

THE JEFFERSONIAN GAZETTE

THE THOMAS JEFFERSON CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION MID YEAR ISSUE- 2015



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Each day is a new adventure as President of the Thomas Jefferson Chapter. Some days are more challenging while others have little or no excitement, but all have been rewarding. What has impressed me the most has been the team work that exists between each Compatriot. From arranging for awards to the delivery of certificates and medals it has been a team concept with the joy of giving to others and the strength of altruism in our organization. I look forward to our members and the BOM pushing forward into the challenges of the remainder of this year and on. The Chapter had strong representation at Montpelier in the early spring as well as being part of the Birthday Celebration for Mr. Jefferson. The Color Guard outdid themselves with a very special performance on the Grounds of Monticello. The Fourth of July at Monticello is always special as it was this year especially with the remarks of Compatriot Day. Thanks to all our members and their families for working together to make us an organization to be honored and respected.

----- Bob Short, Chapter President



[Lafayette's Famous Ship "L'Hermione" on the York River- See Story Inside]

UPCOMING EVENTS (MARK YOUR CALENDARS, PLEASE!)

Sept. 16th BOM – High Ground

Sept 18, 19 VASSAR Semi Annual - Roanoke

Sept. 20th Garden Party (Venue TBA)

Oct. 3rd Chapter Breakfast, WITH LADIES, FCC, 8:45, Terrace Rm, 8:45

Oct. 19th Yorktown Victory Celebration, Wreath

Nov. 5th BOM at WCBR at 4:00

Dec. 3rd Ladies Night, Social 6:00, Dinner and Program at 6:45

Jan. 7th BOM at WCBR at 4:00

PAST EVENTS

Annual General Meeting/Richmond – Attending, President Short, Immediate Past President Day, and Past President and now Third VASSAR VP Kelly. The TJ Chapter won a number of awards. See on back page VASSAR News.

Guilford Court House – March 15th Compatriots Day and Kelly representing the Chapter.

Madison's Birthday – March 16th

President Short presented the Chapter Wreath. The Thomas Jefferson Chapter had a good turn-out.



Jefferson's Birthday – April 13

VASSAR 3rd VP Kelly, Compatriots Wallenbornwith outside Chapter support for Compatriots ChaseVogler and Schwetke served in the VASSAR/TJ Color Guard. Other TJ Compatriots joined in the Grand event.



The University of Virginia, R.O.T.C. Awards ceremony – President Short together with Compatriots Minich and Wallenborn did the honors.

Graves Mountain Multi-Chapter Luncheon – April 19th

Chapter President Short and Compatriots Day, Wallenborn, Brown, and Minich attended the 7-Chapter gathering.

Block House event in South West, Virginia – VASSAR/TJ Guardsman Kelly representing.

Dogwood Festival, Vietnam Memorial – April 25th - Dogwood Festival Committeeman Pat Kelly represented the Chapter at this event.

Raid on Martin Station – May 3rd - VASSAR/TJ Guardsman Kelly served.

Memorial Day - May 26th Compatriot Halsey did the Chapter honors and gave a TV interview.



Good Citizenship School Awards –

Lea Schultz, President Short and Compatriot Cobham are to be commended for picking up the slack in awards chair Williams absence this spring. Winners from 16 private and public schools in Charlottesville and Bedford County. Thanks to all the presenters. Williams did return in time for two schools – Henley shown here.

June 13th – Chapter Breakfast, Thomas Jefferson Room, FCC. Compatriots gathered with their ladies. Compatriot Cobham arrived with his lady, a daughter and granddaughter as well. The Chapter achieved a record attendance for a breakfast, forty-two. Highlights included the induction of Compatriot David Post and a talk by newly returned from four months in Turkey, Compatriot Williams, who gave a brief comparison of the American and the Turkish Independence Wars, separated by 150 years, and the leadership qualities of Generals Washington and Ataturk. He then opened it up to Q&A, fielding questions about the recent general election in Turkey and its implications for its own people, NATO and America. Additionally, Compatriot Seaman gave a hearty message about the history of Flag Day and of the Adoption of the Flag by the Continental Congress.



Ramsour's Mill – VASSAR/TJ Guardsman Kelly attended the N. Carolina event on June 20th.

