



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 1

JANUARY 2023

President's Message

Compatriots,

I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable Christmas or Hanukkah and are looking forward to a happy New Year. May the New Year be full of happy and exciting events.

I would like to announce that Compatriot Tatton Mason has taken on the job of being our liaison with the George Wythe Chapter of the CAR, I look forward to offering more support to this chapter and that we can share in more events with them.

Please be on the lookout for invitations to the joint meeting of the Thomas Nelson Chapter and Williamsburg Chapter which will be held on January 21, 2023, at 7pm. This meeting will be held at the James River Country Club in Newport News.

In the coming months we have several events coming up, one January 21st, there will be the Peter Muhlenberg commemoration from 1 to 5 in Woodstock VA, on January 28th the Battle of Cowan's Ford commemoration, and in February the 242nd Commemoration of the Crossing of Dan, as well as the Annual VASSAR meeting. Our chapter luncheon will be on the 18th so there will not be any conflict with the State meeting.

Steve Perger has informed me that he will no longer be able to continue his duties as Chapter Historian. I want to thank him for what he has been doing for our chapter. I hope that everyone will take the time to thank him as well.

This is now an opportunity for someone else to take on a role with the Williamsburg Chapter of the SAR. Steve has offered to mentor the new historian to make the transition easier. Please contact me if you are interested in becoming our historian.

Bruce Laubach- President



Calendar

Monday January 9, 2023

10:00 am BOM meeting
by ZOOM

Saturday January 14, 2023

Battle of Cowpens
10:30 AM
Wreath Commemoration
Daniel Morgan Square, intersection
Church and Main Streets
Spartanburg, SC

Saturday January 21, 2023

Joint Installation meeting with
Thomas Nelson Chapter
5:30 pm Social
James River Country Club
Newport News
(RSVP on last page)

Saturday January 21, 2023

Peter Muhlenberg commemoration
1 to 5 in Woodstock VA

Saturday January 28th, 2023

Battle of Cowan's Ford
Catawba River
Northwestern Mecklenburg County
North Carolina

Chapter News



The 122nd Annual Commemoration of the Battle of Great Bridge was held at the Chesapeake City Hall, Chesapeake, Virginia on Saturday, December 3, 2022 due to weather. The event is sponsored by the Great Bridge Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution and the Norfolk Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.

The American Revolution involved a diverse group of participants on both sides. Great Bridge involved free and enslaved Africans fighting alongside and against both Patriots and royal British forces, and at least one member of the Nansemond Indian Nation serving the Patriot cause.

In attendance: Bruce Laubach, President Williamsburg Chapter SAR, Bruce Meyer, President, Virginia Society SAR, and Ron Adolphi, Williamsburg Chapter SAR.

FEBRUARY 10 - 12, 2023

VASSAR ANNUAL MEETING

133ND ANNUAL MEETING

THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY, SAR

**Berry Hill Resort & Conference
Center**

3105 River Road

South Boston, Virginia 24592

(434) 517-7000

<https://www.berryhillresort.com>

Recent Events

The Williamsburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution had two Boy Scouts submit applications for the Eagle Scout Scholarship. These applications have been reviewed and the winners are:

First place is Edwin R. Lampitt of Troop 414 in Norge. Edwin's essay was about Patriotism and how it affected Nathan Hale. Edwin will receive a check of \$150.00 and the Eagle Scout medal.

Second place is Matthew Harrell of Troop 103 in Williamsburg. Matthew's essay was about the Battle of Green Spring. Matthew will receive a check for \$100.00.

Patriotism was a common theme among the rebelling colonists during the Revolutionary War. Patriotism which is defined as "love for or devotion to one's country" (Mariam-Webster) does not necessarily imply success through one's actions but instead a belief and loyalty in a cause. This belief can be an inspiration to others fighting for the same cause and as a beacon to those in future generations. One historical figure with this motivation is Nathan Hale who is often considered the first spy for the United States.

