



# 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. XXIII

Number 4

APRIL 2018

## President's Message

March was a busy month. At our monthly meeting two members were awarded the military service medal and inducted into the SAR veterans service corps. It is always rewarding to honor our veterans regardless of their length of service. Not everyone realizes the sacrifices that are made to serve.

I laid my first wreath as chapter president on the 16<sup>th</sup> at Montpelier to honor James Madison on his birthday. The Marine Corps delegation placed a wreath from the President and thirty-two additional organizations presented wreaths. It is a long way to travel but well worth the journey to observe. I encourage everyone to make the trip at least once.

The following day, the 17<sup>th</sup>, along with fifteen other organizations, I had the privilege of placing a wreath honoring the anniversary of Patrick Henry's famous speech at St. John's Episcopal Church in Richmond. Compatriots Cross, Spence and Campbell joined me there. This was the first year for this event sponsored by the Richmond SAR chapter. Later that night I attended the banquet at the DAR annual state meeting and discussed the event with VASSAR's second vice-president who had been at Guilford Courthouse that day. He stated that they would try to not have the two events conflict in the future.

I encourage every member to read the newsletter carefully and take part in everything, as you are able, the Chapter does.

Finally, I would like to congratulate our past president, Harley Stewart, on his granddaughter's induction into the Williamsburg Chapter of DAR. I know it means a great deal to her to be a member of the chapter where her grandmother was Regent.

Have a great month and I hope to see you at our various events during the month.

*William Greaf*





# Calendar

Mon. April 9<sup>TH</sup>

Board Meeting

10:00 am Williamsburg Library  
Williamsburg, VA

Sat. April 14<sup>TH</sup>

Luncheon Meeting

11:30 Social time

Noon Meeting – Lunch

Guest Speaker

Colonial Heritage Country Club

Sat. April 21<sup>ST</sup>

Virginia History Day  
Richmond, VA

Sat. April 21<sup>ST</sup>

Battle of Petersburg  
Commemorative  
Petersburg, VA

Sat, April 21<sup>ST</sup>

James Monroe at Birthplace  
Birthday Celebration  
10:30 am free event  
4460 James Monroe Highway  
Colonial Beach, VA

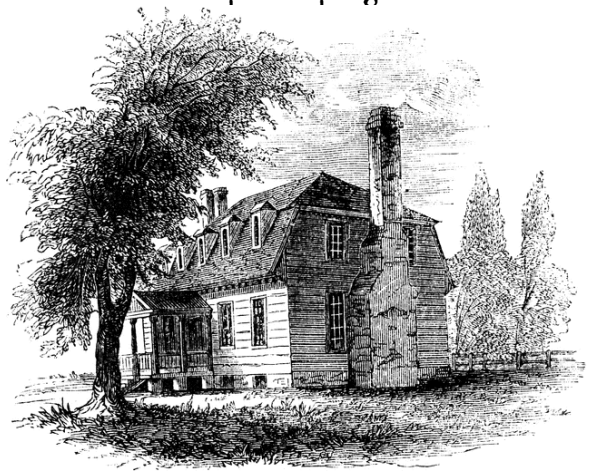
Sat, April 28<sup>TH</sup>

James Monroe at Gravesite  
11:00 am by the Army  
The Hollywood Cemetery  
512 Cherry Street, Richmond, VA.

## Chapter News



President William Greaf presenting our March guest speaker Tab Broyles a Jefferson Cup and Certificate of Appreciation for her presentation on Colonial Williamsburg's Teacher Professional Development program.





Compatriot Roger Hall Sr. has a new Email address  
[wythehouse6@gmail.com](mailto:wythehouse6@gmail.com)



Williamsburg Chapter SAR President William Gref presented and placed our wreath to honor the anniversary of Patrick Henry's famous speech "but as for me, give me Liberty or give me death" at St. John's Episcopal Church in Richmond on March 17<sup>TH</sup> 2018.



This event was sponsored by the Richmond SAR chapter with sixteen organizations attending.

