



Colonel James Wood, II Chapter
 Virginia Society of the
 Sons of the American Revolution
 Northern Shenandoah Valley - Winchester City



The Colonel's Dispatch

Robert B. Andrews—Editor, Web Master and Plagiarist

Chapter wins Best Large Chapter Streamer for 2016! *5th Consecutive Large Chapter win in a row*

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At the VASSAR Annual Meeting held at the Omni Hotel in Richmond February 17-18, the Colonel James Wood Chapter was once again named the Best Large Chapter in the State of Virginia. It's the 6th Best Chapter Award in nine years and a string of five awards in a row for the Large Chapter Category.

The Chapter received a host of other awards prior to receiving the top honor, including the Chapter Excellence Streamer, Sustained Grave Marking Excellence and History Day Support. The Chapter was also recognized for Flag Day Support and donations to the Yorktown Victory Museum.

Five members of the Chapter attended the meetings over the weekend and had lunch together, Brett Osborn, Rob Andrews, Don Dusenbury, Steve Bush, Jr and Sr.

Chapter Color Guard Commander Brett Osborn was presented with the Baron Von Steuben National Service Recognition Medal for many years of service in the National, State and Local Color Guards. Larry Johnson was awarded the State Medal of Distinguished Service for his efforts to establish a National Monument to the Revolutionary War Soldier on the National Mall in Washington DC.



Past Chapter President Brett Osborn hangs the 2016 Best Large Chapter Streamer

Streamer Awards for 2017

Best Large Chapter	100% Flag Certificate Presentation
Chapter Excellence Award	History Day Support
Sustained Excellence in Grave Marking 2013-2016	War/Military Medal Presentation
	Yorktown Victory Museum Contributor

A Message from the President

Compatriots,

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your President for 2017. I will work hard to continue the outstanding leadership tradition of the Chapter.

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the formation of the Chapter and what a great 10 years it has been. The Chapter continues to lead the way in the Virginia Society by being the most decorated chapter in the state and bringing home its 5th consecutive Best Large Chapter Award and its 6th Best Chapter Award in nine years. We look forward to building on this great success and to continue reaching out into the community to further the work of the society.



The Chapter will celebrate 10 years since the founders of the chapter met for the first time at the Willow Woods Community Center in Winchester on July 27, 2007, and also 10 years since receiving our official Charter on November 29th of the same year. Earlier this year, the Board of Managers organized the 10th Anniversary Committee and we are planning a summer celebration event and a formal anniversary dinner to mark the occasion.

We congratulate the Col. William Grayson Chapter in Gainesville, who also celebrate 10 years of success in 2017. An organization stays vibrant by adjusting to change, recruiting new members and improving itself. In order to do this, I have initiated a series of steps to leverage technology to improve our communication with members and the community. These include a new website, improved email layouts and the revival of the Chapter Newsletter. Another way to improve this is to have YOU, the member actively participate in all that the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution offers. It is in this area that our greatest growth needs to occur and it is in this area that our greatest contributions to our community occurs.

VASSAR President Mike Elston recently visited our Chapter and initiated his "Call to Arms" for reaching out to the youth in our area to instill in them the history, heritage and values of the American Revolution. It is incumbent on each of us as members to the SAR to fulfill this mission for our children and their futures. I will do everything in my power to support and move these efforts forward. I ask each Compatriot to step forward and take on this important role. Together, we can make 2017 our best year yet!

Compatriotically,

At the next meeting be sure to pick up a bundle of the new chapter recruiting cards! The New Revolution in recruiting for the chapter. It gives the recipient a lot of information in a small place including how to find our meetings, our website and how to contact us.

Col. James Wood, II Chapter

Virginia Society of the
Sons of the American Revolution
Best Chapter: 2009 - 2012 - 2013
2014 - 2015 - 2016



Frederick - Clarke - Page - Warren - Shenandoah Counties
and the City of Winchester

Website addresses on back of card

All meetings open to the public. Visit the website for dates and times.

