



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 signer's houses were burned to the ground. No signer defected. Their honor, like their nation remained intact.

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President's Letter

Compatriots,

Please recall that last month I advised you of our Chaplain, Ed Morgan's serious illness. This illness required him to reluctantly resign his post. Our Historian, Jim Henry, has agreed to accept the Chaplain's duties for the remainder of the year. Your Officers have appointed Ed the Chapter's "Chaplain Emeritus" and went to his home to award him a Bronze Good Citizenship medal and Certificate of Appointment.



Chapter Officers Visit with Ed Morgan

Unfortunately Art Batten was forced to cancel his appearance at our January dinner meeting with the Thomas Nelson Chapter and Bob Dunnells did the induction of Williamsburg and Thomas Nelsons officers at the 9 January meeting. Our January meeting was well attended with 61 members and guests enjoying the camaraderie and food at the Crowne Plaza.

Thomas Nelson sponsored Tony Williams as



Bob Dunnells

our speaker and he gave a great presentation on our early Founders and Patriots. Tony is no stranger to our Chapter and we all recall his great presentation on his book, "Hurricane of

Independence". Tony is working closely with Jim Henry and Tom Campbell to strengthen our History Program.



President presenting a Jefferson Cup to speaker Tony Williams

We also presented **Tom** the traditional speaker's Pewter Cup for his presentation to the Chapter on Veteran's Day. Tom is to be commended for his research and drive concerning the 158 Patriots buried in the Palace Garden at Colonial Williamsburg.

Reed Pongonis was the Chapter's representative in the annual "Arthur M. and Brenda King Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest". Reed attended War Hill high school and is now attending Virginia Commonwealth University. The Chapter Awarded Reed the Eagle Scout recognition Medal and we wish him well in the State competition.



Reed Pongonis receiving his Eagle Scout award.

The Chapter's Teacher of the Year was Jennifer Berry. Mrs. Berry teaches history. She was selected by the faculty at the high school and she was awarded a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.



President Fegan presents the Teacher of the Year Award to Jennifer Berry.

Our 2009 Treasurer, Paul Morie, was awarded a certificate of achievement for his Chapter support during the year. Despite medical problems Paul stepped up to the plate and did a magnificent job handling our finances!

Our February meeting has been moved to Saturday 20 February in order that members may attend the 12-13 February VASSAR Annual meeting in Richmond. Registration for the VASSAR Annual meeting and registration forms are available on the VASSAR web site. The meeting looks to be an exciting one and I encourage everyone who can to attend.

There will be more information concerning our 20 February meeting published later in the month. It will be a luncheon meeting at the Crowne Plaza and the theme will focus

upon George Washington and the Boys Scouts.

Bob Spencer has alerted us to some Christopher Wren classes coming up which should be of interest to us. They are ... "The Struggle for the Ohio Frontier: 1782-1795". Tues 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM 2/16, 2/23, 3/2.

"Three Battles of the American Revolution: Germantown, Monmouth Courthouse, Guilford Courthouse". Thurs. 2PM to 4 PM on 1/28, 2/4, 2/11.

"Presbyterians After The(ir) Revolution" (includes influence of Presbyterians on the American Revolution). Fri. 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23.

You can get more information and register on line at

www.web.wm.edu/cwa/Part3Am.pdf.

"Our Chapter nominated an Eagle Scout, an essayist and a policeman for selection by VASSAR in their respective categories. I have heard informally that 2 of them have advanced to the "final four" in their respective competitions and that this is the first time the Chapter has made such a strong showing. Hopefully at least one of them will become a State winner."

Ben Fegan, bfegan1@cox.net.

Historian Report

Welcome to a new year with the Williamsburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution! As chapter historian, I am looking forward to implementing a new and expanded "From the Historian's Bookshelf" reading program this year. I plan to continue my practice of reviewing and sharing books on Revolutionary War era of American history on a monthly basis. Then, in response to feedback received on last year's program, I want to build on that foundation and

incorporate a more interactive program consisting of a book discussion forum centered on a specific book, followed by a on-site field trip. I envision doing this twice a year--- one in the Spring and the other in the Fall--- with the possibility of inviting neighboring SAR chapters to participate. I have in mind starting with the book "Guns of Independence", followed by an associated guided field trip to the Yorktown Battlefield. Stay tuned. Details to follow!!!

"from the Historian's Bookshelf" selection for this month is entitled "*Liberty's Children: Stories of Eleven Revolutionary War Children*", by Scotti Cohn, TThe Globe Pequot Press, 2004.

Have you ever thought about or wondered what impact the Revolutionary War had on the children of that era? Scotti Cohn has, and makes the point that "sometimes a war's greatest heroes are its survivors, those who manage to forge new lives despite the tragedy they have experienced. History books usually do not describe how a nine year old Massachusetts boy might have felt when his friend was killed in the Boston Massacte or what went through the mind of a teenage Quaker girl when her family fled Philadelphia. Children like these found themselves on the edge of the fray---both in combat and in the throes of daily life--- helping, or simply enduring, as best their interrupted youth allowed. Their behind-the-scenes stories illustrate what it was really like for children during the Revolutionary War."

Read the inspiring stories of American children who displayed courage,

devotion, and wisdom during the colonies' fight for freedom.

Jim Henry, Historian
thedawgsdidit@juno.com

New Member

"I am happy to announce that Ron Losee is now our newest member! Ron has worked hard for the Chapter on the Historical Preservation Committee and has displayed the patience of Job regarding the SAR application process. Ron will be a major asset for the Chapter moving forward. WELCOME ABOARD, RON!"

February Meeting

Compatriots, just a reminder that the February meeting is scheduled for Feb. 20th, a week later than we normally have it. Our speaker is scheduled to be our own Art Batten. Art has spoken to us before and has always given an excellent presentation!

<p>Reservations MUST be received by 2/17/2010</p> <p>Send to: Bob Schmidt, 220 Charleston Place, Williamsburg, VA 23185 (757) 345-0292 Meeting Date 02/20/07 Ft. Magruder, 11:30</p> <p>Checks payable to "Williamsburg Chapter, SAR"</p> <p>Please reserve _____ lunches at \$16.00 per person for Feb 20, 2010</p> <p>Name _____</p>
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