



The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter - Virginia
Society
Sons of the American Revolution



Vol. XIX

Number 26

April 2025

President's Message

Compatriots,

We will soon begin celebrating “Virginia’s Road to Independence.” This is the 2025 Virginia SAR presidential initiative celebrating the Commonwealth of Virginia’s military actions in expelling Lord Dunmore from the colony. There are six events: 1) The May 1775 armed response to the April 1775 Williamsburg powder magazine incident, 2) the October 1775 skirmish at Hampton, 3) the November 1775 skirmish at Kemp’s Landing, 4) the December 1775 battle of Great Bridge, 5) the January 1776 burning of Norfolk and 5) the July 1776 battle of Gwynn’s Island (also known as the battle of Cricket Hill). More information will be forthcoming, and you are welcome to attend them.

Compatriots Stuart Butler, Gary Dunaway, Steve Holm, Bruce Laubach, John Lynch, Steve McGuffin, and Ron Miller were present at the March 16, 2025 celebration of Patrick Henry’s “Give Me Liberty” speech at St. John’s Church in Richmond, Virginia. This event was sponsored by Richmond Chapter, Virginia SAR and they did a magnificent job with it. Gary, Ron and I participated in the celebration’s color guard.

The judging of the annual brochure contest for 6th and 7th graders is complete. We are now in the process of notifying the winners. I was one of the judges and I was impressed with the quality of many of the submissions. Many thanks to Bruce Laubach for his management of this program.

The Board of Managers recently authorized 500 dollars to be donated to Colonial Williamsburg Foundation’s Teacher Institute. The Institute brings history teachers from around the country to participate in a residential program offering various pertinent workshops. This is an exceptional program. It costs \$2,400 per teacher. You may have seen Treasurer Bill Dorn’s note about an opportunity to contribute funds for this program. If you can, please help support this worthy cause.

Upcoming activities this month include the luncheon on Saturday, April 12, and two chapter color guard events: 1) black powder safety recertification on Saturday, April 19th and 2) Participating in the Virginia SAR color guard marching in the Nato Parade in Norfolk on Saturday, April 26th.

Lastly, I want to thank Vice President Ron Adolphi for his excellent work running the February and March luncheons. Respectfully,

John Lynch

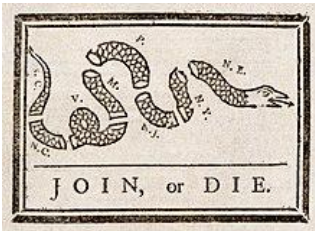
President, Williamsburg Chapter, Virginia SAR



Calendar

***In Memoriam: Kathy Dunaway
and Reginald Beane***

Monday April 7, 2025
7:00pm BOM meeting by ZOOM



Saturday April 12, 2025
Chapter Lunch Meeting
11:30 am Social
Fords Colony Country Club
(New Location!)

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) for further information and for instructions on how to submit them. We look forward to hearing from you!

Chapter News



From Gary Dunaway:

I want to thank my Williamsburg Chapter compatriots for all your expressions of sympathy and support since the passing of my wife, Kathy, in January. Many of you knew her, as she frequently attended our meetings, programs, and commemorations. She was a member of the Comte de Grasse DAR chapter in Yorktown. Her last public event was our November meeting, where she was honored with the bronze America 250 medal for her support of SAR. She had previously been awarded the Martha Washington and Lydia Darragh SAR medals.

Virginia SAR Color Guard Recognition



Several Virginia SAR color guardsmen, including Williamsburg Chapter members John Lynch (second from left) and Gary Dunaway (fourth from left) were awarded the Silver Color Guard Medals on Saturday, March 15, 2025. The ceremony took place at Rippon Landing in Woodbridge Virginia after the conclusion of a Virginia SAR color guard training workshop. The Silver Color Guard Medal represents three years of service and at least nine national level events. The Bronze Color Guard Medal is a prerequisite for the Silver medal. The bronze medal requires three years service and at least 18 chapter or state level events (photo courtesy of John Lynch).

