



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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March 2012

President's Message

Compatriots,

We had a great meeting on Saturday February 11th. We were treated with a very informative talk with excellent graphics presented by John Broadwater on the U.S.S. Monitor conservation efforts as well as on the archaeology of the British ships buried in the York River.

John has been chief archaeologist in the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), program manager of NOAA's Maritime Heritage Program, manager of the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, during which time he directed seven major expeditions to the remains of the Civil War ironclad USS Monitor



(L-R) Ed Truslow & John Broadwater

We also had the pleasure of inducting Robert Erskine into membership of our chapter. Please take the time to greet and welcome him at your next opportunity.



(L-R) Ed & Bob Erskine

Thanks and best regards,
Ed

March 10th Chapter Luncheon

Our March 10th meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza as usual beginning at 11:30 with a little social time and the formal meeting beginning promptly at noon. Our speaker will be Army Chaplain Colonel Kenneth Bush from Fort Eustis. He will speak on Revolutionary War chaplains.

Please take a look at our chapter and VASSAR calendars. There are a lot of interesting meetings and events ahead.

Best regards,
Ed

Sign-up Form for the March 10th Meeting

Luncheon Reservations MUST be received not later than Wed. March 7th

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

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

Please reserve _____ lunches at \$18.00 per person for March 10th, 2012

Name(s) _____

VASSAR Annual Meeting Highlights

The 2012 VASSAR Annual Meeting and Election of Officers were held at the Holiday Inn in Midlothian on Feb 24-25. Highlights from the meeting were as follows:

- Williamsburg received a Flag participation certificate and seven streamers for the following:
 - Chapter Excellence Award
 - History Day Support – Thanks to Ben Fegan for leading
 - Best Chapter Scrapbook – Cheers to Jim Henry
 - Program Innovation – Thanks to Jim again (Historians Corner)

- Battle of Great Bridge Inauguration – Rush White and Ed attended
- St. Paul’s Norfolk Plaque Dedication – Rush White and Ed attended
- Flag Participation – Thanks to Tom Campbell
- Rumbaugh Oration - Though he didn’t win, our Allen Booth gave an excellent oration
- Our Wyatt Booth received his third place Eagle Scout award.

- The Lois Hornsby Middle School in James City County was awarded a trophy recognizing their academic excellence as a consequence of three of their students wining the VASSAR Junior Division History Day Competition in 2011. Kyle Moser, Chair of the Hornsby Social Studies Department accepted the trophy on behalf of the school.



(L-R) VASSAR Pres. Mark Brennan, Kyle Moser, Ed Truslow, Mark Day, Ben Fegan and Bill Collyer

Ed Truslow was inducted as the new VASSAR Secretary



(L-R) VASSAR Chancellor Walter Sheffield , VASSAR Chaplain Father Henry Minich, Incoming VASSAR Secretary Ed Truslow, NSSAR Treasurer General Joe Dooley, Incoming VASSAR 3rd Vice President Reverdy Wright and outgoing VASSAR President Mark Brennan

Crossing of The Dan Commemoration

On Saturday February 18th, Joe Spruill and Ed Truslow journeyed to South Boston, VA to the 7th Annual Crossing of the Dan Commemoration. The event memorialized Nathaniel Greenes's successfully leading the American Army across the Dan River on February 14, 1781 and thus bringing them out of reach of Lord Cornwallis' army. The American forces were saved to fight another day. There was a wreath laying ceremony, a fine luncheon and a reenactment of Americans crossing the river with British forces in pursuit.

Crossing the Dan Memorial Park



(L-R) Ed Truslow & Joe Spruill

2012 Chapter Calendar

- March 10th** - Chapter Luncheon Meeting
- April 14th** - Chapter Luncheon Meeting
- May 31st** – Memorial Day Ceremony with CW – Lunch at the King's Arms
- June 16**– Joint Mtg. - 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** – Yorktown Day
- November 11th** – Palace Cemetery
- December** – No Meeting

VASSAR Sponsored Activities

- Mar 11 – Battle of Guilford Court House** – Greensboro, NC
- March 15 – President James Madison's Birthday** – Montpelier, VA
- April 13 – President Thomas Jefferson's Birthday** - Jefferson Memorial, Wash. D.C.
- April 15-16 – Battle of Petersburg** – Petersburg, VA

April 28 – President James Monroe’s Birthday – Westmoreland Co. 10:30am, Richmond 3:00pm

Details of the above VASSAR events as well as other events may be found at:

<http://www.virginia-sar.org/vassar/events.htm>

NSSAR Service Honor Roll

The Sons of the American Revolution maintains an Archives of Honor roll of members who have served honorably in the Armed Forces. A simple form can be printed from the NSSAR website at <http://www.sar.org/node/78> Proof of honorable service, a DD214 or other evidence, must accompany the form. If you have questions or need assistance contact Genealogist/Registrar Ron Losee.

The Historian’s Corner

Well, here we are almost into March; a new year for sharing books on the Revolutionary War period of our history. Hopefully, you will find these suggested readings helpful in your study and for your edification.

The month of March brings this little book "From the Historian's Bookshelf entitled: "Soldier of the 1775 American Revolution: A visual reference", by Denis Hambuchen and Bill Payson, The Countryman Press, Woodstock, VT 05091,2011.

In 1775, at the beginning of the American War of Independence, the men that stood up to the British Regulars were farmers, laborers and artisans. Most had procured their own weapons and fought without pay against overwhelming odds. This book affords a glimpse into the day-to-day conditions of an average soldier through a collection of artifacts and exacting reproductions.

If you are at all interested in what our ancestors wore, the accoutrements they carried, and weapons they used, this book has excellent pictures and descriptions. It will be on display at our March meeting, so pick it up and take a look

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

March Book Raffle Selection

The March Raffle Book selection will be *George Washington’s Secret Navy: How the American Revolution Went to Sea* by James L. Nelson. Raffle tickets will be available at the March 10th luncheon meeting.

2012 Chapter Officers

President - Ed Truslow
ewtruslow@verizon.net

Vice President - Rushton White
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Secretary/ Treasurer - Bob Schmidt
sar1812@cox.net

Registrar/Genealogist – Ron Losee
Valosee@aol.com

Chaplain/ Historian - Jim Henry
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Public Relations - Collyer Linn
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Member at Large - Ben Fegan
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Member at Large – John Brough
phantus@verizon.net

Member at Large - Joe Spruill
jsprl@cox.net