



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. XXVIII

Number 2

FEBRUARY 2023

President's Message

Compatriots

Now that we are starting out a new year hopefully with renewed energy and a fresh outlook. It is time to get busy with all the activities that the SAR and VASSAR has to offer. One thing I think that everyone should do is go into the VASSAR web site and register yourself through member clicks. While you can browse the website with out logging in you will not be able to take advantage of all the site has to offer. To log in you will need to use your SAR National number and set a password. First time users may have to get a temporary password to begin, but once you are in these are some of the things you can do. Register for chapter luncheons or for any SAR or VASSAR events. You can also pay your dues, or pay registration fees through this website. Review your membership profile, and make sure all information is correct. This site allows for you to email any member of the Virginia Society, create email groups and so much more. If you are having trouble getting in, Gary Dunaway our treasurer is the super-user for the web site and he can assist you. We want to use this system as our communications system, so you may want to check your spam filters and inboxes for emails from Member Clicks.

As always, I am looking for volunteers to help in making our chapter achieve our goals of being a service organization. We need people to help with History Day in March. This can be anything from being a judge to acting as an usher. We have good Citizen recognitions, History Teacher recognition, Eagle Scout recognition with scholarship offerings, ROTC awards. Commemoration planning, for Spencer's Ordinary, Green Spring, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, the 4th of July prayer service, and hopefully many more. We will need a coordinator for the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and all the State and National awards associated with this event.

I want to let you know that we will be having some special guest at our next luncheon on the 18th of February. These will be our Eagle Scout Scholarship winners from our chapter, first place winner Edwin Lampit of Troop 414 you may have read his essay in last month's newsletter. Second place winner Matthew Harrell of Troop 103. I hope that a lot of you will be able to attend.

Other events coming up are the VASSAR meeting the weekend of February 10 to 12th, being held in South Boston, the Commemoration of the Crossing of the Dan, and re-enactment the same weekend. The three-day event celebrating George Washington's birthday the 20th thru 22 of February. And on the 25th the commemoration of the Battle of Moor's Creek Bridge in Currie NC.

Bruce

MEMBER CLICKS IMPLEMENTATION

Over the past several months, a team has been working on setting up a new VASSAR software program called Member Clicks. It will allow us to centralize and aggregate information for reporting across all Virginia chapters.

This will be our primary tool for state / chapter activity. We will be using it to register for our events and next year's dues campaign. I encourage all of you to become familiar with the system. It already has features such as the Dispatch blog, all our chapter newsletters going back to 2010, a calendar of VASSAR events, community forums, and E Lists for streamlined communication.

I sent everyone an email on Jan 14 (TITLE - Getting Into Member Clicks!) with detailed instructions about how to create your login account and access the system. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at ormazd72@gmail.com for assistance.

Gary Dunaway
Member Clicks Administrator

LUNCHEON MEETINGS

We will continue holding our meetings at Colonial Heritage Club for 2023. If you would like to mark your calendar, the schedule is:

Feb 18 | Mar 11 | Apr 8 | May 13 | Jun 10 | Jul 8 | Aug 12 | Sep 9 | Oct 14 | Nov 18

We plan to start using Member Clicks to register and pay for luncheon reservations, but that feature is not ready for prime time yet. In the meantime, you can continue to mail your check or pay instantly via Zelle. Our luncheon cost has increased by \$1 to \$24.



Fits nicely in a 6¾ envelope

Reservation for the Saturday February 18TH 2023 Lunch meeting

Name(s) _____

Please reserve _____ regular meals at \$24.00 (or \$24.23 by Zelle)

Special need _____

Please make checks payable to

“Williamsburg Chapter SAR”

Mail to:

Gary Dunaway – Chapter Treasurer

104 Pageland Drive

Yorktown, VA 23693

(757) 303-3673

ormazd72@gmail.com





Calendar

Fri-Sat February 10-11, 2023

VASSAR Annual Meeting
3105 River Road
South Boston, Virginia

Saturday February 11, 2023

242nd Anniversary
Crossing of the Dan
10 am – 5 pm
Held at the Prizery
Dan River Chapter
South Boston, Virginia

Monday February 13, 2023

10:00 am BOM meeting
by ZOOM

Saturday February 18, 2023

Chapter Lunch Meeting
10:30 pm Social
Colonial Heritage Country Club
Williamsburg

**Mon-Wed February 20-22,
2023**

Celebrating
George Washington's birthday

Saturday February 25, 2023

Commemoration
Battle of Moor's Creek Bridge
Currie NC

Chapter News



On January 9th Bruce Laubach President of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR presented Eagle Scout recognitions and Scholarship applications to 4 Eagle Scouts from BSA Troop 103 of Williamsburg. Left to right, Christopher Powell, Addison Seltzer, Bruce Laubach, Dillon Salinas, and Andrew Shelton.