Challenge Coin!

An Official Williamsburg Chapter Challenge Coin!

Recently, the Board of Managers decided to create an official challenge coin for the Williamsburg Chapter. After exploring several options, the BOM decided to feature the Colonial Williamsburg Powder Magazine on the coin's obverse, as it is an iconic Williamsburg landmark with a close association to the American Revolution. With cooperation and permission from The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the BOM also secured an image of the Powder Magazine (currently undergoing restoration) that accurately depicts what it looked like in the 18th century based on the most current historical and archeological research.

Our new challenge coin costs **\$20 per coin** and will be available for sale at our chapter luncheon chapter meetings. Be sure to buy one (or more) while supplies last!

Side A



Side B





UPCOMING EVENTS!

24-26 March: Common Cause Conference (CWF)

12 April: Williamsburg Chapter SAR Luncheon

19 April: Color Guard Black Powder Training (Gloucester)

26 April: NATO Parade (Virginia SAR Color Guard)



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
www.lafayette200.org
americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com



COMING SOON: OUR NEW WILLIAMSBURG CHAPTER SAR POLO SHIRTS!

Williamsburg Chapter Polo Shirt Order Form

Our volume discount is based on an order of 12 units or more. All orders will be delivered at our monthly luncheons to save on additional shipping.

Name: -----

Type of Polo:

Cotton – S-XL (\$36 each), XXL (\$38 each), 3X (\$42 each), 4X (\$45 each)
Polyester – S-XL (\$32 each), XXL (\$35 each), 3X (\$38 each), 4X (\$41 each)

Color: Black----- White----- Royal Blue-----

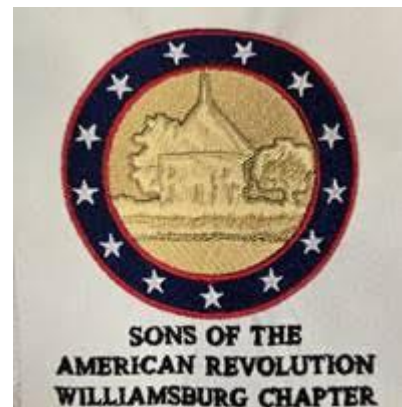
Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ 3X ___ 4X ___

Mail order and payment to:

Bob Davis

281 E. Queens Drive

Williamsburg, VA 23185



Please make check payable to – Williamsburg Chapter SAR

Questions: macnider@cox.net



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

Topic: Washington’s Decision to Decline a Third Term

April 12, 2025 Meeting Speaker: Dr. David A. Yalof

David A. Yalof is the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs (and Professor of Government) at William & Mary. In this role he serves as the chief advisor to the Provost and provides leadership and oversight of academic programs, curriculum, program planning and compliance.

Nearly four decades ago, Dr. Yalof received his B.A. (1988) and J.D. (1991) at the University of Virginia. He then practiced law at Jones Day Reavis & Pogue in Washington, D.C., just prior to earning his doctorate at the Johns Hopkins University in 1997.

Before joining William & Mary in 2023, Dr. Yalof was Department Head and Professor of Political Science at the University of Connecticut, a position he held for a decade. His first book, Pursuit of Justices: Presidential Politics and the Selection of Supreme Court Nominees, won the 1999 Richard E. Neustadt Award as the best book on the presidency from the American Political Science Association. More recently, he authored George Washington and the Two-Term Precedent (2023) and Prosecution among Friends: Presidents, Attorneys General, and Executive Branch Wrongdoing. (2012)

Reservation for the Saturday, April 12, 2025 Meeting

Name(s) _____

Please reserve _____ regular meals at \$27.00 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

George Wythe Society C.A.R. Update

Eight George Wythe Society C.A.R. Members attended the 98th Annual Virginia Society C.A.R. Conference 14/15 March 2025 at the Williamsburg Lodge. Highlights of the conference included Society President Ethan K's report of the Society's past year, voting for next year's state officers, an outing in Colonial Williamsburg and the Awards Banquet.