# Military Service Medals



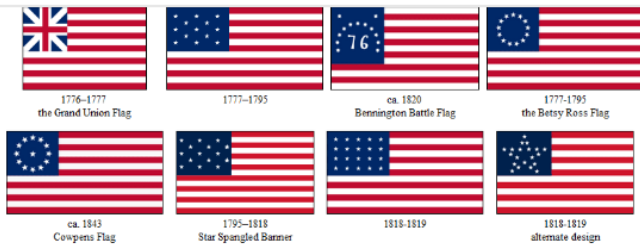
Presented by R - Bill Greaf - President and L- Bob Davis,- Veterans Affairs Chairman, to Donald Schiro and David Westenberger. Center L & R



Military Service Medal

Authorized in 2006, this medal is designated for SAR Members who have served in the Armed Forces of the US, Coast Guard or a country that was an ally of the US or in a UN Peace Keeping Force.

Wearing this medal promotes patriotism in accordance with the SAR's adopted mission.



Having been the Flag Committee chairman for the better part of the last decade, I'd like to step aside and give someone else the opportunity. The duty consists of selecting citizens, businesses and others who display the American flag 24 hours a day according to the Flag code and presenting them with an SAR flag certificate. I also coordinate with Merchants Square Association to allow the chapter to distribute miniature flags at the Independence Day band concert. For more information contact Ron Losee [valosee@aol.com](mailto:valosee@aol.com).



This picture was taken at our last meeting and shows our "Social Room Hour" in a beautiful setting we enjoy each month just prior to lunch and program that normally includes a guest speaker. Members and guests are more than welcome to attend without lunch for the program.

# TNSSAR News

Compatriots:

This is a reminder message of the grave marking for Patriot Robert Vicars, Saturday, April 7, 2018, 2:00 pm, Russell County, VA. Attached you will find a registration form and map instructions to the grave site. If you have not returned your registration form, please complete and return ASAP. This will assist in planning purposes. Chapter Presidents, please forward to your members. Also, it is recommended that you bring a folding chair since seating will be limited. Ladies, flat shoes  
We look forward to seeing you at the ceremony.

Sincerely,

Larry Underwood, President  
John Sevier Chapter, TNSSAR

Registration form and map is included at the end of our newsletter for those wishing to attend.

## VASSAR NEWS

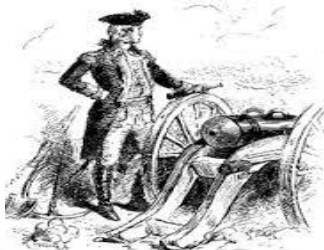


7  
April

Grave Marking for Soldier Robert Vicars in Scott County, Virginia.

13  
April

Thomas Jefferson's Birthday Wreath Laying at Monticello  
Location: Charlottesville, VA



“Williamsburg Chapter Contributes to Colonial Williamsburg’s Teacher Institute to Empower Teachers to Teach Colonial and American Revolution History in U. S. Elementary and Secondary Schools”

(Article may be found in the VASSAR newsletter ↓)

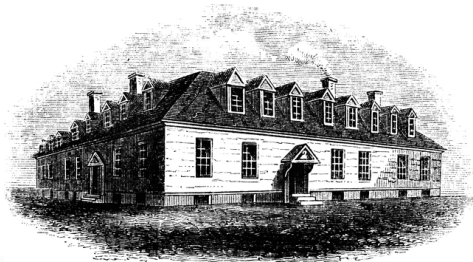
<http://www.virginiasar.org/>

## REGISTRAR'S CORNER

Here we are in Spring and SAR interest is blooming like flowers. I enjoy helping applicants prove their Revolutionary War ancestry and lineage. The job is time-consuming though. I cannot continue to do it forever. I have learned a good deal about genealogy resources, so if you have been thinking about joining SAR or adding a supplemental ancestor sooner or later, I strongly recommend sooner. It is free and easy to check the DAR website [http://services.dar.org/public/dar\\_research/Search/](http://services.dar.org/public/dar_research/Search/) to see if others have used your ancestor for DAR membership. Now you can do almost the same thing on the SAR website ([sarpatriots.sar.org](http://sarpatriots.sar.org)). A record copy (\$10) of someone who used your ancestor to join SAR is useful, if only to prove qualifying service.

