

The Virginia War Cry



"EVER FORWARD"

The Newsletter of the
SOCIETY OF THE WAR OF 1812
IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Volume 18, Number 2 [Fall 2015]

Editor: Ken Williamson



WHAT DO WE DO?

The Objectives of our Virginia Society include, "...we the descendants of those who participated in that contest [The War of 1812], **have joined together to perpetuate its memories and victories.**" Our Society works tirelessly to perpetuate the memories of our ancestors who fought for our freedom during this war. The below article by Mike Lyman, Compiler, Editor of the exhaustive book, "*Burials of War of 1812 Veterans in the Commonwealth of Virginia*", offers us a look into what it took to get involved in this process. It's not difficult, and there's room for many more of us to do the same. You ask, "WHAT CAN I DO?" The answer – come to one of the events in your area and help represent the Society, or attend one or more of the Society meetings. As a member, your presence helps PERPETUATE THE MEMORIES. Thank you!

Perpetuating the Memories

A Collaborative Effort

By Myron (Mike) Lyman, Past President, Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia

I have been asked to briefly relate how, as compiler, I went about the identification of burials and service information and the attainment of biographical information for War of 1812 veterans for the Society's book, *Burials of War of 1812 Veterans in the Commonwealth of Virginia*. This book contains about 4440 burials and was published in 2012 after about 12 years of research. Since then I have identified about 500 more and plans are being made to publish a second edition as soon as the overall total reaches 5000.



The first task was to identify male persons born before 1799 that are interred or memorialized in Virginia. Appendix D to the book lists 291 burial sources that I used. A lot of these sources are cemetery books published for the counties and independent cities in Virginia. Another main source was WPA (Works Progress Administration) reports published in 1936-1938 period by the workers that went out to colonial homes that had private cemeteries and recorded their findings. Other information was found on the internet in county/city websites. Some information was from cemetery visits I had made or society members made and reported. Recently, in the last few years, I have reviewed the many burials that have been recorded on the FindaGrave.com website by their volunteers.

The second task was to find if these men in the burial sources that were in the correct age group to have had War of 1812 service, actually served. Appendix C of the book lists about sixty service sources that I referred to determine this information.

(Continued on page 8)

This is an official publication of
the Society of the War of 1812 in the
Commonwealth of Virginia. Visit www.1812va.org
for current activities and events. Contact the editor at:
Editor1812VA@gmail.com with requests for information.

President's Pen:

DEFENDERS,

The Board of Directon met on 18 September in Roanoke. Although the turnout was small, it was a very productive meeting. Make sure you read the information posted in the newsletter by Treasurer Shane Newcombe to understand the significance of this major accomplishment.

Unfortunately, the long awaited Virginia unique recruitment brochure is still not yet available. I've had several requests for the brochure and am convinced when it is available it will be a GREAT recruitment tool.

After we had the BOD meeting, we had dinner at a local restaurant. The turnout was excellent as several wives and a prospective member attended. This was a new initiative on my part and I hope to continue this as long as I'm President.



By now, I'm sure everyone has received their 2016 dues notice. I hope everyone is going to accept my challenge. I'm looking forward to giving away a Society glass to a lucky Defender.

Our next BOD meeting will be in Richmond 19 Feb. 2016. Additional information will be provided as soon as details are available.

To keep current on Society activities visit the web site often - www.1812va.org. We need your participation at these events.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Fritts, President

DID YOU KNOW?



Mary Pickersgill (1776-1857), was contracted to sew two flags for Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland. Along with her daughter and several other women, they made the "Star Spangled Banner Flag" that was raised at Fort McHenry during the War of 1812. The flag was made from 400 yards of fabric, displayed 15 stars and 15 stripes, and weighed 50 pounds. The flag took almost seven weeks to complete. Only 15 stars and stripes were represented on the Fort McHenry flag, although there were actually 18 states, with the admission of Tennessee (1796), Ohio (1803) and Louisiana (1812). Congress had approved the flag's design in 1794, providing for 15 stripes and 15 stars, and the design for the flag was next updated April 4, 1818, after the war. Each star was made of cotton and was created by reverse applique method, meaning each star was stitched into place on one side of the flag and the cloth on the reverse side was then cut away to reveal it. The flag was originally 30 feet by 42 feet but now measures 30 feet by 34 feet because pieces of it, including one of its stars, were occasionally cut and given away as gifts. The other flag was 17 feet by 36 feet and was in service during incimate weather.

