



Colonel James Wood, II Chapter
Virginia Society of the
Sons of the American Revolution
Northern Shenandoah Valley - Winchester City



The Colonel's Dispatch

Robert B. Andrews—Editor, Web Master and Plagiarist

Memorial Day Events Fill The Chapter Calendar Berryville, Middletown Hold Observances

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As we do every Memorial Day, Chapter Members and the James Wood, II Color Guard took part in events held around the region to honor those who gave their lives in service to our country.



At Rose Hill Park in Berryville, the Color Guard presented and retired the colors at the annual Memorial Day Observance. The speaker was Retired Air Force pilot Maj. Gen Hugh "Bugs" Forsythe, of Loudoun County. The Clarke County High School Band and Choir performed patriotic music and the American Legion Post 41 Honor Guard provided a 21 gun salute and sounded Taps.

Chapter President Rob Andrews was the keynote speaker at the observance held at Veterans Memorial Park in Middletown, Frederick County. He spoke of his experiences growing up in the family of a career Marine officer who saw duty in several conflicts and its effects on him and his neighbors.

Members of the Chapter also visited Hidden Springs Senior Living where several chapter members and veterans reside to observe the special day.

Annual Unfundraiser Drive in Progress

Make your donation to the best SAR Chapter in the State. All donations go to fund the operations of the chapter and are tax deductible. Send your donation of \$25, 50, \$100 or more to our chairman:

Don Dusenbury
591 William Vincent Road
Bentonville, VA 22610

A Message from the President



Compatriots,

Memorial Day is often hailed as the official start of summer in the media and for many it is a day to have a Bar-b-que, have a beer or go to the beach. I have noticed a considerable number of posts and comments online that it is a day for honoring our war dead and those who sacrificed everything so that we can enjoy the blessings of freedom in the great country that is America and that those who frolic on this day were being disrespectful.

I spoke at a Memorial Day Observance and talked about this very subject and put forth that there is room enough for both on this significant day in our lives. Personally, any and every day is Memorial Day as I often think of history and what it took to create this country and keep it safe and functioning.

My main point is that isn't the freedom to have a bar-b-que, go to a sporting event or the beach precisely what our brave soldiers were and are defending? Aren't we honoring them by also living a good life, one of higher quality than the majority of the people in the rest of the world and even if we do these things on Memorial Day?

Admittedly, it is good for those who do not understand fully what is being remembered on this day to see the reverence, the emotions, the respect and dignity shown to our heroes on this day. Because we sometimes forget and forgetting such sacrifices means that we will only make the same errors and sacrifices again.

Our Chapter typically marks two graves of our patriot ancestors each year. We remember and honor these patriots with our actions and for each there is a memorial service, their own personal memorial day. Memorial Day is not just one day, it is much more than that. For me, the true meaning of Memorial Day is much like the true meaning of Christmas, it should live in your heart and your minds and not necessarily in your actions. I hope and pray that it will continue to be that for all our citizens in our future.

Compatriotically,

Robert B. Andrews
President 2017

At the next meeting be sure to pick up a bundle of the new chapter recruiting cards! The New Revolution in recruiting for the chapter. It gives the recipient a lot of information in a small place including how to find our meetings, our website and how to contact us.

Col. James Wood, II Chapter

Virginia Society of the
Sons of the American Revolution
Best Chapter: 2009 - 2012 - 2013
2014 - 2015 - 2016



Frederick - Clarke - Page - Warren - Shenandoah Counties
and the City of Winchester

Website addresses on back of card

All meetings open to the public. Visit the website for dates and times.

Website:

<http://coloneljameswood.virginia-sar.org/>

Membership inquiries:

<http://coloneljameswood.virginia-sar.org/membershipform.php>

Color Guard appearance requests:

<http://coloneljameswood.virginia-sar.org/cgrequestform.php>

Mapquest directions quicklink:

<http://mapq.st/2j4uYFM>

Chapter Color Guard Participates In Annual Fort Loudoun Day



As it has every year since 2009, the Chapter Color Guard participated in the Annual Fort Loudoun Day event on May 14th. Fort Loudoun was a frontier fort whose construction was ordered by Col. George Washington to protect the frontier from the French and marauding Indians in the period prior to the American Revolution.

