

# THE VIRGINIA CAVALIER

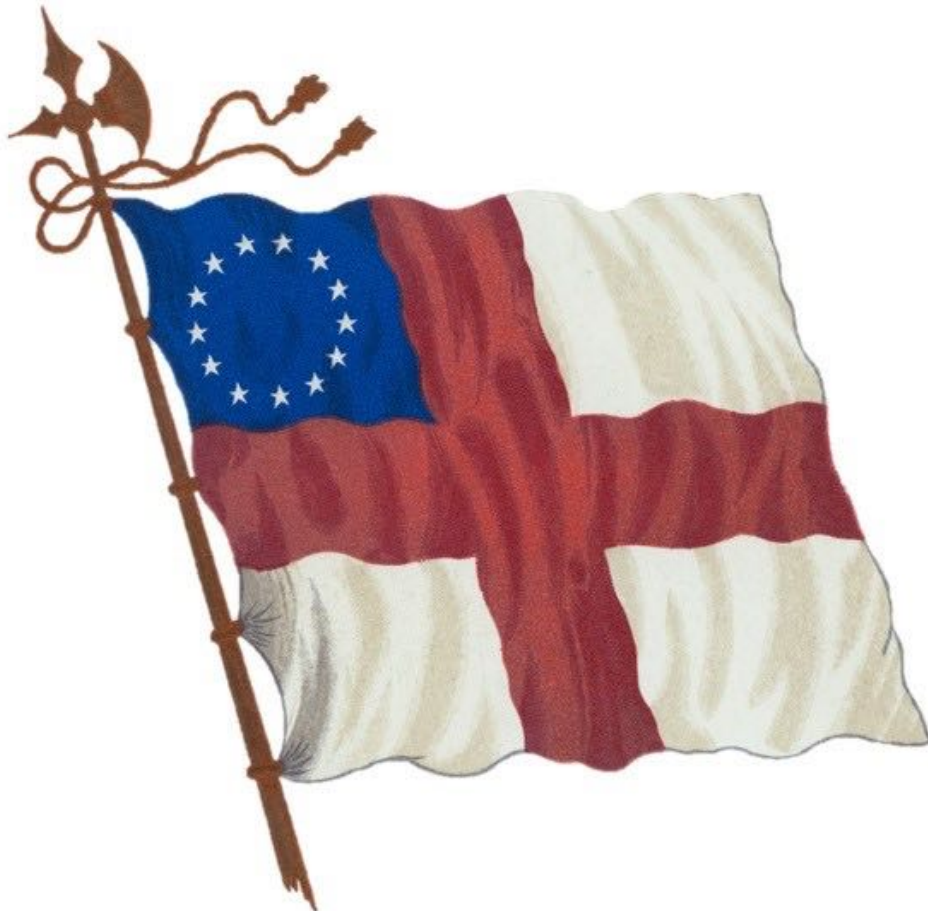


*The Virginia Society, Order of Founders and Patriots of America*



Vol. 17, No. 3

Fall 2022





## Significant & Noteworthy News



### Governor's Report on the Third Quarter of 2022

As we start into the fourth quarter of 2022, our focus will be our Fall Membership Meeting on October 19, Yorktown Victory Day in Yorktown, Virginia. We are encouraging maximum participation by all Virginia Associates.

The events of that day will start with the presentation of wreaths at the tomb of Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr., the Victory Day Parade down Main Street, and our luncheon meeting at the Riverwalk Restaurant on the York River. An important part of that meeting will be the nomination and election of VA OFPA Officers for the next two years.

Our OFPA Governor General, Ed Horton, will be joining us for those events, will present the Order's wreath, march in the OFPA parade unit, and will be our guest speaker at the luncheon. He will also install our VA OFPA Officers for the 2023-2024 term,

Also joining us at the luncheon will be the Sons of the American Revolution President General Bruce Pickette and his wife.

We want to show these two lineage society senior officers that the Virginia OFPA is vital to the spread of the OFPA message in Virginia.

If you have not already responded to the meeting invitation you received on September 1, I would encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

I am looking forward to seeing you there.