And don't forget that there is such a thing as a Memorial Application, which can be submitted for a male who is a deceased close relative (within two generations) of an SAR member and whose application is based on (most of) the same lineage as that SAR member. The fees are reduced, there are no dues and it is a lasting tribute to a deceased father, brother or grandfather who thought about joining SAR, but never got around to it. Don't let that be you.

Jim Hess, Registrar



## Help Needed:

Your chapter needs your assistance. A small group of compatriots cannot continue to keep the chapter going and winning the awards and accolades that we did at VASSAR's annual meeting in February.

We need individuals to lead our various youth programs. The programs most in need are the poster, essay, brochure and oration programs. This involves contacting and working with the schools, both public and private, in our area to get students to participate. Home schoolers are also eligible in most cases. If you have contacts in the schools or are willing to follow-up with other leads please contact Bill Grea at [hsaprof@gmail.com](mailto:hsaprof@gmail.com) or 631-219-6616.

Another major need is chair of the chapter's color guard. We use our own color guard at the Battles of Greensprings and Spencers Ordinary as well as the events at Colonial Williamsburg for Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The duties obviously include insuring the color guard is staffed for those events and keeping the flags, stands, etc. and bringing them not only to the above events but also the monthly meetings. Attendance at the Board of Managers meetings is required only immediately preceding the four events listed above.

A uniform is not required for the chair. For those in the color guard, we recommend the uniform of the ancestor or simply colonial garb. The current chair is willing to assist a new chair for the remainder of this year. If interested, please contact Bill Grea at [hsaprof@gmail.com](mailto:hsaprof@gmail.com) or 631-219-6616.

# Meet our Patriots

With their permission

Biography of Patriot Simon Riegel

Name of Patriot: Simon Riegel

NSSAR Patriot # P-279147

Submitted by: Larry A. Divins

National Number: 191883

Simon Riegel/Riegle/Rigle was the first born son of Johannes Riegel Jr. and also the first born of this family in America. Simon was born on 5 November 1738 at Tulpehocken Twp., Berks County, Pennsylvania of German Rhineland-Palatinate immigrants Johannes Riegel Jr. and his wife Catarina Schirmann, who arrived in Philadelphia 18 September 1733 on Ship *Pennsylvania Merchant* with his father Johannes Sr. and his mother Catherine Echiman. Simon was a farmer and blacksmith in Berks County for his entire life. He married Anna Gertrude Kirschner in 1764 at Host Church in Tulpehocken Twp. and they raised 14 children together. Many of their children were pioneers in mid-western states. Simon died 12 Jan 1829 at the age of 90 and Anna reportedly also died in 1829 at the age of 84. Simon is believed to be buried in a private cemetery one mile west of St. Michael's Church in Tilden Twp., Berks County.



Simon Riegel's full service as a private during the Revolutionary War is not known. He received Pennsylvania Depreciation Pay Certificate No. 17575, issued 17 Dec. 1790 in the amount of £9.17.0, which was only given to soldiers who had Continental Line service between 1777 and 1780 and remained in service in 1781. The pay rate for Berks County privates was £2.10 per month; hence, the Depreciation Pay Certificate amount indicates Continental Line service of about four months or more. Records of Berks County militia service on the Continental Line are substantially incomplete. It is known that several companies of Berks County militia had active service generally of 60 days duration on the Continental Line. Simon was confirmed by pay roll to be a member of Lt. Jacob Rehrer's Detachment of the Second Battalion of Berks County Militia, which guarded Convention prisoners of war near Reading, Pennsylvania with duty of 62 days. Simon's father, Johannes Jr., was also a Patriot, having paid the supply tax in 1781.



