



# 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. XXIV

Number 5

MAY 2019

## President's Message

Compatriots,

What a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration! Governor Jefferson gave a rousing presentation and I think we can overlook his questionable remarks about Mr. Henry. It was great to receive greetings from many of the organizations we often work with in preserving our country's revolutionary history. Thanks to President-General Wilcox and President Beane for performing the cake cutting ceremony. A huge debt of gratitude is due to Registrar Losee and his committee for putting the whole thing together.

On April 20, Harley Stewart and I attended the 261<sup>st</sup> celebration of James Monroe's Birthday at his birthplace in Westmoreland County. VASSAR President Davenport gave a very nice overview of President Monroe's life. On April 28, we will honor President Monroe at his burial site in Richmond during a program sponsored by the US Army including the laying of a Presidential Wreath. The program begins at 11:00 and all are invited. Also, on April 28, we have been invited to the reinternment ceremony for three early settlers. It will be held at Two Rivers Country Club and our own Jim Henry will be the priest conducting the reinternment. Historian Steve McGuffin will present the chapter's wreath since I will be Richmond presenting our wreath there.

Also in April, Tom Morr and/or I will present a ROTC medal at William and Mary as well as a JROTC medal at Charles City High School. Paul Huchko and Jim Morford will present certificates and checks to the three winners of our youth brochure program as well as certificates to their teachers.

As the summer season approaches be sure to put these activities on your calendars. On May 27, we will have, along with the Thomas Nelson, Jr. chapter and the Williamsburg DAR chapter, our wreath laying at Colonial Williamsburg. This is described elsewhere in the Newsletter. On June 26, we sponsor the commemoration of Spencers Ordinary. July 4 will be our Independence Day church service and attendance at the July 4 DAR program at Berkeley Plantation. July 6 is the commemoration of the Battle of Green Spring. Everyone is encouraged to attend one or more of these events.

As always, I want to remind you that this is your chapter and as you have ideas and/or suggestions about it please let myself or a Board member know.



Bill



# Calendar

Sun. April 28

James Monroe

Birthday Commemoration

11:00 am Hollywood Cemetery

Richmond, VA

Page 4 for details

Sun. April 28

Reinternment ceremony for three  
early settlers

2:00 pm at Two River CC

Governor's Land

Mon. May 6

10:00 am Board Meeting

Williamsburg Library

Sat. May 11

11:30 am Chapter Luncheon  
Colonial Heritage Country Club

Thurs., May 23 at 10:00 am

Memorial Day Walkthrough

Mon. May 27

Memorial Day Commemorative  
At 09:45 am

Muster in front of the Palace with  
Thomas Nelson, Jr. chapter  
Williamsburg DAR chapter

## Chapter News



James Monroe Birthday celebration at Westmoreland, VA on April 20, 2019. Conducted by The James Monroe Memorial Foundation with wreaths presented by 29 participants in a wreath-laying ceremony. Attending from the Williamsburg Chapter were President William Greaf and Past-President Harley Stewart.



NSSAR Certificate of Recognition and Medal were awarded to Cadet Matthew G. Mckeon at an award ceremony of the Revolutionary Guard Battalion at the College of William and Mary on April 24, 2019. Cadet Mckeon was selected for demonstrating the highest ideals of Americanism throughout his undergraduate career. The award was presented by Tom Morr, chairman of ROTC awards of the Williamsburg Chapter.

# WILLIAMSBURG CHAPTER SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



13 Apr 2019



PHOTOS BY KIM KIELY



# UPCOMING EVENTS



President James Monroe's actual birthdate will be celebrated on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at Hollywood Cemetery at 11 AM. The cemetery address is 412 S. Cherry St, Richmond VA, 23220 and signs will direct you to the Monroe gravesite.

To pay homage to the nation's leaders, wreath-laying ceremonies are held annually at the gravesite of each of the former presidents on their birthday. The Fort Lee Color Guard and US Army band will be present along with Monroe family members and state and local dignitaries.

Following this annual tribute, the James Monroe Foundation will be hosting a separate wreath laying event in celebration of Monroe's 261st Birthday with a guest speaker and the support of many lineage societies, including the Sons of the American Revolution. Your chapter will participate in this wreath-laying event.

