



# 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 signers' houses were burned to the ground. No signer defected. Their honor, like their nation remained intact.*

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### Edward Truslow, President, VASSAR 2016



Williamsburg Chapter's Past President, Edward Truslow, was elected president of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution, at the February annual meeting in Richmond, Virginia. Ed's selection comes after serving as Chapter Vice President from 2009 to 2011 and President from 2011-2013 and holding a variety of state offices, the last of which was First Vice President in 2015.

He announced in his acceptance remarks that he will promote four presidential initiatives for the Society: the Blandford Cemetery Memorial Dedication; emphasizing presentation of SAR War and Military Service Medals; encouraging SAR presentations to local civic organizations, and donations to the Museum of the American Revolution at Yorktown. Ed will preside over the September semi-annual Virginia society meeting to be held in Williamsburg. Ed is a 12<sup>th</sup> generation Virginian, born in Harrisonburg and grew up in Winchester. His father descended from a long line of Truslows that came from England to Stafford County in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century.

Opposite: Ed Truslow is installed as the President of VASSAR for 2016.

L to R: Tom Lawrence, President General NSSAR; Reverdy Wright, President VASSAR 2015; Ed Truslow, President VASSAR 2016 and Laura Truslow

His mother's line descends from early German settlers in the Shenandoah Valley and Puritans who settled in Massachusetts.

Obtaining an undergraduate and graduate degree on Long Island, he was employed as an engineer with Grumman Aerospace Corporation, later Northrup-Grumman, in Bethpage, New York, for 41 years. Early in his career he worked on the Lunar Module program, later serving as operations project engineer on the Navy's A-6E Intruder and E2C Hawkeye aircraft. He and his wife, Laura, who have two daughters, moved from Huntington, New York to Williamsburg in 2007.

Rufus Weaver, a member of Samuel Harrick's Regiment of Vermont militia, is Ed's primary ancestor. However, research has identified many more ancestors who fought for liberty in the Revolutionary War. Benjamin Truslow Sr., Abraham Beydler and Jacob Sticklely were soldiers in the Virginia militia. Dr. George Keller is credited with rendering aid to colonial forces; Lawrence Snapp and Leonard Bath furnished supplies, and Johann Kopp was a soldier in the Lancaster, County, Pennsylvania militia.

## Message from the President

The following chapter report was made at the general meeting of the Virginia Society in Richmond on February 19, 2016.

The Semi-Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society will be in Williamsburg on September 16-17. A host-chapter committee has been formed. Its chairman is Jack Lee, our Chapter Treasurer. On the committee are Secretary Wayne Rouse representing the Virginia Society, experienced chapter members and some of our many newer members who have very useful backgrounds in the historic triangle of Williamsburg, Yorktown and Jamestown.

Jack Lee has already assisted the Virginia Society in selecting a venue within the Colonial Williamsburg area – the Cascades Conference Center for meetings and the Woodlands for lodging. Pre-planning is underway and use of the new CW musket range is being discussed. The entire selection of nearby historic sites will be available, especially the new Museum of the American Revolution in Yorktown.

All of you are advised and encouraged to set aside some extra time while in Williamsburg to take advantage of the opportunities that will be available.

*-Harley Stewart*

## Registrar's Corner

We're off to a good start in 2016. Five new members approved; seven awaiting approval at NSSAR. But we're short on prospects. Need some names of prospective candidates so I can contact them. I'll be at the DAR Library in mid-March to search for reference material not available locally or online. Postage costs have risen so we can expect an increase in application processing costs. After attending the Elam Baptist Church ceremony on 21 January, I pulled up the [www.charlescity.org](http://www.charlescity.org) web site and was very impressed with the extensive historical information about our neighbors to the West along Route #5. It is worth a few minutes of your time to take a look. Another plea: I am still waiting for member biographies and ancestor descriptions for our chapter notebook. Send me something.

*- S.F. Ron Lortee*





### Chapter/VASSAR Calendar

Upcoming SAR Events in Our Region & Beyond

March 12th 2016

**Monthly Luncheon Meeting**  
**Fort Magruder Inn**  
**Williamsburg, VA**

March 11th - 12th 2016

**Battle of Guilford Courthouse**  
**Greensboro, NC**  
**NSSAR Event**

March 16<sup>th</sup> 2016

**James Madison's Birthday**  
**Orange, VA**



### March Book Raffle

The Raffle book for March is entitled, "The American Revolutionaries: A History in Their Own Words 1750-1800" Edited by Milton Meltzer, Harper Trophy, 1987.

### March 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter Luncheon

The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members, and their guests, to attend the March 12th Luncheon. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Date:** Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 2016

**Location:** Fort Magruder Inn  
& Conference Center

6945 Pocahontas Trail (Rt. 60 east)

**Social:** 11:30 am

**Meeting:** 12:00 pm

Please see the sign-up form on the last page of this newsletter.

Reservations **MUST** be received no later than **Wednesday, March 9th.**

### Let Freedom Ring



Williamsburg Chapter President Harley Stewart rings the Freedom Bell at Williamsburg First Baptist Church on Monday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>. The bell, which had been silent for generations is being rung in February as a part of Black History Month. The Williamsburg chapter of SAR was both proud and honored to take the "Let Freedom Ring" Challenge.

