



# The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter - Virginia  
Society  
Sons of the American Revolution



Vol. XXXIII

Number 15

April 2024

## President's Message

Compatriots,

Our Chapter activities in March started off with a first time event for us. On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, we hosted our first Williamsburg-based Color Guard training activity. Nine color guardsmen participated; six from the Williamsburg Chapter (Ron Adolphi, Mike Doucette, Gary Dunaway, Alex Johnston, John Lynch, Ron Miller, and Dave Westenberger) two from the Thomas Nelson Chapter (Jeff Brown and Gary Hodges) and one, the instructor, from the Norfolk Chapter (Kimball Thompson). Training focused on musket drill and also safety threats at an event.

Mid-month Compatriot Steve McGuffin presented our Chapter Wreath at Montpelier Plantation during the commemoration of James Madison's birthday. Color Guard Commander Gary Dunaway attended a grave marking for two patriots in Northern Virginia. Gary also took part in color guard training held in Leesburg. He passed the exams to be a VASSAR musket squad safety officer and a VASSAR color guard instructor.

At the end of March, Compatriot Lynch attended the three day *A Common Cause to All* conference held at Colonial Williamsburg. The conference brought together about 450 American Revolution 250<sup>th</sup> planners from 37 states and 46 counties in Virginia. Our final event this month was also a first for the Chapter: our color guard supported the opening ceremony the Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution's 128<sup>th</sup> State Conference. This was held at the Williamsburg Lodge on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Eagle Scout program was busy – it awarded seven Eagle Scout certificates this month. Eleven certificates were awarded so far this year. March was tempered by the somber news of three of our chapter members passing: Benjamin Harris of Wicomico, Duncan McIver of Williamsburg, and Jay Smith, of Williamsburg. Additionally one of our members lost a daughter. The Chapter's condolences to the affected families were sent by Chaplain George Corbett and Chaplain emeritus Jim Morford.

Upcoming events

- 13 April chapter luncheon speaker: Josh LeHuray from Henricus. Topic Virginians will Dance or Die!: the Importance of Music in Pre-Revolutionary Williamsburg.
- 13 April: two grave marking events in Norfolk. Hosted by the Norfolk Chapter, SAR.
- 20 April: Commemoration of James Monroe's Birthday at Colonial Beach (birthplace).
- 20 April: The 71<sup>st</sup> NATO Parade of Nations, Norfolk, Virginia.
- 28 April: Commemoration of James Monroe's Birthday at his gravesite in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond.

Respectfully,

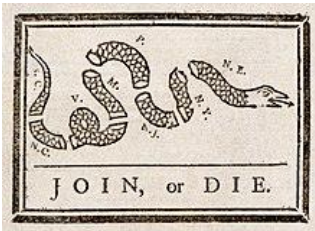
- John Lynch, President, Williamsburg Chapter, VASSAR



# Calendar

***In Memoriam: Compatriots  
Duncan McIver and Jay Smith***

**Monday April 1, 2024**  
7:00pm BOM meeting by ZOOM



**Saturday April 13, 2024**  
Chapter Lunch Meeting  
11:30 pm Social  
Colonial Heritage  
Williamsburg

## **Content Wanted for *The Magazine!***

Do you have announcements, photos, patriot biographies, or articles that you would like to see published in upcoming issues *The Magazine*? Then please contact newsletter editor Sean Heuvel ([sheuvel@cnu.edu](mailto:sheuvel@cnu.edu)) for further information and for instructions on how to submit them. We look forward to hearing from you!

## Chapter News



The Williamsburg Chapter SAR presented a Certificate of Recognition and Scholarship Application to new Eagle Scout, Thaddeus Bouchard, of BSA Troop 414 in a Court of Honor at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Norge, VA on March 16, 2024. Pictured, L to R, are SAR Chairman Harley Stewart, Thaddeus Bouchard, and Scoutmaster John Dereix. Harley Stewart (photo courtesy of Harley Stewart).





# Recent Events



Compatriots Ron Adolphi, Mike Doucette, Gary Dunaway, and John Lynch did an outstanding job serving on Color Guard duty at the recent DAR state conference in Williamsburg. It was the first conference held in Williamsburg since 1976 and the first in anyone's memory where an SAR Color Guard presented the colors (photo courtesy of Ken Bonner and Gary Dunaway).

