

Volume 23, Number 1 Spring-Summer 2021





Finding and Preserving History for America

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PRESIDENT WALDEN'S MESSAGE of May 17, 2012

Dear Virginia Defenders:

I hope everyone continues to be well as the pandemic appears to be easing and we slowly return to a more normal life. I was happy to be able to attend an indoor church service for the first time in 14 months this weekend. Therefore, I am hoping many of you will feel comfortable in attending our annual muster on June 26 at Westwood Club in Richmond. Our own fellow member Dennis Bigelow will be our guest speaker portraying James Monroe.

Despite the pandemic, our society was still quite active this spring. On March 29, I was joined by defenders Stuart Butler, Hugh Markham, Charles Belfield and Mike Lyman in honoring 10th U.S. President and War of 1812 veteran John Tyler at his grave in Richmond. On April 10, Charles Belfield, portraying James Monroe, participated in a ceremony honoring him at his birthplace in Colonial Beach. Jim Russell, Mike Lyman, George Beckett, and Hugh Markham served as Color Guard, and Paul Walden presented a wreath on behalf of the Society. Finally, on May 15, I presented a wreath and participated in the unveiling of a plague memorializing 24 War of 1812 veterans interred at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Loudoun County. Defender Dale Corey read the names of the veterans with me, in addition to serving as bugler and leading the crowd in singing God Bless America. This was a joint grave marking with the Virginia SAR. Thad Hartman served as Master of Ceremonies, and he and Mike Lyman are to be thanked for their research that make this possible. Since this was a joint event with VASSAR, there were of course of a number of other Defenders there. Thank you all for the big turnout despite the gas situation we were having that week. The Society also virtually presented the ROTC award to Brooke Siever, a Junior at the University of Richmond, in April.

Please remember we are again sponsoring an Essay Contest for High School students in Virginia and West Virginia. Entries are due June 30, 2021 and the details are on our Society website. Encourage your sons, grandsons, nephews, neighbors, etc. to submit an essay. The topic again is a Virginian who had a role in the War of 1812. Also, I hope to see many of you at the National Muster in Nashville, TN on August 5-7, 2021. Details are on the National website: https://gswar1812.org/meetings/.

We are also working with VASSAR to plan another joint grave marking in Norfolk on September and another possible one in the Shenandoah Valley later in the year. I still am searching for a historic site related to the War of 1812 in Virginia to be marked sometime this year. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

I hope to see many of you at one of our events in the coming months and wish you all a relaxing and safe summer.

Fraternally, Paul Walden

FROM THE EDITOR

This issue documents that members of our society have continued our patriotic and educational endeavors responsibly, even though constrained by the Covid pandemic. The Photo Journal, drawing on the newsletter postings of Mike Lyman, features ceremonies occurring this Spring through our Annual Muster and Shockoe Commemoration Ceremony of June 26, 2021.

Included is an interesting newspaper clipping and comments submitted by Hugh Markham.

I appreciate all the understanding, content, and support given me for the assembly of the *Virginian War Cry*. Your suggestions for improvement and submissions will be welcomed. My email is twhetstone1@cox.net and telephone is (757) 482-2903.



Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia

Officers 2020-2021

President Paul Walden

First VP James M. Green

Second VP Kenneth Hawkins

Secretary Jim Russell

Treasurer J. Shane Newcombe

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Charles Belfield

William (Bill) Collier

John M. Epperly

J. Thomas Whetstone

Kenneth (Ken) Williamson

PHOTO JOURNAL

Society Conducts Ceremony at President Tyler's Gravesite Mar 29, 2021 Hollywood Cemetery 412 South Cherry St, Richmond, VA



Tyler's Monument, Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond

President Paul Walden, President of the War of 1812 Society in the Commonwealth of Virginia presented introductory remarks.

Then he asked the color guard to post the colors? (*The colors were presented by Color Guard Commander, Charles Belfield, Registrar, Hugh Markham, and past President, Mike Lyman*). He then asked Past Society President Stuart Butler to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States. (*See photo below*) He then asked Dr Cheryl Davis, an officer in the James Monroe Chapter, US Daughters of 1812 to sing the National Anthem. (*See photos below*) He then asked Past President Mike Lyman to discuss the design of the three flags carried by the color guard, the Star Spangled Banner Flag, the Virginia Society War of 1812 Flag and the James City County Regimental Flag (*Note the flag carried is a replica of the only Virginia War of 1812 regimental flag that has been found. The original was captured by the British in 1813 when they made incursions up the James River into James City County and into Williamsburg. A photo of the front side was procured from England. From a description obtained from England, the reverse side was prepared by the Virginia society)*

Good morning, I am Paul Walden, President of the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and we are gathered this morning to honor the memory of John Tyler, our 10th US President and officer in the War of 1812.