In the summer of 1776, General George Washington's troops were pushed off of Long Island into Manhattan and were stuck with no knowledge of the British forces surrounding them, so he asked for volunteers to go behind the British lines and bring back information about their positions (Salem Press). Nathan Hale, a former schoolteacher who had yet to see any action but was eager to benefit his cause, volunteered for the job (Finaly). Because of his patriotism or devotion to his country, he volunteered for an incredibly dangerous mission that could lead to his death. He disguised himself as a Dutch school teacher and was ferried from their camp across the East River to Long Island (Salem Press). During his reconnaissance, he was arrested by British forces because he was suspected of spying. When brought before General British Howe at Beekman Mansion, incriminating documents were found with him (Salem Press). Espionage was considered dishonorable and, as such, hanging was the usual punishment at the time for spies, and Hale was no exception. However, during his execution, reports say that he acted with composure and confidence (Finaly). This shows incredible courage and patriotism as he stands firm in his belief of his cause and love of his country. His last words are thought to be "I only regret, that I have but one life to lose for my country" (Akers). This embodies the spirit of patriotism by giving up everything to fight for one's country and the freedom of future generations. Hale could have much more easily remained a teacher or any other career he wanted because of his education. He could have stayed a regular officer. However, he was a patriot that was willing not only to give up his life for his beliefs once but multiple times if he had been capable. Even though he was unsuccessful, he did not regret his decision and would do it again in order to achieve the vision he and the colonists had for their developing country.

Hale was not alone in this belief. Every colonist fighting the British had given something up in order to build a better, freer future for themselves and their descendants. While Hale was unsuccessful in his original goal, his death showed Washington that he would need a more subtle espionage system for the British forces. From this realization the Culper Spy Ring was created in New York (History.com). This organization was much better hidden than it might have been without Hale. It provided integral information to Washington for the remainder of the war, and it even led to exposing Benedict Arnold's betrayal (History.com). Thanks to the devotion and sacrifice Hale had for his country he contributed to the freedom of the United States and is a fantastic example of what a patriot is.

Wreathes across America



Saturday December 17, 2022



Compatriots Lt Col Jason Finch, Bruce Laubach Pres, Williamsburg chapter SAR, Tatton Mason



Lt. Col. Jason Finch representing the U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant ret. Stephen Hathaway US Marines, Capt Christopher Horgan U.S. Navy, Tech. Sgt. Joshua Sparks U.S. Air Force, Capt Gregory Magee U.S. Coast Guard, Maj. Gen. ret. Celia Adolphi Honorary Regent Williamsburg Chapter DAR, Bruce Laubach President Williamsburg Chapter SAR



Maj. Gen. ret. Celia Adolphi Honorary Regent Williamsburg Chapter DAR, Bruce Laubach President Williamsburg Chapter SAR, presented a wreath at the grave of the Revolutionary Soldier Thomas Peachy

Future Events

Battle of Cowan's Ford

The Battle of Cowan's Ford was a battle in the Southern Theater of Cornwallis's 1780–1782 Campaign that eventually led to the British Army's surrender at Yorktown during the American Revolutionary War. It was fought on February 1, 1781, at Cowan's ford on the Catawba River in northwestern Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, between a force of about 2,400 British and about 800 Whig militia who were attempting to slow the British advance across the river.

Rather than attempt to confront the much larger and better equipped British Army under Cornwallis directly, Gen. Greene attempted to wear down his opponents by engaging the British in a series of small battles. Of these battles, Greene stated of the Continental Army: "We fight, get beat, rise, and fight again."

Following the Battle of Cowpens, Cornwallis was determined on destroying Greene's forces. Cornwallis ordered his men to burn their supplies and pursued Greene in the "Race to the Dan".

During the preceding weeks, Cornwallis's army had swung to the left and approached the swollen waters of the Catawba in late January. For three days, the British forces camped at Ramsour's Mill, where they were joined by the remains of Banastre Tarleton forces.

On January 31, Cornwallis began to move his army despite the heavy rain fearing any further delay would cause him to lose his chance of destroying Greene's army. Some six weeks after the engagement, Cornwallis wrote that he had ordered a detachment under Lieutenant Colonel Webster to "make every possible demonstration by cannonading and otherwise, of an intention to force a passage" at Beatties Ford while he would march down the river to Cowan's Ford.

