



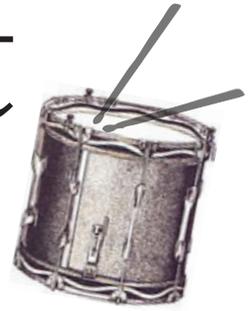
Drumbeat

with *Flintlock & Powderhorn*

News of the Sons of the Revolution

Volume 31 Number 1

Spring 2013



The GSSR Moves to Williamsburg

Relocation of Headquarters Now Complete

By Robert Bruce Kendall (Sr.)
Member of the Virginia Society

The General Society, Sons of the Revolution has completed the relocation of its Headquarters from Independence, Missouri, to Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. Colonial Williamsburg is the restored historical district of the City of Williamsburg and is operated by a private foundation.

Sprawling across three-hundred acres on the narrow peninsula between the James and York rivers, modern Colonial Williamsburg is a living-history museum and sits on the very same ground where the real colonial capital thrived more than

three-hundred years ago. The district does include many authentic reconstructions of buildings from that period—along with sights, sounds, smells, and tastes representative of the Revolutionary era.

The GSSR site is located on the southwest corner of the intersection of W. Francis Street and S. Henry Street and dates back to 1770. Locally referred to as the Griffin Carriage House or Byrd Stables, it was a dependency for many years to the adjacent residence called the Griffin House. Situated on the western edge of the historical district, it is near the entrance to the College of William and Mary and just one block south of the Duke of Gloucester Street.

General President Curtis P. Cheyney, III, General Secretary Laurence Simpson, DDS, and General Treasurer Matson Roberts, PE, and Assistant General Treasurer Phil Coombe, III, all personally aided with the move to Williamsburg.

Of the location's historical significance, General President Cheyney sums up its unique character by saying many of the nation's Founding Fathers, while on their way to and from the Virginia House of Burgesses, often walked along the path that was later named Duke of Gloucester Street.

Dr. Simpson, who has oversight on the
—Continued on page 2



GSSR Headquarters, Williamsburg, Va.—Photos by Jeff Lambert





—GSSR Relocates, continued from page 1

headquarters, said, “Not only is our Headquarters back in one of the Original Thirteen Colonies, but what a motivating and inspiring location Williamsburg is! More than a million visitors a year will walk right by our site and be already programmed into a colonial state-of-mind. The site should not only work, but work well. I am very pleased with the result.”

The exterior remains in its true historic state, with an onion-like domed cupola. Mature trees frame the building, with a ribbon of brick walk inviting the passing tourist to enter and discover the Sons.

GSSR Executive Director P. Jeffrey Lambert describes the building as being “surrounded by magnolia, crape myrtle, and oaks.” From the air, he says, the property is hidden under a canopy of foliage.

The interior of the building is divided into several rooms. The meeting room is appointed with a rich mahogany table, period pieces, and a bronze eagle perched on a pedestal next to the standing Colors.

Just a few yards to the north, across W. Francis Street, is Merchants Square, an area closed to vehicular traffic (except horse-drawn carriages) where pedestrians find shops, colonial-period craftsmen, and dining establishments. Christina Campbell’s Inn serves period dishes enjoyed by the likes of Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson.

