



The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter Virginia Society
Sons of the American Revolution



*By signing the Declaration of Independence,
the fifty-six Americans pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor. Nine died of wounds during the
Revolutionary War. Five were captured or imprisoned. Wives and children were jailed, mistreated, or left penniless.
Twelve signers' houses were burned to the ground. No signer defected. Their honor, like their nation remained intact.*

Vol. XXVIII

Number 10

October 2023

President's Message

Compatriots

I hope to see a lot of you at the Grave marking and Plaque unveiling on September 30, 2023. It will be held at the Bruton Parish Church at 2: 00 p.m. Please help us commemorate the memories of our patriot ancestors.

Earlier this month the Virginia Society of the SAR held its Semi-annual meeting in Winchester, Virginia. It was a very busy weekend with the Plaque dedication of General Daniel Morgan at the Burwell-Morgan Mill in Millwood VA, the Grave Marking of Robert Rutherford Wood at the Wood's family cemetery in Winchester. There was also a commemoration of the General Morgan Beeline March of July 1775.

I would like to congratulate Dave Westenberger who received The Carl Bessent Award for the best National Chapter newsletter for 2022-2023. I would also like to congratulate Gary Dunaway on receiving the Gold America 250 SAR medal.

We will be very busy over the next few months with our upcoming luncheon on October 14th. Our speaker will be Chuck Schwam and his talk about Lafayette's Bicentennial. The Wreath laying at Gen. Thomas Nelson's grave and Yorktown day festivities on the 19th of October.

In November we will be celebration Veterans Day and at our luncheon meeting holding our annual election of new officers for 2024, our speaker will be Robert Kelly Historian of Gloucester Co.

Bruce Laubach President Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR



Calendar

Saturday September 30, 2023

2 p.m.

Grave marking and Plaque unveiling
With color guard and wreath posting

Bruton Parrish Church

Williamsburg

Monday October 9, 2023

7:00 pm BOM meeting by ZOOM

Saturday October 14, 2023

Chapter Lunch Meeting

11:30 pm Social

Colonial Heritage Country Club

Williamsburg

Wednesday October 19, 2022

Yorktown Day

09:00 am Wreath Laying Ceremony

Grace Episcopal Church

10:30 am Yorktown Parade

Yorktown Fife and Drum Corps

Main Street

Yorktown. VA.



Chapter News



President Bruce Laubach presented the George Wythe Society C.A.R President William Mason a donation from the Williamsburg SAR chapter.



Presenting our wreath at the VASSAR grave site commemoration in Winchester, Virginia.

***The Williamsburg Chapter
Virginia Society Sons of the
American Revolution***

***Cordially invites you to attend grave marking and
commemoration ceremony for Patriots Cyrus
Griffin, James Pate Anderson, Richard Randolph
III, and William Plumber on Saturday September
30, 2023, 2:00 pm.***

Location:

Bruton Parish Church Williamsburg VA.

***Host/POC: Williamsburg VASSAR/ John Lynch
Chapter VP and Color Guard Commander at
cslasoz@aol.com***



VASSAR Mid-Year in Winchester, Virginia



Gary Dunaway and John Lynch attending the Plaque dedication for General Daniel Morgan.
John Lynch participated in the 3 volley salute to Gen. Danial Morgan, 15 September 2023.



VASSAR Color Guard




safety check



Recent Events



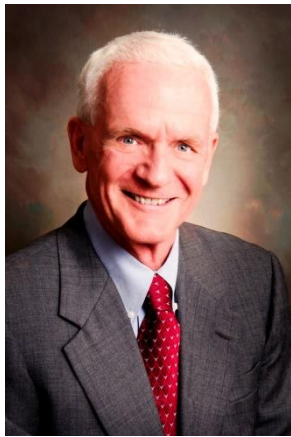
VIRGINIA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
REPORT FROM
133rd NSSAR CONGRESS



A busy mid September weekend in Winchester, Virginia for the VASSAR semi-annual convention. Gary Dunaway, Bill Greaf, Bruce Laubach, John Lynch, and Dave Westenberger attended. The host hotel was very impressive with the accommodations, meeting rooms, The Ballroom and the food!

THE LIBERTY MEDAL AWARDS: The **Bronze Liberty Medal** is presented to those Compatriots who have recruited 10 new members over a period of time. Those receiving additional Liberty awards will receive oak leaf cluster awards which are shown in parentheses.

