



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. XIV

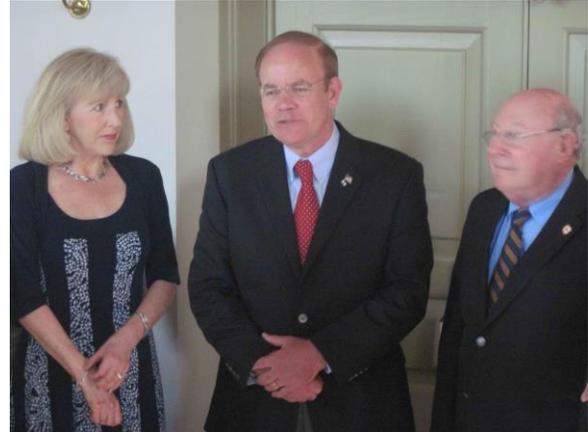
No. 8

August 2011

President's Message

Compatriots,

July was a very busy but rewarding month for our chapter. July 4th started out with our Service of Thanksgiving at Bruton Parish Church with our Chaplain Emeritus Rev. Dr. Edward Morgan officiating and Bruton's Rector Rev. Christopher Epperson delivering the homily. This was the twenty-sixth year of Bruton hosting our July 4th service. This was a first for Fr. Epperson since he just recently arrived as the new rector of Bruton Parish Church.



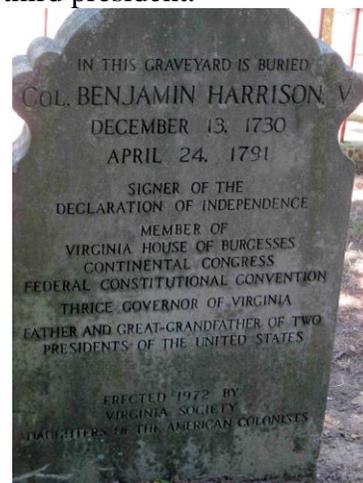
Loette and Jim Kump, & Ben Fegan

In the late morning, members of our chapter joined the DAR at Berkeley Plantation in Charles City County for their ceremony at the grave of patriot Benjamin Harrison with CARs placing a wreath at his grave. Benjamin Harrison was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, three times governor of Virginia, the father of William Henry Harrison our ninth president and great-grandfather of Benjamin Harrison, our twenty-third president.



Fr. Epperson, Ed Truslow, Rev. Morgan

Immediately following the service, we inducted Jim Kump into membership into our chapter. It was a nice setting since he was inducted within a few steps of the grave of Edmund Pendelton, a patriot and signer of the Declaration of Independence, who is interred in the floor of the church.





(L-R) Russ White, Joe Spruill, Mike Hogge, Ron Losee, Ben Fegan, Ed Truslow, Jim Kump & Roger Strange

Following the DAR's Benjamin Harrison ceremony, we journeyed to the Courthouse Grille in Charles City where we had a nice lunch with the DAR ladies

On the morning of July 6th, we commemorated the sacrifices of those patriots who fell at the Battle of Green Spring near Jamestown. The proceedings were held at the nearby remnant of the Church on the Main where some are believed to have been buried. The church fell into disrepair many years ago and only the foundation corners are visible today.



(L-R) Ben Fegan, Joe Spruill, Ron Losee, Ed Truslow, Bob Schmidt, Clayton Rowland & Roger Strange

On Saturday July 9th we held our monthly chapter meeting at the Crowne Plaza and were treated to a talk by Thomas Nelson, Jr. about his patriot ancestor Thomas Nelson. His presentation was in character as his ancestor.



Ed Truslow & Thomas "Tom" Nelson

At our meeting we also had the pleasure of inducting another new member, Aaron Anderson as a member of our chapter



(L-R) Clayton Rowland (sponsor), Aaron Anderson, Ria Anderson & Ed Truslow

Our guest speaker picked out the winning raffle ticket for the book, *The Genuine Article: A Historian's Looks at Early America*, by Edmund S. Morgan. It turns out that yours truly was embarrassed by having the winning ticket. There seeming to be no sentiment of those present for drawing again, I now have the duty to read it.

As noted in the calendar, there is no August meeting. Our next meeting will be on Saturday September 10th. Details will be in our September newsletter.

**Best regards,
Ed**

2011 Chapter Calendar

August – No Meeting

Sep. 10th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting – speaker “Light Horse Harry Lee” (Frank Mergargee)

Oct. 8th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting – speaker Tom Campbell

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

December – No Meeting

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

Future VASSAR Activities

Atlantic Middle States Conference — Aug 12-13 Alexandria, VA

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

Battle of Kings Mountain – Oct. 7 - Blacksburg, SC

Battle Days – Oct 7-9 – Point Pleasant, WV

Yorktown Day – Oct. 19 Yorktown, VA

The Chapter Registrar’s Corner SAR APPS Online!

A few months ago NSSAR announced an agreement with Ancestry to digitize all SAR Applications prior to 1971. Ancestry has now completed this task. This new Database has 145,000 applications and 1.2 Million records. It is called “Sons of the American Revolution Membership Applications”.

You can find it in the Category-Military Records. It will allow one to see if a particular Patriot Ancestor is in the database

and all members who used that ancestor as their patriot. You can view each application complete with the applicant’s lineage.

Ancestry is a fee based company so you will need a subscription or you can go to the Williamsburg Library as they have a subscription for their patrons use. This is true for many libraries in the area.

To use the database log on to Ancestry and select “Search” from the menu at the top. This gives you a drop down menu. Select “Military” and click. Put in the keyword Sons and the dialog box at the left and it will go to that area of the list. Select the Sons database and you will get the Dialog Box to fill in to search for a name, either of a patriot or someone in his lineage.

Clayton R.Rowland

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