

Vol. 5, No 5

Special Edition 2010

## Next VA OFPA Meeting

**Saturday, March TBD 2011**  
**Location TBD**

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### Welcome to our Newest Members

#### **Robert Angust Whitehead**

Founder—Captain Thomas Carter came to Lancaster County, Virginia on or about 1653

Patriot—Raleigh Carter of Amelia County, Virginia who furnished supplies to the Continental Army

#### **Jei-Brandon Lamar Benz**

Jei requested full membership from Youth Associate to Associate. He has been a Youth Associate in the VA OFPA for ten years.

Founder—George Hubbard of Guilford, CT

Patriot—Peter Hubbard of Holden, MA

Welcome Associates Whitehead and Benz to one of the premier Societies in the Order!

### **In Memoriam**

**Associate Rev. Everett F. Briggs, L.H.D.**

**Virginia Society OFPA # 183**

Founder Ancestor: John Briggs, Sr.

Patriot Ancestor, Isaac Briggs

Associate Rev. Briggs was assigned to Japan in 1932 as a Catholic Maryknoll Missionary. He founded and was pastor of St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church in Otsu City. St. Mary's was the first Catholic Church built in this

territory since the 16th century. Rev. Briggs family has a history of service to God. Brother Arthur was a missionary to China, one cousin was a missionary to Korea and another was a missionary to Pakistan. Rev. Briggs himself somehow felt fated to follow another cousin, Rev. Francis C. Briggs, the last foreign pilot on Japan's Inland Sea, as Captain of the Fukuin Maru (Gospel Ship).

After the war started, Rev. Briggs was taken prisoner and while interned he went on a hunger strike in defense of abused parishioners. Since one does not fly in the face of his captors in a concentration camp, Rev. Briggs did not escape punishment. He almost lost his life.

Rev. Briggs detailed his wartime experience in one of his earliest publications, "A New Dawn In Japan," in 1948. The book was publicized by General MacArthur and became a Book of the Month Club selection.

Rev. Briggs has found time to author fourteen publications, seven of them in Japanese. He has written hundreds of poems in many forms, including the Japanese Tanka, haiku and senryu, many of which have been published in prestigious English and Japanese journals.

Fr. Briggs founded St. Barbara's Memorial Nursing home in 1961. The center was built in memory of the miners who died in a 1907 explosion described as the "Monongah Disaster."

The State of West Virginia honored Rev. Briggs by naming a bridge and a highway after him.

Fr. Briggs is a member of the O.F.P.A., S.A.R., Americans of Royal Descent, Americans of Armorial Ancestry, descended from Thomas Rogers of the Mayflower.

Rev. Briggs is a Knight Commander of the Holy Sepulchre, was awarded the Silver Palm of Jerusalem. He served as confidant and advisor to Ngo Dinh Diem, later president of South Vietnam. He remained Steadfast for God and Country.

## *Musing from the Governor*

I want to thank everyone for their outstanding assistance and participation in the events we have conducted this year. As a result we have accomplished plenty and have been rewarded well. Jerry Hubbard's five issues of this newsletter and our many e-mails have kept most of you pretty much informed of our activities. Our exposure to the other lineage societies has resulted in a great percentage increase in new members that has kept Doug Graves busy. His dedication and efficiency as Registrar has made it easy for applications to be approved. If you have not visited Don Moore's up-dates on our website, you should. He has developed a real nice one for us and kept it current. We have an Executive Committee meeting scheduled for December 12th at one pm at the Panera Bread restaurant on Broadway in Richmond. Members may attend. It is here we will come up with our activities for next year under the leadership of our new Governor, Taylor Cowardin. I just know we will continue as the best state society in the Order with him holding the reins.

Mike Lyman  
Governor

OFPA Flag at the Leland-Madison Ceremony on September 10, 2010



Councillor Will Simpson at the Leland-Madison Ceremony. Also present were Governor Mike Lyman and Associate Jim Bayne. Associate Bayne portrayed James Madison and gave the key note speech. Jim Bayne was instrumental in organizing the ceremony.

