



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. XV

No. 1

January 2012

President's Message

Compatriots,
At this time, Laura and I wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Chapter had an active schedule in 2011 which included our Memorial Day, 4th of July, Battle of Green Spring and Veterans' Day ceremonies. All told, we had over 2,000 spectators at these events.

I am pleased to note that our membership increased by almost 20 percent during this past year. Certainly some of this is the result of the number of articles that have appeared in the Virginia Gazette. By my count, we have had fourteen published in 2011 which has significantly increased our visibility in the community. Thanks goes out to Collyer Linn for getting us this recognition.

Of course we were saddened by the loss of Clayton Rowland whose efforts as Chapter Registrar were critical to our chapter's growth. We were certainly gratified when Ron Losee agreed to step in a take over that important job.

Keeping track of our money has been the task that Bob Schmidt has been doing for the past two years. His SAR experience has been invaluable to me. In addition to his Secretary/Treasurer duties Bob continues to pull together our highly successful local Color Guard.

Our Chaplain/Historian has been Jim Henry. Jim's book raffle program has been a notable success and has helped our treasury. In his spare time Jim assists Ben Fegan with the Chapter's and the State's History Day Programs. He also serves in Bob Schmidt's Color Guard.

Others who help make this organization run are Joe Spruill who manages our Memorial Day, July 4th and Veterans Day activities. Don Swain seeks out notable Public Safety candidates for recognition. Tom Morr manages the award process for notable ROTC/JROTC students. Dick Ludwig searches for our Teacher of Year in our area. In addition to being a chapter board member, Ben Fegan has been the VASSAR Chair of the History Day committee. He also has been involved with our Oration, Essay and Eagle Scout recognition activities.

A lot of these folks above could use your help and there are many more things we could be involved in. If you have a particular interest area, please send me an e-mail and I will call you to discuss how you can contribute. Your board cannot do it all.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our joint dinner meeting on January 14th at the Crowne Plaza with the Thomas Nelson, Jr. Chapter. Our VASSAR President, Mark Brennan, will speak and do the honors of inducting the 2012 officers of both chapters.

Thanks and best regards,
Ed

January 14th Dinner Meeting

Date: Saturday January 14, 2012
Location: Crowne Plaza/Fort Magruder Inn
Dress Code: Coat and tie (Black Tie optional)
Time: Social 6:00pm - Cash Bar available
Meeting: 6:30pm
Menu Options:
Choice #1: Sliced London Broil with Wild Mushroom Sauce
Choice #2: Seared Corn Dusted Salmon with Sun Dried Tomato Cream

Each dinner will come with tossed garden salad with choice of two dressings , potato and seasonal vegetable medley, baked rolls and butter, dessert, iced tea, regular and decaf coffees and hot tea.
Cost: \$25.00 per person

**Sign-up for the January 14th
Dinner and Menu choices
MUST be received not later than
Wednesday January 11th**

Send check to:
Bob Schmidt
220 Charleston Place
Williamsburg, VA 23185
(757) 245-0292
sar1812@cox.net

**Checks payable to
“Williamsburg Chapter, SAR”**

**Please reserve dinner at
\$25.00 per person for**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Entrée#</u>
<u>Name</u>	<u>Entrée#</u>
<u>Name</u>	<u>Entrée#</u>
<u>Name</u>	<u>Entrée#</u>

2012 Chapter Calendar

January 14th – Joint Meeting with Thomas Nelson, Jr. Chapter and Induction of 2012 Officers.
Feb 11th – Chapter Luncheon Meeting
March 10th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting
April 14th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting
May 31st – Memorial Day Ceremony with CW – Lunch at the King’s Arms
June – Joint Mtg. - Date/Time/Place TBD
June 26th – Battle of Spencer’s Ordinary
July 4th – Service at Bruton Parish Church
July 6th – Battle of Green Spring
September 8th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting
October 13th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting
October 19th – YorktownDay
November 11th – Palace Cemetery

Future VASSAR Activities

Jan 15-16 – Battle of Cowpens – Chesnee, SC
Feb 19 – Crossing the Dan – South Boston, VA
Feb 24-27 - 2012 VASSAR Annual Meeting - Richmond, VA.

Great Bridge Inauguration Ceremony

On Saturday morning December 3, Vice President Rush White and I attended the Great Bridge ceremony commemorating the Patriot victory there on December 9, 1776.

Commemoration Ceremony



The outcome ultimately resulted in the British losing Virginia and the Chesapeake Bay for most of the war.

The wreath laying, including ours, and the Marshall Monument dedication took place in the City of Chesapeake park just off of Great Bridge Boulevard on the north bank of the Chesapeake and Albemarle Canal.



VASSAR President Mark Brennan at the Newly Dedicated Marshall Monument

The Marshall monument commemorates the service of Major Thomas Marshall and his son Lieutenant John Marshall (later U.S. Chief Justice) who were both at the Battle of Great Bridge.

St. Paul's Plaque Dedications

On Saturday afternoon, Vice President Rush White and I journeyed from Great Bridge to historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church in downtown Norfolk. Two new large bronze plaques, affixed to the outside of the church, were dedicated at this event. One was to commemorate the twenty-four Patriots who are buried at St. Paul's and the other to the twenty-two War of 1812 Veterans also buried there.



SAR Commemorative Patriot Plaque



Our chapter wreath was among those presented at the churchyard ceremony.

The Historian's Corner

In commemoration of the Revolution in South Carolina, the January selection "From the Historian's Bookshelf" is a small book entitled "Partisans & Redcoats: The Southern Conflict That Turned the Tide of the American Revolution", by Walter Edgar, Perennial, New York, NY, 2001.

This work of Walter Edgar takes the American Revolution far beyond Lexington and Concord recreating pivotal months in our nation's struggle for freedom. His masterful history captures the heat, the fury, and the intense human drama of Britain's ruthless South Carolina campaign. It is a story of military brilliance and of devastating blunders-----the courage of an impossibly outnumbered force of demoralized patriots who suffered terribly at the hands of a merciless enemy, yet slowly gained confidence through a series of small triumphs that convinced them their war could be won.

Walter Edgar gives us a sobering sense of liberty's price. "Partisans & Redcoats " is an excellent read.

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

2012 Chapter Officers

President - Ed Truslow
ewtruslow@verizon.net

Vice President - Rushton White
rushtonwhite@cox.net

Secretary/ Treasurer - Bob Schmidt
sar1812@cox.net

Registrar/Genealogist – Ron Losee
Valosee@aol.com

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 – John Brough
phantus@verizon.net

Member at Large - Joe Spruill
jsprl@cox.net