



# 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.*

Vol. XXI

Number 8

AUGUST 2017

### President's Message

Our chapter, with good turnouts, recently observed two battles of the Southern Campaign – Spencer's Ordinary and Green Spring. A special feature at Green Spring was John Lynch's telling the story of his patriot ancestor, Lt. Belfield Cave, who fought at the Battle of Green Spring. John is the first chapter member known to be so connected. This history was revealed during research for the applications of John Lynch II and his son, John Lynch III.

Our Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving at Bruton Parish on 4<sup>th</sup> July was memorable and moving with close to 60 attending, which included DAR ladies. Thanks to them for moving their event one hour forward to noon. This enabled greater exchange of attendance between SAR and DAR. Our members then attended the DAR commemoration and wreath laying at Benjamin Harrison's grave site, Berkeley Plantation, and then enjoyed a nice DAR luncheon at the Carriage House. The events were a wonderful celebration of Independence Day by SAR/DAR.

Our July meeting, attended by 55, featured welcomes to Jim Harris, newly transferred from the Richard Henry Lee Chapter, and to Woody Spivey, from the Phoenix Chapter, AZSAR visiting Williamsburg this summer with family. Four new members were inducted so that our membership has passed 160 with three more approved and eight submittals in process. Our new Constitution and Bylaws, as drafted by Bob Spencer and Ron Losee, were presented by Ron and approved by unanimous vote. Both were thanked for a job much needed and well done.

Our chapter sent a three-man delegation headed by Steve McGuffin to present our wreath at the 243<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves at Fairfax County Courthouse. Our attendance was much appreciated by Jeff Thomas, president of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter. Also, your president presented the chapter wreath at a plaque dedication ceremony to honor patriots of the American Revolution and the War of 1812 – a Virginia Society presidential initiative – at historic Pohick Church, Lorton, Virginia.

We have added three new events to our annual activities – a meeting in August, a booth at Merchants Fair (W&M) in August, and observance of Flag Day (June 14<sup>th</sup>). I look forward to seeing you at the August 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.



## Chapter/VASSAR Calendar

### Upcoming Events in Our Region & Beyond

August 12, 2017

**Williamsburg Chapter Luncheon**  
**Colonial Heritage Clubhouse**  
**Williamsburg, VA**

September 3, 2017

**Commemoration**  
**Battle of the Capes**  
**Norfolk, VA**  
**(Little Creek Base)**

September 15-16, 2017

**VASSAR**  
**Semi-Annual Meeting**  
**Newport News, VA**

October 7, 2017

**Commemoration**  
**Battle of King's Mountain**  
**Greenville, SC**

October 19, 2017

**Yorktown Day**  
**Wreath-laying and Parade**  
**Yorktown, VA**

October 21, 2017

**Commemoration**  
**Battle of the Hook**  
**Gloucester, VA**

## August 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter Luncheon

The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members and their guests to attend the August luncheon held at the clubhouse at Colonial Heritage. Please note that reservations are required and the reservation form is on the last page of this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Date:** Saturday, August 12, 2017

**Location:** The Clubhouse

Colonial Heritage

Social: 11:30

Meeting: 12:00

**Please see the RSVP information on the last page of this newsletter.**  
**Reservations MUST be received no later than Saturday, August 5th .**

## SAR Baseball Caps Are Now Available

SAR baseball type caps are now available through the chapter. There will be a supply of them at the August luncheon. They are purchased by the chapter from NASAR at a cost of \$20, and are offered to members at the same price. Get yours now!



## Registrar's Corner

Registrar's Corner - Referrals to persons who have expressed an interest in SAR continue to dribble in during this vacation season, but I cannot say I am overwhelmed with prospects. I do observe it is too hot and humid to do much outside, so it is actually a good time to be on a computer, preparing an application or doing a bit of research.

Mention this circumstance to those you meet in the course of your daily life who express interest in their American Revolution family history. Bring the subject up.

As I look at the Applicant Tracking information provided each week by NSSAR, I see lists of 3 or 4 or more applicants in a row from Virginia with the same last name and ancestor. Who are they? These are the sons and grandsons of SAR members. There is no reason each of us cannot do the same. I'm sure we have several more members who have more than one patriot ancestor. Supplemental applications are welcome.

There is more and more genealogical information on the internet, but really nothing can compare to a visit to the DAR Library or the National Archives in Washington, DC. If you have never been there, it is fascinating! The next bus trip by the Tidewater Genealogical Society is 16 August. For \$75 (\$60 for members of TGS), it is a great way to get there and back without driving I-95. If you are interested, contact me and I will put you in contact with the trip coordinator.

*- Jim Hess*

## Fairfax Resolves

On Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, the 243<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Fairfax Resolves was held at the Historic Fairfax courthouse, Fairfax, VA. In attendance from the Williamsburg chapter were Stephen McGuffin, Roger Cross and Bob Spencer. Mr. McGuffin presented a wreath on behalf of the chapter.

