



# The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter - Virginia  
Society  
Sons of the American Revolution



Vol. XXXIII

Number 30

Sept. 2025

## President's Message

Compatriots,

I am pleased to report that Williamsburg Chapter was awarded second place (very large chapter category) in the President General's Cup award this year. The award, based upon our activities during 2024, was announced during the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress last July. Below is an excerpt from Compatriot David Harrity's blog discussing Virginia Society's successes at the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress. (I encourage you to read it in its entirety; please see "Virginia shines at 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress in Uncasville CT" found on VSSAR's Memberclicks entry page.)

*The President General's Cup is one of the most prestigious honors awarded by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). It recognizes chapters that exemplify the SAR's mission through a comprehensive and impactful program of activities throughout the year.*  
*Why It Matters*

- *Holistic Excellence: The award isn't just about one area of achievement — it celebrates chapters that excel in patriotic outreach, historical education, youth engagement, community service, and member involvement.*
  - *Size-Based Recognition: Chapters compete within their membership size category (10–49, 50–99, 100–199, and 200+), ensuring fair comparison and encouraging participation across the spectrum.*
  - *Symbol of Leadership: Winning the Cup signals that a chapter is a leader within SAR, setting a benchmark for others to follow.*
  - *Encourages Engagement: It motivates chapters to expand their programming, collaborate with local communities, and deepen their commitment to SAR principles.*
  - *Celebrated Nationally: The award is presented at the Annual Congress, often as the culminating moment of the awards ceremony — a true spotlight for the chapter's efforts.*
- For Virginia SAR to sweep all three top spots in the 200+ members category this year is a testament to its strategic planning, passionate volunteers, and consistent excellence. It's not just a trophy — it's a reflection of meaningful impact.*

Well done, Compatriots, well done!

Respectfully,

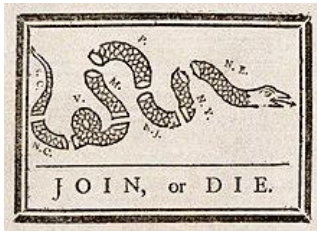
John Lynch - President, Williamsburg Chapter, Virginia Society, SAR



# Calendar

***In Memoriam: Henry Kelley Sr.***

**Monday Sept. 8, 2025**  
7:00pm BOM meeting by ZOOM



**Saturday Sept. 13, 2025**  
Chapter Lunch Meeting  
11:30 am Social  
Fords Colony Country Club

## **Menu for September Chapter Meeting:**

The main entree is Pan Roasted Salmon in  
Fennel Tomato Broth w/ Roasted Garlic  
French Beans & Pearl Onions.

The usual alternatives are:

- #1: Grilled Chicken Breast Salad, Greens,  
Veggies, Balsamic Vinaigrette, or  
#2: 3 Cheeses, Crackers, Melon,  
Pineapple, & Berries.

The registration deadline is Sunday  
September 6.

The payment deadline is Tuesday  
September 7

See page 7 for additional information!

## Chapter News



On August 9, 2025, The  
Williamsburg Chapter  
presented a SAR Certificate of  
Recognition to Anna Raftery of  
Scouting America Troop 20 at a  
Court of Honor at King of Glory  
Lutheran Church in  
Williamsburg. Harley Stewart,  
Williamsburg Chapter Eagle  
Scout chairman, made the  
presentation.

Submitted by: Harley Stewart

# Williamsburg Chapter August Happenings



At the August Williamsburg Chapter Meeting, President John Lynch (top) presented a Certificate of Appreciation to keynote speaker Dr. Patrick Hannum. He also presented (bottom) a SAR Good Citizenship Medal to Ron Carnegie for his portrayal of Gen. George Washington at Colonial Williamsburg (photos submitted by Bruce Laubach).



# Challenge Coin!

## An Official Williamsburg Chapter Challenge Coin!

Recently, the Board of Managers decided to create an official challenge coin for the Williamsburg Chapter. After exploring several options, the BOM decided to feature the Colonial Williamsburg Powder Magazine on the coin's obverse, as it is an iconic Williamsburg landmark with a close association to the American Revolution. With cooperation and permission from The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the BOM also secured an image of the Powder Magazine (currently undergoing restoration) that accurately depicts what it looked like in the 18<sup>th</sup> century based on the most current historical and archeological research.

