



The Magazine

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



Vol. XX

Number 27

May 2025

President's Message

Compatriots,

As you know, the SAR places a high priority upon educating the public about the American Revolutionary War period. This year our chapter's Board of Managers elected to donate \$500 to Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's Bob and Marion Wilson Teacher Institute. The Institute provides various programs that provide "...an interdisciplinary approach to teaching social studies with American history as the focus" (ColonialWilliamsburg.org). One program offers a week-long residential course. The cost of this residential program for local teachers is about \$2,400. I am pleased to report our Chapter raised a further \$1900 (of which \$200 was donated by a member of the DAR). We will request the donation be used to fund the attendance of a local history teacher at a residential seminar. The Institute will determine the recipient.

Our Chapter will be hosting a commemoration of the 250th anniversary of Virginia's response to the Powder Incident. It will celebrate Patrick Henry and the Hanover Militia arriving on the outskirts of Williamsburg to confront Lord Dunmore in the aftermath of the removal of powder from the magazine during the night of April 20-21, 1775. Henry arrived near Williamsburg on May 3, 1775 and accepted Dunmore's payment for the powder. The commemoration will be held on Palace Green in front of the Governor's Palace. Start time is 10:00 AM. (The location and start time are identical to our Memorial Day and Veterans Day events with Colonial Williamsburg). Colonial Williamsburg is very kindly supporting us by providing the location, chairs, sound system, a fifer, a drummer, and one of their Nation Builders. Please attend if you can.

Another important event is the May 25, 2025 rededication of the patriot monument in Charles City County's Elam Church's Cemetery. The monument was damaged last year and is now repaired. Compatriot Kevin Brown's SAR qualifying ancestor, Abraham Brown, started Elam Church in the early 1800s and is buried in Elam cemetery. More information will be provided as the rededication date draws nearer. I hope to see a good turnout for the rededication by Chapter Compatriots.

John Lynch

President, Williamsburg Chapter, Virginia SAR



Calendar

***In Memoriam: Kathy Dunaway
and Reginald Beane***

Monday May 5, 2025
7:00pm BOM meeting by ZOOM



Saturday May 10, 2025
Chapter Lunch Meeting
11:30 am Social
Fords Colony Country Club
(New Location!)

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



29 March 2025 James A. Lafayette Monument Commemoration:

From the left, three descendants of James Armistead Lafayette (Lucy Edward's, Alice Edwards and Frances Thornton), Colonial Williamsburg Nation Builder Stephen Seals portraying James Lafayette, Williamsburg compatriots Kevin Brown and granddaughter, V.S.C.A.R. President Sarah Terpenning, President John Lynch, Williamsburg Chapter SAR, President Gary Hodges, Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter, SAR, Mike Doucette, Member-at-Large, Williamsburg Chapter, SAR, and Ron Miller, color guard commander, Williamsburg Chapter, SAR.

(Photo submitted by John Lynch)

Elam Cemetery Monument Rededication



Elam Cemetery in Charles City County has been a recent focus of activity for several Compatriots from the Williamsburg Chapter. Specifically, they helped to repair a SAR monument that honors African-American patriots from Charles City County. Plus, they installed a new flag pole (complete with a new American flag and a solar powered light). A rededication ceremony will take place there at 1:30pm on May 25, 2025. Great work, Compatriots! (Photos courtesy of Kevin Brown, Bruce Laubach and John Lynch).

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 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 at our chapter luncheon chapter meetings. Be sure to buy one (or more) while supplies last!

Side A



Side B





UPCOMING EVENTS!

- 3 May:** Powder Magazine 250th Event (Palace Green)
25 May: Elam Cemetery Monument Rededication (Charles City County)
4 July: SAR Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving (Bruton Parish Church)

The 40th Annual
SAR Service of Prayer & Thanksgiving
Friday, July 4, 2025, at 10:00 am
Bruton Parish Church
Duke of Gloucester Street
Williamsburg, VA



All are invited to join the Williamsburg Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and the clergy of Bruton Parish Church for the 40th Annual Fourth of July Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving.

The service will be conducted by Bruton clergy who will be assisted by SAR members. The service will be followed by the ringing of the Virginia Liberty Bell.

Friday, July 4, 2025, will be an especially appropriate day for us to thank God for the blessings of liberty provided to us through the courage and sacrifice of our patriot forebears.

Parking is permitted on Duke of Gloucester Street near the church for the duration of the service.



