



The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter - Virginia
Society
Sons of the American Revolution



Vol. XXX

Number 12

January 2024

President's Message

Compatriots,

It has been a full and busy year. We as a chapter have a lot to be proud of. We have attended over a dozen SAR, DAR, and CAR events over the past year. We have had photos in the Virginia Gazette over 100 times in the past year. Our Color Guard has grown from 6 to 9, our Color Guard can represent the Militia, Continental Soldiers and Marines. Do we have anyone willing to represent the Navy?

We have a few events coming up in the next year that you should be aware of. On January 20 we will be holding our joint meeting with the Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter. This will be a dinner meeting where we will be installing the new officers for each chapter. It would be great to see you all at this meeting. Please watch for notices in our newsletter or go online to register. On February 3rd New Kent County will be celebrating Black History Month commemorating James Lafayette and Crispus Attucks patriots of the Revolutionary War. VASSAR will be holding its annual meeting the following weekend in Richmond. In August the Southern Region of the SAR will be holding their meeting in Williamsburg. I am sure they will need our help with the check-in of guests and greeting packets. Then in September VASSAR will be holding their Semiannual meeting here in Williamsburg. Please read the newsletter, our website and VASSAR's website for more information. I would like to thank all of you for your participation and support throughout the year.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Bruce Laubach - President, Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR



Calendar

Monday January 8, 2024

7:00 pm BOM meeting by ZOOM

Saturday January 20, 2024

5:30pm Social

6:00pm Joint Dinner Meeting with

Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter

Installation of Officers

Colonial Heritage – Williamsburg

(See Menu on Page 6)

Saturday February 10, 2024

Chapter Lunch Meeting

11:30 pm Social

Ford's Colony Country Club

Williamsburg

A New Editor at the Helm!

Beginning with this issue, there is a new editor at the helm of *The Magazine*! I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve the Williamsburg Chapter in this capacity and recognize that I have big shoes to fill in succeeding the previous award-winning editor, Dave Westenberger. I have always followed the old adage, "if it ain't broke, then don't fix it." As such, I plan on continuing the many aspects of the newsletter that we have all long enjoyed while gradually incorporating some new elements. Stay tuned and thanks once again! - Sean Heuvel

Chapter News



Photos by Peggy Laubach and Sean Heuvel

At the Annual Chapter Meeting of the Williamsburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution on November 18th, the following members received the Roger Sherman Bronze Medal: John Lynch II (Vice President), Steve Holm (Sergeant at Arms), Hunt Berryman (Registrar), and Bruce Laubach (President). The medal is awarded in appreciation for service to the SAR. It is awarded in recognition of, and in appreciation of, outstanding services rendered to the chapter.