## The Shot Heard 'Round the World

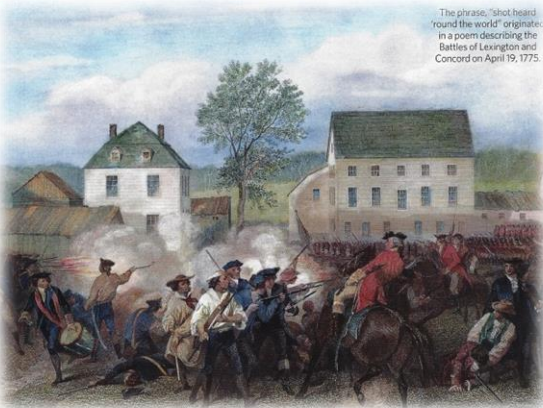


Lexington Common, 19th of April 1775. Painting by Don Troiani.

### Battle Breaks Out At Lexington

Meanwhile, after the British forces waited two hours for additional supplies at their ships, the British continued on their journey to Concord. At the town of Menotomy, Smith decided to send an advance force commanded by Major John Pitcairn to gain control of the bridges at Concord. Pitcairn was given six companies of light infantry while Smith sent a soldier to request reinforcements from Boston. Soon, Pitcairn's troops would arrive in Lexington and meet up with the first wave of colonial minutemen.

Following Revere's warning to the Patriots, Captain John Parker began assembling minutemen to meet the British. After rousing approximately 137 men, they waited for the British to arrive. However, because it had taken the British two hours to receive supplies earlier in the evening, the minutemen were way ahead of schedule. Parker requested that the minutemen retire to nearby taverns until further notice while sending a few scouts from Lexington to approximate the arrival of the British. Many of these scouts were not seen again due to British arrest. One scout, Thaddeus Bowman, did return; he had narrowly escaped arrest by British soldiers and Pitcairn's advance troop was only half a mile behind him. Captain Parker hastily assembled his minutemen again. When Pitcairn's forces and Parker's minutemen met, there were 77 minutemen prepared to fight nearly 250 British soldiers. A shot was fired; although it's not clear which side fired first. More shots ensued. After the fight came to a close, eight Americans were dead and ten were wounded. This is in comparison to one wounded British soldier and several bullet wounds in Pitcairn's horse.



"What a glorious morning is this!"

Samuel Adams, after hearing news of the Battles of Lexington and Concord



## APRIL GUEST SPEAKER

### MICHAEL L. KERLEY

Mike is a retired lawyer. For over 30 years he served in a variety of legal and compliance positions at MassMutual, a diversified, global financial services organization. His final position there was as Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer for that Company's U.S. Insurance Group. Mike's job responsibilities often included delivering presentations at industry conferences and continuing education events.

Mike graduated from Notre Dame with a degree in Government, and he earned his JD degree at the National Law Center of George Washington University.

Since retiring and moving here to Williamsburg, Mike has begun a second career as an amateur constitutional historian. Resuming his life-long interest in our Constitution and the men who created that remarkable document, he has developed and taught several well-received courses for adult learning programs such as the Christopher Wren Association in Williamsburg and the Lifelong Learning Society in Newport News. These courses include ones pertaining to: The Constitutional Convention of 1787, Ratification of the Constitution, The Bill of Rights, the Electoral College, and Fundamentals of the Constitution.

Mike's talk will be entitled: "Washington at Newburgh." A brief description of the talk is: "In the spring of 1783, George Washington made several critical decisions that cemented into our culture the principle that the military must be subordinate to our civilian authorities. This talk will examine how and why Washington made those decisions.

## April 14<sup>th</sup> Luncheon Meeting

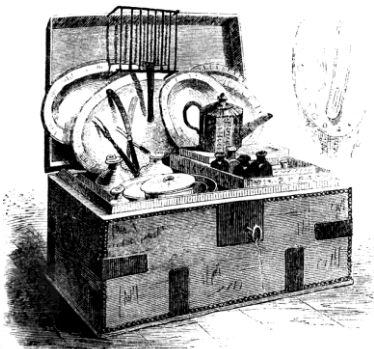
The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members and their wives and guests to attend the April luncheon at the Colonial Heritage clubhouse. We will have a guest speaker and look forward to seeing you there. All members that would like to enjoy our meeting and guest speaker without lunch are welcome and encouraged to participate. Please send in your reservation by April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Date:** Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Location:** Colonial Heritage Clubhouse  
6500 Arthur Hills Dr, Williamsburg, VA