- **Maynard H. Berryman Williamsburg Chapter**



The National Society
of the
Sons of the American Revolution®



The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter, Virginia SAR, Dave Westenberger, Editor

has been awarded the

Carl F. Bessent Award

to the editor of the most outstanding multiple sheet Chapter newsletter

2022 – 2023

133rd Congress
Orlando, FL
July 17, 2023

Date

Bruce Pickette
C. Bruce Pickette, President General



Gary Dunaway awarded the Gold America 250 SAR medal

“It is only fitting and proper” that I acknowledge the great support I received from our chapter that resulted in winning this award. DW

Future Events

The Nominee list on the 2024 Slate of Proposed Officers will be voted on by our members. The Committee/ Assistants are appointed by the President/BOM.

Chuck Schwam will be our October guest speaker



“Lafayette Bicentennial”

American Friends of Lafayette 2009 – Present
Executive Director, Treasurer, Event Planner, Gazette
Publisher, Bicentennial Committee Chair



Responsible for fundraising efforts exceeding \$200,000 for projects including Ukrainian charities, Lafayette Trail Incorporated and statues of Lafayette and Rochambeau. Event planner for over fifty events for between 30 to 200 attendees. Publisher of the semiannual newsletter (the Gazette) which consistently exceeds well over 100 pages. Committee Chair of the Lafayette Farewell Tour Bicentennial efforts, managing 50+ committees with a total of 375 members. Responsible for treasurer duties and oversaw the membership growth of the organization by triple over the last ten years. Spearheaded several book donation projects for public school and college libraries.

Donated time and funds to arrange visits to Mount Vernon for inner-city elementary school children in Washington DC. AFL membership has grown from 100 to 700 members during his involvement.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Guernsey Inc.
National Sales Executive 1990 - Present
Responsible for \$6,000,000 in annual sales for national clients
OPI National Sales Executive of the Year winner

EDUCATION

American University – Washington DC
BA Communications 1978-1981



Yorktown Day Celebration events

Thursday, October 19, 2023

8:30 a.m. – Commemorative Ceremony at the French Cemetery, Yorktown Battlefield,

Sponsored by The American Friends of Lafayette and The Friends of Rochambeau.

9:10 a.m. – Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the grave of Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr., at Grace Episcopal Church, Yorktown,

Sponsored by the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter

9:10 a.m. – Commemorative Ceremony at the French Memorial honoring the French and American Alliance.

Sponsored by the French Wars Veterans Association in Washington, DC.

10:30 a.m. – Yorktown Day Parade, Main Street,

Sponsored by the National Park Service.

11:15 a.m. – Patriotic Exercises and Memorial Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Monument to Alliance and Victory, Yorktown.

Compatriots

We have the opportunity to support both of our Local NSDAR Chapters in November.

On November 3 the Ann Wager Chapter is hosting a talk by Author Heath Hardage Lee. She will be discussing her book "The League of Wives: The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the US Government to Bring Their Husbands Home from Vietnam". The event will be held at 10:30 a.m. in the Stryker Building. Space is limited so you will need to contact Joni Stevens at: ponspaws@widowmaker.com or by phone at 757-258-3847.

The other event on that day is sponsored by the Williamsburg Chapter NSDAR They will be dedicating an America 250 Patriot Marker. This event will be held in the Bicentennial Park on Court St in Williamsburg. Please see the attachment on the next page.

This is also a reminder that you can now pay your annual dues online through member Clicks. This is a quick and easy way to update your membership. if you update online you will save our chapter the expense of having to mail out invoices.

Bruce Laubach
President Williamsburg Chapter
VASSAR

*Williamsburg Chapter,
NSDAR*

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE DEDICATION
OF THE
AMERICA 250 PATRIOT MARKER IN
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA



COMMEMORATION CEREMONY IN
BICENTENNIAL PARK

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 10:00 AM
320 WEST COURT STREET

RSVP: ROBINBYRDDAR@GMAIL.COM
BY OCTOBER 25TH

American Victory at King's Mountain

By Tom Hand



In July 1780, Patriot partisan bands in the backcountry of South Carolina launched a series of successful attacks on Loyalist contingents, weakening the British hold on the state. These rapid-fire engagements continued into August as six more Patriot partisan victories were sandwiched around the disastrous Continental Army defeat at Camden and the capture of an American supply train at Fishing Creek.

While the Continental Army generally fared poorly against Cornwallis's Regulars, the Patriot partisan bands defeated the Loyalists in virtually every encounter. It wasn't due to numerical superiority or better training and both sides utilized the same tactics. It simply came down to leadership.