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



## Significant & Noteworthy News



### The Battle of Green Springs



On July 6, 2022, the Williamsburg Chapter of the Virginia SAR sponsored a commemoration of the Battle of Green Springs. The event was held at the Church on the Main, James City County, Virginia to commemorate the battle that took place on July 6, 1781. The Battle of Green Springs, also known as the Battle of Jamestowne, was the largest Revolutionary War battle in Virginia prior to the Siege of Yorktown.

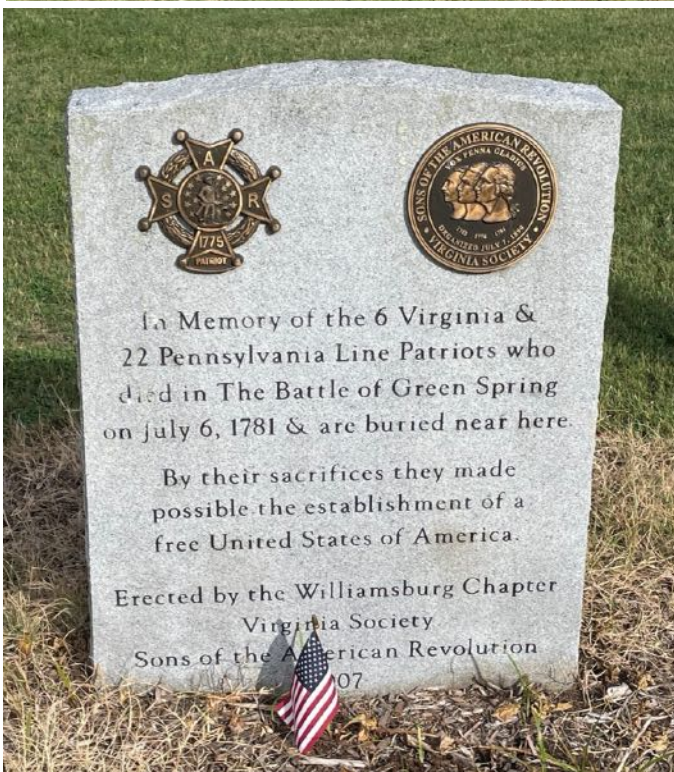
The Virginia OFPA was represented by Deputy Governor Dr. Kenneth Hawkins, who brought greetings and presented our Virginia OFPA wreath. Also present was Associate Tim Ahlgrim. (Ken and Tim, l/r, in the photo)

At the battle, the elite of the British Army under Cornwallis ambushed a portion of the Patriot Army, a collection of Virginia Militia and Continental troops from Pennsylvania, under the command of General Anthony Wayne.

After some intense fighting, the Patriot's advanced to take a British cannon that showed signs of withdrawal. It was, however, a trap to draw the Patriots in, where they were taking fire from both flanks. This was when General Wayne ordered a charge. This charge earned Wayne the nickname "Mad," because it was madness to charge against such overwhelming odds.

However, the charge stalled the British long enough that the Continentals to retreat. The battle ended at dusk with the British holding the field, but Cornwallis chose not to pursue the fleeing Patriot Army.

Some have hypothesized that had Cornwallis chosen in stead to pursue to Patriot Army, he stood a good change of destroying Lafayette's Army, which could have meant a different outcome in Yorktown.





## Significant & Noteworthy News



### **246th Anniversary of the Battle of Cricket Hill**



On July 9, 2022, the James Monroe Chapter and the Richard Henry Lee Chapters of the Virginia SAR co-sponsored the celebration of the 246th Anniversary of the Battle of Cricket Hill, also known as the Battle of Gwynn's Island.

