



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.

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Jane Stewart

It is with sadness that I report that Jane Stewart, wife of our Chapter President Harley Stewart, passed away on 24 March at their home in Williamsburg after a lengthy illness. Mrs. Stewart was past Regent of the Williamsburg Chapter of The Daughters of the American Revolution and frequently attended SAR meetings and community activities. Arrangements are underway and will be published in the local newspapers. Please keep the Stewart family in your prayers.



Registrar's Corner

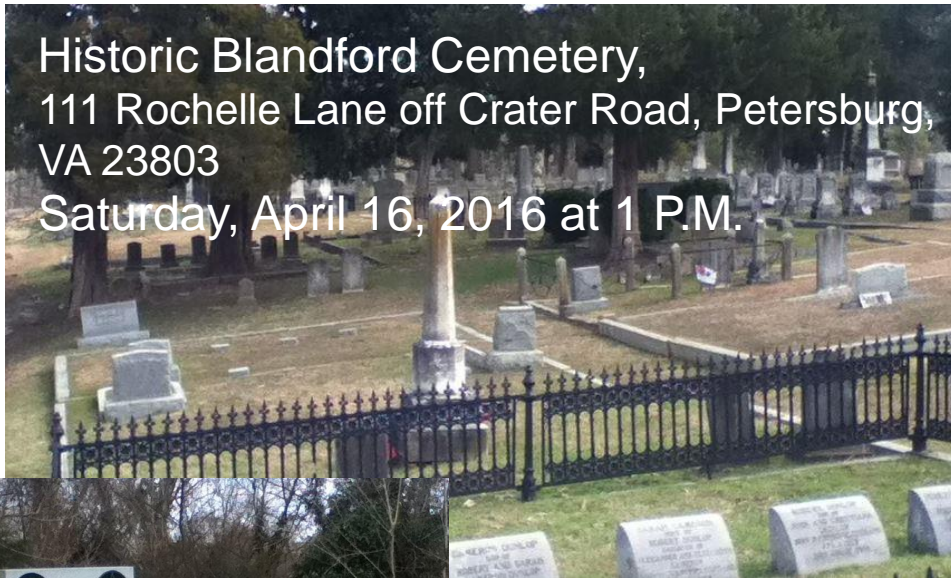
I was unable to take advantage of this month's Tidewater Genealogical Society bus trip to the DAR Library in Washington D.C. I do plan to travel with that group on their May trip. If you are interested, let me know. This month the Magazine newsletter of the Williamsburg chapter contains a new feature: an article concerning an ancestor of a compatriot. If any of our members has an anecdote or interesting historical event regarding an ancestor, let the registrar know.

- S.F. Ron Losee



The Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution and Richmond Chapter of VASSAR

Will honor the memory and service of the
19 Patriots of the Revolutionary War interred at



Historic Blandford Cemetery,
111 Rochelle Lane off Crater Road, Petersburg,
VA 23803
Saturday, April 16, 2016 at 1 P.M.



On this important occasion VASSAR
will dedicate our new monument, a
companion to this War of 1812 Society
memorial, plus raise the colors on
our newly installed, solar lighted
flag pole.

**Help us honor these previously unrecognized
Revolutionary War Patriots with your attendance
at this dedication ceremony.**

2016 Presidential Initiative of
Ed Truslow, President, VASSAR
Brent Morgan, President, Richmond Chapter, VASSAR
Please RSVP: denny234@verizon.net



Chapter/VASSAR Calendar

Upcoming SAR Events in Our Region & Beyond

April 9th 2016

Monthly Luncheon Meeting
Fort Magruder Inn
Williamsburg, VA

April 16th 2016

VASSAR Monument Ceremony
Blandford Cemetery
Petersburg, VA

April 16th 2016

Virginia History Day
Petersburg, VA

April 23rd 2016

James Monroe Birthday
Westmoreland County
Colonial Beach, VA

April 28rd 2016

James Monroe Birthday
Hollywood Cemetery
Richmond, VA

March 12th Chapter Luncheon

The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members, and their guests, to attend the April 9th Luncheon. We look forward to seeing you there.

Date: Saturday, April 9, 2016

Location: Fort Magruder Inn
& Conference Center

6945 Pocahontas Trail (Rt. 60 east)

Social: 11:30 am

Meeting: 12:00 pm

Please see the sign-up form on the last page of this newsletter.

