



**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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**President's Message**

I am pleased to serve as the new President of the Williamsburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. John Moseley, Jack Lee and I are anxious to get started.

Thanks very much to Ed Truslow and his officers for doing a magnificent job during the last two years. They are a tough act to follow. Thanks to the various Committee Chairs for continuing to serve. We will need their expertise.

Bob Spencer,  
 Chapter President

**February 9th Luncheon Meeting**

Our speaker for the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will be William Woodridge. His topic will be *Mapping the Revolution in Virginia*.

Bill is a graduate of Harvard College and the University of Virginia Law School. He is a trustee of the Virginia Historical Society and has served as president of the John Marshall Foundation and of the Norfolk Historical Society, as chair of the Friends of the Chrysler Museum's Historic Houses, on the steering committee of the map support groups at the Library of Congress and the Library of Virginia, and on the boards of the Library of Virginia Foundation and of public radio station WHRO and its foundation.

Bill bought his first Virginia map in Heidelberg in 1969 and over the course of

forty years assembled the most comprehensive privately owned collection of printed Virginia maps. In 2009 the Virginia Cartographical Society acquired the collection.

**Sign-up Form for the Saturday February 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting @ 11:30am**

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

**Send check & form to:**  
**Jack Lee**

**521 Newport Ave.**  
**Williamsburg, VA 23185-4012**  
**(757) 221-6686**  
**valee@widomaker.com**

**Make checks payable to**  
**"Williamsburg Chapter, SAR"**

**Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ lunches at \$18.00 per person for Feb. 9th, 2013**

**Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_**

**January Joint Chapter Meeting**

Williamsburg was well represented at the joint meeting with the Thomas Nelson, Jr. Chapter in Newport News. They hosted the event at the Point Plaza Suites Hotel there.

We were honored to have VASSAR President Henry P. "Phil" Williams preside at the induction of the 2013 officers of both chapters.



**(L-R) Joe Shipes, Ken Wood, Rick Elofson, Phil Williams, Gary Hodges, Mason Ware, John Moseley, Dr. William Old III, Bob Spencer, Ron Losee, Rev. Dr. Jim Henry and Jack Lee.**

Phil also inducted three new members, one of which was Marvin Williams from our chapter.



**(L-R) VASSAR President Williams, Everett Feldt, Richard Yates and Marvin Williams**

Two of our members received Distinguished Service Awards. They were Jim Henry and Ron Losee.



**(L-R) Ed Truslow & Jim Henry**



**(L-R) Ed Truslow & Ron Losee**

Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Bob Schmidt received the Virginia Chapter Service Medal sometimes referred to as the “Pineapple Award” because of its design. Bob is “retiring” after seven years of service to the chapter as an officer.



**(L-R) Ed Truslow & Bob Schmidt**



**Ed Truslow receiving the Distinguished Service Award from VASSAR President Williams**

### The Three Amigos



(L-R) Past Pres. Ed Truslow, Phil Williams and Past Pres. Joe Shipes

President Bob Spencer presented now Past President Ed Truslow with a VASSAR Forgotten Patriot Award. Ed had received a supplemental application approval for his ancestor Benjamin Truslow, Sr. who had never been identified by the SAR or DAR as a patriot. Benjamin served in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Continental Light Dragons.



(L-R) Bob Spencer & Ed

### Bermuda Wreath Laying

Michael Elston, President of the George Washington Chapter, is going to Bermuda March 23-27 and will do a wreath laying for two famous Bermudian patriots, St. George Tucker and Thomas Tudor Tucker. Given that Williamsburg was St. George's home, he said he would be happy to have anyone from the Williamsburg Chapter who wants to make the trip join in the event. If anyone

is interested, please you may contact him at [elston.sar@gmail.com](mailto:elston.sar@gmail.com) and he will provide the details as they unfold.

The reception and wreath-laying to honor these two Bermuda-born Patriots of the Revolution is planned at the Historic Tucker House Museum in St. George's, Bermuda, most likely on March 25, 2013. The Tucker House was built in the 1750s and purchased by the Tuckers' brother, Henry Tucker, in 1775. The reception will be hosted by the Bermuda National Trust, and descendants of the Tucker family, the U.S. Consul General and officials of the Government of Bermuda will be invited to attend. The wreath-laying will be conducted by representatives of the SAR, DAR and CAR.

St. George Tucker (1752-1827) was a colonel of the Chesterfield County Militia and was wounded at Yorktown. After the war, he practiced law and then became professor of law at William & Mary. He later served on the Virginia Supreme Court and was appointed by President Madison as a United States District Judge in 1813. His home in Williamsburg is preserved and maintained as a part of Colonial Williamsburg.

