



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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Number 8

AUGUST 2020

President's Message

I hope you and your families have continued to stay safe as many parts of the nation are seeing an increasing number of Covid-19 cases. With that background, the Chapter will not resume Chapter **in person** luncheon meetings until your Board of Managers feels that it is safe to do so.

I am happy to report, however, that we **will** have a Chapter meeting by Zoom on Saturday, August 8. We have an excellent speaker lined up as discussed later in the Newsletter. Mike Cecere will be with us on the Zoom meeting the entire time and will be available to answer your questions after his presentation. Our Secretary, Duncan McIver, will provide members the Zoom invitation and link in early August; so please plan to join your fellow Compatriots on August 8.

While we may not be able to do some Chapter activities, we have taken the opportunity to recognize some of our loyal partners for their contributions to the community and their support of our SAR ideals. As noted later in the Newsletter, we have presented Bronze Good Citizenship medals and certificates to Anna Cordle Harry and William Schermerhorn of Colonial Williamsburg and the Reverend Jan M. Brown of Bruton Parish Episcopal Church.

As you know, new members are normally inducted and introduce themselves at our monthly lunches. Since that avenue is not available at this time, we will be introducing our newest members in the Newsletter. The first introductions are in this issue.

In support of VASSAR, I attended a special meeting in South Boston, Va to vote on an amendment to the VASSAR By-laws to allow VASSAR to hold virtual meetings and conduct business even when we cannot physically meet. In addition, Bill Greaf and I recently participated in a Zoom commemoration of the signing of the Fairfax Resolves.

If you are able to participate in the August 8 meeting, I would appreciate your feedback on this format and the content. Thank you.

Roger W Cross, III



Calendar

Monday August 3
10:00 Virtual ZOOM BOM meeting

Saturday August 8
12:00 Virtual ZOOM meeting

Chapter News



Bronze Good Citizenship Awards

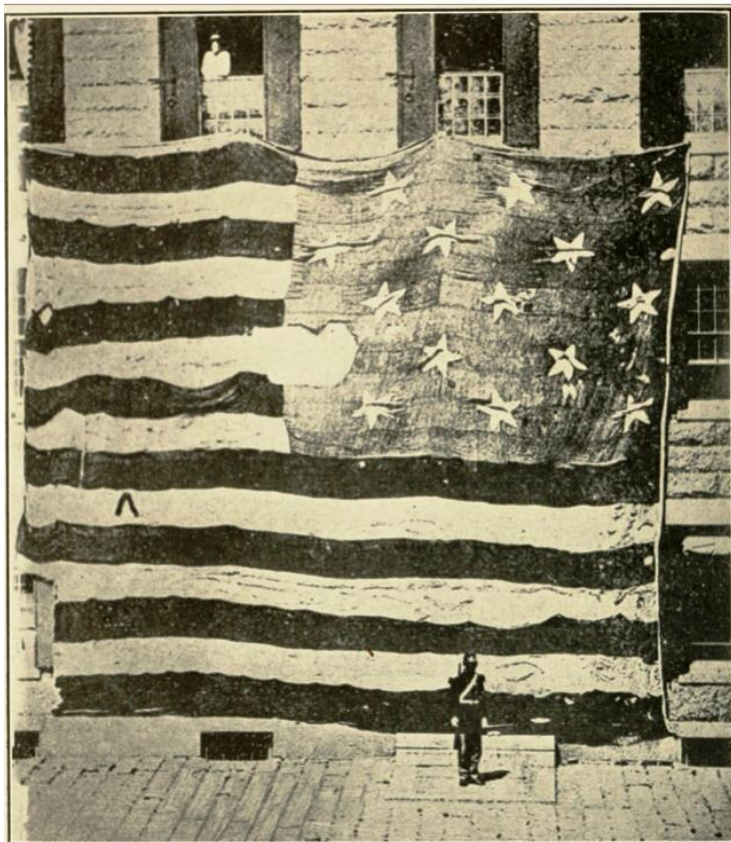


William Schermerhorn and Anna Cordle Harry

both of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, were each awarded a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal by the Williamsburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution at a ceremony at the Colonial Capital on July 16, 2020. The award was given in recognition of their noteworthy contributions to the community in designing, organizing, and conducting historical and patriotic events and of their continued support of, and cooperation with, the Williamsburg Chapter in promoting patriotism, preserving American History, and promoting the education of future generations. Pictured, left to right, are Thomas Campbell, Past-Board Member of the Williamsburg Chapter; William Schermerhorn, Creative Director of Signature Events at Colonial Williamsburg; Roger Cross, President of the Williamsburg Chapter; Anna Cordle Harry, Community Affairs Manager at Colonial Williamsburg; and Jeffrey Wooldridge, Board Member of Williamsburg Chapter. Thomas Campbell made opening remarks on his 20 years working with Colonial Williamsburg and Roger Cross made award comments and presentations of the medals.