Reservations MUST be received no later than
Wednesday, April 6th.

George Alan Morledge



Fellow SAR member George Alan Morledge died March 14, 2016. Alan came to Williamsburg in 1961, and was employed by Colonial Williamsburg until 1983. Alan served in the US Navy, ultimately retiring as a Commander in the reserves. He was an active member of Bruton Parish Episcopal Church, serving on the vestry. Alan has been a member of Williamsburg Chapter SAR since 2003. A memorial service will be held at 11:00am, Thursday, March 31, at Bruton Parish Church.

Special Invitation

The Virginia Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America and Two Rivers Country Club

Invite you and your membership to a luncheon and reinterment Ceremony at:
Two Rivers Country Club
1400 Two Rivers Rd. Williamsburg, VA
Saturday April 2, 2016

The luncheon will include a short presentation pertaining to the historical significance of the area which, in 1619, was a portion of the 3000-acre tract used by the Virginia Company of London. Archeological research of this same area, conducted in the 1919's, uncovered the remains of one male and three females (all English) most probably from the 1619-1657 period.

Please join us in paying homage to these early English settlers by placing a plaque and conducting a Reinterment Ceremony (rain or shine).

OFPA Membership (only) meeting starts at 10:30
Luncheon and presentation begins at 11:30
Graveside ceremony begins at 2:00

March 30 has been officially designated "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" by the U.S. Senate

The purpose here is not to elaborate on the merits or faults of the Vietnam War, or to explain why we were there, what we accomplished or how we could have done it better. The purpose here is to acknowledge and honor the Compatriots of the Vietnam War with words of gratitude. For us, the Sons of the American Revolution, such words should come easily and sincerely, for they are an acknowledgment of deeds similar to that which our forefathers did: they fought not for territorial gain, or personal wealth. They fought to make a country free.

It is with deep humility and pride that, on behalf of the Compatriots of the Sons of the American Revolution, I say thank you to Vietnam War Veterans for their service to country, especially to the 436 Compatriots who are members of the NSSAR Vietnam War Veterans Corps. Welcome home!



President General Thomas E. Lawrence

March Luncheon Meeting



New Members Welcomed

Harley Stewart, President of the Williamsburg Chapter (on the far right) welcomes new members inducted at the monthly meeting on March 12th. L-R Michael Kendrick & David Kendrick, Jim Hess and his wife Jean, and Chris Holmes and his wife Kim.

L-R Harley Stewart, President of the Williamsburg Chapter, presents a Jefferson Cup to guest speaker, Michael Steen (center) along with Chapter Vice-President Jay Smith at the Chapter's monthly meeting on March 12th. Steen's subject was the "Yorktown Sunken Fleet".



L-R Harley Stewart, President of the Williamsburg Chapter welcomed the newly elected President of the Virginia Society SAR (VASSAR), Ed Truslow, at the monthly meeting on March 12th. Truslow, a Williamsburg resident and member of the Williamsburg Chapter, offered remarks at the meeting.



April Luncheon Speaker

Senior Director of Museum Operations and Education, **Peter Armstrong**, is an internationally known leader in the museum profession who has more than 25 years of experience in museum work. He came to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation from the United Kingdom's National Museum of Arms and Armour, also known as the Royal Armouries, where he was creative development and commercial director since 2004. The Royal Armouries encompasses three sites in the U.K. and an affiliate in the United States, the Frazier History Museum in Louisville, Ky. During his tenure, Armstrong developed and promoted several major exhibitions, including "Henry VIII: Dressed to Kill" at the Tower of London. He also served as project director for reinterpretation of the Tower of London's White Tower and was project manager for capital improvements at Fort Nelson, a Victorian fort on England's south coast, winner of a Royal Institute of British Architects conservation award in 2012. He is currently leading the transition from the Yorktown Victory Center, a small museum with some living history areas, into a new state of the art \$50 million development, the American Museum at Yorktown, as well as leading the team on the future refresh of the Jamestown Galleries.

Yorktown Victory Center

April 2017 will see the full opening of the first museum in America to take its visitors on a revolutionary journey. This new \$50 million dollar, state of the art museum is based in Yorktown and has been in the planning for 6 years and under construction for two. Now, as it starts to emerge and open its doors to the general public, we explore what information it will give, what artifacts it will protect, and how the complex and inspiring story of the American revolution will be shared with the viewing public.



