



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. 5

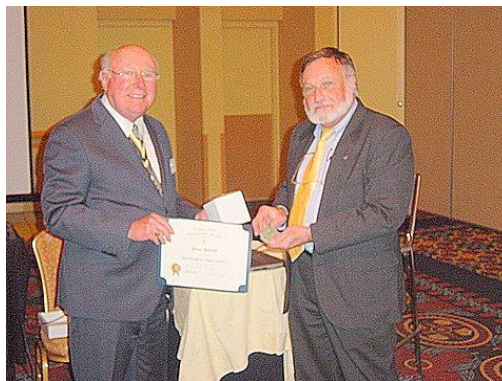
May 2010

Compatriots,
We have had another busy month!
We received "Chapter Excellence" and "History Day Support" streamers for our Chapter colors. A happy problem is that our colors now have so many streamers (many of which are attached with string) that Bob Schmidt is looking for a source from which to buy a metal streamer ring for our flag staff. We also are looking for a source to have "Williamsburg" embroidered on our colors. If any of you have suggestions regarding sources for getting these things done, please let Bob know.



Speaking of Virginia History Day, Jim Henry and I represented the Chapter and VASSAR at the State competition which was held on Saturday, 17 April at Thomas Nelson Community College, Historic Triangle Campus. We selected two winners... one each in the Junior and Senior Divisions. Ms. Savannah Olshove was the Senior Division Winner with her individual performance... Thomas Jefferson: Garden Scientist. Mr. Walker Helms was the Junior Division winner with his individual performance... The Printing Press: Printing America to Freedom. There is an exciting amount of energy and enthusiasm at these competitions and you would enjoy watching the kids compete!

Alain Outlaw spoke at our April luncheon and brought us up to date on the Spencer's Ordinary, Green Spring and Church-On-The-Main sites. He also showed us some of the most recent artifacts which he has found. By far the most



exciting of these artifacts is a decorative brass plate from a martingale which has a Fleur de Leis and a Marquis' symbol. Lafayette had two horses shot out from under him at Green Spring, the brass plate was found in a place where he would have likely been and the evidence supports the theory that the plate came from one of Lafayette's horses.

Planning for our 31 May Memorial Day Ceremony with Colonial Williamsburg is advancing. We have reserved tables at the King's Arms Tavern for those desiring to have lunch together after the ceremony. Kings' Arms is quite close to the French burial site where the ceremony concludes. We plan to offer transportation from the Mathew Whaley Elementary School parking lot to the Kings' Arms parking lot for those who feel uncomfortable with walking the ceremony route (Palace, Bruton Parish to the French burial site near the Inn). Anyone who can help with a van

should please let Joe Spruill (jspri@cox.net) know.

We did not receive permission from Colonial Williamsburg to place docents in the Palace Cemetery site (which will be decorated with 158 American Flags donated by Tom Campbell). Anyone who would like to help with this effort placing the flags should contact Tom Campbell (tcampbell13@cox.net).

Bob Schmidt is actively recruiting a local Color Guard for our Memorial Day ceremony (and for future ceremonies) and if you know of any potential candidates please let Bob know (sar1812@cox.net). Having access to a local color guard will be a welcome asset for our Chapter!

Because of the Memorial Day activities our Board has decided to cancel our normal May meeting at the Crowne Plaza. Accordingly our next Crowne Plaza meeting will be on Saturday, 12 June.

As we get closer to Memorial Day, Joe Spruill will publish more detailed instructions regarding parking/transportation/lunch, etc. Joe will need the names of those intending to eat at the King's Arms in order to assure that there are enough seats reserved.

Please note that our traditional "tear off" RSVP form normally found at the end of our newsletter has been modified for use to express your intent to participate in the King's Arms lunch. The lunch is "dutch treat" so no check is needed. Joe just needs to know how many plan to attend so that he can assure that there are enough tables reserved.

Ben Fegan (bfegan1@cox.net).

Historian's Report

With Mother's Day falling in the month of May, I determined that "Women of the Revolution" by Robert M. Dunkerly, History Press, 2007, to be an appropriate selection "From the Historian's Bookshelf".

Robert Dunkerly, chief ranger of Moores Creek National Battlefield near Wilmington, North Carolina makes the point that "each of the Southern Revolutionary battlefields holds the history of soldiers and legends of women." From the wooded slopes of Kings Mountain to the

fields of Cowpens; to the lesser known sites like Fishing Creek and Hanging Rock, Dunkerly uncovers the stories and legends surrounding the women who were caught up in the struggle. This book serves not only as a study of the battles, but also as a chronicle of the experiences of women in the eighteenth century. Women were present on nearly every battlefield, and their stories are told here for the first time.

As a personal footnote, the wife of my Revolutionary War ancestor, Captain Andrew Barry, Margaret Catherine "Kate" Moore Barry, is featured in the Cowpens chapter of this book. The Moore/Barry Plantation, Walnut Grove, is located south of Spartansburg, SC, in the village of Roebuck, and is now a State Park.

Jim Henry, Historian
e-mail: thedawgsdidit@juno.com

Compatriots, please note that there is *not* a meeting scheduled for May. We will be participating in the Memorial Day activities at Colonial Williamsburg which include a parade and placing flags at the burial ground behind the Palace. Some outside tables will be reserved for SAR at the King's Arms Tavern. The lunch will be dutch treat from the menu. The activities start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 11AM, May 31st. Our next meeting is June 12th.

**Reservations MUST be received by
5/26/2010**

**Contact:
Bob Schmidt, 220 Charleston Place,
Williamsburg, VA 23185
(757) 345-0292**

**Meeting Date 05/31/2010
Kings Arms Tavern
Colonial Williamsburg**

Dutch Treat - Order from Menu

Name _____