings Mountain
Otto Powers; Leesburg, Va.	26 Oct. 2018	Andrew Edmondson; Ens., Kings Mountain
Jacob Schwoerer; Aldie, Va.	16 Nov. 2018	Issac Crosthwait; Provided supplies
Kevin Schwoerer; Aldie, Va.	16 Nov. 2018	Issac Crosthwait; Provided supplies
Kurtis Schwoerer; Aldie, Va.	16 Nov. 2018	Issac Crosthwait; Provided supplies
Sean Schwoerer; Aldie, Va.	16 Nov. 2018	Issac Crosthwait; Provided supplies