Chownings has a more

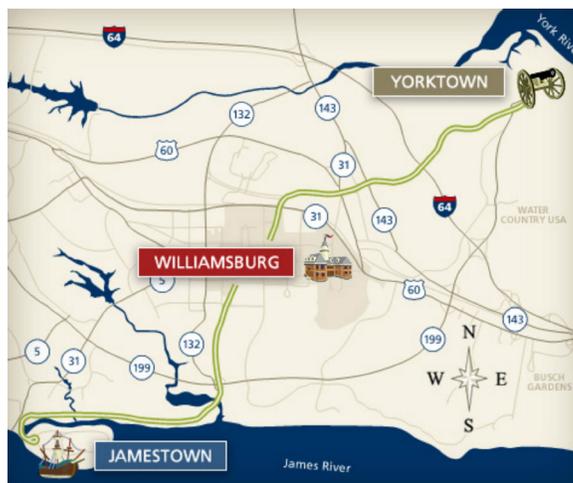
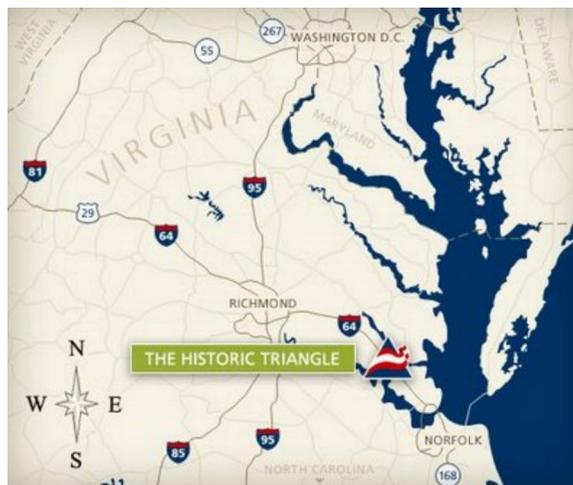
robust atmosphere, where hot buttered rum can be sipped with a period musician sitting in a sea shanty. The Williamsburg Inn, a five-star resort, is less than a mile away and offers Continental dining, exquisite lodging, and the Golden Horseshoe golf course. The historic, cozy Williamsburg Lodge, across the street from the Inn, offers a less pricey alternative to its five-star neighbor.

Center of Colonial World

Williamsburg was the capital of the Virginia colony for eighty-one formative years, from 1699 to 1780. It was the political, cultural, and educational center of what was then the largest, most populous, and most influential of the American colonies. The colonial capital was also one of America’s first planned cities. Laid out under the supervision of Governor Francis Nicholson, it was to be a “new and well-ordered city” suitable for the capital of the biggest British colony in America. In that era, Virginia stretched from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River and northward to the Great Lakes.

After Thomas Jefferson moved the seat of Virginia’s government to Richmond, Williamsburg entered a dormant phase of more than one-hundred fifty years. Its buildings began to crumble, and the early colonial heritage of our country deteriorated. In 1926, the Reverend Dr. W.A.R. Goodwin, rector of Bruton Parish Church, shared his dream of preserving the city’s historic buildings with philanthropist John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and the restoration of the historic settlement began.

From this Tidewater writer’s perspective, the coming of the Sons of the Revolution to Colonial Williamsburg appears to be a good marriage between some of our country’s premier historic sites and a lineage society whose mission is to honor, preserve, and promote that history. ■



—Source:www.historictriangle.com



President's Message

In the James Bond movie "Goldfinger," the exchange between "M" and Bond is memorable. "M" asks Bond, "What do you know about gold?" to which Bond replies, "I know it when I see it."

It is that sense of "knowing" which captured me when Matson Roberts, PE, of the Virginia Society introduced me to Colonial Williamsburg and the Byrd Stable as a potential new Headquarters for the General Society, Sons of the Revolution. He knew that the Relocation Committee which had been established by then-General President Terry Davenport was seeking a site for the relocation of our Headquarters from Independence, Missouri.

The new site was to provide an improved platform from which to serve both the public and our several State Societies, and it was to be from a location that would offer a comparatively greater impact in our mission. Further, the charge to the Relocation Committee was to find a site of about 1,000-sq-ft with which to meet our storage and operational needs while staying within the challenging parameters of our budget as it existed in Independence, Missouri.

The Committee had its searches and its visits, but no other site compelled such a positive response as did Colonial Williamsburg, situated in the heart of the thirteen original colonies. After all, it was here where Founding Fathers such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Henry Lee III, and Patrick Henry actually walked to and from the Virginia House of Burgesses, along the path that was later named Duke of Gloucester Street. Thus, the Byrd Stable site, which sits on West Francis Street (just one block away from Duke of Gloucester Street), makes for an extraordinary new location for the General Society Headquarters.

As an additional consideration, the Byrd Stable is just over two blocks from the historic William and Mary College, where Thomas Jefferson studied under the tutelage of Professor Edward Small, who exposed Jefferson to the thoughts and philosophy of Thomas Reid of the Scottish School of Common Sense, a likely source of inspiration for the elements of the American trilogy which he embedded in the Preamble to the Declaration of Independence. No one can deny that we are now located in the midst of our nation's Revolutionary history, at its most

venerable and most awe-inspiring.

