



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.

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April 2011

President's Message

Compatriots,

We were very honored to have General (Ret) Anthony Zinni, to speak to us at our Chapter Luncheon Meeting on March 5th. General Zinni has a unique background in Middle East affairs and he gave us his assessment on the social and political dynamics of the region and the possible outcomes of the current instability there. I think everyone was impressed with his background and knowledge of the region.



General Zinni and Ed Truslow

We welcomed Bob Dunnells back after a long convalescent period from his hip operations. We were finally able to give him his well deserved Virginia Chapter Service Award. He was of great assistance to Ben Fegan during his term as chapter president and Ben made the presentation.



Bob Dunnells and Ben Fegan

I was very pleased to induct three new members into our chapter at the meeting. They are John Brough, Jim Mathis and Paul Snyder. Please add your personal welcome to each of them at your earliest opportunity.



L-R John Brough, Jim Mathis, Ed Truslow and Paul Snyder

VASSAR Annual Meeting

Ben Fegan, Bob Schmidt and I had the pleasure of attending the VASSAR Annual Meeting in Richmond in February. Twenty-three of the twenty-six Chapters in Virginia were represented.



Your hard working Chapter representatives in Richmond

The Williamsburg Chapter received streamers for Chapter History Day and Chapter Excellence. Ben Fegan received a VASSAR History Day Award and Bob Schmidt received a VASSAR Presidential Award and a VASSAR Certificate of Appreciation. Anthony McNair was awarded the rank of *General in the 1st Virginia Regiment* for his very generous contribution to that fund.

We had the opportunity to hear our Chapter sponsored oration by Alan Booth at the VASSAR contest at the Annual Meeting. Alan came in fourth out of eight contestants, most of whom were older than he was. He is only a ninth grader and he should do very well in the future contests.

**Regard to all,
Ed**



Alan Booth – with the microphone

April 9th Meeting

We are pleased to have Joe Guterrez, Director of Museum Operations at Jamestown/Yorktown Foundation, as our speaker for the April 9th meeting. He will talk on the plans for the new \$46 million Yorktown Victory Center.

Note that spouses and other guests of members as well as current applicants are always welcome at our meetings.

Sign-up for the April 9th Meeting

**Luncheon Reservations MUST be received
not later than
Wed. April 6th**

**Send check & form to:
Bob Schmidt
220 Charleston Place
Williamsburg, VA 23185
(757) 345-0292
sar1812@cox.net**

**Meeting Date 4 /9/2011
Crowne Plaza Restaurant, Williamsburg VA**

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

**Please reserve _____ lunches at \$18.00
per person for March 5th, 2011**

Name(s) _____

History Day Events

March 26th is District 6 History Day. So what, you say? Well students from all over the Peninsula will meet at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Norfolk and compete in 7 categories to earn the privilege of competing at the State level on 9 April here in Williamsburg. For the first time since the competition began, the Williamsburg schools will have substantial representation (over half the contestants)! So, the need for support increases in proportion. You can participate by serving as a judge, contributing money or by simply attending and observing the contestants in action. If you would like to serve as a judge or contribute money please contact Dr. Matt Hogendobler (hogident@cox.net). Matt is our District 6 coordinator. If you would like to just observe and see what goes on contact either me, Jim Henry or Don Swain and we will tell you what to do.

If you would like to participate in the State competition here in Williamsburg (9 April, Thomas Nelson Community College) please contact either Jim Henry, Don Swain or **Ben Fegan at 565-3185.**

Member Photos

Bob Schmidt continues to solicit member photos for inclusion into a future Chapter directory. This will certainly help each of us put a name to a face. You may e-mail a digital photo to him at sar1812@cox.net or mail a photo to him at 220 Charleston Place, Williamsburg, VA 23185. If there is more than one person or image in the photo, that will be OK. The member image can be isolated and digitally "cut out" for inclusion in the directory.

Member's Spouse Names

Bob Schmidt continues to add the names of member spouses to our chapter database. If you haven't done so already, please take a moment and call him or e-mail him that information, so we can have a complete listing. He may be contacted at 345-0292 or sar1812@cox.net.

Audio Visual Equipment

It has become more common for our speakers to use Power Point media for their presentations. That said, we have to rent or borrow screens, projectors and laptops on occasion. If anyone has an older one of the items above or knows someone who does, they could donate it to the Chapter and claim a tax deduction since we are a 501(c)(3) organization. Of course a cash donation to procure one or more of these items would be very welcome indeed.

Colonial/Revolutionary Period Artifacts

Anyone having Colonial or Revolutionary period artifacts and wishes to display them at a future meeting, please contact **Ron Losee at 565-1707.**

Flag Certificate Nominees

Our chapter would like to nominate those good citizens in our area who properly and consistently fly our flag on national holidays and other appropriate days. Please provide the nominee's name and address to Flag Chairman Bob Schmidt and he will prepare a personalized certificate for you to give to the nominee in his/her home. We will need a photo of the nominee holding the certificate for inclusion in a future newsletter. Bob may be contacted at 345-0292 or sar1812@cox.net.

The Historian's Corner

This month, instead of highlighting a book "From the Historian's Bookshelf", I want to focus on an idea discussed by our Board as a means of increasing the revenue side of our Chapter's budget. As it stands now, our sole source of income is the chapter dues of \$20.00 a year per member, and occasional donations from chapter members. Therefore, we decided to try a model used by other organizations whereby a book on a relevant topic, in our case, the Revolutionary War, would be raffled off at each chapter meeting.

To assist us in getting this program off the ground, six books have already been donated to be raffled, with the hope that you, the members of the Williamsburg Chapter, might have some books that you would be willing to donate to the cause. Hey, what better way to downsize your library, and at the same time share your books with fellow compatriots!!!

So, we will initiate the Book Raffle Program at our April meeting. Here is how it works: you can purchase a raffle ticket for \$1.00 each, or 7 tickets for \$5.00. You will get a ticket and the matching ticket will go into a tricorne hat. At some point during the meeting a drawing will be held and the person with the matching ticket will win the book! The book you have a chance of winning in April is: *Forgotten Patriots": The Untold Story of American Prisoners During the Revolutionary War*, by Edwin G. Burrows.

Be sure to check your monthly newsletter for subsequent book raffle titles!

Jim Henry, Chapter Historian
e-mail: thedawgsdidit @cox.net

Boy Scout Chairman Needed

We are in desperate need of a Chapter Boy Scout Chairman. The duties would include

being the primary interface with the VASSAR initiatives for our area. Please give Ed Truslow a call at 565-2460 if you can help out..

Future VASSAR Activities

Battle of Petersburg – April 16-17 Petersburg, VA

Raid on Martin's Station – May 15-17 Ewing, VA

VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting – Sep 16-17 Fredericksburg, VA

Yorktown Day – Oct. 19 Yorktown, VA

2011 Chapter Calendar

April 9th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting

May 30th - Memorial Day with CW & Luncheon at Kings Arms

June 11th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting

July 4th – Independence Day Service at Bruton Parish Church

July 9th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting

August – No Meeting

Sep. 10th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting

Oct. 8th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting

Nov. 11th - Veteran's Day @ the Palace and Luncheon Meeting

December – No Meeting

Luncheons will be at the Crowne Plaza except as otherwise noted.

2011 Chapter Officers

President - Ed Truslow

Vice President - Rushton White

Secretary/ Treasurer - Bob Schmidt

Registrar/Genealogist - Clayton Rowland

Chaplain/ Historian - Jim Henry

Public Relations - Collyer Linn

Member at Large - Ben Fegan

Member at Large – Ron Losee

Member at Large - Joe Spruill