



Liberty Gazette

"Give me liberty or give me death!"

Patrick Henry - Richmond, Virginia
March 23, 1775

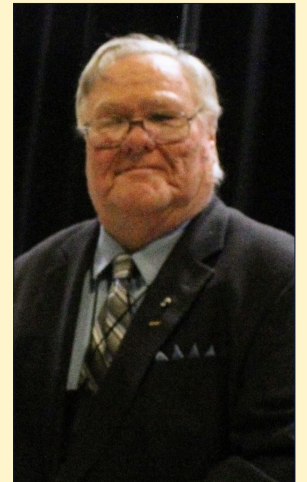


Summer 2024

Richmond ★ Virginia ★ Sons of the American Revolution

April Events

April kicked-off a busy season for the Richmond SAR with a multitude of activities supporting the community, honoring founding fathers and commemorating historic events.



Bill Haskins coordinated 15 JROTC Awards. Bill and Howard Bartholf presented awards at various events



Philip Barnard accepted an invitation to present to the Richard Henry Lee SAR



Jason Gagnon presented multiple Eagle Scout Awards



Robert Halpern collected worn American Flags and coordinated with the American Legion to arrange for their respectful and dignified retirement. On average, Robert collects about one thousand flags per year,

James Monroe Birthday Commemorations

The Richmond SAR once again participated in the James Monroe Memorial Foundation observances of James Monroe's birthday at the Monroe Birthplace and at his gravesite in Hollywood Cemetery.



James Monroe Foundation Vice President and Richmond SAR Compatriot Peter Broadbent resumed his role as emcee at both events. Richmond SAR Compatriot Bill Akers presented a wreath on behalf of the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge. Chris Yohn presented the Richmond SAR wreath at both events.

April Meeting

Culpeper Minutemen SAR Compatriot Jim Bish joined us for the April meeting and shared a presentation outlining his book:

I Can't Tell A Lie - The Truth about George Washington's Cherry Tree and the Prayer at Valley Forge.

Jim's presentation was informative and entertaining and he answered many follow-up questions.

His book was the 2023 winner of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution Steven Taylor Award.



Jim Bish

Richmond SAR Dedicates Berkeley Shipyard Marker



The Virginia SAR Color Guard, commanded by Gary Dunaway, with Virginia SAR President Bill Greaf, DAR guests and Richmond SAR Members

The Richmond SAR dedicated a historical marker, on Sunday, May 5, commemorating the Berkeley Shipyard's production of 18 Revolutionary Warships.

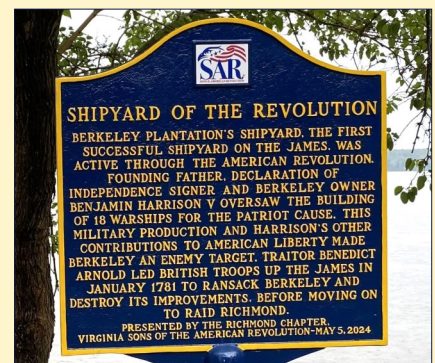
Berkeley Plantation was the home of Continental Congress Committee Chair, Declaration of Independence Signer and Founding Father Benjamin Harrison V.

The event was attended by travelers from across the state representing nine SAR Chapters, three DAR Chapters, one CAR Society, the Society of the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge, the Society of the Cincinnati, the Virginia America 250 Committee and the general public.

Virginia SAR President Bill Greaf brought greetings and presented the Virginia SAR wreath. The Virginia SAR Color Guard, commanded by Gary Dunaway, posted the colors and rendered honors with a musket salute.

Victoria B. Wassmer, descendant of enslaved Berkeley blacksmith Jonathan Quivers, shared insight into her ancestor's life and contributions to the Patriot cause.

Richmond SAR members Bill Haskins, Dana Law, Philip Barnard, Chris Ackiss and Beau Robertson helped lead the ceremony while Richmond SAR President Chris Yohn emceed the event and led the singing of *God Bless America*.