## **Future General Courts**

- |      |                  |
|------|------------------|
| 2011 | New York City    |
| 2012 | Chicago, IL      |
| 2013 | Williamsburg, VA |
| 2014 | Phoenix, Arizona |

## **The First Thanksgiving**

In December 1619, thirty-eight adventurers from Gloucestershire, England, landed in Virginia. They named their landing site "Berkley Plantation." On December 4, 1619, the first Thanksgiving in America was celebrated. The celebrated Pilgrim Fathers did not land till more than a year later.

## Notes from October meeting.

A moment of silence for departed Past Governor VA OFPA, Arthur D. Batten

During the October 17, 2010 meeting VA OFPA held an election of officers. Here are your elected officers for the term of January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012.

**Governor**—L. Taylor Cowardin

**Deputy Governor**—Francis P. Hyland

**Chaplain**—Russell C. Scott

**Secretary/Treasurer**—J. Shane Newcombe

**Registrar**—Douglas M. Graves

**Genealogist**—Joseph A. Cannon

**States Attorney**—Charles E. Phebus

**Historian**—Donnel J. Hubbard

**Councillors** were elected for a three year term from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2013.

Robert B. Kendall

Donald W. Moore

Dwight D. Lyman

Cranston Williams, Jr. was elected to fill out the remainder of Art Batten's Councillor term. The term will end December 31, 2011.

Myron E. Lyman, Sr. was elected to fill out the remainder of Art Batten's Councillor General term. The term will end December 31, 2012.,

Registrar Doug Graves reported that eight applications have been approved this year. Two more applications are in the pipe line.

The audit committee reported they had examined the VA OFPA accounts and found no discrepancies or irregularities.

James L. Wheeler and Ross Grogg were inducted by Governor Lyman and Registrar Graves.

Greetings were given from Donna Chilton Derrick, National President NSDFPA.

The following Associates and guests were present.

Cowardin, L. Taylor

Fraser III, Hugh Erskine

Graves VI, Asa W.

Graves, Douglas M.

Grogg, Ross

Hubbard, Donnel J.

Lyman, Mike

Moore, Donald W.

Scott, Russell C.

Simpson III, William L.

Wheeler, James L.

Williams Jr., Cranston

Barrick, Roderick and wife Carrie K.

Brewton, Kari Anne and husband

Cowardin, Jodi

Cranston, Marilyn

Derrick, Donna Chilton

Fraser, Fran

Graves, Glenna

Gunn, Margaret and husband Kenneth Levine

Lyman, Mary E.

Plemmons, Julie

Scott, Anne

Simpson, Jr., William L.

Simpson, Betty Jean

Simpson, Heather

Stilwell, Jan

Warden, Page

Wheeler, Virginia Helen

Williams, Sally Warner

Keynote speaker at the luncheon was William L.

Simpson, Jr. The very interesting topic was:

"The Grand Deception: How George Washington Fooled the British and Is Still Fooling Modern Historians."

All were invited to attend the special grave marking of Founders Colonel George Reade and Nicolas Martiau at Grace Episcopal Church in Yorktown. Pictures on later pages.

## 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 let the Governor know. Save a copy of the program. If you write an article, save a copy and send to Governor Lyman to be included in the annual Governor's report.

## Society Officers

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**Genealogist:** Joseph Cannon

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An example of the VA OFPA granite grave marker used to mark Founders graves. This marker is on the grave of Nicholas Martiau.

