



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. XXV

Number 2

FEBRUARY 2020

President's Message

First, I would like to thank Bill Grea for his excellent leadership as Chapter President over the last 2 years. As noted in the January President's message, we have expanded our efforts in several key areas. I am looking forward to Bill's continued participation as an At-Large member of the Board of Managers.

We started the year off right with an excellent turn out of over 70 attendees at the January dinner meeting. VASSAR was well represented with 4 officers in attendance along with 12 members of the Thomas Nelson, Jr SAR chapter. VASSAR President Peter Davenport gave an excellent talk on the relationship between George Washington and George Mason. In addition to fellowship, education is a key benefit of our meetings. I was surprised to learn that George Mason, the author of many key documents, was not a lawyer like many of our other founding fathers.

We are starting a new year and a new decade. While you don't have to make it a New Year's resolution, I encourage you to take advantage of the many activities in which the chapter is involved. If you have not been to a chapter luncheon recently, please take the opportunity to attend the February 15 or March 14 luncheons. Both will be at the Fords Colony Country Club and will involve great speakers. In February, Carl Lounsbury will talk on restoring Williamsburg. His extensive background as an Architectural Historian can be seen by looking at his W&M link at:

http://www.wm.edu/as/history/faculty/affilfac/lounsbury_c.php

Our March speaker is Doug Mayo who will be speaking on research at the John D. Rockefeller Library. Having toured the library, I think you will be amazed at the information that is easily accessible.

If you have never been to a VASSAR Annual Meeting in Richmond, you should plan to attend at least one day of the meeting which runs from February 7-9. You can easily travel to Richmond on Saturday morning and observe the Rumbaugh Oration contest for high school students followed by awards presented in the State Capitol in the afternoon. The detailed agenda and registration information should be out very shortly.

I am looking forward to serving as the Williamsburg Chapter SAR President and welcome your comments and suggestions. Feel free to contact me at any time. You may also attend chapter Board of Managers Meetings that are held on the first Monday of each month at 10 AM in Classroom B of the Williamsburg Regional Library.

Finally, on an administrative note, please update your contact information when it changes.

Since most of chapter communications are through email or the Newsletter, it is very important that you keep emails and phone numbers up to date. If there is a change, please inform Chapter Secretary Duncan McIver, Jr.

Roger Cross III





Calendar

Monday February 3RD
10:00 am Board Meeting

Friday-Saturday
February 7TH-8TH
VASSAR
Annual Richmond meeting

Saturday February 15TH
Luncheon meeting, Fords Colony

Sunday, February 16TH
Commemoration of Crossing of the Dan
South Boston, VA



Monday March 2
10:00 am Board Meeting

Saturday, March 14
Luncheon meeting, Fords Colony

Monday, March 16
James Madison birthday
And
Wreath laying celebration
Montpelier Station, VA 22957

Photos by Harley Stewart , James Hess

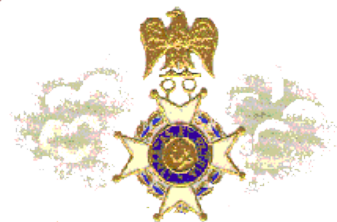
Chapter News



18 January 2020

Past President William Greaif placing the ribbon of office on President Roger Cross, who has already received the chapter gavel.

Sons of the American Revolution



2020 VASSAR President Peter Davenport administering the Oath of Office to the Board of Managers

PHOTO by Linda W



VASSAR President Peter Davenport Roger Cross III Duncan McIver Tom Hale Harley Stewart Jim Morford Milt Holt David Westenberger Steve McGuffin Jeff Wooldridge James Hess Richard Snyder



VASSAR President Peter Davenport awarding “coins” of his Presidency and his NSSAR Chancellor-General offices



ROYAL BANNER OF SCOTLAND



Next meeting events at Ford's Colony County Club

Saturday 15 February

Guest Speaker

Dr. Carl Lounsbury

Over a 35 year career at Colonial Williamsburg, Dr. Lounsbury has researched English and colonial American public buildings, churches, meetinghouses, and the terminology, practice, and technology of preindustrial building. He was involved in the restoration of many buildings in Williamsburg's Historic Area including the courthouse and market house. In 2016, he retired as the Senior Architectural Historian in the Architectural Department at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Dr. Lounsbury earned his undergraduate degree in history and English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received his MA and PhD from George Washington University.

In restoring Williamsburg, Dr. Lounsbury provides us with an up to date look at the continuing process of restoration in Colonial Williamsburg.

