



The Magazine

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



Vol. XXXIV

Number 16

May 2024

President's Message

Compatriots,

I'm pleased to report that during April our Chapter further developed its capabilities in support of VASSAR activities and it broke new ground related to the American Revolution's 250th Anniversary celebration. Compatriot Gary Dunaway was tapped by VASSAR color guard leadership to be the color guard commander for the VASSAR color guard at the 20 April 2024 commemoration of James Monroe's birthday in Colonial Beach. This is the first time since at least 2016 that a Williamsburg Chapter color guardsman commanded a VASSAR color guard outside of the Williamsburg area. Gary is also scheduled to be the VASSAR color guard commander for the 5 May 2024 monument dedication at Berkeley Plantation. Two of our Chapter's compatriots helped form the VASSAR color guard which marched in the 71st NATO Fest Parade in Norfolk on 20 April 2024. This is the first time a VASSAR color guard marched in this international parade. The color guard included two French officers in historical French American Revolutionary War Era uniforms. It was well received by both the public and the media. In terms of the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution: a 29 March 2024 visit to the site of the 27 April 1781 Battle of Osborne's Landing by Williamsburg Chapter Compatriots John Lynch and Steve McGuffin and Richmond Chapter Compatriot Philip Barnard determined it was suitable for a SAR commemoration of the battle. Compatriot Lynch contacted Henrico County Parks and Recreation on 4 April which led to Henrico County reserving the Osborne Landing Park site on 26-27 April 2025 for us. This apparently supports Henrico's AMREV 250 efforts and coordination continues. Stay tuned.

There are two May events you should seriously consider attending. The first is the Sunday, 5 May monument dedication at Berkeley Plantation (12602 Harrison Landing Rd Charles City, VA). It is a Richmond Chapter -led event. It starts at 2:00 PM. The second is our Chapter's annual Memorial Day commemoration in conjunction with Colonial Williamsburg. It will be on Monday, 27 May at 10:00 AM at the Governor's Palace. I hope to see you at both functions.

Lastly our Chapter is hosting the Atlantic Middle States Association (AMSA) in Williamsburg during 9-11 August. We are also hosting the 12-14 September VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting in Williamsburg. We need Chapter compatriots to volunteer to support both conferences. Duties range from manning the reception desk to building conference bags to ad hoc support duties. Both conferences offer you a chance to volunteer to support VASSAR and at the same time your own chapter. Please let me know if you are willing to support these events by sending an email stating your interest to cslasoz@aol.com.

Respectfully,

John Lynch

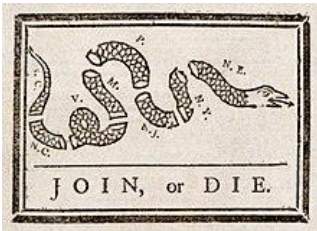
President, Williamsburg Chapter, VASSAR



Calendar

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

Monday May 6, 2024
7:00pm BOM meeting by ZOOM



Saturday May 11, 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 Sunday March 10, 2024, Past President Bruce Laubach presented SAR Eagle Scout certificates and Scholarship applications to four Scouts of Troop 103 of Williamsburg. The Scouts are James Grappe, John Walls, Collin McPhearson and Noah Ellis (photo courtesy of Bob Davis).



Recent Events



The Williamsburg Chapter, SAR members, Gary Dunaway (L) and George Corbett (R) attended a ceremony honoring President James Monroe on his upcoming 266th birthday. The ceremony was held on 20 April 2024 at the President James Monroe Birthplace and Park near Colonial Beach, VA (photo by Karen Corbett).

Meanwhile Williamsburg Chapter SAR President John Lynch presented a ROTC Silver Medal to College of William & Mary Army ROTC Cadet Kadesha Gibbs on April 11, 2024 (photo courtesy of Thomas Morr).

SAR at NATO

Two Williamsburg Chapter, SAR members participated in the 71st Annual NATO Fest Parade in Norfolk, Virginia on April 20th, 2024. Chapter President John Lynch and Chapter Vice President Ron Adolphi were part of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) color guard. The color guard also included SAR members from the Virginia Society's Jamestown, Norfolk and Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapters and two French officers dressed in American Revolutionary War Era French uniforms. This Franco-American color guard honored the 1778 Alliance between the United States and France. The float was made by Norfolk-based Scout Troop 24.

Photograph left-to-right: John Lynch, Ron Adolphi, French Air Force Lt. Col. Christophe Dubois, color guard commander Kimball Thompson, Christopher Melhuish, French Air Force Lt. Col. Renan Chavane, and Jeff Brown.

Photo: Greg Ellson





“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-ky73PnW88H3Vwn2zBpd8MIE1a5mu8Wsy7uU2fH2vFv20>

K4



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 Virginia Society SAR President Bill Greaif 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 President Greaif. Thank you, Bruce Laubach – Former 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

The VASSAR Color Guard (commanded by Williamsburg Chapter member Gary Dunaway) was on hand recently at the James Monroe Birthday celebration. From left to right: Gary Dunaway, Ken Morris, Jim Russell, Steve Boulton, Andrew Packett, John Hamilton, Bill Tugman. Not pictured: Mike Weyler and Tom Hammill). Photo courtesy of Gary Dunaway.