The Fairfax resolves were presented to the freeholders and inhabitants of Fairfax county on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1774. This was two years before the signing of the Declaration of Independence. There were 25 signers of the Resolves including George Washington and George Mason. The Fairfax resolves were a set of resolutions rejecting the British parliament claim of supreme authority over the American colonies, and were a response to the punishment given to Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party. George Washington described these resolves as a statement to "define our constitutional rights." The Resolves also marked an important step forward in inter-colonial cooperation as more Americans began to realize that a threat against one colony was a threat against all.

The 243<sup>th</sup> anniversary event included addresses by the mayor of Fairfax, VASSAR president, Mike Elston, and selected readings from the Resolves. Don McAndrews, who has portrayed George Mason for several decades, gave his remarks about his work on the Fairfax resolves. Thirteen chapters from DAR, SAR, CAR presented wreaths from their respective chapters.

**Please see photos of this event on page 6.**



## Chapter Happenings

### Williamsburg Chapter 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebrations



Above: members of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR stand inside Bruton Parish Church. The Williamsburg Chapter sponsors a Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving each year on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July at the church.



On the left: Chapter President, Harley Stewart. Stand with the Williamsburg Chapter wreath at the tomb of Benjamin Harrison V. The Williamsburg Chapter DAR hosts a birthday commemoration each 4<sup>th</sup> of July at Berkeley plantation and invites the Williamsburg Chapter SAR to participate. A very nice luncheon followed the ceremony.



## Chapter Happenings Cont'd



On the left: The Williamsburg chapter welcomes new members at the July luncheon. From left, Diane and Jeff Wooldridge; Tim Grabowski; Richard and Karen Durst; Scott Brown, Alex Powell, Registrar Jim Hess and President Harley Stewart.

On the right: Williamsburg Chapter presents the July luncheon speaker, Doug Cummings, with a Certificate of Appreciation for his well received presentation. From the left, Jay Smith, Chapter Vice-President, Doug, and chapter President Harley Stewart.



On the left: Williamsburg Chapter President Harley Stewart, recognizes Past President Bob Spencer, and Board of Managers member Ron Losee, for their efforts in updating the Chapter's Constitution and By-Laws. The revisions were approved by the membership at the luncheon.



## Chapter Happenings Cont'd



On the left: The 243th anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves was attended by thirteen chapters from DAR, SAR, CAR who presented wreaths from their respective chapters.

On the right: Williamsburg Chapter Historian, Stephen McGuffin stands with the Williamsburg Chapter wreath which he presented on the chapter's behalf at the Commemoration ceremony for the Fairfax Resolves.



On the left: On Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, the 243th anniversary of the signing of the Fairfax Resolves was held at the Historic Fairfax courthouse, Fairfax, VA. In attendance from the Williamsburg chapter were Stephen McGuffin, Roger Cross and Bob Spencer. Mr. McGuffin presented a wreath on behalf of the chapter.

## Chapter News

### Fly the Flag

If you don't have the capability or desire to fly the American flag daily, there is an alternative way to celebrate our patriotic holidays.

Annin Flagmakers of New Jersey is manufacturing a Quick Stick Flag Bracket for mailboxes, railings, posts, etc. that holds a miniature American flag similar to those the SAR has distributed at the Independence Day military band concert. Flags can be displayed whenever you desire (should be removed at sunset daily). The bracket adheres using the tape on the reverse side of the bracket. (See photo)



SAR member/flag chairman Ron Losee usually has a few in his briefcase. Cost is \$3. He will supply a free flag.



### VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting September 15-16

This year's semi-annual meeting will be slightly different than previous meetings. The Board of Managers meeting will be held on Friday afternoon at 2 p.m. followed by dinner on your own. We will then offer six different workshops in the evening (three from 7 to 8 pm and three from 8 to 9 pm) consisting of Registrar/Genealogy, Admin/Awards, Color Guard, Chapter Governing, Americanism and Membership Recruiting/Retention.

Plans also include an informative and entertaining Friday night ladies' program presented by Ms. Emily Elston, VA C.A.R. State President. Room reservations, available at the rate of \$113.00 per night at the Marriott at City Center in Newport News, may be made now. This special room rate will only be available through August 22nd so make your reservations now. Meeting registration forms and more detailed information on the workshops and programs will be available soon.