L'Hermione – The Marquis de Lafayette's Ship

Tall ships have always held my fascination. Whether it was following the adventures of Captain Ahab on the Pequod or Captain James Cook's explorations on the Endeavor, I have never tired of tales of the sea in full-rigged ships plying the world's oceans. So when my wife, Beth, and I had the opportunity to see L'Hermione come into Yorktown Harbor on June 5th, 2015, I made immediate plans to get there early to see her make landfall after 42 days at sea. What a thrill to see this majestic frigate emerge from the morning fog, and it even got better when she honored her host country with a cannon salute after which American cannon on both sides of the York River saluted L'Hermione. A welcoming ceremony followed the docking of L'Hermione. Speakers included Virginia's Governor, Terry McAuliffe and French Minister Segolene Royal. What a memorable experience for Beth and me, and what a great way to honor the many contributions France made on our Country's behalf as America valiantly fought for independence from British rule.

This Hermione is an exact replica of the frigate that ferried the Marquis de Lafayette and French troops to America in 1780. The Marquis also brought with him the news that King Louis XVI had agreed to provide more substantial financial support and to send a significant contingent of ships, troops and supplies to aid the Americans in their fight against British rule.

The Hermione is a 145 foot long concord class frigate that is fitted out with 26 twelve pounder cannon and 6 six pounders. She was built with the same materials and technologies available in Lafayette's day. She has 19 linen sails, a keel crafted from 200 French oaks and 26 km. of hemp lines. She was 17 years in the making and cost \$27 million to build. This wooden tall ship is a stunning showcase of craftsmanship and maritime savoir faire.

After traveling from France to Yorktown, L'Hermione will stop at ten east coast US ports prior to sailing to Lunenburg, Nova Scotia and then on to Brest, FR.

Compatriot Geoff Cobham



4th of July – Monticello Naturalization and the Joint Jack Jouett DAR and TJ Chapter Jefferson graveside ceremonies.



"You were spectacular in Washington garb. Quite the hit, as you could tell by McAuliffe's (the Governor) references. Thanks so much to you and your guard members for making our ceremony special!"
July 5th - Monticello Director, Leslie Green Bowman

Did You Know?

Thomas Jefferson Chapter Compatriot Edwardo Montes-Bradley continues to receive film assignments from the Heritage Film Project at U.Va. He is currently working on a Documentary on the life of President James Monroe.

VASSAR NEWS – The Chapter earned many awards at the AGM. Of special note, Compatriots Wallenborn and Marbury Seaman were presented Silver Roger Sherman Medals for over a decade of service at the State level. Compatriot Williams earned the Editor of the Year award for the Chapter Gazette.

NSSAR NEWS –

The Virginia Society received participation streamers for sponsoring entries in the following youth contests:

- the Knight Essay Contest;
- the Rumbaugh Orations Contest;
- the Americanism Brochure Contest;
- the Eagle Scout Scholarship competition; and
- the JROTC scholarship competition.

The Virginia Society was recognized as the state society with the largest number of new and approved supplemental memberships for 2014-15. Compatriot Kirk Sheap and the Flag Committee chairman throughout Virginia once again earned the Admiral William Furlong Award. D. Kirk Richardson, Ph.D., of the Thomas Jefferson Chapter was honored for his work with the Boy Scouts and presented with the Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award. J. Michael Tomme, a dual member of the Virginia Society, was elected as Secretary General for 2015-16. Michael J. Elston of the George Washington Chapter was elected to a three-year term as a member of the Board of Directors of the SAR Foundation.

Compatriot Williams represented the Chapter as part of a large Virginia delegation.



OFFICERS

Robert Short, President; G. McNeir Tilman, Treasurer; Geoff Cobham, Secretary and Event Coordinator; T. Connor, Assist Treasurer, Rev. Cn. H. N.F. Minich, Chaplain; Stuart E. Jones, Registrar; Pat Kelly, Historian; Harvey H. J. Hague, Chancellor; W.M. Wallenborn, Surgeon; and Phil Williams, Publicist.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Mark Day, Robert Short, Geoff Cobham, Mackey Tilman, Pat Kelly, K. Wallenborn; P. Williams; Cn. H. N. F. Minich; H. Hague; Mark Chapman, Mack Halsey, Lea Schultz, T. Taylor Emeritus: T. Connor, J. Parrish

COLOR GUARD M. Day, P. Kelly, T. Taylor, P. Williams , K. Wallenborn