BOARD OF DIRECTION MEETING**1:00 PM Friday, September 18, 2015****Hilton Garden Inn, Roanoke, Virginia****Meeting Minutes and Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen**

1. President Dennis Fritts called the meeting to order promptly at 1:00pm.
2. Chaplain Larry Aaron provided the invocation.
3. Past President, LTC Mike Lyman led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. There were 18 members and 1 potential member present at the meeting.
5. The minutes of the prior meeting were approved as distributed.
6. Committee Reports:
 - A. The Treasurer report from the previous Muster was read by the Secretary and it stated that we have about 139 members and estimated assets of \$12,000 in savings and \$18,420 in checking for total assets of \$30,428. His report was unanimously approved.
 - B. The Registrar reported that we have 2 new members and 1 dual member since our last meeting. Three Supplemental's have been submitted. Recruitment continues at various functions. Potential applications number around a dozen.
 - C. Chaplain Larry Aaron reported that he continues to send out cards to various ill members, which has been greatly appreciated.
 - D. Color Guard Chairman Charles Belfield reported of various events they have participated in since the Muster and encourages participation in the Color Guard by the members. Cost of uniforms runs around \$1000 with a \$500 subsidy but the cost is much lower for a Militiaman.
 - E. Past President and Grave Markings Chairman, LTC Mike Lyman, reported on his many efforts on the Burial Book and that a second edition is coming soon. The Society Pamphlet has no remaining copies available. He reported on various grave markings since our last meeting. No markings are scheduled this fall and spring by the graves chairman. Members were encouraged to research in their various communities of the potential burial graves of 1812 veterans. Other markings were noted in the coming months by various members in their local communities.
7. Old Business:
 - A. President Fritts reported that a new recruitment brochure is needed to help recruit new members. This is important PR for the Society. A volunteer is needed to head up this project.
 - B. The location for the next Muster and a possible central location for future meetings was discussed in detail by various members. James Green reported that Richmond was the best central location for the members in the state. Having meetings in conjunction with the VASSAR was discussed. Mike Lyman reported that we need to consider grave markings with the annual meetings as we have done in the past. He also mentioned other locations where grave markings are needed. After various opinions and locations were discussed, it was motioned that we have a central location which will be Richmond with the proviso that the board could always change their mind was seconded and unanimously approved. Thus, the Annual Muster next year will be in Richmond on June 18, 2016. Bill Nash will look for a desirable location in Richmond to accommodate the upcoming Muster. Bernie Baker reported on Publicity for the Society. He has sent to the General

Society information on our events, and they have yet to publish it and we will continue to send info to them. Mike Lyman said that the Society's website is a great source of information for publicity. Bernie remarked what a great job the membership has done to promote the Society in their communities and newspapers.

- C. Ken Williamson reported on the Newsletter for the Society. We have gotten great reviews on the quality of our Newsletter. Members provide info on our activities to the chairman. We send it to over 250 people which includes our membership and many other societies.
 - D. Late dues was discussed and what a problem this has been in the past. The President and Treasurer are working on a good solution to this problem.
 - E. Ken Williamson presented the Budget Committee Report on investments of our finances. After various discussions of the two different options, it was recommended that the T. Rowe Price Tax-Free High Yield fund be the best option for our investments. It is comprised of corporate bonds that have coupons. It has a good track record during good and bad times with the stock market. Returns of the fund are about 5% per year. Approximately \$15,000 of our assets will be invested in this fund with the remainder in CDs and in our checking. Annual return would be around \$750 per year on this investment to the Society. Various financial needs of our society were discussed in some detail. The Budget Committee Proposal states that we establish a “cap” on our account balance and we spend the remainder every year. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Budget Committee Proposal to invest in the T. Rowe Price Fund along with the spending formula was seconded and approved by majority. Various programs were discussed as possibilities to spend our money such as grave markings, burial book, scholarship program and color guard. The Treasurer, Ken Williamson along with President Fritts will be responsible to make sure this approved investment choice and spending formula is enacted.
8. New Business:
- A. Mike Lyman reported that the James Monroe Birthplace had their lease extended and will build the Birthplace replica in the coming months. He suggested various gifts we can make to the Birthplace and Museum. Peter Broadbent will be the go between to determine what they would need that our Society might be willing to give. Motion was proposed to accept this support was seconded and approved unanimously.
 - B. Kroger Card is now not much of a source of income to our Society but the AmazonSmile program is one in which the Society would receive funds from purchases (0.5%) from Amazon by our members. The members were encouraged to use this program by simply enrolling at the internet site smile.amazon.com in the “account” section. Future purchases from Amazon should then be made from this website and we would receive funds. Any questions of how to enroll should be directed to the President or Ken Williamson.
 - C. A proposal was presented of a change to our By-Laws which would read that after 30 days of paid dues, it becomes non-refundable to the member. Motion was made to have the By-Laws changed contingent on the approval of our legal counsel and was seconded and approved.
 - D. Members were encouraged to contact local genealogical societies regarding potential grave markings by our Society of 1812 veterans. The Burial Book CD will be of assistance in the process. More grave markers will be ordered from the Treasurer.
 - E. A nominating committee will be formed to nominate new officers headed by former president Thad Hartman to determine new candidates for office.

