



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 signers' houses were burned to the ground. No signer defected. Their honor, like their nation remained intact.

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Edward W. Truslow

Edward W. Truslow, past president of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Williamsburg Chapter passed away 1 June 2017 at his home.

Hundreds of compatriots, family and friends attended a Memorial Service on 17 June at the Bruton Parish Church.

Ed was a true Virginian; he grew up in Winchester and devoted many hours to tracing his family footsteps through history. His father had come to Stafford County from England; his mother's German family had settled in the Shenandoah Valley. Ed's many years of research identified well over 100 different ancestral lines with ties not only in Virginia, but Pennsylvania, New York and most of New England.

Rufus Weaver, a soldier in the Vermont militia was his first SAR-qualified ancestor; following him was Benjamin Truslow Sr., captain in the Virginia militia; Abraham Beydler, Jacob Stickley, Dr. George Keller, and Lawrence Snapp. More were being researched. (Continued on next page.)

Ed served as Chapter vice-president from 2009-2011 and president from 2011-2013. He then spent a year as Virginia Society secretary moving into vice-president positions until his election as 96th President on 20 February 2016.

Ed's career, after a tour of duty with the U. S. Army, was with Grumman-Aerospace in Bethpage, New York. He was a graduate of Long Island University and received an MBA from Adelphi University. He was an active church choir member and brought his talents to numerous organizations that included the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Society of the War of 1812 in Virginia; the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem (Templars) and St. Andrews Society of Williamsburg.

Surviving are his devoted wife, Laura, of 55 years; daughters Alexis and Letitia; son-in-law Bradley Bolton; two granddaughters; a sister, Joyce Wolfe of Berryville, a niece and nephew.

Ed's many contributions to the Williamsburg Chapter are too numerous to describe here. He was an exceptional leader and believed strongly in the SAR principles and obligations. We'll miss you, Ed.





Chapter/VASSAR Calendar
Upcoming Events in Our Region & Beyond

July 4, 2017

Special SAR Prayer Service
Bruton Parish Church
Colonial Williamsburg, VA

July 4, 2017

Benjamin Harrison Birthday
Commemoration
DAR
Berkeley Plantation
Charles City, VA

July 6, 2017

Battle of Green Spring
Commemoration
Jamestown, VA

July 7- 13, 2017

SAR Annual Conference
Knoxville, TN

July 15, 2017

Williamsburg Chapter Luncheon
Colonial Heritage Clubhouse
Williamsburg, VA

July 15th Chapter Luncheon

The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members and their guests to attend the July luncheon held at the clubhouse at Colonial Heritage. Please note that reservations are required and the reservation form is on the last page of this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there.

Date: Saturday, July 15, 2017

Location: The Clubhouse

Colonial Heritage

Social: 11:30

Meeting: 12:00

Please see the RSVP information on the last page of this newsletter.

Reservations MUST be received no later than Saturday, July 8th.

SAR Baseball Caps Are
Now Available

SAR baseball type caps are now available through the chapter. There will be a supply of them at the July luncheon. They are purchased by the chapter from NASAR at a cost of \$20, and are offered to members at the same price. Get yours now!



Registrar's Corner

Registrar's Corner -- The Registrar is busy, not with too many applications but juggling those which have stumbling blocks or even brick walls. Not all applications or referrals are successful. SAR membership represents only about .0001% of the U.S. population. A pretty elite bunch. Sadly our Chapter has lost two members in the first half of this year. So, like the population of our country, we must maintain a certain "birth rate" to grow or even maintain our chapter membership. As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, the solution is "as easy as pie." Recruitment of sons and grandsons. Simple and assured applications. One of our members recently took this challenge and we now have one and soon three new members. Help me out!

- Jim Hess



Annual July 4th Events

The Williamsburg Chapter SAR will sponsor a Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving at 9 am Tuesday, July 4th at Bruton Parish Church. The doors will open at 8:30 am and parking is available on Duke of Gloucester St in front of the church.

Following the service, the Williamsburg Chapter NSDAR invites us to join them for their annual commemorative wreath laying ceremony at 12 noon at Benjamin Harrison's gravesite, Berkeley Plantation. Berkeley Plantation is located on Route 5 (John Tyler Hwy) approximately 30 miles west of Williamsburg on the left.

Following the ceremony, the DAR has invited us to join them for a light lunch at the Carriage House on the property. If you plan to attend the lunch, please RSVP to:

Elizabeth Greaf

Second Vice Regent

Williamsburg NSDAR

elizabethg.wbgchapter@gmail.com

516 383-1137



Chapter Happenings

Williamsburg Chapter Commemorates the Battle of Spencer's Ordinary



On the left, Harley Stewart, President of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR, and Dan Warren, President of the Gov. Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter SAR, present their chapter wreaths at the commemoration of the Battle of Spencer's Ordinary which took place on June 26th.

