



connecting with cousins

Reunion 2025 Announcements

The Washingtons will be exploring historic Charles Town, West Virginia, for the 71st Annual Washington Family Reunion! For those who do not know, the city is named for its founder Charles Washington, youngest brother of President George Washington.

Charles Washington's estate, Happy Retreat, was erected in 1780. In 1786, on 80 acres of his adjoining land, Charles laid out the streets of Charles Town, naming many of them after his brothers and one after his wife, Mildred. He donated the four corner lots at the intersection of George and Washington Streets for public buildings of the town and county. We will visit historical places and enjoy beautiful Autumn colors in and around the stunning Shenandoah Valley area. Watch your email for registration soon!

Mark your calendars for the weekend of Friday, October 10 – Monday, October 13, 2025. We are all set with a room block at the Hampton Inn in Charles Town. Right now, it's 15 rooms but will be increased when there is demand, so it would help tremendously if everyone could make your personal reservations now:

Rooms are \$189 a night plus tax:

<https://group.hamptoninn.com/ngj379>

For your planning purposes, we will have two full days of touring on Saturday and Sunday, with the final event, our annual meeting and dinner, on Sunday night. Monday is Columbus Day, and a holiday for most, so plan to depart then, or take some additional time to wander around the quaint old section of Charles Town to walk, shop and have lunch on your own with cousins and friends.

The reunion team is planning some very special events for our weekend together in Charles Town, so stay tuned to our Facebook page and your email for more news as our itinerary is finalized!



Welcome to Our Newest Members

John Blair, our Registrar General, reports that we continue to have inquiries about membership from our website. Since our Spring Dispatch, we have added new members listed below.. Please welcome them!

National Number 1462 Life Member

Smith, Jr., Walton Wickham

19036 Hewlett Road

Ruther Glen, Virginia 22548

Date Accepted: 04 January 2025

Ancestor: Augustine Warner I

Telephone: 804-543-5523

Email: Wickham128@.com

D.O.B.: 20 May 1953

Associate Member: Smith, Billie Tinsley N.N.1462-AL, Life Member

Telephone: 804-543-3324

Email: drbtsmith@aol.com

National Number 1463 Annual Member

Herndon, Becky Moncure

360 Hickory Hill Lane

Glasgow, Virginia 24555

Date Accepted: 16 January 2025

Ancestor: Col. John Washington

Telephone: 540-460-5577

Email: bmherndon@yahoo.com

D.O.B.: 01 Jul 1955

National Number 1464 Annual Member

Christian, Katie Scarlett Winslett

10171 Country Manor Drive

Peyton, Colorado 80831

Date Accepted: 29 January 2025

Ancestor: Col. John Washington

Telephone: 205-215-6050

Email: kswinslett@gmail.com

D.O.B.: 09 March 1996

National Number 1465 Life Member

Moncure, Kathryn Louise

1127 Hampton Street

Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401

Date Accepted: 29 January 2025

Ancestor: Col. John Washington

Telephone: 540-847-1516

Email: klmoncure@hotmail.com

D.O.B.: 17 May 1990

National Number 1466 Life Member

Boykin, Denise Adams

4845 Hickory Ridge Road

Lebanon, Tennessee 37087

Date Accepted: 14 February 2025

Ancestor: George Reade

Telephone: 601-405-5741

Email: boykind@aol.com

D.O.B.: 14 Dec 1962

News From Our Members

We are interested in how you are contributing, mentoring, networking and engaging in your communities to further the mission of our society to honor our ancestors and preserve the history of our great nation. To be included in future editions of the Dispatch, please forward your photos and information about your activities to the editor at mrsbarbaraashort@gmail.com.

Like many of us, **Susie & Sandy McDonough**, from Dallas, look for Washington-related things wherever they go anywhere. Recently, they viewed the 1797 portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart at the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas.

In their travels to Fredericksburg, Virginia, our Members **Monica Pesek, Sandy and Susie McDonough** toured historic Kenmore, the lovely Georgian brick home built for George Washington's sister, Betty Washington Lewis, and her husband Fielding Lewis. The occasion was the Lewis Family Reunion, and they are pictured below in front of Kenmore.

