



# THE VIRGINIA CAVALIER



The Virginia Society, Order of Founders and Patriots of America



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*Input or comments are welcome at any time.*

- Cover: Virginia reenactors engaging at the Skirmish at Kemps' Landing and Battle of Great Bridge. Photos by Billy Simmons

# Governor's Report on the Fourth Quarter of 2025



Our Virginia doors will always be open to his Society in the hope that our Order will flourish once again in our nation's capital. And, lastly, it was my honor to surprise our Treasurer, J. Shane Newcombe, with the Cavalier Award, in recognition of all that he has done for our Society. How thankful we all are for his continued leadership in the OFPA at both our State and National level.

At the beginning of my term as your Governor, I expressed my desire that we use the year 2025 to build our profile as a historical society throughout the State of Virginia. And from my perspective, as having just completed the Governor's Report for 2025, I am proud to say that all of you responded very well. Soon, I will be presenting an official summary of our past year that will show a Grand Total of points for the Parish Award of at least 191 points. Our winning Grand Total for last year was 130.5 points. This represents an increase of 46% over 2024. Our Community Affairs points for 2025 reflect an increase of 88% over 2024. Our ROTC/JROTC Award points will reflect an increase of 37% over 2024. Thank you to all of you who made this happen for us.

In the year 2025, we demonstrated an exceptional dedication to preserving history and education, fostering community relationships, building our brotherhood, and promoting the mission of the OFPA. And now we all get to look forward to an outstanding year ahead in which we will represent our Order with heartfelt conviction as we join with our country in celebrating the 250th Anniversary of our nation's Independence.

My best wishes to all of you for the New Year!  
Hussah!!

Philip Barnard  
Governor, Virginia Society of the Order of Founders and Patriots of America.

Greetings to my distinguished brethren of the OFPA!

Our Fall/Winter season has really finished with a bang! It felt as if all of Virginia followed the paths of our patriot ancestors down to the lower neck areas of Norfolk, Hampton, Virginia Beach, and Chesapeake, where the first skirmishes and battles of the Revolutionary War exploded onto the scene. We applaud the leadership of our esteemed officers, Tim Ahlgrim, Ken Hawkins, and Bob Bruce, in helping to make each of these 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events memorable and successful.

Our Fall meeting at the Riverwalk Restaurant in Yorktown on October 19<sup>th</sup> was most enjoyable. Jim Bish was an outstanding speaker who showed his capability to adapt his presentation from the subject of his most recent book to the *Virginia in 1775* period we were currently celebrating. In addition, we demonstrated our commitment to building the Order outside of our borders with the presence of Ron Phillips, the Governor of the District of Columbia OFPA. I was especially gratified at seeing Ron have the opportunity to speak directly to our Society.

# Upcoming Statewide Events

**The following is a compilation of observances and ceremonies being held Nationally and Statewide by many of the Societies that the Virginia OFPA interacts with. Please check with the local Society chapter or entity before making any travel or attendance plans.**

January 4, 2026, Sunday, (11:15 am) - Commemoration of the Battle of Princeton at the Princeton Battlefield State Park, 500 Mercer St., Princeton, NJ.

January 10th, 2026, Saturday, (2:00 pm) - Wreath Laying for General George Weedon – hosted by the Col Fielding Lewis Chapter, VASSAR at 998 Charles St., Fredericksburg, VA

January 17th, 2026, Saturday, (10:00 am) - 245<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens, hosted by the Daniel Morgan Chapter SCSSAR & U.S. National Park Service, being held at the Cowpens National Battlefield, 338 New Pleasant Road, Gaffney, SC

January 31st, 2026, Saturday, (11:00 am) - Commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the Burning of Norfolk, hosted by the Norfolk Chapter, VASSAR and Great Bridge NSDAR and C.A.R. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 201 St Paul's Blvd., Norfolk, VA

February 14th, 2026, Saturday, (2:00 pm) - The Annual George Washington Birthday Parade, hosted by the George Washington Chapter VASSAR, starting in Historic Old Town Alexandria, VA at the at the corner of Gibbon and Fairfax Streets.