On the right, members of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR stand behind the sign commemorating the Battle of Spencer's Ordinary, which was donated by the Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution in 2015.



On the left, Historian Chris Bonin displays drawings of the typical troops who participated in the battle. Chris gave a very interesting presentation about the battle, and its leaders, at the conclusion of the outdoor ceremony. Approximately 50 people attended the presentation.

Chapter Happenings Cont'd

Chapter Member, John Holt, attends the Commemoration of the Battle of Ramseur's Mill

On the right, Williamsburg Chapter member John Holt was able to present the Williamsburg Chapter wreath at the Commemoration of the Battle of Ramseur's Mill in Lincolnton, NC, which was sponsored by the Catawba Valley Chapter SAR.



Williamsburg Chapter Honors Eagle Scouts

On Monday, June 12, 2017 two Eagle Scouts of Boy Scout Troop 103, Williamsburg United Methodist Church were presented with SAR Certificates of Recognition. They were Mason Kolda, pictured in the photo below on the left, and Ryan Wentz, pictured in the photo below on the right. The certificates were presented at a BSA Court of Honor by Bob Spencer with Harley Stewart attending.



Chapter News

Fly the Flag

The Williamsburg Chapter SAR, distributes miniature American flags at the annual Independence Day military band concert at Merchants Square. Officials have notified us that there will be no military band concert for Independence Day this year.

While this is disappointing, we should redouble our efforts to recognize businesses and residents who faithfully display our flag on a suitable flag pole in compliance with the flag code. The flag must be illuminated during hours of darkness to qualify.

Within the last several years innovative solar lights with flag pole mounts have been introduced for sale at well known retailers. There are several locations in the Williamsburg area.

The Virginia Society, SAR, encourages chapters to present flag certificates; in the past each chapter received a streamer if it presented one certificate a year. In 2014 our chapter was top in the state with 30; however, there was no recognition for that achievement. Rules have since been changed.

There is probably no area in Virginia that displays the flag of our country more proudly than in and around Williamsburg. So far this year, we have presented six.

Please survey your neighborhoods and nearby commercial areas and send the names and addresses to Valosec@aol.com. I maintain a listing of previous recipients to ensure they are first time submissions. Would appreciate assistance of every compatriot in this very worthwhile, patriotic effort.

Special Luncheon Meeting Scheduled for August 12th.

While the Williamsburg Chapter SAR does not normally hold a luncheon meeting in August, this year there will be a luncheon held on August 12th, at the Colonial Heritage Clubhouse. This schedule change was approved by the board when they cancelled the scheduled June luncheon to accommodate the memorial service for our fellow compatriot, past chapter and VASSAR president, Ed Truslow, who passed away in June.

Possible New Feature At Luncheon Meetings

Your board of managers is considering adding a new feature to monthly luncheons. If you think it is an acceptable idea, just send a brief comment to Valosec@aol.com. If you don't like it, do the same.

Proposal is to set up a tables, space permitting, in the dining room upon which members can display artifacts, memorabilia, etc. identified to specific historical time periods. For example, items in use during the Revolutionary War and post 1812 years first month; Civil War period items another month; followed by World War I, II, Korea/Vietnam. Rules regarding the items would include size limitation, safety considerations, security, pre-registration with assigned board member to ensure space is available, etc.

Point of contact for your questions and comments is board member Ron Losec. Please answer by 19 July.

The Battle of Green Spring

The Battle of Green Spring took place near Green Spring Plantation in James City County, Virginia during the American Revolutionary War. On July 6, 1781 United States Brigadier General "Mad" Anthony Wayne, leading the advance forces of the Marquis de Lafayette, was ambushed near the plantation by the British army of Earl Charles Cornwallis in the last major land battle of the Virginia campaign prior to the Siege of Yorktown. Following a month of marching and countermarching in central Virginia by Cornwallis and Lafayette, Cornwallis in late June moved to Williamsburg, where he received orders to move to Portsmouth and send some of his army to New York City. Lafayette followed Cornwallis fairly closely, emboldened by the arrival of reinforcements. On July 4, Cornwallis departed Williamsburg for Jamestown, planning to cross the James River enroute to Portsmouth. Lafayette believed he could stage an attack on Cornwallis' rear guard during the crossing.

Cornwallis anticipated Lafayette's idea, and laid an elaborate trap. General Wayne's forces were very nearly caught in the trap, and only a bold bayonet charge against the numerically overwhelming British enabled his forces to retreat. Cornwallis did not follow the victory with pursuit, instead following his plan to cross the river. The action reinforced the perception among contemporaries that justified the moniker "Mad" to describe Wayne, although opinion on the merits of his actions was divided.