- F. Other new business was a discussion of various projects the Society could establish for the benefit of the memory of 1812 veterans such as the Army Museum at Fort Belvoir and the Navy Memorial in DC.
 - G. Funds for these projects could be used from the approved spending formula of the Budget Committee Proposal. Other programs were suggested and Thad Hartman will do the research to find the best program our Society could support such as Wounded Warriors and others. A Scholarship program, ROTC medal program, Civil Air Patrol (research headed by Larry Aaron), Junior ROTC medals, Youth Oration program, Teacher Recognition and History Day for students were suggested.
 - H. Attractive new name tags for members who wish to have them were designed and some were donated by Ken Williamson.
 - I. President Fritts mentioned his article that appeared in the Newsletter, indicating that we might want to consider honoring, in some way, the American sailors killed at the naval battle fought at Vaparaiso, Chile in 1814.
9. The meeting was adjourned by President Fritts.

Respectfully submitted,
William Nash – Secretary

Pictures from the BOD Meeting



Additional Pictures from the BOD Meeting



INVESTMENT PLAN UPDATE

By J. Shane Newcombe, Treasurer

During the September Board of Direction meeting, the Budget & Finance Committee presented three investment proposals for consideration as Society investment opportunities for the Society's funds. The Committee stated that the investment proposals were to be considered as safekeeping for excess funds of the Society until the funds can be put to use in performance of the Society Objectives, and the proposals were not meant as a long-term investment plan. The Plan focused on retaining a certain amount of on-hand funds available for the General Checking Account (based on the average of three-year budget projections). This retainer, which amounted to \$11,173.00, allows the Society to continue all operations as usual throughout the year(s). The excess funds from the General Checking account, would be added together with the funds from the Money Market Account to further develop the Investment Strategy voted on by the Board of Direction.

The Money Market Account had a balance on hand (as of 12 Oct) of \$12,009.72. The Formula used to calculate the amount that would be eligible for a sound investment strategy required that the excess amount from the Checking Account (\$4,685.92) to be added together with the Money Market Account to allow for the Amount Eligible for Investment. The figure for the Amount Eligible for Investment amounted to \$16,695.64. From that, the Plan requires 20% of that amount be invested in a Certificate of Deposit (\$3,339.13), and the remaining 80% to be invested through the establishment of a TD Ameritrade Investment Account (\$13,356.51) composed of T.Rowe Price Tax-Free Yield Fund (PRFHX), or its equivalent.

With the approval of the Board of Direction of Option 3 of the Investment Plan, the Budget & Finance Committee (Newsletter Editor Ken Williamson, Registrar Chuck Poland, and Treasurer Shane Newcombe) set out with the direction of President Dennis Fritts to create an account with TD Ameritrade. Through most of the month of October, Treasurer Newcombe collected and organized all the documents (minutes, IRS, bank statements, account numbers, etc.) and submitted them along with the non-profit application to TD Ameritrade. The Society has received notice that the TD Ameritrade account has been approved.

As of today, 9 November, we are waiting on the \$13,356.51 to be deposited into the Society's TD Ameritrade account. As soon as the funds have cleared to the account the funds will be invested into the T. Rowe Price Tax-Free Yield Fund (PRFHX). That accounts for 80% of our Investment Accounts, and the remaining 20% or \$3,339.13 is being deposited into a competitive interest rate with a Certificate of Deposit at BB&T.

The Budget & Finance Committee is pleased with the approval of this Investment Plan, and will safeguard and monitor all aspects of the Society's funds to maximize efficiency through all deposits, expenditures, budgets, and investments. The formula will be re-calculated each year, on the scheduled dates. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any member of the Budget & Finance Committee.



SPECIAL CHALLENGE

Win a Virginia Society Glass

Defenders,

Today I received my Society of the War of 1812 in Virginia dues notice. I also received dues notices from three other societies that I belong to. I have no doubt by the end of the week other dues notices will arrive. Nearly all of us are members of more than one organization so I'm asking you to try and have your Virginia 1812 dues paid by 1 December 2015. **In fact, I challenge you to have your dues paid by 1 December 2015.**



Every member who has their dues paid by that date and every life member who makes a donation to the Virginia Society by that date will have their name entered into a drawing for a Virginia Society glass.

I look forward to donating that glass and I look forward to this being the first time in our history that all dues are paid on time. Don't delay – that glass could be yours!

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Fritts

President, Virginia Society

Perpetuating the Memories, A Collaborative Effort, (Continued from Page 1)

In this task, it was necessary to determine if the service identified for a buried person actually was for this person or for someone else with the same name. To solve this, one had to know where militia units were from in Virginia and where and when they were activated and where did they go to serve.

Many militia companies remained in the county they were from if there was a threat that the British would come ashore there. But, for the counties not on the rivers and bordering on the Chesapeake Bay, these counties and cities were ordered to send most of their companies to Fort Norfolk area, or to camps along the James River leading to Richmond or to Maryland or to counties bordering on the Potomac or Rappahannock Rivers. Some Virginia counties sent units to Ohio during the year 1812.

Fortunately, Stuart Butler of our society published after much research, what I call the bible for determining militia service in Virginia, *A Guide to Virginia Militia Units in the War of 1812*. In this book he lists all the counties in Virginia during the war period, what regiments they were assigned and what company sized units were assigned to these regiments, and when they were activated, and where they went to serve, and when they were discharged.

