



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

Vol. XIX

No. 3

March 2015

Message from the President

Six chapter members attended the VASSAR Annual meeting held in Richmond on Feb 20-21-22. Past president Ben Fegan was on hand to continue his support to our Rumbaugh oration competitor Taylor Povichour. Other attendees at the three day event were: Chapter past presidents; Ed Truslow and Bob Spencer, current board members, Jack Lee, Harley Steward and Don Swain. Our chapter garnered five streamers for members who had supported VASSAR events across the state. The most coveted, Chapter Excellence award for 2015, was presented to Bob Spencer. The chapter was also awarded a streamer for our excellent support to the VASSAR Presidents' initiative program that recognized the correct display of the American flag. Our certificates awarded total topped all chapters. Our significant support to Virginia History day activities also garnered a ribbon. Jim Swords' "The Magazine" and Marvin Williams' "Scrap Book" of our 2014 history were judged as the second place winners.

At our Saturday March 14 luncheon we will honor our very own color guard members with silver SAR metals. They are: Jim Henry, Tom Morr, Norm Fuss, Warren Deal, Bob Schmidt and Jeffery Brown. These gentlemen acquire and maintain their uniforms and muskets at their own expense, devote many hours to practice, as well as, performances. Their presence at events epitomize that the prime goal of SAR is to remember and honor our forefathers who fought and

died to establish our American Independence.

Jay Smith has secured another outstanding speaker for our March lunch. Mr. Bill Simpson, former VASSAR President, will present "Revolutionary Controversies".

These events make our 14 March lunch an event not to miss. Contact Jack Lee (valce@widomaker.com) for your reservations.

- Don Swain

Registrar's Corner

If you are searching for a relative or ancestor to fill out a supplemental application, a visit to the DAR Library in Washington D. C. could be helpful. Tidewater Genealogical Society charters a bus four times a year to travel to the library; non members are welcome.

The bus departs from Virginia Beach and picks up passengers in Williamsburg about 0645; we are in D. C. around 9-9:30 and spend the entire day at the Library. The leisurely ride without the hassle of traffic frustrations and parking problems is worth the \$60 fee. You can get more details by calling the registrar at 565-1707 or the trip coordinator, Peggy Lutton, at 753-4935. Next trip is March 26th and a few seats are still available.

- S.F. Ron Lossee

Chapter/VASSAR Calendar

Upcoming SAR Events in Our Region & Beyond



MARCH 14th, 2015

**Williamsburg Chapter Meeting
Williamsburg, VA**

APRIL 11th, 2015

**Williamsburg Chapter Meeting
Williamsburg, VA**

APRIL 18th, 2015

**2015 Virginia History Day
Williamsburg, VA**

APRIL 25th, 2015

**President James Monroe's 257th Birthday
Westmoreland Co. Cemetery (p. 8)**

APRIL 28th, 2015

**President James Monroe's 257th Birthday
Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond (p. 8)**

MAY 26th, 2015

**Williamsburg Chapter Meeting
Williamsburg, VA**

Memorial Day CW/SAR/DAR

JUNE 13th, 2015

**Joint Williamsburg/Thomas Nelson Jr.
Chapter Meeting**

Williamsburg, VA

JUNE 20th, 2015

**Spencer's Ordinary Commemoration
Williamsburg, VA**

JULY 4th, 2015

Independence Day

SAR-Bruton Parish/DAR-Berkeley Plantation



March 14th Chapter Luncheon

The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members and their ladies to attend the March luncheon meeting.

There will be an excellent guest speaker, VASSAR's own Past-President Bill Simpson. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Date: Saturday, March 14th, 2015

Location: Fort Magruder Inn
& Conference Center

6945 Pocahontas Trail (Rt. 60 east)

Social: 11:30 am

Meeting: 12:00 noon

**Sign-up Form on page 7 for the Saturday
March 14th Meeting @ 12:00 noon.**

**Reservations MUST be received not later than
Wednesday, March 11th.**

125th Annual Congress

June 25th – July 1st, 2015, Louisville, KY

The following is the passkey site for reservations for the Galt House Hotel and the SAR rate: <https://reswcb.passkey.com/go/NSSAR15>

If you experience a problem while using this webpage, please contact Paul Callanan, NSSAR Congress Planning Chair at 906-273-2424 or email ltcmrsc@aol.com. He will contact the hotel and get them to correct the issue.

