



# The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter Virginia Society  
Sons of the American Revolution



*By signing the Declaration of Independence,  
the fifty-six Americans pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor. Nine died of wounds during the  
Revolutionary War. Five were captured or imprisoned. Wives and children were jailed, mistreated, or left penniless.  
Twelve signers' houses were burned to the ground. No signer defected. Their honor, like their nation remained intact.*

Vol. XXVIII

Number 3

MARCH 2023

## President's Message

We had a very successful meeting in February. It was very impressive that we almost filled the dining room to capacity. Our meeting came right after the VASSAR annual meeting in South Boston which allowed us to share the awards won by our chapter. We earned the Chapter Excellence Award, History Day support, 100% Flag Recognition program, Flag Retirement program, Participation in Youth Program, Participant of Gwynn's Island and the Crossing of the Dan streamer with a Gold Star. Several other National awards were presented; the Lafayette Volunteer Award and The Robert C Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award. Several State level awards were presented such as the VASSAR Presidential award and the newest state level award for Eagle Scout Recognition.

Gerald Sailors received the Roger Sherman Bronze award for his service to our chapter as a member at large on the Board of Managers. Thank you for all you have done for our chapter and the SAR.

Moving forward we have a many opportunities for our chapter to continue to excel. In March we will be judging the Middle school Brochure contest. For those of you who may not be familiar with this contest, students make up brochures based on one of these subjects: The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Federalist Papers, and the Articles of Confederation. We are also supporting History Day. We also have commemorative events coming up such as the Col. William Grayson event in Woodbridge on March 12th, President Madison's Birthday at Montpelier on the 16th of March. To find out about the more events please refer to our website or VASSAR web site calendars.

Let us keep the memories of our patriots alive and try to support as many commemorations as possible.

I am looking for 3 judges for the SAR Middle School Brochure contest.

Please email me at [vabelling@msn.com](mailto:vabelling@msn.com). Once I have my judges I will provide you with judging criteria. We will need to complete Judging by the end of March for submittal to the State level.

Bruce Laubach President Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR



# Calendar

**Monday March 6, 2023**

10:00 am BOM meeting  
by ZOOM

**Saturday March 11, 2023**

Chapter Lunch Meeting  
11:30 pm Social  
Colonial Heritage Country Club  
Williamsburg

**Sunday March 12, 2023**

Col. William Grayson Chapter event  
250th Anniversary of the Virginia  
Committee of Correspondence at the  
Tomb of Colonel William Grayson  
2338 West Longview Drive  
Woodbridge, Virginia

**Thursday March 16, 2023**

10 am – 5 pm Celebrating  
James Madison's birthday  
Montpellier, Virginia

**Thursday March 23, 1775**

**"I know not what course others may  
take, but as for me, give me liberty, or  
give me death!"**



**PATRICK HENRY**

Richmond's St. John's Church

## Chapter News



### Crossing of the Dan Commemoration

John Lynch II    Bruce Laubach    Ron Adolphi

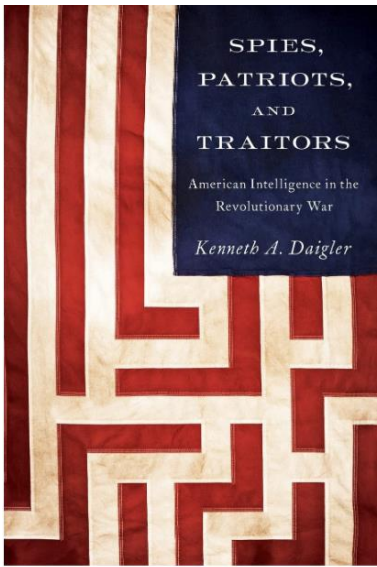


On February 4th Bruce Laubach President of the Williamsburg Chapter SAR presented Eagle Scout recognitions and Scholarship applications to two Eagle Scouts from Troop 20, Williamsburg, Virginia at an Eagle Scout COURT OF HONOR at the Queens Lake Clubhouse. Pictured l to r, SAR Eagle Scout Chairman Harley Stewart, Eric Smith, Scoutmaster Troop 20, Grayson Nelson, Eagle Scout, Via Miller, Eagle Scout, Bruce Laubach, Chapter President, and Ronald Adolphi, Colonial Virginia Council Executive Board BSA.