A Court of Honor for a new Eagle Scout of Troop 414 at Our Saviors' Lutheran Church in Norge, VA on January 8, 2023. Chairman Harley Stewart presented a SAR Certificate of Recognition and Scholarship Application package to Eagle Scout Denis Fulks.

Harley

Recent Events

Installation of Officers for 2023

Held with the Thomas Nelson Jr. SAR Chapter at the James River Country Club on Saturday, January 21.



Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter VASSAR Bruce John Ron Hunt Eric Gerry Tatton Gary Dave
 President Laubach Lynch II Adolphi Berryman Ely Ward Mason Dunaway Westenberger
 Bruce Meyers President VPres At Large Registrar At Large Secretary Historian Treasurer Editor/WEB

Compatriots,

As you are fully aware, the Sons of the American Revolution was established to honor and remember our ancestors who fought in the American Revolution. One way our chapter achieves its goals is via the color guard and its participation in various events.

Your Color Guard in Action: 2023 is designed to illustrate this significant facet of our public education activity. Participation in the color guard offers many opportunities such as experiencing camaraderie, enhanced honoring of your ancestor, and networking opportunities.

So, if you are looking for an active role in commemorating your ancestor, camaraderie, or simply wanting to increase your impact in the SAR, then please join us. John Lynch II Commander cslasoz@aol.com



Photo by Karen Corbett

The Williamsburg Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, presented a NSSAR Flag Recognition Certificate to Queens Lake Middle School for their proper display and maintenance of the American Flag on 9 September 2022. Pictured (L to R) are Keith Wright, Assessment and Compliance Coordinator, Candice Welch, School Principal, George Corbett, Chapter Flag Recognition Committee Chair, Heather Stark, Assistant School Principal, and Drew Bradshaw, Administrative Aide. .

Future Events

Crossing of the Dan

The 242nd Anniversary of the Crossing of the Dan will begin 9 February 2023 with a commemorative program presented by the South Boston - Halifax County Museum of Fine Arts and History. The Town of Halifax will host their event on February 10th at the Halifax County Courthouse remembering General Greene's Banister Encampment. **A ceremony to honor those brave men of General Greene's Continental Army who crossed -the Dan in 1781, will be held at the Prizery on February 11th.**

This event has grown over the years to encompass the entire Halifax County community. Participation of the Virginia Society of Sons of the American Revolution will include their statewide Annual Meeting in Halifax County. This is the first time this meeting has been held in our area. Much attention will be centered on the Crossing of the Dan as Sons of the American Revolution, members from around Virginia and the nation will attend.

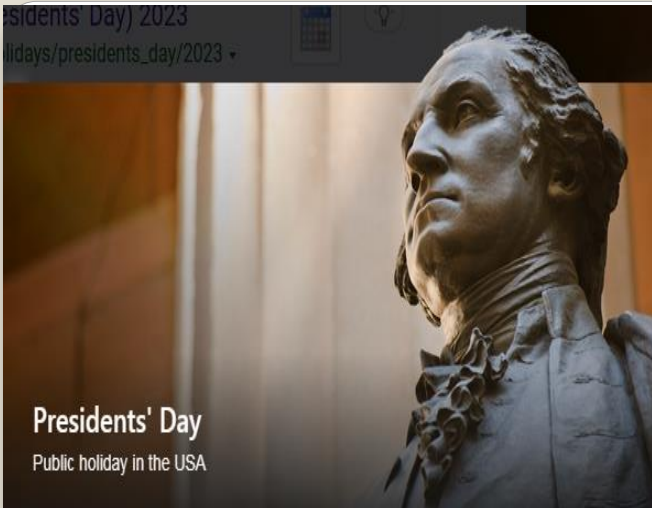
Dan River Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution; Berryman Green Chapter, Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution; Halifax County Historical Society; Town of South Boston; and Town of Halifax; are hosting the 242nd Anniversary Event. Commemorative events include re-enactors from the 7th Virginia Militia, Revolutionary period music, speakers, wreath presentations, living history, among other activities.