Our new challenge coin costs **\$20 per coin** and will be available for sale at our chapter luncheon chapter meetings. Be sure to buy one (or more) while supplies last!

Side A



Side B





## UPCOMING EVENTS!

**September 06:** Battle of the Capes Commemoration (Norfolk)

**September 13:** Williamsburg Chapter September Meeting

**September 19-20:** Virginia SAR semi-annual conference

**October 11:** Williamsburg Chapter October Meeting

**October 19:** Yorktown Victory Day and Thomas Nelson Commemoration (Yorktown)



## SAVE THE DATE(S)

Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour  
2024-2025



*The American Friends of Lafayette  
is the proud official sponsor of the  
commemoration of Lafayette's Farewell Tour.*

[www.friendsoflafayette.org](http://www.friendsoflafayette.org)  
[www.lafayette200.org](http://www.lafayette200.org)  
[americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com)



# ***WILLIAMSBURG CHAPTER SAR POLO SHIRTS!***

## ***Williamsburg Chapter Polo Shirt Order Information***

### ***Type of Polo:***

Cotton – S to XL (\$36 each), XXL (\$38 each), 3X (\$42 each), 4X (\$45 each)

Color for Cotton – black, white, navy blue, royal blue, red

Polyester – S to XL (\$32 each), XXL (\$35 each), 3X (\$38 each), 4X (\$41 each)

Color for Polyester – black, white, navy blue, royal blue, red, teal green

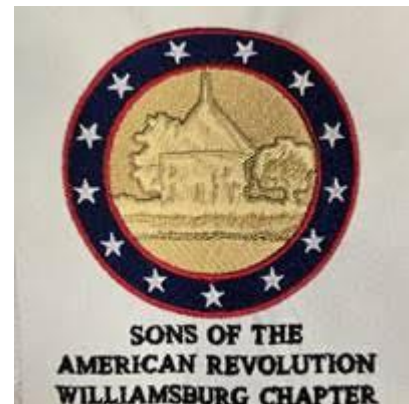
***Please Order Directly from “A Logo For You”***

***Phone Number: 757-220-9259***

***Email: [Alfy@alogoforyou.com](mailto:Alfy@alogoforyou.com)***

***Website: <https://alogoforyou.com/>***

***Questions: [macnider@cox.net](mailto:macnider@cox.net)***







***Register through Member Clicks or  
mail in the registration form below!***

***Topic: George's Oath and Other  
Revolutionary Documents in the  
National Archives***

## **September 13, 2025 Meeting Speaker: Stuart Butler**

Stuart retired as the assistant branch chief of the Military Archives at the National Archives in Washington in 1999 after thirty years in the U.S. government including three years in the U.S. Army. He attended Florida State and Florida Atlantic Universities and has a M.A. in American History. Since retiring, he has authored four books on Virginia's role in the War of 1812 and has written numerous articles for a variety of historical journals. During the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration in Virginia he served on the Commission's Citizens Council Advisory Council. He has also lectured at the Osher Institute at William and Mary on topics in English medieval history and the War of 1812. He also serves as a judge for Virginia History Day and for the Army Historical Foundation Book awards.

In addition to his SAR membership he is currently the president of the Society of the War of 1812 in Virginia and is also a member of the Jamestown Society and several other lineage societies. He and his wife, Rosanne, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary this year. They have one daughter, Elisabeth, who is the Deputy Archivist of the U.S. Senate.

Reservation for the Saturday, September 13, 2025 Meeting

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ regular meals at \$27.00 each

Special need \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to "Williamsburg Chapter SAR"

Mail to:

William Dorn – Chapter Treasurer

349 Capeside Court

Williamsburg, VA 23188

(252) 658-2348

[wrdorn48@gmail.com](mailto:wrdorn48@gmail.com)

# ***The American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati***

George Washington and his officers created the Society of the Cincinnati in 1783 to carry out this work. The revolutionaries called their movement “the glorious cause.”

Now you can join them and support their cause as an Associate of the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati.

As an Associate, you will support the important work of the American Revolution Institute. The Institute encourages scholarly inquiry, good teaching, popular understanding and the preservation of the battlefields where our independence was won. You will be joining in the work of an organization as old as our republic, founded by the heroes of the Revolution themselves.

We want you to be involved. We need you. We live in a time of great opportunity and great promise. As we look forward to a bright future, we need all Americans to appreciate how much we benefit from the energy, imagination and sacrifices of the remarkable generation that won our national independence and created the greatest republic in world history. We need to keep their story alive. We invite you to share in that great work.