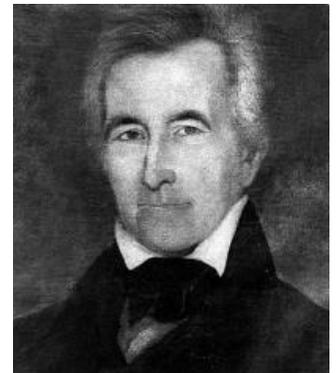
General Greene arrived and ordered General Davidson, who had placed his men at the various fords along the eastern bank, to slow the British Army's crossing of the Catawba River. Greene and Morgan then left to accompany the bulk of their forces towards Salisbury, North Carolina.

Davidson dispatched a company of cavalry and infantry southward four miles to Cowan's Ford. The cavalry was to see that the British did not make a surprise crossing under cover of darkness. Toward nightfall Davidson joined the detachment at Cowan's Ford. Davidson evidently feared that Tarleton's troops might slip across the river in the darkness and, getting behind him, they could attack him as the British infantry began its crossing. He therefore set up camp a half mile from the river, with pickets watching Cowan's Ford from the water's edge.

Near daybreak, after a difficult march in which the British lost some of their cannon, Cornwallis's army reached Cowan's Ford. With very little hesitation, the British began crossing the swollen stream straight across along the wagon ford. Soon the horses were over their heads in the raging torrent.

Davidson's forces immediately began to confront the Redcoats. The militiamen were picking off many British soldiers as they struggled in the water to reach the far bank. After the first elements reached the bank and formed a firing line, they began to fire a volley at the now retreating militia. Shortly after arriving on the scene, Davidson was struck from his horse by a rifle ball through the heart.

Late that evening Davidson's body was found, stripped and rain drenched. His wallet of papers, presumed taken by a British soldier, was discovered in the Public Records Office in London, in 1951. It was returned to the United States in 2001. General Davidson is buried at Hopewell Church in Mecklenburg county, NC.





Our Color Guard in drill



VASSAR Color Guards in Yorktown

Registrar's Corner

DID YOU KNOW?

That SAR offers a “family plan” for new member and for supplemental applications. The applicants must use the same genealogical line and be connected by relationships not to exceed two generations removed from the line of another applicant in the family plan. In the case of supplemental applications, each application can also be from an ancestor or spouse of an ancestor that both the first applicant and the additional applicant(s) have established through their previously approved SAR applications.

Family applications provide for reduced fees for the additional family members. The applications must be submitted to SAR at the same time. Each application should list the same documentation for each generation, but only copies of birth certificates are required to connect to the common ancestor. The primary applicant will provide documentation to support lineage to the patriot ancestor, which will also be used to support the other family applications.

I am currently working on a family plan application that includes the grandfather, son and two grandsons. Let me know if you have questions about the “family plan” and if I can help.

