



The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter - Virginia
Society
Sons of the American Revolution



Vol. XXXI

Number 13

February 2024

President's Message

Compatriots,

Welcome to the start of our Chapter's active season; indeed 2024 promises to be very busy. In addition to our usual meetings and commemorations we will: 1) Host SAR's Atlantic Middle States Association (AMSA) in August 2) Host VASSAR's Semi-Annual Conference in September 3) Engage with and develop activities for America's 250th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War, 4) Support the Bicentennial of Lafayette's 1824-1825 Farewell Tour (he visited the Battle of Green Spring site on 22 October 1824) and 5) Establish new Chapter events. You have the opportunity to impact what we do.

We are also looking for your feedback as to what activities/practices we should start, which ones we should stop, and which ones we should continue. Please send your thoughts by 29 February 2024 to Gary Dunaway (ormazd72@gmail) for collation and anonymization. The Board of Managers will review the responses in March. Williamsburg Chapter's membership roster for December 2023 listed 186 compatriots. Ten percent of our Chapter members live out of state. We have members in California, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, and Texas. About a quarter of our Virginia-based compatriots live more than 30 minutes away from Williamsburg. Approximately 66 percent of our Virginia-based members live within a roughly 20-minute drive to our usual meeting place in Colonial Heritage. Some of our 2024-chapter initiatives (detailed in this edition of The Magazine) allow for remote engagement; examples potentially include Patriot research, proof reading manuscripts, liaison work with SAR, DAR, and/or CAR chapters, contact with local historical societies, etc. Please let me know if you are interested in these (or other) activities.

Compatriots near and far: because of you, our Chapter has high potential this year to achieve our Chapter's objectives. I look forward to working with you in support of the SAR mission.

John Lynch - President, Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR



Calendar

Monday February 5, 2024
7:00 pm BOM meeting by ZOOM

Friday/Saturday February
9/10, 2024

2024 Virginia SAR Annual Meeting
The Omni Hotel
Richmond
(See Page 7 for Details)

Saturday February 17, 2024

Chapter Lunch Meeting
11:30 pm Social
Ford's Colony Country Club
Williamsburg

Content Wanted for *The Magazine!*

Do you have announcements, photos, patriot biographies, or articles that you would like to see published in upcoming issues *The Magazine*? Then please contact newsletter editor Sean Heuvel (sheuvel@cnu.edu) for further information and for instructions on how to submit them. We look forward to hearing from you!

Chapter News



Incoming Williamsburg Chapter President John Lynch addressed a combined group of Williamsburg and Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter members following the officer induction ceremony on January 20, 2024, laying out his agenda for the year. *Photo by Sean Heuvel.*



