



The Magazine

*Williamsburg Chapter - Virginia
Society
Sons of the American Revolution*



Vol. XXXVII

Number 19

August 2024

President's Message

Compatriots,

July was a busy month for our Chapter. The Bruton Parish Thanksgiving Service on the Fourth of July was well attended by our compatriots and the general public. The commemoration of the Battle of Green Spring was successful and my sincere thanks to those who attended the event despite the heat and humidity. Chapter compatriots also took part in the Williamsburg DAR Chapter's annual commemoration of Benjamin Harrison, signer of the Declaration of Independence, at Berkeley Plantation. This year was the DAR's 50 anniversary commemorating Harrison and the Declaration. It was a nice event. Another July event was the Commemoration of the Essex Resolves, where Compatriot Bruce Laubach presented our chapter wreath. I was recently offered the role of VASSAR's Eastern Region Color Guard Commander. I accepted and will assume its duties at the end of July. I will continue to be President of our Chapter.

It's now August and we are over the half-way mark for calendar year 2024. This month brings to our Chapter only two events: the Atlantic Middle States Association (AMSA) conference (9-10 August), and our luncheon at Colonial Heritage (17 August). So, apart from a flurry of activity during the AMSA conference we should, thankfully, have a very relaxed Chapter schedule.

As of August 1st, our project to identify Virginia militiamen who took part in the Battle of Green Spring has found 156 men. The project's focus is now changing from a literature search to actively writing short biographies for these men. So, if you are looking for something to fill the August SAR activity void, then here is an opportunity to do so! Please send me an email at cslasoz@aol.com if you are interested in helping.

Respectfully,

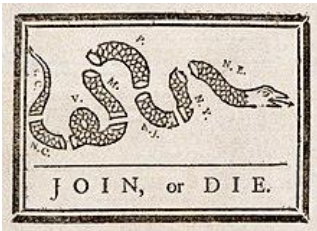
John Lynch - President, Williamsburg Chapter, VASSAR



Calendar

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

Monday August 5, 2024
7:00pm BOM meeting by ZOOM



Saturday August 17, 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) for further information and for instructions on how to submit them. We look forward to hearing from you!

Chapter News



On July 13 2024, Bruce Laubach was in Tappahannock VA, presented the Williamsburg Chapter of VASSAR's wreath at the celebration of the Essex County Resolves. This was part of the United States celebration of America's 250 anniversary (photo courtesy of Bruce Laubach).



RECENT EVENTS



39th Annual Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving at Bruton Parish Church

On July 4, 2024, the 39th Annual Service of Prayer & Thanksgiving was conducted at Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg, Virginia by The Rev. Lauren M. McDonald and John Lynch, President, Williamsburg Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. Shown here are the attending members of the Williamsburg Chapter (photo submitted by Bob Davis).

COMING SOON!

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 starting at our August chapter meeting. Be sure to buy one (or more) while supplies last!

Side A



Side B





UPCOMING EVENTS!

9-10 August: Atlantic Middle States Association Conference, Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg.

17 August: Chapter Luncheon

7 September: Commemoration of the Battle of the Capes, Fort Story, at 11:00 AM. Further details TBD.

13 September: Williamsburg Chapter SAR Lt. Col. William Langhorn grave marking, 8400 St. Peter's Lane, New Kent at 10:00AM.

13-14 September: VASSAR Semi-Annual, Williamsburg.

21 September: Chapter Luncheon



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

SAVE THE DATE!

Plan on Joining the Norfolk Chapter, Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in Celebrating the 243rd Anniversary of the Battle of the Capes Commemoration and Wreath Laying on Saturday, September 7th, 2024 at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story. This is a NSSAR National Event.

Invitation and Registration Information to Follow Later.

Contact: Tim Ahlgrim (timahlgrim@norfolksar.net)



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. - Roger Cross

On 17 July 2024, the Williamsburg Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, presented the NSSAR Flag Recognition Certificate to The Holiday Inn Express & Suites, Williamsburg. The hotel properly displays and maintains the flag of our nation. Shown here (L to R) are Mr. Thabet Risk, General Manager, and George Corbett, Chapter Flag Recognition Program Chairman. Photo by Karen Corbett.





**Register through Zelle or mail
in the registration form below!**

**Topic: Events in Virginia and
the Southern Colonies, 1774-
1776**

August 17, 2024 Meeting Speaker: Michael Cecere

Michael Cecere is a retired History teacher who resides in Williamsburg, Virginia with his wife, Susan. Originally from Maine, he taught high school and college level American History for thirty years in Fairfax County and Gloucester County, Virginia. The author of twenty-five books and numerous articles on the American Revolution and Revolutionary War, he continues to research and write in retirement. His most recent book, entitled, *Witness to Victory*, was published in May 2024. It is co-authored with his daughter Jennifer and is their third installment of historical fiction. It looks at the American Revolution in Williamsburg through the eyes of three friends who grow up in the capital.

When he is not writing, Mr. Cecere volunteers and works at Colonial Williamsburg and Jamestown Settlement, sometimes as a tobacco farmer, other times as a soldier or a colonial dancer. He also participates in Revolutionary War reenactments throughout the East Coast and lectures at historic sites and historical societies.

