



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.

Vol. XX

NO 5

MAY 2016

Memorial Day Commemorations



Please join the Williamsburg Chapter SAR and the Williamsburg Chapter DAR, along with Colonial Williamsburg, in a Memorial Day Commemoration beginning at the Governor's Palace in Colonial Williamsburg at 10:00am on Monday, May 30th. Following remarks and a wreath-laying, the ceremony will proceed to Bruton Parish Church, where a second wreath will be presented honoring the patriots buried there. The commemoration concludes with a presentation at the Capitol honoring French soldiers who participated in the Revolution. Immediately following the ceremonies, rain or shine, the Williamsburg Chapter SAR will hold its monthly meeting and luncheon at Shields Tavern in Colonial Williamsburg.

President's Message

I was privileged to represent the chapter in presenting a wreath at Governors Land on April 2nd at a marker dedication and reinterment ceremony. It was sponsored by the Virginia Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America with our own Ben Fegan presiding. The officiant was our own Rev. Dr. Jim Henry, who read from the 16th Century Elizabethan Book of Common Prayer. The person being reinterred had died in about 1620 and had been exhumed in the 1990's for studies at the Smithsonian.

I accompanied Tom Morr, when he presented the chapter silver ROTC medal (and certificate) to Cadet Panzica at the Sadler Center, W&M, on April 13th. I met and spoke with Panzica after the ceremonies. He and the other cadets made a strong impression on me. They are all going to serve their country as U.S. Army officers after graduation in May. It was a very uplifting experience and I highly recommend attendance next year.

Continued on page 7.



Chapter/VASSAR Calendar

Upcoming SAR Events in Our Region & Beyond

April 28rd 2016

James Monroe Birthday
Hollywood Cemetery
Richmond, VA

May 13th 2016

Raid on Martin Station
VASSAR Commemoration
Ewing, VA

May 30th 2016

Memorial Day Commemoration
Hosted by:
Colonial Williamsburg
Williamsburg Chapter SAR
Williamsburg Chapter DAR



May 30^h Chapter Luncheon

The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members, and their guests, to attend the May 30th luncheon. We look forward to seeing you there.

Date: Monday, May 30, 2016

Location: Shields Tavern
Colonial Williamsburg

Meeting: 11:30

Please see the RSVP information on the last page of this newsletter.

Reservations **MUST** be received no later than **Wednesday, May 25th.**

Registrar's Corner

When May approaches I start wondering where I am going to obtain the 1,000 miniature flags needed to distribute at the Independence Day band concert in Merchants Square. I have about 500 that I have purchased or scrounged; if anyone has a source or can assist in obtaining more, please let me know.

Another Tidewater Genealogy Society bus trip to the DAR Library in Washington, D.C. is scheduled for Thursday, May 26. I missed the March trip, but intend to make this one. If you need information, please send me an e-mail for details, cost, times, etc. If you are working on a genealogy project you will find this a good way to answer some unanswered questions of your past. New members and pending applications this year total 13; we could use some recruiting activity among our members.

- S.F. Ron Lobe

Chapter Happenings



New Members Welcomed

L - R Ron Losee, Williamsburg Chapter SAR Registrar, inducts Richard Eugene Snyder into the Sons of the American Revolution, as his wife Peg Snyder looks on.

Peter Armstrong Receives Recognition

Peter Armstrong, Senior Director of Museum Operations and Education for the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, gave the Sons of the American Revolution a fascinating sneak preview of the new Yorktown American Revolutionary War Museum. L - R Ron Losee, SAR Registrar, presents Peter Armstrong with a Jefferson cup and a Certificate of Appreciation for his presentation.

ROTC Silver Medal

William and Mary ROTC Cadet Matthew J. Panzica is presented a Silver Medal by Tom Morr of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR.



Chapter Happenings Cont'd.

Jr. ROTC Medal Awarded

On the left, Thomas Morr, Williamsburg Chapter SAR, congratulates Cadet Dylan Horton on his receiving the SAR Jr. ROTC medal for 2016. Cadet Horton is a member of the Charles City High School Jr. ROTC program.



President James Monroe Birthday Celebration

On the right, Richard Newsome, Williamsburg Chapter SAR member, stands with the wreath that he presented in the name of the chapter at the 258th Birthday Celebration for President James Monroe held at his birthplace in Westmoreland County, VA.