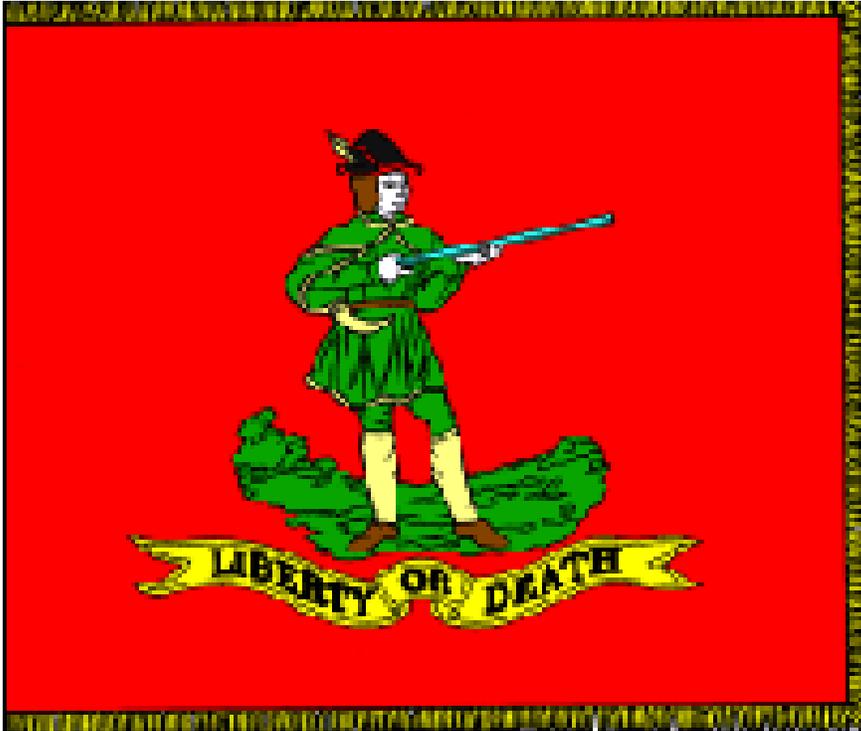
**Hunt Berryman
Registrar**

Email:

huntberryman@aol.com



Colors of the Hanover Associators 1774



The Hanover Association of Volunteers was formed in June 1774, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. They resolved "that in the event of Great Britain attempting to force unjust laws upon us by strength of arms, our cause we leave to Heaven and our rifles."

The colors are described as "Red field and trim on cap; yellow fringe and scroll; black lettering and cap; green ground and uniform with cream legs, trim, feather and powder horn; brown belt and light blue rifle barrel." This flag no longer exists, but the design shown here is based on an engraving in the Pennsylvania State Archives.

The Williamsburg Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution presented a NSSAR Flag Retirement Certificate to the Williamsburg Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution on 6 December 2022. The certificate recognizes their flag collection program of unserviceable US flags for proper retirement. Pictured (L-R) are Sherril Buckner, Chapter 2nd Vice Regent and Flag Committee Chair, George Corbett, Williamsburg SAR Chapter Flag Recognition Committee Chair and Kim Defibaugh, Chapter Regent

Photo by Karen Corbett



From the Chaplain

Jim Morford



Recently I had the privilege of providing a tour of Bruton Parish Church for the Fort Eustis Chapter of the Northeast Region of Army Chaplains. Recognizing that chaplains are organized (but then again who isn't?) I began to wonder about the history of chaplaincy.

The need for someone to provide spiritual guidance to foot soldiers as well as their commanders dates back to the Roman Empire in the period from 27 BC to about 500 AD. The military was the most important organization within the government, and it was thought that by honoring and seeking the blessings of higher powers it might help tilt the odds in their favor.

Since the days of the Roman Empire chaplaincy has been a work in progress – ever changing and evolving.

The term chaplain did not come into use until the fourth century. Chaplains (Latin *cappellani*) kept St. Martin's half cape. This sacred relic gave its name to the simple oratory or chapel where it was preserved.

In the 13th Century the role of the Chaplain became more defined mainly to bless the weapons that soldiers were going to use in battle. Official recognition came in the UK when it was ordered that a chaplain be included as part of the Navy on each of the King's ships. In their duties chaplains gradually became more identified with direct service to the monarch on both religious and secular matters.

The need for chaplains within the ranks of the army became clear when, during the Civil War, many of the young soldiers overindulged in "antisocial behavior." President Lincoln ordered the commanders of all regiments to appoint Chaplains.

The first female chaplain in the United States military was Ella Elvira Gibson, she served in the American Civil War, but she was not paid until 1876, and not recognized as a chaplain until 2002, when she was also posthumously given the rank of captain.

As a youngster during WW II, I knew the story of the "four Chaplains." The Dorchester Chaplains, as they were also known, were four World War II chaplains who died rescuing civilian and military personnel as the American troop ship SS Dorchester sank on February 3, 1943. The ship carried about nine hundred military passengers and crew, 230 survived.

Chaplains serve in the armed forces of most countries, generally as commissioned officers who are not required to bear arms. Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Jewish chaplains serve in the United States military. In 1993, Captain Abdul Rasheed Muhammad became the First Muslim Chaplain in the U.S. Army.

In modern usage the term chaplain is not confined to any particular church, denomination, or even clergy. In addition to the military, chaplains serve a wide variety of institutions and corporate bodies - such as prisons, hospitals, schools, colleges, universities, embassies, and secular organizations.