### Commemoration at Old Elam Cemetery

Members of the Elam Baptist Church and the Sons of the American Revolution came together at the Old Elam Cemetery on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, to commemorate and remember all men of color from Charles City County who participated in the War for Independence. Wreaths were placed by Harley Stewart, President of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR, and Virginia Lee, Regent, Williamsburg Chapter DAR. Judith Ledbetter, historian from Charles City County offered remarks.

On the left L-R: Joseph Dooley, President General NSSAR 2013-2014, John E. Lewis, a member of the Philadelphia Chapter of SAR, and a descendent of men listed on the marker, and Bruce Wilcox, President General NSSAR 2007-2008.



On the right, members of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR who attended the ceremony



Below Maria Cole (left), Fort Findlay Chapter, Ohio Society DAR. Dr. Marion Lane (right) Bucks County Chapter, Pennsylvania DAR. Dr. Lane descends from 12 of the men listed on the monument. Between them is Joe Dooley, President General NSSAR 2013-2014.



Above L-R: Harley Stewart, President of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR, Judith Ledbetter, Dir. Charles City County Richard H. Bowman Center for Local History, who offered remarks, and Rev. Horace B. Parham, Jr., Elam Baptist Church.



*February Luncheon Meeting*



L-R: Williamsburg Chapter President, Harley Stewart welcomes new members Wilson "Todd" Skinner and his wife Leslie, and Gerald "Gary" Sailors with his wife Susan.



Williamsburg Chapter President, Harley Stewart, on the right, presents a Bronze Roger Sherman medal to Williamsburg Chapter Past President Don Swain for his many years as chairman of the History Day competitions, and his successful year as chapter president.



LIBERTY BELL



Williamsburg Chapter President, Harley Stewart, on the right, receives a Supplemental Patriot Certificate from Jay Smith, Williamsburg Chapter Vice-President. Harley's ancestor, Captain John Chilton, served with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army and was killed at the Battle of Brandywine.



*February Luncheon Meeting (Cont'd)*

Williamsburg Chapter President Harley Stewart, on the right, presents Williamsburg Chapter Public Relations Officer, Lew de Seife, with a Distinguished Service Certificate for his efforts in publicizing the chapters' activities.



Williamsburg Chapter President Harley Stewart, on the right, presents Bronze Roger Sherman medals to (l-R) Joe Spruill, Rev. James Henry, and Tom Campbell for their years of distinguished service to the chapter



Williamsburg Chapter Registrar, Ron Losee, on the right, presents a Flag Certificate to Jim and Jean Hess. Flag Certificates can be awarded to anyone who displays the American Flag in accordance with proper flag etiquette.



Williamsburg Chapter President Harley Stewart, on the left, presents a Certificate of Appreciation and a Jefferson Cup to luncheon speaker John Grady for his fascinating remarks about Thaddeus Kosciuszko



### March Luncheon Speaker

The speaker for our March 12 lunch meeting will be Michael Steen, Director of Education, Watermen's Museum, Yorktown, Virginia. Michael's topic will be the numerous British war ships still lying at the bottom of the York River.



### Williamsburg Chapter Members Attend VASSAR Annual Meeting in Richmond

L to R: Harley Stewart, President; Joe Spruill; Ed Truslow, 1st Vice-President, Virginia Society, SAR; Bruce Wilcox, President General, National Society, SAR 2007-2008; Bob Spencer, Past-President; Jack Lee, Treasurer.

### 2016 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

President	Harley Stewart	<a href="mailto:hstewart9@cox.net">hstewart9@cox.net</a>
Vice-President	Jay Smith	<a href="mailto:jay.smith92346@gmail.com">jay.smith92346@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Roger Cross	<a href="mailto:rogercross@msn.com">rogercross@msn.com</a>
Treasurer	Jack Lee	<a href="mailto:valcc@widomaker.com">valcc@widomaker.com</a>
Public Relations	Lew de Seife	<a href="mailto:ldeseife@cox.net">ldeseife@cox.net</a>
Registrar/Genealogist	Ron Losee	<a href="mailto:valosee@aol.com">valosee@aol.com</a>
Historian	William Greaf	<a href="mailto:hcaprof@verizon.net">hcaprof@verizon.net</a>
Chaplain	Rev. Dr. Jim Henry	<a href="mailto:thedawgsdidit@cox.net">thedawgsdidit@cox.net</a>
Projects	Tom Campbell	<a href="mailto:tcampbell113@cox.net">tcampbell113@cox.net</a>
Sergeant-at-Arms	George Bridewell	<a href="mailto:gbridewell@aol.com">gbridewell@aol.com</a>

*Cut along dotted line*

**Reservation for the Saturday, March 12th 2016 Chapter Luncheon Meeting:**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ dinners at \$20.00

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

# of Vegetarian Dinners \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to "Williamsburg Chapter SAR"

and mail to:

Jack Lee

521 Newport Ave.

Williamsburg, VA 23185-4012

(757) 221-6686

[valcc@widomaker.com](mailto:valcc@widomaker.com)