February meeting guest speaker

Ms. Maria Hepner is a native of York County whose ancestor Major James Goodwin, arrived in the area in 1640 as a merchant. By 1660 Goodwin had acquired the original 1632 land patent of his associate John Chew and set down roots as a planter, serving the county as Justice, Burgess, and Collector. "Goodwin's Neck" on the York River is still home to Major James' descendants including Miss Hepner. After a career in the Hospitality Industry, Miss Hepner joined the Yorktown Battlefield Visitor Center's retail operation and volunteered with the National Park Service.

After ten years of vetting publications for the Park Service she was invited to join the interpretive staff and served as a seasonal Park Guide until the Covid shutdowns in 2020. Now a docent for the York County History Museum and a raconteur specializing in the unique overlooked events of Yorktown's history, her research produced the first work published on the history of the Yorktown Victory Monument.



Presidents' Day, also called Washington's Birthday at the federal governmental level, is a holiday in the United States celebrated on the third Monday of February to honor all persons who served as presidents of the United States and, since 1879, has been the federal holiday honoring George Washington, who led the Continental Army to victory in the American Revolutionary War, presided at the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and was the first U.S. president.

Washington delivered his Second Inaugural Address in the Senate Chamber of Congress Hall in Philadelphia on March 4, 1793. It was the shortest inaugural speech given by any United States President; it consisted of only 135 words. Washington's First Inaugural Address was ten minutes long, and spoke on topics ranging from foreign policy to education, while his second focused on his presidential duties and the consequences that should occur if he were to break them.



FELLOW CITIZENS

I AM AGAIN CALLED UPON BY THE VOICE OF MY COUNTRY TO EXECUTE THE FUNCTIONS OF ITS CHIEF MAGISTRATE. WHEN THE OCCASION PROPER FOR IT SHALL ARRIVE, I SHALL ENDEAVOR TO EXPRESS THE HIGH SENSE I ENTERTAIN OF THIS DISTINGUISHED HONOR, AND OF THE CONFIDENCE WHICH HAS BEEN REPOSED IN ME BY THE PEOPLE OF UNITED AMERICA.

PREVIOUS TO THE EXECUTION OF ANY OFFICIAL ACT OF THE PRESIDENT THE CONSTITUTION REQUIRES AN OATH OF OFFICE. THIS OATH I AM NOW ABOUT TO TAKE, AND IN YOUR PRESENCE: THAT IF IT SHALL BE FOUND DURING MY ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT I HAVE IN ANY INSTANCE VIOLATED WILLINGLY OR KNOWINGLY THE INJUNCTIONS THEREOF, I MAY (BESIDES INCURRING CONSTITUTIONAL PUNISHMENT) BE SUBJECT TO THE UPBRAIDING OF ALL WHO ARE NOW WITNESSES OF THE PRESENT SOLEMN CEREMONY.





Virginia Sons of the American Revolution 2023 Annual Meeting February 10-12, 2023

Virginia SAR President R. Bruce Meyer with the Dan River & Thomas Nelson, Jr. Chapters invite members of the Sons of the American Revolution and their guests to attend the 133rd Annual Meeting at The Berry Hill Resort and Conference Center in South Boston, VA. Federal, state and/or local Covid guidelines/mandates which are in effect at the time of our meeting will be adhered to.

This year's meeting is preceded in January by a series of Zoom Meeting-based Virtual Workshops. A schedule with dates and times between January 10 – 27, 2023 will be forthcoming during the first week of January 2023. We are also excited to share that we have integrated The Crossing of the Dan Commemoration National SAR Event, hosted by our Dan River Chapter, with the Annual Meeting along with the City of South Boston and Halifax County. They will host a program free to the public on the Crossing at the Halifax County Museum on Thursday, February 9, 2023, 7:00P – 9:00P.

On Friday between 1:00P – 4:00P, February 10, 2023, rolling 15-minute portrayals of soldiers present during 1781 at King's Landing in Halifax, VA followed by the 5:00P VA and NC America Revolution 250th Commission Programs held at the Halifax County Courthouse. The afternoon culminates with a Musket Salute at the Halifax County War Memorial. The Annual Meeting kicks off with a Social Gathering at the Berry Hill Conference Center Grand Ballroom in the evening followed by the Dinner Buffet and recognitions. President Meyer's Reception follows before we settle in for Saturday.