Please join the Williamsburg Chapter SAR on July 6th for a commemoration and wreath laying ceremony at the Church on the Main site near Jamestown, VA. The ceremony will start at 10:00am.



General "Mad" Antony Wayne



July Luncheon Speaker: Doug Cummings



Doug is a native New Yorker who grew up in Manhattan for 20 years, lived on Staten Island for 25 years, Morristown, NJ for 10 years and now has been a resident of Williamsburg for 19 years.

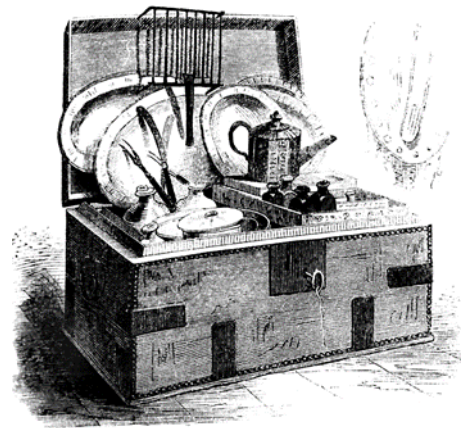
He attended Manhattan College on a baseball scholarship (tryouts with the San Francisco Giants & Detroit Tigers in 1959) and from which he holds a BBA degree. In addition, he holds an MBA degree from Pace University and an MA degree in History from Wagner College. He has also done post-graduate work in Colonial History in the Ph. D program at NYU.

Doug spent 34 years in the Telecommunications industry in various management and executive positions at NY Telephone, AT&T and Bell Communications Research before retiring in 1997.

In retirement, Doug has volunteered with the Disaster Services unit of the American Red Cross both in NJ and in Williamsburg, the Social Ministry of St. Bede's Church, is a driver for Meals on Wheels, volunteered at the Kimball Theatre for Colonial Williamsburg, has volunteered with Elderhostel for William & Mary, was a Pilot Advisor for the Youth Aeronautical Education Foundation, is Captain for the Spotswood Senior Golf Assn, is an instructor and A/V committee member for the Christopher Wren Association at William & Mary and is a battlefield tour guide for the National Park Service at the Yorktown Battlefield for the past 18 years.

He has been married to his wife Eileen for 55 years. They have 4 children and 9 grandchildren (ages 9 to 24) who live in Virginia, Pennsylvania, Florida and Texas.

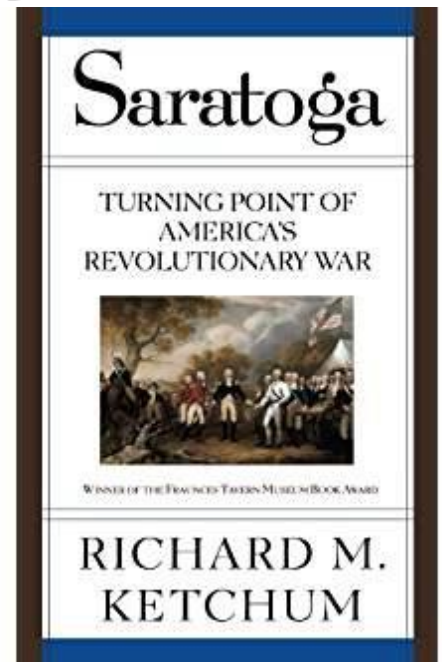
Doug's topic: "LaFayette"



July Book Raffle

“SARATOGA: Turning Point of America’s Revolutionary War” by Richard M. Ketchum. Basing his account on diaries, letters, and field documents of the participants, the author shows how ordinary Americans turned a lost cause into a great victory. With a win at Saratoga, France entered the war as America’s ally. Their navy, troops, financial and military aid enabled the Americans eventually achieve their independence.

Raffle tickets can be purchased at the July luncheon/meeting for \$1 each or seven tickets for \$5.



2017 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

President	Harley Stewart	Registrar/Genalogist	Jim Hess
Vice-President	Jay Smith	Historian	Steve McGuffin
Secretary	Roger Cross	Chaplain	Jack Lee
Treasurer	William Greaif	Newsletter Editor	Richard Newsome
Public Relations	Lew de Seife	Sergeant-at-Arms	Eric Ely
At-Large	Ron Losec	At-Large	Tom Campbell

For information about the Williamsburg Chapter SAR please contact Harley Stewart, President, at hstewart9@cox.net.

Cut along dotted line

Reservation for the Saturday, July 15th 2017. Chapter Luncheon:

Please reserve _____ regular meals at \$20.00

Name(s) _____

Vegetarian meals _____ # Vegan Dinners _____ # Gluten free meals _____

Please make checks payable to “Williamsburg Chapter SAR”

and mail to arrive by July 8th:

SAR

PO Box 3622.

Williamsburg, VA 23187

(631) 219-6616

hsaprof@gmail.com