## Our March guest speaker Ken Daigler will speak on the Intelligence used during the American Revolutionary War

**KENNETH A. DAIGLER** is a retired career CIA operations officer. He has a BA in History from Centre College of Kentucky, an MA in History from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University, and served in the US Marine Corps. He has written articles about intelligence for the CIA. Historical Division's journal *Studies in Intelligence*, the Association of Former Intelligence Officers' *Intelligencer*, and other publications.



*Spies, Patriots and Traitors* provides readers with a fascinating, well documented and highly readable account of American intelligence activities during the era of the American Revolution, from 1765 to 1783 while describing the intelligence sources and methods used and how the founding Fathers learned and practiced their intelligence role. Kenneth Daigler, a retired CIA officer provides insights into these events from an intelligence professional's perspective, highlighting the trademark of intelligent collection, counterintelligence, and covert action and relating how many of the principles of the era's intelligence practice are still relevant today. Daigler covers intelligence in key theaters of military operations, and reveals the intelligent activities of famous figures such a Samuel Adams, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Nathaniel Hale, John Jay and Benedict Arnold, as well as many less well-known figures. This book will fascinate anyone with an interest in the Revolutionary War and intelligence history.

Fits nicely in a 6¾ envelope

### Reservation for the Saturday March 11<sup>TH</sup> 2023 Lunch meeting

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

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ regular meals at \$24.00

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

Please make checks payable to

**“Williamsburg Chapter SAR”**

Mail to:

**Gary Dunaway – Chapter Treasurer**

**104 Pageland Drive**

**Yorktown, VA 23693**

**(757) 303-3673**

**[ormazd72@gmail.com](mailto:ormazd72@gmail.com)**



# Recent Events



VASSAR semi-annual meeting

PHOTO BY UNKNOWN BYSTANDER

Elizabeth Greafe of the Ann Wager Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution was honored at the Virginia Society Sons of the American Revolution semi-annual meeting by being presented The Martha Washington Medal for her many years of support.



Photo by Glenda Wade – DAR Ann Wager Historian

Thank you to Compatriot Crispin Simmons for his generous donation of his raffle winnings at our February meeting!



# Future Events

3-5 pm Sunday March 12, 2023 Col. William Grayson

Chapter event

250th Anniversary of the Virginia Committee of  
Correspondence at the Tomb of Colonel William Grayson  
2338 West Longview Drive Woodbridge, Virginia



Col. William Grayson(1740–1790) was a soldier, lawyer, and statesman. Col. Grayson practiced law in Prince William County and is frequently mentioned as a guest at Mount Vernon, and as a hunting companion of George Washington. At the outbreak of the American Revolution, he served as a captain of the local militia but left the Virginia forces to become an aide-de-camp to General Washington. He later took command of one of the sixteen regiments of the Continental Army. After a bloody battle at Monmouth, New Jersey that virtually destroyed his entire regiment, Col. Grayson went on to serve on the Board of War. After the war, he served as a member of the Continental Congress and was later one of Virginia’s first two Senators.

Col. Grayson died in Dumfries on 12 March 1790, the first member of the United States Congress to die in office. He was interred in the Grayson family vault in Woodbridge on a hill overlooking Marumsco Creek. The family burial vault, originally located on a one thousand acre plantation; now, less than five acres remain undeveloped. The vault now sits amid a Woodbridge residential neighborhood. It was encased in concrete in the early 1900s by the Daughters of the American Revolution, and has been recently repaired and made accessible to the public. The Reverend Spence Grayson, a “fighting parson” of the Revolution and lifelong friend of George Washington, is also buried in the vault.



