

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. Invelve signers' houses were burned to the ground. No signer defected. Their honor, like their nation remained intact.

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SEPTEMBER 2021

## President's Message

I hope everyone is staying healthy and able to appropriately enjoy our wonderful Williamsburg summer weather. If you did not attend the August luncheon, you missed an excellent talk by our speaker Compatriot Ross Schwalm. He discussed the history of the Hessian army units supporting the British forces during the Revolutionary War. Like approximately 1/3 of the former Hessian soldiers, one of his ancestors stayed in the colonies after being paroled. Our September speaker is Kirk Lovenbury who will discuss the history of the Bruton Parish Church. His bio can be found in this newsletter and I encourage you to attend the upcoming luncheon meeting on September 18 to learn more about the church which has played a central role in Williamsburg history.

I want to thank Harley Stewart for representing the chapter at a recent Williamsburg Chapter DAR event at Berkeley Plantation. This event was a celebration of the restoration of a portrait of President William Henry Harrison which the Williamsburg Chapter DAR financially supported.

I also want to thank Flag Chairman George Corbett for continuing his efforts presenting Flag Certificates to residents and businesses that display the U.S. flag correctly. He has presented approximately 15 certificates to date and is well on his way to reaching 20 for the year.

Paul Huchko, our Youth Programs Chair, has a detailed article in this newsletter concerning our Youth Programs. He mentions many opportunities to support our Youth Programs so please consider helping if you can. In particular, we need members to help with the Patriot Chest program.

If you are unable to physically support the Youth Programs, please consider supporting them financially as discussed in the article on the VASSAR President's 2021 Initiative for Youth Programs. With 199 members, we could easily make our \$1000 Chapter goal if 50 members contributed \$25 each.

The primary upcoming event is the VASSAR semi-annual meeting held from September 9-11 at Berry Hill Resort near South Boston, Va. The detailed agenda was distributed by Secretary Milt Holt on August 10. On Friday, September 10, tours of Red Hill will be conducted in the morning and several interesting workshops will be held in the afternoon at Red Hill. The general membership meeting will be held Saturday morning, September 11 at Berry Hill. The cutoff date for the special SAR hotel rate is Friday, August 27.

Finally, your 2022 chapter dues notices will be sent by snail mail in late September. And the good news-no dues increase again this year! Roger W Cross



Saturday, Sep 4, 2021 11:00 240<sup>th</sup> Anniversary RSVPd Battle of the Virginia Capes Fort Story, Virginia Beach



Monday Sep 7, 2021 10:00 BOM meeting by ZOOM

Friday – Saturday Sep 10-11, 2021 VASSAR Mid-Year 2 day meeting South Boston/Red Hill



### Saturday Sep 18, 2021 11:30 Social gathering 12:00 Chapter meeting Colonial Heritage CC (reservation on last page)

## Chapter News



President Roger Cross, presenting Ross Schwalm, right, with a Certificate of Appreciation and a Jefferson Cup. Mr. Ross Schwalm spoke to the Williamsburg Chapter during our meeting at Colonial Heritage on August 14. His topic was "The Amphibious Assault on Long Island August 1776" and focused on the German Auxiliary units, the Hessians, one of which was his Third Great Grandfather, Johannes Schwalm. Schwalm is the current president of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter and he is a retired US Marine Corps Artillery Officer.



President Roger Cross, left, presented a NSSAR Certificate of Appreciation and Medal to Compatriot Ronald Adolphi, right, during our meeting at Colonial Heritage on August 14. The awards were on behalf of the NSSAR Eagle Scout Committee for outstanding support of the Arthur M. and Berdena King Eagle Scout Fund. Photos by Harley

### Continuing with other Recent Notable Events



Photo by Karen Proctor-Corbett Pictured, L to R, are Harley Stewart, LeAnn Turbyfill, Virginia State Regent NSDAR, Leslie Miller, National Vice President-General and National Chair of Historic Preservation, Laura Jones, National Vice Chair of Historic Preservation, and Kecia Brown, State Vice Chair of Historic Preservation. The restored portrait hangs in its place of honor in Berkeley mansion's south parlor.