John Tyler was born on this date in 1790 in Charles City County, Virginia, the son of John Tyler Sr, a college roommate of Thomas Jefferson. The Tylers were one of the early Virginia families, going back to 17th century Williamsburg.

John Tyler was tutored on the family's Greenway Plantation and later attended the College of William and Mary. He was admitted to the bar at the premature age of 19 because the judge neglected to ask his age.

At the age of 21 he was elected to represent Charles City County in the House of Delegates. After the British capture of Hampton in 1813, Tyler organized the Charles City Rifles to defend Richmond, which he commanded as captain.

In 1816 he was elected to the US Congress, and later to the Senate in 1827. He became the 10th President of the United States in 1841 when his predecessor Harrison died from a cold he caught during his inauguration a month earlier. Tyler became the first vice president to become president due to the death of his predecessor. His distractors called him the "Accidental President" as a result. Tyler was a strong advocate of state's rights: he vetoed a bill to establish a National Bank, he also vetoed a tariff bill resulting in the first impeachment resolution introduced by Congress. He was also known for his "log cabin" bill which enabled settlers to claim 160 acres of land before it was offered publicly for sale. When the first state

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seceded in 1861, Tyler led a compromise movement which failed; he later became a member of the Confederate House of Representatives and died in office in 1862."

Below is the benediction Walden gave at the end of the ceremony.

"Almighty God, grant us your mercies as we part. In the coming days, help us to reaffirm our roles as citizens of the United States. Keep before us the privations and sacrifices of our ancestors, who freely gave themselves in the cause of liberty and democracy. Endow us with their resolve. Strengthen us as we pledge ourselves to the preservation of the freedoms bestowed by your hand. Amen."



President Paul Walden and Dr Cheryl Davis present wreaths



Dr Davis sings National Anthem



Group photo from left -Hugh Markham, Society Registrar; Paul Walden, President; Stuart Butler, Past President; Dr Cheryl Davis, officer in James Monroe Chapter, US Daughters of 1812; Charles Belfield, Color Guard Commander; and Mike Lyman, Past President

Society Participates in Event Honoring James Monroe Apr 28 2021

Members of the War of 1812 Society in the Commonwealth of Virginia participated in a ceremony conducted by The Northern Neck of VA Historical Society at James Monroe's birthplace by presenting a wreath, representing James Monroe and participating in the color guard. The replica birthplace house is located at 4460 James Monroe Highway (Rt 205), Westmoreland County 22443

The event was posted on Youtube and may be seen at https://youtu.be/HJyll4Ytrc8



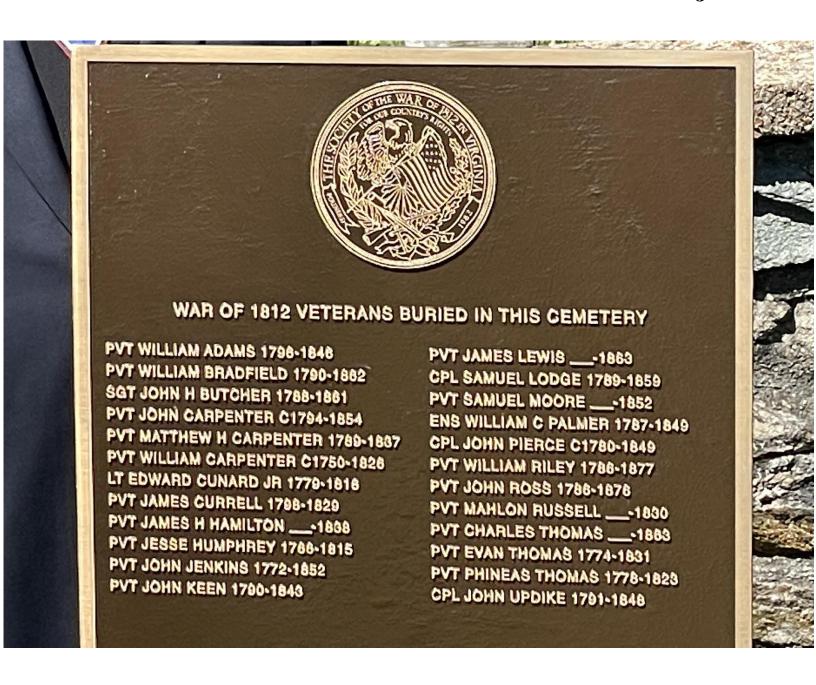
On April 10, the Virginia Society participated in a commemoration at the birthplace of our Fifth U.S. President, James Monroe, at his birthplace in Colonial Beach, Virginia. The ceremony was conducted by the James Monroe Chapter, Virginia Sons of the American Revolution, and the Northern Neck Historical Society. Virginia Defender Charles Belfield portrayed James Monroe. President Monroe was both Secretary of War and State during the War of 1812 and actually participated in the Battle of Bladensburg in defending Washington from British troops. He is buried at Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, near President Tyler's grave. In the photo are Virginia Defenders (left to right) 1. Jim Russell, 4. Mike Lyman, 6. George Beckett, 9. Paul Walden, 13. Hugh Markham, and 15. Charles Belfield