February 14th, 2026, Saturday, (10:00 am) - Multiday commemoration of the 1781 Crossing of the Dan River in South Boston, VA and hosted by the Dan River Chapter, VASSAR.,

February 27th, 2026, Friday, (10:00 am) - The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge 250th Anniversary Celebration, hosted by the Lower Cape Fear Chapter, NCSSAR at Moore's Creek Battlefield, 200 Moores Creek Dr, Currie, NC 28435

April 18th, 2026, Saturday, (10:00 am) - 73rd NATO Fest Parade of Nations, City of Norfolk, VA

April 18th, 2026, Saturday (11:00 am) - Commemoration of John Champe & Battles of Lexington & Concord, hosted by the Sgt Maj John Champe Chapter, VASSAR at the Champe Farm at the intersection of Champe Ford Road and State Route 50, across from the Cana Winery

May 23rd, 2026, Saturday, (8:00 am) - Revolutionary War Encampment hosted by the Sgt Maj John Champe Chapter, VASSAR at the Franklin Regional Park, 17501 Franklin Park Dr., Purcellville, VA 20132

May 30th, 2026, Saturday, (11:00 am) - Commemoration of General Anthony Wayne's Crossing of the Potomac, hosted by the Sgt Maj John Champe Chapter, VASSAR at Lucketts Community Park, immediately south of Lucketts Elementary School, 14550 James Monroe Hwy, Leesburg, VA 20176

***Of continuing note: the State of Virginia is hosting a site for all activities connected to our 250th anniversary. Go to: [Virginia American Revolution 250 Commemoration - Explore](#) for more information.***

## Society Events

### Thomas Nelson, Jr. Gravesite Ceremony



The annual Commemorative Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the grave of Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr., sponsored by the Thomas Nelson, Jr. Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution was held at the Grace Episcopal Church in historic Yorktown on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Presenting the wreath was Governor Barnard, Secretary Tim Ahlgrim, Councilor Bob Bruce, Stuart Whithead and Michael Wilson.

### Fall 2025 Virginia Society Meeting and Luncheon

The 2025 Fall State Society membership meeting was held at the Riverwalk Restaurant. In attendance was Governor Philip Barnard, Secretary Tim Ahlgrim,

Historian Gerry Culver, Treasurer Shane Newcombe, Registrar Rich Rattan, Councilor General Mike Weyler, Councilor Robert Bruce, Associates Raynor Duncombe, Doug Evans, Christian Kendall, Max Kendall, John Lynch, John R. Taylor, Daniel Warren, Jay Whay, Stuart Whithead, and Michael Wilson. Guests included Ron Phillips, Governor, District of Columbia Society, OFPA and his wife Kristine, guest speaker Jim Bish, Diane Barnard, Elaina Warren, Peter Hill, Katherine Weyler, Sherry Berry, Jenny Lou Newcombe, Elana Hill, JoDell and Jocelynn Wilson, Jill Culver, Janice Duncombe, Carol Evans, Vicki Kendall, Maya Kendall, and Elaina Warren.

Society Chaplain Terry Krebs gave the Invocation and Michael Wilson led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. After officer reports were given, Governor Barnard introduced our special guests, Ron Phillips, the Governor of the District of Columbia Society and his wife Kristine.



Governor Barnard nominated Councilor Robert Bruce to replace Douglas Hall as Deputy Governor which was approved unanimously by the attending membership and he was immediately sworn in.



After lunch was served, our guest speaker, Jim Bish, author of “The Truth Behind the George Washington” provided anecdotes of the Revolutionary War.



Following Jim’s presentation, Douglas James Evans was inducted into the Virginia Society and Treasurer and former Governor Shan Newcombe received the Cavalier Award from Governor Barnard as recognition of all his hard work through the years in support of the Society.

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## Re-internment of Eliza Monroe, Daughter of James Monroe

On October 23, 2025, and representing the Society at the re-internment of Eliza Monroe, daughter of James Monroe who died in Paris, France in 185 years ago and part of the Honor Guard, was Virginia Society Associate John Lynch along with Jim Cordes, Paul Christensen, Gary Dunaway and Barry Schwoerer.



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## 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Hampton



On October 26<sup>th</sup>, the Society was represented by Secretary Tim Ahlgrim who presented our wreath to commemorate the Battle of Hampton, which was the first significant Revolutionary War clash in Virginia.

## Society Events

Sparked by a dispute over enslaved people seeking freedom with the British and the Patriots' seizure of a grounded British tender. British Captain Matthew Squire attacked Hampton, but local militia, bolstered by reinforcements, successfully repelled the assault, inflicting the first British casualties in Virginia and proving the colonists' resolve, pushing Virginia towards rebellion and independence. Also in attendance were former Governors Ken Hawkins and Mike Weyler along with Deputy Governor Bob Bruce and Associate Stu Whitehead.

leadership and OFPA spirit that we strive to preserve here in the Virginia Society.