New member Inductions

Robert Bernard Flowers

Bryant Earl Ward

Supplementals

Steven Carl Riddle

Ancestors: Abraham Herb and
Christopher Wise Pa Militia

Jim Hess

Ancestor: Ezekiel Cox
Maryland militia

"Speakers Wanted"



Seeking your assistance and hopefully possible input for our monthly meetings.

If you have heard or know of a speaker who you think the membership (and guests) would be interested in hearing at one of our luncheons next year, please contact Steve McGuffin at mcguffis@gmail.com

Your serious interest and potential response to this matter will be greatly appreciated!

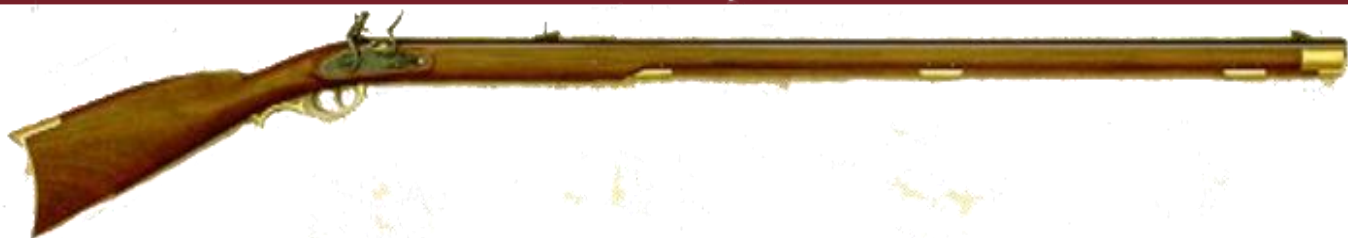


The Color Guard for the Williamsburg Chapter, SAR, is looking for volunteers to fill its ranks. We annually support four uniformed events: Memorial Day (May), Battle of Spencer's Ordinary (June), The Battle of Green Spring (July), and Veterans Day (November). There may be other special events.

Basic uniform cost is estimated at \$600 for militia and approximately \$1000 for a regimental uniform. Muskets/other weapons are optional but increase a member's versatility. Estimated cost for a new flintlock is \$1,300. It is possible to find cheaper options on the secondary market.

Please contact the Color Guard Committee Chair, John Lynch II, if you are interested in joining the Color Guard or would like more information.

John Lynch II email is cslasoz@aol.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

The Crossing of the Dan

Sunday, February 16TH - South Boston, Virginia



The Crossing of the Dan was elevated to an “Historical Event of National Prominence” in September 2013, thanks to efforts of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR).

After the Battle of Saratoga, Horatio Gates was appointed Commander of the Southern Army, but was quickly defeated at the Battle of Camden in South Carolina by the British army under Lieutenant General Lord Charles Cornwallis.

To replace Gates, George Washington chose Nathanael Greene. When Greene arrived in Charlotte, NC, he found the remaining army in "wretched condition", and realized he could not have a head-on battle with the British. He would split his army into two forces, use guerilla warfare tactics, attempt to draw the British away from their source of supplies, and wear them down.

Half of Greene's army under the command of Daniel Morgan fought Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton, Commandant of the British Legion (nicknamed "the Green Dragoon"), at Cowpens, SC. Morgan then began a strategic retreat into North Carolina. British losses were staggering, with 90 percent of their number either killed, wounded, or captured. Learning of this loss, Lord Cornwallis swore to regain his prisoners "no matter what the cost".

Totally enraged by the loss at Cowpens, Cornwallis and Tarleton began to chase the American army and their hundreds of British prisoners. Greene and Morgan maneuvered north with the British army trailing close behind. Greene's strategy was to avoid battle and draw the British further away from their supply lines. The Americans headed northeast into North Carolina. In an effort to move faster, Lord Cornwallis, obsessed with catching the Americans, burned most of his army's supply wagons and destroyed all the soldier's daily rations of brandy.

General Greene stopped at Guilford Court House (Greensboro), N.C., to ask his officers whether it was best to end the retreat and confront the British there or to race on to the Dan. It was decided to go into Virginia to get additional recruits and supplies. In anticipation of the Dan River crossing, military engineer Colonel Thaddeus Kosciuszko was sent ahead to build earthworks (defenses), and Lt. Colonel Edward Carrington was dispatched to gather boats.

Greene again split his army, sending 700 men away from his main army as a decoy towards the upper fords (shallow places in a body of water where one can cross by walking) of the Dan River upstream from Dix's Ferry (Danville). Meanwhile, the slower moving main army, with artillery and supply wagons, took the shorter route and crossed the swollen river on February 14, 1781, with

boats at Irvin's Ferry (near Turbeville) and Boyd's Ferry (South Boston). As the last Americans finished crossing the river, the first British troops arrived. Without boats they were unable to cross. Greene had won the race to the Dan River.

