



the brotherhood of the knights of the vine®

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NATION'S CAPITAL CHAPTER

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INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATES

FINLAND
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The Grand Assemblage
Induction of New Members
Enthronement Dinner
On The Estate of Our
General George Washington

Mount Vernon, Virginia

Saturday Evening • March 14, 1781

Based upon the comments of many, this was a special event. The tour of the Mansion was exceptional and seldom is the third floor open for viewing.

In spite of last minute changes for the weather and other reasons, the Assemblage went well. The ceremonial Knight, James Trefil, enthusiastically performed his duties.

Our distinguished representatives from the free and independent state of North Carolina, the Kingdom of Texas in New Spain, and the Presidio of Monterey in Alto California were most welcome.

The reception was well received and the hors d'oeuvres were in keeping with venue. Our demands on the Inn for the dinner were much more extensive than it usually experiences and the host, chef, and staff were up to the task.

The most exciting part of the evening was the commanding presence of our host, our great General Washington and his witty, pithy comments.

During the evening we had numerous amusing toasts.

The special, ceremonial glasses prepared by Knight Arthur Roberts of Arton Glass were striking and greatly appreciated.

The coach failed to arrive but substitute designated drivers and wagons assured all were safely returned to their lodgings, though a bit jostled. We appreciate the good humor of the passengers.

News of the War: For those who have not heard, as predicted by our representatives from North Carolina, on March 15 General Nathaniel Greene gave battle near Guilford Court House in the Piedmont of North Carolina against Major General Lord Cornwallis who took the field but with it a Pyrrhic victory.

Displaying the skill of Genghis Khan, General Greene deployed the brave North Carolina militia in the front against the British. The militia fired their volleys then, as planned, broke. The lobster backs followed them thinking easy victory. Suddenly the lobster backs faced General Greene's Virginia militia and Regular Army with artillery which stopped them. During the resulting melee American forces counter attacked on the flanks and were repelled. But, the King George's greatest general, Cornwallis, became so disturbed by the combat that he ordered his artillery to fire grape shot into the mass killing patriot and foe alike.

This action by Lord Cornwallis may have forced General Greene to leave the field. However General Greene's tactics are becoming clear. During the melee, the Pennsylvania and Virginia riflemen, with their slow but accurate rifles, took a staggering toll on the commissioned and noncommissioned officers of General Cornwallis' army. Lord Cornwallis is now far from the sea and his ports of supply. He has few officers capable of leading his army through lands hostile to him.

It is clear that Lord Cornwallis is no Hannibal. He faces an American General, a son of a Quaker, who seems to combine the patient strategy of Roman General Quintus Fabius Maximus Verrucosus with the tactical skill of Genghis Khan.

Soon the Piedmont may be rid of Lord Cornwallis. After this devastating blow, now, he must seek bases of supply, new officers, and troops. Perhaps he will drive towards the crossroads of Virginia where the Atlantic, the Chesapeake Bay, and James River meet.

Our new members include James Trefil who performed the duties of ceremonial knight. He is a Professor of Physics at George Mason University and the author of some forty books on physics and other topics in science. Michael Tafazoli also joined as a knight. Michael is a Financial Planner and pension consultant with his own firm providing comprehensive financial services.

Thomas Bannwart joined as a knight. He is the general manager and the food and beverage manager at the Regency at Dominion Valley which is one of the country clubs where we had our enthronement dinner last year. Grant Crandall joined as a knight. Grant is an attorney and on the Board of Directors of the Labor Lawyers Coordinating Committee of the United Mine Workers of America.

Last but not least is Arthur Roberts who joined as a knight. Through his company Arton Glass he is a major supplier of wine glasses and skillfully executed the excellent KOV wine glasses that our chapter and several other chapters enjoy.

We welcome all our new knights!

A Garden Party

April 18 or 19

Master Scribe Mary Anne Wassenberg will be organizing a tour of one of the two magnificent gardens in Richmond. As planned, all will drive down to Richmond in one or two vehicles. She determined the Richmond gardens are relatively inexpensive and well worth the drive. Since I will be out of town for virtually the entire month, please contact Mary Anne for details such as rallying point, cost, time, etc. I have forward to Mary Anne the names of those who indicated to me they are interested in this event. If you have not notified me, please notify Mary Anne about your interest: mary.anne@wassenberg.com.

No doubt she will be sending out details as needed.

Educational Wine Tasting

Master Knight George Foote

Brown Bag Wines

Restorante Portofino • Saturday, May 30 • 7:30 pm

The devilish George Foote is at it again. He is planning a tasting of wines that retail for about \$15 but will not tell us what they are. The wines will be served with the bottles covered in brown bags. Our challenge is to identify what wines they are. It should be great fun. Let's see, is the wine in my glass a red wine made white grapes or a white wine made with red grapes? This may become confusing!

Please note that the 3 day Memorial Day weekend is May 23 to May 25. Additional details will be in the next newsletter.

Note: If you have not paid you dues please do so as quickly as possible. They can be paid on the web site: www.kov.org.

Per Vitem! Ad Vitam!
Ken Haapala