SAR, DAR, CAR and other Societies and Chapters are invited to participate in a formal wreath laying ceremony at Martin's Station Monument, Wilderness Road State Park, Ewing, VA. This year the Raid is a VASSAR Presidential Initiative event. The ceremony begins at 10 am on Saturday, May 11th, 2019.

## Memorial Day Commemorative

### WALK THROUGH

Thursday May 23<sup>RD</sup> at 10:00 am

Representatives of our color guard and wreath presenters (SAR, DAR, Thomas Nelson Jr.) should attend to know where and when to position the wreaths, etc. The event will begin at the front of the Governor's Palace for a dedication service, place wreaths, then march to Bruton Parish Church for ceremony and possible bell ringing, then march to the Capital for the last dedication and wreath ceremony.

Monday May 27<sup>TH</sup>

At 09:45 a.m.

Muster in front of the Palace.

Join Colonial Williamsburg as we honor our military veterans who died in service to our country. At three locations, the Fifes and Drums and Military Programs present a modern ceremony in recognition of our fallen soldiers.



On 29 March 2019, members of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution Williamsburg Chapters paid homage at the Vietnam Veterans Day program at Veterans Park, Williamsburg. Event organized by the local VFW chapter.



National Memorial Day Parade being produced by the American Veterans Center on Monday, May 27, 2019 in Washington D.C.

# THE PENNSYLVANIA MILITIA IN 1777



Prior to 1777, Pennsylvania sent 12 battalions of volunteers to the Continental Army. Volunteers also formed 53 battalions of "Associators" who participated in the "Flying Camps" sent to New Jersey in the summer of 1776. Pennsylvania did not pass a comprehensive Militia Act until early 1777. Under the Act, all able bodied males between the ages of 18 and 53 were subject to active duty for two months service if called up. Government officials, Ministers of the Gospel and indentured servants were exempt, although others could avoid service by hiring a substitute or paying fines.

The Act provided for eight Battalion Districts in the City of Philadelphia and another eight in each of the eleven counties. The Battalions were set in geographic clusters to include 440 to 680 men. Implementation of the system was managed by County Lieutenants holding the rank of Colonel, but as a civilian and not a military officer.

The men in each Battalion elected their field officers, who were subject to three years duty. The county Colonels for each of the eight Battalion then drew lots to establish the rank order and number of the Battalions (1st, 2nd, etc.). Each Battalion was broken down into eight Companies commanded by a Captain. Men were assigned to the Companies based on geographic clusters and elected their officers. The men then drew lots to establish their "Class" ranking of one to eight, which would be the order in which they would be called up if needed. This system established the "Permanent Billet Rolls." These records, or "Returns," list the Battalion, Company and names of privates with their Class assignments, and are generally found in the "Pennsylvania Archives," Series 5.

As explained below, these are generally the records used for SAR applications for Pennsylvania Militia Patriots.

When call ups began, they would start with Class 1, which also became the active duty Battalion No. 1 for each county. For example, if Northampton County Class 1 were called, all the Class 1 privates in the county would be called and would be formed into active duty Battalion 1 commanded by the military Colonel who drew lot number one. Class 2, if called, would form into Battalion 2, and so on. Once a Class' two month active duty time would pass, the militia men would return home to their Permanent Billet Battalion/Company to await their next call up. With its complexity, the militia system did ensure that any casualties would be spread throughout the counties. Note that the "Returns" of the active duty battalions generally listed the names of officers but only gave numbers of privates in the units. Therefore, the Permanent Billet Rolls become the primary document for identifying a Pennsylvania Patriot. Things happened fast. On April 5, within weeks of the Militia Act's passage, news reached Philadelphia of British General Howe's intention to march on the city. On April 10, Congress directed that 3000 militia be called to camp, and on April 25 all Class 1's in the State were called to service. By the end of 1777, all eight classes of militia had been called to active service.

*Excerpted by Compatriot Steven Riddle from "The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine," Vol. XXIII, No. 3, 1964*

# MAY GUEST SPEAKER

## John and Barbara Smith-Sullivan

Originally from New Jersey, we relocated to Williamsburg about 5 years ago because of my love for American History and having fallen in love with the Williamsburg area.