## Ancestor Memorials

Continued from page 5

**Associate** Zachary N. Hall  
**Founder** Thomas Graves  
**Patriot** John Graves

**Associate** Zachary N. Hall  
**Founder** Thomas Graves  
**Patriot** Thomas Graves

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

**Associate** Donnel J. Hubbard  
**Founder** George Hubbard  
**Patriot** Peter Hubbard

# Ancestor Memorials

**Associate** Arthur D. Batten  
**Founder** Thomas White  
**Patriot** Ebenezer White

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

**Associate** Joseph A. Cannon  
**Founder** Jeremy Adams  
**Patriot** John Adams

**Associate** A. Brian Cowardin  
**Founder** Peter Carwardine  
**Patriot** John Cowarden

**Associate** L. Taylor Cowardin  
**Founder** Peter Carwardine  
**Patriot** John Cowarden

**Associate** Asa Wesley Graves, VI  
**Founder** Thomas Graves  
**Patriot** Thomas Graves

**Associate** Douglas M. Graves  
**Founder** Thomas Graves  
**Patriot** John Graves

**Associate** Douglas M. Graves  
**Founder** Thomas Graves  
**Patriot** Thomas Graves

**Associate** Michael T. Halterman  
**Founder** Christopher Wadsworth  
**Patriot** Joseph Wadsworth

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

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

**Associate** Charles F. Lay  
**Founder** Robert Lay, I  
**Patriot** Asa Lay

**Associate** David W. Lyman  
**Founder** Thomas Elwell  
**Patriot** Jabel Elwell

**Associate** Myron "Mike" E. Lyman  
**Founder** Richard Lyman  
**Patriot** Ozias Lyman

**Associate** Donald W. Moore  
**Founder** Edmund Moore  
**Patriot** Tully Moore

**Associate** John H. Newman, Jr.  
**Founder** Thomas Newman  
**Patriot** Edmund Newman

**Associate** Robert W. Robins  
**Founder** Robert Chandler  
**Patriot** Robert Chandler

**Associate** Thomas W. Sale, Jr.,  
**Founder** William Sale  
**Patriot** Robert Sale

**Associate** Edmund L. Scarborough  
**Founder** Edmund Scarborough, I  
**Patriot** Americus Scarborough, II

**Associate** George Y. Scarborough  
**Founder** Edmund Scarborough, I  
**Patriot** Americus Scarborough, II

**Associate** William C. Schrader, III  
**Founder** Leonard Calvert  
**Patriot** George Calvert

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

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

**Associate** Cranston Williams, Jr.  
**Founder** Robert Cobbs  
**Patriot** Capt. Robert Lewis Cobbs

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Associate Jei Brandon Benz (left) graduated from Marine Corps Basic training on Friday September 17, 2010. Congratulations Marine! ARRUGAH!

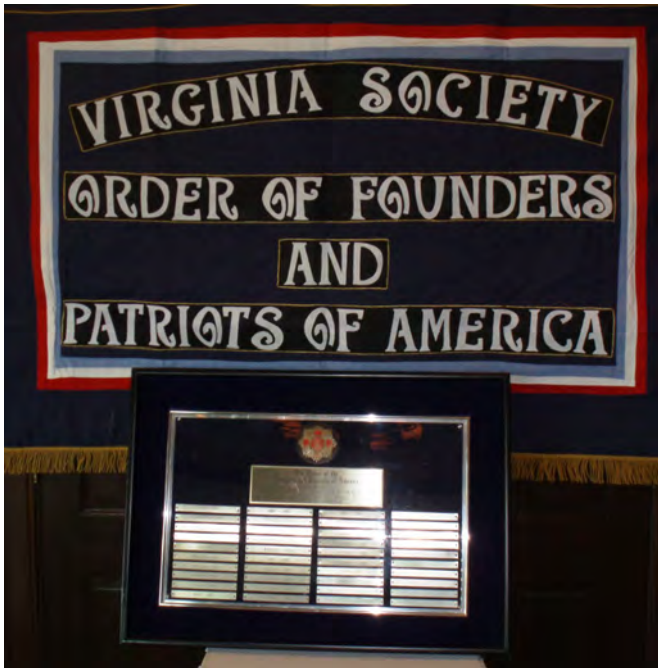
Governor Lyman inducting Associates James Wheeler and Ross Grogg. Virginia Wheeler is standing by to "pin" James with a rosette.





Participants at the Martiau and Reade grave markings.  
Governor Lyman laying a wreath on Governor Nelson's grave .





VA OFPA banner with the Parrish Award.



Governor-elect Cowardin taking his oath of office.



Governor Lyman representing VA OFPA at a grave marking on October 8, 2010.



NSDFPA National President Donna Chilton Derrick delivering greetings and laying a wreath at the grave marking.



Right—Cranston Williams, Jr. talking about his ancestor Col. George Reade.

Below—from right to left  
Taylor Cowardin, Jim Wheeler and Past VAS-  
SAR President William Simpson, Jr.





Jerry Hubbard, Mike Lyman, Shirley Hubbard, Charles Hampton and Jim Wheeler ready to march in the Yorktown Day Parade.

To all Associates,

**Happy Thanksgiving**

**Merry Christmas**

**Happy New Year**

Keep yourself safe until we meet again.