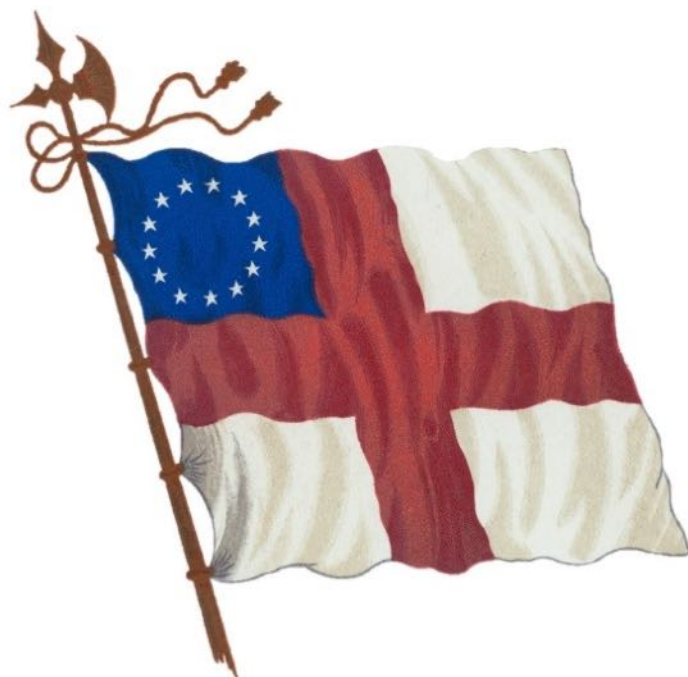


THE VIRGINIA CAVALIER

The Virginia Society, Order of Founders and Patriots of America

Vol. 16, No. 1

Spring 2021



Governor's Report on the 2021 Spring Membership Meeting

The Virginia Society of The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America held its 2021 Spring Membership Meeting on Saturday, March 27 online via Zoom because of lingering concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus. We followed our normal meeting agenda, which was distributed to all Society members ahead of time.

In my Governor's Report, I focused on my goal of marketing our OFPA brand within other lineage societies, the Sons of the American Revolution being the most obvious such organization. Since January I have attended thirteen events hosted or co-hosted by SAR chapters in both Virginia and North Carolina. As the Governor and representative of the Virginia Society of the OFPA, I have presented our Order's wreath and have brought greetings from the Virginia OFPA in most of those events. The Virginia OFPA is gaining increased recognition within Virginia and North Carolina lineage societies. We are tackling the oft-repeated question we hear during our attempts to recruit, *i.e.*, "What is the OFPA?" Hopefully, we can turn this increased recognition into new members.

In the meeting we also discussed the two current grave marking projects; the placement of a plaque for 20 Founders at the Charles Church Cemetery in York County and the placement of a marker for Founder John Lewis in King and Queen County. Society Secretary Josh Wilberger is preparing the minutes, wherein a more detailed account will be found.

The meeting's featured speaker was Charles Jameson, President of the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter of the Virginia Society, SAR. Charles' subject was *The First Africans as Founders*. As a descendant of both European and African immigrants, Charles brought a unique perspective to the subject. The full text of Charles' presentation can be found on our Society website, vaofpa.org. I would urge all to read it.

Finally, I mentioned the OFPA's upcoming 2021 General Court to be held in New Orleans May 12 to 16. By now, all members of the Order should have received their invitations by mail from Governor General Bill Allerton. If you or anyone you know has not received his invitation, please let me as well our Society Secretary know.

In closing, I would urge each of you to consider coming to New Orleans next month. In addition to important business that must be concluded, a significant amount of time is allotted to seeing the sites of the "Crescent City." I lived there myself for four years, and can attest to its being a great place to experience.

Steadfast for God and Country,
Michael E. Weyler, Ph.D.
Governor, Virginia Society



Virginia's Position on OFPA Membership Eligibility Requirements

At the 124th General Court last year, discussion took place regarding the OFPA membership eligibility requirements, which continues to be a challenging subject. As a result, changing the eligibility requirements is being considered and will be discussed and voted upon at the upcoming General Court, May 13-15, 2021.

The below narrative from our Virginia Society Governor Weyler, indicates that the Virginia Society Executive Council does not support changing the eligibility requirements for the OFPA:

The email from Secretary General

While it was suggested that membership eligibility in OFPA continues to become more difficult as each succeeding generation become further removed from those eligible at the Order's founding in 1896, that is not likely the case. To the contrary, each succeeding generation actually increases the pool of eligible men.

As an example, I looked at my own Founder's family name, Stone. According to the OFPA Founders List, there were four Stone families that arrived here between 1635 and 1639. Based on census data, there are 836 Stone families in the United States today. Even using the Stone family line alone, that translates to 836 men who are eligible to trace their lineage to a Founder and a Patriot named Stone.