**Social:** 11:30 **Meeting:** 12:00 **Lunch** **Guest speaker**

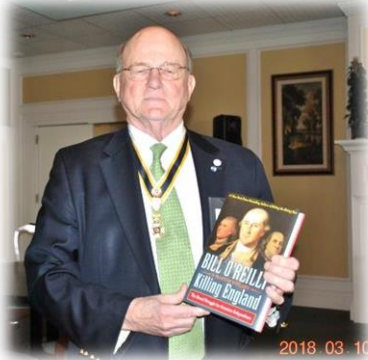
**Please see the RSVP information on the last page of this newsletter.**



## MARCH BOOK RAFFLE



KILLING ENGLAND



Won by Compatriot Tom Campbell

## APRIL BOOK RAFFLE

The book up for raffle this month entitled **JAMESTOWN, THE TRUTH REVEALED** is authored by one of our own SAR members, William M. Kelso. Kelso is Head Archaeologist of the Jamestown Rediscovery Project and under his leadership unearthed the original site of the fort and town when many believed it had been eroded away into the James River. This book reveals the remarkable discoveries that have held it secrets for over 400 years, the first permanent English settlement in the New World. Participate in this raffle at the April luncheon meeting, one ticket for \$1 or seven tickets for \$5 for your chance to own this amazing book.

The video this month is about  
"shot heard 'round the world".

April 19<sup>TH</sup> 1775

Click the link below



<http://www.pbs.org/video/3000112059/>



## SAR WEB sites

National <https://www.sar.org/>

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

Williamsburg Chapter



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

## IN MEMORIAM



Harley Beck Jr.

A recent Compatriot and resident of Williamsburg Landing passed away on March 12<sup>TH</sup>.

SAR member Bob Van Duyne

Passed away Mar 20<sup>TH</sup> at his home in The Landings. OB ↓

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/robert-van-duyne-obituary?pid=100000188515973&affiliateid=2107>

## 2018 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

President	William Greif	<a href="mailto:hsaprof@gmail.com">hsaprof@gmail.com</a>	631-219-6616
Vice-President	Jay Smith	<a href="mailto:jay.smith92346@tgmail.com">jay.smith92346@tgmail.com</a>	564-1564
Secretary	Roger Cross	<a href="mailto:roger.cross66@gmail.com">roger.cross66@gmail.com</a>	869-6303
Treasurer	Frederick Siegel	<a href="mailto:fwsiegeljr@gmail.com">fwsiegeljr@gmail.com</a>	259-0184
Public Relations	John Holt	<a href="mailto:johnholt4@mac.com">johnholt4@mac.com</a>	571-278-2694
Registrar	Jim Hess	<a href="mailto:jimhess42@gmail.com">jimhess42@gmail.com</a>	220-2924
Historian	Steve McGuffin	<a href="mailto:mcguffs@gmail.com">mcguffs@gmail.com</a>	206-1767
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At-Large	Ron Losee	<a href="mailto:valosee@aol.com">valosee@aol.com</a>	565-1707
At-Large	Tom Campbell	<a href="mailto:tcampbell113@cox.net">tcampbell113@cox.net</a>	229-0496
President 2017	Harley Stewart	<a href="mailto:hstewart@cox.net">hstewart@cox.net</a>	564-1897
Database	Bob Schmidt	<a href="mailto:sar1812@live.com">sar1812@live.com</a>	345-0292



For information about the Williamsburg Chapter SAR please contact  
William Greif, President, at [hsaprof@gmail.com](mailto:hsaprof@gmail.com).