Greene's American army enjoyed a weeklong rest north of the Dan River at the Old Halifax Court House (Crystal Hill) as the commander plotted his next strategy. His troops reinforced and his provisions refreshed, Greene considered an attack against the British. With Cornwallis removed from his supply lines, and his men exhausted from their fruitless pursuit, the advantage was Greene's. The weary British forces moved south to camp at Hillsborough, NC, while the reenergized Americans, eager for a fight, prepared to slip back across the Dan River.

During the next month the British moved back towards Guilford Court House, while suffering many ambushes and skirmishes with the Americans. The two armies finally met at the Battle of Guilford Court House where 1,900 British clashed with 4,400 Americans. Lasting only two-and-a-half hours, the British lost 532 men, while the Americans only lost 264.

Though Lord Cornwallis held the field at Guilford Court House, it was at great cost. From that battlefield, the British army maneuvered to Wilmington, North Carolina, to await fresh troops and supplies before turning north again into Virginia. The Americans returned to the Carolina interior where they fought to capture the British posts that remained.

The British general's stubborn fixation on the destruction of Major General Nathanael Greene's Southern Field Army at any cost was a total failure. Lord Cornwallis and Banastre Tarleton were responsible for the loss of 1,513 of their troops in a three and a half month period - 48% of his army!

Lord Charles Cornwallis would come to the rash decision in Wilmington to abandon the Carolinas and move into Virginia, seeking the decisive victory that would never come.

*Article provided by Halifax
County Historical Society*

Stage Coaches Act of 1790

The Stage Coaches Act 1790 (30 Geo. 3 c. 36) was an Act of Parliament of the Parliament of Great Britain to regulate the use of stagecoaches. The Act built upon the provisions of the Stage Coaches Act 1788, reducing the permitted number of passengers, clarifying the type of vehicles to which it applied, and providing a simplified method for collecting the fines. It came into force from 29 September 1790. It stipulated that no more than four people were permitted to ride upon the roof, and no more than one (other than the driver) upon the box, of any coach or carriage of three or more horses travelling for hire. Any coach or carriage of less than three horses traveling for hire had the limit set at one on the box and three on the roof, although four on the roof were permitted if the coach did not go more than 25 miles from the Post Office in London.



If a coach exceeded these limits, the driver was to pay five shillings per each excess person to the collector of the tolls at each turnpike-gate through which they passed. Letting down or picking up people in order to evade the 5s penalty was punishable by imprisonment of the driver for fourteen days to one month. The Act also required that the name of the proprietor of each stagecoach (except mail coaches) be painted legibly on their side door. A coachman who allowed anyone else to drive his coach without the consent of the passengers, or who overturned the carriage or endangered the passengers or their property via misconduct, was to be fined between forty shillings and four pounds; and a guard who fired off his weapons whilst with the coach, other than in defence, was to be fined twenty shillings.

Registrar's Corner



The February luncheon will include the induction of several recently approved applicants. Several have been waiting patiently since the Chapter did not have a December meeting; the January joint meeting is not considered an induction event. In addition, Compatriots Steve Riddle and Jim Hess will receive approved supplemental ancestor certificates.

And now the bad news:

WE need some recruiting of a "few, good men."

The prospective applicant list is drying up; have had little business and I'm worried that I will forget how to fill out an application. **YOUR** sons and grandsons are perfect applicants; neighbors and friends might fit. Have them e-mail me and see what develops.

Ron Losee



The video this month is about Eternal Peace and Internment within the USS Arizona resting in the bay waters of Pearl harbor, Hawaii.

This is what takes place after the tourists have gone for the day. . .

Click the link

<https://youtu.be/MgE2KiPd3xg?t=9>



Compatriots

The Virginia Society SAR is hosting the SAR National Congress in Richmond, VA from July 11-17. While detailed schedule info will be provided in the future, the basic schedule is on the VASSAR

<http://www.virginia-sar.org/vassar/> website in the Virginia Dispatches (opening page, right column under the heading Virginia SAR Newsletter). As with any national event like this, the main hotel rooms in the Richmond Marriott Downtown, 500 East Broad St, are going fast. The special rate is \$165/night + taxes. A reservations link and phone number are provided below.

With the close proximity of the 2020 Congress, I would encourage you to take this opportunity to experience a national SAR event.

