



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 Message

Compatriots,
I'm back home after 2 ½ months in the Richmond Veterans Hospital and I want to thank all of you for your prayers and wishes for my safe recovery. I enjoy full functions from all of my moving parts but am still lacking stamina as a result of 3 blood transfusions. This is a temporary condition and I can see progress every day.

Our September meeting was successful and we should all thank Bob Spencer for an interesting and informative presentation on Revolutionary War genealogy centered around his ancestor Jerimiah Lott.



This coming Tuesday, 21 September, at 3:30 we will conduct a ceremony in front of the Williamsburg YMCA (next to the Sentara Hospital) to present EMS medals to six firemen (4 from the York County Fire Department and 2 from the Williamsburg Fire Department). Art Batten had

recommended these men for recognition because of their efforts saving the life of one of his employee's husband. Please try to attend if your schedule permits.

October 19th brings Yorktown Day. The schedule of events is outlined in a following article. Our Chapter will participate in the Thomas Nelson, Jr. wreath laying ceremony so please try to attend. The DAR is serving coffee in the warehouse shed on the river front at 9 AM and lunch will be served in the shed at noon. The evening before there will also be a dinner at the Fort Eustis Officers Club. If anyone is interested in attending the coffee, lunch or the dinner please contact me for further information.

In November we will repeat our Veterans' Day ceremony at the cemetery behind the Palace where 156 Patriots are buried. The ceremony will begin at 11am on 11 November. We will have Bob Schmidt's local color guard, a fifer and drummer from Colonial Williamsburg and a CW interpreter portraying Richard Henry Lee. VASSAR President Elect Mark Brennan, local DAR Regent Elane Strange and I will present wreaths. After the ceremony we will adjourn to the Crowne Plaza for a 12:30 lunch. At our luncheon we will recognize local public safety personnel with our Fireman and Police Officer of the year awards.

We have formed a nominating committee for selection of next year's officers. The committee consists of Chairman Jim Henry, Joe Spruill and me. If you are interested in

serving next year or would like to recommend someone else please contact one of the committee members. We will hold our election of 2011 officers at the November Luncheon.

Fall Meeting Schedule:

October 9 – Bill Simpson – VASSAR Past President will speak on the “*Battle of Cowpens, SC*”, an American victory led by General Daniel Morgan. VASSAR’s Semi-Annual Meeting on September 10-11 was held in Winchester which was Morgan’s hometown and where he is buried notwithstanding an attempt in 1951 by Cowpens, SC have him re-interred there.

Sign-up Form for the Oct 9th Meeting

<p>Lunch Reservations MUST be received by 10/06/2010</p> <p>Send to: Bob Schmidt 220 Charleston Place Williamsburg, VA 23185 (757) 245-0292</p> <p>Meeting Date 10/09/10 Crowne Plaza/Ft. Magruder, 11:30am</p> <p>Checks payable to “Williamsburg Chapter, SAR”</p> <p>Please reserve _____ lunches at \$16.00 per person for October 9, 2010</p> <p>Name(s) _____</p>

October 19th Yorktown Day – this is a great event and all SAR members are encouraged to attend the graveside service Afterwards you can also march in the parade together with your chapter members. Put it on your calendar.

The event schedule is as follows:

9:30 am - Wreath laying ceremony at the grave of Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr. at Grace Episcopal Church - sponsored by VASSAR

10:30 am - Yorktown Day Parade, Main St.

11:15 am - Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Victory Monument (50 seats reserved for SAR members)

November 11 Veteran’s Day– 11:00am ceremony at the Governor’s Palace. Cemetery followed by a 12:30pm luncheon meeting with speaker. All members and spouses encouraged to attend

January 15 Joint Meeting – Just some advanced notice that the joint meeting with the Thomas Nelson, Jr. Chapter will be held in the evening of January 15th at the Riverwalk Restaurant in Yorktown. VASSAR President Bob Bowen will be the speaker and preside over the induction of the 2011 chapter officers.

October 26th Chapter Tour of Yorktown Battlefield

A walking tour of the Yorktown Battlefield for all chapter members and spouses of the Williamsburg Chapter, SAR is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, 2010.

The event will include a Ranger guided tour of the Battlefield from 9:30 - 11:30 A.M., Lunch (Dutch Treat) a local restaurant in Yorktown, then a private tour of the Yorktown Victory Center led by historian Edward Ayres from 1:00- 2:30 P.M. Cost for the Battlefield tour is \$10 per person, or free if you have the Golden Age or any of the other NPS Passports. The Yorktown Victory Center is free to local area residents. Please notify Jim Henry at 221-8314 or by e-mail at thedawgsdedit@juno.com by September 30, 2010. A minimum of 10 participants is required. So, sign up NOW!!!

VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting



**VASSAR President Bob Bowen
addressing chapter representatives**

-**Williamsburg** received two streamers for:

- Center for Advancement of American Heritage (CAAH) fundraising participation
- Old Providence Church Grave marking ceremony participation in Raphine, VA



**General Daniel Morgan Monument
Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Winchester, VA**

The Historian's Corner

"From the Historian's Bookshelf" selection for October takes us on a journey from the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina to the action around the Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina. Our guide in this journey is none other than Lawrence E. Babits, the author who gave us such a thorough depiction of the Battle of Cowpens in his book, *"A Devil of a Whipping"*, joined with Joshua B. Howard, research historian at the North Carolina Office of Archives and History.

Together, these two men have given us a long awaited first rate treatment of this battle in their most recent book, *"Long, Obstinate, and Bloody: The Battle of Guilford's Courthouse"*, 2009, The University of North Carolina Press. In this book, Babits and Howard have produced the definitive account of the battle in a thoroughly researched work that explores the armies, commanders, soldiers, and weaponry, as well as the significance of this too often neglected Revolutionary War battle.

Another factor that makes this book unique is that the authors draw from hundreds of previously underused pensions documents, muster rolls, and personal accounts to piece together what really happened on the wooded plateau in what is now Greensboro, North Carolina. Also, their profuse use of illustrations and maps enhances the readability and comprehension of this work

Enjoy!

Jim Henry, Historian
thedawgsdidit@juno.com

2011 Dues Notices

By now everyone should have received their 2011 Chapter dues notices. Please make your checks out to **Williamsburg Chapter, SAR** and remit them to Bob Schmidt at 220 Charleston Place Williamsburg, VA 23185. If you have not received your notice, please call Bob at 757-345-0292 or e-mail him sar1812@cox.net.

Member Directory

Bob Schmidt, our Secretary/Treasurer, is embarking on putting out a member directory with a photograph of every member. The effort began at the September 18th meeting with Ron Losee taking member photos there. Bob plans on continuing the process at future meetings in hopes that we can get photos of most members by that method. So wear your favorite necktie at the next meeting.

2010 Chapter Officers

President – Ben Fegan
Vice President – Ed Truslow
Secretary/Treasurer – Bob Schmidt
Genealogist/Registrar – Clayton Roland
Chaplain/Historian – Rev. Dr. Jim Henry
Publicist – Collyer Linn

Virginia Society Bulletin

The latest edition of the VASSAR Bulletin may be viewed at:

<http://www.sar.org/vassar/vbulletin/bulletin-34-2.pdf>