Society Participates in Plaque Dedication Ceremony May 15, 2021 Ebenezer Church Cemetery, Loudoun County



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Dedicated May 15, 2021 Ebenezer Church Cemetery

Dedication of the "Never Forget Garden" by Adam Thoroughgood Chapter N.S.D.A.R. Memorial Day, May 31, 2021 West Point Cemetery, Norfolk, VA



Society of the War of 1812 Councilor Tom Whetstone gathers with Adam Thoroughgood Chapter, N.S.D.A.R., to honor Afro-American US Veterans buried in West Point Cemetery. First row: Congresswoman Elaine Luria & DAR Regent Florence Reese

Society Muster June 26, 2021 Westwood Country Club Richmond

Board of Directors Deliberates.
Distinquished guest Dr. Matthew Barlow
of Deleware Society
is seated at the right.





Additional Progress at the Annual Muster June 26, 2021

Editor Tom Whetstone is hidden behind Registrar Hugh Markham

Commemoration Ceremony Shockoe Hill Cemetery Richmond, June 26, 2021

<u>Honoring:</u> Lieutenant Powertan Ellis, Corporal John Brittain, & Private John Rowland



Musket Salute by Color Guard Hugh Markham, Jim Russell, Charles Belfield, & Mike Lyman participating

Commemoration Ceremony Shockoe Hill Cemetery Richmond June 26, 2021



Ann Fickling, President, Rappahannock Chapter, War of 1812 in Virginia, & Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia President Paul Walden present wreaths

Virginia Society Defenders at Shockoe Hill Cemetery June 26, 2021



Articles Found Re Nathaniel Markham Submitted to the *Virginia War Cry* by Registrar Hugh Markham

One of our recent new members of the VA Society of the War of 1812, Frank Alvin Linton (goes by AI) sent me a copy of a news article he recently found. Knowing that I too am a Markham he thought it might be of interest to me.

Al Said, "I found this article on the Facebook page History of Botetourt County- VA 1770 – 2020.. It was first published in the Staunton Spectator May 10th 1882 and later reprinted in the Buchanan Democrat. I found a 1812 -1815 Service Index Record which may be his record. In any case, his bio. warrants additional genealogical and historical research. At this time, his burial site is unknown."

I have yet to establish a relationship to Nathaniel but found that I had squirled this article away in my own database.

Application of Nathaniel Markham for Bounty Land SC-15710, State of Virginia County of Botetourt, to wit:

On this 19th day of November, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty three, personally appeared before me, Thos. J Obenchain, a Justice of the Peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, Nathaniel Markham, age 73 years, a resident of Botetourt County, Virginia, who being duly sworn according to law declared that he is the identical Nathaniel Markham who was a private in the Company commanded by W.P. Tibbs in the 3rd Regiment of Virginia Militia commanded by W.P. Tibbs, in the war with Great Britian in 1812, that he went from Botetourt County the 27th of December 1813 for the term of three months and continued in actual service is said was for the three months and fifteen days and was honorably discharged at Norfolk, Virginia, on or about the 11th day of April, 1814, as will appear by the muster rolls of said company, that the distance from Botetourt County, Virginia, where he was enrolled and where he marched with said company, which was in an organized form and under the command of it's officers to Norfolk, Virginia, where he was mustered into the service of the United States, is three hundred miles, and the distance to from Norfolk, Virginia, where he was discharged to Botetourt County, Virginia, the place of enrollment is three hundred miles, in all, six hundred miles, which is equal to thirty days or month service under the fifth section of the act of Congress of March 22, 1852, making his service in all, actual service and days allowed for travel amount to four months and fifteen days which would entitle him to eighty acres of land. That he has secured a a Bounty Land Warrant for forty acres which he has sold and assigned and over which he has now no control, that he has never secured any other Bounty Land whatsoever under any act of Congress, but that he has made application for the increase which he now asks, which was refused as he supposes on the ground of informality; He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the Bounty Land to which he may be entitled under the act of Congress entitled " An act granting Bounty Land to certain officers and soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States", approved Sept 28, 1850, and he's under the act of Congress, entitled "An act to make land warrants assignable and for other purposes" approved March 22,