Meanwhile, it was a beautiful day recently for the celebration of James Madison's 273rd birthday. Several SAR and DAR organizations were in attendance as well as a U.S. Marine Color Guard detachment from Quantico, which presented a Presidential wreath. Compatriot Steve McGuffin ably represented the Williamsburg Chapter at this historic event (photo courtesy of Steve McGuffin).

# Future Events

Mark your calendars for these important events! They will take place on April 13, 2024 at 11:00am and at 12:30pm in Chesapeake!

*The Norfolk & Great Bridge Chapters  
Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution*

*Cordially invite you  
to join us on Saturday, April 13th, 2024, in a grave  
dedication & wreath-laying ceremony in  
commemoration of two  
Revolutionary War Patriots*

**Willis Wilkins:**

*11:00 am*

2017 Coral Ivy Lane  
Chesapeake, VA, 23323

**William West**

*12:30 pm*

Good Hope United Methodist  
Church Cemetery  
1633 Benefit Road,  
Chesapeake VA, 23322

*Please use this link to **REGISTER** to participate in our  
observance; Patriotic Societies*

*Please respond NLT April 5th, 2024*

*General public invited to attend*

*Host/POC: Norfolk Chapter, VASSAR/Pat Hannum at [hannumpp@verizon.net](mailto:hannumpp@verizon.net)*





“Sail250® Virginia is honored to be among the elite group of US ports selected to host the 2026 Sail250® America international fleet, including New Orleans, Baltimore, New York, and Boston.

For seven days in June 2026, 4,000 officers, cadets, and crews of more than 55 ships from 20 nations will engage with residents and visitors across the Chesapeake Bay region in events and programs symbolic of the bonds of international goodwill.”

<https://sail250virginia.com/?fbclid=IwAR1kQHn0G3P7-ky73PnW88H3Vwn2zBpd8MIE1a5mu8Wsy7uU2fH2vFv20>

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**SAVE THE DATE(S)**

*Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour  
2024-2025*



*The American Friends of Lafayette  
is the proud official sponsor of the  
commemoration of Lafayette's Farewell Tour.*

[www.friendsoflafayette.org](http://www.friendsoflafayette.org)  
[www.lafayette200.org](http://www.lafayette200.org)  
[americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com)

The VASSAR is hosting the Atlantic Middle States at the Williamsburg Lodge on August 9-11, 2024. I have been asked by Virginia Society SAR President Bill Greaif to provide up to two members of our Chapter to assist in planning this event. I am looking for some volunteers to assist in this planning. This is a great way for you to get more involved in our Chapter and State societies. Please provide me with your name and mailing address and phone number so that I can provide them to President Greaif. Thank you, Bruce Laubach – Former President, Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR.



## ***Please Considering Submitting Your Patriot Biography!***

All chapter members have put a significant amount of time in researching their Patriot. Adding Patriot biographies to the PRS is a way to honor your ancestors and possibly help other compatriots in their searches. It is also an easy way to support your chapter and only requires writing a paragraph or two about your Patriot. Whether your Patriot signed the Declaration of Independence, wintered at Valley Forge or simply supported the Revolution by providing supplies, all deserve our recognition. I encourage you to take a few minutes and provide your Patriot's biography to Gary Dunaway at [ormazd72@gmail.com](mailto:ormazd72@gmail.com). - Roger Cross

***Williamsburg Chapter Color Guard Commander Gary Dunaway, Chapter President John Lynch, Past President Bruce Laubach, and First Vice President Ron Adolphi attended the grave marking of Revolutionary War Patriots Capt. Philip Slaughter and Sgt. James Vaughn on Friday February 9, 2024. The event was held at the Shockoe Hill Cemetery in Richmond VA (photo courtesy of Bob Davis).***





**Register through Member  
Clicks or mail in the  
registration form below!**

**Topic: *Virginians Will Dance or  
Die***

**April 13, 2024 Meeting Speaker: Joshua LeHuray**

Joshua LeHuray is the author of *Virginians Will Dance or Die! The Importance of Music in Pre-Revolutionary Williamsburg*, as well as an adjunct history instructor at Rappahannock Community College and the Education Supervisor at Henricus Historical Park. In addition to having presented numerous history lectures in Virginia, he appeared in the PBS documentary “How the Welsh Changed the World: The Tale of Two Tredegars” about the Tredegar Ironworks of Richmond and its sister site in Wales.