Recent Events

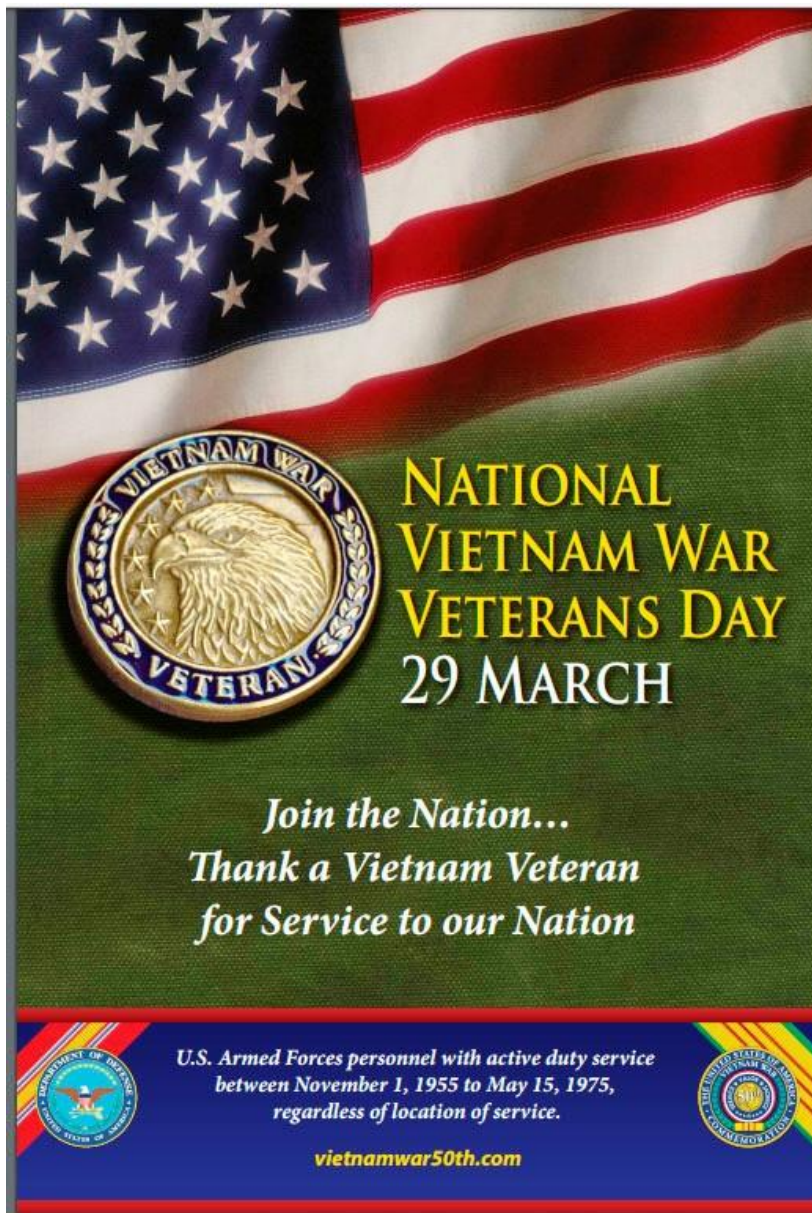


On Dec 16, 2023, Bruce Laubach, president of the Williamsburg Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, presented SAR Certificates of Recognition to Eagle Scouts Finn Gasink, Meghan Melloy (shown above), and Michelle Schroeder-Ramos at a Court of Honor of Troop 20 at King of Glory Lutheran Church in Williamsburg. Harley Stewart was also present, but not pictured, representing the Williamsburg Chapter. Photo by Sherril Buckner.



Future Events

Mark your calendars for this important event! It will take place on March 29, 2024 at 10am at Veterans Park (3793 Ironbound Road) in Williamsburg.





“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-ky73PnW88H3Vwn2zBpd8MIE1a5mu8Wsy7uU2fH2vFv20K4>



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

The VASSAR is hosting the Atlantic Middle States at the Williamsburg Lodge on August 9-11, 2024. I have been asked by 1st VP Virginia Society SAR Bill Greaf 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 1st VP Greaf.

Thank you, Bruce Laubach – 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. - Roger Cross

Below is the menu for the upcoming WMSBG-Thomas Nelson Jr. Installation Dinner – You can indicate your choice(s) on Member Clicks!



WBG - TNJ Joint Installation Dinner

Name(s) _____

Dinner Menu

Caesar Salad

Entrée Options:

| | QUANTITY |
|---|-----------------|
| <i>Chicken Roulade Stuffed with Goat Cheese and Sundried Tomatoes</i> | \$32 _____ |
| <i>7oz Bistro Filet with Port Wine Sauce (\$36)</i> | \$36 _____ |

Bread Pudding

Any Special Menu Request?

248th Anniversary of the Burning of Norfolk Commemoration

*The Norfolk Chapter
Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution
&
The Old Cannonball Society
Children of the American Revolution*

*Cordially invites you to participate in a wreath-laying
ceremony in commemoration of the
248th Anniversary of the
Burning of Norfolk & Defeat of Lord Dunmore*

*January 13, 2024, Saturday 11:00 am
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
201 St. Paul's Blvd., Norfolk, VA 23510*

Host/POC: Norfolk Chapter VASSAR/bobbruce@norfolksar.net



Use this
[LINK](#) to
register

Registrar's Corner

DID YOU KNOW? *The Journal of the Revolution* is a wealth of knowledge, stories and books about the American Revolution. It can be accessed and subscribed to, free of charge, at allthingsliberty.com. The December 7th issue had an interesting article, *Securing the Bells*, by William W. Reynolds. The article traces the critical time in 1777 as the British forces were about to capture Philadelphia. The Continental Congress decided to move crucial provisions and supplies out of the city to prevent capture by the British. Also, the decision was made to secure the bells of the city, including the State House Bell, which was to become the future Liberty Bell. The bells were moved via farm wagons to the basement of the Zion Reformed Church in Allentown. Of special note our own compatriots, Richard, Eric and Stewart Wolfe's patriot ancestor, Jacob Mickley, was one of the farmers who provided a wagon for the bells.