In the spring of 1776, John Murray, the 4th Earl of Dunmore and the last royal governor of Virginia was driven out of the Governor's Palace, and repelled from Norfolk at the Battle of Great Bridge. Lord Dunmore and his entourage of British Troops, loyalists and slaves who were promised freedom for allegiance to Britain, sailed out of

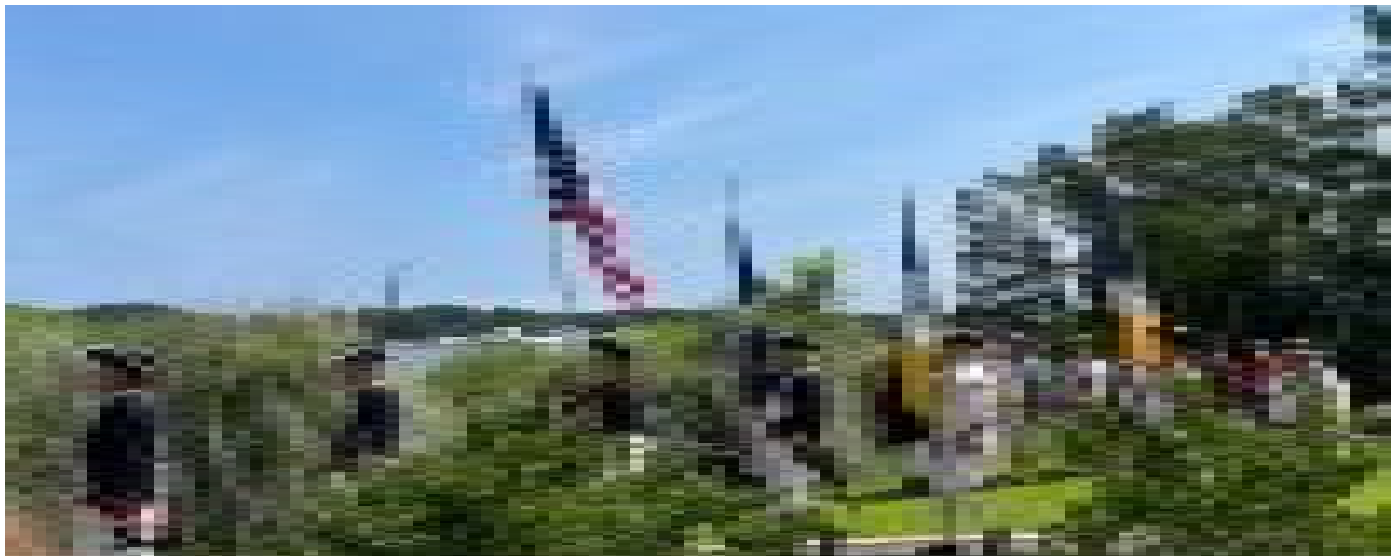
Norfolk on British ships, moored in Milford Haven and set up a base of operations on Gwynn's Island.

After six weeks of relative calm, on July 9, Patriot Brigadier General Andrew Lewis and his men opened fire with a battery of 18- and 9-pound cannon, quickly placing a dozen rounds into the hull of Dunmore's flagship and wounding Dunmore. The cannonade lasted about two hours.

Overnight, Lord Dunmore quietly weighed anchor and fled from Gwynn's Island, never again to return to Virginia. He left behind hundreds of dead and sick slaves who were ravaged by disease including small pox.

This was a signal victory for the Patriots just days after the Second Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4.

In spite of torrential rains, this year's ceremony proceeded under the cover of a nearby marina porch. The Virginia OFPA was represented by our Deputy Governor Dr. Kenneth Hawkins, who presented greetings and placed our society's wreath. The event was well attended by a number of lineage societies, including a number of SAR chapters, DAR chapters and War of 1812 societies.





## Significant & Noteworthy News



### 248th Commemoration of the Signing of the Fairfax Resolves



On July 23, 2022, at the historic Pohick Church, located on US Route 1 in Lorton, Virginia, the Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the Virginia SAR sponsored a commemoration of the signing of the Fairfax Resolves in July of 1774. Governor Michael E. Weyler (photo left) represented the Virginia OFPA, gave our greetings and presented our wreath.

A focus of the event was George Mason, the principle author of Fairfax Resolves. George Mason's resolutions rejected the British Parliament's claim of supreme authority over the American colonies.

Each colony had its own legislature, each of which was responsible for taxation in its own colony. Since the colonies had no representation in Parliament, this led to the slogan: "no taxation without representation."

The commemoration ceremony at Pohick Church concluded with a plaque dedication to four of the twenty-five signers of the Fairfax Resolves who are buried in the Pohick Cemetery.

