



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. XXV

Number 5

MAY 2020

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.

We continue to monitor 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.

At this time, VASSAR has not cancelled the 2020 Congress in July. We will let you know when VASSAR has made a decision.

Your chapter has participated in two recent events in support of the SAR. Tom Campbell and I served as judges for History Day. While it is usually held in a large conference area where students present their projects, this year the event was switched to a virtual format. The entries were distributed digitally to the judges for their review. My team of 3 judges reviewed 4 middle school documentaries (10 minutes maximum) that had been researched and produced by the students. Ken Burns would have been proud of the student's products.

On April 19th, Bill Greaf and I participated in a VASSAR commemoration of Patriots Day in a Zoom meeting organized by the Fairfax Chapter. Approximately 100 members of the CAR, DAR and SAR participated in the hour-long meeting which involved readings, historical commentary, wreath presentations and posting of flags. Even though it was on the computer screen, it was very inspiring and worthwhile.

Board member Jeff Wooldridge has been working with Colonial Williamsburg on Memorial Day plans. While CW is not able to hold a parade as in the past, a limited participation event is being considered. Details will be provided by email by Secretary Duncan McIver later when they are finalized.

Earlier in the month, Board members attempted to contact all 180+ Chapter members by phone or email to see how everyone was doing. I am happy to report that those contacted seemed to be doing well. However, if you need assistance in any way, please let me know. We are looking forward to the day when Chapter activities resume.

Roger W Cross, III



Calendar

Monday May 4
10:00 am Board Meeting
Via on line ZOOM

Saturday, May 9
Chapter Luncheon meeting
CANCELLED

Monday June 1
10:00 am Board Meeting
Possibly Via on line ZOOM
TBD

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

Chapter News



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](#).

The Colonial Williamsburg website has a section called Explore from Home which gets you to virtual tours, teacher resources and Facebook live videos. <https://youtu.be/LZhjb5NYZM>

A May event from 255 years ago...

"If this be treason, then make the most of it."



On May 30, 1765 Patrick Henry, with a series of resolutions introduced to the Virginia legislature in a speech spoke in an attempt to persuade the House of Burgesses to pass his resolutions that condemned Parliament's Stamp Act, which taxed paperwork of various kinds, including wills and playing cards. As he spoke, he said that Caesar had his Brutus, that Charles had his Cromwell, and that George the Third.... But at the mention of the name of the king, many of those who opposed the resolutions erupted with shouts of "Treason," "Expel that man," and "Silence the Traitor." Determined to finish his statement, Henry shouted above the tumult, "George the Third may profit by their example!"

There were more calls of "Treason," to which Henry replied "If this be treason, then make the most of it." It is interesting to note that a young Thomas Jefferson, though not yet elected to the House of Burgesses, was present at this debate as a spectator. It was at this time that the revolutionary fire was lit in the heart of the man who would become the author of our Declaration of Independence and later our President.

Sons of the American Revolution



Hopefully June meeting at Colonial Heritage County Club

Update will be in the May 25th newsletter

THE SAR MIDDLE SCHOOL BROCHURE CONTEST

The *SAR Middle School* Contest is to create a tri-fold brochure out of a typical 8 ½" x 11" piece of paper. The brochure must conform to the contest theme which is one of the five foundational documents of the United States – which you select. The brochure will be judged on: Content, Creativity and Correctness. The judging criteria rates highest personally drawn art work and text authored by the student as opposed to cut and paste from books, magazines and the Internet. The use of software tools by the student for creating the brochure, and even the art work, is permissible.

The Williamsburg Chapter's first place winner in the Sgt. Moses Adams Middle School Brochure Contest this year was Alanyna Marie De La Garza of The Walsingham Academy. Alanyna will receive a cash award and certificate from our chapter and her entry will be submitted to VASSAR for the state level competition. This is the second year in a row that Walsingham Academy has had a winner. Last year our second place winner was also from Walsingham Academy. Congratulations to all of the participants at Walsingham Academy and their teacher, Mr. Jeff Nicoloff.