Check out *The Journal of the Revolution*!

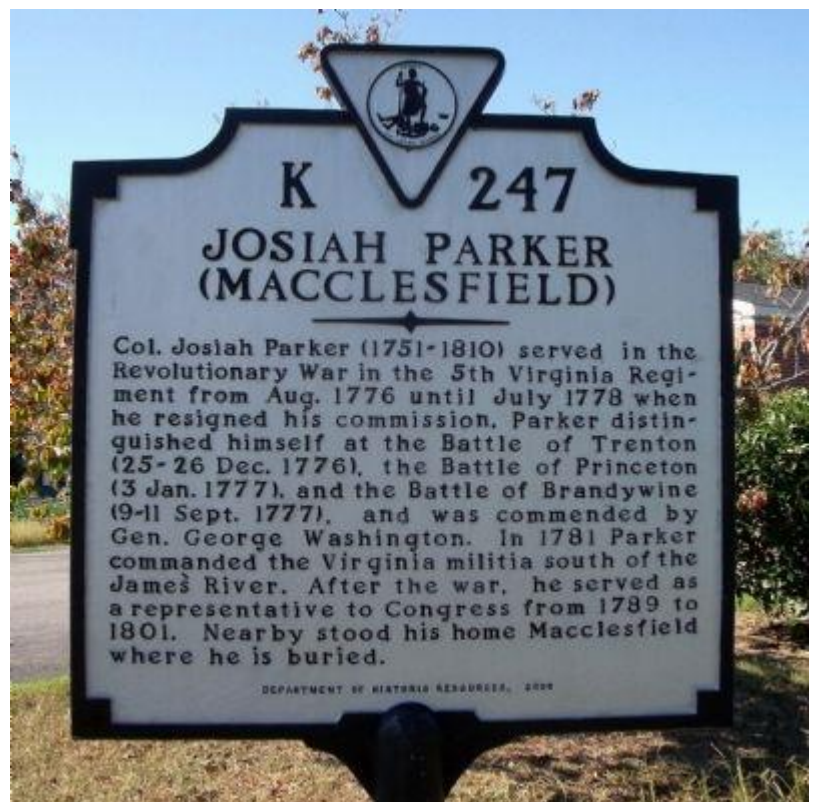


**Hunt Berryman
Registrar
Email:**

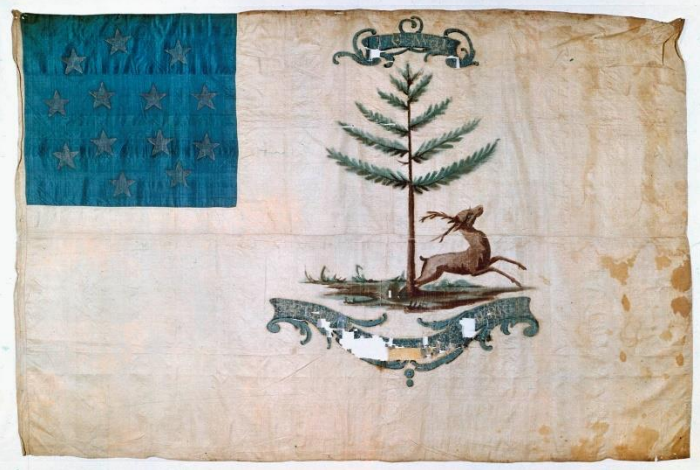
huntberryman@aol.com

Tidewater Virginia Patriot of the Month: Col. Josiah Parker

Isle of Wight County native Col. Josiah Parker (1751-1810) served the Revolutionary cause as an officer in the 5th Virginia Regiment from Aug. 1776 until July 1778, holding the ranks of major, lieutenant colonel, and colonel. Parker distinguished himself at the Battle of Trenton (25-26 Dec. 1776), the Battle of Princeton (3 Jan. 1777), and the Battle of Brandywine (9-11 Sept. 1777), and was personally commended by Gen. George Washington. At Trenton, he had the distinction of receiving the sword of surrender of Hessian Col. Johann Rall. In 1781, Parker commanded the Virginia militia south of the James River, while also serving as a state legislator. After the war, he served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1789 to 1801. Parker passed away on March 11, 1810, and was buried on his family's estate – called "Macclesfield" in Isle of Wight County. Sources: Historical Marker Database and *Wikipedia*.



Flags of the American Revolution



Bucks of Massachusetts

Source: Fraunces Tavern Museum

During the Revolutionary War, each state individually determined whether to allow freed and enslaved men to enlist in the Continental Army. In Massachusetts, Black soldiers were allowed to join militias and units, like the Bucks, the only all-Black militia company during the Revolutionary War.

Also referred to as "the protectors," the unit is believed to have acted as an auxiliary police and security service in Boston. Unfortunately, there is minimal surviving documentation about the Bucks, including military records of their formation and disbandment. It is unclear whether or not they saw direct conflict against the British.

In Colonel George Middleton is the only member of the Bucks to be known by name. Middleton was a leading community activist in Boston after the Revolutionary War. In 1796, he founded the African Benevolent Society, which provided relief to citizens looking for financial aid or other assistance, like job placement, in their communities. Middleton was a respected civil rights activist in Boston in the years leading up to the revolution. And in 1809, he was appointed as the Grand Master of the Prince Hall African Lodge of Freemasons in the post-revolutionary era.



Did You Know???

A higher percentage of the population died in the American Revolution than in any other war fought by Americans. As a result, more people who lived through the American Revolution knew someone who died or lost someone in the war, than in any war we have fought since (Source: University of Rochester).

Chaplain's Corner – By George Corbett, Chaplain-Elect

