

# The Defender

## Fairfax Resolves Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

President, Tom Speelman  
Publisher, Larry McKinley (703) 450-6041

March/April 2008

### The Fairfax Resolves Chapter reaches for excellence in programs and achieves it!!!!



*This is for carrying out the best local  
programs among large chapters in Virginia*

Fairfax Resolves walked away with more awards than any of us can remember achieving in one year. Awards mean one thing...that the community we live and work in is benefitting from our work as we recognize those citizens and public servants among us. It wasn't but a couple of years ago we sponsored an orientation breakfast and there was one person present.....

Now look at us! We have momentum (as they say in the sporting or political world) and we are achieving great strides in program accomplishment. Since our forefathers sacrificed *all* to establish our freedoms, we need to keep our achievement level high. It will remain high if we recognize those who help maintain our freedoms today (Public Service), work the youth programs and maintain our ability to inspire the community with historic dedications, markings, commemorations and education.

### SPRING DATES TO REMEMBER

- 1. Fairfax Resolves Chapter Meeting**  
March 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 P.M.  
Peter Badger, Col. USMC, ret. & Docent at Mt. Vernon  
Program, *Ben Franklin's Conversion to the Cause of Liberty*  
Vinson Hall, McLean, VA
- 2. Commemoration of Battle of Guilford Courthouse**  
March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 11 a.m.  
Guilford Courthouse National Military Park,  
Greensboro N.C.
- 3. James Madison's Birthday Celebration**  
March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008, arrive cemetery by 1 p.m.  
Wreath presentations are welcome  
Montpelier, Virginia
- 4. Fairfax Resolves Chapter Meeting**  
7:30 p.m. April 10, 2008  
*Election of Officers, & Recognition of Teacher of the Year and  
Citizen of the Year*  
Vinson Hall, McLean, VA
- 5. General Hugh Mercer Commemoration**  
VASSAR participates, 12 noon showtime  
Program begins Mercer Apothecary (1020 Caroline Street,  
Fredericksburg, VA)-march to Mercer monument
- 6. Fairfax Resolves Orientation for New Members**  
8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
*"What is SAR and Fairfax Resolves all about and how we inspire  
the community, and what can be your role in all this"*  
Vinson Hall, McLean, VA (More info inside)
- 7. Thomas Jefferson's Birthday Celebration**  
Jefferson Memorial, Wash. D.C.  
Service and wreath laying 10 a.m.  
DCSSAR sponsors
- 8. Fairfax Resolves Annual Awards Banquet &  
Installation of New members and Officers**  
May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
6:6:30 p.m. Wine and Cheese Gathering  
6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. dinner  
7:30 til 8:15 p.m. Installation & Recognition  
Vinson Hall, McLean, VA
- 9. Wilderness Road, Historic Celebration**  
Ewing, Virginia (near Cumberland Gap)  
May 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Wreath Laying and Reenactment, 10 a.m. on 10<sup>th</sup>
- 10. Memorial Day Parade**  
A NSSAR colorguard event  
May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 (more to follow)

## Message from the President

*Our President with VASSAR President  
Joe Dooley & our Best Chapter Ribbon*

At the VASSAR Annual Meeting in Richmond last month, I had the pleasure of representing the Fairfax Resolves. After the awards ceremony, I think I'm going to send the Treasurer a bill for a new pair of shoes for all the leather I wore off the bottom of my shoes walking up to the front of the room to accept awards for the chapter. I won't go into the awards here because Larry has ably laid those out elsewhere in the newsletter. I would like to discuss a couple of things with regard to the awards: 1) what they indicate and 2) to point out what one or two dedicated people as committee chairs and vice chairs can do for both the chapter and our community.



Although the awards we received are nice, the important thing is that they are indicative of what the chapter is doing to provide young people opportunities and to recognize those who are making a difference in our community. The Oration Contest and Essay Contest provide young people with the opportunity to learn more about the history of the Revolutionary War period and gain confidence while developing an oration or writing an essay. Our recognition of Law Enforcement, Fire and EMS personnel is fitting recognition for those who put their lives at risk every day so that we might live in security with knowledge that there are those who will be there should we have a need. Recognizing our Teacher of the Year and our Citizen of the Year provides fitting recognition for those who are helping build a new generation of good citizens and, in the case of **Jay Edwards** our Citizen of the Year, are making a difference in the lives of our military members who have been injured while serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our chapter is doing good work to recognize bright young folks and dedicated public servants. I think we all owe a big "Thank You" to the following folks for their work on our behalf and their contribution to making the Fairfax Resolves the VASSAR Best Large Chapter of 2007:

- Jack Pitzer for his work as President in getting the revitalization of the chapter started and laying the foundation on which this year's awards were built.
- Larry McKinley for his work as chairman of the Oration Contest & Law Enforcement Awards.
- Larry McKinley and Larry Lamborn for their work on the Essay Contest.
- Dennis Hickey for his work as chairman of the Teacher of the Year and Citizen of the Year committees.
- Bill Youngs and Lauris Eek for their work on the Fire and EMS awards.
- John Sinks, our registrar and genealogist, for his support of all our members in recognizing the Forgotten Patriots and his work in helping organize the support for History Day.
- Jack Sweeney and Bob Hampton for their support of History Day.
- Darrin Schmidt for building and putting on line our new chapter website at [www.fairfaxresolvessar.org](http://www.fairfaxresolvessar.org)

As Frank Sinatra said, "It Was a Very Good Year." Our selection as the VASSAR Best Large Chapter for 2007 is, in my opinion, fitting recognition for all the chapter did last year. In addition to continuing our many successful programs from last year, there are many other opportunities for our chapter for community service. It is up to us to find the commitment and time to take on the additional tasks. Based on the progress of the chapter over the past two years, I'm confident we'll rise to the challenge.

## Registrar/Genealogist Corner John Sinks, P.I. (Patriot Investigator)



### **Forgotten Patriots Remembered**

A Forgotten Patriot is a person on whose Revolutionary services nobody has joined SAR or DAR. The Virginia Society recognizes those chapter what remember a Forgotten Patriot through an approved application, either new or supplemental. At the Annual Meeting five chapters were recognized for remembering 16 Forgotten Patriots. The Fairfax Resolves Chapter remembered 10 of those 16. We thank our members for the diligence in remembering these previously forgotten patriots.

#### **Member Patriots for Appl. Approved in 2007**

<b>Robert Hampton</b>	Collins Hampton VA, NC
<b>John Sinks</b>	Gilbert Atwood VA Thomas Baldwin VA Henry Beasley, Sr. NC Henry Beasley, Jr. NC Pvt. John Philip Booker VA Peter Follis VA Edward Maxey VA
<b>Jack Sweeney</b>	Pvt. Robert Hathaway MA Sgt. Ambrose Hodgkin MA

Only three of these 10 rendered military service during the Revolution. The other services included signing an oath of allegiance, serving as a juror, serving as a magistrate, signing a petition that recognized the authority of the Revolutionary government, serving on a road crew, and appraising an estate. For your supplementals, look beyond just military service, especially for older men and for women!

***We need to establish a list (index) of each of our members and their Patriots including all supplementals. We don't have all the information, but you do. Please let John Sinks know how many patriots you are claiming, name where served or how served. We will place this information on our web-site. This may attract other members of your extended families to our Chapter.***

## **The Chapter is off to an excellent start for 2008.**

<b>Member/ Applicant</b>	<b>Patriots for Appl. Submit/Approved in 2008</b>
<b>Rob Engle</b>	Conrad Jacoby, PA Pvt. Philip Hinkle, PA Pvt. Frederick Stamm, PA
<b>Daniel Rolph John Sinks</b>	Pvt. Thomas Rolph, MD Burgess Wall, VA John Weir, SC
<b>Jack Sweeney</b>	Pvt. Edward Barnard, Jr. CT

In the course of working on the applications for several of our new members within the last year several additional Forgotten Patriots were identified. We hope that those of you for whom these ancestors have been identified will submit supplemental applications to remember the contributions these forbearers to the American Revolution.

