

# **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.

#### Vol. XIV President's Message

No. 3

### March 2011

# Compatriots,

We had a very interesting and entertaining meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup>. We honored two young brothers for their very substantial accomplishments considering their ages. Alan Booth received the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Award. He delivered his oration at our meeting and I think I can say that everyone was quite impressed. His topic was "To Be Forgotten" which enumerated how we as a nation tend to forget about the broken men who return home after our wars.



**Ed Truslow and Alan Booth** 

Not to be outdone his brother Wyatt Booth received the SAR Eagle Scout Award. He recently was a feature in the Daily Press which recounted his work in creating Braille booklets for the Virginia Living History Museum and the Hampton Air and Space Museum.



Wyatt Booth and Ed Truslow

We had a chance to honor our Chaplain Jim Henry with a Virginia Society Chapter Service Award for his "outstanding service to the Williamsburg Chapter as Historian and Chaplain and for his support of the Chapter Color Guard and Virginia History Day."



Jim Henry and Ed Truslow

Finally we were treated to an excellent overview of the failure of the British

Southern Strategy during the Revolutionary War by John Rogers. John has a special talent for putting things in an easily understandable context in a short period of time. One member said he could have listened to him for hours.



Ed giving John Rogers his Jefferson Cup

We were informed at the meeting that Bob Dunnells is now home from the Consulate Rehabilitation Facility and we hope he will be able to join us at a meeting as soon as he is able.

I had the opportunity recently to visit Compatriot Oliver Kendrick who had a spinal stroke three years ago and I encouraged him to come to a meeting as soon as he is able and he said he hoped he would be able to..

Regards to all, Ed

#### March 5th Meeting.

We are pleased to have General (Ret) Anthony Zinni as our speaker at the meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Please note that this date is a week earlier than usual. I think I am safe in saying that anyone who has heard General Zinni speak, has come away in awe at the breadth of the General's knowledge and experience. Sign-up for the March 5th Meeting

Luncheon Reservations MUST be received not later than Wed. 3/02/2011

> Send check & form to: Bob Schmidt 220 Charleston Place Williamsburg, VA 23185 (757) 345-0292 sar1812@cox.net

Meeting Date 3/5/2011 Crowne Plaza Restaurant, Williamsburg VA

> Checks payable to "Williamsburg Chapter, SAR"

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_lunches at \$18.00 per person for March 5th, 2011

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

# **Spouse Names**

Bob Schmidt maintains the membership list and would like to add the names of the member spouses. It you would just take a moment and e-mail him that information, we could have a complete listing. Note his address and e-mail address above.

#### **Audio Visual Equipment**

It has become more common for our speakers to use Power Point media for their presentations. That said, we have to rent or borrow screens, projectors and laptops on occasion. If anyone has an older one of the items above or knows someone who does, they could donate it to the Chapter and claim a tax deduction since we are a 501(c)(3) organization.

# **Colonial/Revolutionary Period Artifacts**

Anyone having Colonial or Revolutionary period artifacts and wishes to display them at a meeting, please let me know in advance.

# The Historian's Corner

Our guest speaker at the February Chapter meeting, John Rogers, gave a very good presentation on "British Southern Strategy and the American Response". As a follow up to his talk, I recommend the following "From the Historian's Book shelf" work by Lynchburg, VA resident, James K. Swisher, entitled "The Revolutionary War in the Southern Back Country", Pelican Publishing Co., Gretna, Louisianan, 2008.

According to Swisher, "In the winter of 1780-81, the most significant campaign, the turning point of the southern war, occurred in the Carolina back country. A trio of battles occurred within a five month period at Kings Mountain, Cowpens, and Guilford Courthouse. These climactic clashes proved pivotal to American independence, destroying British army capability in the southern colonies. The British chose to withdraw and consolidate their forces at Yorktown. The American victory was an inevitable conclusion.

As historian F. Lawrence McFall says of Swisher's book: "A must read for anyone wishing to gain understanding of the southern campaigns. Jim Swisher's skillfully crafted study brings enlightenment to these engagements with his in-depth descriptions of developing strategies and their collective results."

I concur.

Jim Henry, Chapter Historian e-mail: thedawgsdidit@cox.net

#### **Boy Scout Chairman**

We are in desperate need of a Chapter Boy Scout Chairman. The duties would include being the primary interface with the VASSAR initiatives for our area. Please give me a call at 565-2460 if you are interested in helping out.

#### **Permanent SAR Name Badges**

You may have noticed that some members have permanent SAR name tags. They can be ordered from NSSAR store at <u>http://store.sar.org/index.php?l=product\_det</u> <u>ail&p=278</u>. They are \$25.00 and are available in three different attachment methods i.e pin, magnet and pocket tongue.

# **Future VASSAR Activities**

VASSAR Annual Meeting – Feb 25-26 Richmond, VA

VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting – Sep 16-17 Fredericksburg, VA

Yorktown Day - Oct. 19 Yorktown, VA

# 2011 Chapter Calendar

March 5<sup>th -</sup> Chapter Luncheon Meeting April 9<sup>th</sup> - Chapter Luncheon Meeting May 30<sup>th</sup> - Memorial Day with CW & Luncheon at Kings Arms June 11th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting July 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day Service at Bruton July 9th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting Sep. 10<sup>th</sup> - Chapter Luncheon Meeting Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> - Chapter Luncheon Meeting Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> - Veteran's Day @ the Palace and Luncheon Meeting

Luncheons will be at the Crowne Plaza except as otherwise noted.

# **2011 Chapter Officers**

President - Ed Truslow ewtruslow@verizon.net

Vice President - Rushton White rushtonwhite@cox.net

Secretary/ Treasurer - Bob Schmidt sar1812@cox.net

**Registrar/Genealogist** - Clayton Rowland <u>crrowldand@aol.com</u>

Chaplain/ Historian - Jim Henry thedawgsdidit@cox.net

Public Relations - Collyer Linn collyerlinn@verizon.net

Member at Large - Ben Fegan bfegan1@cox.net

Member at Large – Ron Losee valosee@aol.com

Member at Large - Joe Spruill jsprl@cox.net