Paul Huchko - Youth Contests and Awards

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

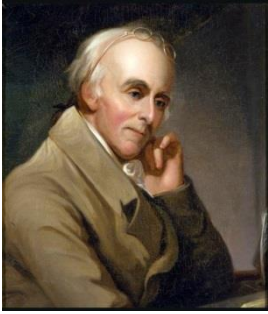


"Speakers Wanted"

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!

Patriot Doctor Saves Thousands from Yellow Fever in 1793

Submitted by Jim Morford, Chaplain



Benjamin Rush (January 1746 – April 1813) a signor of the *Declaration of Independence*, was a civic leader in Philadelphia as well as a physician, and educator. He was probably early America’s most famous doctor.

During the summer of 1793 Philadelphia, the young nation’s capital and largest city, experienced an unusually hot and prolonged heat wave that generated an outbreak of Yellow Fever. Most, who could, fled the city including the President and Mrs. Washington. Of those who remained, thousands fell victim to the scourge of the “yellow jack” epidemic.

Dr. Rush became a leader in the fight against Yellow Fever. He was urged to leave the city as others had done, but said in response, “I have resolved to stick to my principles, my practice, and my patients to the last extremity.” His example was an inspiration to the people of the beleaguered city.

A product of 18th century Anglo-American medical practices, Rush embraced the theory that illnesses were caused by imbalances among bodily fluids such as blood, phlegm and bile – “humors” (chemical systems regulating human behavior). Restoring a proper “humoral balance” would lead to restored health.

He was, however, something of a pioneer in that he believed epidemics could be prevented by improved sanitation practices. He advocated cleaning the docks, pumping out bilge water from ships tied up along the city’s wharfs, cleaning sewers frequently, washing streets during warm weather, emptying toilets more frequently, and eating less meat during the hot summer months. Rush claimed that, “To every natural evil, Heaven has provided an antidote.”

As the epidemic continued to grow and in need of help, Dr. Rush turned to Philadelphia’s free black community in the belief that this group was immune to the disease. African-Americans worked untold hours nursing the sick and dying, driving carts, making coffins, and digging graves.

Rush himself fell ill to Yellow Fever and his own treatment methods were administered by assistants. He recovered.

By mid-October an early freeze on stagnant pools of water where mosquitoes bred greatly decreased infections and by November the epidemic was over. Residents returned to their homes and work.

Dr. Benjamin Rush is credited with saving the lives of over 6,000 people through his treatment practices, his dedication and his perseverance. It was said that his heroism during the 1793 epidemic in Philadelphia endeared him “even to his political enemies.”

**Information for this article was drawn in part from an article, “What the Doctor ordered: Dr. Benjamin Rush Responds to Yellow Fever” in an article published by The Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Link: <https://hsp.org/education/unit-plans/diagnosing-and-treating-yellow-fever-in-philadelphia-1793/what-the-doctor-ordered-dr-benjamin-rush-responds-to-yellow-fever>*



18th century woodcut

Registrar's Corner

I was informed on 19 March that the entire chain of contacts of the NSSAR registrar system was being shut down because of anticipated difficulties involving Coronavirus.

Processing applications from chapter to VASSAR to NSSAR stopped. The last application approved was dated 20 January; those awaiting action at national and state level were stopped. No applications are currently being processed.

Williamsburg chapter had just completed a regular application; I stopped it so it wouldn't get into a clogged postal system.

A few nibbles about supplemental applications have been received. Usually they are of little help because I don't have an application worksheet to work from. A supplemental HAS TO GO through the chapter registrar; applicants cannot submit directly.

New recruits are scarce; please contact friends/acquaintances who might be interested in joining.

Ron Losec



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.



