



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. XVI

No. 11

November 2012

President's Message

Compatriots,

We had a great luncheon meeting on October 13th with a full agenda. We inducted two new Chapter members. They are Richard Munro and Samuel Florer. Samuel is the son of chapter member Stan Florer.

George Cummings was our speaker and his topic was the Siege of Yorktown. As much as many of us had previously heard about this event in our back yard, we were greatly impressed by the presentation and the outstanding graphics that George had assembled. George is lecturing on this topic at the William and Mary Christopher Wren Association.



(L-R) New Member Richard Munro & Ed Truslow



(L-R) Ed Truslow & George Cummings



(L-R) New member Samuel Florer & Ed Truslow

We presented our 2012 History and Government Teacher of the Year medal to Benjamin Payson. Benjamin teaches at Bruton High School in York County.



(L-R) Ed Truslow and Benjamin Payson

We had the pleasure of welcoming Madison Pons, the President of the George Wythe Chapter of the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.). to speak to us about their mission. She was accompanied by the Chapter Senior President Frances Pons. We presented their chapter with a check to help further their mission. I will mention a bit more about the C.A.R.later.



(L-R) Ed Truslow, Madison Pons and Frances Pons

We also presented a combined total of ten supplemental certificates to five of our members. The recipients were Aaron Anderson, John Brough, Ben Fegan, John Moseley and myself. Chapter VP Russ White did the presentation honors.



(L-R) Ed Truslow, Ben Fegan, Aaron Anderson, John Brough and John Moseley.

Our speaker for the Sunday November 11th meeting will be “Thomas Jefferson” aka Bill Barker. This is a real treat for us and as it happens, Bill recently became a member of our chapter. As many of you know, Bill is the Thomas Jefferson interpreter for Colonial Williamsburg. The gathering will begin at 12:30pm

After the luncheon meeting, we will proceed to the Governors Palace Cemetery for our 3:00pm wreath laying ceremony for the patriots buried there. Colonial Williamsburg’s “Patrick Henry” aka Richard Schumann will speak to us there. There will be more communications about this event in early November

Best regards,
Ed

Sign-up Form for the Sunday November 11th Meeting

Reservations MUST be received not later than Wed. Nov. 7th

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

Make checks payable to
“Williamsburg Chapter, SAR”

Please reserve _____ lunches at \$18.00 per person for Nov. 11th, 2012

Name(s) _____

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee headed by Ron Losee reported that they have a slate of officers that will be voted on at the November 11th meeting. The slate is:

President – Bob Spencer

Vice President – John Moseley

Treasurer – Jack Lee

Secretary – Open

Registrar/Genealogist – Ron Losee

Historian/Chaplain – Jim Henry

Publicity – Collyer Linn

Member at Large – Joe Spruill

Member at Large – John Brough

Yorktown Day

Friday October 19th in Yorktown started off with mist and a gentle rain but fortunately that soon cleared off. The annual VASSAR wreath laying took place at the grave of Virginia Governor and General Thomas Nelson, Jr. at Grace Episcopal Church. VASSAR President Henry P. “Phil” Williams spoke eloquently about the personal sacrifices that Nelson made for the Revolutionary cause. Following the wreath laying, the SAR contingent took their place in the line of march in the parade to the Victory Monument to the cheers of onlookers. Our chapter had six members present at the event.



(L-R) Ben Fegan, Russ White, Ed Truslow, John Moseley, John Brough and Tom Campbell

There was a notable contingent of National SAR officers present. They were NSSAR President General Steve Leishman, NSSAR Secretary General Joe Dooley, NASSAR Treasurer General Lindsey Brock and NSSAR Registrar General Mike Tomme.



SAR Officers & VASSAR Color Guard



(L-R) Secretary General Joe Dooley, President General Steve Leishman, VASSAR President Phil Williams & Registrar General Mike Tomme

Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.)