The Membership Requirements Committee Report

The report begins with the statement that: "It is generally agreed that the criteria for membership in the Order of Founders and Patriots of America is confusing, and not sustainable over time." If by confusing, the committee means exclusionary, we need to remember that the requirements for membership were meant to insure an exclusive Order. As to our sustainability, I refer again to the fact that the family names of Founders are not dying out but are growing with each new generation.

The graphic shown with each of the three options offered by the Membership Requirements Committee does not tell us anything about the likelihood of gaining new members. Each graphic shows only one applicant looking back in time to a number of possible ancestors. A more meaningful graphic would be one that starts with one Founder Ancestor looking forward in time to his future descendants. There we could see a growing applicant pool.



Membership Criteria A: Current Standards

While Criteria A states that “the current situation is confusing to explain and understand,” it need not be perceived as such. I have been asked about eligibility and have been able to answer. Basic eligibility is through a man’s father’s line or mother’s line, which is readily understood. I then ask if his father or either grandfather would have been eligible. Many I have asked were informed enough on their own parents and grandparents that they knew the answer right away.

The graphic in this option contains the statement that the current standard “creates a very narrow pool of applicants.” In other words, in the opinion of the committee, their statement that every future generation will have only 5 possible ancestral surnames to choose from, equates to a smaller pool of applicants. This is counter-intuitive to the reality that each generation sees an increase in men with Founder’s names.

Membership Criteria B: Based on Any Great-Grandparent’s Surname

The first proposed option to change Membership Criteria that the Committee offers, Criteria B, is to expand eligibility to surnames based on any great-grandparent’s surnames, i.e., expand from 5 to 8 eligible lines. In this option the Committee writes; “This makes it much easier to understand who a qualifying ancestor is.” This option only skips the question about whether or not a man’s father or either grandfather are eligible. The question would then become whether any of eight great-grandparents meet the eligibility requirements. The application process that requires locating and documenting family lineage has not changed. The hard task is still there. What is lost, however, is the emphasis on male line of succession that the current standard seeks to maintain.

Membership Criteria C: Based on Eligibility at the Founding (1896)

This Option simply allows an applicant to find his way to a Founder through 16 possible surnames. However, to find those 16, an applicant would have had to chart his family tree back over 120 years to 1896. The hard work is not reduced, and the uniqueness of male lineage is, for all intents and purposes, gone.

Comments on the Goal of the OFPA

Returning to the question of why the Membership Requirements Committee is offering this proposal, i.e., the shrinking of the Order, the decreasing membership in the OFPA is a recruiting problem, not an eligibility problem, and neither of the two proposed options to the current standard for eligibility will solve that problem.



While recruitment of family members may increase membership, it does very little to broaden the base of membership. The recruitment focus should be on those who have known Founder surnames or have such Founder names in their own family tree.

A major challenge is to market and make known the OFPA brand. Consistent with Governor General Bill Allerton's goals of strengthening the Bulletin, the website and Facebook, we need each Society to do parallel effort at the state level.

Comments from the Virginia Society, OFPA

Here in Virginia we have made it a goal to show up with greetings and a wreath presentation at as many lineage society events as can be found. For 2021 we have attended twelve such events over the last three months, the majority being SAR events. Our OFPA brand is gaining greater recognition throughout Virginia as well as North Carolina, and we have received inquiries from some who have seen us at those events.

Following through with the Secretary General's expectation, the Membership Requirements Committee Proposal was sent to our Associates for their review. The response from twelve members of the Virginia OFPA Executive Council was unanimously against any change in the membership requirements. There were no affirmative responses.

One of our Associates, in explaining why he valued his membership in the OFPA, cited the OFPA Wikipedia page statement, "the Order has relatively strict bloodline mandates that have earned it a reputation as the most exclusive lineage society in the United States." He sees the proposed change as diluting our Order's uniqueness. Another Associate suggested that broadening the requirements would just make us more like the SAR, again reducing our uniqueness.

Conclusion from the Virginia Society, OFPA

The Virginia Society concludes that the Membership Requirements Committee Proposal does not address the problem of decreasing membership. The two proposed models for change address only the supposed challenges an individual faces the farther away in time he is from the Founder's generation. These proposed changes further dilute our male lineage requirements, which only serves to reduce the exclusivity on our Order. For many members the uniqueness of our Order is a source of pride. Virginia, therefore, cannot support the proposal to change eligibility requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

