



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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President's Message

Within the last three years, our chapter has grown in membership from 100 to 145. It is now the second-largest chapter in the Virginia Society SAR and there are now many new members in our ranks. At the same time there are many opportunities for service to the missions of the SAR. You are all aware of the 18 commemorative events observed during the year by our chapter, state and national organizations. But are you aware that our chapter has 12 – yes 12 – committees, a few of which are in need of a chairman, but almost all of which could use members to help out and provide succession?

These committees are (in no particular order) ROTC, Flag, Color Guard, Veterans, Scouting, Teacher of the Year, Policeman and Fireman of the Year, Public Relations, Civic Organizations, Awards, Rumbaugh Oration, and Knight Essay. Please make your interests known to anyone, but particularly to the officers listed in this newsletter. We would love to have you more involved in the missions of our chapter and look forward to hearing from you.

- Harley



Registrar's Corner

The summer heat must have affected possible new applicants for membership. Business has been slow; however, that presents an opportunity for our current members. If you have a grandson, son or brother who you would like to join the SAR, let's do it! By using your application record copy, and I do have most of them in my files, we can add a birth certificate and a few other easily accessible documents for a completed application. No necessity to conduct research; your record copy contains the approved documentary evidence and no additional references are needed. For males under the age of 18 the cost is less. I frequently see in NSSAR ancestor reports 3-4-5 sons/brothers accompanying a new member's application; the entire male family in one whack! Call or send me a message. I can have an application ready for signature in 24-48 hours. New subject: if you have an interesting tale about an ancestor or family member, send it to me. I'm always looking for subject matter for use in our ancestor anecdotes printed monthly in the chapter newsletter.

- S.F. Ron Looee



Chapter/VASSAR Calendar
Upcoming SAR Events in Our Region & Beyond

September 3rd 2016

**Chartering Ceremony for the
Isaac Carter Chapter SAR
Havelock, NC**

September 3rd 2016

**Commemoration of the Battle of the
Capes.**

**Hosted by the Norfolk Chapter SAR
at St. Theresa's Chapel & The
Admiral de Grasse Statue,
Virginia Beach, VA**

September 16-17, 2016

**VASSAR Semi-Annual meeting
Woodlands Conference Center
Colonial Williamsburg, VA**

October 7th 2016

**Battle of Kings Mountain
Greenville, SC**



September 10^h Chapter Luncheon

The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members and their guests to attend the September 10th luncheon. We look forward to seeing you there.

Date: Saturday, September 10, 2016

Location: Ft. Magruder Inn
Williamsburg

Meeting: 11:30

Please see the RSVP information on the last page of this newsletter.

**Reservations MUST be received no later than
Wednesday, September 7th.**

**Planning Underway for SAR
Veterans Day Ceremonies**

Tom Campbell reports a recent meeting with Colonial Williamsburg has confirmed plans for our Veterans Day event this November 11, 2016. The event is scheduled for 11:00 am.. This year, continuing to emphasize the contribution of 'Forgotten Patriots' during the Revolutionary War, we will highlight the contribution of African Americans who fought for both the British and the Patriots...even though freedom was not assured.

Gowan Pamphlet, a free man and minister, portrayed by James Ingram, who began life as a slave, will talk about their contributions during the ceremonies. Mr. Ingram, the featured speaker, will be accompanied by a flag procession by the Boy Scout of Troop 1932.

Chapter Happenings



SAR gives Community Service Award

L-R Harley Stewart, chapter President, Landon & Cary Middlebrook, and Don Swain. Cary was awarded the Fire Safety and EMS medal. The Williamsburg Fire Department has experienced a dramatic increase in EMS-related incidents. Cary showed exceptional leadership in implementing EMS programs.

Special Tour of the New ARMY

Williamsburg SAR compatriot, Tom Campbell, had a 'private' tour of the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown with Director Peter Armstrong and two additional invitees, Dr. Lee Heath and his wife Cherryl, with ARMY representatives Christiana and Peter Armstrong, on the right in the picture. Tom reports the museum is FANTASTIC. "We saw the movie that is being developed....it will 'blow' you away!!!"