Early Saturday morning after a hearty Breakfast we will conduct a Memorial Service to celebrate the lives of our departed Compatriots followed by a bus ride or our personal vehicles to the Prizery for the Crossing of the Dan Commemoration. Lunch will be on our own, but the Prizery will have their traditional Brunswick Stew available (\$6.00) during our Annual Public Service Recognition Awards Ceremony. We return afterwards to Berry Hill to conduct our Orations Contest and Youth Awards Program followed by a Group Picture on the Mansion Portico steps afterwards. A Ladies Program will run alongside the Virginia SAR General Membership Meeting, then everyone will freshen up and dress for the Banquet Dinner, a Guest Speaker, President Meyer's recognitions and the 2023 Officer Installations. We will close our big day at our new President's Reception highlighted by incredible fireworks hosted by Chancellor Eric Monday as we say our goodbyes to head home Sunday morning.

Room reservations are available now and will close Monday, January 30, 2023 at the discounted conference rate per night of \$125 for a Queen or \$135 for two Doubles. Place your hotel reservations on-line by logging onto <https://www.berryhillresort.com> and click the **Book Now** button on the top right-hand page, then click the gear icon in the middle of page and type in the code: **VR2023** then click apply to choose your room type. You may also call the Front Desk for reservations at: 1 (434) 517-7000 and mention: **The VASSAR Group**. This special room rate is good from Thursday, February 9th through Sunday, February 12th so plan to come early and/or stay late taking advantage of the historic Berry Hill Resort and surrounding area. ***The registration form will be forthcoming!***

Virginia History Day State wide Coordination initiative

Dear Virginia SAR Chapter representatives,

My name is Keith Rouleau and I've been asked by President Bruce Meyer to assist in coordinating Virginia SAR Chapters - Virginia History Day competition volunteer efforts state wide.

I've been directly involved with the NE Virginia Chapters (Colonel William Grayson, Fairfax Resolves, George Mason & George Washington) for many years supporting VA History Day District 5 competitions. President Meyer has asked me to take what I've learned from coordinating our local SAR chapters supporting the District 5 competition through volunteer judges to a state wide level.

My goal for this year is to establish contact with all chapters who actively participate in VA History day within their local Districts. Once I have established these contacts, then coordinate directly with them on their current participation in terms of how many chapter volunteers act as judges and what and how many SAR awards they give out in a typical year.

I'm presently working on a common state wide VA History Day/Virginia SAR medal that all participating chapters can award at their individual district competitions. This medal should be available for next year's competition.

So that I can get this coordination underway I'd like to have each of you provide the following information:

Virginia SAR Chapter Name:

VA History Day Chapter coordinator & email:

VA History Day District your chapter participates with:

VA History Day District POC:

SAR related awards your chapter typically presents to student winners:

Once I have this information, then I'll coordinate directly with these chapter members on future plans and development of state wide awards approach.

I look forward to hearing back from all Virginia statewide SAR chapters in supporting this important youth activities effort.

Sincerely,

Keith Rouleau Virginia SAR VA History Day Coordinator

rouleaukeith@aol.com

Colonel William Grayson Chapter

From the Chaplain Jim Morford

Dying Patriotism



Polling continues to show there's a patriotism gap between older and younger Americans; generation Z and Millennials are less likely to say yes to the question of national pride than those born in the decades preceding them.

The generations following WW II have been a focus of sociologists who analyze and track particular age groups of people on a range of issues, behaviors and characteristics.

Prior to the 1960s – the decade that marked the beginning of the cultural decline of our country – American’s defined patriotism as love of God and country - a love that inspires us, unites us, and fills our hearts with pride and optimism.

Recent polling shows that there has been roughly a 20-percentage-point drop of pride in country every generation since the Baby Boomers, 73% of whom express pride in the country, 54% of Gen Xers, 36% of Millennials, and just 16% of Generation Z, (roughly the 18 to 30 year olds) the latest generation to be analyzed.

With less attachment to country, there are fewer things to bind people together in a society. It has been noted, however, that those who say they have no pride in their country are in no hurry to move somewhere else.

President Reagan said that every generation had to reaffirm our American principles, or we would someday have to tell “our children and our children’s children what it once was like in America when men were free.”

As love of God and country diminish and the memories fade of those who gave so much so that we could live free, do not we as Sons of the American Revolution have an obligation to make our voices heard loud and clear in order to reignite the fires of patriotism?

Each time we recite the SAR Pledge we “reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our constitutional republic and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.”

With God’s help, we will not lose the battle.