## August Luncheon Speaker: Dr. Dennis R. Cogswell “The Squire”

Dr. Dennis R. Cogswell is Professor Emeritus of Social Work, Radford University (2007) and founder of Dr. D’s Domains (2011). He holds a Doctorate in Adult and Continuing Education (1985) from Virginia Tech., and a Master’s Degree in Social Science Administration (1968), from Case-Western Reserve, University. He teaches for Christopher Wren at W & M. He has published, taught and presented extensively in the areas of families, critical thinking and colonial history. Presently several books are under pen. For his alter ego, “The Squire”, he maintains a website that explores historical events & experiences as told through the life and eyes of a 396-year-old man. [www.SquireBinForever.com](http://www.SquireBinForever.com),

## Artifact Display Table

At the August Williamsburg chapter, SAR, meeting Ron Losee will display historical artifacts to illustrate a potential future luncheon meeting feature the board of managers has under consideration.

A dedicated table for display of memorabilia representing various times in American history will contain items pertaining to the Revolutionary War Era, Civil War era, World Wars I & II, Korea, Vietnam, etc. If the membership determines that this should be continued on a monthly basis, a program will be developed to encourage all members to participate.

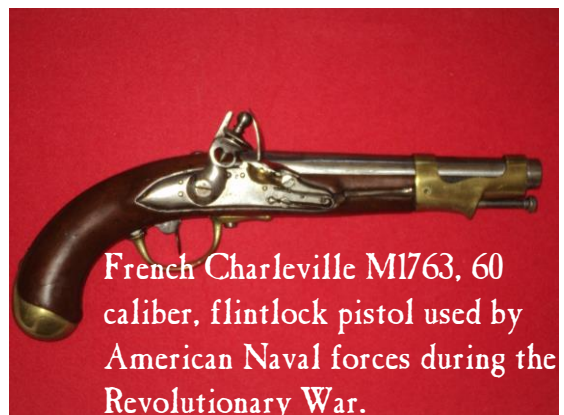
Currently the thinking is that each month would feature a specific, dedicated historical category which will be announced in the monthly newsletter.

Categories will not only include periods of history involving military actions, but also such categories as : “The Depression & Prohibition”, “Fossils, Bones and Rocks, “ and “The Space Age”.

Our membership includes a variety of careers, occupations, hobbies and travels and it is hoped that all members will participate with items they have collected, or have squirreled away, for viewing at a luncheon meeting.

There will be some restrictions and ground rules such as no explosives, no live animals, no price tags (you can deal later). A volunteer point of contact will be announced in the newsletter, along with the historic category being featured, and coordination encouraged to eliminate space/size problems. Display security remains with the item owners. (This paragraph is included for those who worry about such things).

Any member who desires to display one or more artifacts at a specific luncheon meeting should coordinate with the volunteer who will ensure the item is appropriate and that space is available. More information in the September newsletter."



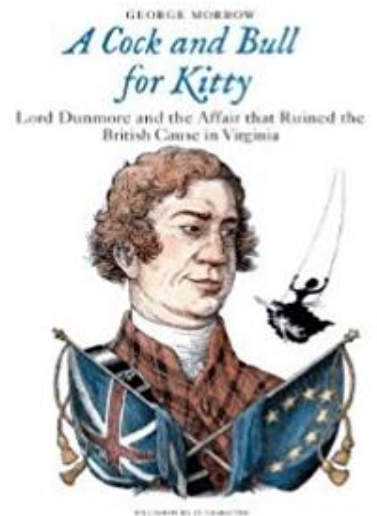
French Charleville M1763, 60 caliber, flintlock pistol used by American Naval forces during the Revolutionary War.



## August Book Raffle

WILLIAMSBURG IN CHARACTER is a series of seven books written by George T. Morrow II, a Williamsburg resident. In these seven books the author examines in depth the many Revolutionary characters and events that will take you on a journey of discovery. This is a book collection that will be raffled off as one, **what a bargain!**

Purchase your raffle tickets for your chance to own these amazing books, \$1 for one raffle ticket or \$5 for 7 tickets, at our next luncheon/meeting on August 12.



## 2017 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

<b>President</b>	Harley Stewart	<b>Registrar/Genecalogist</b>	Jim Hess
<b>Vice-President</b>	Jay Smith	<b>Historian</b>	Steve McGuffin
<b>Secretary</b>	Roger Cross	<b>Chaplain</b>	Jack Lee
<b>Treasurer</b>	William Greaif	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Richard Newsome
<b>Public Relations</b>	Lew de Seife	<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Eric Ely
<b>At-Large</b>	Ron Losec	<b>At-Large</b>	Tom Campbell

For information about the Williamsburg Chapter SAR please contact Harley Stewart, President, at [hstewart9@cox.net](mailto:hstewart9@cox.net).

*Cut along dotted line*

**Reservation for the Saturday, August 12th 2017, Chapter Luncheon:**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ regular meals at \$20.00

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

# Vegetarian meals \_\_\_\_\_ # Vegan Dinners \_\_\_\_\_ # Gluten free meals \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **“Williamsburg Chapter SAR”**

and mail to arrive by August 5<sup>th</sup>:

**SAR**

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Williamsburg, VA 23185-4012

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