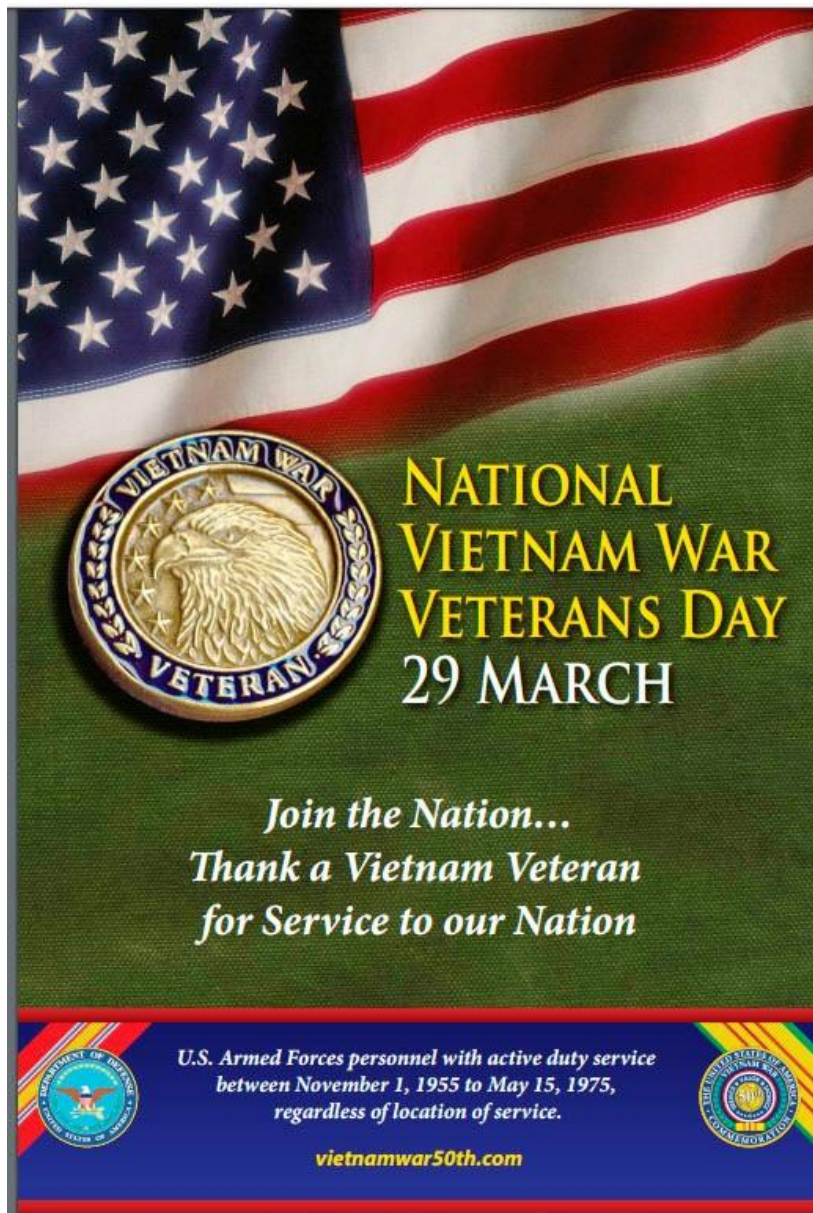
Recent Events



On January 20, 2024, VASSAR President Ernie Coggins addressed a combined meeting of the Williamsburg and Thomas Nelson Jr. SAR Chapters. He also inducted the 2024 officer teams for both chapters, giving each incoming officer one of his official presidential challenge coins. *Photos by Sean Heuvel and Tatton Mason.*

Future Events

Mark your calendars for this important event! It will take place on March 29, 2024 at 10am at Veterans Park (3793 Ironbound Road) in Williamsburg.





“Sail250® Virginia is honored to be among the elite group of US ports selected to host the 2026 Sail250® America international fleet, including New Orleans, Baltimore, New York, and Boston.

For seven days in June 2026, 4,000 officers, cadets, and crews of more than 55 ships from 20 nations will engage with residents and visitors across the Chesapeake Bay region in events and programs symbolic of the bonds of international goodwill.”



<https://sail250virginia.com/?fbclid=IwAR1kQHn0G3P7-ky73PnW88H3Vwn2zBpd8MIE1a5mu8Wsy7uU2fH2vFv20K4>



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
www.lafayette200.org
americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com

The VASSAR is hosting the Atlantic Middle States at the Williamsburg Lodge on August 9-11, 2024. I have been asked by 1st VP Virginia Society SAR Bill Greaf to provide up to two members of our Chapter to assist in planning this event. I am looking for some volunteers to assist in this planning. This is a great way for you to get more involved in our Chapter and State societies. Please provide me with your name and mailing address and phone number so that I can provide them to 1st VP Greaf.

Thank you, Bruce Laubach – President,
Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR.



Please Considering Submitting Your Patriot Biography!