Fort Loudoun was also a mustering point for troops during the American Revolution, many of them departing from Winchester to travel to Fort Pitt and then to the Ohio River Valley. Col. James Wood, II also garrisoned British and Hessian prisoners there during the later years of the war.

Visitors to the event were greeted by Col. James Wood, offered a tour of the original fort boundaries and treated to refreshments.

Also present this year were a new reenactor group, Mercer's Rangers who were part of the 1st Virginia Regiment during this period in history.

Chapter Officers for 2017

President

Robert Andrews

1st VP

Ralph Pierce

2nd VP

Dale Corey

Secretary

Dave Carpenter

Treasurer

Fred Gill

Chaplain

Raleigh Watson

Registrar

Jim Simmons

Historian

Chip Daniel

Asst. Treasurer

Don Dusenbury

Asst. Registrar

Jake Trenary

Asst. Secretary

Jim Glymph

Chapter Meeting Dates for 2017

January 28th 9am - Guest VASSAR 1st VP Mike Elston. Officer installation Meeting, Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

February 25th 9 am - Guest Col. John Cassarino Randolph Macon Academy. VASSAR Annual Chapter Awards. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

March 25th 9 am - Guest Ben Fiore Walker, Old Towne Crier Alexandria. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

April 22nd 9am - Guest Rolling Thunder. VASSAR Annual Chapter Awards. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

May 27th 9am - Miss Abbey Grant, District 4 Winner, National History Day. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

June 24th 9am - Guest Patrick Murphy, Author F&I War. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

July 22nd 10am-4pm - Patriot Pride Day, Middletown Virginia.

August—No meeting.

September 23rd 9am - Guest TBA. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

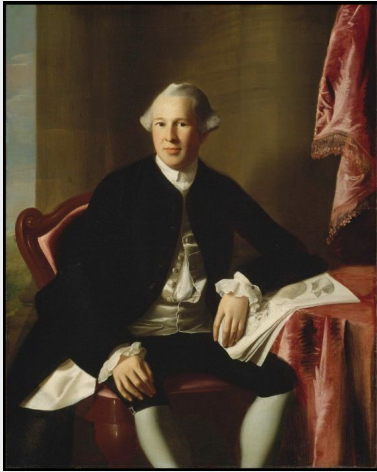
October 28th 9am - Guest Ben Theis, 4th Company of British Guards in America. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

November 18th 9am - Chapter Annual Public Service Awards. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

December 16th 12 noon - SAR/DAR/CAR Luncheon George Washing-

Dr. Joseph Warren

Doctor - Patriot - Grand Master - General Namesake of Warren County Virginia



Joseph Warren, a respected physician and patriot, lived in the center of the whirlwind of revolutionary activity in the 1760s and 1770s, but was cheated of greater fame by an early death in the opening round of the War of Independence. He was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, where his father was a farmer and community leader. Warren graduated from Harvard College in 1759, then served briefly as master of the Roxbury grammar school.

Warren undertook the study of medicine and opened a practice in Boston in 1764. His political activities began in earnest the following year when he penned a number of newspaper essays during the Stamp Act Crisis. His involvement with the St. Andrew's Masonic Lodge brought him into the company of James Otis and other notable critics of British policies.

Warren served as grand master of the St. Andrew's Lodge of Freemasons and presided over meetings at its headquarters inside the Green Dragon Tavern. The lodge included numerous Sons of Liberty such as Revere. Daniel Webster would call the Green Dragon Tavern "the headquarters of the Revolution."