Reservation for the Saturday, August 17, 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

Registrar's Corner – By Hunt Berryman, Registrar

Did you know? Signing an Oath of Allegiance to support The Revolutionary War is an acceptable proof of patriotic service. Many who trace their lineage find they had an ancestor who swore or affirmed allegiance to a state or to the United States. An oath was considered a solemn promise to support the efforts of the colonials. Each state had its own form of an oath of allegiance, how it could be initiated and any potential consequences for not signing as a “non-juror.”

Fellow compatriot Ray Duncombe brought this to my attention, as he has used it to prove patriotic service for many of his already approved 17 supplemental patriots. He currently has six additional applications under review in Louisville and two more on my desk. For more information go to the article written by John Sinks, member of the District of Columbia Society, which can be found by going to sar.org, click on the genealogy tab, then click on genealogy resources, then oaths of allegiance during the American Revolution. The article will give you information on each state's oath and a link to find lists of who signed.

Other application news: application fees for supplemental and new member applications will increase from \$100 to \$150 effective September 1st.

My Patriot Ancestor: Submitted by George Corbett

**Sgt. Thomas Kolb
(1751-1819)**

**South Carolina, 5th Regimental Line / Continental Line
5th Great Grandfather of Compatriot George Corbett**

Thomas Kolb enlisted in 1776 for 15 months under Captain Thomas Potts. to serve in the 5th SC Regimental Line. The 5th SC Regimental Line was the 1st Rifle Regiment raised on 22 February 1776, and was shortly thereafter commanded by Col. Isaac Huger. Kolb's last enlistment was with the SC Militia in 1782.

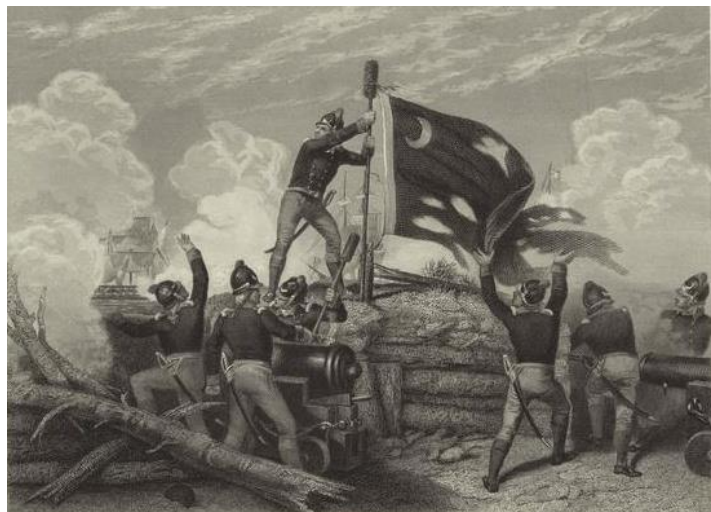
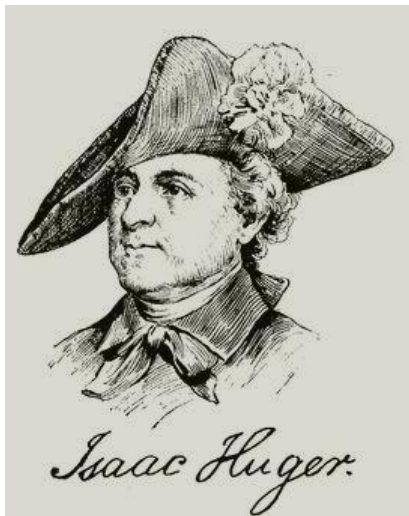
Rising to the rank of sergeant, he fought in the Battle of Stono Ferry and the Battle of Sullivan's Island or the Battle of Fort Sullivan sometimes referred to as the first siege of Charleston, fought in June 1776.

During and after the War he lived in the Georgetown District, SC. He married Mary Langstaff McDonald and their son, Jehu is the line for our family.

Sgt. Kolb petitioned for a Survivor's Pension and was granted *S38901. He died on 25 May 1819 and was buried in the Calvary Baptist Cemetery in Clarendon County, SC.

Information Sources:

Survivor's Pension Application File, M804, Roll 1507, NARA
South Carolina, U.S., Wills and Probate Records



National Bell Ringing Day



On July 4, 1963, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed Independence Day as National Bell Ringing Day. On Independence Day bells are to be rung 13 times to honor the 13 original colonies. On the 4th of July the Bruton Bell was rung to announce the service and again at the conclusion of the service. This year, and every year, as we celebrate our freedom let us remember those who protect our freedom: veterans, service members, firefighters, and law enforcement. Shown here are this year's bell ringers John Lynch, President and Ron Adolphi, Vice President, Williamsburg Chapter, SAR (photo submitted by Bob Davis).

Did You Know???



The James City County Resolves were signed on July 1, 1774 at Allen's Ordinary (near the modern day Lightfoot Harris Teeter) by a group of local freeholders. They vowed to not import British goods. On July 2, 2024, this event was commemorated for the first time by the Williamsburg Chapter and other groups at a special event at Freedom Park (photo submitted by John Lynch).

