



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.

Vol. XXIII

Number 3

MARCH 2018

President's Message

Just prior to February but too late for the February newsletter, James Fiorito and myself presented a bronze good citizenship medal to Stephen Legawiec, a teacher at Lafayette High School during their teacher meeting. It is always an honor to recognize those teachers who are helping to keep our history alive. James has done a great job chairing our teacher recognition committee and has agreed to continue in that role for 2018.

February saw the VASSAR annual meeting in Richmond on the 9th and 10th. Pat Kelly was installed as the new VASSAR President. Five chapter members attended all or part of the meeting. They were myself, Harley Stewart, Roger Cross, Jim Hess and Jack Lee. Jim talks about the Registrar breakout session in another part of this month's newsletter.

During the annual meeting our chapter received numerous awards. In the limited space of this column, I can only mention a few. For the second year in a row, we received the award for best chapter scrapbook. Congratulations to Steve McGuffin as our Historian. Again, for the second year in a row, the chapter's newsletter was runner-up. We also received a chapter excellence based on the Americanism report that we file each year. Thanks to Harley Stewart for preparing the report. Because of our growth in 2017, the chapter under President Elston's initiative will receive a rebate of 10 percent of our dues. President Kelly will continue this initiative in 2018. Thanks to our Registrar, Jim Hess and others who have brought in new members.

The one initiative that President Kelly stressed in his installation remarks was increasing the SAR Youth Programs involvement. No chapter was involved in all six programs last year. The Programs are Eagle Scout, ROTC, Poster, Brochure, Essay and Oration. Tom Morr has done a great job with ROTC while Health Richardson and Bob Spencer have increased our Eagle Scout program in 2017. We need volunteers for the other areas and anyone who would like to assist in the four programs please contact me. If a student makes it to the State or National level, there are scholarships available.

On February 22, a group of us rang the Freedom Bell at the First Baptist Church on Scotland Street. The group included myself, Harley Stewart and Steve McGuffin who made the arrangements. Thanks, Steve.

Like last month, I encourage you to attend the various SAR events in the nearby areas. These are listed elsewhere in the Newsletter. If you do attend an event, be sure to let me know so that the chapter can receive credit for it.

Finally, if you have ideas or suggestions on how to make the monthly meetings more worthwhile from your perspective, please email or call me.

William Greaf





Calendar

Mon. March 5TH
Board Meeting
 10:00am Williamsburg Library
 Williamsburg, VA

Sat. March 10TH
Luncheon Meeting
 Colonial Heritage Country Club
 6500 Arthur Hills Dr, Williamsburg, VA

Fri. March 16TH
James Madison's 267TH
Birthday Commemoration
 Montpelier, VA

Sat. March 17TH
Battle of Guilford Courthouse
Commemoration 10-12am
 Greensboro, NC

Sat. March 17TH
Patrick Henry's 254TH
Anniversary of speech
"Give me Liberty or give me Death"
 St. John's Church Richmond, VA

Sat. April 28TH
James Monroe
Birthday Commemoration
 Hollywood Cemetery 10am-12pm
 Richmond, VA

VASSAR News

In Richmond, we installed our 98th President, Patrick M. Kelly! Pat will do a fantastic job leading the Virginia SAR! I have no doubt that you will support him at least as well as you have supported me in the year past. Please join me in congratulating Pat and First Lady Jennifer Kelly and wishing them every success in the year ahead!
 Michael J. Elston



First Place by VASSAR

For the second year in a row, the Williamsburg Chapter SAR received first place for its 2017 Scrapbook. The chapter was given this award during the VASSAR annual meeting in Richmond, Va. There were nine other chapters throughout the state that submitted scrapbooks; Richmond, George Washington, Col. William Grayson, Culpepper Minutemen, Norfolk, Thomas Jefferson, Fincastle Resolutions and Col. Fielding Lewis.

The book was compiled by Historian Stephen McGuffin, and will be given to the William & Mary Swem Library for archiving."



Our SAR Chapter was well represented at the State VASSAR annual meeting.
L-R Harley Stewart, Jim Hess, William Greaf, Roger Cross, Jack Lee

The Battle of Guilford Court House

was a battle fought on March 15, 1781, at a site which is now in Greensboro, the county seat of Guilford County, North Carolina, during the American Revolutionary War. A 2,100-man British force under the command of Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis defeated Major General Nathanael Greene's 4,500 Americans. The British Army, however, lost a considerable number of men during the battle. Such heavy British casualties resulted in a strategic victory for the Americans.