The regimental officers and company commanders are all listed. So, if a person is buried in the county there is a large probability he also served from that county. Here I kept in mind that a man under age of 21 normally would not normally be an officer or a sergeant so the service in these ranks might be for his father or an uncle or cousin of the same name.

Now an important question arises and that is: was he paid by Virginia or by the federal government or both? The answer is determined by where his unit

went to serve and after arrival what regiment the company was attached to and was that regiment paid by the federal government or not. If paid by the latter, his service records will be at the National Archives (NARA). If paid by Virginia his name will likely appear in Virginia’s Muster Rolls or Pay Rolls. In some cases Virginia paid him until he arrived at his destination and was further attached and then he was paid by the federal government resulting in service records being in both areas.

Some men volunteered to serve in the Regular Army or Navy, thus their records will be at the National Archives as well. Unfortunately the War of 1812 service records at NARA still have not been published but the information on the service index cards that reflect some of the information in these records has been. I have two CDs that I always use first to save research time. One contains the contents of all the War of 1812 service index cards at NARA and the other contains Virginia’s muster and payrolls. If service for a person is not found in these two sources the other fifty or so service sources are reviewed. In some cases only pension and bounty land records for his service can be found. If found a note showing this is included in the book.

To make the book more useful I have added genealogical information containing who the veteran’s parents are, who he married and her

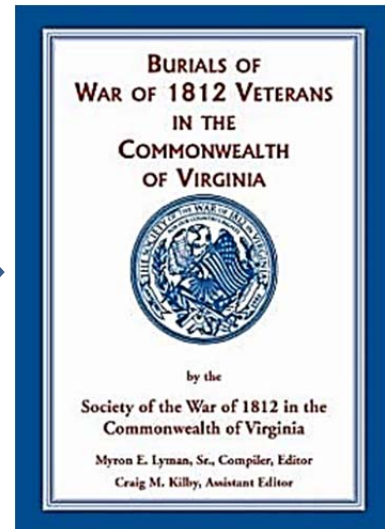
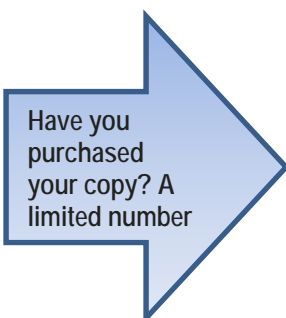
parents and what he did or accomplished of importance after the war. To do this I reviewed and extracted data from many marriage records, obituaries, county histories and vital records. These sources are also included in the book in Appendix E.

Our society spent a lot of money to pay for some of the source material and to convert the spreadsheet into a paragraph format and for the assistance of my assistant editor, Craig Kilby. A lot of our members provided me data for inclusion that was very much appreciated. Carol Epperly, wife of member, John Epperly spent many hours editing the contents of the book and without the assistance and guidance of Peter Broadbent the book may not have been published.

A lot of other details, specifics and considerations were involved to insure the book contains a high level of accuracy. Perhaps the summary above will give you an idea of what is involved and will interest you as a member to assist in gathering more information. I visualize that several editions to the book will be necessary as more information is gathered. I am hoping you will assist in getting this accomplished.

I invite you to join with me as we work together to **Perpetuate the Memories** of our ancestors.

Mike Lyman,
Author/Compiler





1812VA Society Activities AUG – NOV



EVENTS:

August

- 3 Presentation to *The Preservation of the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula Org.*
- 8 Unveiling of Virginia Historical Highway Sign Marker – Cape Henry Lighthouse, Fort Story, VA

September

- 5 Presentation at Henrico County, VA, War of 1812 Camp Site
- 13 Unveiling of Virginia Historical Highway Sign Marker – Antioch Baptist Church, Sandston, VA
- 18 Virginia Society Board meeting – Roanoke, VA

October

- 17 Joint Ceremony – War of 1812 & SAR, Maddox Cemetery, Prince Wm. County, VA
- 21 Presentation to the Joy Club, Warsaw, VA
- 24 Joint Ceremony – 1812 Veteran Milner Woodson, at Shockow Hill Cemetery, Richmond, VA

November

- 11 Veteran's Day Wreath Laying, Chesterfield County, VA

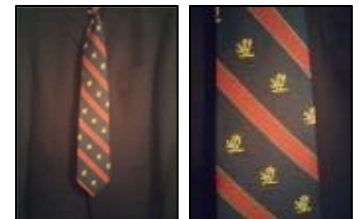
New Members (and others) are asking - ***"Is there an official uniform of our 1812VA Society?"***

Dress Code: Navy blue blazer; Tan, khaki or grey slacks; the Official 1812VA neck tie; Society of the War of 1812 rosette worn on the left lapel; Society blazer patch; Full size 1812VA medal on neck ribbon or on the jacket; Name tag. Although not officially enforced, this is the "official uniform" for our Society.

Rosette – The rosette is a round insignia covered with cloth worn only in the left buttonhole of a member's blazer or suit coat, and is never worn with a rosette of another organization.



Neck Tie – The Official neck tie for our 1812VA is shown in the picture. Our 1812VA Society has a specific necktie that is different from the General Society tie.