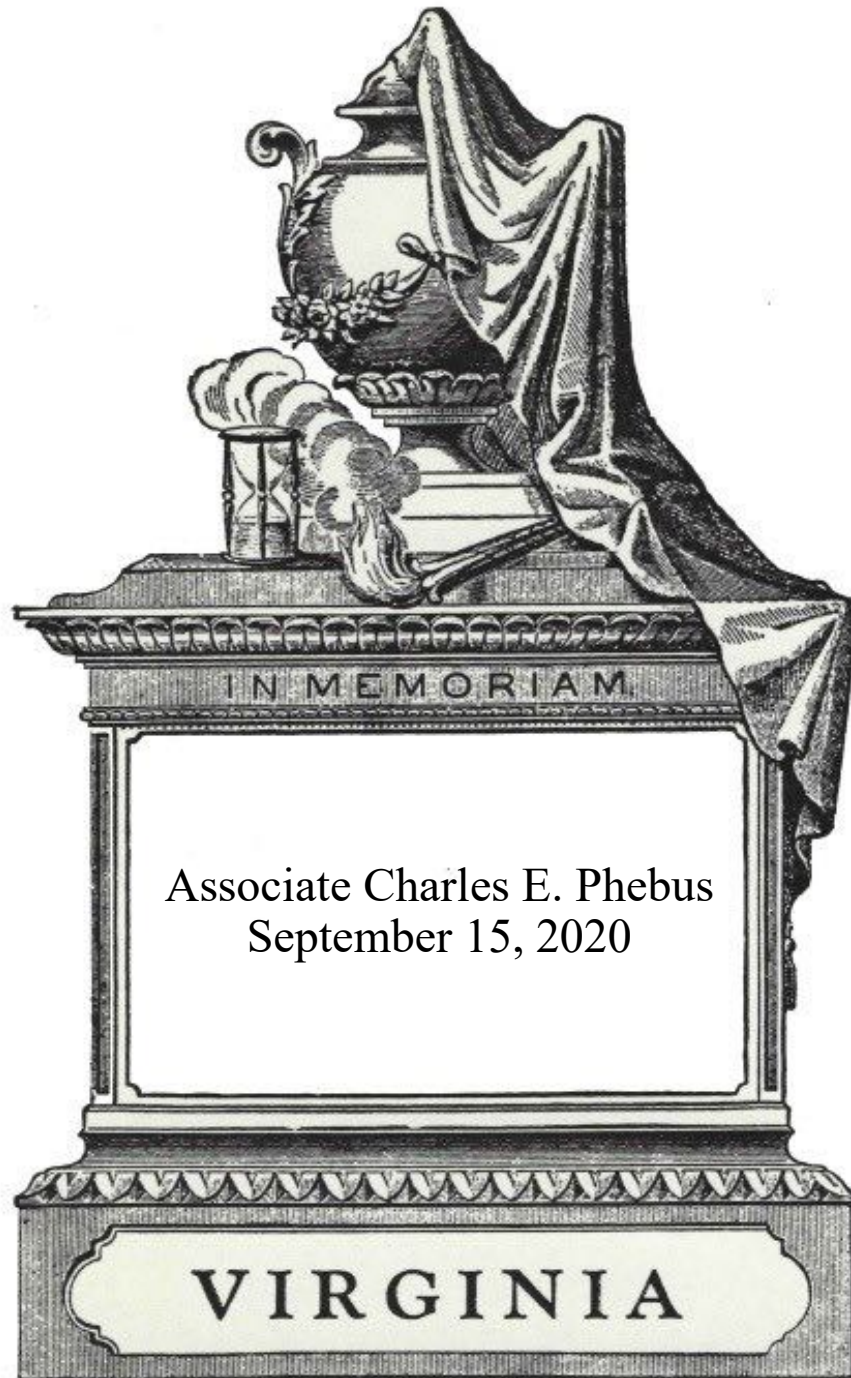
Michael E. Weyler, Ph.D.

Governor, Virginia Society of The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America



Necrology

The Virginia Society mourns the passing of the following member with prayers for his family



Significant & Noteworthy News

Commemorating General Daniel Morgan, Virginian

On Saturday, January 16, the Virginia Society, OFPA was represented in a hybrid ceremony at Mount Hebron Cemetery in Winchester, Virginia honoring General Daniel Morgan for his victory at the Battle of Cowpens on January 17, 1781 in South Carolina.



Virginia Society Gov. Michael E. Weyler gave greetings and presented the society wreath during the virtual part of the ceremony.

The Battle of Cowpens was fought on January 17, 1781 near the town of Cowpens, South Carolina. Brigadier General Daniel Morgan led U.S. forces against British forces under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton, as part of the campaign in the Carolinas. The battle is considered a turning point in the American reconquest of South Carolina from the British.

Numerous attempts have been made by South Carolina to have his body re-interred near the site of his victory. Virginia's claim on Morgan includes his raising a company of riflemen who made the Bee-Line March from Virginia to Boston to join Gen. Washington in the Siege of Boston, after which he led his men in many battles throughout the early years of the war. Later a congressman from Virginia, he remains a Virginian.



Significant & Noteworthy News

Commemorating the Battle of the Cowpens – “A Devil of a Whipping”

On Sunday, January 17, the Virginia Society, OFPA was represented in a virtual ceremony celebrating the 240th anniversary of the American victory at the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina. The Virginia Society wreath was acknowledged during the wreath presentation part of the virtual ceremony.



Title slide from the virtual ceremony. Virginia Society Gov. Michael E. Weyler presented a wreath on behalf of the Virginia Society.