Nathaniel Markham (X) his mark & seal

Witness: Wm B Thompson

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day and year first above written and I

declare that I am in no wise interested in the subject matter of foregoing declaration and I certify that I believe the said Nathaniel Markham to be the identical man that served as aforesaid and that he is of the age above stated. Thos J. Obenchain, J.P.

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Interestingly Nathaniel Markham's father too was a Veteran but of the Revolutionary War. He followed General Greene down into South Carolina. His statements of activity have also been saved in my database and would be available for anyone that might be interested.

A REMARKABLE MAN.-Nathaniel Markham, living on Jennings Creek, in Botetourt, is 95 years old. He fought through the war of 1812 and draws an annual pension for his services in that war. Mr. Markham has eleven children, all now living, the oldest of whom is seventy five and the youngest sixtytwo years old. He has sixty-two grandchildren, seventy-nine great-grand, and eight great-great-grand-children. Mr. Markham is quite active for a man of We have known him several times, in the last year or two, to walk from his home to Buchanan, a distance of about eight or nine miles, draw his pension, and return home the same day. He is indeed a man remarkable for his years and the vigor and activity he retains.—Buchanan Democrat.

I have yet to establish a relationship to Nathaniel but found that I had squirreled this article away in my own database. (Hugh Markham)

General Society Flag Purchased and Donated to Virginia Society by Mike Lyman



Society Past President Mike Lyman purchased the above General Society Flag (see photo of front side) from Trimble's Antique Shop in White Stone VA in December 2016. He believes that the Virginia Society reimbursed him for the \$200 cost and the \$100 seamstress repair cost. The flag was made in NYC by John W. Finger which means it could have been ordered and purchased by the societies in NY, CT, PA, NJ, DL or MA in early 1900s.

Overall size: 4X6 ft. Varnished tapered pole length 6.3 inches with brass fitting at top with bolt extending for top ball or spike and at bottom a brass threaded fitting for an extension pole. Rope tassel is in good condition as is the gold fringe around flag. It is a double sided flag thus same on both sides. However, on reverse the 1812 is backward. There are no stars missing with all 15 showing on each side.

Virginia Society Color Guard Uniforms

We wear the Richmond Light Infantry Blues Coat (See image).

To represent the regular Army soldiers we wear the Regular Army Shako Hat, one of several used during the war period and worn at Fort Norfolk and at the Forts along the James River.





Society of the War of 1812 in Virginia High School Essay Contest Rules Essays Due December 31, 2021

The Society of the War of 1812 in Virginia encourages Virginia and West Virginia High School students to study the War of 1812, and especially, the role Virginians had in supporting what is often referred to as the "Second War for Independence."

- 1. Subject of the Essay must be on a Virginian who supported the United States in the War of 1812. Suggestions include, but not limited to, James Monroe, James Madison, Dolley Madison, Elizabeth Monroe, William Henry Harrison, John Randolph, and James Barbour.
- 2. Title Page The title page must include the following:
 - Title of the Essay
 - Applicant's name, grade, address, phone number & email
 - Applicant's high school's name, address & phone number
- 3. Essay Pages The essay must:
 - Be a minimum of 800 and a maximum of 1,500 words (excluding title page, endnotes, bibliography, page and biography)
 - First page must include the title
 - No applicant information is on the essay pages
 - 12-point Times New Roman font and double-spaced
 - Use 8 ½" by 11" paper with 1" margins on all sides
 - Essay pages are numbered sequentially, starting with "1"
 - No graphics, special covers or bindings are allowed. Please do not staple the pages.
- 4. Bibliography pages The bibliography must include:
 - Citations in the essay and references in the bibliography must be in accordance with a widely used, publicly available citation system (Examples include the Chicago Manual of Style, the MLA Manual of Style, & the MHRA Style Guide).
 - Minimum of 5 references, 3 of which must be published works (encyclopedias or internet sources are acceptable but not considered part of the 3 published works)

- 5. Student Biography page The biography of the student must be:
- Limited to one page.
- Includes academic awards and achievements, school activities, community activities and plans for college.