Send your reservations to the Williamsburg Chapter  
by **Saturday the 7<sup>TH</sup> of April.**

*Cut along dotted line*

**Reservation for the Saturday, 14<sup>TH</sup> April, 2018 Chapter Luncheon**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ regular meals at \$20.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Attending (NO LUNCH)

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

# Vegetarian meals \_\_\_\_\_ # Vegan Dinners \_\_\_\_\_ # Gluten free meals \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to “Williamsburg Chapter SAR”

Mail to:



**Fred Siegel**  
**3006 Downing St.**  
**Williamsburg, VA 23185**  
**(757) 259-0184**  
[fwsiegeljr@gmail.com](mailto:fwsiegeljr@gmail.com)





Date: Saturday, April 7, 2018  
 Time: 2:00 pm  
 Place: Old Vicars Cemetery  
 County Rd. 680 & VA-71 Russell  
 County, VA



## April 7, 2018 Patriot Robert Vicars Grave Marking Ceremony

Please join in honoring a patriot of the American Revolution who served in the militia and the Continental Army of Virginia. The cemetery is on land once owned by Robert Vicars, the farmer. The ceremony is sponsored by the John Sevier Chapter of the TNSSAR. Participants will include members of the TNSSAR and VASSAR as well as DAR members and Color Guards of both states in period dress. After the ceremony you are invited to join us at the Historic Old Russell County Courthouse, Co Rd. 836 (Alt. Hwy 58) for a reception with light refreshments provided and hosted by the Tabitha Adams Russell Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. You are also invited to tour the Historic Old Russell County Courthouse and Dickenson Home, schoolhouse, and grounds. **NOTE: Please bring a folding chair. Ladies are advised to wear flat shoes as the cemetery is on a grassy knoll.**

**WE WILL ATTEND THE CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018, at 2:00 pm**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Other Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Are you presenting a wreath? Yes \_\_\_ Name of presenter(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of organization \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of? SAR \_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

DAR \_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

CAR \_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be joining us at the reception? Yes \_\_\_ Number \_\_\_ **If you are presenting a wreath or participating in the color guard, please arrive on or before 1:30 pm**

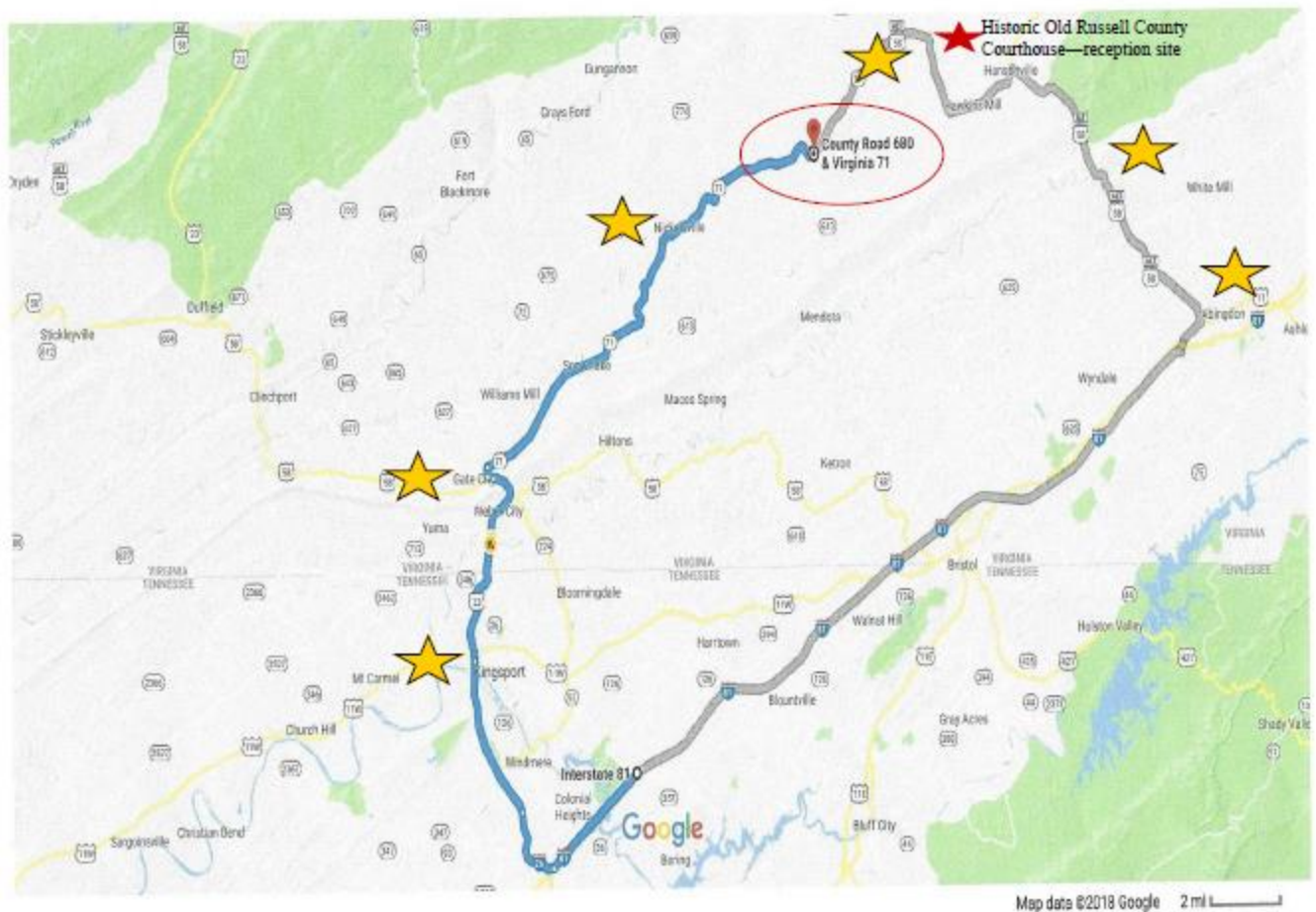
Your Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail the form above to: Larry A. Underwood, President  
 John Sevier Chapter, TNSSAR  
 7717 Royal Harbour Circle  
 Ooltewah, TN 37363-9154