The son of a World War II Army vet, I was taught at an early age what the Flag stood for and what it meant to those that served, such as my father. Because my grammar school was located in a not so good area of Jersey City I was dropped off at school by my father on his way to work and picked up on his way home. Since I was there well before class began and long after all the other kids went home, somehow between my father and the nuns it was decided that it would be a good idea if I was given something to do in my spare time at school. So, all of the sudden, I found myself responsible for unfurling and hoisting Old Glory on the schools Flagpole the 1<sup>st</sup> thing in the morning and then lowering and folding her at the end of the day. This responsibility went on for my entire time in grammar school and became a labor of love that I looked forward to. To this day, I still get goose bumps when I see Old Glory hoisted and flying proud on a nice sunny blue-sky morning.

Fast forward to right after Dessert Storm, I had a computer software company that was fairly well established so when a neighbor and close friend that owned a Flag store needed some help, I offered to give him a hand. Needless to say, being back around the Red White & Blue again on a daily basis resurrected my interest in the Flag and besides working with Flag & Flagpoles, I started to study the history of the Flag and also began a Flag collection of my own.

Over the last 28 years since I first helped out a friend in his business, American Eagle Flag as well as myself have gone through many changes but the one thing that has remained constant is our love for the Flag, what it stands for and our dedication to only providing the finest quality American Made Flags & Flagpoles to our clients. And we strive to instill in all those we come in contact with the understanding that the Flag represents, not the government of the United States, but the people of this country. And as the peoples Flag it is our responsibility to live up to the ideals and patriotic spirits of, not just our forefathers but all those that have come before us and saluted that Flag with honor and dignity.



*American Eagle Flag & Flagpole LLC*

*Barbara Smith*

Retail & Custom Sales

*John Sullivan*

Flagpole & Commercial Sales

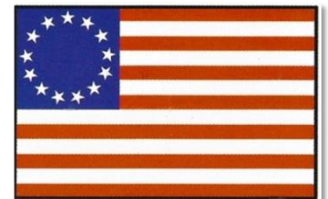
5810 Mooretown Rd. - Suite F Williamsburg, VA 23188

Phone (757) 258-1776 \* \* Fax (855) 329-4800

[www.AmericanEagleFlag.com](http://www.AmericanEagleFlag.com)

[CustomerService@AmericanEagleFlag.com](mailto:CustomerService@AmericanEagleFlag.com)

**FREEDOM ISN'T FREE**  
**THANK A VETERAN!**



*Betsy Ross Flag*

1777-1795

## REGISTRARS CORNER

I receive frequent inquiries about members submitting supplemental applications on additional ancestors. While chapter registrars do not sign off on these, NSSAR requires that chapter registrars screen them before mailing to VASSAR. Supplementals have the same basic requirements as regular applications.

In most cases registrars give top priority to regular applications and devote many hours of research to generally assure that the application will pass the NSSAR standards. Supplementals responsibility for ensuring accuracy and conformance with standards rests on the applicant.

The NSSAR website includes an Application Preparation Manual. A member working on a supplemental should consult this before and during research on their additional ancestor. There are ground rules!

I can best compare it this way. Would you do your income tax without looking at the IRS rules and regulations? Flying blind into filling out an SAR application is similar to filing taxes without consulting instructions.

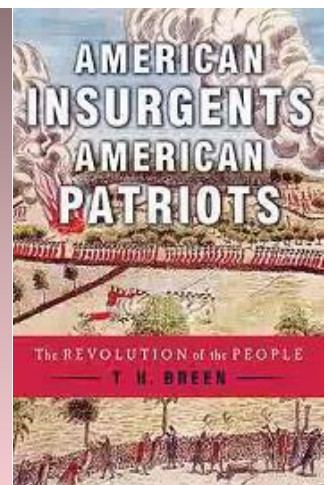
I have prepared a "Tips" memo to help you; ask and you shall receive. Any questions, contact me.  
Ron Losee - Registrar

## MAY BOOK RAFFLE

Written by T. H. Breen, is our raffle book for May. It gives us the history of many ordinary men and woman who were willing to sacrifice, kill, and be killed from all the thirteen colonies in resisting the British oppression. The American Revolution has been portrayed as a relatively bloodless affair. It was a revolt against Great Britain that was based on the abstract liberal ideas of the Enlightenment.

In fact, this is not what happened.

It was the American people themselves, not the Colonial elite, that rose up against Britain and led the Revolution. This is a stunning account of their insurgency, without which there would have been no independent republic as we know it.