Reservation for the Saturday, April 13, 2024 Lunch Meeting

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

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ regular meals at \$25,00 each

Special need \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to “Williamsburg Chapter SAR”

Mail to:

William Dorn – Chapter Treasurer

349 Capeside Court

Williamsburg, VA 23188

(252) 658-2348

[wrdorn48@gmail.com](mailto:wrdorn48@gmail.com)

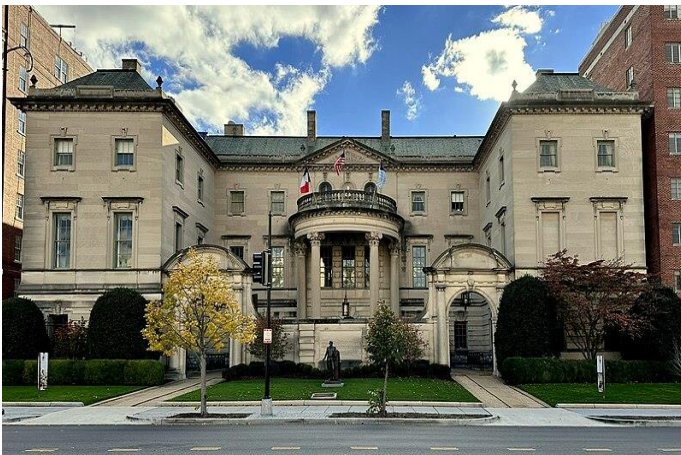
# Registrar's Corner

DID YOU KNOW? That the two organizations listed below are great resources for articles, journals and books about the known, and sometimes unknown, history of the American Revolution, along with its people, politics, economy, places, battles and more. You can subscribe to their newsletters using the links below and order related books and journals. If so inclined, you can also offer an article for publication. Of special note, the American Revolution Institute (ARI) is the educational branch of The Society of the Cincinnati. It is based in the Society's headquarters, Anderson House (shown below; source: *Wikipedia*), which is located in Washington, D.C. *The Journal of the American Revolution* is based in Yardley, PA. Both organizations continue to do valuable research, offer teacher guides and support, lectures and special events.

Take advantage of their expertise and subscribe to their email publications:

***American Revolution Institute:*** [americanrevolutioninstitute.org](http://americanrevolutioninstitute.org)

***Journal of the American Revolution:*** [allthingsliberty.com](http://allthingsliberty.com)



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Email:  
[huntberryman  
@aol.com](mailto:huntberryman@aol.com)**