10%
Discount
To SAR
Veterans



American Eagle
Flag & Flagpole EST. 1988
757-258-1776
Fax: 855-329-4800 Toll Free: 855-258-1776

Barbara Smith ◊ John Sullivan
Custom & Retail Sales Flagpole & Commercial Sales

5810 Mooretown Rd. - Suite F, Williamsburg, VA 23188
www.AmericanEagleFlag.com * info@AmericanEagleFlag.com

This short video pays tribute to Memorial Day and The Common Soldier . Recommend full screen. Submitted by George Corbett



<https://youtu.be/eEs4ke7cdNQ>

THE AMERICAN VETERANS CENTER'S

**NATIONAL
MEMORIAL DAY**



PARADE



DUE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT FROM COVID-19, THE 2020 PARADE HAS BEEN CANCELED.

**IN ITS PLACE WILL BE A
NATIONALLY-TELEVISED SPECIAL:
THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE:
AMERICA STANDS TALL.**

The parade will live on in a pre-recorded television special titled, The National Memorial Day Parade: America Stands Tall, that will broadcast on Memorial Day to more than 100 million households on ABC, CBS, NBC, and Fox stations nationwide.

Williamsburg 2020 Chapter Officers



President	Roger Cross	roger.cross66@gmail.com
Vice-President	Stephen McGuffin	mcguffis@gmail.com
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Treasurer	James Hess	jimhess42@gmail.com
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Registrar	Ron Losee	valosee@aol.com
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Sergeant-at-Arms	Tom Hale	ThomasH463@aol.com
Color Guard	John Lynch II	cslasoz@aol.com
Past President	William Greaif	hsaprof@gmail.com
At-Large	Richard Snyder	P3D4Snyder@aol.com
At-Large	Jeff Wooldridge	jwooldridgecpa@gmail.com



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

NOW IS THE TIME FOR PRAYER

From Jim Morford, Chaplain

Throughout our history, our nation has turned to God and sought His blessing when we needed it most. This is another such time. We must draw close to our Creator and, in unity, seek Him in this moment. Let us pray, in the midst of the current turmoil, that we would be a people who seek the Lord, walk with His peace, and love and serve others well.

O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with all who love him and obey his commands, we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. We have not listened to your direction. Now, O Lord our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servants. For your sake, O Lord, look with favor on your people. Give ear and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of our day. Stop the spread of this virus, let the truth be told and all deception exposed. We do not make requests because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, listen! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, hear and act! For your sake, do not delay, because your people bear your name. Amen.

An adaptation from Daniel's prayer in the 9th chapter of the book of Daniel.

SAR APPAREL

SHOP | APPAREL | SAR APPAREL | SAR HATS | SAR OTHER | SAR SHIRTS | SAR TIES | MORE -



0695CAAH

CAAH WHITE TWILL CAP

🇺🇸 🇺🇸



0695S

SAR ROYAL BLUE TWILL CAP

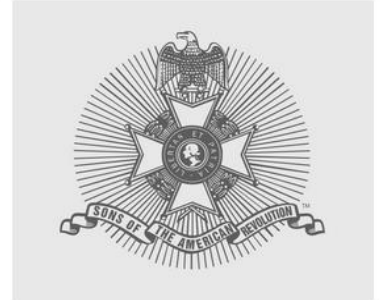
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0695NEW

SAR NAVY TWILL CAP

🇺🇸 🇺🇸



0695red

Red SAR Cap

🇺🇸 🇺🇸



0684BWT-L

BLUE/WHITE/TAN TIE EXTRA
LONG

\$40.00



0686

SAR RED LOGO TIE

\$35.00



0688

SAR RED BOW TIE

\$35.00



0690

NAVY SAR LOGO TIE

\$35.00



0928

Personalized Name Badge
(Name Tag) - Pocket
Attachment Nametag

\$25.00

There has been confusion on how to add this item to the cart. There is a statement that says "I understand personalized items are not refundable" that has a small box after it on the bottom of the page where the personalized items are added. You must click that box before the "ADD PERSONALIZED ITEM TO CART" button will become active. Unless you click the box agreeing that Personalized Items are not refundable, the item can not be added to the cart.

SHOWING ONLY A SMALL SAMPLE OF THEIR EXTENSIVE INVENTORY

SAR apparel is available on our National SAR WEB site

<https://store.sar.org/category/sar-apparel>