Additionally, you can call the hotel at 1-800- THE-GALT (1-800-843-4258). Then press "1" when prompted. Make sure you inform them you are with the SAR for the Congress to get the right room rate.

Speaking of rooms and rates, there are two types:

Deluxe Rivue Rooms (either two Queen or one King bed)
for \$125.00 per night plus taxes;

Executive Suites (two Queen beds) for \$145.00 per night plus taxes.

Now some miscellaneous information:

The closet in the regular rooms are like a normal hotel room about 36" of hanging space. The closet in a Executive Suite are about 48" long. Wifi is **free** in the room if you are listed as SAR.

Mini-refrigerators are available in the Executive Suites.

There are no refrigerators in the Deluxe Rivue Rooms.

Parking is \$10.00 per day. This is a price reduction.

VASSAR Annual Meeting, February 21st, 2015

Members of the Williamsburg Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution attended the Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society, SAR, February 21st, 2015 in Richmond, VA. Pictured from left Harley Stewart, Secretary; Donald Swain, President; Jack Lee, Treasurer; Ed Truslow, Past-President and 1st Vice-President of the Virginia Society; and Bob Spencer, Past-President.



Mount Vernon Ladies Association History Project Awards



Pictured is Williamsburg SAR past president Robert Spencer presenting Mount Vernon Ladies Association certificates to Peyton Emerson and Sean Wiley and their teacher Rachel Moore for their web page titled "Yorktown Encampment". This was their award-winning project in the 2014 Virginia History Day competition. Peyton and Sean are seventh grade students at Hornsby Middle school.



March 14th Guest Speaker

Bill Simpson graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in Geology and received his Masters of Education Degree from the University of Southern California Overseas Division, Rota Spain.

Bill was commissioned in the US Navy through the NROTC program USC (South Carolina) and attended the Marine Corps Command and Staff College. He served as a Surface Warfare Officer in the US Navy for 20 years retiring as a Lieutenant Commander and is currently employed at the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory at Quantico, VA

Bill was the first member of his family to join either the Sons or the Daughters of the American Revolution. All his Patriot Ancestors settled in upstate South Carolina before the war. Most of the patriots or their forbearers came from Virginia with some stopping in N.C. before their children continued on the S.C. One Patriot Ancestor, Ralph Smith from Pennsylvania, was kicked out by the Quakers for taking up arms against King George. Ralph Smith was the Quartermaster for the Spartan Regiment of the 96 District in SC and a Justice of the Peace.

Bill has been three-time president of the Col Fielding Lewis Chapter SAR in Fredericksburg and was the Charter President of that Chapter. He has held a variety of Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution offices and committees culminating with State President Feb 2009 to Feb 2010

Bill's wife, BJ Welden Simpson is a charter member and an Honorary Regent of Prince William Resolves DAR Chapter and is a Senior Chairman with the Children of the American Revolution. (C.A.R.). Their daughter, Heather, is the Past Senior State President of the VA. C.A.R., Honorary Regent of the Prince William Resolves DAR and the Senior Vice President & SKYPE Coordinator Zweibruecken C.A.R. Society Germany and coordinates their meetings via Video Teleconferencing from our dining room table. She was also the 2012 Outstanding Junior for the Virginia DAR. Their son, Will, is a member of SAR and a senior with the "Light Horse Harry" Lee C.A.R.