### **Registrar's Corner**

<b>New Members</b>	<b>Ancestor</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Larry Chapman</b>	Sgt. Daniel Chapman NY	12/4/2007
<b>David Hall</b>	Capt. Samuel Bradford MA	1/14/2008
<b>Brian Eubanks</b>	Pvt. John Halstead NY	2/4/2008
<b>Daniel Rolph</b>	Pvt. Thomas Rolph, MD	2/8/2008

#### **Applicants**

<b>Robert Brown</b>	Pvt. John George Peiffer PA
<b>Thomas Cranmer</b>	Ebenezer Storer MA
<b>Jeremy Ray</b>	Soldier Daniel Dees NC
<b>Philip Ray</b>	Soldier Daniel Dees NC
<b>Douglas Johnson</b>	Lt. James Budden PA
<b>Irving Costanzo</b>	Pvt. John Ward NY

#### **Supplementals**

	<b>Approved</b>	
<b>Rob Engle</b>	Pvt. Conrad Jacoby PA	1/15/2008
<b>John Sinks</b>	Edward Maxey, Sr. VA Henry Beasley, Jr. NC John Hatley, Sr. NC Thomas Baldwin VA	9/19/2007 10/3/2007 10/3/2007 12/5/2007
<b>Jack Sweeney</b>	Pvt. Abel Titus MA Sgt. Ambrose Hodgkin MA Sgt. Thomas Hodgkin MA Pvt. David Thompson MA	9/19/2007 9/19/2007 9/19/2007 9/19/2007

#### **Supplementals Submitted**

<b>Rob Engle</b>	Philip Hinkle PA Pvt. Frederick Stamm PA Werner Stamm PA Frederick Weitzel PA
<b>Andrew Gutowski John Sinks</b>	James Walker VA Burgess Wall VA John Weir SC
<b>Jack Sweeney</b>	Jonathan Parker, Sr. NH Pvt. Jonathan Parker, Jr. NH Jonathan Stanely NH Pvt. Edward Barnard, Jr. CT

## Vignettes of the American Revolution

From the Library of John Sinks

John Demoss testified on behalf of James Scott (S32511) in Dearborn Co., Indiana on 13 October 1834.

*"...Mr. Scott has often related incidents of the service which came under the Deponent's observations and about which History is silent. Among other things he recalled to my recollection a snowballing the Virginia & Yankee officers etc had at Valley Forge, which lasted some time & the parties became so warmed & excited by the contest, that it was prevented from becoming serious in its consequences, only by the personal interposition of Washington."*

### National History Day District V competition February 23, 2007

#### George Mason University

Article largely written by Jack Sweeney and Bob Engles

*Below are Culpeper Minutemen who judged and awarded during the District V meet:*

*L to R: Lon Lacey; Dominic Lay, Chapt. President; a student's display & Gary Schulin.*



National History Day, Inc. is an education organization that is transforming the way history is taught and learned. National History Day, Inc. helps teachers meet educational standards; disseminates high quality curriculum materials; and sponsors challenging contests that teach students the critical skills they need to be effective citizens in the 21st century. National History Day, Inc. improves education *EVERY* day. Fairfax Resolves along with the Culpeper Minutemen and

the George Mason Chapters have been championing this valuable educational tool in District V since 2005. The above cited Chapters have partnered with the Fairfax County History Commission, George Mason University, and the Northern Association of Historians to conduct the program, provide judges, and appropriate recognition for the over 150 participants in this "science fair for History".

The competition included: A. Poster board individual and group type exhibits, some with media presentations, of research projects. B. Web-site demonstrations of research results; C. Group and individual dramatic performances based on research; D. Audio-visual media documentary presentations; and E. Individual research papers. The Kids really do a great job on the research.

The SAR is interested in and provide recognition for those students which focus their research on American History between the years 1750-1800. Our Chapter was represented by **Jack Sweeney and Robert Hampton** (Bob in future please place yourself in these pictures).

Guys you will enjoy yourself as a judge and the rewards of recognizing the historical research of these students is you get your picture taken with them . It hits the school newspaper and you get instant **rockstar status**. Well not quite...all kidding aside, these students really appreciate the recognition for all their hard work.



**Jack Sweeney** presenting SAR awards to the National History Day 1<sup>st</sup> place winners of the Senior Group Documentary. They are holding their Bronze Good Citizenship Medals for their documentary concerning the French and Indian War: The Battle of the Wilderness. L to R: **Alice Pope**, **Disha Patel**, **Maryam Zaazhoa**. All West Springfield High School.

Virginia History Day is a history competition for students in grades 6-12, It is conducted at district and state levels in conjunction with the National History Day. Students in grades 6-8 are assigned to the junior division and those in grades 9-12 are assigned to the senior division.