With grateful thanks to our outgoing Chaplain, Jim Morford, I have resurrected an article by him several years ago. KJ and I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Somewhere along the way during our school years, we learned of the Roman God Janus who represented beginning and transitions. He was usually depicted as a two-faced god (*Janus Bifrons*) since he looks to the future and the past. For the Romans, he represented entries and departures, indeed, all transitions. He inaugurated the seasons. The first day of each month was considered sacred to him, and of course, the first month of each year was especially so.

As the year draws to a close, we reflect on things done and things left undone. When we turn the calendar page to January, we tend to draw away from the past. We do so at our peril for as Patrick Henry said, "I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided, and that is the lamp of experience." As SAR, it is our obligation to protect and preserve the precious cause of liberty and pass that tradition to future generations. In a sense, January represents what we stand for as SAR members, serving to honor our past and to forward its values to the next generation.

We greet the New year with hope, with expectation, and with a sense of responsibility. Every New Year brings with it the opportunity to right old wrongs and win new victories. May 2024 be a year of success and fulfillment for each of us.

As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our heritage, our [family](#) and our friends. Let us remember our ancestors who by their sacrifices gave us the liberties and freedoms we enjoy today. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color, or creed. Let us keep God of our own understanding in our hearts and to chant God's name each day. Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right. Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none. May your year be filled with peace, prosperity, and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful New Year. Amen.

2024 Williamsburg Chapter SAR Officers
(to be sworn in at the January 20th meeting):



| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 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 |



James Lafayette

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Wreath Laying & Monument Unveiling
Commemorating African American Patriots from
New Kent County Who Honorably Served During
“The Revolutionary War”



Crispus Attucks



Col. George Washington

February 3, 2024
11:00 am – 1:00 PM



Historic New Kent Court House

12003 New Kent Highway

New Kent County VA

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Sponsored By the

African American Heritage Society

Of New Kent County VA

For more info email:

Camilla: milliemac20@yahoo.com

Mary: mbashlock74@aol.com

Sylvia: claudine9291@yahoo.com

Lavonne: lpata618@gmail.com



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))