Officer Timothy Renwick Recognized

L – R Harley Stewart, chapter President, Officer Timothy Renwick, Don Swain. In the background is the JCC Police Monster Truck. Renwick was recognized for his exemplary traffic patrol, arrests, and negotiating skills.

Re-Posting of the British Flag over the Royal Welch Fusiliers Redoubt at Yorktown

A ceremonial re-posting of the British flag over the Royal Welch Fusiliers Redoubt was held on July 23, 2016 at the Yorktown Battlefield, Yorktown, Virginia. A recreation of an 18th century British flag was raised at the redoubt in an event jointly sponsored by the National Park Service and the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation.

The flag was presented by retired British Army Lt. Gen. Jonathon Riley, who served in the 1990's as commanding officer of the 1st Royal Welch Fusiliers and is a descendent of Gen. William Howe. The regiment dates back to the 17th century and is also known as the 23rd Regiment of Foot.

At the 1781 Siege of Yorktown, the Welsh Fusiliers held off two attempts by French forces to take their position prior to the British surrender. The redoubt still stands and is directly across from the Yorktown Victory Center.

The procession from the Victory Center to the redoubt was led by the Yorktown Fifes and Drums and a Continental Army musket detail. The procession was met at the redoubt by Royal Welch Fusiliers re-enactors.



Remarks were made by Lt. Gen. Jonathon Riley, who is also chairman of the Royal Welch Fusiliers Association and Trust, by Peter Armstrong, Sr. Director Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, and by Jim Brown, National Park Service.

The British flag was raised by the Royal Welch Fusiliers re-enactors followed by a mortar salute on the redoubt. The flag, a gift of the Royal Welch Fusiliers Museum Trust, is a hand-stitched reproduction of a British flag that would have been flown in 1781.

Group Photo. L to R: Fusilier re-enactor; Harley Stewart, President, Williamsburg Chapter SAR; Peter Armstrong, Sr. Director, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation; Jonathon Riley, Lt. Gen. British Army (ret.); Jim Brown, acting Asst. Dir., Yorktown National Park Service; Jeff Lambert, President SR chapter and Williamsburg Chapter member; Fusilier re-enactor.

- Harley

September Luncheon Speaker:

Joseph Beatty

Joseph Beatty is Director of Research and Interpretive Education at Colonial Williamsburg, where he is involved in advancing the Foundation's archaeological, architectural, and historical research as well as staff training. Joe earned his Ph.D. in American History with a focus on the Atlantic world from the University of Florida and taught college courses in history in Florida before returning to his native Virginia in 2014. Joe is a member of our chapter.



With the end of the American War for Independence, thousands of Loyalists suddenly found themselves unwelcome in North America. They retreated to new homes across the British Empire, while many went to the Bahamas in search of better fortunes. Soon, these new arrivals in the Bahamas found prosperity in long-staple cotton, which by the latter years of the 1780s, had brought nearly 8,000 acres under till. By 1790, both cotton plantations and the multitude of African and

African American hands that planted, picked, and cleaned the cotton appeared to be timeless features of Bahamian life. In fact, most of the enslaved people who formed the majority of the islands' population were—like the Loyalists—also recent migrants. In the span of less than a generation, the people and practices of Bahamian Loyalists would make a significant impact on life in the American South in the decades following the Revolution.



In Memory: Robert E. Dunnells

Robert E. Dunnells Sr., 90, born December 7, 1925 in Maine, passed away on Sunday, August 21, 2016. Mr. Dunnells, a highly decorated member of Sons of the American Revolution, served our country as Captain in the United States Navy with 33 years of service. He spent many passionate hours performing genealogical checks for potential members into the SAR, and served as the Williamsburg chapter president from 2006 – 2008.

A memorial service was held on Thursday, August 25, 2016 at Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg. The members of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR wish to extend their condolences to the family.

“Old Put”

Compatriot Howard Perley proudly proclaims he is descended from the family of “Old Put”, as General Israel Putnam was affectionately known around Boxford, Massachusetts in the 1700s.