As an Associate, you will receive:

- e-newsletters to keep on top of the latest news about the American Revolution;
- invitations to receptions, lectures, book and author evenings and other events for our Associates;
- program guides to give you the latest information about our shared work;
- exclusive updates from the executive director about challenges to the memory of the Revolution and opportunities to advance the memory of that “vast event” in human history;
- opportunities to participate in expert-led Revolutionary War battlefield tours;
- recognition in our annual Honor Roll and other media;
- a pin identifying you as a supporter of the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati;
- an Associates card identifying you as a Founding Associate;
- and not least, the satisfaction that comes from honoring the first American patriots and promoting their memory.

For more information or to learn how to join the ARI Associates, please visit:

<https://www.americanrevolutioninstitute.org/associates-overview/>





## **Revolutionary War History Fact of the Month Submitted by Stuart Butler, Chapter Historian**

### ***The Strange Tale of HMS Fowey (Part 2 of 2)***

*On May 23, 1776, Captain Montague sailed Fowey into Lynnhaven Bay to join Captain Hammond of the frigate Roebuck and several other warships to take Governor Dunmore and his motley band of loyalists and former enslaved Blacks to Gwynn's Island. Here, they established a base of operations from which they hoped to recover the colony for Britain.*

*On June 17, 1776, Fowey was ordered once again to rescue a royal governor in trouble. This time it was Gov. Robert Eden of Maryland who was politely asked to leave by the patriots leaders of that colony. Fowey arrived in Annapolis on June 23 to rescue the governor and left with the governor on June 26 returning to Gwynn's Island on June 29. Eden later arrived in England on September 2, 1776.*

*After the Gwynn's Island fiasco, Dunmore on July 28, sailed away with half the ships he had in June. On August 8, 1776, the British armada, including Fowey, left Chesapeake Bay, with some of the ships going to Bermuda, St. Augustine, and the rest to New York. Dunmore would never set foot in Virginia again. Fowey, with Dunmore on board, arrived in New York harbor on September 7, 1776. While in New York, Fowey provided assistance to British forces during the New York campaign. On November 2, 1776, Fowey, with Dunmore aboard, provided convoy protection for over two hundred warships back to England, arriving at Portsmouth on December 2, 1776. At that time Fowey was sent to Chatham dockyard for a refitting during the winter.*

*Fowey remained in England for refitting at Sheerness for much of 1777. During the summer of 1777 it cruised in the Irish Sea. It returned to America in the summer of 1778 when it was assigned to New York patrolling Long Island Sound. Fowey became part of the British naval force in the defense of Savannah in late 1779. By the end of 1780, Fowey was described as in a deplorable state and probably underwent more repairs at either Chatham or Sheerness. In 1781, Capt. Peter Alpin commanded the ship when it was assigned to the Chesapeake Bay area to aid Cornwallis at Yorktown in the fall of 1781. Along with the schooner Betsy, the 44 gun Charon, Guadeloupe and Vulcan, Fowey met a fiery end from either French bombardment or self-destruction during the siege of Yorktown. So ended Fowey's Revolutionary War odyssey just a few hundred feet from where she had first picked up the beleaguered governor of Virginia in 1775!*



# 2026 Slate of Williamsburg Chapter Officers

The Williamsburg Chapter will be ending the 2025 chapter year with the election of new officers during the November meeting. The slate of officers that will be presented to the Board of Managers at this time is as follows:

President,	Ron Adolphi
Vice President,	Ray Duncombe
Secretary,	Mike Braswell
Treasurer,	Bill Dorn
Registrar,	Hunt Berryman
Public Relations,	Robert Davis III
Newsletter/Webmaster,	Sean Heuvel
Chaplain,	George Corbett
Sergeant-at-Arms,	Stephen Holm
Historian,	Stuart Butler
Member-at-Large,	Kevin Brown
Member-at-Large,	Michael Doucette
Immediate Past President,	John Lynch

The Board of Managers is still accepting nominations from the members of our chapter. ***Please submit your nominations or volunteer for a position to Bruce Laubach at [vabelring@msn.com](mailto:vabelring@msn.com) prior to the October BOM meeting.*** There are also appointed positions within the Chapter, such as liaison with other SAR, DAR, and C.A.R. chapters, Assistant Registrars, Assistant Sergeants at Arms, Public Relations. The Vice President could also use suggestions of potential speaker for the upcoming year.