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and its representative were welcoming; they were open to our financial overtures, and permitted the Committee to favorably report on a site that met, or exceeded, the expectations of the Board of Managers. The recommendation to relocate the Headquarters to Colonial Williamsburg was thus favorably considered at the 2012 Triennial in Savannah, Georgia.

Now, several months later, this decision and all the hours of effort involved in the transition have been rewarding beyond our expectations. Blessed with a venue that affords real public outreach in an historic location that is central to the history of the Revolution, it also stands as a monument for our message. With our 'Sons of the Revolution' sign and minuteman insignia installed, and with flags of the United States and the General Society at the front, we send a message to the many visitors to Colonial Williamsburg that the Sons of the Revolution are here.

We are open to and hopeful of making a real



Williamsburg Carriage—Source: Getawayguy.com



Duke of Gloucester Street—Source: Alamy AOL Travel

—Continued on page 4

—President's Message, continued from page 3

impact from this site located in America's Historic Triangle (a broader area that includes three historic jewels: Jamestown, Yorktown, and Williamsburg). Colonial Williamsburg was "Made in America" for Americans; it is the perfect location for the Headquarters of the General Society, Sons of the Revolution.

We Thank You

Your General Society officers wish to thank you (all the members of our Society) for your generous gifts and support in this move. I am confident about the future of the Sons of the Revolution, not only because of our organization's relevance in this post-modern age (an era in which lessons of history and liberty are diminished by our schools and by our proffered entertainment), but because from this new site we can be a stronger beacon for freedom and the foundational principles that made America the "light shining on a hill" before all the nations.

We are also blessed by the services of our new Executive Director, P. Jeffrey Lambert. His joining with the General Society occurred at the right time; he will be a fellow guardian of our Headquarters and of great service to our membership.

If there is one negative at all to these exciting developments, it is the loss of the dear friendship and exceptional service of Sharon Toms, who had served the Society for a number of years in Independence as the capable Assistant to the General Registrar. Sharon set the bar of service and professionalism very high, but has chosen to remain in Missouri. Our new Executive Director is prepared to meet every challenge going forward—and to build on past successes, but he is also the first to concede that Sharon will be missed. ■



The Governor's Palace—Source: mikebecvar.com

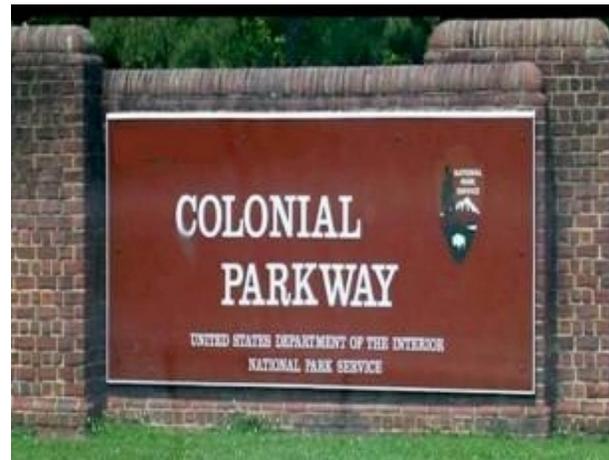
Historic Triangle Offers Many Interesting Sites

By P. Jeffrey Lambert
Executive Director, GSSR

It doesn't take long to appreciate the historical significance of the Virginia Tidewater as the new location for our GSSR Headquarters, particularly as it relates to the Revolutionary years.

In the three proximate villages of Jamestown, Williamsburg and Yorktown, better known as the Historic Triangle, one can experience where the English colonies started, flourished and ended—all within just a few miles of one another.

When you come to our Headquarters for the first time, build some extra time into your stay to visit these other sites. You will have an outstanding history lesson where you can take in the stories, sites, sounds and smells of history as it was. Even though all these places are close to each other, it would take days if not weeks to fully appreciate and enjoy them.