The Williamsburg DAR chapter invited representatives of our Chapter to their program for celebrating the restoration of President William Henry Harrison's portrait. There were eight officers of the national, state, and district DAR organizations as well as officers and members of their Williamsburg Chapter. Malcolm Jamieson, owner of Berkeley and Tom Trimble, the portrait restorer also attended, the latter describing the restoration process.



### Upcoming September 4<sup>th</sup> event with wreath presentations



For those not able to attend, here is a 6min. History Channel video of the battle. https://youtu.be/y2KPyxcivPU The Battle of the Chesapeake, also known as the Battle of the Virginia Capes or simply the Battle of the Capes, was a crucial naval battle in the American Revolutionary War that took place near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay on 5 September 1781. The combatants were a British fleet led by Rear Admiral Sir Thomas Graves and a French fleet led by Rear Admiral Francois Joseph Paul, the Comte de Grasse. The battle was strategically decisive, in that it prevented the Royal Navy from reinforcing or evacuating the besieged forces of Lieutenant General Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia. The French were able to achieve control of the sea lanes against the British and provided the Franco-American army with siege artillery and French reinforcements. These proved decisive in the Siege of Yorktown, effectively securing independence for the Thirteen Colonies.

### SAR Youth Programs

The Williamsburg Chapter will again be active in supporting the SAR Youth Programs for the students of the Williamsburg area. Working in partnership with the WJCC schools through their WJCC Community Partner program and continuing the success with the private and parochial schools, our chapter will offer programs to students in elementary through high school grades. The chapter provides an Elementary School Poster Contest; a Middle School Brochure Contest; a High School Essay Contest; and a High School Oration Contest. The past few years have shown that the middle school brochure contest is the most popular program and will continue to be a focus this year. In addition, we will offer a new and exciting program to the elementary and middle school students – The Patriot Chest.

The Patriot Chest program is an interactive presentation, intended to complement Elementary and Middle School lesson plans on the Revolutionary War and Colonial Period of American History. The program's purpose is to bring history alive, while providing students with a sense of the times, and appreciation of the Patriot men and women who founded our nations. The program teaches from two different Patriot Chests.

Small Chest This Patriot Chest contains 10 American flags from periods of our founding. The presentation is interactive with the students as the history behind each flag is presented.

Large Chest Suited for both elementary and middle school. The is an interactive presentation by chapter members, often in period dress, who present and explain items of the colonial period. Both presentations initiate active participation with the students, foster the exchange of ideas while introducing the various colonial items, and support basic history lessons about the Revolutionary War period.

#### WE NEED YOU!

PATRIOT VOLUNTEERS are needed to make these programs work. Chapter members who can participate in period dress are especially needed. You can choose to give the presentation yourself (following a prepared script), or you can assist the presentation by showing or passing around the items to the students as the presenter tells the story. We are expecting this to be a very popular program.

If you can offer support to the chapter for this important program, contact Paul Huchko at <u>pjhsar@cox.net</u> for more information.



George Washington and Nathanael Greene were the only general officers who served in that position throughout the war. Greene led his men in more battles than any other general officer, including Washington. Moreover, it was Greene who was constantly harassed by Congress, and ultimately forsaken by them. Three years after the official end of the war. Nathanael Greene was dead. The author claims his premature death was not only a result of the intense hardships of war, but the hardships and cruelty inflicted on him by the United States Congress.