Progress is being made to have all items available for sale on the webpage below:

<https://squareup.com/market/society-of-the-war-of-1812-in-virginia>

**Society Member Presents to
Preservation of the Northern Neck
And Middle Peninsula
August 3, 2015**

Charles Belfield spoke on, “The Men of Richmond County and Their Part in the War of 1812.” He presented a look into the War of 1812 as it unfolded in the Northern Neck of Virginia. He provided a historical perspective of the battle at the little white house and the battle at North Farnham in Richmond County. Charles also provided a history of one of the common uniforms worn during that time. PNNMP is actively concerned with preserving and protecting the rich historic and cultural resources of the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula, focusing in particular on Lancaster, Northumberland, Westmoreland, Richmond, King George, and Essex counties.



**Society Participates in Virginia State Marker
Dedication – Cape Henry Lighthouse
Fort Story, Virginia
August 8, 2015**

Program

Welcome and Flag Raising

Nancy Dabney, *Cape Henry Lighthouse Site Coordinator*

Virginia Historic Marker Program

Lena McDonald, *Virginia Department of Historic Resources*

Cape Henry in the War of 1812

Christopher Pieczynski, *Tidewater Community College*

Unveiling of the Marker

Joseph Burroughs, *Descendant of Lighthouse Keeper Travy Burroughs*

**Distinguished Guest Remarks and Reading of the
Marker**

Honorable Scott Rigell, *2nd District Virginia, U.S. House of Representatives*

Honorable Will Sessoms, *Mayor of Virginia Beach*

Presentation of Wreaths

Miss Jennie Lou Pangle
President, Fort Norfolk Daughters of 1812

Colonel Carter Furr, U.S. Army (Retired)
Officer, Society of the War of 1812 in Virginia



**Historical Highway Marker Dedication
Richmond’s War of 1812 Defensive Camps
Antioch Baptist Church, Sandston, VA
September 13, 2015**

Three members of the Society participated in the Henrico County historical road sign unveiling ceremony conducted inside the Antioch Baptist Church in Sandston. The ceremony was incorporated into a meeting of the Henrico County Historical Society meeting which was also attended by members of the county supervisors. The county band played and the Varina High Scholl Navy, ROTC presented the colors.

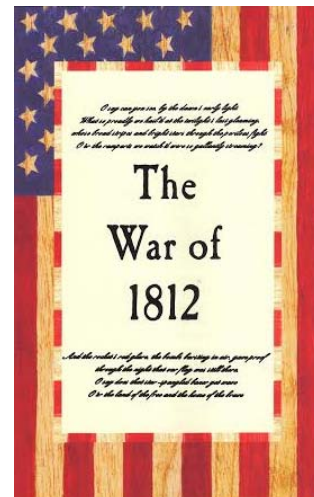
Attending from the Society was Stuart Butler, author, historian and society councilor, Chuck Poland, society registrar, and Mike Lyman, society past president. Butler talked about the war and how the camps along the James River played an important role in protecting Richmond from attack. Lyman talked about the 33rd militia regiment of the county and where some of the men were locally buried. Poland and Lyman presented the society wreath and Butler presented the Virginia Bicentennial Commission wreath.



Stuart Butler



Above: L/R - Stuart Butler, Mike Lyman, Charles Poland



**Society Members Present at
Henrico County, VA
War of 1812 Camp Site
Malvern Hill Battlefield
September 5, 2015**

Stuart Butler, Councilor and member of the Society, and author of several War of 1812 books and articles on the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia, was the guest speaker for the Malvern Hill Ceremony in Henrico County on September 5, 2015. Butler discussed, “Defending the Old Dominion” during the War of 1812. Also speaking was Mike Lyman, past Society president who spoke on our Society’s purpose, the burial book, and other items.



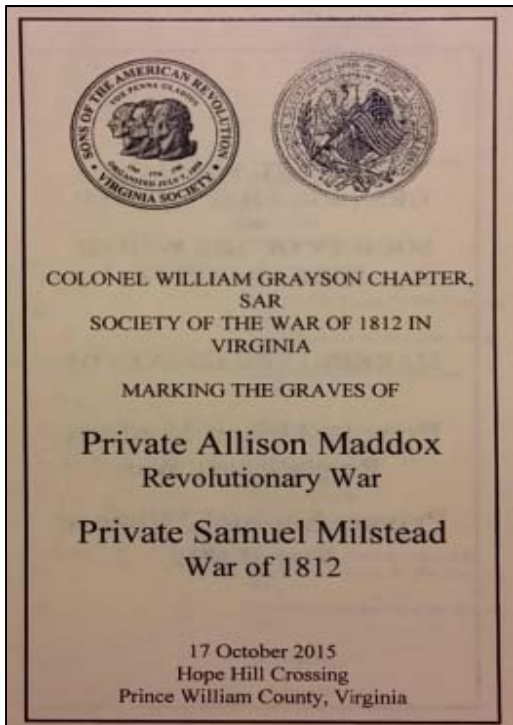
**Society Member Presents at
Joy Club, Warsaw, Virginia
Farnham Church
October 21, 2015**



Charles Belfield presented to the Joy Club in Warsaw, Virginia. About 20 women from this club attended. Belfield spoke about the battles at the little white house and the battle at Farnham Church. The Skirmish at Farnham church, December 6, 1814, was a small skirmish during the War of 1812 between the Virginia militia and the British. The Virginia militia repelled the British, even while under fierce attack and bombardment by the British.