2015 SAR/DAR/CAR Bermuda Gunpowder Plot Trip

Compatriots,

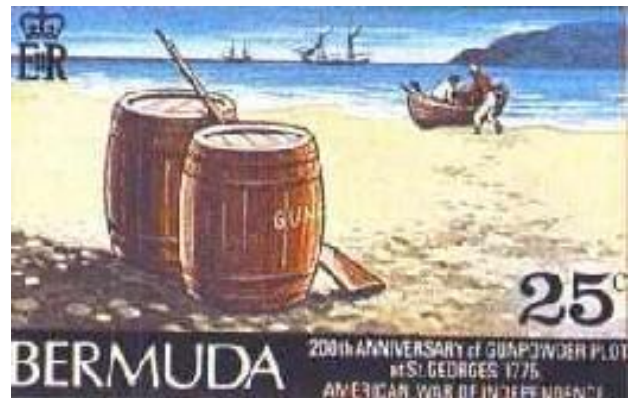
The SAR-DAR-CAR trip to Bermuda to commemorate the 240th anniversary of the Bermuda Gunpowder Plot will take place in August 2015. We are planning four (perhaps more) very special SAR-DAR-CAR events, including the dedication of two historical markers (at the site of the gunpowder magazine and near the birthplace of two Bermuda-born Patriots) and an interpretive sign (at Tobacco Bay Beach, where the gunpowder left shore for waiting American ships). We likely will have participation by the Governor, the Premier and the U.S. Consul General. But there will also be time for participants to enjoy the stunning beauty of Bermuda, from its pink sand beaches to its world-class golf courses!

Our headquarters is the Fairmont Southampton, one of the finest hotels on Bermuda -- and just a short walk from the world-famous Horseshoe Bay Beach.

This trip is open to SAR, DAR and CAR members and their families. All of the special events will be joint SAR-DAR-CAR events with official participation from all three organizations.

For more information, please contact me at elston.sar@gmail.com or you can peruse the preliminary itinerary at:

<https://prod.groupandevent.net/register/bermudapatriots>
To access the site, use the password gunpowder15. Registration and a \$200/person deposit will hold your place on the trip.



Feel free to share this with other SAR and DAR members in your local area who you think may be interested in the trip. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

- Mike Elston

Williamsburg Chapter Meeting, February 14th, 2015



Shirley Meyer, portraying Abigale Adams, is presented the Jefferson cup by Sons of the American Revolution Williamsburg Chapter President Don Swain. (Ironically, John Adams, a Federalist and Thomas Jefferson, a Democratic-Republican, were on opposite sides of the political spectrum.) Meyer, a retired history teacher from Grand Rapids, Michigan, portrayed Abigail Adams, packing up to move to the President's Mansion in Washington City in 1800, at a meeting of the Sons of the Revolution meeting. Meyer has taught history classes at Christopher Wren and is a volunteer at Colonial Williamsburg.

Thanks to Jack Lee and Ron Losee, a full complement of DAR wives of the Williamsburg SAR Chapter, attended the February 14th luncheon, "Moving to Washington City" Abigail Adams meeting.



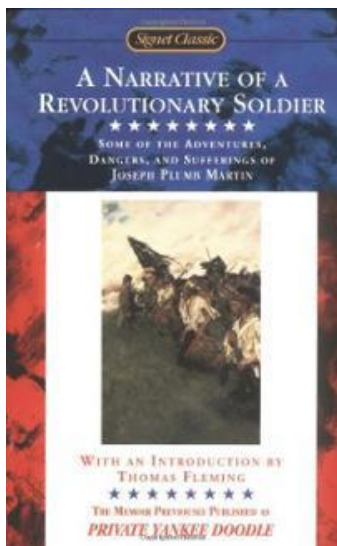
Williamsburg Chapter Meeting, February 14th, 2015 (cont.)

**Williamsburg Chapter SAR President
Don Swain presenting John Wenrich
with a Supplemental Ancestor
Certificate.**

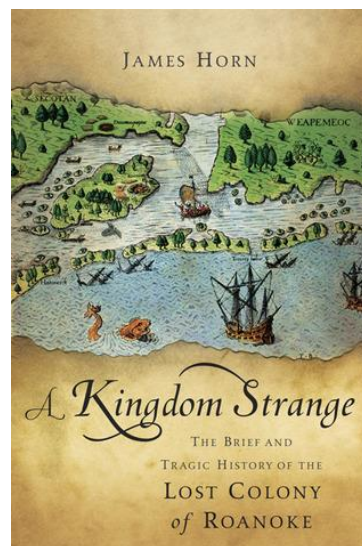


**Williamsburg Chapter SAR President
Don Swain, inducting new SAR
member Joseph Davies Jaap.**

March Book Raffle Selections



"A Narrative of A Revolutionary Soldier: Some of The Adventures, Dangers, and Sufferings of Joseph Plumb Martin", Signet Classics, 2001; & "A Kingdom Strange: The Brief and Tragic History of the Lost Colony of Roanoke", by James Horn, Basic Books, A Member of the Perseus Group, 2010, (a signed copy). Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 7 for \$5.00, and can be purchased at the Chapter meeting.