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# "Book of the month"

Freedom's Cost: The Story of General Nathanael Greene by Janet Uhlar Paperback, 476 pages, published – May 23, 2011 Signed by the Author, in 2016, at "Crossing of the Dan" Ceremony

When the Revolutionary War began. Nathanael Greene was a private in the militia, the lowest rank possible, yet he emerged from the war with a reputation as George Washington's most gifted and dependable officer--celebrated as one of three most important generals. His role as a major strategist in the War for Independence was second only to General George Washington. Born and reared a Quaker, with no military experience, he was promoted from private to brigadier general over night. Greene quickly became Washington's confidant and close friend. He was chosen by the Commander to lead the Continental Army should Washington be killed, injured, or taken captive. Nathanael's vivacious wife Caty, a favorite of the Washingtons, added brightness to the dark, dreary existence of camp life. She proved to be a source of joy and comfort to her husband throughout the war--as well as a heartache and challenge.

It was General Nathanael Greene who pulled the Continental Army from the throes of death at Valley Forge. It was General Greene who petitioned Congress for a Declaration of Independence. It was Nathanael Greene who was given the desperate task of commanding the Southern Department of the Continental Army after other commanders had failed. It was Greene who drove British General Cornwallis to surrender at Yorktown. Unable to participate or witness the victorious battle, he was forced to immediately return South with his troops, and subdue the remaining British forces. Greene led his troops in battle and laid siege for a year after the victory at Yorktown. His persistence finally forced the British to evacuate the South.

Raffle tickets for this book will be available at our next luncheon meeting. One ticket for \$1 or 7 tickets for 5- See Steve Holm - Sgt. of Arms

# Guest speaker for September



Kirk Lovenbury will be the speaker for our September 18th Meeting. Mr. Lovenbury, who retired to Williamsburg in 2009, has been a tour guide at Bruton Parish Church for seven years and will speak on "What you didn't know about religion in Colonial America." The developing differences, over a span of 180 years, between the American and British branches of the Anglican Church will be examined, along with official policy toward other denominations.

Lovenbury was a very popular Christopher Wren teacher for eight years. He has degrees in Anthropology, History and Education. He has spent many years living and teaching abroad and has lived in nine foreign countries, including China, Kenya, Italy, South Africa, Germany and England. He has traveled in more than 100 other countries as well. His favorite pass-time is working on his genealogy and has published a book on his Lovenbury line back to 1100 AD. His computerized ancestry has over 8000 names. He belongs to MENSA



The Prince William County Office of Historic Preservation is developing a Revolutionary War History Trail which will initially be on-line, and which will later feature a driving tour and tour map. This trail and tour is being developed in anticipation of the 250th Anniversary of American independence in 2026.

https://www.visitpwc.com/history/revolutionary-war-trail/

# **Registrar's Corner**

Did You Know? - An Associator was a member of 17th and 18th century volunteer military associations in the British American thirteen colonies. They were commonly known as Maryland Protestant, Pennsylvania, and American Patriot and British Loyalist colonial militias. But unlike militias, the associator military volunteers were exempt from regular mandatory service. We have a compatriot who has two supplemental applications pending where both patriot ancestors were associators.

We recently had new member applications approved for Steve Norton. Bob Jones and Dave Ledbetter. There are three new member and three supplemental applications pending approval along with a memorial application. Also, we have five new member applications being developed and a dozen prospects in the wings. Thank you to those that have sent prospects my way.

#### Hunt Berryman Registrar Email:

huntberryman@aol.com





WE NEED YOU The saying, "It Takes A Village", can apply to our Chapter. The Board of Managers keeps the Chapter running. Without it there would be no speakers, luncheons, etc. It is now time to start thinking about Board membership for 2022. We will have multiple vacancies as members' terms expire. Having been on the board in various positions for over seven years, I can honestly say that it has been a great way to not only learn more about our Society but also make friends throughout the state and Mid-Atlantic region. If you have questions about the various duties or time requirements or are interested give me a call (631) 219-6616 or email hsaprof@gmail.com Past President William Greaf

# Washington's Commander-in-Chief Flag

Tradition tells us **George Washington's Commander-in-Chief Flag** was the personal standard of the Commander of the Continental Army everywhere he went. The presence of the flag meant **George Washington** was there. It saw every battle and location that the Commander-in-Chief did during the Revolutionary War. It is unique due to its 6-pointed stars and was allegedly

designed by Washington himself.

