

*SOCIETY HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MUSTER ON JUNE 21, 2025, AT THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA*

*On June 21, 2025, the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia held its annual muster at the Commonwealth Club in Richmond, Virginia. The Board of Directors (BOD) met at 10am in the Club's Board Room to discuss past events, current issues that needed to be addressed, and upcoming events and activities. At 11:45, the General meeting in the Jefferson Room was called into order by President Stuart Butler, who identified distinguished guests at the meeting. These included Dr. Cheryl Davis, current president of the Virginia State Daughters of the War of 1812, who sang the National Anthem following the pledge of allegiance. Other guests included Dr. Kenneth Hawkins, also a member, who is the Vice President of the Eastern Division of the Virginia Sons of the American Revolution. Also called out for special attention was Amb. Gerald Scott, Society member, and whose membership in the Commonwealth Club made it possible for the Society to meet at the Club. Last, but not least, was the Fourth President of the United States, Mr. James Madison, who addressed the gathering after the meeting. Saturday's meeting was one of the largest of its kind in recent years. Three new members were also inducted into the Society by Registrar Hugh Markham. Enclosed below are some photos taken at the event.*

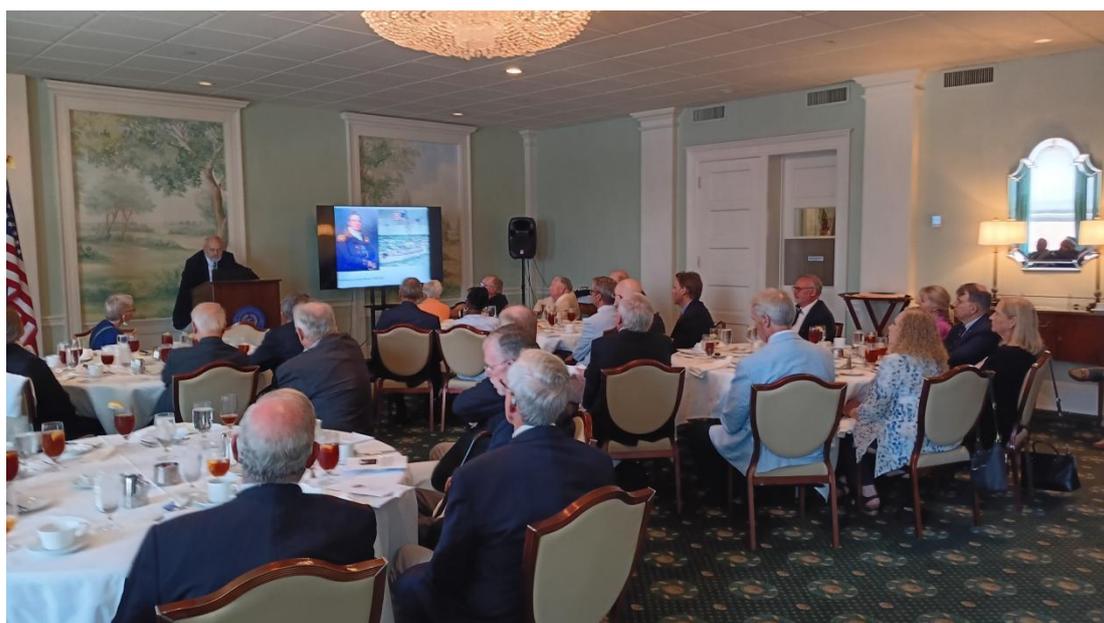


*BOD members seated L to R: Vice President General James Green, Historian Peter Broadbent, Councilor Tim Ahlgrim, 7<sup>th</sup> VP, Kenneth Hawkins, Registrar, Hugh Markham, Standing L to R: Robert Bruce IV, Councilor Jeremy Utt, Treasurer Shane Newcombe, President Stuart Butler, and Secretary Paul Walden.*

*The annual muster's featured speaker was noted author and historian Christopher George. George's focus was on the myths and realities of the war in the Chesapeake Bay during the War of 1812. He is the author of two books on the War of 1812: *Terror in the Chesapeake: The War in the Chesapeake Bay* (2000), and *The Man Who Captured Washington: Maj. Gen. Robert Ross in the War of 1812* (2016), the latter along with John McKavitt. He took several questions afterwards.*



*Christopher George at the podium delivering his talk*



*Christopher George and the audience*



*President Madison addresses the meeting. L to R: Bill Nash, Gerald Scott, President Madison, and Christopher George*



*New members being inducted. L to R: Thomas Kiess, John Nelson, and Samuel C. Sorrells. To the right is Registrar Hugh Markham*

*Our Speaker*



*Christopher George*

Christopher George is the author of two books on the War of 1812: *Terror on the Chesapeake: The War of 1812 on the Bay* (Shippensburg, PA, White Mane, 2000) and co-author with Dr. John McCavitt of *The Man Who Captured Washington; Major General Robert Ross and the War of 1812* (Norman, OK, Oklahoma Press, 2016). From 1996 to 2017, Chris served as an officer of the War of 1812 Consortium, editing their *Journal of the War of 1812* and organizing their annual symposium series on the war. Although he is British-born, he has been a proud U.S. citizen for over 30 years.



*SOCIETY OF THE WAR OF 1812 IN  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
VIRGINIA*

*ANNUAL MUSTER  
COMMONWEALTH CLUB  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA*

*12 NOON, SATURDAY  
21 JUNE 2025*

*Call to Order*

*President Stuart Butler*

*Invocation*

*Secretary Paul Walden*

*Pledge of Allegiance*

*James Green*

*Vice President General*

*Opening Remarks*

*Stuart Butler*

*President*

*Introduction of Distinguished Guests*

*Stuart Butler, President*

*Luncheon served*

*Introduction of Featured Speaker*

*Stuart Butler, President*

*Announcements if any*

*Introduction of new Members*

*Hugh Markham, Registrar*

*Induction of New Members*

*Hugh Markham, Registrar*

*Announcement of Adjournment*

*Stuart Butler, President*

*Benediction*

*Paul Walden, Secretary*