OR email to [lunderwood@comcast.net](mailto:lunderwood@comcast.net) OR call 423-238-4022. Any questions may be directed to Larry Underwood via email or phone as well.

Please respond by Wednesday, March 14, 2018 to be included in the program

## MAP AND DIRECTIONS TO OLD VICARS CEMETERY, RUSSELL COUNTY, VA FOR GRAVE MARKING CEREMONY , SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018, 2:00 PM



### Driving Directions to Vicars Cemetery Highway 71, Russell County, VA from I-81

**I-81, Abingdon, VA Route** - For travelers driving from Abingdon from I-81. Take US Hwy 19/Alternate 58 North to traffic light at intersection of Alternate 58 and Hwy 19 North, approximately 15 miles. Make a left turn onto Alternate 58 at traffic light and drive past the Old Russell County Courthouse; turn left onto Hwy 71 South. Drive past intersection of Russell County Road 680 (on left). Old Vicars Cemetery is about 100 yds on the right. The area will be marked by balloons.

**I-81/I-26, Kingsport, TN Route** - For travelers going North on I-81 from Knoxville, Exit at I-26, Kingsport exit and proceed to Gate City, VA. Take Hwy 71 from Gate City North through Nickelsville, VA and continue. Watch for the Scott County line. The cemetery will be on a high grassy knoll to your left, 3 miles past the Scott County line. Russell County Road 680 will be past the cemetery on your right about 100 yards. If you arrive there, you have gone too far. Watch for the balloon markers.

**Old Russell County Courthouse** - You are invited to the Old Russell County Courthouse after the ceremony for light refreshments. Refreshments will be served in the old school room directly behind the courthouse, served and provided by The Tabitha Adams Russell Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. From the cemetery, continue on Hwy 71 to the intersection of Alternate 58. Take Alternate 58 toward Abingdon, VA and watch for the Old Russell County Courthouse sign. The distance is approximately 5 miles from the cemetery.

**Note:** You can GPS the Old Russell County Courthouse from Abingdon, VA and it is 21 miles.