The Friday Evening Business meeting began with the processional with two members (Carter W. and Revell M.) carrying the society flag and another unit's flag, Tristan C. served as an aide to the Senior State President, and member Alexandra K. welcomed the conference attendees!

Member Revell M. received First Place in the State Registrar's Contest for best essay by a PeeWee! The Society received the Gold Star Award for the State Honor Roll; Society with the Best Program Second Place, C.A.R./SAR/DAR/S.R. Relations Committee; and Society Sending Most Aid to Mountain Schools. The highlight of the program for the George Wythe Society was receiving the Most Improved Society for 2024-2025 along with the traveling plaque!!

For more information on joining the Children of the American Revolution contact Denise Thomas, 757-344-6049 or via email denise.thomas.dar@gmail.com. Open to ages birth to 21.



Revolutionary War History Fact of the Month

AN EARLY AMERICAN NAVAL VICTORY IN APRIL 1776

(Submitted by Stuart Butler, Chapter Historian)

The Continental Brig, *Lexington*, commanded by Capt. John Barry, left Philadelphia on March 26, 1776, to begin a year and half of challenging British ships in the North Atlantic. Barry, born in Ireland in 1745, settled in the Philadelphia area and offered his naval experiences to the Second Continental Congress soon after hostilities broke out. Congress promptly appointed him captain, the first such commission in the fledgling American navy.

Lexington was first purchased by Maryland state officials in St. Eustatius, Dutch West Indies, and sailed under the name *Wild Duck* bringing in badly needed gunpowder to Philadelphia. The ship was purchased by the Continental Marine Committee and renamed *Lexington* after the battle in Massachusetts. The brig was 86 feet in length and 25 feet in breadth and carried fourteen four pounders and twelve swivels. On March 26, 1776, *Lexington* slipped down the Delaware River and eluded the British blockade on April 6. The next day, *Lexington*, off the Capes of Virginia, encountered the British tender, *Edward*, servicing the larger frigate, HMS *Liverpool*. After a short, but bloody fight lasting about an hour, *Edward* struck its colors and *Lexington* took her into Philadelphia as a prize of war. Later in the month on April 26, *Lexington* fell in with Sir Peter Parker's fleet then preparing to attack Charleston, South Carolina. Barry managed barely to escape, only to find himself pursued by two British frigates later in May off the Delaware River. He managed to escape his pursuers by sailing up the Delaware to Philadelphia.

Barry would go on to command five different warships and is considered by many to be the "Father of the American Navy" along with John Paul Jones. Barry died in 1803 and was buried in St. Mary's Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Registrar's Corner – By Hunt Berryman, Registrar

Congratulations to the following new compatriots:

Chris Phillips is pictured with his wife Crystal and was inducted by Vice President Ron Adolphi at our March meeting. Chris's patriot ancestor is John Griffin.

Morgan Gardner and Russell Beyer were recently approved for membership. Morgan's patriot ancestor is George Waugh and Russell's is Stephen Kneisel. Also approved was Hank Berry and his grandson Dillon Scott. They share Thomas Ayer as their patriot ancestor.

We currently have six new member applications and a memorial application under review for approval by the genealogy committee. There are 23 prospective members in the pipeline. There are 19 supplemental applications being reviewed for final approval. Application approvals are currently taking four months for new members and 15 months for supplementals.



Chaplain's Corner – By George Corbett, Chaplain

James Monroe

As I was thinking about a subject for the April newsletter, my thoughts turned to our 5th president, James Monroe. I wrote a Chaplain's Corner several months ago on the Divine Hand that has guided mankind and events throughout history. As some of you know, James Monroe was in the Battle of Trenton as General Washington's patriot army crossed the Delaware River to seize the town of Trenton which was garrisoned by Hessian soldiers. Monroe led an advance force to capture enemy cannons so that the Hessians could not use them against the patriot army.