# ***Chaplain's Corner – By George Corbett, Chaplain***

## **The First Amendment**

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

Last September, I wrote a Chaplain's Corner on the Constitution of the United States. This edition, I wanted to concentrate on the First Amendment, specifically, the establishment of religion section. Our forefathers had saw the need to include this in the very first of the original ten amendments.

They did not want the prohibition of one religion over another and sort to provide the ability for citizens to choose, or not, the religion of their personal beliefs. We open and close our chapter meeting with a Christian prayer, which is our choosing. We are not forced to open with some other religious text. We can thank the Divine Creator for giving our founding fathers the foresight to include this in our individual rights. May we never forget this and the other rights in this document.

Eternal God of our fathers. We are grateful for Thy Grace and Mercy. May we never forget your Divine Hand in the affairs of our nation and be ever mindful of our patriot ancestors sacrifices. If we ever forget this, then we will cease to be a free people. We make this prayer inn They hold name. Amen

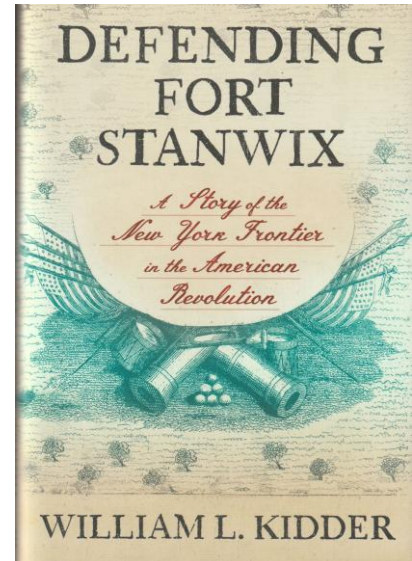


## 2025 Williamsburg Chapter SAR Officers



President	John Lynch II
Vice President	Ron Adolphi
Secretary	Mike Braswell
Treasurer	Bill Dorn
Registrar	Hunt Berryman
Public Relations	Robert Davis III
Newsletter Editor/Webmaster	Sean Heuvel
Chaplain	George Corbett
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stephen Holm
Historian	Stuart Butler
Member-at-Large	Stephen McGuffin
Member-at-Large	Michael Doucette
Immediate Past President	Bruce Laubach

## ***Book of the Month – By Stephen Holm, Sergeant-at-Arms***



### ***Defending Fort Stanwix: A Story of the New York Frontier in the American Revolution***

**By William L. Kidder**

**First Edition Hardback – 428 Pages, Copyright 2024**

**Three Hills/Cornell University Press**

In *Defending Fort Stanwix*, William L. Kidder tells the dramatic story of "the fort that never surrendered" and the crucial role it played in the American War for Independence. After a series of military defeats over the winter of 1776-1777, British military leaders developed a bold plan to gain control of the Hudson River and divide New England from the rest of the colonies. Three armies would converge on Albany: one under Lieutenant General John Burgoyne moving south from Quebec, one under General William Howe moving north from New York City, and a third under Lieutenant Colonel Barrimore St. Leger cutting east from Lake Ontario along the Mohawk River. Fort Stanwix lay directly on the path of St. Leger's force, making it a key defensive position for the Continental Army. By delaying St. Leger's troops and forcing a retreat, the garrison's stand at Fort Stanwix contributed to Burgoyne's surrender at the Battle of Saratoga a month later, a major turning point during the war.

Kidder offers an engaging account of life in and around the fort in the months leading up to the siege, detailing the lives of soldiers and their families, civilians, and the Haudenosaunee peoples with a focus on both the mundane aspects of military life and the courageous actions that earned distinction. *Defending Fort Stanwix* relates the stories of local men and women, both white and Indigenous, who helped with the fort's defense before, during, and after the siege and highlights an exciting, overlooked story of bravery and cooperation on New York's frontier during the American Revolution.

William L. Kidder taught history for more than three decades at the Hun School of Princeton and is a historian, interpreter, and draft horse teamster at the Howell Living History Farm in Hopewell, New Jersey.

# SAR GIFTS AND FASHIONABLE APPAREL



SAR apparel and other items are available for purchase at: [store.sar.org](https://store.sar.org)

Nametags can be purchased at: <https://store.sar.org/personalized-items-C46.aspx>