Morgan's forces conducted a double envelopment of Tarleton's forces—the only such example of the war. Tarleton's force of 1,000 British troops were set against 2,000 troops under Morgan. Morgan's forces suffered casualties of only 25 killed and 124 wounded. Tarleton's force was almost completely eliminated, with almost 30% casualties and 55% of his force captured or missing, with Tarleton himself and only about 200 British troops escaping.

The action at Cowpens compelled Gen. Cornwallis to pursue the main southern American army into North Carolina. Ultimately this led to his defeat at the Siege of Yorktown in Virginia in October 1781.

Chief Justice John Marshall remarked, "Seldom has a battle, in which greater numbers were not engaged, been so important in its consequences as that of Cowpens."



Significant & Noteworthy News

Peter Muhlenberg – Pastor & Patriot

On Sunday, January 24, 2021, the Virginia Society, OFPA was recognized in a hybrid ceremony commemorating the part that the Reverend Peter Muhlenberg played in our nation's fight for independence.

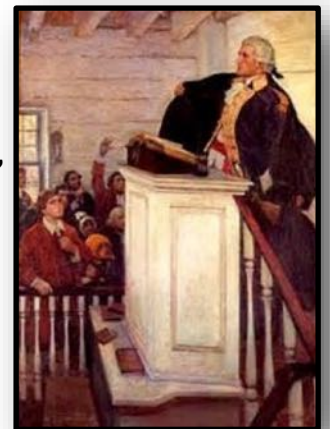


Virginia Society Gov. Michael E. Weyler gave greetings and presented the society wreath during the virtual part of the ceremony.

On January 21, 1776, in the Lutheran Church in Woodstock, Virginia, Pastor Muhlenberg was preaching from Ecclesiastics 3 where it is written, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted..."

At the end of his sermon, Pastor Muhlenberg declared, "In the language of the holy writ, there was a time for all things, a time to preach and a time to pray, but those times have passed away." He then declared, "There is a time to fight, and that time has now come!" Muhlenberg then proceeded to remove his robes revealing to his congregation, the uniform of a Continental Colonel.

Marching to the back of the church he declared, "Whom among you is with me?" Many in the church rose. On that day he recruited 162 men from his congregation. By the next day he led 300 men in what eventually became the 8th Virginia Brigade, fighting for liberty.



Peter Muhlenberg rose to the rank of Major General. He eventually became a Representative and then a United States Senator from Pennsylvania.



Significant & Noteworthy News

240th Anniversary of the Battle of Cowan's Ford

On Saturday, January 30, 2021, the Virginia Society, OFPA was represented in a virtual ceremony celebrating the 240th Anniversary at the Battle at Cowan's Ford in North Carolina. Our Virginia Society Governor Michael E. Weyler gave greetings during the opening ceremonies, and subsequently presented our society wreath.



Virginia Society Gov. Michael E. Weyler gave greetings and presented the society wreath during the virtual part of the ceremony.

On February 1, 1781, after being held up for three days on the west side of the swollen Catawba river, Cornwallis ordered his army across the river at Cowan's Ford. The Mecklenburg County militia under General Davidson had about 200 men on the east side of the ford to oppose the several thousand British infantry and cavalry. While General Davidson was killed in that action, the British paid a heavy price for their successful crossing at Cowan's Ford, which further slowed Cornwallis' pursuit of Greene's army.

This battle began to what we now refer to as the Race to the Dan. Greene's army crossed the Dan River to safety on February 14, *less than a day* ahead of an exhausted Cornwallis who then moved eastward. On March 15 at Guilford Courthouse, he engaged Greene's army again. Although Cornwallis held the field at the end of that battle, his army was now so decimated, that he abandoned his pursuit of Greene in a favor of a course to Yorktown, Virginia, and relief.

Relief denied by a French naval blockade coupled with Gen. Washington's army laying siege at Yorktown, Cornwallis surrendered on October 19, 1781; the Treaty of Paris followed on September 3, 1783. The Battle at Cowan's Ford was a pivotal action in the string of engagements that led to the ultimate defeat of Cornwallis at Yorktown.



Significant & Noteworthy News

131st Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution

On Saturday, February 6, 2021, our Virginia Governor Michael E. Weyler gave the VA OFPA Greetings to the 131st Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution (VASSAR), during their hybrid meeting that took place at the Omni Richmond Hotel.



This continued a tradition that goes back a number of years where VASSAR has invited the VA OFPA to participate in opening ceremonies of their Annual Meetings. This year, however, because of the limited number of live attendees allowed at the Omni Richmond, Governor Weyler gave his greeting virtually. He remarked in part:

"The OFPA is an Order dedicated to keeping alive the memory of those who came to America when it was just a wilderness, and to their descendants who fought for our independence and our liberty and gave us our Constitutional Republic and a nation of free men.

The Founders we honor are those who came to our shores in the half century following the founding of Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607, men who carved a country out of a wilderness, raising their families to value their freedom and creating a culture unique in the world, leaving their children and grandchildren an heritage that led to their descendants, those whom we now call Patriots, taking up arms in our country's fight for liberty."