The Williamsburg Chapter
Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution
cordially invites you to the joint
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
And
Sons of the American Revolution
Commemoration of the 250th
Anniversary of Virginia's Response to
the Powder Magazine Incident
on
Saturday, May 3, 2025 at 10:00 AM
at
The Palace Green
In front of the Governor's Palace

Williamsburg Chapter Host/POC: John Lynch at cslasoz@aol.com



COMING SOON: OUR NEW WILLIAMSBURG CHAPTER SAR POLO SHIRTS!

Williamsburg Chapter Polo Shirt Order Form

Our volume discount is based on an order of 12 units or more. All orders will be delivered at our monthly luncheons to save on additional shipping.

Name: -----

Type of Polo:

Cotton – S-XL (\$36 each), XXL (\$38 each), 3X (\$42 each), 4X (\$45 each)
Polyester – S-XL (\$32 each), XXL (\$35 each), 3X (\$38 each), 4X (\$41 each)

Color: Black----- White----- Royal Blue-----

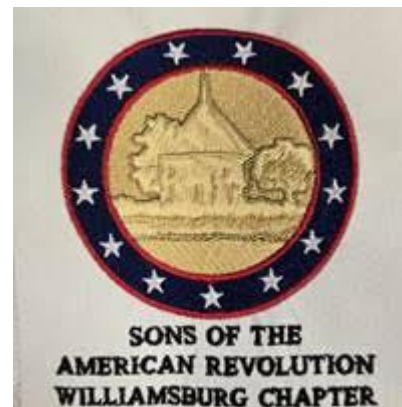
Size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ 3X ___ 4X ___

Mail order and payment to:

Bob Davis

281 E. Queens Drive

Williamsburg, VA 23185



Please make check payable to – Williamsburg Chapter SAR

Questions: macnider@cox.net



***Register through Member Clicks or
mail in the registration form below!***

***Topic: Religion and the
Revolutionary War***

May 10, 2025 Meeting Speaker: John Ericson

John was born in Huntington Long Island in February 1963 to Herbert and Joan Ericson. He graduated from Huntington High School in 1981 and from Roanoke College in 1985 with a B.A. in History. He attended the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, graduating with an M.Div in 1989. John married Oneita Jamerson Ericson in 1986 and they have three sons, Matthew, Thomas and James. John served ELCA Congregations in Martinsville VA, Stephens City VA, Stafford VA, Kilmarnock VA and currently in Newport News VA. John joined the staff of St Luke's Historic Church & Museum in September 2013 in the role of Docent, working only a few days per month. In 2015 he became the Outreach Coordinator, offering presentations throughout the Hampton Roads area on topics pertaining to the early American religious experience. In 2021 he became Education Coordinator and in November of 2024 was named Interim Executive Director. John holds both roles of Executive Director and Site Historian. John and Oneita live in Hampton VA.

Reservation for the Saturday, May 10, 2025 Meeting

Name(s)_____

Please reserve _____ regular meals at \$27.00 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

250th Lexington & Concord/Gunpowder Incident

“On Saturday, 4/19/2025, William Mason marched with the Colonial Williamsburg Fifes & Drums Senior Corps at both of the 250th Lexington & Concord parades. Around six miles all together. I was in attendance with him as a walker/ photographer. We were just a few spots back from the front and got to enjoy the ceremony and battery salutes at Minuteman Park. It was an awesome experience like none other. We then rushed back and William was able to join his sister and the CW Fifes & Drums Junior Corps on Monday, 4/21/2025, where he participated in the Colonial Williamsburg 250th Gunpowder Incident Performance. A busy couple of days to say the least. But well worth it to be a part of the events on the actual day of the anniversaries.”

- Submitted by Tatton Mason. Photos courtesy of Tatton Mason.



Revolutionary War History Fact of the Month

Maj. Gen. Samuel Holden Parsons (May 14, 1737-November 17, 1789)