Flag Recognition

The Williamsburg Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution proudly presented a NSSAR Flag Recognition Certificate to Mr. Jeffrey Wooldridge on 9 July 2020. Mr. Wooldridge proudly displays the flag of our nation on his home in Ford's Colony to include proper lighting at night. Pictured are George Corbett, chapter flag recognition committee chairman (Left), and Mr. Wooldridge (Right). Mr. Wooldridge is a member of the Williamsburg chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.



The flag that flew over Fort McHenry in 1814, photographed in 1873 in the Boston Navy Yard by George Henry Preble. The Star-Spangled Banner, or the Great Garrison Flag, was the flag that flew over Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor during the British naval bombardment of the Battle of Baltimore during the War of 1812.

It contained 15 stars and stripes and prompted Francis Scott Key to write the words to our Star Spangled Banner while on a British prison ship.

Bronze Good Citizenship Award



Rev'd Jan M. Brown, a Deacon of Bruton Parish Episcopal Church, was awarded a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal by the Williamsburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution at a ceremony at the Church on July 22, 2020. The award was given in recognition of her noteworthy contributions to the community and in officiating at the Chapter's Annual Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving on July 4th. Pictured, right to left, are Roger Cross, President of the Williamsburg Chapter who made the award comments and presentation of the medal; Rev'd Jan Brown; and James Morford, Chaplain of the Williamsburg Chapter and Manager of Its July 4th Remembrance.



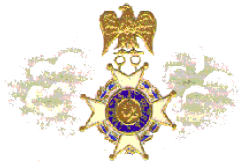
Your Chapter Needs You



This has been a very unusual year to say the least! Despite the circumstances, the chapter has continued to work toward its mission and fulfill as many events as possible using various technologies. President Cross and others continue to be involved in events at the State level also.

It is now time to look forward to our 2021 year. I, as immediate Past President, chair the committee that proposes a slate of officers for 2021. If 2021 is like other years, we will have several compatriots who would like to undertake different things and, thus, create several vacancies. While I do not have the definitive number of vacancies, I would like you to consider helping to move the Chapter forward by serving as a Chapter Officer. Please contact me if you would be willing to serve or just have questions about the various officer roles. The term of all officers is one year. It is a great opportunity to learn more about the Society and work with a great group of compatriots at both the Chapter and State levels. My email is hsaprof@gmail.com and my phone number is 631-219-6616. Bill Greaf – Past President

Sons of the American Revolution



Our August 8th speaker Michael Cecere
Will present: General Peter Muhlenberg
A Virginia Officer of the Continental Line

Mr. Cecere will discuss from his book, the military career of General Peter Muhlenberg, a clergyman turned soldier and an admired soldier and officer of George Washington.

General Muhlenberg served 7 years fighting for America's Independence. He first led the 8th Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army. He was promoted to brigadier general and sent north to participate in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, and spent the winter at Valley Forge. In 1780, he returned to Virginia. At Yorktown, he commanded the continental light infantry troops that stormed Redoubt No.10 sealing Cornwallis' fate.

General Muhlenberg was a man of faith who held the high ideals of his office in his conduct with fellow officers and regular soldiers alike.



Mr. Michael Cecere
August 8th Speaker

The author of the book General Peter Muhlenberg and today's speaker is Michael Cecere. Mr. Cecere received an MA in history and MA in political science from the University of Akron. He teaches American history at Gloucester High School, Virginia. He is an avid Revolutionary and Civil War re-enactor. He contributes articles to the Brigade of the American Revolution, and is also the editor of the 7th Virginia's newsletter

Virginia Society

Sons of the American Revolution

Compatriots,

At special meetings of the Board of Managers and the General Membership held on Friday, July 10, 2020 at Berry Hill Resort and Conference Center, the Virginia SAR By-Laws were revised to authorize our organization to hold meetings either physically or by electronic means. On the same date, the Virginia SAR Executive Committee approved additional proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws.

Pursuant to Article IX of the Constitution and Article XXVII of the By-Laws you are hereby given appropriate notice to review these proposed amendments prior to review by the Board of Managers and General Membership in September.

Attached are the following documents:

1. Volume 1 of the current Virginia SAR Handbook (History & Constitution)
2. Proposed amendments to Volume 1
3. Volume 2 of the current Virginia SAR Handbook (By-Laws)
4. Proposed amendments to Volume 2

It is imperative that all Virginia SAR compatriots have access to this information so we direct that these documents be distributed to all chapter and committee members.