**Society Participates in Joint Grave Marking Ceremony with SAR
 Mattox Cemetery, Good Hope Crossing
 Prince William County, VA
 October 17, 2015**

The Society of the War of 1812 and the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, conducted a joint grave marker unveiling ceremony on Saturday, 17 October 2015 at the Mattox Cemetery at Good Hope Crossing Subdivision in Prince William County, Virginia. The cemetery contains a Revolutionary War veteran and a War of 1812 veteran. During the ceremony, a Virginia Historical road sign about the Mattox Cemetery was unveiled. The veterans honored were: Revolutionary War - Allison Maddox was born about 1760 in Charles County, Maryland and died 22 January 1843 in Prince William County (or Fairfax County), Virginia. He was a Private, in the 1st Maryland Line, having been drafted from the Charles County militia. Representing the Society was Thad Hartman, Ken Williamson, John Epperly, and Bill Collier.



	
AGENDA	
Call to Order	Thad Hartman, Graves Chairman
Invocation	Richard Potter, Chaplain
Pledge of Allegiance	Roger Boyce
SAR Pledge	Bill Collier
Recognition of Guests	Thad Hartman
Greetings:	Pam Burnstead, HOA President Marie Vayer, Regent, Pr. Wm Resolves, DAR Ken Williamson, Society of the War of 1812 Kayne Kambach, PWC Historical Society
Remarks	Thad Hartman
Unveiling of Grave Marker	Thad Hartman Richard Potter Barry Schwoerer Mike Weyler
Wreath Laying	Gary Howard, CWG President, SAR Marie Vayer, Regent, Pr. Wm Resolves, DAR Ken Williamson, Society of the War of 1812
Musket Salute	David Adams
SAR Recessional	John Epperly
Benediction	Richard Potter, Chaplain
Taps	Arlington National Cemetery Recording

**Society Wreath Presented at
Joint Ceremony Shockoe Hill Cemetery
Richmond, VA
October 24, 2015**

The Society presented a wreath at the joint ceremony that honored various veterans buried at the Shockoe Hill Cemetery. Sergeant Milner Woodson, War of 1812, was the veteran honored by the laying of the Society wreath. Sergeant Milner Woodson, born about 1794, probably in Charlotte or Cumberland County, VA, was buried at the cemetery 24 Nov 1849. The ceremony included an erection of a Veterans Administration gravestone and a dedication ceremony. Mike Lyman, past president of the Society performed the honors.



**Society Wreath Presented at
Chesterfield County Veteran’s Day Ceremony
November 11, 2015**

The Society presented a wreath at the Chesterfield County Veterans Day Memorial Ceremony, Wednesday, November 11, at 2 pm. The Society was represented and the Society wreath was presented by member Carl Bess, Jr.



**DO YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW YOU CAN HELP
PERPETUATE THE MEMORIES
----- HERE'S A WAY -----
WWW.SMILE.AMAZON.COM**

From: AmazonSmile [mailto:no-reply@amazon.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 2:06 PM
To: J. Shane Newcombe <shane@accessoriesabroad.com>
Subject: Welcome to AmazonSmile. Customers shop. Amazon gives.



Dear J. Shane Newcombe,

Thank you for registering **The Society Of The War Of 1812 In The Commonwealth Of Virginia** on org.amazon.com and welcome to the AmazonSmile program, where **Amazon donates 0.5%** of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organizations selected by our customers.

1. What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for YOU to support **OUR VIRGINIA SOCIETY** every time you shop with **WWW.SMILE.AMAZON.COM**, at no cost to you. You'll get the exact same low price with the added bonus of knowing that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to OUR VIRGINIA SOCIETY. Get your entire family involved... no cost you, and YOU HELP PERPETUATE THE MEMORIES!

2. How do YOU select The Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia as my chosen charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

WHEN YOU SHOP, USE SMILE.AMAZON.COM. On your first visit (www.smile.amazon.com), you will receive the opportunity to select a charitable organization that will receive the donations. If this does not occur, you will search for our Virginia Society and make that selection before you begin shopping. Your selection of our Society will be automatically applied for every eligible purchase you make. You must be logged into **Amazon Smile** at this website: www.smile.amazon.com.

3. How much of YOUR purchase does Amazon donate?

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges.

4. Can YOU use YOUR existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT YOU MUST LOG INTO WWW.SMILE.AMAZON.COM ... DO IT...