The picturesque Colonial Parkway

—Sources: top photo, fbi.gov; bottom photo, nps.gov

—Continue on page 5

—Continued from page 4

Old Williamsburg

It all starts with the historical district in Williamsburg. The excavations and restorations that began in the 1920s continue today. In my own experience, while taking lunchtime walks through town, I come across the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (CWF) team of archeologists uncovering foundations of buildings that have been long forgotten. Here, the past is literally just inches below the present.

Williamsburg figured strategically in the Revolutionary War. The “Gunpowder Incident” between Colonial Governor John Murray, 4th Earl of Dunmore, and Virginia colonists occurred at the settlement’s magazine in April 1775 and is regarded as one of the precursors to war. Also, in the summer of 1781 leading up to Yorktown, various skirmishes took place throughout the Tidewater. The nearest one to Williamsburg occurred at Spencer’s Ordinary, about six miles to the north.

Today, there would not be a place called Williamsburg had it not been for the College of William & Mary, established in 1693. The surrounding settlement back at that time was called Middle Plantation, but community leaders decided to rename the town Williamsburg in deference to the College. The Wren Building at W&M served as a hospital during the Revolution. French soldiers wounded at the Siege of Yorktown were treated there, as a marble plaque on the building’s back wall testifies. During the war, from behind the campus of W&M, Virginia troops were trained and organized to form the first of fifteen regiments authorized by the Continental Congress. The 1st Virginia was commanded from that location by none other than Patrick Henry.

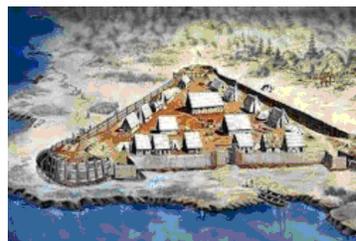
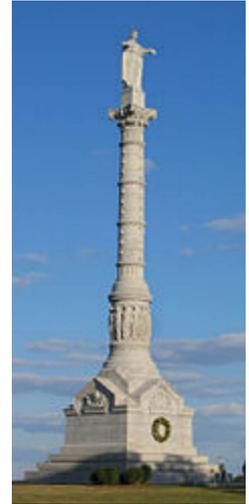
Visiting Other Sites

A short drive down the Colonial Parkway brings us to other significant sites relating to the Revolutionary War. Most people who enjoy history know that Jamestown was the first English settlement in Virginia and the first capital of the colony. But less known is Jamestown’s Revolutionary War history. The Battle of Green Springs (Plantation) occurred in James City County on July 6, 1781. Jamestown is also the site where the French unloaded siege guns used at Yorktown and later where French troops encamped after the siege.

After visiting Jamestown, by continuing on the Colonial Parkway, you arrive at Yorktown, the site of the largest siege during the entire war. It was

an act of divine Providence that the French navy fleet was able to support this operation and block the Chesapeake Bay at the Battle of the Capes. That maneuver effectively cut off General Charles (Lord) Cornwallis’ escape by sea. As Cornwallis tried to ferry his troops to the opposite shore, to Gloucester Point, a sudden storm made the crossing of the York River all but impossible. Cornwallis was effectively trapped.

When you go there, Yorktown has entrenchments, earthworks and fortifications that highlight the siege. Be sure to see the NPS Visitor Center as well as the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s American Revolution Museum at Yorktown. ■



—Sources: Jeff Lambert, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Wikipedia, yorkcounty.gov, greatamericanthings.net, flickr.com, and bradwynne.com

New Executive Director to Assist State Societies

Executive Director Jeffrey Lambert is in position to serve State Societies well. His previous experience in the Sons, his deep knowledge of the American Revolution, and his natural abilities as ambassador for the General Society represent a terrific resource for members, prospective members, and visitors.

As a versed re-enactor of the Revolutionary War period and member of the Sons, the Cincinnati, and the SAR, Jeff brings a record of over thirty years of active patriotic involvement to his post. He has also presented eighteenth-century military history to cadets in the ROTC programs at Wake Forest/Winston-Salem State universities.

By his previous election as State Society President for North Carolina, he is already familiar with this organization at large, knows about pertinent issues, and leads by example.

What members may not know about Mr. Lambert is his underlying zeal for promoting the ideals and memories of the Founding Fathers—and for carrying on the work of this Society. Aside from that, his professional career has included extensive experience in the public, corporate, and non-profit sectors.