Let us give thanks to God:



Almighty and everlasting God, we ask your blessing on our compatriots who, by Your grace, have been elected to lead our Williamsburg Chapter for the year 2023. We pray that Your Spirit will lead them and all of us each and every day of this New Year. We ask for Your wisdom, strength, and power to be constantly present within us. We pray You will make us strong and courageous for the road ahead.

As we face life's temptations – its snares and deceptions – give us the understanding to know when to run from evil and when to stand and fight for what is right. Give us the wisdom to make the choices You would have us make.

We ask that Your peace lead us, and Your grace be upon always. AMEN

Peter Muhlenberg

Muhlenberg was born to Pennsylvania German parents Anna Maria and Henry Muhlenberg in Trappe, Pennsylvania. He was sent, together with his brothers, Frederick Augustus and Gotthilf Henry Ernst in 1763 to Halle.

They were educated in Latin at the Francke Foundations. He left school in 1767 to start as a sales assistant in Lübeck, but returned that same year to Pennsylvania.

He served briefly in the British 60th Regiment of Foot, and also served briefly in the German dragoons, earning the nickname “Teufel Piet” before returning to Philadelphia in 1767, where he was given a classical education from the Academy of Philadelphia.

He was ordained in 1768 and headed a Lutheran congregation in Bedminster, New Jersey, before moving to Woodstock, Virginia. In 1770 he married Anna Barbara “Hannah” Meyer, the daughter of a successful potter. Together they had six children.

Muhlenberg visited England in 1772 and was ordained into the priesthood of the Anglican Church, although he served a Lutheran congregation.

Toward the end of 1775, Muhlenberg was authorized to raise and command as its Colonel the 8th Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army. After George Washington personally asked him to accept this task, he agreed. However, his brother Fredrick Augustus Muhlenberg, who was also a minister, did not approve of him going into the army until the British burned down his own church in front of him. Then he joined the military himself.

On January 21, 1776, in the Lutheran church in Woodstock, Virginia, Reverend Muhlenberg took his sermon text from the third chapter Ecclesiastes, which starts with “To everything, there is a season...”; after reading the eighth verse, “a time of war, and a time of peace,” he declared, “And this is the time of war,” removing his clerical robe to reveal his Colonel’s uniform.

Outside the church door, the drums began to roll as men turned to kiss their wives and then walked down the aisle to enlist, and within half an hour, 162 men were enrolled. The next day he led out 300 men from the county to form the nucleus of the 8th Virginia Regiment.

The Eighth Regiment was sent north to join Washington’s main army. Muhlenberg was made a brigadier general of the Virginia Line and commanded that Brigade in Nathanael Greene’s division at Valley Forge.

At the Siege of Yorktown, he commanded the first brigade in Lafayette’s Light Division. They held the right flank and manned the two trenches built to move American cannons closer to Cornwallis’ defenses. The battalion commanded by French Lieutenant Colonel Jean-Joseph Sourbader de Gimat led the night bayonet attack that stormed Redoubt No. 10 on October 14, 1781.



Williamsburg 2023 Chapter Officers



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Treasurer	Gary Dunaway	ormazd72@gmail.com
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Chaplain	Jim Morford	Morfordjc@gmail.com
Sergeant-at-Arms	Steve Holmes	
Historian	Steve Perger Jr.	
At-Large	Eric Ely	
At-Large	Ron Adolphi	
Past President	Roger Cross	



Jan 21ST Joint Williamsburg / Thomas Nelson Jr Chapters Installation Dinner
James River Country Club, 1500 Country Club Road, Newport News

Social at 5:30 — Meeting at 6:00

Chicken Alfredo Dinner \$30.00 per person

We hope to use Member Clicks to register and pay online, but it's the initial system test.

If you have any questions or are unable to register online, you can send a check

to ↓

Fits nicely in a 6¾ envelope

Reservation for the Saturday January 21ST 2023 Installation dinner

Name(s) _____

Please reserve _____ regular meals at \$30.00 (or \$30.23 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



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))