Many Virginia OFPA Associates are SAR members as well. Please consider your VASSAR chapter meetings as opportunities in which to introduce, and hopefully recruit, new members for our distinguished Order.



Significant & Noteworthy News

The 240th Anniversary of the Crossing of the Dan

On Saturday, February 20, 2021, in South Boston, Virginia, the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution (VASSAR) celebrated the 240th Anniversary of the Crossing of the Dan by General Nathanael Greene and his army. Governor Michael E. Weyler of the Virginia Society of The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America participated in the hybrid ceremony held in the South Boston – Halifax County Museum.



(L-R) Assoc. Jeffrey D. Thomas & Virginia Society Gov.
Michael E. Weyler gave greetings and presented the society
wreath during the virtual part of the ceremony.

On February 14, 1781, General Nathanael Greene, commander of America's southern army, won the Race to the Dan when he and his army crossed the Dan river a day ahead of British General Cornwallis' pursuing army. The two armies had been moving rapidly north following the British victory at the Battle of Cowen's Ford two weeks earlier on February 1st.

The British pursuit of the forces of Generals Greene and Morgan, which became known as the Race to the Dan, left the pursuing British in an exhausted state when they arrived at the Dan. Through the summer, Greene pursued and engaged Cornwallis as he moved eastward in North Carolina. Although Cornwallis prevailed in each engagement, his forces were being systematically whittled down. Eventually Cornwallis made it to Yorktown where, on October 19, 1781, he surrendered to Washington.



Significant & Noteworthy News

George Washington's Birthday

On Monday, February 22, 2021, in Culpeper, Virginia, the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution (VASSAR) celebrated George Washington's birthday by focusing on his Farewell Address to his fellow citizens after serving two terms as President.

Several Virginia Society Associates were present for this remembrance: Governor Michael E. Weyler, Past Governor Donnel J. Hubbard, and Councilor Douglas M. Graves. Governor Weyler presented the Virginia Society Wreath and carried the Flag of the Order in the Color Guard. Past Governor Hubbard served as the seventh reader with a selection titled "Washington's Final Words".



(L-R) Councilor Douglas M. Graves, Virginia Society Gov. Michael E. Weyler, and Past-Governor Donnel "Jerry" J. Hubbard

Seven individuals representing the SAR, the DAR and the OFPA read from the various sections of the Farewell Address, such as:

- Washington offers his gratitude and hope
- Washington on National Unity
- Washington on Political Parties
- Washington's Final Words

The event was a good reminder that our first president not only brought victory in war, but also left us wisdom that is foundational to our Republic and applicable even today.



Significant & Noteworthy News

The 245th Anniversary of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge

On Saturday, February 27, 2021, a virtual commemoration of the Battle of Moores Creek, a decisive action fought on February 27, 1776, was held to remember the North Carolina Patriot Militia's important victory over the North Carolina Loyalist Militia at what is now a National Battlefield in Currie, North Carolina. Governor Michael E. Weyer brought greetings from the Virginia Society and presented the Society wreath in a virtual ceremony attended by 155 participants from around the nation.



The Loyalists force was moving toward the Moores Creek bridge on their march to the sea. The Patriot Militia had set up camp on the approaches to the bridge on the east side of the Moores Creek Bridge to oppose them. The Loyalist commander planned to attack since any retreat by the Patriots would be hampered by the narrow bridge.

In the dark hours of the morning, the Patriots force slipped unnoticed across the bridge and set up entrenchments and cannon on the west side of the bridge a short distance down the road west of the bridge. They also took up the bridge planks and greased the supporting timbers.

The vanguard of the advancing Highlanders, in spite of the bridge's condition, crossed to pursue the Patriots. When the Highlanders had crossed in strength, the Patriots opened fire. Approximately 40 Highlanders fell at the bridge while only one Patriot was killed. Following the battle, the remainder of the Loyalist force scattered.

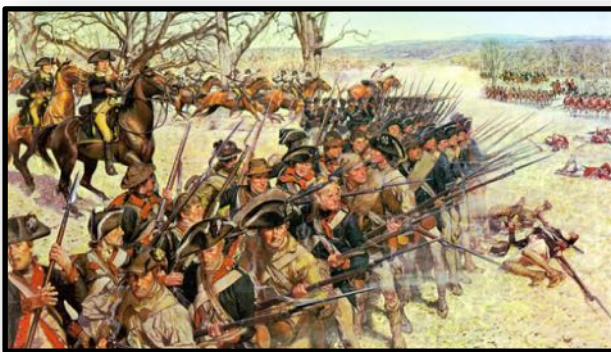
A relatively small battle early in the war, the Patriot victory strengthened the cause in North Carolina and led to the Halifax Resolves in April, a document carried to the Second Continental Congress with North Carolina's vote for independence.