The current position melds his personal interests and professional capabilities. Having grown up in Washington, D.C., one of the nation's pre-

mier historical and cultural centers, Lambert was drawn at an early age into re-enacting. He joined the First Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line and eventually became commanding officer of the regiment. It afforded him the opportunity to walk the hallowed grounds that our patriot ancestors walked as they fought for independence.

It is that experience that led him into pursuing other patriotic endeavors. On February 22, 2002, Lambert was inducted as a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, by right of his descent from Captain Edward Seagrave, of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, who answered the Lexington and Concord alarm on April 19, 1775 and later saw service at White Plains (New York) and Tiverton (Rhode Island).

“During the luncheon on the day of my induction, I was seated at the table and was emotionally overcome by the realization that I was having lunch with the same gene pool that my patriot ancestor had marched with during the Revolution. It was a very meaningful moment for me,” he said.

When he was elected President of the N.C. Society, he again was moved. He says it was more meaningful than his acceptance into the Cincinnati, since it was based on membership votes. During his tenure as President, the Society successfully chartered its first chapter in Charlotte.

“It was such an honor to be elected by the membership,” he added. “Being asked to serve as Executive Director of the entire General Society is an even greater honor. I am here as a humble servant to all members.” ■—*Editor*



—Sources: Jeff Lambert, Wikipedia, dtours.com, questgarden.com, and flickr.com



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*Belford Christy Blaine gave in honor of Col. Ephraim Blaine, Commissary; Lydie Szabo Brown gifted money in honor of her sons, Andrew and Jeffrey Brown of Pennsylvania; Palmer Brown Lamb and Victoria Brown Moulder donated money in honor of their father, Carl Wood Brown of Florida; William M. Buchanan gave in honor of Halsey Michaux Scott; Mrs. John Emack Duvall gave in honor of; Thomas C. Etter donated money on behalf of the DC Society; and John Mauk Hilliard gave in honor of Robert N. McKay, Past President, SRNY.

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The General Society Sons of the Revolution

**Board of Managers Meeting
in historic
New London, CT
September 26 - 29, 2013**

New London, located in southeastern CT at the mouth of the Thames River, is bounded on the north and west by Waterford, on the east by the Thames River and on the south by Long Island Sound. It covers 7.3 sq. miles and has a population of approx. 27,000.

The town, first settled in 1646, was founded by John Winthrop, the younger - son of the John Winthrop who led the second Puritan emigration from England. The town was named in 1658 and wasn't incorporated until 1784.

"During the American Revolution, it was an important base for privateers, and it was attacked and burned in 1781 by British forces led by the former American general Benedict Arnold."

Many more nearby attractions:

*Coast Guard Academy
Nautilus Submarine Museum
St. James Episcopal Church
(Bishop Seabury's burial site)
Mystic Seaport*



Fort Trumbull



Shaw Mansion



**Nathan Hale
Schoolhouse**



Hempstead Houses



Custom House



Fort Griswold

*For more information, visit the Connecticut Society web site at:
<http://www.connecticutsr.org/>*

General Society Sons of the Revolution

Board of Managers Meeting
September 26-29, 2013
New London, Connecticut

Name _____ State Society _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Highest SR Office _____

Name (or Nickname) for Badge _____

Guest(s) Name(s) _____

_____ Per Person Registration—through August 1st (\$230 each) \$ _____

_____ Per Person Registration—after August 1st (\$280) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to “Connecticut Society Sons of the Revolution” and send to:

Connecticut Society Sons of the Revolution
c/o Stephen Shaw
PO Box 77, Chester, CT 06412

Registration fees include:

Thursday Sept 26th—Reception

Friday Sept 27th—Meetings and Evening Dinner

Saturday Sept 28th—Meetings and Banquet

Sunday Sept 29th—Farewell Sherry

Plus Optional Tours

Reserve Your Hotel Room While Space Lasts

Holiday Inn, 35 Governor Winthrop Blvd, New London, CT 06320

860-443-7000 or www.holidayinn.com/newlondonct

Special room rates are available September 26th—29th starting at \$149 per night, plus tax.

Your room rate includes a full breakfast each morning of your stay.