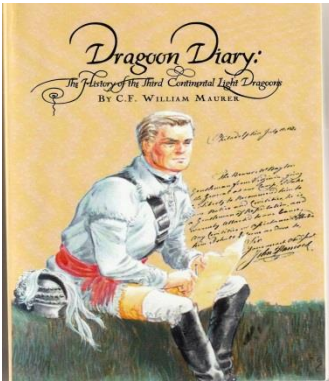
## President Madison’s Birthday at Montpelier on the 16th of March

Madison, who was born on March 16, 1751 in Virginia, was one of the most influential of all the Founding Fathers. He was a driving force behind the Constitutional Convention of 1787 and presented the first version of the Bill of Rights to Congress.

“  
The happy Union of these States is a *wonder*; their Constitution a *miracle*; their example the *hope of Liberty* throughout the world.  
”  
- JAMES MADISON

A color portrait of James Madison, an older man with white hair, wearing a dark coat and a white cravat.

## “Book of the month”



**From the Author.** This is not a conventional battle or war history. My thought was to make this history into a diary of the day-by-day happenings of the men, unit, history and even the horses from the inception of the unit at Trenton, to the Massacre in Old Tappan, to the successful battles in the Southern Campaign and then pass Yorktown to the end of the war. This is not a conventional history in that there is little attempt to re-write history. This book writes itself from letters, diaries, correspondence from American leaders and generals, official records and newspapers.

**About the Author:** Bill Maurer has been working in historic site preservation and research for almost twenty years. He has a BA in History from VMI and served in both the Active Army and the Army Reserves as a commissioned officer.

The cavalry during the Revolutionary War has been barely commented on by historians and when mentioned, is painted with the widest brush strokes. The place of the "swift arm," or the "eyes and ears" of the commander has long been neglected. Seemingly, the only time the cavalry is recorded in histories is when the cavalry carries out its mission as part of a larger and most successful, plan of battle. Suddenly, in these few cases, the cavalry is found at the right spot at the right time, equipped and capably commanded. The everyday life that reflected the patriotism of the unit, the bravery of the men and the many hardships of both man and horse are overlooked. Neglected are the deserving heroes of the Continental dragoons, the cavalry commanders and more specifically, the individual troopers.

Therefore, almost by necessity, quite early in the history of the Continental Army, the four Regiments of Light Dragoons were authorized by Congress and several more independent units of horse began to see service. Once organized, man and horse would need to be trained. Once properly equipped and trained - and then led - the cavalry would soon influence the course of the war and win key victories in the fight for freedom some two hundred and twenty-five years ago.

The history of the Third Regiment of Light Dragoons begins differently from many regiments in the way the personnel of the unit were selected. From the formation of the Regiment, the unit received favors and considerations directly from George Washington. The young officers and many men in the "ranks" were from the finest family connections in Virginia and Maryland. This unit, initially raised and paid for by Virginia, came to contain men, enlisted and commissioned, throughout the colonies and was a true cross section of the individuals who fought for independence.

A very interesting book from beginning to end. Very thoroughly researched with many primary source documents to help to understand the history of the Third Regiment of Light Dragoons throughout the war. Also a very good book if you are interested in knowing more about the formation, organization, training, equipping, problems, and use of the Continental cavalry in general.

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

# Registrar's Corner

CONGRATUALIONS to the following new compatriots who were inducted into the Williamsburg Chapter at the February luncheon:

Stewart Wolfe - Patriot Ancestor John Jacob Mickley  
Patrick Shaver - Patriot Ancestor Wendell Miller  
Michael Doucette - Patriot Ancestor John Clark  
Matthew Hinkley - Patriot Ancestor Sands Raymond  
Clyde Stacks - Patriot Ancestor Hugh McManus

We hope to induct the following new members at our March luncheon:

Eric Wolfe  
Sean Heuvel  
Karl Wickert  
Ryan Myers  
junior member William Mason, son of compatriot  
Tatton Mason.

