



# The Magazine

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



Vol. XLI

Number 23

January 2025

## President's Message

Compatriots,

The French Republic threw out the Roman Julian calendar in October 1793. They replaced it with a unique calendar with months and days named after natural events or things. "January" was bisected and became "Nivôse" (Month of snow) which covered the Julian Calendar dates December 21 to January 19. "Pluviôse" (Month of rain) lasted from January 20 to February 18. Thomas Jefferson ended his stint as our country's first secretary of state in 1793. Jefferson supported the French Revolution but one wonders how he felt about the French Republic's new calendar. Did his agrarian mind applaud the change? Did his diplomatic experience abhor the added complication during diplomatic exchanges?

This month our chapter will be transitioning to its 2025 board of managers. These men will be sworn on January 11. Also on January 11th our chapter will be supporting Charles City County's AMREV 250 Committee's inaugural commemoration of a January 1781 skirmish which took place at the Charles City Courthouse. It will be held at the Charles City Courthouse and starts at 2:00 PM. The event honors the county's patriots who were involved in a lopsided battle against British Colonel John Simcoe's Queen's Rangers. Simcoe and about 40 of his men surprised the militia who were guarding the courthouse and quickly routed them. Compatriot Bruce Laubach actively assisted Charles City County 250th Committee during its planning sessions since August 2023. Thanks for your efforts, Bruce!

Your board of managers appreciates feedback and ideas from chapter membership. Feel free to contact me or a board member with your thoughts.

Respectfully,

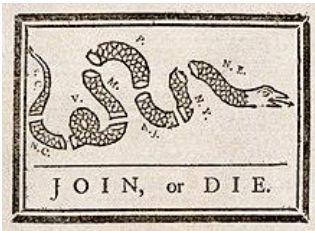
John Lynch - President, Williamsburg Chapter, VASSAR



# Calendar

***In Memoriam: Compatriot  
Robert Schmidt***

**Monday Jan. 6, 2025**  
7:00pm BOM meeting by ZOOM



**Saturday Jan. 11, 2025**  
Officer Induction Dinner  
5:30 pm Social  
James River Country Club  
Newport News

## **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



On 7 November 2024 Chapter President John Lynch presented the SAR's America's 250th Anniversary Gold Medal to Past President Bruce Laubach (photo courtesy of Bob Davis).



# Wreaths Across America Day!



**On 14 December 2024, several Compatriots from the Williamsburg Chapter (including Mike Doucette – shown above) took part in the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at Cedar Grove Cemetery (photos courtesy of Kevin Brown).**

# 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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!

**11 January:** Battle of Westfields Commemoration – Charles City County (2-3pm at Charles City County Courthouse).

**11 January:** Williamsburg Chapter/Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter Officer Induction Dinner (5:30pm – James River Country Club – Newport News).

**7-8 February:** VASSAR Annual Conference ( Virginia Crossings Hotel - Glen Allen).



### 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)



# **Welcome to the 135th Virginia SAR Annual Meeting! Greetings, Patriots!**

**Get ready for a memorable experience at the 2025 Virginia SAR Annual Meeting! The Richmond and Williamsburg Chapters are excited to welcome members of the Sons of the American Revolution and their guests to our 135th gathering set at our new venue this year, the picturesque Virginia Crossings Hotel and Conference Center in Glen Allen, VA.**

**This year, we are thrilled to reintroduce the much-anticipated Ladies Luncheon at The Historic Hanover Tavern on Friday before our main event kicks off. President Greaf extends a warm invitation to all compatriots to bring their spouses or significant others to celebrate and support the Virginia SAR compatriots and Virginia DAR Daughters who will join us.**

**Our Annual Meeting begins on Friday, February 7th, with a lineup of engaging and festive activities, including our traditional Scrapbook Contest, the vibrant Virginia SAR Color Guard Drumhead Muster event, and a hands-on MemberClicks Workshop. The Ladies Program will offer a fun Game Night with exciting prizes, and the evening will close with President Greaf's delightful Reception.**

**On Saturday, February 8th, the day will be filled with meaningful moments, starting with our General Membership Meeting. We will then witness the eloquence of the Rumbaugh Orations Contest and honor our young achievers at the Youth Awards ceremony. A heartfelt Memorial Service will take place at The Virginia Crossings, where we will announce and celebrate our Public Service Awardees, new State Officers, and the 2024 Chapter Winners. The event will conclude with a commemorative group photo on the portico steps of the Jefferson Building.**

**Saturday evening will conclude our weekend with the Black-Tie Banquet Dinner to install our new President. We close our time together with the new President's Reception.**

**Do Not Delay! Register for the 2025 [Virginia SAR 135th Annual Meeting](#) before midnight on January 31, 2025.**





## January 11, 2025 Officer Induction Ceremony

Location: James River Country Club, 1500 Country Club Road, Newport News, VA, 23606.