Roger Cross



you can make a reservation at:

<https://book.passkey.com/event/49965781/owner/12987/home>

You may also call 800-535-4028 and when you talk to a real person it might be helpful to let them know that our block of rooms is on the "Pass Key" system.

Seeking recommendations for award of the NSSAR Flag Recognition Certificate to worthy organizations or individuals in 2020. Any input or suggestions you may have please forward them to me at georgecorbett@cox.net with the particulars and their phone number.



George Corbett

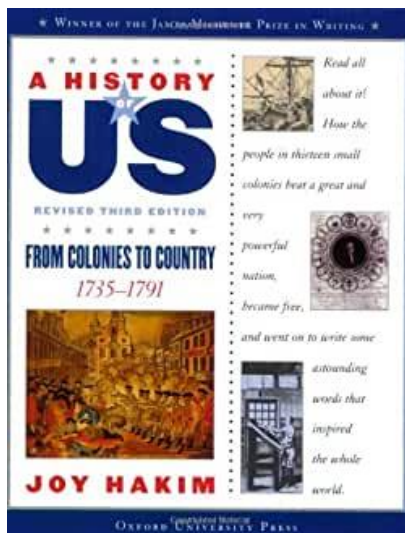
10%
Discount
To SAR
Veterans



*American Eagle
Flag & Flagpole*
757-258-1776
Fax: 855-329-4800 Toll Free: 855-258-1776
Barbara Smith ◊ John Sullivan
Custom & Retail Sales ◊ Flagpole & Commercial Sales
5810 Mooretown Rd. - Suite F, Williamsburg, VA 23188
www.AmericanEagleFlag.com * info@AmericanEagleFlag.com

Book of the month

“From Colonies to Country”
by Joy Hakim



This is a comprehensive, easy to read history of the early days of the English colonies right through the ratification of the U.S. Constitution and the first ten amendments. The author took the time to visit Williamsburg and other cities important to the Founding Fathers to complete her research for her book. It is packed with illustrations, maps, and drawings and is the perfect gift for the young reader to complement what they learn in school.

Raffle tickets for this book will be available at our next luncheon meeting.
One ticket for \$1 or 7 tickets for \$5

NOTICE

As our membership roster changes we will be sending out the latest edition following each change so that you will always have the most recent one. The subject in the email will be Williamsburg Roster Update and the name of the PDF file will be in an 8 digit code date so that when saved it will sort automatically. I.E. 20200215 (Feb 15th 2020).

Your assistance is needed by letting our Secretary know of any changes that should be made. Duncanmciver@cox.net

Williamsburg 2020 Chapter Officers



President	Roger Cross	roger.cross66@gmail.com
Vice-President	Stephen McGuffin	mcguffis@gmail.com
Secretary	Duncan McIver	Duncanmciver@cox.net
Treasurer	James Hess	jimhess42@gmail.com
Public Relations	Harley Stewart	hstewart9@cox.net
Registrar	Ron Losee	valosee@aol.com
Historian	Milt Holt	h.m.holt@cox.net
Chaplain	Jim Morford	Morfordjc@gmail.com
Newsletter&WEB	David Westenberger	pa1744@cox.net
Sergeant-at-Arms	Tom Hale	ThomasH463@aol.com
Color Guard	John Lynch II	cslasoz@aol.com
New Member Orientation	Richard Durst	rdurst@bw.edu
At-Large	William Greaf PPres	hsaprof@gmail.com
At-Large	Richard Snyder	P3D4Snyder@aol.com
At-Large	Jeff Wooldridge	jwooldridgecpa@gmail.com



Our February 2020 luncheon will be held at Ford's Colony Clubhouse on Saturday 15 February. Please mail reservations in by Saturday 8 February.

Reservation for the Saturday February 15, 2020 Luncheon Meeting

Name(s) _____

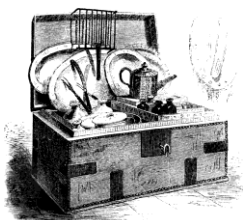
Please reserve _____ regular meals at \$21.00

Special need _____

Please make checks payable to
"Williamsburg Chapter SAR"

Mail to:

James Hess – Chapter Treasurer
2509 Nathaniel Powell Road
Williamsburg, VA 23185
(757) 220-2924
jimhess42@gmail.com



SAR APPAREL

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



0695CAAH

CAAH WHITE TWILL CAP

🇺🇸 🇺🇸



0695S

SAR ROYAL BLUE TWILL CAP

🇺🇸 🇺🇸



0695NEW

SAR NAVY TWILL CAP

🇺🇸 🇺🇸



0695red

Red SAR Cap

🇺🇸 🇺🇸



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>