George Washington was chosen unanimously by Congress as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army on June 19, 1775. He assumed command of the Continental Army on July 3, 1775 at Cambridge, Massachusetts as the Army was surrounding the British Army in Boston. As Commander-in-Chief, George Washington followed typical European tradition by having a flag designed for himself as leader of the army. In those days, monarchs, generals and other leading officials often had their own personal standards. The flag would have been located anywhere General Washington was present, whether on the battlefield, at headquarters or on the march. It is sometimes referred to as the Washington's Headquarters Flag.









5810 Mooretown Rd. - Suite F, Williamsburg, VA 23188 www.AmericanEagleFlag.com \* info@AmericanEagleFlag.com Discounts given to SAR Compatriots

On 10 June, the Williamsburg chapter, VASSAR, presented a NSSAR Flag Recognition Certificate to the Lightfoot Antiques Mall for the proper display and care of the flag of our great nation. Pictured are Ms. Becky Gay, co-manager, on the right, and George Corbett, chapter flag recognition committee chairman, on the left. Ms. Gay is a veteran of the US Army, Military Police Corps. Photo by Karen Corbett.





# IN MEMORIAM

Compatriot Colonel Stephen Ross Norton, USA, Retired, 76, died peacefully in his Williamsburg, VA home on 10 August 2021. Colonel Norton was a career Army soldier, Vietnam veteran, Foreign Area Officer (FAO) specialist, member of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) Senior Executive Corps, member and Compatriot of the Sons of the American Revolution, and a true American Patriot. In 1968, COL Norton received his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant from John Carroll University, Cleveland, OH, thus launching what would be a remarkable and unprecedented 30-year Army career.. He is credited with lowering the potential for conflict several times in the Aegean Sea between Greece and Turkey.

After retiring from the Army, COL Norton worked briefly at the Western Policy Center then served as the Senior Policy Advisor for National Security to Senator Saxby Chambliss (R, GA) on Capitol Hill. Shortly thereafter, COL Norton was selected into the Senior Executive Corps as Director of the Defense HUMINT Management Office (DHMO), DIA and subsequently, as Director of Security, DIA. His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal (2 awards); Legion of Merit (2 awards); Bronze Star Medal (2 awards); Defense Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards); Joint Service Commendation Medal (2 awards); Army Commendation Medal; Joint Service Achievement Medal, DIA Director's Medal (3 awards); Greek Medal of Honor and Merit and is a member of the Defense Attaché Service Hall of Fame. COL Norton will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery at a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, your donation would be welcome at the Williamsburg House of Mercy or one of your favorite veteran organizations. Please pray for our country.





#### VASSAR 2021 Initiatives Raise \$30,000 for Youth Programs and Education

In order to support VASSAR Youth Programs and Education, President Jeff Thomas has established a 2021 Presidential Initiative. Individual contributions can be designated for the Mark S. Brennan, Jr Memorial Fund, the Patrick Henry Liberty Trunk Program at Red Hill and the Patrick Henry Leatherwood Project. The Brennan Fund supports SAR Youth Programs, the Liberty Trunk Program will create a chest similar to a Patriot Chest for Red Hill and the Leatherwood Project will support a project related to the home on Leatherwood Creek where Patrick Henry lived from 1779-to 1784. Matching challenge gifts (\$1 match for \$2 contribution) of \$2500, \$2500, and \$5000 were designated for the Brennan Fund, Liberty Trunk Program and Leatherwood Project respectively.

All contributors will be listed in the 2022 Virginia SAR Annual Meeting Program. Individual contributions will be recognized with a Virginia SAR Lapel Pin (\$50-\$99), Give Me Liberty Coffee Mug (\$100-\$249), autographed copy of the book, "Patrick Henry's Virginia" by Mark Couvillon (\$250-\$499). Giclee Art Print of Patrick Henry in the First Continental Congress (\$500-\$999) and a Bronze Bust of Governor Patrick Henry (\$1000). Pictures of these gifts can be seen at the Virginia SAR webpage, DocView tab, Presidential Initiatives.