Photos courtesy of Beau Robertson and Ilse Yohn

May Meeting

American Revolution Round Table of Richmond

(ARRT) President Bill Welsch joined us for the May meeting and shared an entertaining and thought-provoking presentation on Washington's Crossing the Delaware and its place in popular American culture.

The Chapter also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Williamsburg SAR Member Steve McGuffin for his assistance with the Virginia SAR annual meeting.



ARRT-Richmond
President Bill Welsch



Steve McGuffin

The Intolerable Acts - 250th observance



The Richmond SAR observed the 250th anniversary of the Intolerable Acts.

Chris Yohn read an overview of the Intolerable Acts illustrating how Britain's response to the Boston Tea Party led directly to the First Continental Congress.



After the presentation, Yohn asked attendees to imagine each meeting table was a separate colony. Then, for each to elect its Committee of Correspondence member. Those Committee members will work together through the end of the year to evaluate 2025-2026 250th anniversary opportunities. Elected Committee members Dale Burgess, Buddy Fowler and Jim Russell, will present their findings at October's 250th Commemoration of the First Continental Congress and will serve as the next Richmond SAR President's 250th advisory council.

This overview created a throughline connecting Richmond's 2023 250th project (boycotting tea from May's observance of the Tea Act through the Boston Tea Party celebration) to the Chapter's 2024 project which helps illustrate the historical events that quickened the pace to Revolution. Meeting attendees stood for a group photo to commemorate this 250th event.

While the Intolerable Acts largely impacted Massachusetts, it was the Virginia Committee of Correspondence who acted in response and created the catalyst to the First Continental Congress.

Photos courtesy of Beau Robertson

Richmond SAR Dedicates First Virginia SAR Pomeroy Patriot Burials Marker



The Richmond SAR dedicated a Patriot Burials roadside marker honoring Major Joseph Eggleston at Amelia County's Historic Grub Hill Church, on Sunday, June 2.

The marker was the first to be approved in the new Virginia SAR program sponsored by the Pomeroy Foundation which marks the locations of Revolutionary War Veteran gravesites.

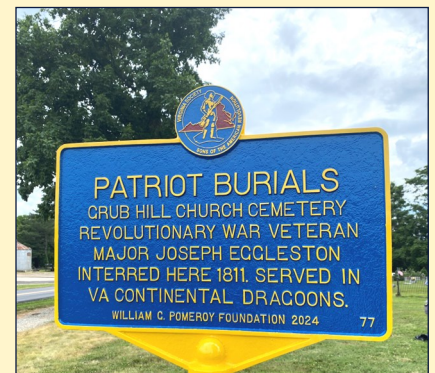
Attendees represented the Virginia SAR, seven SAR Chapters, three DAR Chapters, the Virginia CAR, two CAR Societies, the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge, the Amelia County Historical Society, the Amelia County America 250 Committee, Veterans of Foreign Wars Amelia Post 8759 and Christ Episcopal Church, Amelia.

Virginia SAR President Bill Greaf brought greetings and presented the Virginia SAR wreath and Virginia CAR President Sarah Terpenning presented the Virginia CAR wreath. The Virginia SAR Color Guard, commanded by Dale Corey, rendered honors with a musket salute.

Virginia SAR Pomeroy Committee Chairman and Richard Henry Lee SAR President Michael Rhodes addressed the crowd on the importance of the Patriot Burials marker program and shared a congratulatory letter sent from the Pomeroy Foundation.

Richmond SAR First Vice President Philip Barnard coordinated the event with local Amelia County organizations and delivered Major Joseph Eggleston's biography. He also unveiled the marker with his mother, local Amelia resident and member of the Commonwealth Chapter DAR Nell Barnard.

Richmond SAR members Jack Akers, Bill Akers, Chris Ackiss and Beau Robertson helped lead the ceremony while Richmond SAR President Chris Yohn emceed the event and led the singing of the National Anthem.