Time: Social starts at 5:30 PM with formal meeting beginning at 6:00 PM. The function ends at 8:00 PM.

Dress: Black tie, formal Scottish kilt, or business suit. Decorations may be worn.

Registration: Please register via Memberclicks by January 8. The registration link is found in the "Williamsburg Combined" entry on the January 11. Alternatively, let Bill Dorn know you will be attending (his address can be found on the calendar's registration link). You may also register guests via Memberclicks and pay for them via Zelle or checks sent to Bill Dorn. Williamsburg members should pay meal cost(s) to Bill Dorn via Zelle or check.

Meal: chicken parmigiana on spaghetti, vegetables, peppermint ice cream. Tea, coffee, water are available. Individual meal cost is \$38.00. A gluten free meal option is available, but otherwise there are no other meal choices. If you need the gluten free meal, please advise Bill Dorn.

Reservation for the Saturday, January 11, 2025 Meeting

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

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ regular meals at \$38.00 each

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

Please make checks payable to "Williamsburg Chapter SAR"

Mail to:

William Dorn – Chapter Treasurer

349 Capeside Court

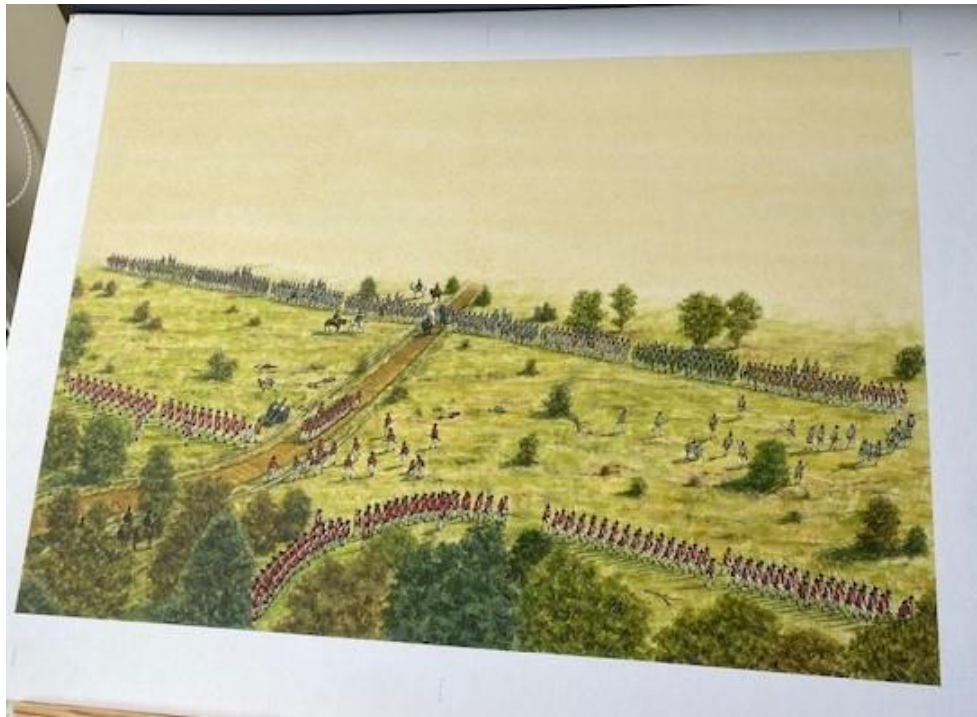
Williamsburg, VA 23188

(252) 658-2348

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

# New Paintings!

With the help of a generous grant from SAR National, the Williamsburg Chapter recently purchased two original paintings (by artist Adam Hook) depicting the Battle of Green Spring and the Clash at Spencer's Ordinary. More details to come!





## Tidewater Virginia Patriot of the Month

### Henry Tazewell (1753-1799)

#### President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate

TAZEWELL, Henry, (Father of Littleton Waller Tazewell), a Senator from Virginia; born in Brunswick County, November 27, 1753; attended the rural schools; graduated from The College of William and Mary at Williamsburg in 1770; studied law; admitted to the bar and commenced practice in 1773; member, provincial house of burgesses 1775; raised and was commissioned captain of a troop of cavalry in the Revolutionary War; delegate to the state constitutional convention of 1775 and 1776; member, General Assembly 1778-1785; judge of the Virginia Supreme Court 1785-1793, chief justice 1789-1793; judge of the high court of appeals 1793; elected in 1794 to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Taylor, reelected in 1798, and served from December 29, 1794, until his death; served as President pro tempore of the Senate during the Third and Fourth Congresses; died in Philadelphia, PA, January 24, 1799; interment in Christ Church Cemetery (Source: Biographical Directory of the U.S. Congress; Image Credits: Virginia Museum of History and Culture and the Library of Congress).



