



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

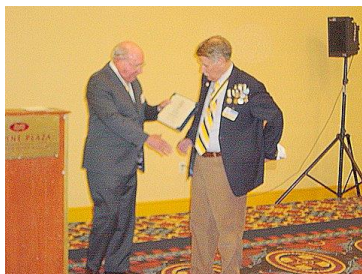
Vol. XIII

No. 2

March 2010

Compatriots,
February was a busy month with the VASSAR Annual meeting in Richmond followed by our 20 Feb meeting at the Crowne Plaza!

We were lucky that the weather did not interfere with the VASSAR meeting in Richmond. Our Chapter was represented by Ed Truslow, Art Batten and I. The primary item of business was the induction of Bob Bowen as our new State President. Bob served as a combat Marine photographer in Viet Nam (where he was wounded), became a Marine warrant officer and was ultimately commissioned... retiring as a Captain in the Department of Defense public information office. He has earned many awards as a photo journalist and has a history of long and distinguished service for the SAR. He has challenged us to produce a Chapter web site (Bob Schmidt has been working on that), produce an annual Chapter Yearbook (Jim Henry has that well in hand) and contribute to the Center for Advancing America's Heritage (CAAH).



Our own Bob Schmidt was awarded a certificate of achievement at the Vassar Annual for his service as assistant VASSAR

Secretary. Bob was responsible for updating the VASSAR data base and streamlining their financial procedures.

At our 20 February meeting Art Batten announced



his \$250 contribution to the CAAH and was immediately matched by Compatriot Mike Hogge! Art further explained that the

Center is much more than just a library and that in

addition to consolidating SAR activities under one roof the Center will facilitate an integrating function through which SAR activities can more readily be focused upon furthering our core objectives! Those of you desiring to match the Batten/Hogge CAAH challenge should contact Bob Schmidt by the end of February.

At our 20 February meeting Art Batten talked about the annual meeting in Richmond and the Boy Scouts. Most of you are aware of Art's long and distinguished service with the Boy Scouts and he added many interesting anecdotes. He also has offered the Chapter use of his offices over weekends in support of Jim Henry's proposed reading group. The first book to be read and discussed is *Guns of Independence* (a definitive work on the Battle of Yorktown). The plan is for the group to participate in personalized tours of the areas studied... initially Yorktown. Jim had a signup sheet at the meeting and there is still room for more participants. If you are interested please contact Jim. There is more information on the proposed group at the Historian's Corner. Wives are encouraged to attend as well. Ed Ayres (Jamestown/Yorktown Foundation Historian) has agreed to act as an advisor for the group.



Ed Morgan, our Chaplain Emeritus, and his wife joined us at the luncheon and was welcomed by all. Ed's energy level is slowly improving.



The Chapter recognized Paul Morie's service as Treasurer with a certificate of achievement. Paul stepped up last year when we

needed him and performed in an outstanding manner!
Thanks again, Paul!

Unfortunately our newest member, Ron Losee, was ill and could not be inducted. We look forward to his induction at our 13 March meeting.

Our newest applicant for membership, Kevin Kelly and his wife Rhonda joined us at the luncheon. Kevin and Rhonda signed up for Jim's reading group.

Ed Truslow and his Historic Preservation Committee are hard at work creating a road side marker commemorating the Battle and we plan to dedicate the marker with appropriate ceremony in June or July.

The following compatriots have been appointed to chair the following committees: Public Safety and Citizen of the Year, Don Swain; Memorial and Veteran's Days, Joe Spruil; History Day, Jim Henry; Historic Preservation, Ed Truslow; Boy Scouts, Alain Outlaw; Sgt at Arms, Mike Hogge; and Teacher of the year, Dick Ludwig. I look forward to seeing you on the 13th!
Ben Fegan, bfegan1@cox.net.

SPEAKER PROGRAM

Our next meeting is Saturday 13 March at the Crowne Plaza and an RSVP form is at the end of this letter. Our speaker will be Norm Fuss who will talk on the December 9, 1775 Battle of Great Bridge in what is now Chesapeake, Virginia. Norm will be speaking from the perspective of a British engineer at the battle and will be dressed accordingly.

Our speaker on Saturday April 10 will be Alain Outlaw who will speak on the Engagement at Spencer's Ordinary.

HISTORY DAY

History Day is an academic competition for students in grades six through twelve. History Day is also an official Virginia SAR Society program. Chapters that do a good job in supporting History Day receive a streamer or a star for a streamer previously awarded for program excellence. History Day support is also considered in Best Chapter judging. This is why History Day participation is so important for our Chapter.

History Day competitions take place on three levels: District, State and National. Most SAR chapters throughout the Commonwealth participate on two levels: District and State. There are five ways in which a Chapter can show support for History Day.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS. Our chapters and

individual members can make financial contributions through checks made out in the name of National History Day.

JUDGING. History projects on the two school grade divisions and seven presentation categories need to be judged. Judges need to be knowledgeable of history in general.

SPECIAL AWARDS. Many chapters award bronze good citizenship medals to students who place first or second for a project in American History 1750-1800.

PROMOTION OF HISTORY DAY. Contacts in the schools are made through SAR Knight Essay Contest, the Runbaugh Oration Contest and Our Outstanding Students programs.

ATTENDANCE. Simply attending history fair, looking at the exhibits and encouraging the students is important. Our chapter belongs to District 6 which consists of Va. Beach, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Isle of Wight, Southampton, Sussex, Surry, James City, and York counties, plus Newport News/ Hampton/ Norfolk. District 6 will hold its competition on March 20, 2010, and the State Competition will be held in May at Thomas Nelson Community College here in Williamsburg. **WE NEED JUDGES FOR BOTH OF THESE EVENTS!!!** So, please give serious consideration to participation in one or both of these events. You will be asked volunteer at our March meeting, or you can contact Jim Henry at thedawgsdidit@juno.com or Ben Fegan at BFegan1@cox.net before then. THANKS!!

SAR LICENSE PLATE

Compatriot Mike Hogge has voluntarily taken over the VASSAR attempt to secure availability of SAR license tags for members desiring them. Mike will have forms (*which only express interest in the tags and are not an obligation to buy them*) for members at our next meeting. Please help him support this effort! We only need 350 people in the state to express an interest for the state to make them available.

**Reservations MUST be received by
3/10/2010**

**Send to:
Bob Schmidt, 220 Charleston Place,
Williamsburg, VA 23185
(757) 345-0292
*Meeting Date 03/13/07
Ft. Magruder, 11:30***

**Checks payable to
“Williamsburg Chapter, SAR”**

**Please reserve _____ lunches at \$16.00
per person for Mar 13, 2010**

Name _____