Raffle tickets for this book will be available at our next luncheon meeting:

One ticket for \$1 or 7 tickets for \$5.





# Williamsburg 2019 Chapter Officers



<b>President</b>	William Greaf	<a href="mailto:hsaprof@gmail.com">hsaprof@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Jay Smith	<a href="mailto:jay.smith92346@gmail.com">jay.smith92346@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Roger Cross	<a href="mailto:roger.cross66@gmail.com">roger.cross66@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	James Hess	<a href="mailto:jimhess42@gmail.com">jimhess42@gmail.com</a>
<b>Public Relations</b>	Harley Stewart	<a href="mailto:hstewart9@cox.net">hstewart9@cox.net</a>
<b>Registrar</b>	Ron Losee	<a href="mailto:valosee@aol.com">valosee@aol.com</a>
<b>Historian</b>	Stephen McGuffin	<a href="mailto:mcguffis@gmail.com">mcguffis@gmail.com</a>
<b>Chaplain</b>	Jim Morford	<a href="mailto:Morfordjc@gmail.com">Morfordjc@gmail.com</a>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	David Westenberger	<a href="mailto:pal744@cox.net">pal744@cox.net</a>
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Eric Ely	<a href="mailto:elyswede@hotmail.com">elyswede@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Color Guard</b>	John Lynch II	<a href="mailto:cslasoz@aol.com">cslasoz@aol.com</a>
<b>At-Large</b>	Richard Durst	<a href="mailto:rdurst@bw.edu">rdurst@bw.edu</a>
<b>At-Large</b>	Richard Snyder	<a href="mailto:P3D4Snyder@aol.com">P3D4Snyder@aol.com</a>
<b>Database</b>		



Send your reservations to the Williamsburg Chapter  
by **Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>**

*Cut along dotted line as it will fit in a No. 8 6 3/4 Security envelope.*

Reservation for the **Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> 2019** Chapter Luncheon

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

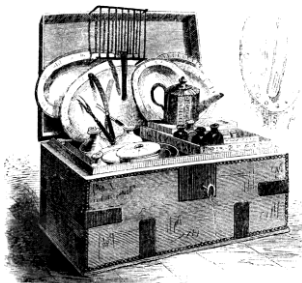
Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ regular meals at \$21.00

Special need \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to

**“Williamsburg Chapter SAR”**

Mail to:



**James Hess**  
 2509 Nathaniel Powell Road  
 Williamsburg, VA 23185  
 (757) 220-2924  
[jimhess42@gmail.com](mailto:jimhess42@gmail.com)



# SAR APPAREL

SHOP | APPAREL | SAR APPAREL | SAR HATS | SAR OTHER | SAR SHIRTS | SAR TIES | MORE -



0695CAAH  
CAAH WHITE TWILL CAP

~~€4 50~~



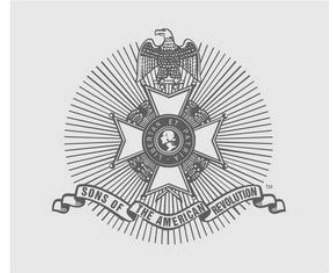
0695S  
SAR ROYAL BLUE TWILL CAP

~~€20 00~~



0695NEW  
SAR NAVY TWILL CAP

~~€20 00~~



0695red  
Red SAR Cap

~~€22 00~~



0684BWT-L  
BLUE/WHITE/TAN TIE EXTRA  
LONG

~~\$40.00~~



0686  
SAR RED LOGO TIE

~~\$35.00~~



0688  
SAR RED BOW TIE

~~\$35.00~~



0690  
NAVY SAR LOGO TIE

~~\$35.00~~



0928

Personalized Name Badge  
(Name Tag) - Pocket  
Attachment Nametag

~~\$25.00~~

There has been confusion on how to add this item to the cart. There is a statement that says "I understand personalized items are not refundable" that has a small box after it on the bottom of the page where the personalized items are added. You must click that box before the "ADD PERSONALIZED ITEM TO CART" button will become active. Unless you click the box agreeing that Personalized Items are not refundable, the item can not be added to the cart.

SHOWING ONLY A SMALL SAMPLE OF THEIR EXTENSIVE INVENTORY

SAR apparel is available on our National SAR WEB site

<https://store.sar.org/category/sar-apparel>