Thomas Tudor Tucker (1745-1828) trained as a physician in Edinburgh, Scotland, and then settled in Charleston, South Carolina. He was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1776. In 1781 he joined the Continental Army as a hospital surgeon supporting the Southern Department, and served until 1783. South Carolina sent him as a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1787 and again in 1788. He served as a Member of Congress from South Carolina in the 1st and 2nd Congresses. President Thomas Jefferson appointed him as Treasurer of the United States in 1801, and he remained in

that position through the administrations of James Madison, James Monroe, and John Quincy Adams until his death in 1828.

Both St. George and Thomas Tudor Tucker are believed to have played a role in instigating the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot, which was led by their father, Henry Tucker. On August 14, 1775, a group of Bermudians stole the gunpowder from the colony's magazine and rolled the barrels to the sea where it was rowed to American sloops waiting offshore. In return, the Continental Congress exempted Bermuda from the trade embargo imposed on other colonies that remained loyal to the British Crown. St. George may have been on Bermuda at the time and may have actually participated in the event.

### **Historian's Corner**

2012 was a banner year for the Williamsburg chapter in terms of new members being inducted into the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Due to this influx of new members, now is a good time to explain one of the on-going programs of our chapter called "From the Historian's Bookshelf: A program to encourage further reading and study of the Revolutionary War period."

Motivation for this program came in 2009 when VASSAR president Art Batten spoke to the chapter about enhancing our knowledge by reading more on this period's history. While listening to Art Batten's talk, the chapter historian came up with the idea of one way of encouraging chapter members to read was to share the books on this period from his own library as suggestions for future reading. He decided that each month he would review a book on the Revolutionary War, or the period, in the chapter newsletter. He also decided to bring

the featured book to that month's chapter meeting for display. That's what this program is all about. So, at the next chapter meeting look for the display on the name tag table, pick up the book of the month and browse the contents!

Now, for February's selection "From the Historian's Bookshelf" is a work entitled *Kings Mountain and Cowpens: Our Victory Was Complete*, by Robert W. Brown, Jr., History Press, Charleston, SC, 2009.

Brown states in his preface that there have been many excellent books written about the battles of Kings Mountain and Cowpens as separate events in the American revolution. Each work brings new information and provides insights into those battles. However, there has not been a work that ties these two critical Patriot victories together. In his book, Brown has attempted to provide an overview of and to explain the connections between the two engagements and how they directly affected the course of Cornwallis's campaign in the South and his eventual surrender at Yorktown.

The book is an easy read with good maps and pictures to support the text. Enjoy!

Jim Henry, Chapter Historian  
e-mail: the [dawgsdidit@cox.net](mailto:dawgsdidit@cox.net)

### **February Book Raffle Selection**

Our February raffle selection at the luncheon will be *The Day the Revolution Ended - 19 October 1781* by William H. Hallahan.

## 2013 Chapter Calendar

**Feb 9<sup>th</sup>** – Chapter Luncheon Meeting  
**March 9<sup>th</sup>** - Chapter Luncheon Meeting  
**April 13<sup>th</sup>** - Chapter Luncheon Meeting  
**May 27<sup>th</sup>** – Memorial Day Ceremony with  
CW – Lunch at the King’s Arms  
**June 8<sup>th</sup>**– Joint Mtg. with Thomas Nelson,  
Jr. Chapter  
**June 26<sup>th</sup>** – Battle of Spencer’s Ordinary  
Commemoration  
**July 4<sup>th</sup>** – Service at Bruton Parish Church  
**July 6<sup>th</sup>** – Battle of Green Spring  
Commemoration  
**September 14<sup>th</sup>** - Chapter Luncheon  
Meeting  
**October 12<sup>th</sup>** - Chapter Luncheon Meeting  
**October 19<sup>th</sup>** – Yorktown Day  
**November 11<sup>th</sup>** – Palace Cemetery Wreath  
Laying

## VASSAR Sponsored Activities

**February 16 – Crossing of the Dan –**  
South Boston, VA

**February 22-23 – VASSAR Annual  
Meeting –** Omni Hotel Richmond, VA

Details of the above VASSAR events as  
well as other events may be found at:  
<http://www.virginia-sar.org/vassar/events.htm>

## Chapter Website

Note that you can keep up on chapter news  
at our web site at:

<http://williamsburg.virginia-sar.org/>

## 2013 Chapter Officers

**President** – Bob Spencer  
[spencerlaw@cox.net](mailto:spencerlaw@cox.net)  
**Vice President** – John Moseley  
[johnmoseley33@yahoo.com](mailto:johnmoseley33@yahoo.com)  
**Treasurer** – Jack Lee  
[valee@widomaker.com](mailto:valee@widomaker.com)  
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