

2021 Commemoration of the Victory at the Battle of Great Bridge

On Saturday, November 4, 2021, at Great Bridge Battlefield Park in Chesapeake, Virginia, at the site of the Great Bridge over the Elizabeth River, the Virginia OFPA participated in the annual commemoration of the patriots' victory over the British forces of Royal Governor Lord Dunmore on December 9, 1775. The victory at Great Bridge led to the eventual expulsion of Lord Dunmore from Virginia and the end of British rule in Virginia.



The event, which was the 11th Annual National Society SAR Commemoration of the battle, was jointly sponsored by the SAR and DAR. In addition to the Sons of the American Revolution President General David Wright, other participants from the SAR, the DAR, the C.A.R, and several other lineage and historical societies, from both Virginia and North Carolina, presented at least 37 wreaths at the Great Bridge Monument, with the Virginia OFPA wreath being presented by Governor Michael Weyler.

The Master of Ceremonies for the commemoration was Dr. Kenneth Hawkins, Past President of the Norfolk Chapter, VASSAR and Deputy Governor of the Virginia Society OFPA.

During his greetings, the VASSAR President and Virginia OFPA Associate Jeff Thomas reminded those assembled of the outsized impact the battle had on the course of the Revolution. "The battle has been described as one of the earliest, smallest, shortest and least known, yet most important of actions of the Revolution precisely because it drove the British out of Norfolk and ultimately out of Virginia."



L/R: SAR PG David Wright, Ken Hawkins, Chesapeake Mayor West and Jeff Thomas