Website:

<http://coloneljameswood.virginia-sar.org/>

Membership inquiries:

<http://coloneljameswood.virginia-sar.org/membershipform.php>

Color Guard appearance requests:

<http://coloneljameswood.virginia-sar.org/cgrequestform.php>

Mapquest directions quicklink:

<http://mapq.st/2j4uYFM>

Incoming VASSAR President Mike Elston Installs Chapter Officers

The elected officers for 2017 led by President-elect Rob Andrews were installed by VASSAR 1st VP Mike Elston at the January General Meeting on January 21st. Prior to installing the officers, Compatriot Elston called on the officers and members of the Chapter to carry out the work of the SAR. Pounding the lectern, he issued his "Call to Arms!", the slate of initiatives that he plans to undertake during his term as President.

President Brett Osborn presented Mike with a Certificate of Appreciation and one of the Chapter's Coffee Mugs.

President Andrews related that due to his previous experience as the President of the Colonel Fielding Lewis Chapter in Fredericksburg, he would be able to jump in immediately and start doing the work of the chapter. Among the issues the chapter would be addressing is the retention and recruiting of members. He announced a program to leverage technology through our website and emails to increase interest and participation in chapter efforts along with unveiling new recruiting cards to improve our communication with potential members. Finally, he laid out a plan for celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Chapter with two events, each one coinciding with the date of the formation meeting and the date of the Chapter Chartering Ceremony.



Chapter Officers for 2017

President

Robert Andrews

1st VP

Ralph Pierce

2nd VP

Dale Corey

Secretary

Dave Carpenter

Treasurer

Fred Gill

Chaplain

Raleigh Watson

Registrar

Jim Simmons

Historian

Chip Daniel

Asst. Treasurer

Don Dusenbury

Asst. Registrar

Jake Trenary

Asst. Secretary

Jim Glymph

Chapter Meeting Dates for 2017

January 28th 9am - Guest VASSAR 1st VP Mike Elston. Officer installation Meeting, Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

February 25th 9 am - Guest Col. John Cassarino Randolph Macon Academy. VASSAR Annual Chapter Awards. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

March 25th 9 am - Guest Rolling Thunder. VASSAR Annual Chapter Awards. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

April 22nd 9am - Guest Ben Fiore Walker, Old Towne Crier Alexandria. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

May 27th 9am - Guest TBA. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

June 24th 9am - Guest Patrick Murphy, Author F&I War. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

July 22nd 10am-4pm - Patriot Pride Day, Middletown Virginia.

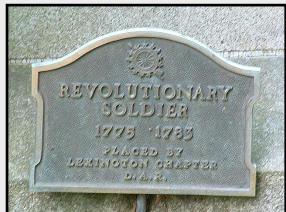
August—No meeting.

September 23rd 9am - Guest TBA. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

October 28th 9am - Guest Ben Theis, 4th Company of British Guards in America. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

November 18th 9am - Chapter Annual Public Service Awards. Best Western Conference Center Winchester, Virginia.

December 16th 12 noon - SAR/DAR/CAR Luncheon George Washing-



Colonel Abraham Bowman

Officer and Commander of the 8th Virginia Regiment of Foot
"The German Regiment"

Much has been written about the famous German Regiment raised in the highlands of the Shenandoah Valley under command of the "Fighting Parson" Colonel John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg. The original regiment was only in existence a few years, yet saw the worst of it. Not much has been written about its second commander and one who saw battles, defeat and victory but also was a spectator for the dawn of a new nation.

Born to George Bowman and Mary Hite (the eldest daughter of Jost Hite), Abraham was raised on the family farm on Cedar Creek, just north of Strasburg, Virginia. He received an early education in warfare in defence of the homesteads against Indian raiding parties in the 1760's.

Hearing from a neighbor's daughter of a raid on her family, he took rifle in hand and rode to meet the danger. Arriving too late to save the Miller family, he joined with Thomas Newell in pursuit of the Indian party who had taken Rachel Dellinger as well. He succeeded in rescuing Rachel after killing one of the raiders.

