

SOCIETY HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MUSTER IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

The Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia held its annual June muster on June 20, 2026, at the Commonwealth Club in Richmond, Virginia. The annual muster is held in June of every year close to the anniversary of the victory over the British at the battle of Craney Island in Hampton Roads, fought on June 22, 1813.

At the muster, the Board of Direction (BOD) met to discuss the financial status of the Society (which is healthy) and plans for future activities, such as grave-marking, membership, website overhaul, Virginia History Day, the consolidation of the Society's records at one archival depository, and recognition of cadets from ROTC events at Virginia colleges and universities. The BOD met at 10 a.m. in the Club's boardroom and adjourned at 11:35. Following approval by the BOD, President Butler gave Peter Broadbent, BOD officer and Vice-President of the James Monroe Memorial Foundation, a check in the amount of \$1000 to further the work of the Foundation.

After the BOD meeting, the Society had its General Meeting to which 34 members and guests attended. The featured speaker for the luncheon was Mr. Kyle Jenks, a nationally recognized interpreter of the fourth president, James Madison. President Madison gave an extremely informative and dynamic presentation concerning the events leading up the declaration of war. Questions following his presentation.

Among the guests were Natalie Ardoline, President, Virginia State President, United Daughters of the War of 1812, Rosemary Smith, Registrar of the Virginia State Daughters, and Bill Thomas, President of the James Monroe Memorial Foundation and soon to be member of the Society.

Photos of the BOD, the luncheon, and the Society program are included in this post.



BOD Members, bottom row L to R: Steve Harris, James Green, Stuart Butler, Paul Walden, Ken Hawkins. Top L to R: Peter Broadbent, Jeremy Utt, Gary Roseman, Michael Weyler, and Shane Newcombe (photo: Paul Walden)



President Butler (right) handing check to Peter Broadbent, Vice President of the James Monroe Memorial Foundation. (photo by Paul Walden)



A view of the Jefferson Room with some of the invited guests (photo by Stuart Butler)



Kyle Jenks as President Madison (photo by Stuart Butler)



President Madison (Kyle Jenks) with bust of Thomas Jefferson (photo by Stuart Butler)



*President Madison (Jenks) with Michael Weyler, Past President of the Virginia SAR
(photo by Stuart Butler)*



*Registrar Steve Harris swears in new members L to R: Mac Kolar and Ray Duncombe
(photo by Jeff Burden)*



President Butler (right) swears in new BOD. L to R: Ken Hawkins, 7th President, Paul Walden, Secretary, J. Shane Newcombe, Steve Harris, Registrar, Peter Broadbent, Counsel/Historian, James Green, Vice President General, Gary Roseman, Councilor, Michael Weyler, Councilor, and Jeremy Utt, Councilor (photo by Jeff Burden)



Vice President General Green swears in President Stuart Butler (photo by Jeff Burden)