Significant & Noteworthy News

The 240th Anniversary of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse

On Saturday, March 13, 2021, the North Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution hosted a Zoom meeting to commemorate the critical Battle at Guilford Courthouse that occurred 240 years ago in North Carolina on March 15, 1781. The Virginia Society of the Order of The Founders and Patriots of America participated in the event, with Gov. Michael E. Weyler presenting our Society wreath.



Greene's Army facing Cornwallis' Army
at Guilford Courthouse—H. Charles
McBarron

The Battle of Guilford Courthouse was the largest and most hotly contested battle in American Revolution's southern theater. It was the last in a string of engagements between British General Cornwallis and the American army commander, General Nathanael Greene. On February 1, Cornwallis pushed aside the patriot forces at the Battle of Cowan's Ford, which started the Race to the Dan. Exhausted, Cornwallis headed back into North Carolina to regroup. Greene followed Cornwallis into North Carolina and chose to stand against him at Guilford Courthouse.

Greene, with an army of 4,500 militia and Continentals, was tactically defeated by Cornwallis' 1,900 regulars and German allies. Despite holding the field after, the British suffered 27% casualties. Charles James Fox, a leader in Parliament later said: "Another such victory would ruin the British Army."

Sufficiently weakened, Cornwallis decided further pursuit of Greene would be fruitless, so he headed for the coast for resupply and support from the British fleet, delivering Greene the strategic victory.



Virginia Society Governor Weyler
presented the Virginia OFPA Wreath



Significant & Noteworthy News

Celebrating James Madison's Birthday at *Montpelier*

On Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at the Madison family cemetery, located on the grounds of *Montpelier*, in Orange Co., Virginia, a concise ceremony was had celebrating the 270th commemoration of the birth of James Madison the 4th President of the United States.

The master of ceremonies was the President and CEO of James Madison's Montpelier Association, Mr. Roy F. Young II. Fifteen organizations were represented, along with their wreaths, in addition to the Presidential Wreath presented by the United States Marine Corp.

All of the organizations (with wreaths) involved were verbally identified by CEO Young and additionally, each wreath was videoed individually as well. The entire event was streamed *live* (social media), on the James Madison's Montpelier's Facebook page.

The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America—the Virginia Society wreath—was present and received the recognition, at the ceremony, as noted above and appeared on their Facebook page.



Master of Ceremonies, President &
CEO Mr. Roy F. Young, III



Wreath presented by The Virginia
Society of The Order of the Founders
and Patriots of America



Significant & Noteworthy News

Celebrating James Madison's Birthday—Virtually

On the evening of Tuesday, March 16, 2021, the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution hosted a Zoom meeting to celebrate the 270th birthday of James Madison, fourth president of the United States.

The normal birthday celebration held every year at Montpelier, Madison's home, was closed to the public this year, with only a small number in attendance. Councilor Doug Graves ensured that our Virginia OFPA wreath was present at Montpelier for the morning celebration, where the Order of Founders and Patriots of America was recognized during the ceremony.

The Virginia OFPA was also recognized at the evening celebration of Madison's Birthday on the Virginia SAR Zoom meeting. Governor Michael E. Weyler presented our Society wreath, and also brought greetings, reminding the attendees of the long and varied service James Madison gave to our nation:



"I bring Greetings from the Virginia Society of The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America on this, the birthday of

President James Madison, who served in the Virginia Militia at the beginning of our war for independence, who served in the Continental Congress, who was known as the Father of the United States Constitution, and who was the first war-time President of the United States of America. We honor his memory and his legacy."

Virginia Society Governor Weyler saluted President James Madison on his 270th Birthday

The celebration was hosted by Jeff Thomas, President of the Virginia Society, SAR. The guest speaker was Dr. Jeffrey Morrison, head of the James Madison Foundation and a Professor at Christopher Newport University. His subject was: *James Madison – Father of the Constitution*. In a well-received talk, Dr. Morrison focused on how Madison himself had interpreted the Constitution in the years following its ratification.



Significant & Noteworthy News

Patrick Henry—"Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death"

On Saturday, March 20, 2021, the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution hosted a Zoom meeting to celebrate the 246th anniversary of Patrick Henry's famous Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death speech at St. John's Church in Richmond, Virginia.



Virginia Society Governor Weyler brought greetings from the Virginia Society, OFPA

The commemoration included a live feed from St. John's Church where a reenactor portraying Patrick Henry, told how his life and upbringing had led to the point where in 1775, as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, he proposed the establishment of a Virginia Militia in a speech that ended with his famous line, "Give me liberty or give me death!" There were over 50 participants on the Zoom meeting, most from lineage societies in Virginia. The Virginia Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America was represented by Governor Weyler, who gave greetings and presented our wreath.

Governor Weyler sought to remind those in attendance that the liberty of which Patrick Henry spoke was part of what being an American all about:

"Good morning. The Virginia Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America brings greetings on this, the 246th Anniversary of Patrick Henry's speech in St. John's Church in Richmond. Those we call Founders came to our shores when America was mostly wilderness, bringing with them the thirst for liberty. That spirit of liberty was so strong that a century and a half later, one of their descendants, Patrick Henry, was willing to declare liberty more valuable than life itself. That is our heritage as Americans."



