



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 2014

Presidents Message

April 12th Luncheon

Our Chapter will be gearing up for a number of events this Spring including ceremonies for Memorial Day at Colonial Williamsburg, and the Battles of Spencer's Ordinary and Green Spring. Details will be provided as they become available.

The next meeting of the new Williamsburg/Yorktown Chapter of the American Revolutionary War Roundtable will be held at the former Bruton Heights School building on April 2 at 6:30 PM. The initial meeting filled the room.

There were two recent interesting articles in the newspapers. The first reported on the citizenship ceremonies at the Yorktown Museum where 51 young men and women became US citizens. The second reported that Col. Charles Wynder (US Army Ret.), a Williamsburg resident, received the VASSAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. I intend to invite Col. Wynder to join us for lunch as my guest.

The Overmountain Men Chapter of the SAR is hosting a Tribute to Patriots and Pathfinders in conjunction with The Muster and Trades Fair at the Blockhouse on April 26. Let me know if you are interested in attending this event and I can provide details.

Bob Spencer

Please sign up asap for the luncheon meeting which will be held at the Fort Magruder Inn (formerly the Crowne Plaza) which is where we have been meeting for some time.

Our luncheon speaker will be Daniel Preston who is editor of the Papers of James Monroe at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He has held that position since the project's inception in 1989. In addition to being the editor of the Monroe Papers, he is co-editor of the papers of the great American sculptor, Daniel Chester French. Preston has held a Mellon Fellowship at the Virginia Historical Society, a David Bruce Fellowship at Keele University in Staffordshire, England and is a past winner of the annual prize awarded by the Society of Historians of the Early American Republic for the best article published in The Journal of the Early Republic.

Date: Saturday April 12, 2014

Location: Fort Magruder Inn
6945 Pocahontas Trail (Rt. 60 east)

Social: 11:30am

Meeting: 12:00 noon

**Sign-up Form below for the Saturday
April 12th Meeting @ 11:30am**

**Reservations MUST be received not later
than Wed April 9th 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 \$20.00

Name(s) _____

of Vegetarian Dinners _____

April Book Raffle Selection

April’s Book Raffle selection is *A British Soldier’s Story: Roger Lamb’s Narrative of the American Revolution*, Edited and Annotated by Don N. Hagist, Ballindalloch Press, Baraboo, WI, 53913. This is a soldier’s story. When thinking of soldiers, think not of allies and enemies, of good and bad, but of individuals, each with a story.

March 8th Meeting

As noted in last month’s newsletter, the Williamsburg Chapter and chapter members received eleven awards at the VASSAR Annual meeting in February.



Pictured with Bob Spencer and Ed Truslow are the streamers, certificates and acrylic awards that we received from VASSAR

Claire White, our Chapter webmaster, received the VASSAR award for the best chapter website in the state.



(L-R) Claire White with Bob Spencer presenting her with the VASSAR acrylic.

Ben Fegan received the VASSAR Silver Roger Sherman medal and certificate for his work as VASSAR History Day Chairman.



(L-R) Ben Fegan receiving the Roger Sherman award from Chapter President Bob Spencer

Our March meeting speaker was Aleck Loker who spoke on Patriot Peyton Randolph who among other things served as the first President of the Continental Congress.



(L-R) Aleck Loker receiving the Jefferson Cup and Chapter Certificate of Appreciation from Chapter President Bob Spencer

New Ancestor Approval

Williamsburg President Bob Spencer gave Chaplain Jim Henry his approved supplemental application recognizing his patriot ancestor Andrew Lawson.



(L-R) Chapter President Bob Spencer and Chaplain Jim Henry

James Madison's 263rd Birthday Anniversary

On Sunday March 16th Marine Colonel David W. Maxwell, Commander of the Marine Corps Base Quantico and representing President Barack Obama, placed a presidential wreath at the Montpelier gravesite of James Madison, our fourth president. Also during the ceremony, twenty nine patriotic and civic

organizations, including VASSAR and three VASSAR chapters, placed wreaths at the grave site.



Pictured above are those VASSAR members present along with VASSAR VP Ed Truslow (far right) who presented the VASSAR wreath.

Virginia History Day

Virginia History Day is an academic competition for Virginia students in grades six through twelve. Virginia History Day is also an official Virginia SAR Society program. Chapters that do a good job in supporting Virginia History Day receive a streamer or a star for a streamer previously awarded for program excellence. Virginia History Day participation is also considered in scoring for the Best Chapter. This is why Virginia 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 a Chapter can show support for Virginia History Day: Financial, Judging, Special Awards, Promotion of Virginia History Day and Attendance.

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 22 and the State Competition will be held on April 26 at Thomas Nelson Community College here in Williamsburg. The following compatriots have volunteered to be judges at the State Competition: Don Swain, Ed Truslow, Bob Spencer, Jim Henry and Harley Stewart. Judges may be needed at the District 6 competition. If you can help in that capacity, please contact Don Swain at 229-7302 or dswain1015@aol.com.

Chapter/VSSAR Calendar

April 12th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting – Fort Magruder Inn
April 19th – Battle of Petersburg
April 26th – Virginia History Day at Thomas Nelson Community College
April 28th – James Monroe’s Birthday, Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, VA
May 3rd – Tucker Grave Marking, Congressional Cemetery, Wash. D.C.
May 26th – Memorial Day Wreath Laying & parade with CW and lunch at the King’s Arms
June 7th – Joint Chapter Luncheon
June 21st – Battle of Ramseur’s Mill – Lincolnton, NC
June 26th – Engagement at Spencer’s Ordinary – Freedom Park Williamsburg
July 4th – Independence Day service at Bruton Parish Church
July 6th – Battle of Green Spring, Jamestown
July 12th – Chapter Luncheon Meeting - Fort Magruder Inn

2014 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

President – Bob Spencer
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