Members **Susan Byerly & Dale Sayers**, who are also members of the Jamestowne Society, attended the recent November luncheon of the Jamestowne Society in Richmond, VA as pictured below. Lovely duo!

In addition to guiding prospective members through the process of becoming members of NSWFD as our current registrar General, **John Blair** is a member of The George Washington Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution where he serves as the Chapter's Chairman of the Public Safety Awards Committee, as well as a member at the State level of The Virginia Society's Public Safety Awards Committee. The work of this committee is to identify and recognize community "heros". John shared an account from one of his recent experiences when Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue Technicians entered a burning building that was completely engulfed in fire, by forcing their way in through a back door, searching for an individual trapped in the building. There was zero visibility and high heat conditions without fire hose support. They located the individual and evacuated the person from the building. For their efforts that day, they were awarded The Sons of the American Revolution Heroism Award. John said that the highlight of all of this volunteer committee work occurred one day after a presentation when a young wife of an award recipient approached me and said, "Thank you, I had no idea that organizations like this even existed".



News from our Webmaster

We are moving forward with **MembershipWorks** which will provide an improved user experience for our members. Everyone will be able to update their profiles, access the member directory, stay updated on Events, pay/renew dues, and much more. The **Members only** section of our website will look very different, and the public face of the website will change very little. We will provide user information when this new program launches! As this migration begins, members may continue to click on the Members Only button to register for access to the private area of the website, washingtonfamilydescendants.org

Once we confirm your membership, you will be able to access the following pages:

- Leadership
- Member Directory
- Merchandise
- Reunion 2024
- Reunion 2023
- 2022 Charleston Reunion Ancestral Presentations
- Member Photos

Your suggestions and questions regarding the website may be forwarded to our webmaster and member, Linda Horstmeyer. Linda@SeaShellDigital.com, 772.214.1048

Notice of 2025 Dues

As you know, there are several levels of membership within the Society: Annual Membership, Lifetime Membership, Annual Associate Membership, Lifetime Associate Membership, Surviving Spouse Membership and Junior Membership. It has been 7 years since the board has voted for an increase in dues payments, and the board has just announced that for fiscal year 2025, there is an increase at each membership level. If you have not paid your dues for 2025, a notice with invoice will be sent soon. If you are not sure if you have paid your 2025 dues, please contact our Treasurer, Lisa Saxton, lsaxton237@gmail.com.

We stand on the eve of a grand milestone...

In July 2026, the United States will mark its 250th anniversary. Let's put our collective heads together and put a plan in motion!

How will the NSWFD celebrate? Let us know if you would like to serve on a committee to put together an action plan.
mrsbarbaraashort@gmail.com

On the Subject of Genealogy

The Society does not undertake genealogical research for applicants. Neither DNA evidence nor applications from other lineage societies are accepted by The National Society of the Washington Family Descendants as proof of ancestry. Information from genealogical websites should be used as a guide, but cannot be used as proof, it will be necessary to provide primary source documentation.

Washington Words

If you DID NOT receive your copy of the 2024 Washington Words, please let us know by contacting Diane Creekmore, Editor, and she will send it to you. ALSO, please review all of your information in the directory section of the publication, and contact Diane- creekdi43@gmail.com if you have any changes you would like corrected in next year's edition.

Reporting the passing of a Member

If you know of a member of the Society who has passed away, please send their name, and if available, any information or the obituary to our Chaplain General, Jim Bird birdjr@gmail.com as they will be remembered at our 2025 Annual Reunion.

Interested in Supplementals?

For The NSWFD, a supplemental is an application that is based on your approved NSWFD application which at some point, either extends or branches off to another NSWFD Qualifying Ancestor. You will only need to supply the proofs for the additional genealogy. The fee for a supplemental application is currently \$45.00 and includes a certificate. If you would like more information about supplemental applications, please email the Registrar, John Blair at jblair66@aol.com.

Visit our Facebook Page

Our society is full of members who, from time to time, post information on the society's Facebook page not only about our shared heritage, but videos, photos and other events you may find interesting! You just never know what you may learn when you log in to our page on Facebook! To reach us, log-in to Facebook and navigate to The National Society of the Washington Family Descendants private page. Ask to be allowed access, and you will receive approval to enter, browse and post.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/40812519127/>

The National Society of the Washington Family Descendants
Spring Dispatch 2025