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

**Topic: Newport News in the
American Revolution**

May 11, 2024 Meeting Speaker: J. Michael Moore

J. Michael Moore is employed by the City of Newport News and serves as their Historic Services Museum Curator. Moore received a Bachelor of Arts in history from Christopher Newport University and a Master of Arts in history from Old Dominion University.

During his tenure with the City of Newport News, Michael has curated exhibits at several local historic sites, developed historic signage, and led battlefield tours in Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. Working with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, he has placed Causey's Mill, Historic Endview, Lee's Mill, and Whitaker's Mill on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, Michael is a popular lecturer for CNU's LifeLong Learning Society.

Moore has co-authored two books – *The Peninsula Campaign of 1862: A Military Analysis* in 2005 and *Yorktown's Civil War Siege: Drums Along the Warwick* in 2012. In addition, he has served as the editor and photographic editor for twelve books and written articles for *Virginia Cavalcade*, *North & South*, *Military Collector & Historian*, and *Mulberry Island Notes*. In recognition of his work in public history, the Governor of Kentucky commissioned Moore a Kentucky Colonel in 2014. He is a Newport News native and resides in Historic Yorktown.

Reservation for the Saturday, May 11, 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

WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS!! At our April meeting Vice President Ron Adolphi inducted three new members and presented a supplemental certificate.

Jason and Ryan Chicirda, father and son, joined SAR following their lineage to patriot ancestor Thomas White. Also in attendance supporting them was Tara Chicirda, spouse of Jason and mother of Ryan; and Cyril and Phyllis Chicirda, proud parents and grandparents.

Stephen Sober received his new member certificate honoring William Wright, his patriot ancestor. Joining Steve was his spouse Carolyn.

Samuel Merritt (shown below) is the patriot ancestor of Ned Moore, who received a supplemental certificate. Ned was proud to have his daughter Amanda Krems and granddaughter Alexandra Krems in attendance. Amanda is a member of DAR and Alexandra is a member of CAR.



**Hunt
Berryman
Registrar
Email:
[huntberryman
@aol.com](mailto:huntberryman@aol.com)**

Steve Holm's PATRIOT ANCESTOR BIOGRAPHY

Francis Lightfoot Slaughter (1765-1833) was too young at the beginning of the war to fight but enlisted in April 1780, at age 17. He served with "Yancey's Light Dragoons" which was part of the 1st Continental Light Dragoons. They were also sometimes referred to as the "First Virginia Cavalry." The "Pension Roll of 1835", From the Secretary of War lists "Francis L. Slaughter" as receiving a pension in Franklin County, Kentucky for Revolutionary War service in Yancey's 1st Regt. Light Dragoons as a private. His Revolutionary War Certificate of Service signed by his commander, Capt. Robert Yancey on May 18, 1784 states the following: "I certify that Francis Lightfoot Slaughter enlisted a soldier in the First Regt of Dragoons on the 19th day of April 1780. He was taken prisoner March 15, 1781 and continued as a prisoner "until discharged" from the Army.

After Dec 1780, Lt. Col. William Washington (shown below) took command of the newly reorganized 1st Continental Light dragoons and placed under command of Brig. Gen. Daniel Morgan's wing of the Southern American Army. This unit fought at: Battle of Cowpens (shown below), Jan 17, 1781, and the Battle of Guilford Court House fought on March 15, 1781. It is highly possible Francis Lightfoot Slaughter fought in these battles and was captured at the Battle of Guilford Court House since he was taken prisoner on March 15, 1781.

It would make sense that he would fight in the Cavalry (or "Dragoons" as they were called in the 18th century) since his family raised horses and the Continental Army was having difficulty recruiting men with knowledge of horses and riding at the time of the war. His father, uncle and older brothers also fought in the Revolutionary War on the American side. His father, John Slaughter, commanded a regiment of Virginia Militia during the American Revolution. He also was a member of the Committee of Safety for Culpepper County.

Francis Lightfoot Slaughter, at age 48, also fought as a corporal in the War of 1812, as a member of the Kentucky Militia, which played a major role in supporting the war against the British in the northwest territory. Kentucky Militia Rolls for Anderson County, Kentucky shows him having four enlistments as a member of militia units that fought at the "Battle of the River Raisin" (Jan 1813), Battle of Fort Meigs (May 1813) and "The Battle of the Thames", (Oct 1813). An interesting note about his service at the "Battle of the River Raisin." He was captured by the British and escaped before Britain's Native American allies arrived and massacred the remaining American Prisoners. This incident led to the popular rallying cry "Remember the Raisin" throughout the rest of the war. His son "Elias Slaughter" also fought in the War of 1812 and received a land grant (in Missouri) from the United States for his War of 1812 military service.



Flags of the American Revolution



Culpeper Minutemen

Source: Wikipedia

The Culpeper Minutemen were organized on July 17, 1775 in the district created by the Third Virginia Convention consisting of the counties of Orange, Fauquier and Culpeper.

The Culpeper militia next participated in the Battle of Great Bridge in December 1775.