All chapter members have put a significant amount of time in researching their Patriot. Adding Patriot biographies to the PRS is a way to honor your ancestors and possibly help other compatriots in their searches. It is also an easy way to support your chapter and only requires writing a paragraph or two about your Patriot. Whether your Patriot signed the Declaration of Independence, wintered at Valley Forge or simply supported the Revolution by providing supplies, all deserve our recognition. I encourage you to take a few minutes and provide your Patriot's biography to Gary Dunaway at ormazd72@gmail.com. - Roger Cross

Chapter Historian's Corner – Tatton Mason



Please submit photos, programs, and any other content from Williamsburg Chapter and other SAR-related events with which you may be engaged to our Chapter Historian, Tatton Mason. Please be sure to include details, names, and dates. Tatton can be reached at:

tatton.mason@gmail.com

THANK YOU!!!



134th Virginia SAR Annual Meeting

Welcome to the 2024 Virginia SAR Annual Meeting! The Richmond and George Washington Chapters invite members of the Sons of the American Revolution and their guests to attend the 134th Annual Meeting at The Omni Hotel in Richmond, VA.

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 22 – February 2, 2024, We are thrilled to share for the first time a Ladies Luncheon at The Historic Jefferson Hotel on Friday before the start of our Annual Meeting. President Coggins encourages all of our compatriots to consider bringing their spouses/partners to celebrate support of their Virginia SAR compatriots and Virginia DAR Daughters who will be attending too.

This year's Annual Meeting beginning on Friday will include our traditional Scrapbook Contest, a Multi-Patriot Grave Marking, a new Virginia SAR Color Guard Drumhead Muster event, an update to the Virginia SAR & DAR Relations efforts, a Ladies Program Game Night, with President Coggins' Reception closing out the evening.

On Saturday morning we will conduct our General Membership Meeting followed by the Rumbaugh Orations Contest and Youth Awards ceremony. We are excited to make a post-COVID return to the State Capital to conduct our Memorial Service, announcement of the Public Service Awardees, the new State Officer installation, and the 2023 Chapter Winners. We will conclude our visit with a group photo in front of the renovated Virginia Washington Monument on the Capital grounds and return to the Omni Hotel. Saturday evening will conclude our weekend with the Black-Tie Banquet Dinner to install our new President and conduct the bi-annual Virginia SAR Color Guard Change-of-Command. We close out our time together with the new President's Reception.

Compatriot and guest registration is now open and located:
https://vssar.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_mcform&view=ngforms&id=2191982#!/

Yours in Patriotism,

Ernie Coggins
103rd President, Virginia SAR

Registrar's Corner

New Compatriot Nathanael Kreimeyer was recently inducted by Immediate Past President Bruce Laubach at Nathanael's home. Charles Consolver, who was a soldier in the Virginia Militia, is Nathanael's Patriot ancestor. Nathanael's parents, Bob and Beth Kreimeyer, were also in attendance.

New member applications for Ryan Chicirda and Steve Sober were recently approved. Ryan is the son of Compatriot Jason Chicirda, and their Patriot ancestor is Thomas White, who paid a supply tax in support of the Revolutionary Cause. William Wright was a soldier in the Virginia Militia and is Steve's Patriot ancestor.

We look forward to inducting and welcoming Ryan, Jason, and Steve into the Virginia Society and the Williamsburg Chapter.



Hunt Berryman

Registrar

Email:

huntberryman@aol.com

Tidewater Virginia Patriot of the Month: Col. Samuel Griffin

A native of Richmond County, Virginia, Samuel Griffin (1746- 1810) also had deep roots in Williamsburg. Born into privilege, Griffin studied classics and law, was admitted to the Virginia bar, and worked as a lawyer. He is best known, however, for his role as a Continental Army colonel during the Revolutionary War. Serving as aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Charles Lee, Griffin helped change the course of the war in 1776 when he led several hundred militia and Virginia regulars into Mount Holly, New Jersey, to distract enemy troops. His action allowed General George Washington to cross the Delaware River, which led to the Continental Army's first major victory at the Battle of Trenton. He served as mayor of Williamsburg (1779-1780) and as a Federalist, Griffin represented Williamsburg in the Virginia Assembly (1786–88) before Virginians elected him to the First Federal Congress in 1789. He was reelected to Congress twice more but declined to run again in 1796 (Smithsonian and *Wikipedia*).