The veteran First Maryland Continentals threw back a British attack and countered with a bayonet charge. As they reformed their line, William Washington's Light Dragoons raced by to rescue raw troops of the Fifth Maryland who had buckled under a furious assault of British Grenadiers and Guards."

Chapter News

I would like to welcome two new members, Larry and Thomas Divins that have recently transferred into the Williamsburg Chapter from the Captain James Neal Chapter of the West Virginia Society SAR. Larry has been a member of the SAR since August 1, 2014 and in addition to his Patriot ancestor has one supplemental. His spouse is Mary and he has two children, Kathrya and Thomas.

Larry was born in Clarion County in western Pennsylvania. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in Chemical Engineering and took graduate engineering courses at M.I.T. and North Carolina State. Following college, Larry served as an officer in the U.S.A.F. for three years during the Vietnam era, reaching the rank of Captain.

Larry then joined the General Electric Company for a career of 33 years progressing from engineering and inventor to executive positions in the nuclear fuel, plastics, and silicones manufacturing businesses and in corporate research. After retirement from GE, he consulted for five years before fully retiring and moving to Williamsburg.

Larry's son, Thomas, was born in Schenectady County in New York. Thomas recently graduated from West Virginia University with B.A. (Business minor) and M.A. (European concentration) degrees in history. Thomas was a member of the WVU marching band, pep band, concert band, and symphonic band and leader of the marching band saxophone section. He joined the SAR simultaneously with his father and is interested in researching his maternal Virginia Patriot ancestors.

Please take the opportunity to meet and welcome our two new members at a future luncheon or Williamsburg Chapter SAR event.

Roger Cross, Secretary



SAR chapter compatriot John Lynch lecturing today at College of William & Mary's Christopher Wren Association class on "Williamsburg area during the Revolutionary War".

His lecture was well received by a full audience and included a discussion of annual SAR commemorations at Spencer's Ordinary and Green Springs. John's presentation was an excellent promotion of SAR agenda and resulted in at least one inquiry from a prospective member.

You will note that past president Harley Stewart was also present and engaged with the prospective new member.

Job well done.

John Holt
SAR Chapter Public Affairs Officer

REGISTRAR'S CORNER



Supplemental Awards

Steven Carl Riddle

Ancestor: Jacob Abel, Public Service in PA

Signed Oath of Allegiance 1777

Ancestor: Lorenz Moser Rohrbach

Private, Berks Co. PA Militia

Signed Oath of Allegiance 1777

John Pierce Wenrich

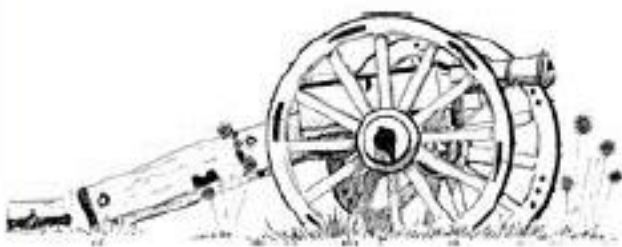
Ancestor: Conrad Ludwig Mohn/Moon

Private, Berks Co. PA Militia, 1781

James Brock Hess

Ancestor: Peter Hess

Guard, York Co. PA Militia, 1778



Your Registrar attended the Registrar & Genealogy Workshop at the 2018 VASSAR Annual Meeting in Richmond, February 9th. The presenters were the VASSAR Registrar (David Thomas) & an Assistant Registrar (David Cook). 2017 was a good year for VASSAR membership growth statewide. Personally I am still looking for a few good men, 18 of which I have sent applications over the past eleven months. Four chapter members have responded to my entreaties to sign up their sons & grandsons. This is so simple. I am sure there are several offspring who could easily become members. Your family would appreciate it, now and in the future.

At the workshop attendees were advised that the NSSAR On-Line Application process has not yet matured into a reliable tool and should not be used. Many IT technical issues remain. We will continue to use paper and SAR Application Form 2017 will be mandatory 1 March 2018. It makes no difference to me in what form an application is submitted, as I will retype it in the proper form and format. Birth, Marriage (and death, if applicable) certificates are strongly preferable for the first three generations. These are relatively easy to obtain by the applicant, but may take awhile if they have to be ordered from a state or county.