Many of you have children or grandchildren of an age who could be part of the Patriot heritage that you honor. If they are under the age of 21, they could become a part of a

national organization that fosters patriotism and civic responsibility. The George Wythe Chapter of the C.A.R. serves our local area. Anyone interested in this fine organization should contact:

Senior Chapter President,
Mrs. Frances Pons
3540 Cedar Branch
Williamsburg, 23188,
before 5:pm 229-8730.or
E-mail fdhadd@aol.com

Monument Dedication George Washington's Great Grandmother



Some of you have perhaps been to beautiful Warner Hall in Gloucester County. However you may not be aware that it was the home of Mildred Reade Warner (1643-1686), great grandmother of George Washington. On Friday October 18th, the National Society of Washington Family Descendants conducted a dedication of a new monument to Mildred Warner. The outdoor communion service used the 1662 Anglican Book of Common Prayer which Mildred would have been accustomed to. It was led by Rev. Sven vanBaars, Rector of the Abingdon Episcopal Church in Gloucester, which Mildred Warner attended.

Members of several heritage organizations were invited to attend the dedication including Laura and myself. What is notable however is the Williamsburg Chapter's connection to this event. Mildred Warner is the 8th great grandmother of Peggy Mathis, wife of chapter member Jim Mathis. Peggy was one of the principals in the dedication event.



**Peggy & Jim Mathis at
Mildred Reade Warner's Grave**

Historians Corner

The selection "From the Historian's Bookshelf" for the month of November comes to us through the courtesy of Joe Spruill. It is a dual selection of "on going research projects" authored by Stephen A. Leishman, SAR Historian General 2008-2009. The first is entitled "Compatriot Medal of Honor Recipients" published in March 2011. In his introduction, Leishman tells us that "the Medal of Honor is the highest military decoration awarded by the

United States government. It is generally presented by the President of the United States in the name of Congress and thus is often called the Congressional Medal of Honor. There are 25 known compatriots who have received the nation's highest award. Time periods are from the Civil War to Vietnam. Interestingly, at this writing there are no names from World War I. Their names are listed by war service with rank shown at the time of their heroic action." This is an appropriate work for SAR members to read for Veteran's Day

The second work by Stephen A. Leishman is entitled "Graves of Unknown Revolutionary War Soldiers", published in August 2010. In this introduction to this work, Leishman says, "Identifying all the tombstones or monuments to unknown Revolutionary War soldiers will take time to complete. This article presents only a few of the known locations of a tomb for unknown Revolutionary War soldier or soldiers. Such monuments can be found in such places in many states."

What is noteworthy about this research project is that our chapter, the Williamsburg Chapter, SAR, is highlighted on page 36. Leishman says, "In 2007, the Williamsburg Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution placed a marker in memory of 6 Virginians and 22 Pennsylvania Line Patriots who are buried near the site. Members of the Pennsylvania Society also attended the dedication." Pictures are included. On the next page (37) features the wall plaque behind the Governor's Palace, outside the garden, honoring 156 Revolutionary War Soldiers who lie in unmarked graves within the Palace Garden. Both works will be on display for your viewing at the November 11 chapter meeting at the Crowne Plaza

Hotel. Take a moment and look over these chapter documents.

N.B. Steve Leishman is now NSSAR President General

Chapter Calendar

November 11th (Sunday)– Luncheon @ 12:30pm & Palace Cemetery @3:00pm

December – No Meeting

January 12th – Joint Meeting in Yorktown with Thomas Nelson, Jr. Chapter.
Installation of 2013 Chapter Officers

VASSAR Sponsored Activities

December 1 – Battle of Great Bridge – Chesapeake, VA

February 22-24 – VASSAR Annual Meeting – Omni Hotel Richmond, VA

Details of the above VASSAR events as well as other events may be found at:
<http://www.virginia-sar.org/vassar/events.htm>

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
thedawgsdedit@cox.net

Public Relations - Collyer Linn
collyerlinn@verizon.net