Flags of the American Revolution



2nd New Hampshire Regimental Flag

Source: Fraunces Tavern Museum

This flag was first raised under the command of Brigadier General Enoch Poor in 1775. The gold interlaced rings bear the name of the 13 colonies, symbolizing the strength, power, and unity of the new nation. Inside the sunburst, one of the earliest Union mottos declares, "WE ARE ONE."

The flag's striking design also appears on the Fugio Cent, the first coin authorized by the Continental Congress in 1787. The national copper cent was how Congress combated the growing number of counterfeit coins in circulation.

Designed by Benjamin Franklin, the coin was likely based on the 1776 Continental Dollar Coin, which was never circulated. The coin's front side features the word Fugio, which is Latin for "I fly," with a sundial and the phrase, "Mind Your Business" underneath. The bold statement has been purported as Franklin's way of warning the British to stay away. The back of the coin features the same imagery as the Second New Hampshire Regiment Flag. The interlocking circles of each colony represent their individual identities as part of a larger and stronger alliance. Together, the thirteen colonies indicated "we are one" against the Crown.



Did You Know???

At no time did more than 45 percent of colonists support the war, and at least a third of colonists fought for the British.

Unlike the Civil War, which pitted regions against each other, the war of independence pitted neighbor against neighbor. Americans were not only rebelling against the mother country, but they were also fighting each other. (Source: University of Rochester).

Chaplain's Corner – By George Corbett, Chaplain

Democracy or Constitutional Republic?



During this election season, we hear the term “Democracy” being tossed around quite frequently by the various politicians to reflect our form of government. Is the United States of America a Democracy or as we quote in the SAR Pledge, a Constitutional Republic?

The Founding Fathers clearly understood the difference based upon their knowledge of previous forms of governments throughout the ages. Alexander Hamilton recognized the real harm of a democracy. Democracy excludes the minority's rights. It reminds me of the classic saying “Democracy is like two wolves and a lamb voting on what to eat for lunch, but a Republic is a well armed lamb contesting the vote.”

The Founding Fathers recognized the terrible consequences of letting the majority have total power, therefore they created a system that ensured that everyone's opinion mattered. So, as we recite the SAR Pledge, let us be thankful to God that our founders had the foresight to create this glorious Constitution Republic with its system of checks and balances to allow for all to have a say in our governance.

Eternal Father, we seek your blessings upon this great nation. We pray for your guidance and wisdom upon our elected leaders that they may act upon behalf of all our citizens. Let us remember our Patriot Ancestors called upon your divine providence in times of peril and sought your guidance in the affairs of our young nation. May we never forget these and all other blessings you have bestowed upon our great nation. Amen.

2024 Williamsburg Chapter SAR Officers



President	John Lynch II
Vice President	Ron Adolphi
Secretary	Gerry Ward
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	Tatton Mason
Member-at-Large	Stephen McGuffin
Member-at-Large	Michael Doucette
Immediate Past President	Bruce Laubach



James Lafayette

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Wreath Laying & Monument Unveiling
Commemorating African American Patriots from
New Kent County Who Honorably Served During
“The Revolutionary War”



Crispus Attucks



Col. George Washington

February 3, 2024
11:00 am – 1:00 PM



Historic New Kent Court House

12003 New Kent Highway

New Kent County VA

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Sponsored By the

African American Heritage Society

Of New Kent County VA

For more info email:

Camilla: milliemac20@yahoo.com

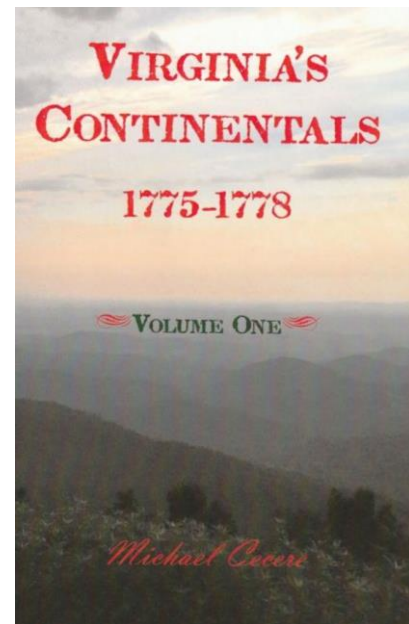
Mary: mbashlock74@aol.com

Sylvia: claudine9291@yahoo.com

Lavonne: lpata618@gmail.com



Revolutionary War Books Review – By Stephen Holm, Sergeant-at-Arms



Virginia's Continentals, 1775-1778, Volume One

Paperback (New), – June 8, 2022, 342 pages, signed by the author by Michael Cecere, One of our recent Chapter Speakers.

When the Revolutionary War erupted in Massachusetts in April 1775, no American army existed. Each colony had its own militia that required inhabitants, typically free men between the ages of sixteen to fifty years old, to defend the colony when needed. Few colonists imagined prior to 1775 that such colonial militia would be pitted against the professional regulars of the British army, but that is precisely what occurred as a result of the bloodshed at Lexington and Concord.

Within two months of the start of the war, the Continental Congress moved to strengthen the colonies by creating a Continental Army under General George Washington of Virginia. Aside from providing a commander-in-chief for this new, regular army of American troops (who were to serve until the end of the year), Virginia initially supplied just two companies of riflemen to the continental army. This soon changed, however, as both Congress and Virginia realized the need for vastly more continental soldiers. By the end of 1775, Congress called upon Virginia to supply six continental regiments of over 700 officers and men each to the Continental Army. Within another year, that number more than doubled to sixteen regiments and also included two regiments of light dragoons (cavalry) and one regiment of artillery.

This book explores the formation and service of Virginia's continental troops during the first several years of the Revolutionary War. Readers will discover that Virginia continentals played a pivotal role in a number of important battles including Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown, and Saratoga. Maps, a bibliography, and an index to full-names, places and subjects add to the value of this work. I personally own this book and found it very interesting and informative. I also plan to raffle Volume Two, published in 2023, which Covers 1778 to 1783 (end of the war) during the March Chapter Luncheon.

- Remote work is popular for many people in today's workforce. Remote work is also applicable to some of our chapter's activities. Over a third of our chapter members in 2023 lived greater than thirty minutes away from Williamsburg. The geographical separation makes it hard or impossible to attend chapter meetings thus potentially leading to compatriot disengagement. This year we have two chapter projects which will provide us the opportunity to participate in important SAR activities from our homes.
- The major project is to establish a driving tour of the 1781 Virginia Campaign leading up to the 6 July 1781 Battle of Green Spring. The idea is to start in Orange County, Virginia where Lafayette's army and General Anthony Wayne's Pennsylvanian Continentals united. Then, from there, identify locations where significant or interesting local or regional events occurred up through the immediate aftermath of the Green Spring battle. Local knowledge held by chapter compatriots will be important in developing the tour. A related opportunity is identifying Virginians who participated in the battles of Green Spring and Spencer's Ordinary (27 June 1781). We've identified over 90 such men using 1833 pension statements found on-line; we need to ensure that they have biographies and are listed in the SAR patriot database.
- A second project is identifying physicians who served in Virginia forces during the Revolutionary War. Ninety-eight doctors were identified by searching 1833 pension statements and other sources found on-line. Nearly half (48.9%) of these men are forgotten (i.e. not found in the SAR and DAR databases).
- According to the NSSAR website, SAR's "Historic Goals" include commemorating and providing memorials for the people and events of the American Revolution as well as providing genealogical research and publications. SAR published the names and grave locations for 140,000 patriots and the "...Patriot Index Committee is publishing information on 732000 patriots and their descendants." In December 2023 your chapter identified Dr. Anthony Tucker Dixon (a forgotten patriot), produced a biography, and added him to the SAR database.
- We hope you choose to participate in these efforts. Your work and your ideas will be appreciated.

***Your Opportunity to Remotely
Participate in Chapter Activities***

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>



8778
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))