



# THE GUNNERY NEWS

Col. Fielding Lewis Chapter of the SAR

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## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Kenmore

**Next Meeting** This September marks the 10th year that the Col. Fielding Lewis Chapter has been in existence. In lieu of our meeting we would have at the Fredericksburg Country Club your Board of Managers has planned a special luncheon at Kenmore which is the former home of Col. Fielding Lewis. Kenmore is located at 1201 Washington Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA.

This special day will be on Saturday, September 13, 2008 and we will start the day at 11:00 am with the dedication of a plaque to the memory of Col. Fielding Lewis. We will then have our normal social hour, luncheon and business meeting. Our speaker will be Ms. Rebekah Wood, Director of Architectural Restoration at Kenmore. Ms. Wood will give us the background concerning the recently completed 8 year restoration of the house. The afternoon will be capped off with a guided tour of the restored house and grounds.

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**Chapter Events** On June 15, 2008 members of the Colonel Fielding Lewis Chapter participated in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Division Veterans Memorial Foundation's Purple Heart Jewel event held at HurKamp Park in downtown Fredericksburg. The event was prompted by Ludwig Stoeckl, a goldsmith and master jeweler from Dachau, Germany crafting a Purple Heart Jewel, an art replica of the honored medal, to present to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Division for its actions in liberating the infamous Dachau concentration camp and the town of Dachau on 29 April 1945. Mr. Stoeckl wanted to express his long-standing gratitude for actions of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Division and even more importantly, the ideals of American democracy. He chose the Purple Heart engraved with the image of George Washington on its reverse side, as his means of expression. Stoeckl stipulated that with the 42<sup>nd</sup>'s acceptance of the jewel made of 18 carat gold and 29 diamonds honoring the day in April, 1945 of liberation from Nazi rule, that the event also be used to generate support for the troops of the present 42<sup>nd</sup> Division in the war on terrorism.

Compatriot Jim Clemons, wearing two hats, one as the Chapter's Veterans Chair, the other as Memorials Officer for the Rainbow Division Veterans organizations, and on whose shoulders fell the task of putting together the entire event, from logistics coordinator, media agent, script writer to producer/director, chose Fredericksburg's HurKamp Park as the site for the event. The reason was that the area is the historic site of George Washington's boyhood home. As main characters in the event, Chapter compatriots Skip Nolan as Brigadier General George Weedon, Colo. Fielding Lewis portrayed by Bob Bailey, and General von Steuben, portrayed by historic impersonator Dr. David Valuska, General George Washington by historic impersonator Greg Fisher made the PHJ event a great success. The Purple Heart Jewel was donated by the Rainbow Division Veterans to the Virginia Holocaust Museum in Richmond and a public program was launched by the Rainbow veterans in support the Family Readiness Group of the 42<sup>nd</sup> ID (M), NY NG, Troy, New York. The Veterans Chair extends to the Chapter his sincerest of thanks for the support provided, support which ensured the event's success.

### Photo Gallery



President Rouse presents Virginia Society Forgotten Patriot Certificates to Dave Hazel and Mike Beard for remembering their patriot ancestors who were documented for the first time.

Junior Member Nicholas Rouse poses with the Sojourners at our Flag Day Meeting on June 14, 2008.

President Rouse presents Certificates of Appreciation to Sojourners Shelby Chandler, Bob Parsons and Bill Turner for the outstanding program they presented at our Flag Day Meeting on June 14, 2008.



Rob Andrews marched with various societies' color guards, making up a national color guard, for the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC on May 26, 2008



The Purple Heart Jewel



General George Weedon (Skip Nolan), Col. Fielding Lewis (Bob Bailey) and Master of Ceremonies Jim Clemons look on as Herr Ludwig Stoeckl (creator of the PHJ) gives remarks at the special ceremony transferring the jewel to the Virginia Holocaust Museum.



President Rouse presents a Flag Certificate to National Sojourners Chapter 545 President Sandy Mackie for the flag program given by the Sojourners at our meeting on June 14, 2008.