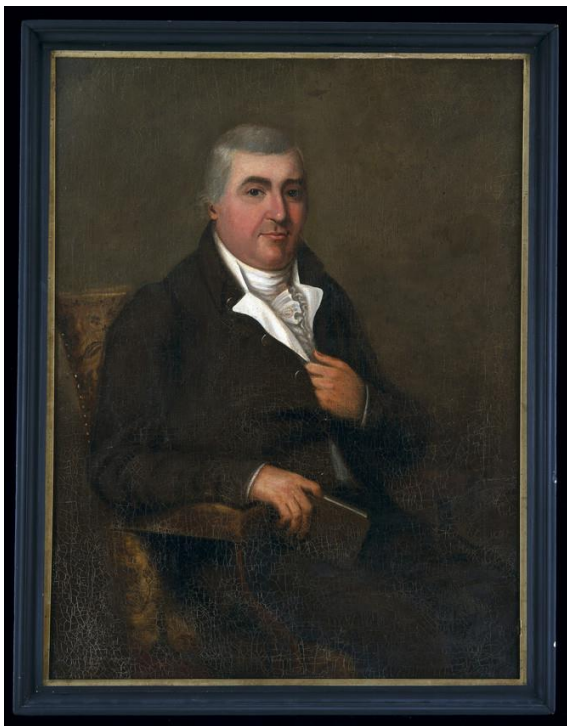


## Tidewater Virginia Patriot of the Month: Nathaniel Burwell

Nathaniel Burwell (1750-1814) was born on April 15, 1750, an Easter Sunday, at Carter's Grove plantation in James City County, the son of Carter Burwell and Lucy Ludwell Grymes Burwell. He attended the College of William and Mary, beginning in the grammar school, and continued to study past his twenty-second birthday. His father died when Burwell was six, and when he came of age in 1771 he inherited control of a large landed estate in Tidewater Virginia and in the lower Shenandoah Valley, including his father's Carter's Grove plantation and mansion in James City County. On November 28, 1772, Burwell married his cousin Susanna Grymes, of Middlesex County. They had seven sons and one daughter before her death on July 24, 1788.

During Burwell's management of Carter's Grove the plantation prospered. Burwell was appointed to the James City County Court on November 6, 1772, was a colonel in the militia by 1774, and served on the James City County Committee that same year. On November 27, 1776, he became county lieutenant, the commander of the county's militia. Burwell represented James City County in the House of Delegates in 1778 and 1779 and served on the Committee of Propositions and Grievances during both years and on the Committee of Religion in 1779. Burwell was also one of the directors of the Public Hospital in Williamsburg.

In 1788 Burwell was one of two men elected to represent James City County in a convention called to consider the proposed constitution of the United States. He did not take an active part in the debates, but his opinions were well known. Burwell voted against insisting on amendments prior to ratification and against reducing the taxing power of Congress, and on June 25, 1788, he voted to ratify the Constitution (Source: *Encyclopedia Virginia*).



# Flags of the American Revolution



**Bedford Flag**

Source: Admiralfagpoles.com

The oldest known American Battle flag, this banner was flown by the Bedford Minutemen Company at the Battle of Lexington and Concord and onward.

It was the first flag of the American Revolution to be fired upon by the British.

The flag features an armored arm wielding a sword and protruding from a cloud. It also contains the powerful words "Vince aut Morire," which translates to "Conquer or Die." It has been preserved to this day from its time in the Massachusetts Militia, and remains in Bedford, Massachusetts.



## Did You Know???

The British Army in America numbered about 42,000 soldiers over the course of the conflict. The British government purchased the services of about 30,000 troops from various German princes. These hired soldiers were called Hessians. The British also received significant assistance from loyalists—American colonists who remained loyal to Great Britain during the war—and from various Native American tribes  
(Source: *Britannica*).



# Chaplain's Corner – By George Corbett, Chaplain

## *Who Fired That Shot*

On 18 April 1775, Dr. Joseph Warren received information that the British planned to march to Concord, MA and seize the arms that were stored there. Two riders were dispatched to warn the militias of the situation. On 19 April 1775, the British force of approximately 700 men arrived at Lexington, MA to encounter 77 militiamen with weapons. The British demanded that they lay down their weapons and they, of course, refused. At some point a shot rang out and a skirmish ensued between the two forces. At the end, 8 militiamen were dead and 9 wounded with one British wounded. I thought that this would be a piece of history to reflect upon as we enter the month of April. 251 years ago, a basically untrained force of militiamen faced 700 trained troops of the British army. They had the chance to simply lay down their weapons, but chose not to do that. Now, I place myself in one of their places then and think "What would I have done"? A very interesting and difficult question to answer given that time. Frankly, I really don't know the answer. I wonder, honestly, how any of us would have reacted to the situation in that time. We have pledged ourselves to defend our way of life "against any foe". Easy to say today in our comfortable life of this time. And oh, by the way, no one really knows who fired that shot said to have been heard around the world. Blessings to everyone.



God of our fathers, who did kindle in them love of liberty and did grant them such faith in Thee and courage, that wide seas and strange shores were overpassed and eagerly embraced, bestow upon us, their children, in our own day, a love of liberty as was theirs, and prevent us, by Thy hand, that we neither grow faint in faith nor fail in courage. Amen.