Later, during the Townshend duty unrest, Joseph Warren's prominence was recognized when he was selected to deliver the commemorative oration on the anniversary of the Boston Massacre. He worked closely with Samuel Adams on the committee of correspondence and when Adams left to attend the First Continental Congress in 1774, Warren assumed leadership of the radical cause in Boston.

In September 1774, representatives from every town in Suffolk County, which included Boston and towns to the west and south, agreed to a radical set of resolutions drafted by Warren that declared "no obedience is due" to the Intolerable Acts. Known as the Suffolk Resolves, Warren's document called for a boycott of British goods and for local militias to prepare for armed resistance. Carried to Philadelphia by Revere after a five-day ride, the Suffolk Resolves, called "undoubtedly treasonable" by Hutchinson, were overwhelmingly endorsed by the Continental Congress, a major step on the road to revolution.

The Massachusetts legislature was suspended in 1774, for its refusal to toe the line following the Boston Tea Party. An extralegal Provincial Congress met in October, and Warren served as president pro tem. He also chaired the Committee of Safety, whose purpose was to collect arms and train militia units.

In March 1775, despite receiving threats on his life, Joseph Warren again delivered the annual speech honoring the fallen in the Boston Massacre. Old South Church was so full that the speaker had to enter the building by climbing a ladder and crawling through a window behind the pulpit. His oration was well received, except by the British officers in attendance who heckled him.

On April 18, Warren made the decision to warn surrounding areas about British troop movements and dispatched Paul Revere and William Dawes for that purpose. During the British return march from Lexington and Concord, Warren exposed himself to enemy fire repeatedly in order to reach and treat the wounded.

With the British under siege in Boston after the battles at Lexington and Concord, the patriots needed cannons to give them the firepower to force the enemy forces out of the city. In late April 1775, Captain Benedict Arnold told Warren and the Massachusetts Committee of Safety that he knew where to get 80 cannons—at the lightly guarded Fort Ticonderoga in New York. Warren authorized the military operation, and the future traitor easily captured the British fort after joining forces with Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys. Fort Ticonderoga's cannons were transported to Boston and indeed proved instrumental in evicting the British in March 1776.

With the empire and infant nation engaged in war, Warren worked feverishly to organize the American military effort. In June, after learning of the British move to Charlestown, Warren went to the units at Bunker and Breed's Hill to offer his services as a volunteer.

Cont'd on page 5

Dr. Joseph Warren Cont'd.

He fought valiantly and was one of the last Americans to leave Breed's Hill, but was struck in the back of the head by a musket ball and died instantly.

After the Battle of Bunker Hill, the British buried Warren in a shallow grave along with a farmer also felled in the firefight. Nearly 10 months later, after the British evacuated Boston, the patriots exhumed Warren's body from the battlefield. Revere, who dabbled in dentistry, was able to identify Warren because he recognized a false tooth that he had crafted for the doctor. The Sons of Liberty leader was then reburied at the Granary Burying Ground with full Masonic honors, but his body remained on the move in the nineteenth century. Warren's family moved him to a vault in a Boston cathedral in 1824 before transporting him to his current resting ground inside Forest Hills Cemetery in 1855.

The four Warren children were imperiled by their father's death. Their mother had died earlier and Warren had turned the children over to relatives so that he could devote his full energies to the Patriot cause. Benedict Arnold brought some stability to the unfortunate situation by donating funds for the children's sustenance, then prevailing on Congress to provide a pension for them.

Thomas Gage, the British commander, remarked that Joseph Warren's death was the equal of the deaths of 500 American soldiers, perhaps a fitting assessment of the value of Warren's contribution to the Patriot cause.



March Meeting Guest Speaker

Olde Towne Crier of Alexandria Dr. Benjamin Fiore-Walker

April meeting guests were given quite a treat when the Olde Towne Crier from the City of Alexandria paid the Chapter a visit for the April 22nd meeting.

After ringing his bell to attract attention, Ben read off a breakfast proclamation to start the presentation.