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### Admiral George Dewey Commemoration



Associate Michael Wilson represented the Virginia Society at the Dewey Dinner in Washington, DC on October 30, 2025. This event was hosted by the District of Columbia Society of the OFPA in honor of one of our most esteemed former Governor Generals, Admiral George Dewey and an important kick-off event for the rebuilding of the District of Columbia Society. Governor, Ron Phillips, is a central figure in bringing it back to prosperity.

We, at the Virginia Society, are proud to assist them in any way that we can and having Michael Wilson represent us on this occasion set a fine example of the

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### Skirmish at Kemps' Landing

On November 16th, the Virginia Society of the OFPA participated in the commemoration of the



250th Anniversary of the Skirmish at Kemp's Landing hosted by the Norfolk Chapter SAR. This skirmish marked the first loss of Virginia Patriots in defense of the colony. In village, and after engagement, Lord Dunmore, the Royal Governor of Virginia issued an infamous proclamation declaring martial law and freeing all slaves and indentured servants of Patriots. Governor Phillip Barnard presented the Society wreath. Also in attendance was past Governor Kenneth Hawkins, Secretary Tim Ahlgrim and Associate Stuart Whitehead.



# Society Events

## James City County Committee of Observation

Past Governor Dr. Kenneth Hawkins presented the Virginia Society's wreath at the commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the Establishment of the James City County Committee of Observation on Sunday, November 25th. The event was sponsored by the Williamsburg Chapter of the SAR in conjunction with the James City County Parks and Recreation Department at Freedom Park in James City County, VA. This committee was established in response to the First Continental Congress' calling for a complete ban on trade with Great Britain and the establishment of local committees of observation to enforce the ban. Twenty-nine freeholders were elected to the committee.

## Battle of Great Bridge



A ceremony marking the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Great Bridge, co-hosted by the Great Bridge Chapters of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution, was held at Battlefield Park on December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Monument dedicated by the DAR to commemorate the Patriot soldiers who fought for our freedom. On hand to represent the Virginia Society OFPA was former Governors Mike Weyler, Ken



Hawkins, Deputy Governor Bob Bruce, Secretary Tim Ahlgrim, and Associates Stuart Whitehead.

# In Memoriam



Charles T. "CT" Rattan passed away on December 12, 2025 at his home on Sterling Pond in Parishville, NY after a long battle with cancer. Born June 18, 1946 in Dallas, Texas, he traveled extensively growing up the son of the late US Army Colonel Volney Rattan and Frances Eddy-Rattan. He considered his roots in Texas, but his home was Sterling Pond. He went to High School in Prince George, Virginia and graduated from North Carolina Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

In 1988 he married Penelope "Penny" A. Goldsmith. Together, they made Sterling Pond their home for the past 37 years. Prior to moving to the North Country, CT briefly taught high school history in NC and was a Boy Scouts of America executive in Ithaca NY. In the early 1970s he moved to Natural Bridge, NY and became the Town Justice of Diana. In 1977 he acquired the Nationwide Insurance agency in Gouverneur, NY which he operated for 40 years. He was proud to have been a two-time president of the Gouverneur Rotary Club.

CT liked to spend time attending auctions and working in his shop refurbishing antique hand planes and fishing lures. An avid hunter and fisherman, he was a member of the Morewood Fish and Game Club and the Parishville Sportsman Club. He was also a member the St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum and AMVETS Post 265. Most recently CT volunteered his time working in the gift shop at Canton Potsdam Hospital. He is remembered for his keen sense of humor, plaid flannel shirts and "trucker suspenders".

CT had many obstacles to overcome after his extensive surgeries which he did with loving support from his family and Sterling Pond neighbors. He lived through his final years with determination and a positive attitude. As he liked to say, "I'm doing pretty good for an old-guy".

CT is survived by his wife, Penny; daughter, Kristina Champ; son, John Ives and his wife Susan; brother, Richard Rattan and his wife Effie; a nephew, several grandchildren, and close family friend Steven Ashlaw.

The family thanks Lawrence Kring, MD and Donna Gokey, NP for their care and support.

A celebration of CT's life will be held on Saturday January 31, 2026 between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. at the AMVETS Hall, 25 Rutman Road, Parishville, NY 13672.

# Ancestor Memorials

Associate - Samuel Preston Adams, III  
Founder - Henry Adams of Mass.  
Patriot - Lt. Samuel Adams, Sr. of CT

Associate - Timothy Francis Ahlgrim  
Founder - William Story  
Patriot - Solomon Story

Associate - Philip Edmund Barnard  
Founder - Robert Barnard  
Patriot - Joel Barnard

Associate - John R. Beranek  
Founder - Thomas Goodenow  
Patriot - David Goodenough, Jr.