Now YOU can help PERPETUATE THE MEMORIES

IT'S TRUE!
A VIRGINIAN FIRED THE LAST SHOT OF THE WAR OF 1812

PERPETUATING THE MEMORIES

Submitted by Ken Williamson, Editor, The Virginia War Cry

Lewis Warrington (3 November 1782 – 12 October 1851) was born in Williamsburg, Virginia, and was educated at the College of William and Mary, of Williamsburg, Virginia. After his education, he received an appointment as a Navy midshipman 6 January 1800. He was an officer in the United States Navy during the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812. He temporarily served as the Secretary of the Navy. He died in Washington, DC.



When the war with England began in June 1812, Warrington had been assigned to the *USS Congress* serving as the frigate's first lieutenant while she patrolled the North Atlantic. During his tour of duty in that warship, she made two successful war cruises, capturing nine prizes off the east coast of the United States during the first and four off the Atlantic seaboard of South America during the second.

Promoted to Master Commandant in July 1813, he took command of the sloop-of-war *Peacock*. On 12 March 1814, he put to sea with his new command bound for the naval station at St. Mary's, Georgia. After delivering supplies to that installation, he encountered the British brig *Epervier* off Cape Canaveral, Florida. *Peacock* emerged victorious from a brisk 45-minute exchange with that opponent, inflicting 10 times her own losses on the enemy. For his role in the victory, this Virginian received the "Thanks of Congress" in the form of a Congressional Gold Medal, and from his home state of Virginia, he received a special award in the form of a gold-hilted sword, similar to the one in the picture.



After returning via the West Indies to New York, Warrington took *Peacock* on her third and final war cruise. His sloop-of-war stood out of New York on 23 January 1815, sailed around the Cape of Good Hope, and entered the Indian Ocean. Unaware of the treaty at Ghent, Belgium, in December 1814, Warrington led his *Peacock* on another successful foray against British commerce. After taking three prizes in the Indian Ocean, he entered the East Indies in search of more game.

Continuing in attack mode, on 30 June 1815, he encountered the East India Company brig *Nautilus* in the Sunda Strait and attacked her, despite having received another unconfirmed message of peace. After a sharp, unequal action whereby the British ship lost 15 men including her first lieutenant, the *Nautilus* surrendered to Warrington. Warrington then released the prize and started for home. *Peacock* arrived back in New York on 30 October 1815. A court of inquiry in Boston a year later exonerated Warrington of all blame. Thus, the last shots fired during The War of 1812, were on the orders of a Virginian, Lewis Warrington, from his sloop-of-war, the *Peacock*.

<http://listverse.com/2013/07/01/9-last-official-shots-of-wars/>

Virginia's Jericho: The Battle of Craney Island

PERPETUATING THE MEMORIES

Submitted By Dr. Larry G. Aaron, Virginia State Chaplain, Society of the War of 1812

On June 21, 1813, during The War of 1812, a British invasion of Virginia that quite likely could have changed the course of the war was thwarted at the mouth of Elizabeth River in the battle of Craney Island. It was the Virginia Militia's finest hour.

This unbelievable victory serves as a reminder of the biblical Battle of Jericho where Joshua led the Israelites in an epic battle against impossible odds.



The British had been invading Chesapeake Bay, marauding and pillaging at will along its coastal waters enforcing a "strict and rigorous blockade." They captured numerous vessels, interrupted trade, ransacked farms for provisions, and other atrocities.

Then the British attempted to capture Norfolk (an important and strategic port) located along the Elizabeth River, along with the USS Constellation, anchored in the Elizabeth River between Norfolk and Portsmouth, and Gosport Naval Yard. With Norfolk being the "center of maritime resistance" in the Bay, its fall would have been a catastrophe blow to the war effort and paved the way for an invasion of Richmond up the James River. But located at the mouth of the Elizabeth River was the main obstacle to the British effort---Craney Island, a 30-acre stretch of land, with a footbridge connecting it to the mainland.

The British thought the fortified island would be "one of [British] Admiral Cockburn's easy Chesapeake Bay victories where an ill-trained militia would fire a few desultory rounds then melt away before superior redcoat strength." Indeed it would have appeared that way with the Virginia forces consisted of slightly over 700 men, most if not all inexperienced. The entrance to the Elizabeth River was guarded by 15 American gunboats, which were no match for British warships. The British launched their attack on the island on June 21, landing 2500 veteran British infantry onto the mainland to attack the island from the backside, while a flotilla of troop-filled barges attacked its front. Neither attempt was successful due to the Virginia artillery and guns brought to the island from the USS Constellation. The British lost about 200 men and the Virginians none, except a sentinel guarding ammunition powder that accidentally exploded.



This defeat lead Dr. Philip Barraud of Norfolk to write "Craney Island with 600 men and fifteen gunboats have saved our town against 22 ships of sail of the best description and a land force of men near 3000." General Robert Taylor, commander of the 5th Military District around Norfolk, wrote, "*The courage and constancy with which this inferior force, in the face of formidable naval armament...repelled the enemy with considerable loss...cannot fail to inspire their government and the applause of their country.*"



It would seem then that Craney Island was Virginia's Jericho victory in the war of 1812. In Joshua's day, the walls of Jericho came down when the Israelite army marched around the city and blew their trumpets. On Craney Island, those modern day trumpets were loaded with cannon balls. The importance of the victory cannot be overestimated. Had Norfolk fallen, the British would have been able to establish an inland naval base with increased troops and firepower, perhaps bringing down the nation with more devastating attacks on Washington and Baltimore.

