



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 11

NOVEMBER 2017

President's Message

Our Chapter has passed the milestone of 175 members, 31 new and 4 transfers since the beginning of 2017. Registrar Jim Hess is presently working with 17 potential applicants.

A Bronze Good Citizenship Certificate and Medal were awarded to Teacher Julie Bray of the Toano Middle School. She has taught American history for 23 years and says our nation's history will always be her passion. Your president stated the SAR's commitment to history education and James Fiorito, our Teacher of the Year Chair, cited her accomplishments. It turned out that she had a patriot ancestor at the Battle of Brandywine.

Yorktown Victory Day on Oct. 19th began with the usual wreath-laying at the tomb of Gov. Thomas Nelson, Jr. Nine members of the Williamsburg Chapter attended or participated. Speaker Mike Elston, VASSAR President, gave an informative history of Nelson's contributions to American independence, including the Virginia Militia at Yorktown.

Do not miss our Chapter's signature event on Veterans Day, for which we will gather at 11 AM on Nov. 11th at the cemetery behind the Governor's Palace in Colonial Williamsburg. A great event has been prepared by Tom Campbell. The program will include Colors, Fife and Drum, National Anthems, Procession of Revolutionary War Flags, Speaker, Wreath Laying and Bugler.

Our November meeting will take place after the commemoration at the Governor's Palace. A social gathering will start at noon and the meeting at 12:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Clubhouse. The meeting will feature election of 2018 officers and board members, inductions of 5 new members, 8 awards for chapter service and a speaker, Craig Boice, who served in Viet Nam and is one of the most decorated generals in U.S. Army history.

Mark your calendars for the annual joint dinner-meeting with the Gov. Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter on Saturday evening, January 13th with installation of officers.



- Harley

Chapter/VASSAR Calendar

Upcoming Events in Our Region & Beyond

November 6, 2017

**Williamsburg Chapter SAR/
Board of Managers Meeting
10:00am Williamsburg Library
Williamsburg, VA**

November 11, 2017

**Veterans Day
Commemoration
Williamsburg Chapter SAR/
Colonial Williamsburg
Williamsburg, VA**

November 11, 2017

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

December 2, 2017

**Commemoration
Battle of Great Bridge
Chesapeake, VA**

January 13, 2018

**Joint Chapter Dinner Meeting
With Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter**

November 11th Chapter Luncheon

The Williamsburg Chapter invites all members and their guests to attend the November 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. **Please note the one-time 12:00 starting time due to the Veterans Day program at Colonial Williamsburg.**

Date: Saturday, November 11, 2017

Location: The Clubhouse

Colonial Heritage

Social: 12:00

Meeting: 12:30

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

Reservations are REQUIRED and MUST be received no later than Saturday, November 4th.

Display Table for November Luncheon

The war in Vietnam will be the subject of display items at the November luncheon of the chapter. Chapter members are encouraged to bring artifacts, souvenirs, and battlefield pickups for display. Call Ron Losee at (757)565-1707 for information.



VETERANS DAY



Our Veterans Day Event this November 11, 2017 (11:00 AM) is shaping-up to be our best event ever with the assumption that we will have good weather. As you may recall, last year we had a fantastic attendance with approximately 325 attending and we had a rousing speaker from Colonial Williamsburg with Rev. Gowan Pamphlet, interpreted by James Ingram (CW). This year CW has confirmed our request to have Mark Schneider, who portrays Marquis de Lafayette, to be our featured speaker. Photographs of last year's speaker beside that of this year's speaker are shown below:



Due to the efforts of President Harley Stewart, we will have a great showing with possibly eight wreaths presented during the program. The wreath bearers will include the following: VASSAR, Williamsburg SAR, Thomas Nelson, Jr. SAR, Williamsburg DAR, Compte de Grasse DAR, CAR, and Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. This will be the first time for CWF, Compte de Grasse DAR, and CAR to participate in our event.

Registrar's Corner

Just a very brief note this month from your registrar, because it has been relatively quiet around here insofar as membership applications go. I am working on only one application presently, which has, so far, been a tough one. Inability to connect just one generation to the next will fail an application. All SAR members should be proud that their family's contribution to the founding of this greatest of nations has been proven. The announced goal of the new national president is growth, and I fear the Williamsburg, VA Chapter has not contributed much of late. I would deeply appreciate a referral or two.