Please contact me or VASSAR 1st Vice President Jeff Thomas (jeffthomas@aol.com) if you have questions or need clarification on these proposals.

R. Wayne Rouse

Secretary, Assistant Treasurer
& Awards Committee Chairman
Virginia SAR

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Atlanta, GA 30342-1890
(301) 793-2162
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The 4 By-Law documents have been sent to all members in PDF format.

From The Chaplain

Jim Morford

"Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He sent out his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave. Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind." ~ [Psalms 107:19-21](#)

We pray to the Lord: When evil darkens our world, give us light. When despair numbs our souls, give us hope. When we stumble and fall, lift us up. When doubts assail us, give us faith. When nothing seems sure, give us trust. When ideals fade, give us vision. When we lose our way, be our guide! That we may find serenity in Your presence, and purpose in doing Your will.

A prayer by Rabbi John D. Rayner (1924-2005)



YOUR BOMs.....BUSY DOING SERIOUS WORK WITHOUT MASKS!

Registrar's Corner

You would think that with so many persons hibernating within their homes, that genealogy research would be one means of taking up some extra time. To the contrary, the Covid-19 slump has apparently NOT increased genealogy interest. Although I can happily report that two new member applications were submitted early this month, since the pandemic was first reported, business has been terrible. And with luncheon meetings disappearing, we are developing a backlog of newly approved members who have not been formally inducted. THEY ARE MEMBERS THE DAY THEIR NAME IS REGISTERED AS APPROVED BY NSSAR. We are attempting to develop a means of induction under current restrictions and will advise awaiting members as soon as feasible.



Ron Losee



Welcome New Compatriots

Gary Dunaway 6 March 2020

Miles Marcus 6 March 2020

Robert Lindberg 29 May 2020

Tom Neill 29 May 2020

Kevin Chalkley 3 July 2020

William Murden 3 July 2020



AWAITING FORMAL
PRESENTATION



Joining our Chapter

Woody Spivey transferred from the Arizona SAR

Brian Kates transferred from the Mississippi SAR

Compatriot Bob Lindberg provided a brief history of his ancestor...

Joseph Reading, Sr (1730-1806)

The Honorable Joseph Reading was from Old Amwell township New Jersey. He was the son of John Reading, the first native-born colonial governor of New Jersey, and Mary Ryerson who was descended from the first Dutch colonists to settle in New Netherland (New York) in 1624. In 1762 he was commissioned a justice of the peace and served in a variety of judicial positions throughout his career, including judge of the court of common pleas and president judge of the orphans court. He was a patriot who supported the revolutionary cause in several ways. In 1778-1779 records show he used his position in the Amwell community to lead the collection of "forage for the Use of the troops of the United States". In 1782, he administered "oaths of Abjuration and Allegiance Agreeable to an Act of the General Assembly" of New Jersey to several officers serving in the New Jersey militia.

35th Annual Service of Prayer & Thanksgiving

More people enjoyed this year's SAR traditional Independence Day Service of Prayer & Thanksgiving than at any time in the 35 years this service has been presented. At last report nearly 360 people have tuned into the Bruton Parish Church's YouTube channel to view the virtual service.

When I was invited to become Chaplain for the Williamsburg Chapter, I was informed that one of the responsibilities that goes with the office is to facilitate the annual July 4 service of prayer and thanksgiving. I was assured, however, that it would be a piece of cake because for 33 years the service was held at Bruton Parish Church. Also, the good folks at Bruton are so familiar with the program it runs virtually on auto pilot. Little did I know.

First it was an organ; next it was a virus.

In the late spring of 2019, during my first year as chaplain, we were informed that Bruton Parish Church would not be available for the July 4 service. The church would have to remain closed, as it had been for several months, due to the installation of a new pipe organ. The search began. Thanks to Compatriot Harley Stewart we were able to arrange with Williamsburg Presbyterian Church to hold the service there. It went well and all involved were pleased.

Late last year I met with Bruton's rector to confirm the service for July 4, 2020. Then, early in the New Year, China sent us the COVID-19 virus and within a few weeks' time churches, along with nearly everything else, were shut down. Surely everything will be up and running by July – NOT.

After considering several options it was agreed to do a virtual service and to record it a few days prior to July 4 with plans to broadcast it on Independence Day. On the weekend prior to July 1 (our date to record the service) Bruton's audio/visual link failed. Tyler Meldrum, who volunteers to manage Bruton's virtual broadcasts, was able to secure a good quality camera and directional microphone and the service was successfully recorded. We are especially grateful that we were able to engage the services of Chris Mooney who beautifully sang the hymns and the National Anthem. No one else was permitted to sing due to virus restrictions. Rev. Jan Brown gave a wonderful sermon. We were relieved when at 10:00 am on July 4 our traditional service was available for viewing.