We were saddened to learn that compatriot Donald Thomas passed away on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the day his application was approved. We plan to present his membership certificate and medal to his widow Denise in the near future.



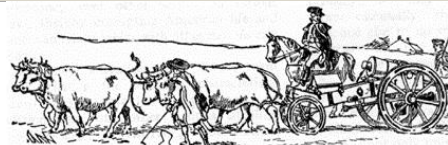
**Hunt Berryman  
Registrar**

**Email:**

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



## Compatriot John Graziadei sharing his Patriot



### BIOGRAPHY OF HENRY PRICE

Henry Price (Johan Henricus Preisch), born in Offenbach, Germany on September 22, 1726 was the direct ancestor who enabled me to proudly join the SAR. At twelve years old, Henry emigrated on The Winter Galley along with 251 registered passengers, two others of whom were his older brothers Augustine and Daniel. The ship sailed from Rotterdam, Holland and arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on September 6, 1738.

The Price family left Pennsylvania and headed to Southwest Virginia in their search for suitable farmland. Their caravan took them and other German fortune-seekers to a location southwest of Roanoke, Virginia. The Price family settled in Blacksburg, Virginia where they purchased land and built log cabins. Many of the Price family still reside there. My maternal grandmother, Winnifred Lucas Hopkins, nee Price, was born there and left after her marriage. Johan americanized his name to "Henry Price" when he purchased property and adopted the name on various deeds. The Price brother purchased 1,130 acres of farmland in Blacksburg forming the tract known today as Price's Fork. The Price brothers and the other members of the caravan were the first Germans to settle west of the Allegheny Mountains, an area now known as the German New River Settlement.

John Henry Price, a staunch patriot who supported the American Revolution, died in 1797 in Blacksburg, Virginia. His Last Will and Testament was probated in 1798. Although combat never broke out in Southwest Virginia, Henry Price, along with his brothers, gave aid and assistance to the American forces by donating horses, food, and supplies, among other necessary tools and equipment, to support the American forces during the war for independence.

Blacksburg, Virginia was founded in 1798, the same year of Henry's death. It was a 38-acre tract of land donated by William Black, for whom the town of Blacksburg was named. Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College, now Virginia Polytechnic Institute ("Virginia Tech") was founded in 1872 and my great grandfather, Robert Henderson Price, taught Horticulture there after 15 years at Texas A&M. He wrote numerous books and pamphlets on horticulture which are still used today. My grandfather, Adelbert John Calvin Hopkins, graduated from Virginia Tech and married his professor's daughter.

My mother, Virginia Lee Graziadei, nee Hopkins, died in 2018. She was a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and now I am a proud member of the Sons of the American Revolution.





# Colors of Morgan's Rifle Corps 1776



Morgan Rifle Corps Standard

Daniel Morgan was a first cousin of Daniel Boone. Under his leadership, Morgan's Rifle Corps played a key role in the Battle of Saratoga. In that battle, the Riflemen were used to initiate fires on the American side, targeting key personnel such as officers and artillerymen.

In 1777, Morgan formed and commanded the 11th Virginia Regiment and in October of 1780 Morgan was given the rank of Brigadier General. His elite corps of Riflemen became part of the 11th Virginia and their efforts led to victory at the Battle of Cowpens, considered the turning point of the Revolution in the South, in January of 1781.



Photo by Karen Corbett

The Williamsburg chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, presented a NSSAR Flag Recognition certificate to Lafayette High School. The certificate recognizes them for properly displaying and maintaining the flag of our nation. Pictured (L to R) is George Corbett, Chapter Flag Recognition Committee Chairman and Dr. Daniel Miani, Lafayette High School principal.



