

General Society of the War of 1812-2021 Annual Meeting

Paul Walden, President, Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia

On August 6-7, I attended the General Society annual meeting and related events in Nashville, Tennessee. The Tennessee Society did an outstanding job putting this together at the last minute, after it was decided that having the annual meeting in Philadelphia, as originally planned, was going to be problematic due to COVID restrictions. The first event on Friday was a visit and wreath laying at General Andrew Jackson's home and grave at the Hermitage in Nashville. We then laid a wreath at President James Polk's grave in front of the Tennessee State Capitol. The Tennessee State Museum curators then gave us a personalized tour of the War of 1812 exhibit in the new museum in Nashville. On Saturday, we took a bus trip to the Camp Blount Historic Site in Fayetteville, TN. This is where the Tennessee Volunteers mustered under the command of Andrew Jackson in the fall of 1813 for their campaign against Creek forces who had attacked the settlement at Fort Mims earlier that year. The Society presented a donation to the Camp Blount Historic Site Association to assist them in their restoration of this site. We then journeyed back to Nashville for a catered lunch and our annual meeting held at Traveler's Rest, the home of Judge John Overton. Overton was a prominent Nashville attorney and businessman and a close friend of Jackson. The weekend concluded with a formal dinner where we heard from D. Brenton Simons, President and CEO of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society.



President Walden, 15th from the right