New is The Patriot Research System, found under Patriot Record Search on the NSSAR website. PRS is a combination of the previous NSSAR Patriot and Graves Registry (Online), NSSAR Revolutionary War Graves Registry (Book and CD), information from the NSSAR Patriot Index CD (2002), and additional information and updates from various State Grave Registry Databases. This database will continue to expand as new patriots and graves are found and new members are approved. This Patriot Research System is NOT a comprehensive list of all the individuals who served in the American Revolutionary War, nor is it an indication that an SAR membership application (Record Copy) exists for every Patriot listed herein. But at last we can probably order (for \$10) an official record copy of a more recent SAR application (if it exists), similar to the way we order DAR Record Copies. I have not used this system yet, but am hopeful it will be helpful in my research. Check it out.

Let Freedom Ring



Harley Stewart, Steve McGuffin, and President Bill Greaif of the Williamsburg Chapter Sons of the American Revolution ringing the Bell for Freedom at First Baptist Church on February 22, 2018.



Pres. William Greaif presenting our February guest speaker Anne Conkling a Jefferson cup gift and Certificate of Appreciation.

Compatriots,

All VASSAR members are invited to participate in a commemorative ceremony and see a special re-enactment of Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" speech at 11 AM, Saturday, March 17, 2018 at Historic St. John's Church, 2401 E. Broad St, Richmond, VA 23223. This event is free. If you are interested, please respond to Dennis C. Peterson, denny234@verizon.net. Following the Commemorative Program, the Richmond Chapter SAR will host a luncheon and short Program at the St. John's Church Parish Hall. Boxed lunches are available by prepaid order for \$17. Luncheon orders must be received by March 13, 2018. Form is on Page 13 of our newsletter.

If you are interested in attending and want to investigate car pool arrangements, please contact Williamsburg Chapter Historian Steve McGuffin, (757)-206-1767, mcguffis@gmail.com.



"GIVE ME LIBERTY, OR GIVE ME DEATH!"

1876 lithograph from the Library of Congress

"Give me liberty, or give me death!" is a quotation attributed to Patrick Henry from a speech he made to the Second Virginia Convention on March 23, 1775, at St. John's Church in Richmond, Virginia. He is credited with having swung the balance in convincing the convention to pass a resolution delivering Virginian troops for the Revolutionary War. Among the delegates to the convention were future U.S. Presidents Thomas Jefferson and George Washington.



St. John's Church Richmond, Virginia

Williamsburg SAR Chapter Initiative Approved to Support Colonial Williamsburg's Teacher Institute

During the February Board of Manager's (BOM) meeting, the members approved a Chapter proposal to provide limited financial support to Colonial Williamsburg's Teacher Institute that empowers teachers across the country to teach Colonial and American Revolution History in elementary and secondary schools. Colonial Williamsburg's Teacher Institute sponsors teacher scholarships for on- and off-site development programs to recognize the importance of our shared history of Colonial American Revolution and to preserve our heritage. This Institute has collaborated with more than 120 school districts to develop programming and to grant proposals for private and governmental funding. Since 1990, the Institute has implemented more than 9,300 teacher participants.

During the past several months and under the leadership of our past president Harley Stewart, the BOM was considering ways that our chapter could better support CWF and its organizations. As a result, a proposal was drafted initially for the consideration of VASSAR but the BOM approved a method for our Chapter to support this initiative as well. The BOM has approved the tuition for one teacher at the three-day Teacher Seminar Program and more information on this decision will be presented and discussed during our meeting on March 10. This proposal was also submitted to the new VASSAR President Pat Kelly and he indicated that VASSAR is favorably considering sponsoring one scholarship once the details and requirements have been reviewed and approved.

Since our Chapter recognizes the outstanding teacher(s) annually, special consideration could be placed on the teacher selected for the Institute and sponsored by our chapter. The teacher(s) sponsored could report back to our chapter about their experiences. Special students could also be recognized by each Chapter based on the result of this initiative. This is a fantastic opportunity for our chapter to do our part to prevent the further degradation of the knowledge and understanding of the foundation and the heritage of our great nation



For five days, Teacher Institute participants are immersed in eighteenth-century Virginia, the life of its residents, and key events that led to Virginia's Declaration of Independence on May 15, 1776, and, ultimately, to the American Revolution. The skills and knowledge they gain from this experience prepares them to inspire a passion for American history in their students.