## From the Chaplain Jim Morford

In the pledge of allegiance to our flag we declare our commitment to “one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” The statement confirms our fidelity to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. It remains a goal, an ideal for all Americans of good will.

Certainly, we were not “one nation” when it all began in the 1700s leading up to the War for Independence. Historians have concluded that by 1776 about 20% of the population of the British colonies in America supported separation and independence. About 20% were loyalists who remained loyal to England and the king. By far the largest group, making up about 60% of the population, was undecided. They were fence-sitters. In the 1800s a group supporting both sides were known as “mugwumps”, said to be sitting on a fence with their mugs facing one side and their wumps the other. . . Today they may be called “independents”.

With so many fence-sitters in 1776, the cause became as much an effort to win popular support as it was to win victories on the battlefield. The publication of Thomas Paine’s *Common Sense* in January of 1776 added energy and passion to the patriot cause as did the December 26, 1776 American victory at Trenton.

The Revolution fractured relationships among neighbors and friends. It also separated families, the most notable being the split between Benjamin Franklin and his son, William, a Loyalist governor of New Jersey who supported the British effort during the war. They never reconciled their differences.

By 1787, when our patriot fore bearers produced a constitution it was designed for all people – patriots, loyalists, and fence-sitters – and to heal a divided America. It embraced the principles set forth in the Declaration of Independence. Every citizen has certain fundamental rights that no government may ever take away. It created a means to expand the franchise and a path to end slavery.

The Heritage Foundation captured it well when in an essay titled *The Genius of the Constitution*, it stated, “The great genius of the Constitution is this: it permits the people to govern themselves by putting the power of government in their hands, by protecting them from those who would take power or liberty from them, and by giving each successive generation the ability to improve upon the government bequeathed to them by those who came before.”



### *A prayer inspired by our founders:*

Almighty God, You have given us this good land for our heritage. We thank You that the great gift of this nation is freedom for all. We understand that Your finger was upon the writing and signing of our Constitution.

Lord, we pray that You will enter the hearts of all who take the oath to protect our nation and that they will look to You as our Founding Fathers did to seek your will in their daily decisions.

We pray that You will be in our hearts as well. Keep us always faithful to the principals and values upon which this nation was established.

It is through faith in You that we will find the strength to overcome all difficulties and challenges. AMEN

# IN MEMORIAM



MAJ James “Jim” Dunn went home to be with our Lord peacefully February 8, 2023. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather and a devoted dachshund lover. He dedicated the majority of his life to what he honored the most being in service to his country. Upon retirement he served the Hampton City School system for another 18 years. He was an avid NASCAR and college football fan especially his alma maters’ Troy University and Central Michigan University. He cherished his lifetime membership in the SAR and VFW. He will be greatly missed by all who loved and knew him.



Sincerely, Karen Dunn



Donald W. Thomas, Jr., 74, of Williamsburg, died on the morning of February 2, 2023, with his family by his side. Don was born in Denver, CO to Donald and Willis Thomas. A graduate of Center Senior High School in Kansas City, MO he met and married his wife Denise (Mountz) in 1974 on her 21st Birthday while serving in the US Army at Fort Myer, VA. In addition to assignments in Florida and Virginia, he served tours in Germany, Viet Nam, and two in Korea. After retiring from the Army, Don went on to work for the Department of Defense as a contractor followed by 16 years in the civil service as a Human Resources Manager before medically retiring in 2006 Don was a life member of the V.F.W. and a recently approved member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Don’s greatest honor was to have served his country as a Soldier and his greatest joy was his grandchildren



# Virginia Museum of History & Culture

This is Sam Florer from the Virginia Museum of History & Culture. I'm reaching out on behalf of the local coordinators of Hampton Road's Virginia History Day contest. Happily, it seems participation numbers at most of our local contests are finally bouncing back from COVID. However, that means we are in need of more volunteer judges than we've needed the past few years. Below are details about the upcoming District 6 contest. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me or District 6 judge coordinator, John Priest - [priest74@gmail.com](mailto:priest74@gmail.com).