VA OFPA Governor Weyler's greetings focused on George Mason. His remarks were, as follows:

*Good morning, and greetings, as we honor the memory of a true Patriot, George Mason, principal author of the Fairfax Resolves.*

*But neither George Mason's story, nor the story of America, began with the Fairfax Resolves and the Revolution. George Mason's story began more than a century and a half before the Revolution.*

*Our George Mason we honor today was actually the fourth George Mason here in America. So who was the first George Mason?*

*He was a soldier in the English Civil War, who took up arms against the British Parliament. The army of which he was a part was defeated by the pro-Parliament forces. His life being in danger, he emigrated to Virginia in 1652, where, as a Founder, he established a new life and a legacy for his descendants.*

*We can see that defiance of the British Parliament was passed down from George Mason the Founder to his great grandson George Mason the Patriot.*

*Today we can honor both the Founder and the Patriot for their defiance of the British Parliament, as reflected in the Fairfax Resolves.*



## Significant & Noteworthy News



### **241st Anniversary of the Battle of the Virginia Capes**

Saturday, September 3, 2022 was a beautiful end-of-summer day in Southeastern Virginia where over 150 people gathered at the bronze statue of French Admiral de Grasse to commemorate the 241<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of the Virginia Capes. The statue was a gift from France and recognizes the Admiral's singular naval victory over the British Royal Navy. Making it especially eventful was the international patriotism displayed as the majority of attendees at this Norfolk Chapter SAR event were French military personnel and their families.

The Battle of the Capes was a crucial battle in the Revolutionary War. Rear Adm Sir Thomas Graves led a British fleet of 19 ships of the line against a French fleet of 24 ships of the line led by Vice Adm Francois Joseph Paul, Comte de Grasse. The Continental Navy did not participate. The outcome of the battle was strategically decisive as it prevented the British from reinforcing or evacuating Lord Cornwallis' forces at Yorktown. The French then, were able to gain control of the entrance to the Virginia Capes and led to the British surrender at Yorktown just a month later. Christopher Melhuish, in a Virginian-Pilot article, stated, "Decisive local superiority at sea assured by de Grasse's ships sealed the fate of the British Army at Yorktown. British strategy had assumed the Royal Navy would maintain continuity of naval superiority in North America. When the Royal Navy lost that, Britain lost America."





## Significant & Noteworthy News



### **241st Anniversary of the Battle of the Virginia Capes**

Deputy Governor Dr. Kenneth Hawkins was the Master of Ceremony for the presentation of wreaths which began with Rear Adm. Hilaire Ducellier, the ranking French officer, presenting a wreath at the base of the de Grasse statue. Twenty-five other organization also presented wreaths. Past Governor Mike Lyman presented a wreath for the Order of Founders and Patriots of America. Other VA OFPA Associates present were Michael Rhodes and Tim Ahlgrim.

The guest speaker was Captain Chris Melhuish, USN (Ret) who spoke in detail of the Battle of the Capes and it's consequences. Captain Melhuish, also VASSAR Color Guard Commander, had been, as one of his active duty assignments, the Commanding Officer of the USS Constitution, i.e, Old Ironsides, the oldest commissioned ship in the U.S. Navy.



Photos:

Left, Admiral Comte de Grasse

Lower left, l/r, Michael Rhodes, Mike Lyman

Lower right, l/r, Deputy Governor Hawkins

and Captain Chris Melhuish





## Significant & Noteworthy News



### **Founding of the Fairfax Independent Company of Volunteers**

On September 24, 2022, outside the Historic Fairfax County Courthouse, the Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the Virginia SAR held its inaugural commemoration of the Founding of the Fairfax Independent Company of Volunteers.

The Fairfax Independent Company was an independent militia established by George Mason on September 21, 1774, and commanded by George Washington.

When Virginia's Royal Governor dissolved the House of Burgesses in May 1774, the assembly was denied the chance to renew the expired militia law. Mason convinced fellow gentlemen and freeholders in Fairfax County to adopt a resolution to "form ourselves into a Company, not exceeding one hundred Men, by the Name of The Fairfax Independent Company of Volunteers."

Virginia OFPA Associate Jeff Thomas brought greetings and presented the VA OFPA wreath.



