



# Liberty Gazette

*"Give me liberty or give me death!"*

Patrick Henry - Richmond, Virginia

March 23, 1775



Spring, 2023

Richmond Chapter \* Virginia Society \* Sons of the American Revolution

## Richmond Chapter January meeting

The Chapter is off to a productive start in 2023. Our first meeting of the year took place on January 25.

Attendees were treated to Compatriot Jim Russell's presentation of the contributions of his Patriot Ancestor Benjamin Russell. Jim shared the roles Benjamin played in the Boston Tea Party, in support of the U.S. Constitution and in many significant historical events through the remainder of his life.

Thanks to Jim for sharing his time and knowledge!



Jim Russell

## Samuel Harrison Jones III honored



Samuel Harrison Jones III and Bill Haskins

Richmond Chapter Compatriot Samuel Harrison Jones III was honored for his military service at his last chapter meeting before moving out-of-state.

Samuel is authorized by the SAR to wear the war service medal for service to his country in Panama during *Operation Just Cause*.

All SAR Compatriots who've served in the U.S. military (in combat or non-combat) have earned an SAR military or war service medal.

If you've served and haven't received this honor, please notify Chris Yohn: [cy.rva.sar@gmail.com](mailto:cy.rva.sar@gmail.com) And, thank you for your service!

Photos courtesy of Beau Robertson

## Richmond Chapter at the Virginia Society annual meeting

Chris Ackiss, Richard Brooks, Philip Barnard and Chris Yohn represented the Richmond Chapter at the Virginia Society annual meeting, which took place at the Berry Hill Resort on February 10-11.

The Chapter was honored with two streamers for 100% participation in the Flag Recognition program and participation in the Flag Retirement program. Thanks to Chapter Flag Program Chairman Robert Halpern for his outstanding efforts! Also, thanks to Chapter Registrar Mark Samples and State Registrar Bill Haskins for their efforts in the Chapter receiving a member reinstatement bounty.



Berry Hill Resort  
*Photo courtesy of Beau Robertson*

Individual Richmond Chapter member recognition included:

- ◆ Mark S. Brennan, Sr. - Certificate of Appreciation  
*for service as head trustee of the Mark S. Brennan, Jr. Memorial Fund*
- ◆ Bill Haskins - Certificate of Appreciation  
*for service as Virginia SAR Registrar*
- ◆ Bill Haskins - Presidential Award  
*for outstanding support as the Central Region Membership Vice Chair*
- ◆ Chris Yohn - Presidential Award  
*for outstanding support as the Central Region Community Affairs Vice Chair*

In addition to the awards dinner, the meeting featured: a Presidential reception and time to meet and socialize with statewide compatriots, the youth oration competition finals and awards, a Virginia Society Compatriots memorial service, the official 2023 Virginia Society business meeting and the President's banquet with more awards and 2023 Virginia Society



Philip Barnard, Chris Yohn, Chris Ackiss and Richard Brooks  
*Photo courtesy of Joe Dooley*

officer inductions, in which Bill Haskins was reinstated as the 2023 Virginia State registrar.

The meeting officially concluded with everyone assembling on the front steps of the resort for an outstanding closing fireworks display.

The Virginia Society semi-annual meeting will take place in Winchester, in September.

## Richmond Chapter at *The Crossing of the Dan*

The Crossing of the Dan is a National SAR event. The 2023 event coincided with the Virginia society annual meeting. Richmond Chapter members Chris Ackiss, Richard Brooks, Philip Barnard and Chris Yohn represented the chapter.



The crossing

The event commemorates General Nathaniel Greene's successfully leading his army across the Carolinas to safety in Virginia. Greene's superior planning avoided conflict with the British while his newly inherited army was unfit for battle. Greene's tactics preserved his army and demoralized the British. The pursuit eventually ended when Greene's men crossed the Dan River into Virginia, where the British couldn't follow for a lack of boats. After a single week's rest, resupplying and reinforcement, Greene's army recrossed the Dan and eventually met the British at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse; a tactical victory for the British but a very costly one that eventually led them on the road to Yorktown.



The event featured a Revolutionary War music concert, a parade to the Dan River crossing site, numerous color-guard participants, a re-enactment of the crossing using a replica bateaux and a wreath-laying ceremony.



Wreath-laying ceremony  
Photo courtesy of Philip Barnard

## March meeting

The Richmond Chapter kicked off American Revolution 250th anniversary commemorations by holding an observance of the resolves to create the Virginia Committee of Correspondence at its March meeting. Virginia created its Committee of Correspondence on May 12, 1773 to establish communication with the rest of the American Colonies. The action led to the eventual creation of the first Continental Congress.



