



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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President's Message

First, I hope you and your families have managed to stay safe over the last month as the country continues to be impacted by the COVID-19 virus. While many of us live in the Williamsburg area, a particularly hard-hit area of Virginia; I know many of us have children and relatives all over the country and the world facing similar challenges. No matter where you live, please take this seriously and adhere to the guidelines in your localities to limit the spread of the virus.

In light of guidelines issued by Governor Northam, the Williamsburg Chapter SAR has cancelled our April luncheon. In addition, like many of the restaurants in the area, our luncheon venue, Colonial Heritage, has closed all community facilities and operations. This action was taken March 13, 2020 and remains in effect until further notice. We are monitoring the situation and the Chapter will resume our monthly luncheons and other Chapter activities when your Board of Managers feels that it is safe to do so. Preplanning for longer term activities such as 4th of July and Veterans Day will continue. The decision to resume Chapter activities will be communicated to you by email by Secretary Duncan McIver and by David Westenberger in the Newsletter.

As noted in the March 17 email from Duncan McIver, many VASSAR activities are cancelled. The "[Coming Events](#)" Tab of Virginia Dispatches, is updated frequently and will give you the status of events that you may be interested in attending.

On a more positive note, Paul Huchko received 54 Brochure entries from Walsingham 6th and 7th graders before school closed and the judging is underway for our submittal to the VASSAR coordinator. I want to thank Paul, Dick Snyder, Jim Hess and Jim Morford for assisting with the judging. Also, the Virginia History Day contest, which we are supporting with judges, has transitioned to an online format. Judges will receive their review packages in April and provide our review comments back to the coordinator electronically. The miracles of modern technology.

As one commentator said, overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic will be a marathon, not a sprint. Please think long term in guiding your own personal safety decisions. If you need assistance in any way, please let me know. We want all 180+ Chapter members to be able to actively participate when Chapter activities resume.

Roger W Cross, III



Calendar

Monday April 6
10:00 am Board Meeting
CANCELLED

Saturday, April 11
Chapter Luncheon meeting
CANCELLED

History is Fun While at Home with
Online Resources from Jamestown
Settlement & American Revolution
Museum at Yorktown.

Chapter News



14 of the 21 “Valentines”
at our February meeting



March 23, 2020 – At [Jamestown Settlement](#) and the [American Revolution Museum at Yorktown](#), history is fun – even from home! As our communities continue to manage the changes to our daily lives and day-to-day operations in response to COVID-19, we wanted to share a healthy dose of entertaining, engaging and educational online resources offered for free at our museums. We hope you and your family enjoy watching, reading and exploring with [History at Home](#).

Williamsburg SAR Members,

The following is an important message from Bill Schwetke, President, Virginia SAR, that includes a link to information on event cancellations. One cancellation of importance to our Chapter is the Patrick Henry event that was scheduled for Saturday, April 4 at Historic St. Johns Church in Richmond, VA.

Duncan McIver
Secretary

Compatriots,

On the Virginia SAR Calendar, found on the "[Coming Events](#)" Tab of Virginia Dispatches, you will see many cancelled events. Almost all of these cancellations are from a desire to help limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus.. Watch that calendar for changes to events that you are interested in attending.

When you do attend a gathering, please take the recommended precautions: keep a "social distance" from others, avoid personal contact, such as shaking hands, and pay extra attention to your own hygiene such as frequent and careful washing of your hands. And please, if you are ill, stay home; don't share it with your compatriots.

Please limit your exposure, but also innovate and find ways to function in this new environment. We at the state level and the National Society are considering just such measures, some of which you may see in the near future.

I also ask you to keep in mind our compatriots and their families that are being affected by this pandemic. It brings to my mind one of our compatriots who is at significant risk due to other health concerns and is protecting himself by living in quarantine - consider what you might do to help such a compatriot, such as running a needed errand or bringing food. Stay safe, and continue to spread the story of our freedom, not a virus.

Sons of the American Revolution



In Times of Special Need

The COVID-19 virus (aka coronavirus) worldwide pandemic of disease accompanied by the pandemic of panic spreading fear and uncertainty have turned our world upside down.

There are so many sources of information about how to try to avoid contracting the virus - such as through the internet and local news - that they need not be repeated here. However, know that Gov. Ralph Northam has encouraged Virginians to prepare for the “long haul” of self-isolation and quarantine as positive cases - and deaths - continue to grow in the state. As this is written, James City County continues to lead the state with the number of confirmed cases. For those living in this area the statistics call for extra caution.