In this engagement, he was wounded with a severed artery and almost died from it. The quick treatment of the wound by a local doctor saved his life. It would not be too far-fetched to believe that the Divine Hand played a part in this event sparing the soldier who would become the 5th President of the United States of America.

During his administration (1817-1825) he gave us the Monroe Doctrine, presided over the Era of Good Feeling to name but a few. His life was filled with notable achievements at every turn throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and this great nation. This month, we honor him with ceremonies both at the replica birthplace home near Colonial Beach, Virginia and at his gravesite in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, Virginia. Let us never forget this great American.

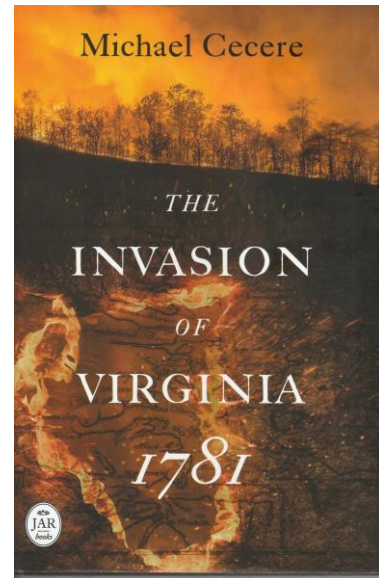
Heavenly Father, we seek thy blessings upon this nation that You have so richly blessed and provided to us. We remember our Patriot Ancestors who with Your divine help, sacrificed their lives and fortunes so that their prodigy could inherit freedom and an opportunity for Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. For this, we are most grateful. Eternal Father, we make this prayer in Thy Holy Name. Amen.

2025 Williamsburg Chapter SAR Officers



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Secretary	Mike Braswell
Treasurer	Bill Dorn
Registrar	Hunt Berryman
Public Relations	Robert Davis III
Newsletter Editor/Webmaster	Sean Heuvel
Chaplain	George Corbett
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stephen Holm
Historian	Stuart Butler
Member-at-Large	Stephen McGuffin
Member-at-Large	Michael Doucette
Immediate Past President	Bruce Laubach

Book of the Month – By Stephen Holm, Sergeant-at- Arms



The Invasion of Virginia – 1781

Hardback (New), – 2017, 179 pages,

by Michael Cecere, One of our recent Chapter Speakers.

Signed by the author to “Williamsburg Chapter, SAR”

By the sixth year of the American Revolution, Britain had determined that Virginia would be the key to subduing the entire rebellion. Following the battle at Monmouth Courthouse, New Jersey, in 1778, British strategy moved to the South, where their armies clashed with Continental troops in Georgia and South Carolina. Surprisingly, Virginia saw little fighting up to this point in the war. This changed suddenly in 1781, when the turncoat Benedict Arnold led 1,600 seasoned British troops on a successful raid up the James River to Richmond, destroying Patriot property along the way. Arnold's bold stroke demonstrated Virginia's vulnerability to attack and the possibility that the colonies could be divided and subdued piecemeal. British General Henry Clinton decided to reinforce Arnold in Virginia, while events in North Carolina, including the battle of Guilford Courthouse, convinced British General Charles Cornwallis that defeating the Patriots in Virginia was the key to ending the war. As historian Michael Cecere relates in “The Invasion of Virginia - 1781”, the war's arrival in the largest colony had unintended consequences for Cornwallis and his powerful British force.

Maps, a bibliography, detailed reference notes (by chapter) and an index to full-names, places and subjects add to the value of this work.

Raffle tickets for this book will be available at our next luncheon meeting.
One ticket for \$1 or 7 tickets for \$5 - See Stephen Holm - Sergeant-at-Arms

SAR GIFTS AND FASHIONABLE APPAREL



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Nametags can be purchased at: <https://store.sar.org/personalized-items-C46.aspx>