Just prior to the War of the American Revolution, he was serving as a Justice of the Peace in Shenandoah County (1772-1775). Enlisting in the Virginia Militia as war approached, he received a commission as Lt. Colonel from the Virginia Convention on January 12th, 1776.



He became an officer in the 8th Virginia Regiment and marched with the unit to Charleston, SC where the unit took part in the Battle of Ft. Sullivan. The 8th Virginia then marched north to join the Grand Army and took part in the campaigns of Brandywine, Germantown, White Marsh and spent the winter at Valley Forge.

After Muhlenberg was promoted to Brigadier General, Bowman was raised to a full Colonel and put in charge of the 8th Virginia Regiment. According to his pension papers in the National Archives, *"I was promoted to command of said regiment and that I continued to service in the said regiment from the time of my appointment until after the Battle of Monmouth in June 1778 when a consolidation of regiments took place and many of the junior officers became supernumerary. At that time I was ordered by Brigadier General Scott to return to Virginia and call upon the*

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Upcoming Chapter Speakers



Richard and Bonnie Orndorff of Rolling Thunder Chapter 1 Virginia join us for the March 25th breakfast meeting. They will be telling us of all the things that Rolling Thunder does to support our Veterans of the Vietnam War. They do a lot more than ride motorcycles!



Join us on April 22nd for a visit from the Olde Towne Crier from the City of Alexandria, Dr. Ben Fiore-Walker. He will regale us with a proclamation and tell us of his experiences in obtaining the role and the performance of his duties.

Col. Abraham Bowman Cont'd.

Governor of Virginia(Patrick Henry) for many to recruit the regiment and having called upon him, he told me that the state's quota had been given out before I had made the application and certified it upon my order. I then remained an officer during the war without being again called into service. "

His account of his service was confirmed by Major General Peter Muhlenberg in 1784 and also by Lt. Col. Jonas Clark of the 8th Virginia Regiment in 1810.

For his 6 years of service in the Revolutionary War, Abraham received a land grant for 7,590 acres in the area of Virginia that would become Kentucky a few years after the war.

In 1779, he left Virginia for Kentucky at the head of a vanguard of 30 families. They soon settled in Kentucky near Lexington and established Bowman Station.

He soon met and married Sarah Henry whose family came to Kentucky from Pennsylvania. They had seven children together.

He was elected to the first bench of justices in Lincoln County, Kentucky. Bowman was active in politics and he represented Kentucky in the first Constitutional Convention. Later he represented Fayette County in the Kentucky Constitutional Convention.

He died at his estate near Lexington, Kentucky in late 1837, aged 88. His wife Sarah later applied for additional pension support based on a discrepancy between treasury records which listed his service as being one year longer than previously stated. The pension application was denied.

Colonel Abraham Bowman was the great grandfather of Abram Bowman, founder of Virginia's A. Smith Bowman Distillery.

February Meeting Guest Speaker

COLONEL JOHN C. CASSERINO

Colonel Casserino entered the Air Force in May 1981 upon graduation from the United States Air Force Academy, where he completed two degrees in Astronautical Engineering and Engineering Sciences.



He holds two Master of Science degrees, one from Stanford University and one from Michigan Technological University.

Since graduation, he has served in a wide variety of space operations, engineering, and operations analysis positions for the Air Force and within the National Reconnaissance Office. He also served as program manager for technical research and development initiatives in support of the Airborne Laser program.

His space and technical experiences included a 3-year assignment to an overseas satellite operations site.

He previously served as the Commander, AF ROTC Detachment 400 at Michigan Technological University in Houghton Michigan, where he led over 80 cadets and a staff of seven in the responsibility of recruiting, training and commissioning the next generation of Air Force officers.