The leading men of the backcountry, most of whom fought with the Regulators against the outlaw groups in the late 1760s, all lined up on the side of the Patriots. Conversely, Loyalist troops tended to come from the lower classes of society and were only successful when led by British officers like Banastre Tarleton and Patrick Ferguson.

After Cornwallis's crushing victory at Camden, he moved his army west about twenty miles and set up his base camp. Cornwallis hoped that with the southern Continental Army vanquished the backcountry partisans would be cowed into submission. He felt that controlling North Carolina was the key to holding his gains in South Carolina and sent Major Patrick Ferguson there in September.

Ferguson was a British regular army officer and one of the most capable in North America. He had helped raise Loyalist contingents in New Jersey early in the war and had served well in several engagements in the north including the Battle of Brandywine where he was wounded. Ferguson was also the inventor of the Ferguson rifle and was said to be the best shot in the British Army.

When Sir Henry Clinton decided to invade the south, he took Ferguson, one of his favorites, with him. He was named Inspector of Militia and was tasked with raising and organizing Loyalist units in the Carolina backcountry.

One of the Loyalist units he raised was soundly defeated on August 19 at the Battle of Musgrove Mill by 200 Patriots from Tennessee, the Overmountain Men, led by Colonel Isaac Shelby, the future first governor of Kentucky. Ferguson, who was not present at the fight, was furious and pursued the victors for sixty miles before losing their trail as Shelby's men melted away into the hills.

In mid-September, Ferguson established a base camp near Gilbert Town, North Carolina and sent a warning to the men of the Watauga River Valley with a cousin of Shelby's. Ferguson proclaimed to the Tennesseans "If they do not desist from their opposition to British arms, I will march my army over the mountains, hang their leaders, and lay waste their country with fire and sword."

Ferguson, like so many British officers, did not recognize what he was up against in these hardy Overmountain Men. These were tough violent men hardened by years of Indian warfare who could ride hard and skillfully handle their long rifles. Ferguson's proclamation angered them and Shelby and John Sevier, the future governor of Tennessee, rallied the men in Sycamore Shoals, near present-day Elizabethton, TN.

On September 27, the Overmountain Men crossed Yellow Mountain Gap at 4,582 feet and descended the east slope of the Appalachians. By the time they reached Cowpens on October 6, over 1,600 men had joined their troop. Wanting to move fast, they picked the top 900 mounted men and took off after Ferguson.

Upon learning this, Ferguson and his 1,100 men retreated towards the main British camp in Charlotte and safety. However, perhaps due to pride, Ferguson decided to stop and confront the Tennesseans at some high ground called King's Mountain, just inside the South Carolina border. He considered the spot impregnable and did not fortify his camp.

The Overmountain Men, formed into eight independent detachments of about 100 men, arrived at the foot of King's Mountain around 3:00pm on October 7. They immediately surrounded Ferguson's position and launched their attack. The fight only lasted about an hour as Ferguson's militia were no match for the Tennesseans.

Near the end of the fight, Ferguson chose to make a last valiant dash rather than surrender and was shot from his horse, his body riddled by eleven bullets. In total, the Loyalists suffered 450 killed and wounded, with another 660 taken prisoner. The entire force was wiped out. By comparison, the American suffered about 100 casualties.

As fast they appeared, the Overmountain Men disappeared and within weeks they were back home. The defeat was devastating to the British in that it derailed their strategy to subdue the southern colonies. Sir Henry Clinton stated, "the American victory at King's Mountain was the first link in a chain of misfortunes that followed each other in regular succession until they ended in the total loss of America."

The following week, the British "chain of misfortunes" would receive another link, arguably the most significant, when General Washington gave Nathanael Greene command of the southern theater. This quiet Quaker would prove to be the savior of the south.