- Jim Hess



New Newsletter Editor

Chapter member Dave Westenburger has agreed to take over as the editor of your chapter newsletter starting in 2018. Starting in December, if you have any inputs for the newsletter, please contact Dave at (757) 258-5883, or email him at pal744@cox.net.

Dave has edited the Colonial Model "A" Club newsletter for over 20 years so "The Magazine" will be in good hands.



Dave's grandson, Zack, is a fifer in the Junior Fife & Drum Corps at Colonial Williamsburg

Scout Volunteers Needed

The Chapter's Eagle Scout Recognition program is gaining momentum. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS.

Our chapter Scout committee chairman is Heath Richardson, who is with Troop 414 in Norge. Since his appointment, six SAR certificates have been presented at Courts of Honor. Twelve more are pending at various troops in the area.

Although President Harley Stewart has been assisting, they need several volunteers to help. The duty only entails attending a Scout ceremony, saying a few words (they are in print), presenting the award and posing for a photo. Accompanying Harley or Heath to an event is adequate preparation. You don't have to be a former scout to volunteer. You'll find it a very inspiring experience.

The Chapter is dedicated to patriotic events and especially when we can gain the attention of the young men in the community who are achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Call Harley at (757)564-1897 for more information.



Chapter Happenings



Larry Emmons and Richard Davis were inducted into the Sons of the American Revolution at the October monthly meeting of the Williamsburg Chapter. L-R Harley Stewart, President of the Williamsburg Chapter, Larry Emmons, and Richard Davis.

Katherine Pittman, CW interpreter of young Martha Washington, spoke about the role of the Ladies' Association in the Revolutionary War. L-R Harley Stewart, Williamsburg Chapter President, Katharine Pittman, Jay Smith, Chapter Vice President.



The Williamsburg Chapter of SAR presented Supplemental Ancestor Certificates to Steve Riddle for his ancestor, Johann Albrecht and Larry Gaskins for his ancestor Hezekiah Wade. L-R Steve Riddle, Larry Gaskins, and Williamsburg Chapter President Harley Stewart.



Mrs. Julie Bray honored as Teacher of the Year at Toano Middle school



The Sons of the American Revolution named Julie Bray Teacher of the Year for her excellence in teaching American History. L-R James Fiorito, Julie Bray, Williamsburg Chapter President, Harley Stewart.

Mrs. Bray is one of four children of an Air Force retiree and themes of patriotism and citizenship have always been a priority within her teaching. She strives to instill a love of our nation and a commitment to developing strong citizenship character. She holds mock elections and covers Presidential elections within her classroom. She continually tells her students that they are the future of our country. She has taught American history for twenty-three years and holds a MAT in the Teaching of History from Christopher Newport University. Our nation's history will always be her passion. Mrs. Bray's career at Toano Middle School has lasted twenty-five years and she served as Curriculum leader for five years. She has a deep excitement for writing curriculum and she has even published a teaching project on Nathaniel Bacon with The College of William and Mary and The National Park Service.

Yorktown Commemoration



Williamsburg Chapter SAR members gathered to commemorate the victory at Yorktown ceremonies on October 19th. From left: Milt Holt, Bill Greaif, Steve McGuffin, Jack Lee, Jeff Wooldridge, President Harley Stewart, Ron Losee, George Corbett and John Lynch.



The American flag is accompanied by colors representing SAR, DAR, and CAR chapters whose representatives paid homage at the grave of Thomas J. Nelson Jr. at Yorktown Day on October 19th.

Battle of Great Bridge



The Battle of Great Bridge on December 9, 1775 played a critical role in the Revolutionary War and the subsequent creation of our great nation. It was this Patriot victory that forced Lord Dunmore, British Royal Governor of Virginia, and his soldiers to evacuate and ultimately leave Virginia. As a direct result of this victory, four days after this crucial battle, the Virginia Convention adopted the first public declaration expressing a spirit of independence. How different our country might be had it not been for the Battle of Great Bridge and the significant contributions of our waterways.