During the week teachers:

- Identify and analyze significant seventeenth- and eighteenth-century economic, political, and social events that led to independence.
- Explore how Native American, European, and African interactions shaped and defined the American character.
- Use primary sources to explore daily life in colonial Virginia.
- Investigate the lifestyles of various social levels in eighteenth-century America, including the gentry, middling sort, tradespeople, merchants, soldiers, women, and slaves.
- Use technology resources, including satellite broadcasts and the Internet, to learn about the events leading to the American Revolution.

Summer Teacher Institute in American History

These six-day onsite programs immerse participants in American history and an interdisciplinary approach to teaching social studies with history as the focus. Participants have the opportunity to exchange ideas with historians, meet character interpreters, and examine interactive teaching techniques. Each program is tailored to meet state content standards in United States history and government.

Elementary: Becoming Americans: From British Subjects to American Citizens (1606–1783)

Middle: Emerging American Identity (1607–1865)

High: The United States: A Persistent Debate (1606–1970)

Tuition for 2018 is \$2,200 and includes all admissions, lodging, most meals, local transportation (airfare not included), instructional materials, and media.



Scholarships Available!

For more information on Teacher Institute 2018, visit:
<http://www.history.org/History/teaching/TIScholarships.cfm>



For an additional fee, teachers may also apply for three hours of graduate credit.

For school districts with limited time, staff can customize shorter visits. We also offer workshops on specific themes.

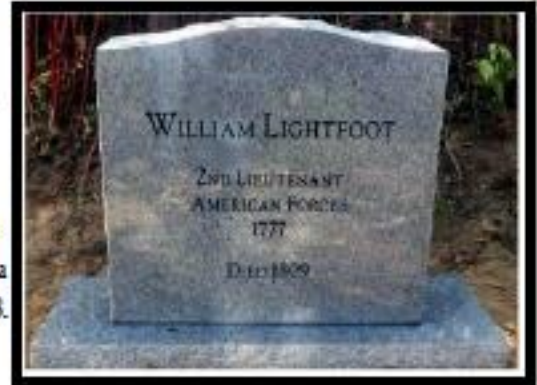
Phone: 757.565.8417 **Email:** teacherdevelopment@cwfb.org

Website: <https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.org/tpd>

Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Development Programs are supported in part by the William and Gretchen Kimbell Young Patriots Fund.

Lightfoot Virginia

The James City County Historical Commission recently placed a marker at the grave of William Lightfoot, who enlisted as a 2nd Lieutenant in the American Forces in 1777. This is one of only two known Revolutionary War graves in private family cemeteries in the County. Lightfoot later served as a major in the local militia and as a delegate to the Virginia House of Delegates from 1799 through 1808. The Lightfoot area of the County is named for this local patriotic family.



Upcoming Events

March 10th Luncheon Meeting

The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members and their wives and guests to attend the March luncheon at the Colonial Heritage clubhouse. We will have a guest speaker and look forward to seeing you there.

Date: Saturday, March 10TH, 2018

Location: Colonial Heritage Clubhouse
6500 Arthur Hills Dr, Williamsburg, VA

Social: 11:30

Meeting: 12:00

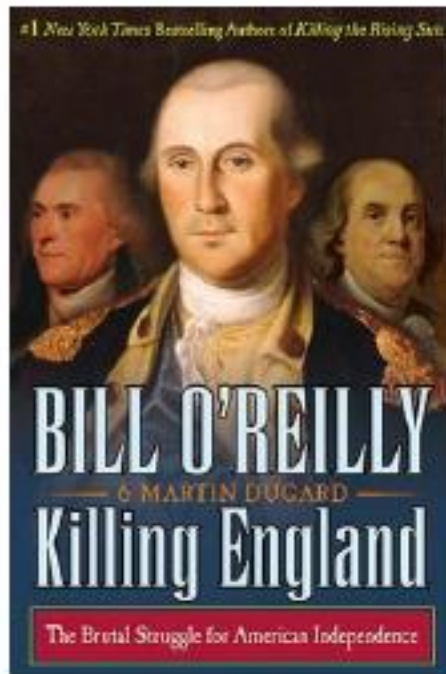
Please see the RSVP information on the last page of this newsletter.

Reservations **MUST** be received no later than Saturday, March 3RD.