“...Virginia History Day is an important development in the education of our students in the social sciences”, said **John Sinks**. John has been in a leadership role in District V and the State of Virginia through his efforts with VASSAR (Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution). Collectively **VASSAR** and **John Sinks** have made National History Day a permanent State SAR program. John continues, “...the students start with questions about an event, form hypotheses to explain the event, conduct research to test their hypotheses, and then revise their hypotheses to form conclusions. The students learn that history is not just the memorization of facts.”



On the left **Jack Sweeney** presents **Alexander Weinberg**, Mount Vernon High School with his senior level, Individual Paper award. Topic of his paper was William Wilberforce: An Individual Confronts His Nation.

On the right **Jack Sweeney**, he has all the luck, congratulates a junior division recipient of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. The young lady's name is **Samantha Simonoff** and she comes from the Lorton Station Elementary School. She won in the Junior Website division. Her topic was "The Conflict and Compromise of Selecting a National Emblem in the U.S.A."

Another awardee in the Senior Division was Marcin Ostrowski from Wakefield High School who wrote an individual paper.

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## News at National

**President General Wilcox** announced that the Trustees passed three motions from the Executive Committee concerning the initiative to move our headquarters to the West Main Street area of downtown Louisville, KY. This and much more including site pictures are available [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org)

The motions passed are:

1. Exercise the Purchase Option on the Fulton Conway Building.
2. Defer the start of the build out/renovation (of the Fulton Conway Building) until sufficient funds have been raised including tax credits to fund it.
3. When the build out is complete, sell our current property and place the proceeds into an endowment for outreach education and the operation of the new building.

Critical to the success of this project is the raising of sufficient donations to fund it. **PG Wilcox** stated, "We believe that with the commitment we have to proceed that foundations, corporations, government agencies and, most importantly, our members will be generous with their support".

**Congratulations Fairfax Resolves! This isn't everything!!!  
"We've only just begun" to make a difference in our community!**



**From top:**

- (1) Best Large Chapter in Virginia, 2007;**
- (2) Chapter sponsored Jay Edwards chosen Citizen of the Year;**
- (3) Chapter sponsored Gabe Barrientos of Bishop O'Connell High School, best oration;**
- (4) Chapter sponsored, Simon Ho, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, best Essay of the Year;**
- (5) Chapter had the Best Law Enforcement Program of the Year; and**
- (6) The Chapter had the Best Fire Safety Program for the year 2007.**

The Best Large Chapter is for our complete program. Add all the other activities of other large Chapters and Fairfax Resolves achieved more checks in the blocks than anyone. We are contemplating placing the work program on the web-site so that all can see where they are making a mark in the community. Of course our program is more than the committees, but that is where any good program starts—they have dedicated people responsible for completing the programs.

Hopefully you will meet the Citizen of the year, Jay Edwards, in April. He is scheduled to come to our April meeting and receive his awards/recognition. He truly is great person who sets a very high standard.

The Oration Contest was held January 24<sup>th</sup> at Vinson Hall and we had four participants pictured below:



All Bishop O'Connell Students from left Mary Klein, Gabe Barrientos, Greg Moreno, and Donald Durang Gabe was our winner and represented us at State where he won that contest as well. He can't wait to compete in Sacramento, CA in July. **Gabe Barrientos** certainly has something now to put on his resume—"He won a State Oration Contest". Many youth do not even try.

The Knight Essay contest was won by Fairfax Resolves entry, **Simon Ho** from the Thomas Jefferson School for Technology and Science. He actually found us this year and we were lucky to have him as our contestant. His subject was James Otis and his importance to the American Revolution. Not many people understood James Otis' contribution and we will hear his essay on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March.

We covered the Fire Safety and Law Enforcement programs in our last issue of the Defender and we are proud of our Public Servants. We are **very** proud that we are a part of their awards system each year. To have our program recognized at the State is an honor and hopefully other Chapters around the State can imitate what we are doing in Fairfax County. The fact that we had both the Fire and Law Enforcement Chiefs present honoring their own people spoke well of their respective organizations.

In addition to these streamers we were awarded a star for our History Day Streamer and 16 stars for our Forgotten Patriot Streamer. The Forgotten Patriot is covered in the Registrar/Genealogist Corner and there is no question that Fairfax Resolves understands the value of the Forgotten Patriot. Our History Day coverage for this year is elsewhere in this newsletter and we have a huge head start on next years work program.