Utterly Unbelievable

Elias Utt was a young man living in Pennsylvania when the Revolutionary War began and the fact that he survived is amazing. In 1776 he was a private with the Flying Camp of Pennsylvania, what today would be called a mobile strategic reserve, to defend the middle colonies. On August 27, 1776 he was at the Battle of Long Island, the first major Revolutionary War battle after the United States declared independence on July 4th. It was a disastrous defeat for colonial forces.

The Battle of Wyoming in northeastern Pennsylvania occurred July 3, 1778 and has been more correctly titled the Wyoming Massacre. American Patriots fought a force of Loyalists and Iroquois Indians who used guerilla tactics. Private Utt was in Captain Hewitt's company of 40-45 men. Only 15 survived, most being scalped while attempting to escape the slaughter of more than 300 patriots. Utt took an Indian musket ball that entered his right chest and exited below the collar bone, but was able to escape. He was discharged. Later he returned to military service and during his last two years operated as a guide and frontier scout.

He was awarded a military pension. Elias had a daughter named Elizabeth who married a James Sebring; the Utt and Sebring names were encountered frequently in SAR application research for Compatriot Eric Ely who was inducted as a member of the Williamsburg chapter in 2015 after identifying Elias Utt as his ancestor. Elias' father, Henry came to America from Germany in 1742 and was the father of seven children, all boys.

Eric was surprised to see a photograph discovered during the application research. It showed a man leaning over a tombstone in a New York cemetery. Contacting the photographer, Eric and his wife traveled to the area and it turned out the photographer was Bill Sebring and the man in the picture was Mike Tunison, both SAR members and related to Eric. Another remarkable genealogical discovery.

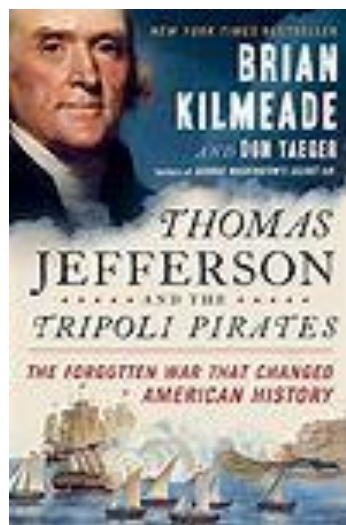
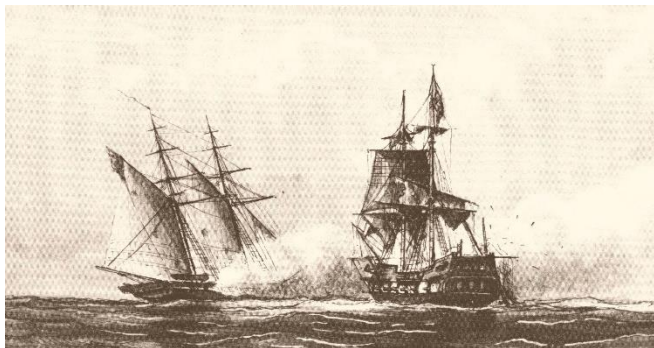
However, Here's the rest of the story. In November, over 7,000 miles west of Virginia while visiting China, Eric overheard another tourist at a hotel registration desk mention the name Utt. As unbelievable as it seems, the gentleman was Ron Utt who shares a great, great, great, great grandfather with Eric. Ron descends from the first son of Henry Utt; Eric from the second son.

They should see more of each other. Ron Utt lives in Fredericksburg!!!



April Luncheon Book Auction

The Raffle book for April meeting is “Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates; The Forgotten War That Changed American History”, by Brian Kilmeade and Don Yaeger, Sentinel Penguin Random House LLC, New York, New York 10014, 2015.



2016 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

President	Harley Stewart	hstewart9@cox.net
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Treasurer	Jack Lee	valce@widomaker.com
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Chaplain	Rev. Dr. Jim Henry	thedawgsdidit@cox.net
Projects	Tom Campbell	tcampbell113@cox.net
Sergeant-at-Arms	George Bridewell	gbridewell@aol.com

Cut along dotted line

Reservation for the Saturday, April 9th 2016 Chapter Luncheon 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

valce@widomaker.com