Pray for our nation:

Make Your Presence known Lord! In the midst of darkness, confusion and despair, may the light of Your glory shine. Let us welcome You and ask that You walk among us. Change lives, bring unity and stir Your people in this troubling hour to be the bearers of the legacy of our founding fathers! We long for Your presence to permeate our culture and transform our nation. **AMEN**



Virginia Museum of History & Culture

This is Sam Florer from the Virginia Museum of History & Culture. I'm reaching out on behalf of the local coordinators of Hampton Road's Virginia History Day contest. Happily, it seems participation numbers at most of our local contests are finally bouncing back from COVID. However, that means we are in need of more volunteer judges than we've needed the past few years. Below are details about the upcoming District 6 contest. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me or District 6 judge coordinator, John Priest - priest74@gmail.com.

Where

The contest will take place at the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach.

Dates and Time

We will provide all judges with breakfast and lunch.

- Approximate Time Commitment - **8:00am - 2:00pm**
- Contest Day - **Saturday, March 18**

Registration

As in previous years, we are asking all judges to register via the NHD contest management system called ZFairs. Please [visit va-vadc6.nhd.org](http://visit-va-vadc6.nhd.org), [linked here](#), and click "Create Account" --> "Judge" from the toolbar on the top of the screen. **Every judge is required to create a new account for this year**, even if you judged in previous years. Please save the username and password you set up, as you will need to access your account prior to and during the judging period.

Judging Process

Similar to last year, students will be submitting their project material digitally prior to the contest day. This will allow judges to view the students' work prior to the in-person contest. All judges will evaluate entries electronically using the judging evaluation forms in the online judging portal and are asked to bring a laptop or tablet to the contest. If you do not have access to a laptop or tablet, that will **not prevent** your participation as a judge. On the contest day, judges will finish evaluating projects at the Military Aviation Museum and conduct student interviews.

Training

There will be several virtual judge training sessions held in February. Please try to attend one of each type of training sessions. If you cannot attend live, all sessions will be recorded and made available.

- Virginia History Day Judge Training: Judging Basics
 - Wednesday, February 8 – 5:30pm – 6:30pm – [link to register](#)
 - Wednesday, February 22 – 5:30pm – 6:30pm – [link to register](#)
- Virginia History Day Judge Training: Using the ZFairs Judging Portal
 - Wednesday, February 15 - 5:30pm - 6:30pm - [link to register](#)
 - Wednesday, March 1 - 5:30pm - 6:30pm - [link to register](#)

Thank you all for your past support of the program. We would not be able to run these events without dedicated volunteers such as yourselves.

Sam Florer

Manager of Public Programs

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE

Virginia Historical Society

428 N Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond, Virginia 23220

804.342.9672 | VirginiaHistory.org

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UNIFORMS OF
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The rifleman shown here clad in a green hunting shirt was a unique American contribution to the science of warfare in the Eighteenth Century. His weapon was the long rifle developed by the Pennsylvania gunsmith from the short, heavy European rifled gun. This rifle was intended to be used at a range far greater than the usual smoothbore musket. It enabled the marksman to select his target, rather than to blindly fire at a mass of men. The success of this tactic was quite disturbing to the British.



ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ALL MEMBERS

Patriot Biographies: Only a few have been received. A brief narrative of your ancestor for our history file that will be shared with your compatriots in our newsletter.

Please make this a priority. Send it to Tatton Mason our historian at masonfamily321@gmail.com who will add it to our chapter's history file.
 Dave Westenberger - Ed

Mentor Program: To support and assist new members. Volunteers are needed. Let Bruce Laubach know if you can help. vabelling@msn.com

Tom Campbell's letter to Colonial Williamsburg: Bruce Laubach and Tom Campbell mailed a letter to Cliff Fleet and a Vice President at Colonial Williamsburg on December 20, 2022 outlining their request for a meeting to discuss recognition and promotion of the Revolutionary War Cemetery at the Governor's Palace in Colonial Williamsburg.

SAR GIFTS AND FASHIONABLE APPAREL



SAR apparel is available at (502) 589-1779 or on the National SAR WEB site at:

<https://store.sar.org/storefront.aspx>



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.

Personal Name Badge link is:

[https://store.sar.org/categories.aspx?Keyword=personalized%20name%20badge%20\(name%20tag%20\)](https://store.sar.org/categories.aspx?Keyword=personalized%20name%20badge%20(name%20tag%20))