These are the 16 stars- Forgotten Patriots

## New Members



A highlight of our December Christmas Party held at Vinson Hall was the induction of four new members. President Tom Speelman had just performed the ceremony and the last inductee was receiving his certificate and member lapel rosette. The new members are from left to right:

**Ron Rice** was admitted to the SAR October 30, 2007 and he lives in Springfield , VA  
**Doug LeMasters** was admitted to the SAR October 15, 2007 and he lives in Fairfax, VA  
**David Holley, DDS** was admitted to the SAR October 31, 2007 and he lives in Great Falls, VA  
**Lauris Eek** was admitted to the SAR October 1, 2007 and he lives in Vienna, VA

We welcome these new members and look forward to their contributions to our Chapter in memory of their ancestors. Our communities will do nothing but benefit from their energy and enthusiasm. In the **Fairfax Resolves** we hold an orientation session so new members can get answers to questions and they begin to link up their unique skills with those needs of the Chapter as we work our annual program.

New members yet to be installed are: **Larry Chapman**, SAR member 12/4/2007; **David Hall**, SAR member 1/14/2008; **Brian Eubanks**, SAR member 2/4/2008; and **Daniel Rolph** 2/8/2008.

## Fairfax Resolves Officers-2007-2008

President.....Tom Speelman  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.....Darrin Schmidt  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.....Larry Lamborn  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President.....Dennis Hickey, IV  
Secretary.....Larry McKinley  
Treasurer.....Richard Spurr  
Historian.....Rob Engle  
Registrar.....John Sinks  
Chaplain.....William Youngs

### Committees:

- A. Law Enforcement.....Chair, Larry McKinley  
Vice-Chair, Vernon Eubanks
- B. Fire Safety.....Chair, William Youngs  
Vice-Chair Lauris Eek
- C. Rev. War Graves.....Chair, John Sinks  
Vice-Chair Jack Sweeney
- D. Youth Programs  
(C.A.R.=Children of the American Revolution)  
Oration/Essay.....Chair, Larry McKinley  
Vice-Chair Larry Lamborn
- C.A.R.....Chair, Larry McKinley  
Vice-Chair Bob Hampton
- J.R.O.T.C.....Chair, Bob Hampton  
Vice-Chair Larry McKinley
- Eagle Scholarship..... Chair Robert Engle  
Vice-Chair, Larry McKinley
- National Hist. Day ....Chair (volunteer needed)  
Vice-Chair, John Sinks
- School Poster Contest...Chair (need volunteer)
- E. Flag Committee.....Chair, William Youngs
- F. Veterans Comm.....Chair, Dennis Hickey, IV  
Vice-Chair (need volunteer)
- G. Teacher of the Year.....Chair (need volunteer)  
Vice Chair (need volunteer)
- H.Citizen of the Year.....Chair (need volunteer)  
Vice-Chair, Dennis Hickey, IV
- I. Outstanding Student Committee.....Chair, J. Sinks  
Vice-Chair (need volunteer)
- J. New Member Comm.... Chair, Larry McKinley  
Member, Darrin Schmidt  
Member, Tom Speelman  
Member, John Sinks
- K. Web-Site Manager.....Chair, Darrin Schmidt

(Members in blue are active new members and we are proud of you for serving)

## Member Program/Orientation.

I would have said new member, but current members put this program on and they are invited as well. We pick a Saturday morning (feed you breakfast) and we discuss and show you how Fairfax Resolves operates.

If you are new to the Fairfax Resolves we want to see you at the orientation. We all make time in our lives to do what we **want to do**, so my emphasis is to stimulate the new member so they **want to participate** in one or more of the many programs we offer to the various communities such as law enforcement, veterans, youth, fire safety, and the entire field of education.

I will provide you all a leave behind complete with URLs so that you can examine in your leisure what is being done not only locally but throughout the State and Nation. All of our programs and activities are guided by National Committees which meet a minimum of twice a year in Louisville, KY, our headquarters. A great way to really understand and contribute to the activities of the SAR programs is to become involved at the National level. More about that later—our emphasis now is to educate and inspire (wonder where I’ve heard that before?) you the new member.

**When:** April 12, 8:30--11:00 a.m.  
(Breakfast included)

**Where:** Vinson Hall, Penthouse Floor  
Conference Room

**Dress:** Casual—after all it’s Saturday

**Who:** All new members and current ones with questions.

Let me know who is coming so I can order the goodies!!! **Larry McKinley**  
703-450-6041/[Dustoff@Verizon.net](mailto:Dustoff@Verizon.net)