Please join your fellow SAR compatriots at 11:00am on December 2nd at Great Bridge Battlefield Park in Chesapeake VA for the ceremonies commemorating this battle. A “Dutch Treat” luncheon at Vino’s Restaurant will follow the event.

Patriots and British soldiers faced each other for eleven days and skirmished amid constant cannon fire before the climactic Battle of Great Bridge that lasted but a half-hour.

In that short time, patriotic volunteers showed that they could stand-up to cannon fire and rout a unit of the best professional soldiers in the world. Patriot soldiers poured heavy fire into the British Redcoats who marched relentlessly forward, wavered, and then came on again. Reinforcements joined Patriots in the breastwork and were ordered to withhold their fire until the British were within 50 yards. This was the first Patriot victory of the Revolutionary War.

In winning the battle of Great Bridge on December 9, 1775, the Patriots effectively denied to the British Norfolk, the finest sea port between New York and Charleston.



**November 11th Luncheon Speaker:
Major General Craig Boice (Retired)**

General Boice will be participating
in an interview on WMBG radio
(97.7FM/740AM)

On November 3rd at 11:00am supporting
the Veterans Day ceremonies, co-hosted
by the Williamsburg Chapter SAR and
Colonial Williamsburg
on November 11th.



Major General Boice will critique notable battles and strategies and related human-interest stories for the following:

Two battles in the American Revolution
The Battle of Gettysburg
The Vietnam Conflict Strategies

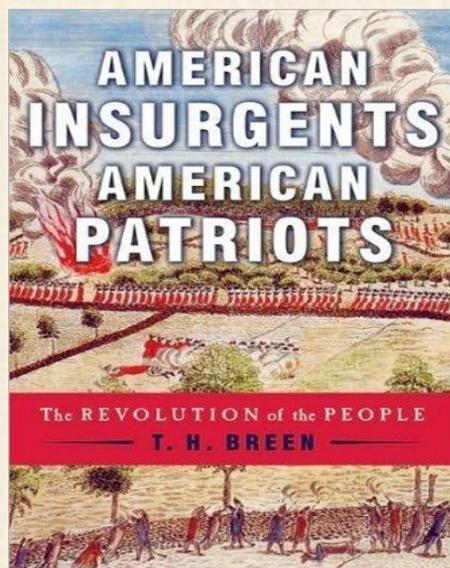
General Boice was drafted into the US Army in 1960 as a Private and retired in 1989 as a Major General. He commanded 7 combat arms units, ranging from a Special Forces Team to an Assistant Division of one of our 4 Divisions in Europe.

He served in 3 combat tours in the Dominican Republic and Vietnam. He is the recipient of 12 valor medals, including 3 Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars and the Distinguished Service Cross. He has been awarded four Purple Hearts. General Boice attended over 9 schools but notably the Army War College, the Wharton School of Business and Finance, the University of Georgia and the Shippensburg University. Last posts were the Deputy Director for Current Operations and the Strategic Plans Officer, both for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. General Boice characterizes his career as that of “A muddy boots soldier”.

After retiring in 1989, he started and owned 4 private sector companies with his son. His family is his wife, Jo Ann, his children David and Kimberly, and 5 granddaughters.

November 11th Book Raffle

November Book Raffle: AMERICAN INSURGENTS, AMERICAN PATRIOTS: The REVOLUTION of the PEOPLE is a book authored by T.H. Breen. Drawing upon a wealth of overlooked documents, Breen brings to the forefront the thousands of ordinary men and women who mounted a successful insurgency against British oppression, mobilizing two years before the Declaration of Independence. These people are the unsung patriots, most of them members of farm families living in small communities, that sacrificed and fought for the cause of freedom from British rule. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for seven tickets, which will be available at the welcome table at the November luncheon.



2017 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

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

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

Cut along dotted line

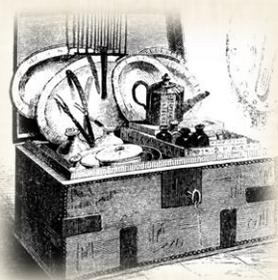
Reservation for the Saturday, November 11, 2017. Chapter Luncheon:

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 November 4th:



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