On the right below, Charles Belfield, President of the James Monroe Chapter SAR is shown as he offered remarks about the early childhood of President James Monroe at the celebration of his 258th birthday held at his birthplace in Westmoreland County, VA.

A second ceremony honoring James Monroe will be held on Thursday, April 28th at 11:00am at his tomb in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond. All are invited to attend.



Raid on Martin Station



On Friday, May 13th, The Virginia Society SAR will conduct a ceremony and wreath laying to commemorate the Cherokee raid on Martin Station.

On Saturday, May 14th starting at 9:30am you can witness history come alive as hundreds of living historians re-enact life at Joseph Martin's frontier fort. Watch as two cultures clash and the flames of war are once again ignited on Virginia's frontier. Activities include tours of Cherokee Warrior and Colonial Militia camps, frontier fort life, and 18th century merchants and colonial traders selling their wares. Various seminars on 18th century topics will be conducted by world renowned historians and lecturers. Frontier battles between the natives and the settlers highlight the event at 1 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Saturday. War is imminent. .

The Raid at Martin's Station reenactment can be better described as an "on-going living history demonstration" rather than a "reenactment" by its usual definition. While the event is hosted and coordinated by the Wilderness Road State Park, the Friends of Wilderness Road sponsor the event. The activities associated with the Raid and trade fair are the combined efforts of the local civic, community, and school groups, 18th century settlers and merchants, and various military and native reenactment groups.



Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates

John Burnham was 19 when he enlisted in the 9th Connecticut Regiment of the Continental Army in 1777. Admiralty Court records show that in May 1782 he was a crew member aboard the *General Green*, a Brigantine privateer that was captured by the British ship *Virginia*. Moved to a prison ship for further transfer to London, he was lucky to be among soldiers who were chosen to be exchanged for British prisoners.

After hostilities he was a crew member of a cargo ship bound for the West Indies when it sunk near the Bahamas. Life boats made it to a barren island where a passing vessel headed for New Bedford rescued them. He later served as a mate on two different ships before taking command of the merchant ship, *Hope*, in 1792, for a trip to Rotterdam. On the return voyage his ship was intercepted by an Algerian corsair mounting 42 guns with a crew of over 500; the *Hope*'s 11-man crew was taken prisoner and became slaves of the Dey of Algiers. Officially the Barbary Coast War had not begun; however, the U.S. government was negotiating with several countries in an effort to stop the piracy of American shipping.

Through friends in America and London Captain Burnham's freedom was bought through a \$4,000 ransom paid to Algerian diplomats. Wandering through street markets awaiting transport home, he discovered some of his personal property seized by the pirates on sale by vendors. Burnham returned home safely and was married in 1798 to Barbara McCarty; an "American Mercury" newspaper announcement of 25 October mistakenly lists her name as "Barbary."

A current best-selling book, "Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates" deals with the diplomatic efforts to prevent piracy of American shipping by four Muslim powers and the resulting growth and successes of the United States Navy.

Compatriot Robert Barberie of Williamsburg is a descendant of John Burnham.



President's Message Cont'd.

I was privileged to represent the chapter in presenting a wreath at Blandford Cemetery, Petersburg, VA on April 16th at a VASSAR monument dedication ceremony honoring Revolutionary War patriots. Also dedicated was a lighted flag pole with a permanent hoisting of the flag. Featured was our Ed Truslow, VASSAR President, pictured on the right, whose initiative this was. Special units were the VASSAR Color Guard and a bugler. It was a beautiful day and an impressive well-run program by the host Richmond Chapter. - *Harley Stewart*



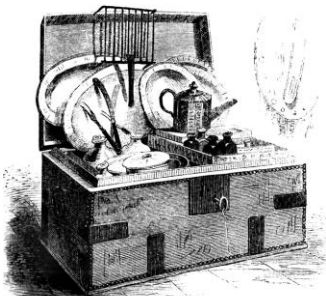
2016 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

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

Cut along dotted line

Reservation for the Saturday, May 30th 2016 Chapter Luncheon Meeting:

For this special luncheon meeting at Shields Tavern attendees will be ordering off of the restaurant menu and will be paying individually.



Please RSVP to Bill Greaf
At hcaprof@Verizon.net or
Call (631)219-6616