Your checks should be made payable to Virginia SAR with the specific initiative name shown on the memo line. If you list VASSAR Initiatives in the memo line, your contribution will be applied equitably across all initiatives. Please send your check to Treasurer Rick Elofson, 21 Paula Maria Drive, Newport News, VA 23606.

Please consider these worthwhile SAR programs as you finalize your charitable giving for 2021. Also, chapters will earn a streamer for contributions of at least \$1000. Roger W Cross

You may also access the public folder of the Virginia SAR YouTube channel with videos from several of our public events at the following link: www.youtube.com/channel/UCJrzGKzULSPLsSUDXvxgtuw

## **CHOICES**



#### "Choices are the hinges of destiny." Edwin Markham

Life is made up of an infinite number of choices. Most decisions, such as what to eat for lunch, are small and have little impact, but it's the big decisions—the ones that can change your life forever—that are tough to make.

Imagine being the President of the United States? As a nation, we place no greater responsibility on any one individual than we do on the President. Most of us are grateful not to have such awesome responsibility.

Thomas J. Craughwell wrote in his book, The Buck Stops Here, "Beginning with George Washington, every American president has made decisions that re-stitched the fabric of our society and altered America's place in the world. Some of these decisions were merely expedient; others required the courage of conviction in the face of intense opposition. Some were motivated by political loyalties, but many were inspired by a vision of a more just society and a better world."

#### "In the final choice a soldier's pack is not as heavy as a prisoner's chains."

Dwight D. Eisenhower

#### Let us pray for safe deliverance of those in peril:

Lord, at this difficult time, many of our fellow citizens are stranded in a land now controlled by the forces of evil. In addition there are many Afghanis who performed loyal service to the United States who are also trapped and cannot escape to freedom.

We call on You, our ever-present help in time of need, to give our nation's leaders the strength and courage to save those citizens and loyal partners left behind as we withdraw from Afghanistan.

Command Your angels, Lord, to keep us safe, so that no harm or disaster will come near to our homes or our lives. Our trust is not in our ability but in Your stability.

As our true and ultimate Commander, we pray that You will defend us from all earthly enemies. As long as You are with us, we will fear no evil.

Lord, we pray for Your divine intervention as we seek deliverance and safe harbor for those in the hands of our enemies. AMEN

# Williamsburg 2021 Chapter Officers

President Roger Cross Registrar Hunt Berryman Newsletter&WEB David Westenberger Vice-President Stephen McGuffin Milt Holt Secretary Asst Secretary Duncan McIver Jr. Jeff Wooldridge Treasurer Public Relations Harley Stewart Steve Perger Jr. Historian Chaplain James Morford Sergeant-at-Arms Stephen Holm Past President William Greaf At-Large Iames Swords At-Large Gerald Sailors Color Guard John Lynch

roger.cross66@gmail.com huntberryman@aol.com pal744@cox.net



September 18<sup>TH</sup> Chapter meeting at Colonial Heritage Club 6500 Arthur Hills Drive, Williamsburg Social at 11:30 Meeting at 12:00

RSVPs and checks must be received by Monday, September 13<sup>TH</sup>.

Fits well in a #6 envelope

Reservation for the Saturday September 18<sup>TH</sup> 2021 Luncheon Meeting Name(s)

> Please reserve\_\_\_\_\_regular meals at \$21.00 Special need\_\_\_\_\_

> > Please make checks payable to "Williamsburg Chapter SAR"



Mail to: Jeff Wooldridge – Chapter Treasurer 101 Peach Tree Williamsburg, VA 23188 (315) 725-4754 iwooldridgecpa@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

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=personaliz ed%20name%20badge%20(name%20tag%20)