SOCIETY PRESIDENT PRESENTS WREATH AT THE YORKTOWN VICTORY DAY OCTOBER 19, 2026

President Stuart Butler attended the annual Yorktown Victory Day event on October 19, 2026, at Yorktown, Virginia. At the event, attended by well over forty different patriotic and lineage societies, President Butler presented the Society wreath. Other members attending included Treasurer Shane Newcombe, and 2nd Vice President Tim Ahlgrim. Included along with this announcement is a photograph of President Butler and the Society wreath, some pictures of the parade through the town of Yorktown, and the program.



President Butler with the Society wreath

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SAR PLEDGE

We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.

SAR RECESSIONAL

Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court and a nation of free men.

Virginia Society
Sons of the American Revolution

Thomas Nelson, Jr. Chapter

National Society
Sons of the American Revolution

Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr.
Memorial Ceremony

Grace Episcopal Church Cemetery
Yorktown, VA
October 19, 2026, 9:30 AM

Thomas Nelson, Jr.
Merchant, Legislator, Statesmen, Governor, Militia Commander, and Signer of The Declaration Of Independence

Thomas Nelson, Jr. was born on December 26, 1738, here in Yorktown at the Nelson House a short distance from where he is laid to rest here in Grace Church Cemetery. The son of William Nelson and grandson of Thomas "Scotch Tom" Nelson also of Yorktown. Thomas Nelson, Jr. served in the Virginia House of Burgesses, The Second Continental Congress, third Governor of Virginia, Commanded the Virginia Militia during the Yorktown Campaign, and one of seven Virginians who signed the Declaration Of Independence. Nelson was a member of the Williamsburg Masonic Lodge.

Darrin Schmidt
President, Virginia SAR

President Schmidt joined SAR in 2006 as a member of Virginia's Fairfax Resolves Chapter. His service began nearly immediately as the Chapter Webmaster and member of the State Color Guard. Through involvement at the chapter, state, district, national, and international levels, Darrin brings a broad range of experiences to his SAR interactions. He is proud to serve as the SAR Orations National Chairman, as he previously served as the founding co-chair for the Warren Medal fund which raised nearly $150,000 for the Orations Scholarship fund in its first 4 years and is working to escalate the contest's top prize to $10,000. Darrin is a graduate of Virginia Tech where he holds a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering and a Master's Degree in Information Technology. Prior to this, he graduated from the Newport News Shipbuilding Apprentice School with an electrical specialty. He is a Systems Engineer and Project Manager for CACI

Welcome
Lawrence E. McKinley
Virginia SAR Past President

Invocation
Rev. John Kuvakas, Virginia SAR Chaplain

Presentation of the Colors
Virginia SAR Color Guard
John Lynch , Commander
Patrick Weslosky, NSSAR Color Guard Vice Commander

Pledge of Allegiance
Dr. Samuel Tate, Thomas Nelson Jr, Chapter President

SAR Pledge
R. Bruce Meyer, Virginia SAR Past President

Recognition of Distinguished Guests

Greetings
William A. Greenly, NSSAR President General

Remarks
Darrin Schmidt, Virginia SAR President

Presentation of Wreaths

SAR Recessional
Compatriot Rev. Gregory Brunson

Benediction
Rev. John Kuvakas, Virginia SAR Chaplain