# Williamsburg Chapter Membership-Mentor Committee

The Williamsburg Chapter has always had the reputation of being a welcoming and active chapter. To enhance that tradition, the Board of Managers has asked me to chair a Membership-Mentor Committee. The membership goals will be to grow member participation in chapter activities and to actively follow up with members during our fall dues campaigns to improve member retention. The mentor goals will be to assign a mentor for all new and transfer members. The role of the mentor is to actively engage with new and transfer members for six months to answer their questions to ensure a smooth transition. Currently, Mike Doucette, Hunt Berryman and Ron Miller have signed on to help. We need a few more good men; so, if you would like to help, please contact me.

Thanks.

Roger Cross (Past President)  
757-869-6303

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## SAR Southwest Asia Service Medal Awarded



On 7 November 2024 Chapter President John Lynch presented Joseph Seger with the SAR Southwest Asia War Service Medal and Veterans Corps Certificate (photo courtesy of Bob Davis).

# **Chaplain's Corner – By George Corbett, Chaplain**

## **A New Year**

**The new year lies before us with all its promise and opportunity. It is essentially a blank page on which we can write a wonderful chapter in our lives for 2025. During the coming year, we have numerous opportunities to be of service to our community and chapter. As your chapter chaplain, I look forward to participating in various chapter activities as well as interacting with chapter members and their families. I ask members to alert me to the needs of members such as illness or sadly, the passing of a member or their family member. I want to reach out more to the chapter rather than just provide the invocation and benediction at chapter functions.**

**I'm looking forward to a year of participating in the many chapter activities as the chaplain and as a proud member. In so doing, I honor my patriot ancestors who preceded me and gave us this great nation of free men and women. May we never forget their sacrifices and struggles to provide us with this land of freedom. I also pray that we take a moment from time to time to thank Almighty God for his divine hand in the creation of this nation. KJ and I wish each and everyone a Happy, Healthy and Blessed New Year.**

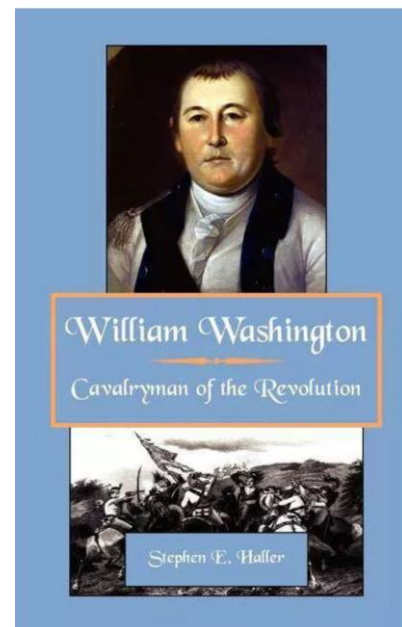
**Almighty God, as we begin the new year, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## 2025 Williamsburg Chapter SAR Officers



President	John Lynch II
Vice President	Ron Adolphi
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

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



### **William Washington: Cavalryman of the Revolution**

*The book by Stephen E. Haller, previously the manager of Archives and Records for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in 2002 when he wrote this book, is well written and one of the best biographies written about Colonel William Washington. Washington, a cousin of commander in chief George Washington, served throughout the long war, providing Murphy with an opportunity to tell the military story of the Revolution through one officer's exploits. After a brief description of William Washington's youth as a second son of the Virginia elite, Murphy turns to his military career.*

*William Washington was one of a small, loyal cadre of key field officers who served with distinction in the Continental Army through the entire War. He was born in Stafford County, Virginia to one of Virginia's elite families and was a cousin to George Washington. William Washington was among the first group of Virginia youth to answer the call to arms helping form a Stafford militia company in the summer of 1775. He later was commissioned as a captain in command of an infantry company in the 3rd Virginia Infantry Regiment of the Continental Army. He distinguished himself at a number of engagements including the Battle of Trenton before being promoted to major by George Washington and transferred to the Continental Cavalry. He initially served as a major and lieutenant colonel supporting cavalry operations in the middle states (1777-1779). However, he is best remembered as the commander of the 3rd Continental Light Dragoons during the southern campaign of 1780-1781 in the Carolinas, serving under Generals Benjamin Lincoln, Daniel Morgan and Nathaniel Greene. He and his unit played a major role in a number of key engagements including Cowpens, Nathaniel Greene's race to the Dan, Guilford Courthouse, Hobkirk's Hill, and Eutaw Springs. Washington was a gallant battlefield commander who personally led his men. During the Battle of Eutaw Springs (September 1781) his horse was shot from under him and pinned him to the ground where he was severely wounded by a bayonet and captured. He remained a prisoner at Charleston, South Carolina until the British evacuated the city in December, 1782. During the Campaign in the Carolinas, General Nathanael Greene once referred to "Light Horse Harry" Lee as his "eye", but he called Colonel Washington his "arm." The final chapter of the book addresses Washington's prosperous postwar career as a rice planter and politician in South Carolina.*

# 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))