The Culpeper Minutemen disbanded in January 1776 under orders from the Committee of Safety. Many of the minutemen continued to serve. Some joined the continental line, and others fought under Daniel Morgan.



Did You Know???

An assassination attempt on the future first president was discovered in 1776 by a covert committee just before the Declaration of Independence was written. After arriving in

New York to prepare for a British attack, Washington established a committee. The most astonishing aspect of the plan was that Thomas Hickey, his personal security, was in charge. Involved were many other well-known figures, including the mayor and governor of the city of New York. Hickey was the only one put to death, as he was the closest to Washington and was thought to be the one who would have committed the murder. The committee saved Washington's life.

(Source: <https://www.coolkidfacts.com/american-revolution-facts/>)

Chaplain's Corner – By George Corbett, Chaplain

When the month of May draws toward a close, we celebrate the Memorial Day Holiday weekend. To many it is the first long weekend of the summer season, But Memorial Day has a much deeper meaning for patriotic Americans. The practice of honoring those who have fallen in battle dates back thousands of years. The ancient Greeks and Romans held annual days of remembrance for soldiers fallen in battle. One of the earliest Memorial Days in America took place at a former racetrack near Charleston, SC. Many Union prisoners had died there and were buried in a mass grave behind the grandstand. On May 1, 1865, over a thousand freed slaves, local residents, and a regiment of US Colored Troops gathered to consecrate a proper burial site for the Union dead. Even before the war ended, women's groups across much of the South were gathering informally to decorate the graves of Confederate dead. In May 1868, General John A. Logan, commander-in-chief of the Union Veterans' Grand Army of the Republic, decreed May 30 a nationwide day of commemoration for the 620,000 soldiers killed in the Civil War. On Decoration Day, as Logan referred to it, Americans should lay flowers and decorate the graves of the war dead "whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land." Logan allegedly chose May 30 because it didn't fall on the anniversary of a Civil War battle. For more than 50 years, the holiday commemorated those killed in the Civil War. It wasn't until WWI that the tradition was expanded to include those killed in all wars. Memorial Day was not officially recognized nationwide until the 1970s. It was a long road from Decoration Day to an official Memorial Day, but patriotic Americans remember it to honor those who died for their country. Let us honor in our prayers the more than one million men and women who have laid down their lives for our country.



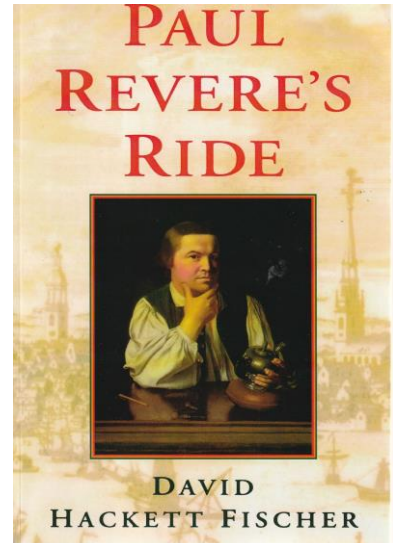
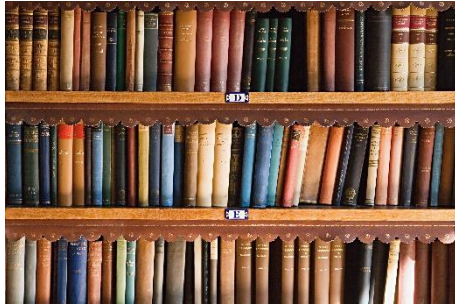
Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, in whose hands are the living and the dead, we give thee thanks for all those thy servants who have laid down their lives in the service of our country. Grant them thy mercy and the light of thy presence, that the good work that thou hast begun in them may be perfected. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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



Paul Revere's Ride

A 1994 New York Times Notable Book of The Year

A historical study by American author and academic David Hackett Fischer

445 pages, with black & white illustrations and maps

Paul Revere's midnight ride looms as an almost mythical event in American history-yet it has been largely ignored by scholars and left to patriotic writers and debunkers. Now one of the foremost American historians offers the first full-scale history of this monumental event.

In *Paul Revere's Ride*, David Hackett Fischer fashions an exciting narrative that offers deep insight into the outbreak of revolution and the emergence of the American republic.

Beginning in the years before the war, Fischer illuminates the figure of Paul Revere, a man far more complex than the simple artisan and messenger of tradition. Drawing on intensive new research, Fischer guides readers through the world of Boston's revolutionary movement, recreates the fateful events of April 18th, and provides a fresh interpretation of the battle that began the war at Lexington and Concord.

Returning Paul Revere to center stage in these critical events, *Paul Revere's Ride* captures both the drama and the underlying developments in a triumphant return to narrative history at its finest.

"A work of rare historical distinction... an unputdownable narrative scraping away the tarnish of time and myth to reveal the essential metal of Paul Revere, silversmith"

The Boston Sunday Globe

"A tale of adventure and intrigue so vivid and so colorful that it sometimes reads like a thriller rather than a historical monograph. A richly elaborate account."

Los Angeles Times

"There may never be a better book about Paul Revere" Oxford University Press

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))