He became the Deputy System Program Manager for the Air and Space Operations Center Weapons Systems in May 2003 leading a 200 person team in the development, test, fielding, and sustainment of the Theater Battle Management Core System (TBMCS) for Air Force, Navy, Army, and Marine Corps users plus related development and integration activities as co-chair of an international US-UK Air Battle Management Steering Group.

He is currently an Advanced Aerospace instructor at Randolph Macon Military Academy with a focus on preparing students for advancement to the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.



Eagle Scout Chairman Larry Liles, Chapter President Brett Osborn, 2016 Eagle Scout Award winner Alec Graham and his mother Janice at the January 2017 meeting.

Chapter Awards Its First Lydia Darragh Medal to Miss Rebecca Ebert



The Lydia Darragh Medal is awarded by the President of the Chapter to the woman who provides distinguished service to the President or the Chapter during his term as President. Outgoing President Brett Osborn selected Handley Library Archivist Rebecca Ebert for this award. Rebecca assists the Chapter Registrar and members with research and documentation of their ancestor lineages.

Rebecca was also named the American Association of University Women "Woman of the Year" for 2016.

JROTC Committee Report

By Rob Andrews

The Colonel James Wood, II Chapter will present a Bronze JROTC Medal and Bronze Good Citizenship medal to two deserving cadets at Randolph Macon Military Academy in Front Royal on Saturday, April 14th at 10am during the annual Parents Spring Weekend at the Academy.

The CJW II Chapter has made this presentation every year since its inception in 2007 as part of the Spring Awards Ceremony. After the Ceremony, the Corps of Cadets passes in review in an inspiring patriotic finish to the event.

The Chapter presenters then move to the dining hall where they enjoy lunch with the JROTC instructors and Cadets as guests of the Academy

Compatriots Join with the DAR for the Annual Christmas Luncheon

Seventeen compatriots of the Colonel James Wood, II Chapter along with the Col. James Wood, II Colorguard attended the annual SAR/DAR/CAR Christmas Luncheon held at the George Washington Hotel on December 21st, 2016. Chapter Compatriot Raleigh Boaze provided the entertainment with a presentation on the militia man who came from the highlands of Virginia. The luncheon has been held annually since 2009.



The Chapter Color Guard presented and retired the colors.

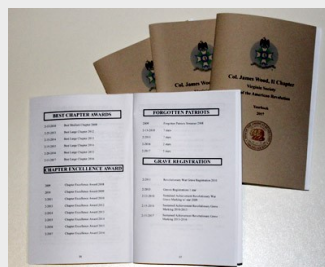


Compatriot Raleigh Boaze entertains at the Annual SAR/DAR/CAR Christmas Luncheon.

Please join us at the Annual Multi-Chapter Meeting at Graves Mountain Lodge in Syria Virginia April 15th, 2017

Registration form was previously sent to Chapter Members via email.

- Speakers will be the Presidents of the
- Col. Fielding Lewis Chapter
- Thomas Jefferson Chapter
- Col. Wm. Grayson Chapter
- Col. James Wood, II Chapter
- Gen. Daniel Morgan Chapter
- Culpeper Minute Man Chapter
- George Washington Chapter



Be sure to pick up the newest Chapter Yearbook at the Registration Table at any General Meeting.

2016 Chapter Public Service Awards



President Brett Osborn presents the Fire Safety Commendation Medal and Certificate along with a prized 19th Century Fire Axe to Fire Marshal Jeremy Luttrell of Winchester

The highlight of the November 2016 Chapter Meeting was the Chapter's Annual Public Service Awards Ceremony. A full slate of awardees was present for the awards presentations. Receiving various awards were:

Teacher of the Year: Mr. Joseph M. Spory of Stonewall Jackson High School

Citizen of the Year: Mr. John McCarthy

Flag Recognition: Mr. Don Adams

Law Enforcement: Captain Aleck Beeman

Fire Safety Commendation: Fire Marshal Jeremy Luttrell

EMS Award: Mr. Raymond Cross

Bronze Color Guard Medal: Guardsman Jack Lillis

Certificate for Military Service: Compatriot Patrick Murphy