



# 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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## Presidents Message

Our Chapter takes a vacation in August. We do not have a luncheon meeting. However, you Board and officers continue to be very active. For example, Registrar Ron Losee is busy working on the applications for a number of prospective members. One way to find new members is to talk with friends and neighbors about the SAR. I met a new Fords Colony resident at a Rotary lunch last week, and discovered that he was working on an application to join SAR. I immediately put him in touch with Ron.

We do need volunteers to help run our Chapter. In particular, it would be very helpful to have a member with good computer skills to serve as Secretary. Please let me know if you can help us.

John Moseley has lined up some interesting speakers for the balance of the year, starting in September. I hope we can generate good attendance for our luncheon meetings.

Ed Truslow, our former President, attended the annual NASSAR meeting in Kansas City earlier this summer. I look forward to hearing about the annual meeting from Ed. Our State organization will be holding a semi-annual meeting in September. You should consider attending that meeting to learn more about VASSAR activities.

Bob Spencer

## July 13 Chapter Meeting

The speaker for the July 13th chapter luncheon meeting was George Morrow. His topic was *Patrick Henry – The Greatest Lawyer That Ever Lived*.

## July 2 Independence Day Concert Cancellation

As most of you know the July 2nd Independence Day USAF band concert in Merchant Square was canceled because of inclement weather. Consequently our SAR team that was prepared to distribute mini American flags to the public was unable to do so. The flags will remain in storage for use at the concert next year.

## July 4<sup>th</sup> - SAR Commemoration Service

The July 4<sup>th</sup> Service of Thanksgiving was led by our chaplain, the Rev. Dr. James Henry, with Bruton Curate Rev. Charles Robinson delivering the homily.

## July 4<sup>th</sup> – C.A.R./DAR Service At Berkeley Plantation

Following the Bruton service, a number of our SAR members journeyed to Berkeley Plantation in Charles City for a DAR commemoration and the C.A.R./DAR wreath laying at the grave of William Henry Harrison V. Our chapter presented a wreath also. The Guest Speaker was General John R. Foss, U. S. Army, Retired.



John Brough presenting the SAR Chapter wreath



(L-R) Bob Spencer, DAR Regent Jane Stewart, Ron Losee, John Brough and Roger Strange

The DAR presented the third generation owner of Berkeley Plantation, Malcolm “Jamie” Jamieson, with a proclamation from Governor Bob McDonnell.

### **July 6th - Battle of Green Spring SAR Commemoration**

On Saturday July 6 at 9:00am we honored the sacrifices of those patriots who fell at the Battle of Green Spring near Jamestown. The proceedings were held at the nearby remnant of the Church on the Main where

some are believed to have been buried. Only the foundation corners are visible today.



(L-R) Bicyclist, Jim Henry, John Moseley, Bob Spencer, Harley Stewart, Ron Losee and John Brough

### **2013 Chapter Calendar**

**September 14<sup>th</sup>** - Chapter Luncheon Meeting

**October 12<sup>th</sup>** - Chapter Luncheon Meeting

**October 19<sup>th</sup>** – Yorktown Day

**November 11<sup>th</sup>** – Palace Cemetery Wreath Laying & Luncheon

### **VASSAR Sponsored Activities**

**August 24<sup>th</sup>** – Joint SAR/1812 Grave Marking – Winchester, VA

**September 13<sup>th</sup> -14th** – VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting, Alexandria, VA

**October 19** – Yorktown Commemoration

**November 2<sup>nd</sup>** – St. George Tucker Grave Marking – Nelson, Co., VA

**December 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>** – Battle of Great Bridge Commemoration

## Historian's Corner

For a bit of light reading on these hot summer days, I am reading a whimsical little book by Mary Miley Theobald with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation entitled *Death by Petticoat: American History Myths Debunked*, Andrews McMeel Publishing, LLC, 2012.

Every day, stories from American history that are not true are repeated in museums and classrooms across the country. Some are outright fabrications; others contain a kernel of truth that has been embellished over the years. Mary Miley Theobald has uncovered the truth behind widely repeated myths- understandings in our history. Here is one example from Mary's book: "Myth #9: Nails were so expensive that people used them on their front doors to show off their wealth." According to blacksmiths and historians, the truth is the exact "opposite" of the myth. Setting aside the fact that nails were not that expensive, it was the shoddy, cheapest doors that had the most nails. Well made, more expensive doors show no nails at all.

*Death by Petticoat* is not only a light, fun book to read while on vacation, it is also very informative. I heartily recommend it for your summer time reading enjoyment. Keep cool!

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## Chapter Website

Note that you can keep up on chapter news at our web site at:

<http://williamsburg.virginia-sar.org/>

### 2013 Chapter Officers

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