Nell and Philip Barnard



Photos courtesy of Beau Robertson, Tom Roth and Michael Rhodes

Richmond at SAR Commemorations

The Chapter participated in numerous commemorations through June.

The first was the George Mason SAR's commemoration of the Virginia Declaration of Rights. One of Virginia SAR President Bill Greaf's signature 2024 events, this one honored the *Bill of Rights* segment of the SAR Recessional. The event coincided with a naturalization ceremony of 50 new U.S. Citizens. Chris Yohn attended, marched in the parade to the ceremony and presented the Chapter wreath.



VA Declaration of Rights Parade



Atticus and Chris Yohn



Chris Ackiss at the Liberty Point Resolves

Richmond SAR Secretary Chris Ackiss represented the Chapter at the Le Marquis De Lafayette SAR Commemoration of the Liberty Point Resolves in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

The event recognized the Patriots who, on June 20, 1775, formed themselves into a group known simply as "The Association," and met at Lewis Barge's tavern in Cross Creek (now part of Fayetteville) to sign a document protesting the actions of Great Britain following the battles of Lexington and Concord.

Historic description via Wikipedia

The Williamsburg SAR-sponsored commemoration of the Battle of Spencer's Ordinary was a Virginia SAR event honoring Colonel Richard Butler's Patriots who battled British forces under Colonel John Graves Simcoe on June 26, 1781, near Williamsburg.

While many sources consider the action a draw, the Americans did re-capture a herd of cattle the British appropriated for their own, and deprived them of the forage it offered.

Chris Yohn presented the Richmond SAR wreath.



Battle of Spencer's Ordinary Commemoration

Photos courtesy of Tim Dioquino, Le Marquis De Lafayette SAR and Williamsburg SAR

Richmond SAR Conducts Chief Justice John Marshall Grave Marking



The Virginia SAR Color Guard with Virginia SAR President Bill Greaf, John Marshall Center Descendant's Committee Chairman Jim Stribling, James Monroe Memorial Foundation President Bill Thomas, General Society of the Order of Founders and Patriots of America Historian General Dr. Michael E. Weyler and Richmond SAR members

The Richmond SAR presented a Virginia SAR grave marking ceremony honoring U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall, on Sunday, June 23.

The ceremony was one of Virginia SAR President Bill Greaf's 2024 signature events, highlighting the four components of the SAR Recessional. This Chief Justice John Marshall event recognized the *Independent Supreme Court* segment.

Justice Marshall is, to this day, known for asserting the power of the Supreme Court and holding the Executive and Legislative branches accountable to the U.S. Constitution. Marshall also served as U.S. Secretary of State, a U.S. Congressman and as a soldier in the Revolution. He is buried at Richmond's Shockoe Hill Cemetery.

Attendees from multiple states participated in laying 19 wreaths representing SAR, DAR and CAR Societies, The John Marshall Foundation, The James Monroe Memorial Foundation and the General Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America.

Virginia SAR President Bill Greaf brought greetings and presented the Virginia SAR wreath while Virginia CAR President Sarah Terpenning presented the Virginia CAR wreath. The Virginia SAR Color Guard, commanded by Dale Corey, rendered honors.

Richmond SAR First Vice President Philip Barnard delivered Chief Justice Marshall's biography and Richmond SAR members Bill Haskins, Dana Law, Chris Ackiss, Chris Carr, Stephen Wilson and Dave Morgerson all helped lead the ceremony. Richmond SAR President Chris Yohn emceed the event and led the singing of *God Bless America*.



Photos courtesy of Beau Robertson and Jennifer Carr

New Members and War Service Recognition

The Richmond SAR welcomed two new members immediately following the Chief Justice John Marshall Grave Marking event.

Virginia SAR President Bill Greaf officially inducted Stephen Wilson and Frank Jacocks to the Richmond SAR.