Americana Corner

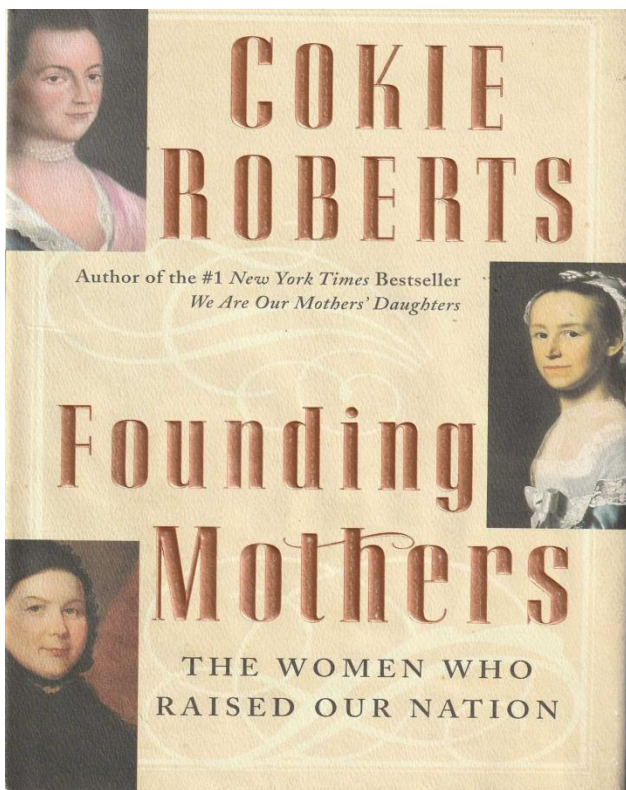


David,
Good morning. Please feel free to use any of my articles in your magazine. Thank you for your interest in Americana Corner and for your work with the SAR.
Happy Thanksgiving. Take care. Tom

TOM HAND
Creator & Publisher
715-550-7073

americanacorner.com

“Book of the month”



The book is a tribute to the wives of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776, and other prominent women of the era. The book begins in the early 1700's. It ends when the presidency of George Washington ends and John Adams is elected, in 1797. Excerpts from many letters are included and are so beautifully written. She provides many vivid accounts of the sacrifices made by families who wanted independence from England - the yellow fever and smallpox epidemics, the building of a military, the contributions made by exceptional women such as Abigail Adams and Martha Washington, as well as Phillis Wheatley, Mercy Otis Warren, Sarah Livingston Jay, and many others portrayed here.

Legendary journalist Cokie Roberts' New York Times bestseller, *Founding Mothers*, is an intimate and illuminating look at the fervently patriotic and passionate women whose tireless pursuits on behalf of their families--and their country--proved just as crucial to the forging of a new nation as the rebellion that established it. While much has been written about the men who signed the Declaration of Independence, battled the British, and framed the Constitution, the wives, mothers, sisters, and daughters they left behind have been little noticed by history. The late #1 New York Times bestselling author Cokie Roberts brings us women who fought the Revolution as valiantly as the men, often defending their very doorsteps. Drawing upon personal correspondence, private journals, and even favored recipes, Roberts reveals the often surprising stories of these fascinating women, bringing to life the everyday trials and extraordinary triumphs of individuals like Abigail Adams, Mercy Otis Warren, Deborah Read Franklin, Eliza Pinckney, Catherine Littlefield Green, Esther DeBerdt Reed, and Martha Washington--proving that without our exemplary women, the new country might have never survived.

Raffle tickets for this book will be available at our next luncheon meeting.
One ticket for \$1 or 7 tickets for \$5 – See Steve Holm – Sergeant-at-Arms

Registrar's Corner

NEW COMPATRIOTS

Congratulations and welcome to new compatriots Allen Saunders and Jason Chicirda. Allen's patriot ancestor is Enoch Vaughan and Thomas White is the patriot ancestor of Jason. Also congratulations to the following compatriots, who had supplemental applications recently approved:

Roger Cross – patriot ancestor
William Lyne

George Corbett – patriot ancestor
Daniel Kelly

Tim Cordle – patriot ancestors
William Harding and John Cox

Bradley Pittman – patriot ancestors
John Key Sr and John Key Jr



**Hunt Berryman
Registrar**

Email:

huntberryman@aol.com

Mike Doucette sharing his Patriot ancestor John Clark

My patriot, and fifth great-grandfather, John Clark was a tobacco farmer in Sussex County, Virginia. He was born in Surry County, Virginia circa 1740 and married his wife Eve Harrison circa 1760.



When he enlisted in the 15th Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army, he left behind his wife Eve and six children ranging from 2 to 17 years of age.

I am descended from his youngest child, Littleberry Clark, and his wife Sally Lashley.