Over the next 20 minutes or so, Dr. Walker told us of the process and competition to become the next Towne Crier of Alexandria, a lifetime position.

He had to create his own material and then present it to a panel of judges, finally besting 11 other competitors to win the volunteer position.

Among his duties are appearances at city festivals and events, business public relations events and parades.

He also spends time speaking about the history of the City of Alexandria and of those who held the position before him.

Ben earned a Ph.D. in psychobiology/neuroscience from the University of Virginia, and has a bachelor's degree in Psychology from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. His research area of focus was in the development of brain circuitry as they relate to epilepsy and autism.

Ben lives in Alexandria, VA with his wife and two young children.



Richard and Bonnie Orndorff tell the members about Rolling Thunder Chapter 1 Virginia and how it supports our Veterans in the area.



Abbey Grant Awarded National History Day Chapter \$200 Sponsorship

Our guest for the May Chapter meeting was Miss Abbey Grant, District 4 Winner in the Virginia State History Day Contest. She gave our members a presentation on her award winning Senior Paper about Desmond Doss.

Doss was a medic in World War II who was a Virginia native and who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery at Guadal Canal. Doss was the focus of a recent movie called "Hacksaw Ridge."

The Chapter awarded Miss Grant a \$200 Scholarship to cover her costs of competing in the National History Day Contest to be held in June at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD.

CJW Members Enjoy Top of Virginia Honor Flight Program

On April 23rd, a bus full of Veterans departed Winchester Virginia for Washington DC. Their destination was the National Mall and Arlington Cemetery courtesy of Top of Virginia Honor Flight.

The program pays for Veterans to make visits to National Monuments that commemorate the conflicts they served in and who would otherwise not visit due to cost, transportation and stewardship issues.

Dale Corey escorted Chapter Members Al White and Lew Ewing on this great bus trip to our Nations Capitol.

Another great idea for the return trip is "Mail Call" where notes from friends and family members expressing notes of appreciation and love to the veterans are handed out.

Chapter President Rob Andrews wrote two letters for Al and Lew in an old typewriter font and recreated the old Army APO Air Mail envelope.



Kendall Nicholson of DG Cooley Elementary 2016-2017 Poster Contest Winner

The winner of this year's poster contest is Miss Kendall Nicholson of DG Cooley Elementary School in Clarke County. Her poster on historical heroine of the Revolution Catherine Moore Barry bested 130 other entries in the contest—our largest contest to date!

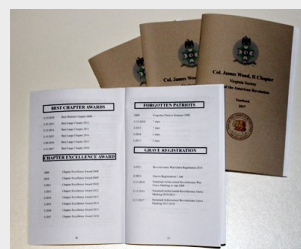
She was awarded an Amazon Gift Card for \$25 and presented a children's book on the history of the American Revolution. Her poster was forwarded to the State Poster Contest Chairman for consideration in the 2016-2017 VASSAR Americanism Poster Contest.



2017 Americanism Poster Contest Winner
Miss Kendall Nicholson

Join the Non-Fiction Writers Group at the Handley Library in Winchester!

The group will meet the fourth Wed. evening of each month, in the Benham Gallery on the lower level of Handley Library, 6:30 p.m.



Be sure to pick up the newest Chapter Yearbook at the Registration Table at any General Meeting.



July 22nd 2017

**10am - 4pm
Middletown, VA
Veterans Memorial**

Artisans, Civic and
Veterans Groups,
Food, World War II
Vehicles

Join us for an inspiring salute to America's
Patriots, both past and present!

Rolling Thunder
Sons of the Amer.Rev.
National Sojourners
Mercer's Rangers
American Red Cross

Liberty Man
Korean War Vets Assoc.
American Legion
Handley Library
Amer. Heritage Girls

**Revolutionary War campsites
and battle skirmishes**

- We thank our sponsors -
New Virginia Tractor -Phil Fravel -Clems Towing

Bar-B-Que - Hot Dogs