Bill Haskins, Frank Jacocks, Bill Greaf, Stephen Wilson, Chris Yohn



Bill Haskins, Bill Greaf, Chris Carr, Chris Yohn

Richmond SAR Compatriot Chris Carr was recognized as a member of the SAR Veteran Service Corps.

He was awarded the SAR War Service Medal for his service in the U.S. Navy during the Gulf War.



Photos courtesy of Jennifer Carr

Richmond SAR challenge coins

Richmond SAR Centennial Celebration Coin



Designed and purchased before the announced disuse of the SAR/minute-man design, these challenge coins became instant collectors' items. Limited quantities remain and this design will not be reordered.

Order this design [at this link](#).



General Washington Coin

This coin features an equestrian image of General Washington like that featured on the Richmond landmark Virginia Washington Monument.

Order this design [at this link](#).



Coins of either design are \$15 per piece. Funds support Richmond SAR historic commemoration events like those shown in this newsletter. Reserve, or purchase your coin(s) via credit card, at the links above and pick them up at a Chapter meeting. Since they were created as a fundraiser, they will not be mailed.

For those who wish to purchase in-person (via check only) coins will be available at October-through-December Chapter meetings, while supplies last. Please bring your check made payable to *Richmond SAR*. The Richmond SAR does not accept cash payments.

Thanks for supporting Richmond SAR historic commemoration activities!

The Richmond SAR Memorial Fund



Your \$10 donation
to this special fund
honors your patriot
ancestors and supports
the programs and
work of the
Richmond SAR.

Chris Carr
Nathaniel Preston ~ Jacob Lotz

A. Brian Cowardin
John Cowardin

Doug Cumins
Phillip Keister ~ Nathaniel Wilson

Robert Halpern
James Sproul

William M. Haskins, Jr.
William Gannon ~ Moses Preston ~ Gilbert Stevens ~ Thomas Prather

Dana K. Law
Henry Law

Brian K. Miller
Theophilus Avery ~ Abel Sholes

William Nash II
John Nash

Ralph Spaulding
Edward Spaulding

Arthur H. Taylor III
Silas Call

Chris Yohn
Ludwig Tobias ~ Joseph Potter

September meeting and upcoming schedule

Our next meeting takes place on Tuesday, September 10, at 6 p.m.

We'll be joined once again by Richmond National Park Ranger Bert Dunkerly who will share his knowledge of Benedict Arnold's 1781 raid and the Battle of Richmond.

The evening will begin with a 30-minute cash-bar/social time and the meeting will begin at 6:30.

Awards Nominations Open

Your nominations are needed for Richmond SAR award recipients in several categories.

One of the best ways to perpetuate and share the mission of the SAR is to recognize those in the community who exhibit the selfless actions and patriotic qualities of freedom, justice and equality we profess.

The Richmond SAR will work to make the following awards, this fall:

- ◆ Good Citizen of the Year
- ◆ Teacher of the Year
- ◆ American History Teacher of the Year
- ◆ Law Enforcement
- ◆ Fire Safety
- ◆ Emergency Medical Services
- ◆ Heroism
- ◆ Lifesaving

Please email your nominations, including the person's name and a brief description of their service, to Chris Yohn at cy.rva.sar@gmail.com.



Richmond SAR upcoming meetings
All meetings take place at
Willow Oaks Country Club

Tuesday, September 10 - 6 p.m.

Sunday, October 13 - 1 p.m.

Sunday, November 10 - 1 p.m.

Tuesday, December 3 - 6 p.m.

Richmond SAR Accomplishments



Congratulations!

In the wake of the Virginia SAR Annual Meeting, the Richmond SAR was awarded second place for the 2023 Best Chapter and second place in the Virginia Society Cup competition. (Large Chapter category)



The *Liberty Gazette* is a copyrighted publication of the Richmond * Virginia * Sons of the American Revolution