2015 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

President	Don Swain	dswain1015@aol.com
Vice-President	Jay Smith	jsmith@vikingeng.net
Secretary	Harley Stewart	hstewart9@cox.net
Treasurer	Jack Lee	valee@widomaker.com
Public Relations	Lew de Seife	ldeseife@cox.net
Registrar/Genealogist	Ron Losee	valosee@aol.com
Historian	Richard Newsome	r-newsome@sbcglobal.net
Chaplain	Rev. Dr. Jim Henry	thedawgsdidit@cox.net
At-Large Member	Tom Campbell	tcampbell113@cox.net
At-Large Member	George Bridewell	gbridewell@aol.com

Cut along dotted line

Reservation for the Saturday, March 14th 2015 Chapter Meeting:

Please reserve _____ dinners at \$20.00

Name(s) _____

of Vegetarian Dinners _____

Please make checks payable to "Williamsburg Chapter SAR"

and mail to:

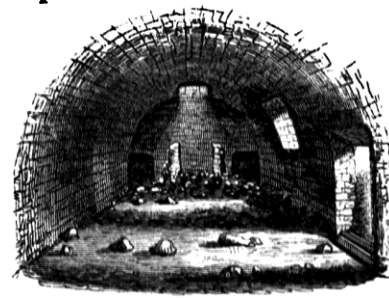
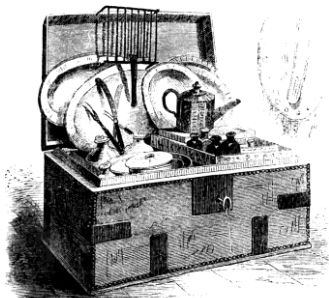
Jack Lee

521 Newport Ave.

Williamsburg, VA 23185-4012

(757) 221-6686

valee@widomaker.com



The James Monroe Memorial Foundation

*908 ½ Charles Street
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401*

*George William Thomas, Jr.
President*

February 25, 2015

Please reply to: Peter E. Broadbent, Jr.
Vice President
c/o Christian & Barton, LLP
909 E. Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219
804-697-4109
pbroadbent@cblaw.com

Dear Lineage/Patriotic Society Leader,

I am writing to ask that you pass along to your officers and members the following information regarding the activities in April to celebrate President James Monroe's 257th birthday.

This year, the actual birthday (April 28) ceremonies for President Monroe in Richmond (at Hollywood Cemetery) and in Westmoreland County (at the Monroe birthplace farm south of Colonial Beach) will occur on a different schedule, but we hope you can attend both events.

Westmoreland County Ceremony – Saturday, April 25

Starting at **10:00 a.m.**, at the Birthplace, the 257th anniversary ceremonies are expected to include local and state elected officials and federal officials. The formal ceremony will commence at **10:30 a.m.** Lunch will be provided afterward at the Moose Lodge nearby. Come to see the latest exhibits at the Visitor Center and learn the latest update on the Foundation's plans to rebuild the Birthplace house. There will be an opportunity for lineage societies to present wreaths. See www.monroefoundation.org for the Birthplace location.

Hollywood Cemetery Ceremony – Tuesday, April 28

This year our annual wreath-laying ceremony at President Monroe's tomb in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond will be at **11:00 a.m.** (subject to any changes by the Army, which conducts the ceremony). This is an impressive ceremony, with a speech on behalf of the President delivered by an Army general, a proclamation by the Governor, the Fort Lee color guard and band, and wreaths presented by the President, our Foundation, and various lineage societies.

We invite your participation and hope that attendance and participation at the annual Monroe birthday events will become a regular goal for all Virginia lineage societies which seek to honor our history.

*National Historic Landmark
Founder-Donors and Co-Regents of James Monroe Law Office Museum
and Memorial Library, Fredericksburg, Virginia*