Revolutionary War General. When he was nine years old his family moved to Newburyport, Massachusetts where his father became the pastor of the town's new Presbyterian Church. After graduating from Harvard College in 1756 he returned to Lyme and studied law in his uncle's law office. He was admitted to the bar and began to practice law in Lyme in 1759. With his political connections he was elected to the General Assembly in 1762. He moved to New London, Connecticut and became a Revolutionary activist. He was appointed a major in the 14th Connecticut Militia Regiment in 1770 and commissioned a colonel in the 6th Connecticut Regiment in 1775. In June of that year he was ordered to lead his regiment to Boston where he participated in the Battle of Bunker Hill. After the British retreated from Boston he was sent to New York and Congress appointed him a Brigadier General. While in New York he was in the thick of the Battle of Battle Hill and took part in the Council of War when it was decided the American troops should withdraw from the city. He took command of West Point and began rebuilding its fortifications and in 1779 he took command of General Putnam's Division. The discovery of Benedict Arnold's treasonous scheme to surrender West Point was the highlight of this period. Parsons served on the court martial board that sentenced Arnold's accomplice, Major John Andre, to death. Parsons was promoted to Major General in 1780 and took part in clearing out the British troops that remained in New York. By the time the British surrendered in Yorktown in October 1781, Parson had been in continuous service for more than seven years, and he tendered his resignation to Congress. He was appointed the Chief Justice of the Northwest Territories and in March of 1788 he and his son departed for the territory. In November of 1789 he wrote his wife that he was about to set out for Lake Erie to survey the Connecticut Western Reserves. Somewhere on the Great Beaver Creek his canoe must have tipped over and General Parsons drowned. It was not until the following May that his body was found and buried on the banks of the River on the Pennsylvania side (source: Find A Grave).



Registrar's Corner – By Hunt Berryman, Registrar

Congratulations to the following new compatriots

President John Lynch inducted new compatriots Russell Beyer and Morgan Gardner, pictured with is wife Beth, at our April lunch meeting. Russell's patriot ancestor is Stephen Kneisel and George Waugh is the patriot ancestor of Morgan. Also approved were a new member application for Brian Logan, whose patriot ancestor is Samuel Gilbert, and supplemental applications for Tatton Mason and Ray Duncombe. Congratulations to all!



Chaplain's Corner – By George Corbett, Chaplain

April Showers Bring May Flowers

As the adage goes, “April showers bring May flowers”. This got me to thinking about the flowering plants and the beauty of Springtime all around us. Our Eternal Creator has indeed laid before us the truly beautiful creation that we behold here. I wonder how many of us simply pause from time to time and truly “smell the flowers”. As a young lad growing up in South Carolina, I remember the fragrant yellow honeysuckle growing along the edge of the fence line on our farm. My mother had the “green thumb” and could get anything to grow there. I grew up with such wonderful memories and often think about them this time of year. I hope that each and every one of you will take a moment and indeed smell the flowers. The God of our fathers has truly provided us with so much to be thankful for in this land that our patriot ancestors bequeathed to their prodigy. May we ever be mindful of their service and sacrifices and belief in the Almighty Father.

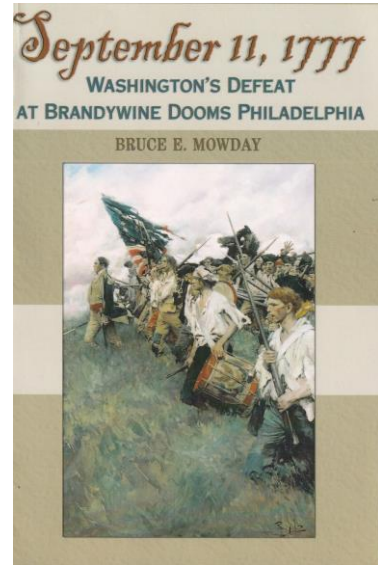
Most Gracious God, we humbly thank Thee for this land and the beauty around us. We are ever mindful of Thy power to create from nothing the universe we witness before us. May Your divine guidance and wisdom be ever with us and may we walk always in Your grace. Amen.

2025 Williamsburg Chapter SAR Officers



President	John Lynch II
Vice President	Ron Adolphi
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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

Book of the Month – By Stephen Holm, Sergeant-at- Arms



September 11, 1777: Washington's Defeat at Brandywine Dooms Philadelphia:

By Bruce E. Mowday

Copyright 2002. The book signed by the author

The Battle of Brandywine, between General George Washington's army and that of General William Howe in the Philadelphia campaign of 1777 that led to the awful winter at Valley Forge, does not receive the respect it deserves. Brandywine was a major British victory, and Howe did conquer Philadelphia, but the British did not destroy Washington's army. This book is the first detailed account of the September 11, 1777, Battle of Brandywine.

The largest land battle of the American Revolution played out that day on the fields of Chester County. More than 25,000 soldiers took part in the conflict. Many significant figures in American history participated in the battle, including Washington, Colonel Alexander Hamilton, and future Supreme Court Justice John Marshall. Brandywine was also the first battle for the young French General Lafayette. Evidence indicates the battle was the first time the new American flag came under fire.

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

SAR GIFTS AND FASHIONABLE APPAREL



SAR apparel and other items are available for purchase at: store.sar.org

Nametags can be purchased at: <https://store.sar.org/personalized-items-C46.aspx>