Significant & Noteworthy News

Recognition of Vietnam Veteran's Day 2021

In 2012, March 29 was proclaimed to be Vietnam Veterans Day, and it has been celebrated every year since then with ceremonies across the nation. This year, March 29 was a Monday, so some ceremonies were also conducted on Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28. Governor Michael E. Weyler of The Virginia Society of The Order of The Founders and Patriots of America was able to attend and present our Society's wreath at celebrations on both the 28th and the 29th.

On Sunday, March 28, a ceremony of remembrance was held at the Vietnam War Memorial in front of the Historic Fairfax County Courthouse in the City of Fairfax, Virginia. On Monday, March 29, a ceremony of remembrance was held at the Vietnam War Memorial in front of the Culpeper County Courthouse in the City of Culpeper, Virginia. Each program included an opportunity for any Vietnam Veteran present to share remembrances from his time in Vietnam fifty or more years ago. At each of those two ceremonies, Governor Weyler, a Vietnam veteran himself, was able to share some thoughts concerning those who paid the ultimate price for their willingness to serve our nation.



Virginia Society Governor
Weyler at the Fairfax County
Courthouse



Virginia Society Governor
Weyler at the Culpeper County
Courthouse



Virginia Society of The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America

Officers and Councillors--Terms between 2020-2023

Officers—Effective January 1, 2021

Governor—Dr. Michael E. Welyer—meweyler@aol.com

Deputy Governor—Mr. J. Shane Newcome—shane@AbroadHomeFurnishings.com

Treasurer—Mr. J. Shane Newcombe—shane@AbroadHomeFurnishings.com

Secretary—Mr. Josh Wilberger—wilbergerjs@alumni.vcu.edu

State's Attorney—Mr. Walter J. Sheffield, Esq.—wjs@wshefflaw.com

Registrar—Mr. Rich Rattan—barnesja0319@gmail.com

Chaplain—Mr. Ben Fegan—bfegan1@cox.net

Genealogist—Mr. Rich Rattan—barnesja0319@gmail.com

Historian—Mr. Gerry Culver, Jr.—Gerry.gpccpa@gmail.com

Councilor General—Mr. Walter J. Sheffield, Esq.—2020-2022—wjs@wshefflaw.com

Councillors—Col Carl Bess, Jr., USAF (ret)—2020-2022—cfbessjr@gmail.com

Mr. Taylor Cowardin—2021-2023—cowardins@aol.com

Mr. Ben Fegan—2020-2022—bfegan1@cox.net

Mr. Wes Graves—2021-2023—wesgraves@comcast.net

Dr. Kenneth Hawkins—2019-2021—drklhawkins@gmail.com

Lt. Col. Mike Lyman, USA (ret)—2020-2022—melyman@va.metrocast.net

Mr. Donald W. Moore—2019-2021—donald.w.moore@gmail.com

Dr. Michael E. Weyler—2019-2021—meweyler@aol.com

Mr. Doug Graves—2021-2023—dugmill@aol.com

Past Governors— Mr. Jerry Hubbard, Lt. Col. Mike Lyman, USA (ret), Mr. Taylor Cowardin, Mr. J. Shane Newcombe, Mr. Walter J. Sheffield, Esq.

Ancestor Memorials

Associate-Samuel P. Adams, III
Founder-Henry Adams of MA
Patriot-Lt. Samuel Adams, Sr. of CT

Associate-James M. Bayne
Founder-William Hatcher
Patriot-Edward Hatcher

Associate-Col Carl F. Bess, Jr., USAF (ret)
Founder-Dr. Patrick Napier
Patriot-Ashford Napier

Associate-Arthur Brian Cowardin
Founder-Peter Cowardine
Patriot-John Cowardine

Associate-Lewis Taylor Cowardin
Founder-Peter Cowardine
Patriot-John Cowardine

Associate-Donald L. Crossman
Founder-Robert Crossman
Patriot-Theophilus Crossman

Associate-German P. Culver, Jr.
Founder-John Tompkins
Patriot-Nathaniel Tompkins

Associate-George W.B. Elder
Founder-Robert Abernathy
Patriot-John Abernathy

Associate-Marks H. Elder
Founder-Robert Abernathy
Patriot-John Abernathy

Associate-Charles B. Fegan
Founder-Robert Moulton & son Robert
Patriot-Cpt. Freeborn Moulton & son Elijah

Associate-Dr. Hugh Erskine Fraser, III
Founder-John Barker
Patriot-Henry Barker

Associate-Asa Wesley Graves, VI
Founder-Thomas Graves
Patriot-Thomas Graves & son John

Associate-Asa Wesley Graves, VII
Founder-Thomas Graves
Patriot-Thomas Graves & son John

Associate-Asa Wesley Graves, VIII
Founder-Thomas Graves
Patriot-Thomas Graves & son John