Richmond Chapter reads, discusses and commemorates the resolves to create the Virginia Committee of Correspondence on the 250th anniversary of the event

## New member



Welcome William Morgerson!

## Awards



Libby McNamee - Certificate of Appreciation  
*Susanna's Midnight Ride* presentation



Jim Russell - Certificate of Appreciation  
*Benjamin Russell* presentation



Bill Haskins - Past-president recognition  
*for outstanding service and with great appreciation*

*New member  
and awards  
photos  
courtesy of  
Cort Yohn*

## What makes an SAR member?

Richmond Chapter members are proud of mission of the Sons of the American Revolution. We continue to examine the meaning of being an SAR member in this and ongoing issues of the *Liberty Gazette*.

### The SAR Mission

**The purposes of the sons of the American Revolution are patriotic, historical, and educational, and include those intended or designed:**

- 1 - to perpetuate the memory of those who, by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people;
- 2 - to unite and promote fellowship among their descendants;
- 3 - to inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers;
- 4 - to encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution;
- 5 - to acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patriots of the war, as well as documents, relics, and landmarks;
- 6 - to mark the scenes of the American Revolution by appropriate memorials;
- 7 - to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and of the Revolutionary period;
- 8 - to foster true patriotism;
- 9 - to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and
- 10 - to carry out the purposes expressed in the preamble to the Constitution of our country and the injunctions of Washington in his farewell address to the American people.



## The Richmond Chapter Memorial Fund



**Your \$10 donation  
to this special fund  
honors your patriot  
ancestors and supports  
the programs and  
work of the  
Richmond Chapter SAR.**

**Jack Akers** - John Lester

**Will Akers** - John Lester

**Kenneth L. Bage** - John Hinton, John Hinton, Sr.

**Phillip Barnard, Jr.** - Joel Barnard

**Howard E. Bartholf** - Cpt. James Varian, Jacobus Bartholf, Guiliam Bertholf, Jonathan Varian

**Mark S. Brennan, Sr.** - John Oliver

**Robert S. Bridges, Jr.** - William Jordan

**Peter E. Broadbent, Jr.** - Lt. Richard Talbott, Cpt. Alexander Wells, Lt. James Marshall

**A. Brian Cowardin** - John Cowardin

**James E. Creech, Jr.** - William Ragland

**Doug Cumins** - George Keister, Nathaniel Wilson

**Wyatt F. Davis** - Alexander Guthrie

**Ronald J. DePue, Sr.** - Benjamin DePue

**Richard Dohm** - John Gibson, Jr.

**Charles Lewis Grant** - William Russell

**Robert Halpern** - Ens. James Sproul

**John Harler** - William Sommerville

**William M. Haskins, Jr.** - William Gannon, Moses Preston, Gilbert Stevens, Thomas Prather

**Dana K. Law** - Henry Law

**Brian K. Miller** - Theophilus Avery, Abel Sholes

**Hal Raddin, Jr.** - Benjamin Raddin

**Philip M. Revene** - William Withers, William Slack

**Mark Samples** - Jane Porter Green

**Christopher Small** - Hugh Hayes

**Walter Smith** - Casparus Pruyn, Sylvanus Smith

**Arthur H. Taylor III** - Silas Call

**Cullen Walker** - Paul Carrington

**Chris Yohn** - Lt. Jacob Vanderslice

## Next meeting - Richmond Chapter celebrates 100 years of patriotism!

Don't miss the chance to be a part of this historic Richmond Chapter event on April 23, at 1 p.m.

We'll celebrate the centennial with a color guard, state officers, special guests, chapter history, favorite memories of past presidents and a few surprises along the way!

Please access the [virginiasar.org](http://virginiasar.org) calendar for full event details and to register yourself and guests. Remember, you must be logged-in to view and register for chapter events. *Your username is your national SAR number. Click **forgot password** on your first login to set a new password.*



## Remaining 2023 meetings



### Richmond Chapter 2023 meeting schedule

All meetings take place at Willow Oaks Country Club

**Sunday, April 23 - 1 p.m. (Centennial celebration)**

Sunday, May 21 - 1 p.m.

Thursday, September 14 - 6 p.m. (Annual dinner)

Sunday, October 8 - 1 p.m.

Sunday, November 12 - 1 p.m.

Sunday, December 10 - 1 p.m.



### Winter issue update . . .

The October 19, 2022, Yorktown Day Celebration described in the *Liberty Gazette* winter issue was also attended by Richmond Chapter member Drew Wajciechowski.



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