## Where

The contest will take place at the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach.

## Dates and Time

We will provide all judges with breakfast and lunch.

- Approximate Time Commitment - **8:00am - 2:00pm**
- Contest Day - **Saturday, March 18**

## Registration

As in previous years, we are asking all judges to register via the NHD contest management system called ZFairs. Please [visit va-vadc6.nhd.org](http://visit-va-vadc6.nhd.org), [linked here](#), and click "Create Account" --> "Judge" from the toolbar on the top of the screen. **Every judge is required to create a new account for this year**, even if you judged in previous years. Please save the username and password you set up, as you will need to access your account prior to and during the judging period.

## Judging Process

Similar to last year, students will be submitting their project material digitally prior to the contest day. This will allow judges to view the students' work prior to the in-person contest. All judges will evaluate entries electronically using the judging evaluation forms in the online judging portal and are asked to bring a laptop or tablet to the contest. If you do not have access to a laptop or tablet, that will **not prevent** your participation as a judge. On the contest day, judges will finish evaluating projects at the Military Aviation Museum and conduct student interviews.

## Training

There will be several virtual judge training sessions held in February. Please try to attend one of each type of training sessions. If you cannot attend live, all sessions will be recorded and made available.

- Virginia History Day Judge Training: Judging Basics
  - Wednesday, February 8 – 5:30pm – 6:30pm – [link to register](#)
  - Wednesday, February 22 – 5:30pm – 6:30pm – [link to register](#)
- Virginia History Day Judge Training: Using the ZFairs Judging Portal
  - Wednesday, February 15 - 5:30pm - 6:30pm - [link to register](#)
  - Wednesday, March 1 - 5:30pm - 6:30pm - [link to register](#)

Thank you all for your past support of the program. We would not be able to run these events without dedicated volunteers such as yourselves.

## **Sam Florer**

Manager of Public Programs

## **VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE**

Virginia Historical Society

428 N Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond, Virginia 23220

804.342.9672 | [VirginiaHistory.org](http://VirginiaHistory.org)

# Williamsburg 2023 Chapter Officers



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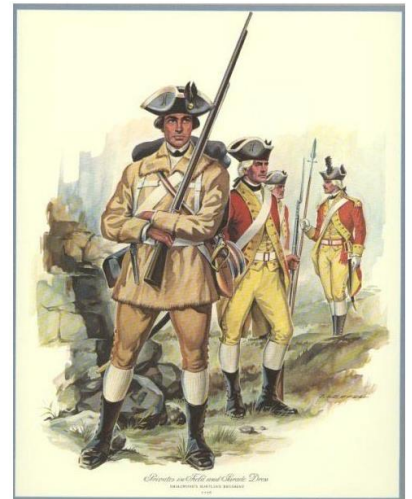
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UNIFORMS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The first company organized was the Baltimore Independent Cadets formed in December, 1774 under Captain Mordecai Gist. The Cadets adopted for their uniform a red coat, turned up with buff, with yellow metal buttons. This dress was also adopted for the other Baltimore companies; and this distinctive uniform is shown on three of the figures in our illustration.

A service dress consisting of a hunting shirt was adopted for the Maryland troops in January, 1776



## ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ALL MEMBERS

**Patriot Biographies:** Only a few have been received. A brief narrative of your ancestor for our history file that will be shared with your compatriots in our newsletter.

Please make this a priority. Send it to Tatton Mason our historian at [masonfamily321@gmail.com](mailto:masonfamily321@gmail.com) who will add it to our chapter's history file.  
 Dave Westenberger - Ed

**Mentor Program:** To support and assist new members. Volunteers are needed. Let Bruce Laubach know if you can help. [vabellring@msn.com](mailto:vabellring@msn.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>



0928

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))