I am anxious to see what next year will bring. Hopefully, we can return to a service at Bruton that will be attended in person by many. However, it might not be a bad idea to also record the service for later viewing on YouTube.



Jim Morford - Chaplin



Our SAR 35th Annual Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving was a great success. For those that missed it here is the link.

GO FULL SCREEN AND TURN THE SOUND UP...GREAT!

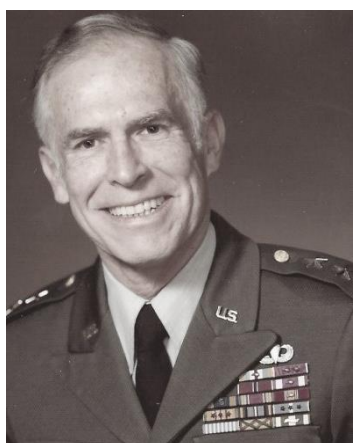
Just click ↓ with your mouse....

<https://youtu.be/WE6kVNmgw9w?t=295>



IN MEMORIAM

Compatriot Major General Clyde Wadsworth Spence, Jr.
passed away Sunday, July 19, 2020



Clyde Spence was born on September 1, 1928 in Waycross, GA. He graduated from high school at Marion Military Institute, Marion, AL in 1945 and from the United States Military Academy at West Point in June 1950 with a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering. He served 32 years in the Army, 12 of those overseas, to include combat in Korea and Vietnam, and had command and staff assignments in the Department of Army and Department of Defense in Washington DC; United States Army Europe in Heidelberg, Germany; United States Army, Eighth Army in Korea; U. S. Military Advisory Group, Athens, Greece; and NATO's Central Army Group, Mannheim, Germany. He taught leadership and social studies at West Point and is a graduate of the Army War College, as well as being parachute and ranger qualified. He retired from the Army with the rank of Major General in 1982. He holds the Army's Distinguished Service Medal and other awards.

He returned to the 140-year-old Marion Military Institute in 1982 to become the Executive Vice-President and then President from 1983-1990. He also received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from Judson College of Alabama.

After leaving Marion, he and his family retired to Enid, Oklahoma where Clyde became extensively involved in veteran and community activities as: Chapter President of National Association of Uniformed Services; Founder and Chairman, Garfield County Veteran's Council; Judge Advocate, Disabled American Veterans; President of the Enid Noon Lions Club; Regent of the Oklahoma Division of Magna Charta Dames and Barons; a member of the Oklahoma Veterans Council, and the Oklahoma City Chapter of the SAR. He is also a member of The First Families of Georgia and a 32 degree Mason. Prior to departing Enid, he was awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship, the highest award given by Lions Clubs International. In 2009 he and his wife Mary moved to The Patriots Colony in Williamsburg, Va. He transferred his SAR membership to the Williamsburg Chapter. His patriot ancestor is Moses Spence who rendered patriotic duty prior to 1782 by settling on and defending the western frontier of Georgia from its enemies.

Service to be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date

Williamsburg 2020 Chapter Officers



President	Roger Cross	roger.cross66@gmail.com
Vice-President	Stephen McGuffin	mcguffis@gmail.com
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Registrar	Ron Losee	valosee@aol.com
Historian	Milt Holt	h.m.holt@cox.net
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Past President	William Greaif	hsaprof@gmail.com
At-Large	Richard Snyder	P3D4Snyder@aol.com
At-Large	Jeff Wooldridge	jwooldridgecpa@gmail.com



Our August 2020 luncheon will be via on-line ZOOM
Check your Email just before the 8th for the link
Hopefully we will resume with our normal gathering in September

NOTICE

Compatriots,

I will be sending our latest updated SAR Roster out on the 1ST of August.
6 amendments have been done following your June input + 4 new members.

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 Chapter's roster up to date.

Dave Westenberger

Editor / WEB

SAR GIFTS AND FASHIONABLE APPAREL



0695CAAH

CAAH WHITE TWILL CAP

🇺🇸 🇺🇸



0695S

SAR ROYAL BLUE TWILL CAP

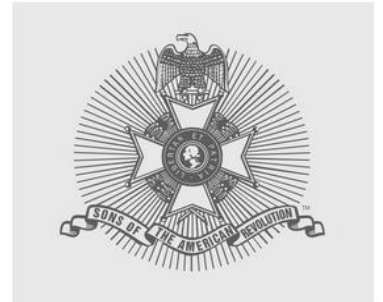
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0695NEW

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>