Chaplain's Corner – By George Corbett, Chaplain

The Dog Days of Summer

As we enter the dog days of summer, I think about the service of our patriot ancestors who marched long distances in the heat and rain and other adverse weather conditions. This had to be grueling and with the possibility of overheating and, worst, downright dangerous. Unlike today's modern military forces, rations were often foraged or simply done without sometimes. In a large gathering of men, disease is a real danger and without the benefit of modern medicines and hygiene, sickness could cripple a force. In our pledges and other remarks, we speak of their sacrifices, and these were certainly some of them as they pursued their quest for freedom and independence from the British crown.

As a retired US Army senior NCO, I remember my service in Vietnam in the 60s and the heat and humidity there. My comforts in base camp were luxuries compared to their situation. We can never honor or thank them enough for what they endured to bequeath this Land of Liberty to us and our prodigy. We can thank our Divine Creator for such men and women as these patriots. As we sometimes complain about the heat of the summer and the cold of the winter, we may do a little less so as we think of them. May God bless this great nation and their memory.



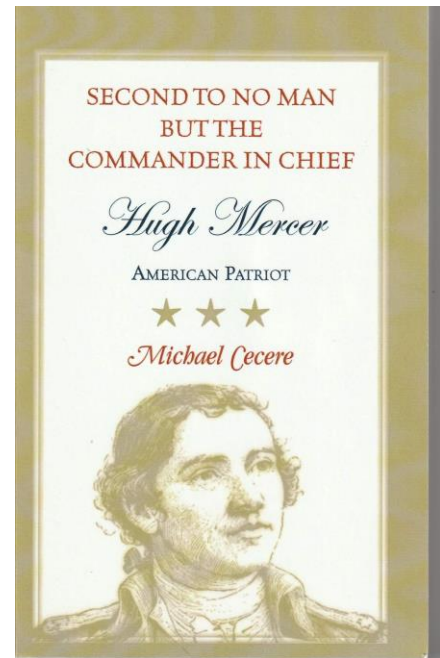
God of our fathers, who did kindle in them love of liberty and did grant them such faith and courage, that wide seas and strange shores were overpassed and eagerly embraced, bestow upon us, their children, in our own day, a love of liberty as was theirs and prevent us, by Thy hand, that we neither grow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

2024 Williamsburg Chapter SAR Officers



President	John Lynch II
Vice President	Ron Adolphi
Secretary	Gerry Ward
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	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



Second to No Man but the Commander in Chief, Hugh Mercer: American Patriot

By Michael Cecere

Copyright 2015, Heritage Books, Paper back, 200 pages, signed by the author

When the decade long political dispute with Great Britain turned violent in 1775, Virginia's political leaders considered Hugh Mercer for command of one of Virginia's two regiments of regular troops. After two close ballots, the Virginia Convention opted instead to appoint Virginia natives Patrick Henry and William Woodford to command. Mercer was selected a few months later to command the 3rd Virginia Regiment, but six months after his appointment, the Continental Congress elevated him to the rank of Brigadier General in the Continental Army and he left Virginia to assume command of the newly formed Flying Camp in New Jersey. While he served in the northern theatre, Mercer played a critical role in the Battles of Trenton and Princeton, two battles that helped save the American army and American independence. Sadly, General Mercer did not live to see the victorious end to America's struggle; he was mortally wounded at the Battle of Princeton in 1777. Congress honored Mercer with a statue that still stands in Fredericksburg and several townships and counties have honored his memory by taking his name.

This book seeks to chronicle Mercer's life and service and in doing so validate the observation of Major James Wilkinson, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, who wrote that: "In General Mercer we lost a chief, who for education, experience, talents, disposition, integrity and patriotism, was second to no man but the commander in chief, and was qualified to fill the highest trusts of the country." An appendix with a transcript of Mercer's Last Will and Testament, maps, a bibliography, and, an index to full-names, places and subjects add to the value of this work.



On July 6, 2024 the Commemoration of the 243rd Battle of Green Spring was held by the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Williamsburg Chapter and the Daughters of the American Revolution at the Church on the Main, James City County, Virginia. This battle in 1781 was the largest engagement between the British and the Patriots in Virginia before the Siege of Yorktown. Pictured are the Williamsburg Chapter Color Guard, Commanded by Gary Dunaway, beside the Green Spring Memorial honoring the Patriot Soldiers from Virginia and Pennsylvania buried nearby. Photo by Bruce Laubach.

Presentation of Wreaths:

Virginia Society SAR, William Greaf, President
Virginia Society OFPA, Kenneth Hawkins, Governor
Williamsburg Chapter SAR, Ron Adolphi, Vice President
Thomas Nelson Chapter SAR, Gary Hodges, President
Norfolk Chapter SAR, Mark Jumper, Chaplain
Williamsburg Chapter NSDAR, Robin Doucette, Regent
Ann Wager Chapter NSDAR, Elizabeth Greaf, Regent

243rd Battle of Green Spring Commemoration

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.

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