You see, when Israel Putnam was only seven years old, his father (Joseph Putnam) died, and a close friend and neighbor, Thomas Perley, Howard’s six-greats grandfather, became Israel’s legal guardian and schoolmaster. When Thomas Perley’s wife died, he married Israel Putnam’s widowed mother, and also became Israel Putnam’s stepfather. (It gets better.)

On 30 September 1731 one of the sons from Thomas Perley’s first marriage, who was also named Thomas, married Israel Putnam’s sister, Eunice, his stepsister. Their son, Aaron Perley, who was born 18 September 1755, is the Patriot of Williamsburg chapter member Howard Perley. Aaron fought the British at the Battle of Lexington, and later in the Continental and Northern armies.

“Old Put” was on-scene general at the Battle of Bunker (really Breed’s) Hill and family lore says that he uttered the famous quotation: “Don’t fire until you see the whites of their eyes!” But there was a colonel named William Prescott who was there, and some historians claim he spoke those famous words. (The fact that William’s grandson was a later historian probably has no influence on that claim.) Then, there is a Colonel Stark, and a chap named Gridley who laid claim. Makes no difference, the British lost more men in that battle than any other in the Revolutionary War.

Who said it first? Maybe it was Prince Charles of Prussia in 1745, repeated by Frederick the Great ten years later; or was it Lieutenant Colonel Sir Andrew Agnew of Lochnaw warning his Royal Scot Regiment Fusiliers in 1743? General James Wolfe allegedly used it on the Plains of Abraham when his troops defeated Montcalm’s Army in 1759.

“Old Put” was famous for his courage and recklessness; he was with Roger’s Rangers in the French and Indian War, was captured by Mohawks and saved from death-by-burning by a convenient thunderstorm and intervention of a French ally.

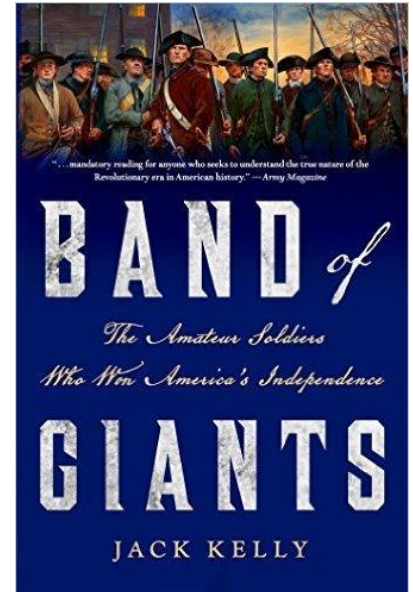
He later was seriously burned extinguishing a structure fire next to a magazine full of powder; survived a shipwreck on the British expedition to Cuba in 1762 and fought against the British until he died of a stroke, in December 1779.

Compatriot Howard Perley has visited his Patriot Aaron’s original mansion, built in 1818, and when he tells the story of General Israel Putnam’s remarkable contribution to the Revolutionary War cause, and waves Thomas Perley’s original walking stick in the air, it’s wise to politely agree that “Old Put” must have waved it as well.

Book Raffle for September 10th Luncheon

Band of Giants: The Amateur Soldiers Who Won America's Independence, by Jack Kelly (2016-01-26)

Jack Kelly is a journalist and historian. He is the author of five novels. Critics praised Kelly's wide-ranging history. He is a regular contributor to American Heritage Magazine and other national periodicals and has appeared on The History Channel. A New York Foundation for the Arts fellow in nonfiction literature, Kelly lives in the Hudson Valley, near many of the important sites of the Revolution.



Williamsburg Chapter Officers

President	Harley Stewart	Registrar/Genealogist	Ron Losee
Vice-President	Jay Smith	Historian	William Greaf
Secretary	Roger Cross	Chaplain	Rev. Dr. Jim Henry
Treasurer	Jack Lee	Projects	Tom Campbell
Public Relations	Lew de Seife	Sergeant-at-Arms	George Bridewell

For information about the Williamsburg Chapter SAR please contact Harley Stewart, President, at hstewart9@cox.net.

Cut along dotted line

Reservation for the Saturday, September 10th 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

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