Associate - Peter Edwin Broadbent, Jr.  
Founder - Richard Talbott  
Patriot - Richard Talbott

Associate - Robert Edgar Bruce, IV  
Founder - Thomas Buck I  
Patriot - Thomas Buck

Associate - William Derry Bruen, III  
Founder - Obadiah Bruen  
Patriot - David Bruen

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

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

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

Associate - Lewis Turner Cowardin, II  
Founder - Peter Carwardine  
Patriot - John Cowardin

Associate - Donald Lee Crossman  
Founder - Robert Crossman  
Patriot - Theophilus Crossman

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

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

Associate - Charles Benjamin Fegan  
Founder - Robert Moulton, and son, Robert Moulton  
Patriot - Cpt. Freeborn Moulton, & son, Elijah Moulton

Associate - Thomas A. Gibson  
Founder - William Hartwell  
Patriot - Daniel Hartwell

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

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

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

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

Associate - Zachary Nolan Hall  
Founder - Capt. Thomas Graves  
Patriot - Thomas Graves & son John Graves

Associate - Douglass R. Hall  
Founder - Richard Sawtell  
Patriot - Johnathan Sawtell, Sr

Associate - Douglas Paul Harden  
Founder - Joseph Downer  
Patriot - Joshua Downer

Associate - John Sterling Harris  
Founder - William Tuttle  
Patriot - Sylvanus Tuttle

Associate - Christopher Lee Hubbard  
Founder - George Hubbard  
Patriot - Petter Hubbard

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

Associate - Stewart Macdonald Johnston  
Founder - Isaac Sheldon  
Patriot - Amasa Sheldon

Associate - Christian Sean Kendall  
Founder - Francis Kendall  
Patriot - Lt. Josiah Kendall

Associate - Robert Bruce Kendall, II  
Founder - Francis Kendall  
Patriot - Lt. Josiah Kendall

Associate - Alexander Nicholas Kendall  
Founder - Francis Kendall  
Patriot - Lt. Josiah Kendall

# Ancestor Memorials

Associate - Maxim Christian Kendall  
Founder - Francis Kendall  
Patriot - Lt. Josiah Kendall

Associate - Robert Bruce Kendall, III  
Founder - Francis Kendall  
Patriot - Lt. Josiah Kendall

Associate - James Calvert Everall Kirby  
Founder - Thomas Kirby  
Patriot - Capt. William Kirby

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

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

Associate - Croft Moundeford Randolph Kirby  
Founder - Thomas Kirby  
Patriot - Capt. William Kirby

Associate - Taylor Thoroughgood Lawson Kirby  
Founder - Thomas Kirby  
Patriot - Capt. William Kirby

Associate - Reade Bradbury Hazzard Kirby  
Founder - Thomas Kirby  
Patriot - Capt. William Kirby

Associate - Terry Robert Krebs  
Founder - John Benson & son, John  
Patriot - Job Benson, and son, Elihu

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

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

Associate - Bruce Edward Munger, Jr.  
Founder - Nicholas Munger  
Patriot - Timothy Munger Madison

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

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

Associate - Terence Frederic O'Rourke  
Founder - Thomas Stoughton, MA  
Patriot - 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 Coleman Redd, III  
Founder - Col. William Claiborne  
Patriot - Maj. Bullar Claiborne

Associate - Walter J. "Walt" Sheffield  
Founder - Col. Robert Wynne, II  
Patriot - John Winn, Sr & son, Peter Winn

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

Associate - Lee Wilson Swift, III  
Founder - William Swift (Swyft)  
Patriot - Barzillai Swift

Associate - T. Michael Taimi  
Founder - Thomas Smith  
Patriot - James Smith

Associate - John Richard Taylor, III  
Founder - Robert Newman  
Patriot - John Newman

Associate - Jeffrey Dean Thomas  
Founder - Thomas Burton  
Patriot - Joseph Burton

Associate - Larry Eldon Tubbs  
Founder - William Tubbs  
Patriot - Isaac Tubbs

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

Associate - Dr. Daniel Churchman "Dan" Warren  
Founder - Thomas Warren  
Patriot - William Warren

Associate - Dr. Michael Ernest "Mike" Weyler  
Founder - Simon Stone  
Patriot - David Stone

Associate - Michael Bradley Wilson  
Founder - Edward Fuller  
Patriot - Cornelius Fuller, II



# OFPA GENERAL COURT 2026

PHILADELPHIA MAY 28-31 2026



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(FORMERLY THE FOUR SEASONS)**

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