Bill Simpson, President Rouse, Mike Lyman, and 2<sup>nd</sup> VASSAR VP Bob Bowen have a tug of war over a reproduction Long Rifle at the Annual Graves Mt Lodge Meeting



President Rouse presents an Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate and Outstanding Citizenship Pin to Michael West of Boy Scout Troop 199 in Stafford at his Eagle Court of Honor on August 31, 2008.



President Rouse presents a Flag Certificate to Elani Zotos of Jimmy The Greek's Family Restaurant. The flag measures 20 feet by 36 feet and was handmade by Ms. Zotos. It proudly flies in front of the restaurant in Stafford.

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## President's Call

Compatriots,

A number of noteworthy happenings have occurred since our last newsletter in May.

Our May meeting featured a talk on the George Washington Foundation by our own Susan Bailey (Bob Bailey's better half). She gave us a good insight into what is happening at Kenmore and Ferry Farm. This program was an excellent lead-in to the program we will have at our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Kenmore scheduled for Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

Wink and I, along with Cilla and Mike Tomme (our SAR friends from the Georgia Society; Mike is also a dual member of the Virginia Society), attended the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC held on May 26, 2008. Mike is the Adjutant of the National SAR Color Guard and he met up with other members of various state societies, including our own Rob Andrews and CFL dual member Chuck Bragg. Under the direction of Larry Perkins, National SAR Color Guard Commander, these compatriots put on a very professional performance as one of the units that marched in the parade.

On June 7<sup>th</sup> a group of compatriots from the Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia Societies of the SAR, along with members of the DAR, CAR and some historical societies, met in Lincolnton, NC to commemorate the Battle of Ramsour's Mill. Wink and I, along with dual member Bob Bowen attended this event and represented our chapter and VASSAR.

For those of you who missed our special Flag Day program presented by members of Chapter 545 of the National Sojourners on June 14<sup>th</sup>, all I can say is you missed seeing one of the most moving demonstrations of what our national flag means stripe by stripe and star by star. The Sojourners are a patriotic organization of Masons and their goals are very similar to those of the SAR. We will definitely have to invite them back for an encore in the near future.

Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> found a number of chapter members in Hurkamp Park in Fredericksburg witnessing a very special ceremony led by CFL Compatriot Jim Clemons. This ceremony transferred a special Purple Heart Jewel created by Herr Ludwig Stoeckl of Dachau, Germany through the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Division Veterans Memorial Foundation to the Virginia Holocaust Museum. Participants in the ceremony included CFL Compatriots Bob Bailey portraying Col. Fielding Lewis and Skip Nolan portraying General George Weedon. Re-Enactors were also present portraying General George Washington (who commissioned the first Purple Heart award) and General Von Stuben.

The next event for Wink and I was the NSSAR's 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress in Sacramento, CA. The temperature stayed pretty much in the 100's during the congress but it was bearable due to the low humidity. We had a great time seeing old friends and meeting new ones. One of our highlights was having the privilege of seeing the Virginia Society's own Joe Dooley elected as Genealogist General. VASSAR was well represented by primary and dual members at the congress including incoming and outgoing President Generals David Appleby and Bruce Wilcox. Next year's congress will be held in Marietta, GA and Wink and I are especially looking forward to this event because it is being held in a hotel that is only about 20 minutes from our granddaughters (and their parents).

We are very excited about our special 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary luncheon this Saturday, 9/13 at Kenmore. We have had more response to this event than I can remember and most all of our Past Presidents will be there along with a number of compatriots who were very instrumental in forming the chapter. If anyone hasn't responded to my various emails concerning this event and wishes to attend on Saturday, please call me no later than Thursday at Noon so that we can add you to the list and make sure we have enough food for everyone. If you do miss this event, the next newsletter should have plenty of pictures.

Finally, as we are coming up on our annual awards meeting in November I am asking for your help in identifying someone for our chapter Heroism award. If you know of a person, young or old, who has performed an act of heroism, please let me know so we can properly honor him or her. Just email me at [wrouse4sar@aol.com](mailto:wrouse4sar@aol.com) or call me on (540) 659-5258.