Your SAR officers and Board of Managers want all compatriots to know that we want to offer our support for members and their families. If there is an illness or death of a compatriot or family member, whether from the current virus or any other cause, please inform your Williamsburg SAR Chapter. We want to send cards of sympathy and/or support. Or, if you would just like to chat with a friendly fellow member, we want you to feel free to reach out to us. If you learn of a compatriot who is ill or has passed away, please inform the Chapter so we might respond appropriately.

To share information or have a visit-by-phone, contact your Chapter Chaplain Jim Morford at (757) 258-2578 (if no answer, please leave a message) or send an email to morfordjc@gmail.com.

Stay safe, be well, and know that this too will pass.



A prayer at these difficult times

*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though
the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea. (From Psalm #46)*

Most gracious God, we are tired, and we are worn. We feel pressure from all of the circumstances surrounding us, but we thank You that they will not crush us.

We are unsure of how this current crisis can or will work out to the good, but we say no to discouragement and despair.

We feel that everything, and everyone is coming against us but Lord, but we thank You that we never stand alone. Thank You for being with us through it all.

Thank You for being a fortress in which we can put our trust.

Thank You for picking us up every time life and hard times knock us down.

As our patriot forbearers did, we put our faith in You. AMEN

Jim Morford, Chaplain

Hopefully May meeting at Colonial Heritage County Club

Update will be in the April 25th newsletter



Seeking recommendations for award of the NSSAR Flag Recognition Certificate to worthy organizations or individuals in 2020. Any input or suggestions you may have please forward them to me at georgecorbett@cox.net with the particulars and their phone number.

George Corbett



"Speakers Wanted"

Seeking your assistance and hopefully possible input for our monthly meetings.

If you have heard or know of a speaker who you think the membership (and guests) would be interested in hearing at one of our luncheons next year, please contact Steve McGuffin at mcguffis@gmail.com

Your serious interest and potential response to this matter will be greatly appreciated!

Registrar's Corner

I've been informed by VASSAR officials that application processing at the national level has been terminated because of the Coronavirus. No applications are being accepted; any on the way to Louisville will be temporarily held by the U. S. Postal Service. I was prepared to mail out a new regular application the day we were notified; that applicant's checks were returned and the application remains in my files. There are no new applications under research; if you are aware of anyone who would like to join and who has some possible qualified lineage, I'd be interested in an e-mail from him.

Ron Losee



If they could see us now. . .by Compatriot John Lynch II

Every November we commemorate the 158 Revolutionary War dead buried in the garden behind the Governor's Palace. Its likely a number of them died from smallpox between October and November 1781. According to Continental Army records, 400 soldiers were moved to Williamsburg in the immediate aftermath of the Yorktown siege. By November, 186 remained, of whom 23 suffered from smallpox, with the balance diagnosed with dysentery or wounds. 74 remained in December, when the Palace burned. Two Continental Army medical officers associated with the Governors Palace Hospital in Williamsburg during the Siege of Yorktown are Malachi Treat and James Tilton¹

Our Revolutionary War ancestors were well acquainted with disease and epidemics. Indeed, there were smallpox outbreaks in Petersburg (July 1781) and Yorktown (October 1781) during the latter part of the Southern Campaign in Virginia. The physicians treating them were familiar with the principles of quarantine and with variolation (smallpox inoculation). Their medical treatments were essentially supportive and treated symptoms only (quinine used to treat malaria is the exception).

So, Doctors Tilden and Treat would recognize some of today's public health and health care responses to Covid-19: quarantine and supportive treatment. Because they were familiar with variolation, they would easily recognize the concept and value of vaccination once an effective Covid-19 vaccine is produced. They would also recognize the social anxiety caused by a lethal epidemic. They might themselves fall victim to hoarding toilet paper, not because of some medical need, but because of the wonders of two-ply compared with whatever they used in 1781 (modern toilet paper appeared in 1857). So I think the two gentlemen could be forgiven a few extra rolls of Charmin.