Reservations must be made by August 27th to get the reduced rate.

Use the “RUH” code to get the lower rate.



CONNECTICUT

The next GSSR Board of Managers Meeting will be held in New London, Connecticut on September 26-29, 2013 (see pp. 11-12). New London is located at the mouth of the Thames (“Taymz”) River, on the shoreline of southeastern Connecticut. By land, the locale is about halfway between Boston and New York City.

During the American Revolution, New London’s harbor was considered the best deep-water port on all of Long Island Sound, making it the obvious choice from which to base Patriot naval operations (privateering). Given its import, forts were built to flank the river on each side: Fort Trumbull on the west, Fort Griswold on the east.



1904 Post Card, “Sleighbg on Thames River at Norwich—
Source: Wikipedia.com

Ironically enough, given its location and relative import, New London nearly was bypassed during the entire war. No battles were fought there until September 6, 1781, when the Battle of Groton Heights occurred. That summer Sir Henry Clinton elected to launch a raid against New London from his base at New York. Wanting to distract Gen. George Washington and to hamper the Colonies’ privateering efforts, Clinton called upon Benedict Arnold to head the attack.

The forts were undermanned, and the attack was a severe blow to New London. Nevertheless, it did not dissuade George Washington from the more crucial effort at hand. Although it took time

for the town to prosper again, by the late 1790s the whaling industry had saved it. New London became the third-largest whaling center in America.

Today, the presence of a US Coast Guard station, the Coast Guard Academy and Coast Guard Museum all give a salute to the city’s long-time maritime roots.—Editor

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

On February 22, 2013, the Society of Sons of the Revolution in the District of Columbia conducted a ceremony at Mount Vernon to commemorate General George Washington’s 281st birthday and honoring our first Commander-in-Chief. The Society, led by Past Presidents Wade Smith and Peter Dixon, laid a wreath at the tomb of our first President. After the ceremony, the members who were present and their families retired to the Mount Vernon Inn restaurant for a luncheon to celebrate the occasion.



L-R: Eldon Kaplan, immediate Past President Wade Smith, Priestly Toulmin, Woody Bently, Fred Ordway, Past President Peter Dixon, Past President David Smith, and Col. Robert Pollock (Ret).—Photos courtesy Joel Hinzman



On March 13, the DC Society celebrated its annual Mess Dinner at the Metropolitan Club of Washington. Four Past Presidents joined Society President Joel Hinzman in toasting the President of the United States, our members of the Armed Services in harm’s way, the General Society, and, of course, to General George Washington and a tear

for Admiral Nelson.

The guest speaker at the affair was Dr. Lewis Stone “Bob” Sorley, III, Lt. Col. USA (Ret.) and military historian. Dr. Sorley gave a talk on U.S. military history and remarked on his recent book, *Westmoreland: The General Who Lost Vietnam*. His presentation was extremely well received.

In addition to hosting Dr. Sorley, the Society had the honor of inducting its newest member at this dinner, Lt. Jonathon “John” Lloyd Ulylot.

—submitted by Joel Hinzman

GEORGIA

Society Convenes 122nd Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Georgia was held on Friday, February 22, 2013, in Cranmer Hall of St. John’s Episcopal Church in Savannah, Georgia. The meeting began promptly at noon. A banquet was later held in the evening at the Savannah Yacht Club, which was attended by more than 225 people.

Society President Chris Frame opened the meeting and led the group in saying the Pledge of Allegiance, and Rev. George Salley then gave the Invocation. Nathanael Green Chapter President Bob Evans along with his counterpart, John DeVane Chapter President Bobby Towns, presented annual reports. Among the highlights, the John DeVane chapter presented programs on the American Revolution to over 1,200 elementary school students and donated four framed copies of the U.S. Constitution to four schools. President Towns placed wreaths at several battlefields during the year.

Regarding the General Society, GVP Region 3 Mitchell Bush reported that General President Curt

Cheyney would visit Savannah at the end of February to view progress on the Nathanael Greene sculpture, being completed by Susie Chisholm. The General Society contracted Ms. Chisholm during the Triennial and is now in the process of raising \$75,000 to erect the 6’, 4” likeness of the General at Valley Forge.