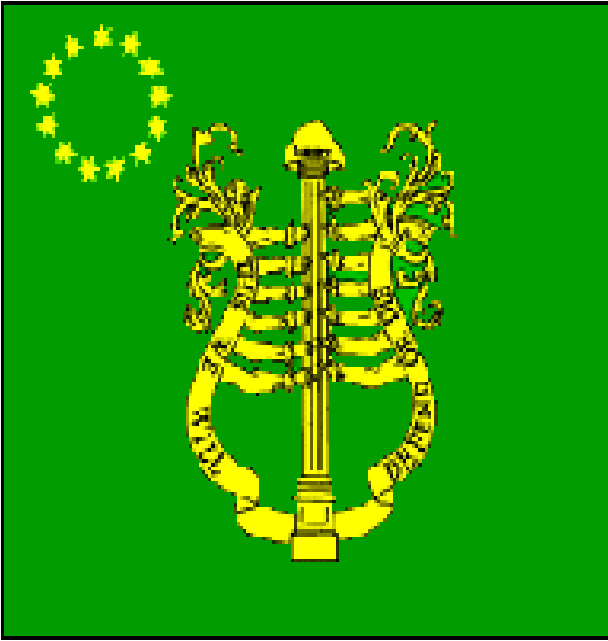
The 15th Virginia Regiment was formed in February of 1777 with companies of men recruited from Surry, Sussex, Isle of Wight, Nansemond, Brunswick, Chesterfield, and Princess Anne.

The regiment saw action at Brandywine, Germantown, and Fort Monmouth before moving into winter quarters at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. John Clark is listed on the muster roll at Valley Forge.

John Clark died before 19 November, 1778. In January of 1787, Virginia Governor Edmund Randolph granted a pension of 12 pounds per year to Eve Clark, “widow of John Clark who was a private in the 15th Virginia Regiment and died in service to the United States.”

Flags of the American Revolution

The Headman Flag



This flag of an unknown Revolutionary War Regiment is located in the Smithsonian Museum and described as "The Headman Flag," because it was preserved by the Pennsylvania family descended from a Sergeant Headman. The inscription on the scroll reads "THIS WE WILL DEFEND OR DIE," and the word "LIBERTY" is written on the cap. The flag portrays thirteen arms grasping a column topped with a liberty cap, symbolizing the thirteen colonies united in their fight for freedom.

There are many theories about this flag fragment, one of which is that the well-known flag of the **Green Mountain Boys** was not theirs, but a missing piece of this flag. The Bennington Museum has the remaining piece of the "Green Mountain Boys" flag, and another piece of green silk supposedly from the flag that has some fancy filigree painted on it which seems to match the painted borders on the Headman Color.



Photo by Karen Corbett



On 11 September 2023, the Williamsburg Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, presented a NSSAR Flag Recognition Certificate to the Best Western Historic Area for properly displaying and maintaining the flag of our nations. Pictured is George Corbett, Chapter Flag Recognition Committee chair and Ms. Lisa Hodges, Director of Operations.

From the Chaplain Jim Morford

The Hand of God



“Oh God! It is all over,” exclaimed Lord Frederick North, the British Prime Minister, when informed that General Lord Cornwallis had surrendered to George Washington following the siege of Yorktown in October 1781.

After six years of war, both the British and Continental armies were exhausted. The British, in hostile territory, held only a few coastal areas in America. On the other side of the Atlantic, Britain was also waging a global war with France and Spain.

The British were stretched thin. They had not fully recovered from the exhausting and expensive Seven Years War. They relied heavily on Hessian mercenaries to fight their American war. Mercenaries may fight with professionalism, but not with the same emotional commitment as troops fighting for their homeland. In the spring of 1781, Washington had a decision to make. He could strike a blow to the British in New York City or aim for the South, in Yorktown, Virginia, where Cornwallis’ troops were garrisoned.

Cornwallis was in Yorktown because he had been ordered by Clinton to provide a protected harbor for the British fleet in the lower Chesapeake Bay planning to use the port as a base for resupply to support a Virginia campaign.

Washington and his French ally, Lt. Gen. Comte de Rochambeau, looked to the South, where they were assured critical naval support from a French fleet commanded by Adm. Comte de Grasse. The Allied armies marched hundreds of miles from their headquarters North of New York City to Yorktown.

With the timely arrival of the French fleet cutting off escape by water, British forces, outnumbered and outfought during a three-week siege in which they sustained great losses, surrendered. This last major land battle of the American Revolution led to negotiations for peace with the British and the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1783.

Throughout the Revolution there were many occasions in which only the intervention of Divine Providence - the Hand of God - enabled the rag tag American army to live to fight another day.

In his first inaugural address on April 30, 1789, George Washington said, “No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than those of the United States. Every step which they have at distinguished by some token of providential agency...”