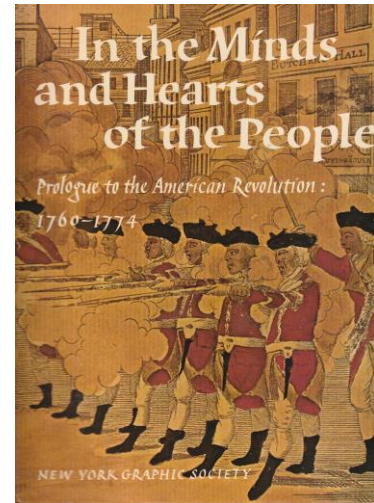
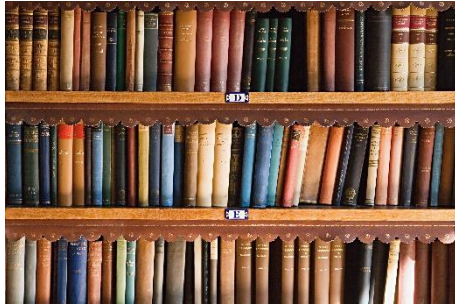


## 2024 Williamsburg Chapter SAR Officers



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Newsletter Editor/Webmaster	Sean Heuvel
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Historian	Tatton Mason
Member-at-Large	Stephen McGuffin
Member-at-Large	Michael Doucette
Immediate Past President	Bruce Laubach

## ***Revolutionary War Book of the Month – By Stephen Holm, Sergeant-at-Arms***



### ***IN THE MINDS AND HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE, Prologue to the American Revolution: 1760-1774***

By Lillian Miller, Historian of the National Portrait Gallery.

238 pages, with color, black & white illustrations

The years preceding the American Revolution were characterized by violent political dissension and social unrest. This unique book, by presenting the portraits and biographies of numerous figures in the colonies and in England, vividly recreates the stormy events leading to the First Continental Congress. Here we see, in John Adams's words, the "radical change in the principles, opinions, sentiments, and affections of the people that was the real American Revolution."

The book also selects certain key political issues and brings them into dramatic focus through the personalities of the day. This is the story of the fateful shifts in colonial policy that were set in motion after the French and Indian War. In successive personality sketches, the reader meets the colonists who reacted to these imperial decisions as British encroachments upon their constitutional rights. The American Revolution was born, as John Adams went on to say, in the minds and hearts of the colonists once they were forced to realize their separate identity under the pressure of policies and events that goaded them to violent resistance.

Abundantly illustrated with portraits and other revealing materials (a wide variety of documents, including broadsides, maps, and treaties) that have never been assembled before, this book provides an intimate close-up of American society just before the Revolution formally began. In addition to authentic life-portraits of the many famous British and American figures who dominated the history of the period, this book introduces portraits and records of less well-known but pivotal individuals. Marvin Sadik, the Director of the National Portrait Gallery, has summed up the importance of these portraits: "The portraits reproduced in these pages are not intended merely to illustrate the text but to stand as historic documents in themselves. The portrait, because it is a visual record of a person and an era, bears honest witness to each sitter's true role in the American experience; and it deserves to be studied as a critical piece of evidence, in its own right. The National Portrait Gallery seeks to illumine and enliven American history by bringing to it this extra dimension of personal reality as conveyed by the portrait and by the biographical approach...."



# SAR GIFTS AND FASHIONABLE APPAREL



SAR apparel is available at (502) 589-1779 or on the National SAR WEB site at:

<https://store.sar.org/storefront.aspx>



8778

Personalized Name Badge  
(Name Tag) - Pocket  
Attachment Nametag

\$25.00

There has been confusion on how to add this item to the cart. There is a statement that says "I understand personalized items are not refundable" that has a small box after it on the bottom of the page where the personalized items are added. You must click that box before the "ADD PERSONALIZED ITEM TO CART" button will become active. Unless you click the box agreeing that Personalized items are not refundable, the item can not be added to the cart.

Personal Name Badge link is:

[https://store.sar.org/categories.aspx?Keyword=personalized%20name%20badge%20\(name%20tag%20\)](https://store.sar.org/categories.aspx?Keyword=personalized%20name%20badge%20(name%20tag%20))