Wayne Rouse, President

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## Members Memos

Donation to Wounded Veterans

By Jim Clemons, Veterans Chair

Again this year, the Col. Fielding Lewis Chapter, SAR, will donate items to the military veterans who are patients at Hunter Homes McGuire VA Medical Center, Richmond, Virginia. Leading the donation will be a number of well-crafted lap robes made by Diane Nolan, spouse of Compatriot Skip Nolan. Diane is commended with sincere thanks for her work and donation in this worthy Chapter activity.

The donation delivery is planned for November, sometime after Veterans Day. Compatriots may bring items for donation to the November Chapter meeting. Items which will provide comfort and welfare to the veteran patients include toothbrushes, tooth paste, mouth rinses, white socks, men's underwear, grooming and personal toiletry items, playing cards, etc., . All toiletry and other items must be non-alcoholic in nature.

Last year's donation program was a great success and the Chapter seeks to repeat that success again this year. The Veterans Chair may ask for volunteers to assist with the delivery of the donated items to the Hunter Homes McGuire facility in Richmond, VA.

**Election Year Reminder** Remember that the SAR is a non-political organization. Chapters and state societies must never endorse or recommend any candidate for public office, nor may meetings include discussion of merits or demerits of such candidates. The merit of any public question involving the social, economic, moral, or physical welfare of the people may be fairly and intelligently studied and discussed at a meeting for the enlightenment of those attending. SAR may take a position on any bill or measure which may be submitted to a vote of the elected representatives of the people or to the vote of the people.

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**C.A.R. Corner:** This section is for our newsletter designed to give our two local C.A.R. Societies and opportunity to share information. Our two societies are the "Light Horse Harry" Lee located in Prince William County and the Surgeon Lawrence Brooks at Fredericksburg.

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**DAR Data** This section is for our newsletter designed to give local DAR Chapters an opportunity to share information about events, meetings, points of contact etc. We have at least eight DAR Chapters in our membership area. They are: Bill of Rights in Woodbridge, Falls of the Rappahannock in Falmouth, Leedstown Resolves in King George Co., Mine Run Chapter, Overwharton Parrish, Prince William Resolves in Dale City, Spotsylvania in Spotsylvania Co., and Washington-Lewis in Fredericksburg.

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## Upcoming National, State and Local Events

**19-20 September 2008** Semi-annual Meeting VASSAR, The Holiday Inn Golf & Conference Center, Staunton, VA.  
(See VASSAR Website for details)

**5 October 2008, 1 pm** The Virginia Holocaust Museum has confirmed 1 p.m., Sunday, October 5, 2008 as the date of their dedication even for the Purple Heart Jewel presented the Virginia Holocaust Museum by the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Division Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc. on the occasion of the June 15, 2008 ceremony at HurKamp Park, Fredericksburg. James (Pete) Pettus from Desloge, MO will be attending and those participating in the June 15 event, including members of the 42<sup>nd</sup> ID NY NG, the Col. Fielding Lewis Chapter, SAR, American Legion Post 290, the Falls Run Singers, the historic re-enactors and honored guests including Congressman Wittman, the German Embassy military attaché, the Free Lance Star, friends and neighbors, are invited to the dedication.

**3, 4 & 5 October 2008** 234 Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Pt. Pleasant

**7 October 2008, 11:00 am** 228<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain

**18 & 19 Oct 2008 2:00 pm** Gloucester, VA, Battle of the Hook (Sat) and the Battle of Green Springs (Sun), Cavalry Reenactments

## 19 October 2008 Yorktown Victory Day Celebration

**2 November 2008, 11:30 pm** The Annual Commonwealth of Virginia Service at Washington Memorial Chapel held in remembrance of the Virginia Patriots who sacrificed and persevered at Valley Forge will be held Sunday, November 2nd at 11:30am. The Service was arranged by General Washington for the troops from the Book of Common Prayer and features a full choir. The Virginia Society will present a wreath and the VASSAR Colorguard will be in attendance to present the colors during this important remembrance. All Compatriots and their guests are invited to attend.

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### Last Meeting Minutes Col Fielding Lewis Chapter June 14, 2008

After a social period of about 30 minutes, the June meeting of the Chapter was called to order at 12:00 PM at the Fredericksburg Country Club by President Wayne Rouse.