Note: Second Corporal James Mitchell, the author's third great grandfather, was a soldier in Virginia's 6th Regiment of Artillery, associated with the Battle of Craney Island.



QUESTION:

Would you like to honor a family ancestor who is buried in another state, and who participated in the War of 1812?

You can!!! Purchase a grave marker from the 1812VA Quartermaster General and we'll help you plan your event. Take a lot of pictures and send a report and pictures for our newsletter.

Contact the editor at:
 editor1812VA@gmail.com

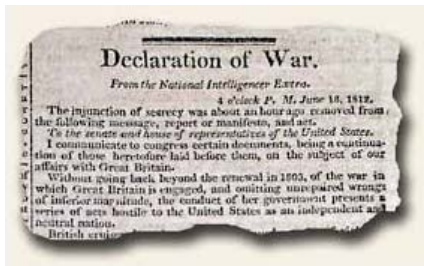


1812VA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Member	Ancestor	Admitted Date:
Michael L. Mankin	John D. Brown	31JUL15
John S. Lynch II	John Shaw	19SEP15

1812VA SUPPLEMENTALS APPROVED

Member	Ancestor
Scott R. Kerns	Jacob Norbeck
Morgan D. Howard	George Woodson Layne
Morgan D. Howard	John Leftwich



Virginia War News from the Fall of 1813:

Sep 17 1813 County near Cheriton Creek “Northampton militia pursue British barges up Cheriton Creek” (Butler)

Sep 21 or 22 1813 Princess Anne County Enemy land at Pleasure House and burn part of it taking nine prisoners

Oct 29, 1813 Northumberland County, Ragged Point “...a large brig was captured and burnt at Ragged Point; and early the next morning, a schooner of Mr. N. Berryman...was taken and converted into a tender. Mr. Henderson [Capt. Wm. Henderson] lost a valuable schooner...after she was run by the enemy and got into Yeocomico, where she unfortunately grounded and became an easy prize to one of the frigate’s tenders. Some patriotic citizens from the Northumberland shore, fired several times at the tenders crew, but without effect.”

Nov 8 1813 Northumberland Co., in Chesapeake Bay US officer under flag goes aboard British vessel asking for release of 100 slaves. The wish is granted to those choosing to return but none reportedly did.

Nov 30 1813 Princess Anne County South of Cape Henry “A small schooner laden with flour, which the enemy had captured up the Bay, went ashore on Monday night, a little southward of Cape Henry The officer commanding, and three seaman, were made prisoners.” (Norfolk Ledger I Dec 1813)

Dec 1813 Princess Anne County near Pleasure House “ Captain Griffin Lampkin’s riflemen surprise a party of British seeking water rear the Pleasure House and drive them away” (Butler)

From: *Encounters With the British in Virginia During the War of 1812*, By Myron Lyman, Sr. and William Hankins
<http://1812va.org/?p=1085>

On-Line Merchandise Store Available For Members Only

An online store has been established to purchase various items for members of the Virginia Society. This site currently accepts credit cards, but you can also mail an order. Paste this link into your browser:

<https://squareup.com/market/society-of-the-war-of-1812-in-virginia>

UPCOMING EVENTS

**NOTE: REMEMBER TO CHECK OUR SOCIETY WEBSITE
BETWEEN NEWSLETTERS FOR OTHER UP TO DATE EVENT NEWS
[WWW.1812VA.ORG]**

DATE TO BE DETERMINED:

Just to give you a heads up, Stuart Butler, Mike Lyman and I have been working on a project to honor General John P. Hungerford. To do this, Mike has been working on the design and installation of a plaque at the cemetery where the General and other veterans of the 1812 War and the Revolutionary War are buried. Stuart is putting effort toward having a historical road sign installed in Leedstown, VA. He will be submitting an application to send to DHS for approval. As you know, projects like this are costly. When we get approval from DHS, I will be requesting funding from the Society towards this project. May we keep the memories alive!

Regards,
Charles Belfield

Essex County (6th Regiment): "Essex County's militia units responded to the British threat in the Rappahannock River during the spring of 1813. Many were called up in December 1814 when the British forces shelled and occupied Tappahannock. A few units served at Norfolk, and two units took part in the Alexandria campaign under Brig. Gen. John P. Hungerford." From A Guide to Virginia Militia Units in the War of 1812, by author Stuart Butler, pp. 69.

26 NOVEMBER – THANKSGIVING DAY:

**May all of our members, their families and friends,
And all of our readers, enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving Day.
Give Thanks!**

During the war, President Madison proclaimed three days of fasting and prayer in response to Congressional requests (August 20, 1812, September 9, 1813, and January 12, 1815). He was the last president to call for a national thanksgiving until Abraham Lincoln in 1863.





Society of the War of 1812 In the Commonwealth of VA

PLACE
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