MARCH GUEST SPEAKER



Tab Broyles is the Peter L. and Patricia O. Frechette Director of Teacher Professional Development at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. She develops, reviews, and evaluates on- and off-site Teacher Development programs and has collaborated with more than 120 school districts to develop programming and grant proposals for private and governmental funding. Since 1990, she has implemented the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute which as of 2017 has welcomed more than 9,300 participants. She has presented at the National Council for Social Studies Conference, state affiliate organizations, and Teaching American History Conferences." She has her BA in Government and a minor in Spanish and a Master's degree in Education from the College of William and Mary. This year, she celebrated her 35th year at Colonial Williamsburg.



BOOK RAFFLE

KILLING ENGLAND: The Brutal Struggle for American Independence, co-authored by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard, is the book to be raffled at our March luncheon meeting. Told through the eyes of George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Great Britain's King George III, Killing England chronicles the path to independence in gripping detail, taking the reader from the battlefields of America to the royal courts of Europe. What started as protest and unrest in the colonies soon escalated to a world war with devastating casualties. O'Reilly and Dugard recreate the war's landmark battles, including Bunker Hill, Long Island, Saratoga, and Yorktown, revealing the savagery of hand-to-hand combat and the often brutal conditions under which these brave American soldiers lived and fought.

Participate in the book raffle at our next meeting for a chance to own this book!

The video this month is about the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. Click the link below the mouse.



<https://youtu.be/wOX7XYWv0w?t=263>

SAR WEB sites

National <https://www.sar.org/>

State <http://www.virginia-sar.org/vassar/>

Williamsburg Chapter



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



IN MEMORIAM

Williamsburg Chapter SAR
Compatriot Frederick S. Gore, 97
passed away on January 25th, 2018.

Williamsburg Chapter SAR
Compatriot H. Scott Wagner, 80
passed away on January 26th, 2018.

2018 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

President	William Greif	hsaprof@gmail.com	631-219-6616
Vice-President	Jay Smith	jay.smith92346@gmail.com	564-1564
Secretary	Roger Cross	roger.cross66@gmail.com	869-6303
Treasurer	Frederick Siegel	fwsiegljr@gmail.com	259-0184
Public Relations	John Holt	johnholt4@mac.com	703-680-0866
Registrar	Jim Hess	jimhess12@gmail.com	220-2924
Historian	Steve McGuffin	mcguffs@gmail.com	206-1767
Chaplain	Jack Lee	valee@widomaker.com	221-6686
Newsletter Editor	David Westenberger	pal744@cox.net	258-5883
Sergeant-at-Arms	Eric Ely	elyswede@hotmail.com	221-7128
At-Large	Ron Losce	valosce@aol.com	565-1707
At-Large	Tom Campbell	tcampbell113@cox.net	229-0496
President 2017	Harley Stewart	hstewart@cox.net	564-1897
Database	Bob Schmidt	sar1812@live.com	345-0292



For information about the Williamsburg Chapter SAR please contact
William Greif, President, at hsaprof@gmail.com.



Lunch is priced at \$20.00 per person.
Send your reservations to the Williamsburg Chapter
c/o Jack Lee by Saturday the 3RD of March.

cut along dotted line

Reservation for the Saturday, 10TH March, 2018 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 March 3RD to:



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



Richmond SAR Patrick Henry Program
March 17 Lunch Order Form



Boxed lunches for Richmond SAR members and guests will be available in St. John's Church Parish Hall following the Commemoration Program.

(approx.) 12:15 PM, Saturday, March 17.

\$17 pp, pre-paid only.

A short program will be conducted at luncheon.

CHECK CHOICE OF SANDWICH

Patrick Henry Special Club
Turkey Breast, Virginia Ham, Bacon,
Cheddar & Provolone Cheese w/signature sauce

John Paul Jones Albacore Tuna
Fancy White Albacore Tuna
w/Swiss Cheese
Both served on Sourdough Bread, w/pickle,
Chocolate Chunk Cookie, Pasta salad & potato chips,
Bottled Water & Coffee

All pre-paid orders must be received

NO LATER THAN MARCH 13, 2018 

Please return a form for each lunch ordered.
There will be no walk up boxed lunches available.
Only pre-paid orders accepted.

THIS LUNCH ORDER IS FOR

Enclosed is my payment of \$ _____
Checks only

Mail this form with check paid to

RICHMOND SAR
Att: Dennis C. Peterson
13815 Winterberry Ridge
Midlothian, VA 23112

The 11 AM Commemorative Program is free. \$17 boxed lunch is optional.