In his greetings, Jeff reminded those gathered that the Virginia Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America honors not only Patriots such as George Mason, but also their Founder Ancestors who came to America 400 years ago and began the legacy of liberty that the Patriots of the American Revolution inherited, a legacy which prompted to George Mason to create the Fairfax Independent Company of Volunteers because the Royal Governor had denied the Virginia patriots a government supported militia.

*Our George Mason we honor today was actually the fourth George Mason here in America. He was a soldier in the English Civil War, who took up arms against the British Parliament. The army of which he was a part was defeated by the pro-Parliament forces. His life being in danger, he emigrated to Virginia in 1652, where, as a Founder, he established a new life and a legacy of independence for his descendants.*

*We can see that defiance of the British rule was passed down from George Mason the Founder to his great grandson George Mason the Patriot, who took personal initiative to provide protection for his community.*

*Today we can honor both the Founder for the legacy of liberty and the Patriot for standing against the Royal Governor's disregard for the safety of the citizens of Virginia..*



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

## **Officers and Councillors--Terms between 2020-2023**

### **Officers—Effective January 1, 2022**

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

Deputy Governor—Dr. Kenneth L. Hawkins—drklhawkins@gmail.com

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

Secretary—Mr. James F. Russell—jimrussell1948@yahoo.com

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

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

Chaplain—Mr. Terry R. Krebs—terryrkrebs@gmail.com

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

Mr. D. Jerry Hubbard—2022-2024—hubbarddj@comcast.net

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

Mr. Donald W. Moore—2022-2024—donald.w.moore@gmail.com

Mr. James F. Russell—202-2024—jimrussell1948@yahoo.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**-James M. Bayne  
**Founder**-William Hatcher  
**Patriot**-Edward Hatcher

**Associate**-Randall Hall Chandler  
**Founder**-Robert Chandler  
**Patriot**-David Chandler

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

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

**Associate**-Lewis Turner Cowardin II  
**Founder**-Peter Cowardine  
**Patriot**-John Cowardine

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

**Associate**-George W.B. 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**-Kenneth L. Hawkins  
**Founder**-William Hawkins  
**Patriot**-Benoni Hawkins

**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**-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**-Roger H. W. Kirby  
**Founder**-Thomas Kirby  
**Patriot**-Capt. William Kirby

**Associate**-Terry Robert Krebs  
**Founder**-John Benson Sr. and son John  
**Patriot**-Job Benson and son Elihu

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

**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 (continued)

**Associate**-Bruce Edward Munger Sr.  
**Founder**-Nicholas Munger CT  
**Patriot**-Maj. Timothy Munger, Madison CT

**Associate**-J. Shane Newcombe  
**Founder**-Capt. James Allen  
**Patriot**-Maj.-Capt. Richard Allen

**Associate**-Terrence Frederick O'Rourke  
**Founder**-Thomas Stoughton MA  
**Patriot**-Maj. Oliver Stoughton, CT

**Associate**-Richard Travis Rattan  
**Founder**-Richard Higdon  
**Patriot**-John Higdon

**Associate**-Richard Volney Rattan  
**Founder**-Richard Higdon  
**Patriot**-John Higdon

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

**Associate**-James Francis Russell II  
**Founder**-Nicholas George  
**Patriot**-Spencer George

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

**Associate**-John Hadley 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 Jarvis 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 III  
**Founder**-William Swift (Swyft)  
**Patriot**-Barzillai Swift

**Associate**-Jeffrey Thomas  
**Founder**-Thomas Burton  
**Patriot**-Isaac Joseph Burton

**Associate**-Billy "Cowboy" Ogden Wadsworth  
**Founder**-Thomas Kirby  
**Patriot**-Sgt. Capt. William Kirby

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

**Associate**-Dr. Michael E. 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.

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 Russell to be included in the annual Governor's report.

#### Society Officers

**Governor:** Dr. Michael E. Weyler  
meweyler@aol.com

**Deputy Governor:** Dr. Kenneth L. Hawkins  
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**Secretary:** **James F. Russell**  
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The Order of Founders and Patriots is on Facebook. Like at:

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

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The VA OFPA web site is [www.vaofpa.org](http://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