A prayer for God’s continued blessing:

All mighty God, we are thankful for Your guiding hand that has protected our country from its birth. May we recognize that it is not because You are on our side, but that we are continually blessed when we are on Your side. We pray that You will restore the heart and soul of America.

May our people be united, and our nation be healed. And may You continue to bless the United States of America.

AMEN

DUES CAMPAIGN

Our 2024 dues campaign started on September 12th. We are now using Member Clicks, so the process is different from previous years. In the past, we had to mail invoices to all of our 190+ members. This was an expensive and time consuming manual process for the Treasurer and Secretary.

With the new system, everyone received an email with an invoice attached. You have a couple options...

You can pay your dues online securely with your credit card. This will update your profile instantly and save the chapter from manually processing the transaction. If you are comfortable with online transactions, this works very much like buying from Amazon, etc. We have been using the online payment system for our monthly luncheons and it works great. 41 chapter members have already paid as of September 21st. Thank you for your light speed response!

You can also print the invoice and mail it with your check. If you choose that method, return the check to:

Gary Dunaway, Chapter Treasurer
104 Pageland Drive
Yorktown, VA 23693
sarwilliamsburg@gmail.com

Either method is fine, and I hope you will use one of them.

If you haven't paid by October 15th, we will have to mail out invoice reminders. We would really like to minimize the amount of mailing time and expense, so I am asking for your cooperation to get your dues payment in promptly and make everyone's life easier.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Gary

Reservation for the Saturday October 14, 2023 Lunch meeting

Name(s) _____

Please reserve _____ regular meals at \$24.00

Special need _____

Please make checks payable to

“Williamsburg Chapter SAR”

Mail to:

Or>



Gary Dunaway – Chapter Treasurer
104 Pageland Drive
Yorktown, VA 23693
(757) 303-3673
ormazd72@gmail.com



Williamsburg 2023 Chapter Officers



President	Bruce Laubach	vabelling@msn.com
Vice-President	John Lynch II	cslasoz@aol.com
Secretary	Gerry Ward	Gerry-Ward@outlook.com
Assistant Secretary	Duncan McIver	Duncanmciver@cox.net
Treasurer	Gary Dunaway	ormazd72@gmail.com
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Dorn	wrdorn48@gmail.com
Registrar	Hunt Berryman	huntberryman@aol.com
Public Relations	Robert Davis III	macnider@cox.net
Newsletter & WEB	Dave Westenberger	pa1744@cox.net
Chaplain	Jim Morford	Morfordjc@gmail.com
Sergeant-at-Arms	Steve Holm	
Historian	Tatton Mason	
At-Large	Eric Ely	
At-Large	Ron Adolphi	
Past President	Roger Cross III	



ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ALL MEMBERS

The VASSAR is hosting the Atlantic Middle States at the Williamsburg Lodge on August 9-11, 2024. I have been asked by 1st VP Virginia Society SAR Bill Greaf to provide up to two members of our Chapter to assist in planning this event. I am looking for some volunteers to assist in this planning. This is a great way for you to get more involved in our Chapter and State societies. Please provide me with your name and mailing address and phone number so that I can provide them to 1st VP Greaf. Thank you Bruce Laubach President Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR.

The Board of Managers (elected officers and 2 At-Large members) provides the leadership for the chapter and is an excellent opportunity for those that want to be actively involved in the direction of the chapter. The Registrar is a key officer in supporting the growth of the chapter through new member applications and the recognition of additional Patriots as Supplementals. If you are interested in learning more about the Registrar position for 2024 or in helping as an Assistant Registrar in support of the Williamsburg Chapter's mission, please give me a call (757) 869-6303 or email rogercross@msn.com.

Past President Roger Cross



SAR GIFTS AND FASHIONABLE APPAREL



SAR apparel is available at (502) 589-1779 or on the National SAR WEB site at:

<https://store.sar.org/storefront.aspx>



0928

Personalized Name Badge
(Name Tag) - Pocket
Attachment Nametag

\$25.00

There has been confusion on how to add this item to the cart. There is a statement that says "I understand personalized items are not refundable" that has a small box after it on the bottom of the page where the personalized items are added. You must click that box before the "ADD PERSONALIZED ITEM TO CART" button will become active. Unless you click the box agreeing that Personalized Items are not refundable, the item can not be added to the cart.

Personal Name Badge link is:

[https://store.sar.org/categories.aspx?Keyword=personalized%20name%20badge%20\(name%20tag%20\)](https://store.sar.org/categories.aspx?Keyword=personalized%20name%20badge%20(name%20tag%20))