The last item of business was the election and installation of new Society officers. The following slate was unanimously chosen:

President	Robert Mitchell Bush
1st Vice President	H. Ron Freeman
2nd Vice President	Roland S. Summers, M.D.
Secretary	Carolus W. Daniel, Jr.
Treasurer	Matthew D. Lufburrow
Registrar	Frank Hardeman, III
Historian	Gordon B. Smith, Esq.
Surgeon	Julian D. Kelly, M.D.
Solicitor	Norman Calhoun “Andy” Anderson, Esq.
Color Guard Captain	Thomas Ravenel Lynch
Chaplain	Rev. George B. Salley, Jr.



The GA-SR BOM Meeting in February—Photo courtesy of Georgia Society

Sculptress Speaks at Chapter Meeting

The Nathaniel Greene Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Georgia held its Eighth Annual Anniversary Dinner on March 23, 2013. New chapter officers for 2013-14 were elected and installed. Afterward, members and guests were privileged to hear a presentation from sculptress Susie Chisholm, the artist who was contracted by the General Society to produce a bronze likeness of General Nathanael Greene to be erected at Valley Forge. Region 3 General Vice President Mitchell Bush, who is also Georgia Society President, was present at the dinner.

Ms. Chisholm spoke of her research on identifying the proper dress code and shoes of the period, as well as on the technique and mechanics involved in sculpturing. “It is very important for me not only to know all of the details of the uniform, but I also need to know the way the fabrics wrinkle and fall.”

It is that level of detail in her work that caught the eyes of General President Curt Cheyney and other GS officers during the Savannah Triennial. During that weekend, when officers toured her studio, they saw other Revolutionary figures that Susie had sculpted. “I had just finished Captain John Parker, officer in the first battle of the Revolutionary War, and Sam Adams for the Boston Tea Party Ships and Museum.”

Before the weekend was over, General Presi-



GA-SR President
R. Mitchell Bush
—Photo courtesy of
Georgia Society



Susie Chisholm's model version of Gen. Nathanael Greene—Photo courtesy of Georgia Society

dent Cheyney gave her the nod for creating the life-size image of Gen. Nathanael Greene to be placed at Valley Forge.

She has obtained keen assistance in her research from General Historian Gordon Smith, historical interpreter Dave Loda of Bolton, Connecticut, historical clothes maker Nancy Glass (retired from Colonial Williamsburg), the Nathanael Greene Homestead in

Rhode Island, and from author Janet Uhlar.

“People don’t always know the research that goes into a piece, especially a period piece where the clothing is so important and must be authentic,” she said.

Perhaps her close association to the General’s legacy is another factor that pushes her to do so much research. Her husband’s family at one time owned Mulberry Grove Plantation (Nathanael Greene’s retirement home in Georgia).

The new officers for the Nathanael Greene Chapter are as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| President | William R. Daugette |
| 1st Vice President | Allan J. Koman |
| 2nd Vice President | Kendall J. Zeliff, Jr. |
| Vice President—Membership | Joseph M. Scherberger, Jr. |
| Secretary | Harold D. Ford |
| Treasurer | Garland E. Conley, Jr. |
| Registrar | Robert S. Evans |
| Solicitor | The Hon. Wilburn J. Winter, Jr. |
| Chaplain | Arnold C. Moore, Esq. |
| Historian | Rowland O. Hawthorne, III |
| Surgeon | Dr. Joe C. Rude, III |
| Color Guard Captain | Arthur E. Chapman |

—compiled by the Editor

MARYLAND

Seventh Annual Washington Brunch

In December the Maryland Society, Sons of the Revolution held its seventh annual George Washington Brunch at the Engineers Club in downtown Baltimore. Although named in honor of the Commander-in-Chief, the event is not associated with Washington’s birthday.

The 2012 Brunch featured two outstanding guest speakers. The first was Rebecca Hanson, a history teacher at Roland Park Country School, an independent, all-girls college preparatory school in Baltimore. Rebecca holds a B.A. (cum laude) in history from Hollins College and a M.Ed. from the University of Virginia. Concerning the teaching of history, she spoke about the importance of starting with the big picture and then incrementally filling in the framework with details. She said the process holds students’ attention and creates for them an understandable complete picture.