The doctors would be in awe of the science and the industrial resources being focused on the pandemic. The rapid identification of a novel virus, sequencing its genome, ICU capability, mass production, world-wide collaboration at the speed of social media, the ability to test current medications for effectiveness against the virus. Research is starting to appear in professional journals and some existing antibiotics, malarial medications, and autoimmune disease and certain investigational drugs related to Ebola were noted to have some positive effect against COVID-19. These reports led to frenzied prescription writing around the world, at least according to comments found on the discussion board of the International Society of Travel Medicine. Here in Virginia, just this morning, the Virginia Department of Health sent an email admonishing health care providers not to prescribe these medications for suspect COVID-19 cases because they are not approved for the virus and it was causing supply issues in the state. The email also included mention of one important prevention strategy Treat and Tilden would be aware of but not in the sense of disease prevention: hand-washing with soap and water.

Reference.

Mary C. Gillette. The Army Medical Department 1775 – 1818. Center for Military History U.S. Army CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY UNITED STATES ARMY WASHINGTON, D.C., 2004.

Available from: https://history.army.mil/html/books/030/30-7-1/CMH_Pub_30-7-1.pdf.



The Color Guard for the Williamsburg Chapter, SAR, is looking for volunteers to fill its ranks. We annually support four uniformed events: Memorial Day (May), Battle of Spencer's Ordinary (June), The Battle of Green Spring (July), and Veterans Day (November). There may be other special events.

Please contact the Color Guard Committee Chair, John Lynch II, if you are interested in joining the Color Guard or would like more information.

John Lynch II email is cslasoz@aol.com.

NATIONAL SAR NEWS

Compatriots,

The Virginia Society SAR is hosting the NSSAR National Congress in Richmond, VA from July 11-17. While detailed schedule info will be provided in the future, the basic schedule is on the VASSAR

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

website in the Virginia Dispatches (opening page, right column under the heading Virginia SAR Newsletter). As with any national event like this, the main hotel rooms in the Richmond Marriott Downtown, 500 East Broad St, are going fast. The special rate is \$165/night + taxes. A reservations link and phone number are provided below.

With the close proximity of the 2020 Congress, I would encourage you to take this opportunity to experience a national SAR event.

Roger Cross



Reservation may be made at:

<https://book.passkey.com/event/49965781/owner/12987/home>

You may also call 800-535-4028 and when you talk to a real person it might be helpful to let them know that our block of rooms is on the "Pass Key" system.



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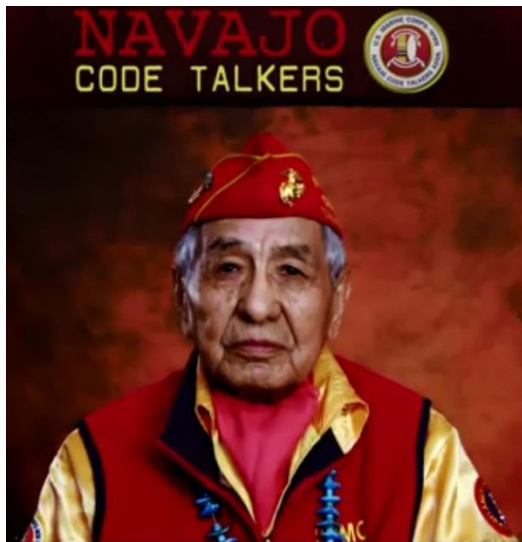
Barbara Smith John Sullivan
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No Book of the month for April 2020

This short video provides a piece of WWII history and a great message at the end of it. Recommend full screen.
Submitted by George Corbett

<https://youtu.be/QmiqnAQTTCI>



NOTICE

Compatriots,
I will be sending our latest updated SAR Roster out on the 1st of April. (with 12 responding corrections)
Please take a look at it and if any corrections are needed let me know at. PA1744@cox.net
I will send the corrections on to Secretary Duncan McIver and start preparing the next update.
Thank you for your assistance in helping to keep our roster up to date.

Dave Westenberger Editor / WEB

Williamsburg 2020 Chapter Officers



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Our April 2020 luncheon has been CANCELLED
 Hopefully we will resume with our normal activities in May.

In the meantime...

Chick-fil-A Delivery - Delivered To Your Doorstep.

<https://www.chick-fil-a.com>

Click Here To Find Out If Delivery Is Available Near You. From Our Restaurant To Your Door
 Real Ingredients · Easy On-the-go · Quick-Service Restaurant · Freshly Prepared Food

Or, one of the many other restaurants in our area.



Wendy's giving away Jr. Frosties with drive-thru orders

Wendy's confirmed that it would be giving away a free Jr. Frosty — either chocolate or vanilla — with ...