Essays which meet the criteria above will be accepted and judged equally on the following criteria:

- Historical accuracy
- Clarity of thought
- Organization and proven topic
- Grammar and spelling
- Documentation

Entries must be received by **June 30, 2021**. Please mail to Paul Walden, President, Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia, P.O. Box 4057, Alexandria, VA 22303-0057.

Students submitting essays give permission to the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia to publish their essays on the society website and newsletter.

Judging will occur before the Society's Fall, 2021 meeting. The winners will be announced on the Society's website: http://1812va.org

Entries are limited to public, private, and home-schooled High School students in West Virginia and Virginia who are in the 9th through 12th grade.

Prizes:

First Place: \$500 Second Place: \$250

Book Review

New York's War of 1812: Politics, Society, and Combat by Richard V. Barbuto. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2021. ISNB 978-0-8061-6833-3. Photos, maps. Notes, index. Pp 350.

Richard Barbuto begins and ends his book on New York in the War of 1812 with this sentence: "The War of 1812 was New York's war." While this may seem a bit of an over-reach to some, Barbuto makes a convincing case that, indeed, New York became the linchpin or the center of American efforts against the British in Canada during the War of 1812. As Barbuto sees it, geography would make the Empire State the main focus of American efforts to wage war in Canada.

Barbuto develops several major themes in supporting his main thesis about New York's crucial role in the war. They are: the pivotal role played by New York's governor, Daniel D. Tompkins, throughout the war; the internal political divisions within New York which had a profound effect on how New York responded to the war; the huge logistical and support efforts made by the state during the war; an intense concern for the defenses of New York city; and the role of New York's militia in support of American objectives. Not overlooked, however, is a balanced treatment of the battles and campaigns in New York and Canada.

If there were an indispensable figure in New York in the war, it was its governor, Daniel Tompkins. Tompkins was a fervent supporter of President Madison and a vigorous defender of the war. According to Barbuto, he was everywhere, tireless in overseeing and directing the state's response to the war effort, and indefatigable in his efforts to put New York on a war footing. His efforts were constantly thwarted early on in the war by the continuing opposition of Federalists in both state and New York city government. Despite his battles with the Federalists in the state, Tompkins overcame much of their opposition and managed to harness New York's commercial and business sectors to turn New York into a vast arsenal. This made New York the centerpiece of the logistical and transportation infrastructure that enabled the U.S.Army to wage war in Canada.

As commander-in-chief of the state militia, Tompkins oversaw the calling up and distribution of militia where they were most needed. While the militia units were not always responsive to requests made by the state on a timely basis, New York's militia, when it did turn out, greatly assisted the war effort in New York which allowed the regular army units to continue to fight in Canada. At times, militia calls were met and the units performed splendidly, while at other times the numbers fell short. Under state and federal laws, state militias were not required to cross into Canada. However, surprisingly large numbers of New York militia did. Barbuto states that New York's Brig. Gen. Peter Porter was the best militia commander in the war and backs that up with numerous examples.

Tompkins and state leaders were obsessed with shoring up the defenses of New York city, the nation's largest seaport. Tompkins and city leaders, Republicans and Federalists alike, joined together in ensuring that New York 's harbor had the necessary fortifications and munitions to thwart any British attack. According to Barbuto, Tompkins was in constant correspondence with Robert Fulton about the use of the inventor's floating batteries and steam powered ships for the city's defenses. As it turned out, the British navy never planned an attack on the city, judging the city's defenses too formidable to achieve victory.

While not a military history of New York in the War of 1812, Barbuto's book includes just enough military narrative to support the main themes of the book. His treatment of the British and American cat-and- mouse game on the Lakes is excellent as is his description of the major battles on the Canadian frontier, often fought-as he points out- with many New Yorkers among the many U.S. Army regiments.

Barbuto concludes that New York received more federal money in compensation for its expenditure in men, material, and damages incurred as a result of the war than any other state. Only Virginia called out its militia more times and that was due to the many incursions made by the British in the Chesapeake Bay.

Barbuto tells the story of New York in the War of 1812 in eighteen crisply and concisely written chapters each denoting a specific theme. It is thoroughly well researched and documented and based on a host of primary and secondary sources, along with instructive maps to guide the reader. If

one wanted to know what happened in New York during the War of 1812, this is the book they should turn to.

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NEW YORK'S WAR 1812 POLITICS SOCIETY AND COMBAT RICHARD V. BARBUTO

Stuart L. Butler, Williamsburg, VA