Officers present: President, Wayne Rouse  
Secretary, Dave Hazel  
Treasurer, Chris Dort  
Registrar, Skip Nolan  
Historian,, Marv Pixton  
Chaplain, Bob Bailey

There were 27 attendees including 14 members of the Colonel Fielding Lewis Chapter, 1 junior member, 3 transferring members, 3 guests (Sojourners,) 1 DAR member, and 5 WOSAR.

The Colors were posted by Treasurer Chris Dort and Historian Marv Pixton.

The invocation was given by Chaplain Bob Bailey. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Compatriot Jim Clemons, and the Pledge to the SAR was led by Registrar Skip Nolan.

President Wayne Rouse welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that members of the National Sojourners were in attendance to make a special presentation in observance of Flag Day. He introduced his grandson Nicholas, who is a junior member of the chapter. Wayne introduced the members of the National Sojourners and invited attendees to introduce themselves.

President Rouse presented a brief history of the American Flag including a discussion of the establishment of Flag Day.

*President Rouse announced that a Board of Managers meeting will be held on August 13 and that the Purple Heart Jewel Ceremony will be held on June 15, 2008.*

*Veterans Affairs Chairman Jim Clemons gave a presentation on the upcoming Purple Heart Jewel Ceremony, briefly describing the ceremony that was to take place and listing the dignitaries who were to be in attendance. He also passed out programs for the event.*

*President Rouse then adjourned the meeting for lunch.*

The business portion of the meeting began with a request from Wayne Rouse for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2008 meeting. A motion was made by Secretary Dave Hazel to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Jim Clemons and passed unanimously.

Treasurer Chris Dort presented the treasurer's report. The checking account beginning balance was \$3,460.12, with an income of \$320.00 and disbursements of \$284.65, for an ending balance of \$3495.47. The value of the certificate of deposit was reported to be \$1,112.27. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the treasurer's report.

Registrar Skip Nolan reported that there were two applications at National for supplementals and that he was working on two applications from people who had expressed interest. Wayne Rouse added that a prospective member, Pat Hudson, was expected to attend the meeting. Wayne also stated that Jim Griffes will be transferring his primary membership to Texas but that he will become a dual member, retaining his membership in the Virginia Society.

President Wayne Rouse introduced 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the Virginia Society Bob Bowen, who is also a dual member of the Col. Fielding Lewis Chapter.

Old Business:

President Wayne Rouse gave a report on the chapter's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at Kenmore which is planned for September 13, 2008. He is working with Susan Bailey to put together a program for the celebration and also to do something for Kenmore. Wayne mentioned that space will be limited. He will be sending out a letter to all Compatriots and to special guests and requested that everyone RSVP by the end of July. Depending on remaining space available, he intends to invite descendants of Col. Fielding Lewis. Wayne is also looking into presenting a plaque to Kenmore in honor of Col. Fielding Lewis. In addition, the CFL Chapter is looking into getting a pin to commemorate the chapter's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

President Rouse presented certificates for forgotten patriots to Mike Beard and Dave Hazel. President Rouse explained that a forgotten patriot is someone who has not shown up anywhere on the DAR or SAR rolls. He also remarked that Virginia is one of the few states that has a program to recognize forgotten patriots.

New Business:

There was no new business.

The meeting raffle consisted of the 50/50 money and a book entitled *I Pledge Allegiance*. Tom Cook won the book and Bob Bailey won \$33.00 in the 50/50 raffle.

After a 15 minute recess, Wayne Rouse introduced the members Fredericksburg Chapter of the National Sojourners. During their program, the Sojourners "built the flag" and presented a comprehensive history of the American Flag.

Following the program Wayne Rouse announced that a resolution had been passed at the spring trustees meeting partnering the National Sojourners with the National SAR. He then presented each of the Sojourners with a certificate of appreciation and presented their chapter with a \$50.00 check.

The Colors were retired by Treasurer Chris Dort and Historian Marv Pixton. The SAR Recessional was led by Secretary Dave Hazel and the benediction was given by Chaplain Bob Bailey.

A motion for adjournment was made by Bob Bailey and seconded by Chris Dort. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.