Associate-Douglas M. Graves
Founder-Thomas Graves
Patriot-Thomas Graves & son John

Associate-Zachary N. Hall
Founder-Thomas Graves
Patriot-Thomas Graves and son John

Associate-Christopher L. Hubbard
Founder-George Hubbard
Patriot-Peter Hubbard

Associate-Donnel J. "Jerry" Hubbard
Founder-George Hubbard
Patriot-Peter Hubbard

Associate-Liam Jackson Hubbard
Founder-George Hubbard
Patriot-Peter Hubbard

Associate-Nicholas J. Jewett
Founder-Maximilan Jewett
Associate-Ezekiel Jewett

Associate-Roger P. Jones
Founder-Rev. Richard Jones
Patriot-Peter Jones

Associate-Croft M. R. Kirby
Founder-Thomas Kirby
Patriot-Capt. William Kirby

Associate-Reade B. H. Kirby
Founder-Thomas Kirby
Patriot-Capt. William Kirby

Associate-Taylor T. L. Kirby
Founder-Thomas Kirby
Patriot-Capt. William Kirby

Associate-Wade H. O. Kirby
Founder-Thomas Kirby
Patriot-Capt. William Kirby

Associate- Lt. Col. Myron "Mike" E. Lyman, USA (ret)
Founder-Richard Lyman
Patriot-Ozias Lyman

Associate-Robert S. Marks
Founder-Robert Abernathy
Patriot-John Abernathy

Associate- Col Judson P. Mason, Jr.
Founder-Sampson Mason
Patriot-James Mason

Associate-Donald W Moore
Founder-Edmund Moore
Patriot-Tully Moore

Continued on next page

Ancestor Memorials

Associate-Harry C. Redd III
Founder-Col. William Claiborne
Patriot-Maj. Bullar Claiborne

Associate-Robert W. Robbins
Founder-Robert Chandler
Patriot-Robert Chandler

Associate-Thomas W. Sale III
Founder-William Sale
Patriot-Robert Sale, Jr.

Associate-Thomas W. Sale IV
Founder-William Sale
Patriot-Robert Sale, Jr.

Associate-John Courtney Sheffield II
Founder-Col. Robert Wynne II
Patriot-John Winn, Sr. & son Peter Winn

Associate-John Courtney Sheffield III
Founder-Col. Robert Wynne II
Patriot-John Winn, Sr. & son Peter Winn

Associate-Walter Alexander “Zander” Sheffield
Founder-Col. Robert Wynne II
Patriot-John Winn, Sr. & son Peter Winn

Associate-Walter Jervis Sheffield, Esq.
Founder-Col. Robert Wynne II
Patriot-John Winn, Sr. & son Peter Winn

Associate-John H. Stevens
Founder-John Stevens
Patriot-David Stevens

Associate-Lee Swift
Founder-William Swift (Swyft)
Patriot-Barzillai Swift

Associate-Larry E. Tubbs
Founder-William Tubbs (Ply, MA)
Patriot-Isaac Tubbs (Lyme, CT)

Associate-Eugene A. Walker
Founder-Capt. Samuel Walker
Patriot-Sgt. Timothy Walker

Associate-Dr. Michael E. “Mike” Weyler
Founder-Simon Stone
Patriot-David Stone

Associate-James Lewis Wheeler
Founder-George Wheeler & son William
Patriot-Sgt. Timothy Wheeler, Sr.

Associate-Cranston Williams, Jr.
Founder-Ambrose Cobbs & Robert Cobbs
Patriot-Capt. Robert Lewis Cobbs

Please Remember

VA OFPA has several wreaths, a parade banner and an OFPA flag which can be used by any VA OFPA Associate at an event. It is a good way to let people know you are an OFPA member. And, the VA OFPA has two magnetic signs that can be placed on cars if you are in a parade that allows autos. Contact Bob and Vicki Kendall.

If you participate in an activity where you are identified as an OFPA Associate, please advise the Governor and Secretary. Save a copy of the program, and a photograph of your participation if possible. If you write an article, save a copy and send to Governor Weyler and Secretary Wilberger to be included in the annual Governor's report.

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The Virginia Cavalier is an official publication of the Virginia Society of the Order of Founders and Patriots of America (VA OFPA). It is a newsletter published in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Material which is original with The Cavalier may be published and/or quoted in whole or in part with attribution. Inquiries and requests for information should be made to the Editor at the return address shown herein.

The Order of Founders and Patriots is on Facebook. Like at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Founders-and-Patriots-of-America/212618818770058>

The VA OFPA web site is www.vaofpa.org. Donald Moore is our webmaster and has recently updated it. Take a look at a great web site!

This is how the OFPA Handbook describes the OFPA flag.

"SECTION 3. COLORS. The colors of the Order shall consist of the National Colors or Flag as prescribed by an Act of Congress, and the colors of the flag of the Order. The latter shall be cross, Gules, on a field, Argent, with canton, Azure, a constellation of thirteen stars, Argent."



Above—OFPA Flag