The second speaker, Dr. Matthew Hale, is an Assistant Professor of History at Goucher College in Baltimore. He holds a B.A. from Middlebury College and a Ph.D. from Brandeis University. Dr. Hale’s informative presentation stressed the global importance of the French Revolution, as well as the major problem it presented for George Washington. Washington’s disdain for political parties arose after the French Revolution. A Federalist and conservative, Washington disapproved of the Democratic Republican Societies but, as Dr. Hale reported, did not agree with other Federalists to disband them.



Seven past presidents of the Maryland Society were present at the Annual Meeting. Left to right: G. Edward Dickey, M. Hall Worthington, Jr., Frank P.L. Somerville, Leslie E. Goldsborough, Jr., Samuel L. Freeland, William J.D. Somerville, Jr., and William J.D. Somerville, III.

—Photo submitted by William J.D. Somerville III

49th Annual Wreath-Laying Ceremony

Last October, the Maryland Society presided over the 49th Annual Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the French Monument on the grounds of St. John's College in Annapolis. It was the 101st anniversary of the monument's dedication ceremony, during which President William Howard Taft and French Ambassador Jean J. Jusserand were present to dedicate it to the unknown French soldiers who gave their lives during the Revolutionary War.



Wreaths set before the French Memorial



Naval Academy Midshipmen and a musket salute.

During their march to Yorktown, Rochambeau's French troops camped in Annapolis not far from the site of the memorial. An unknown number of French soldiers and sailors were believed to have been buried in that area. Several years following that dedication, Ambassador Jusserand indicated the monument was the first anywhere in the world to be dedicated to the unknown war dead.

The 2012 ceremony was co-chaired by General President Emeritus M. Hall Worthington, a member of the Maryland Society, and by Lynn Lounsberry of the Cercle Francais d' Annapolis. A total of twenty-seven organizations gave wreaths. A reception was held at the St John's Boathouse following the ceremony.

—text and photos by Buzz Warren

MASSACHUSETTS

Every year SR members in Massachusetts observe Lincoln Day, organized by the Hingham (Massachusetts) Historical Society. This year's event, held February 2, was the thirty-sixth consecutive celebration and featured a parade and presentation of colors by the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company (once commanded by General Lincoln).

Lincoln Day combines recognition of the President and his Revolutionary War veteran ancestor, General Benjamin Lincoln. Ancestors of the President settled in Hingham upon their arrival in America, and the General is buried in the town cemetery. Records date the family's arrival in Hingham in 1637.



L-R: Jack Manning, Secretary/Registrar, MASR, members of the 22nd Massachusetts Regiment (re-enactors), and Jerry Hazeldine, MASR.

Lineage societies and military units participating in the event included the Massachusetts Society of SR, the Massachusetts Chapter of the Cincinnati, the Massachusetts SAR, the Hingham Militia Company 2nd Suffolk Regiment, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, Massachusetts Commandery, and the Massachusetts 22nd Regiment (re-enactors).

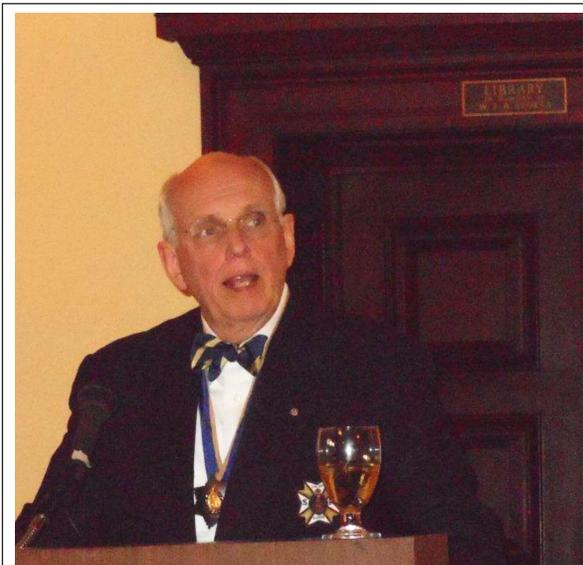
Dignitaries on hand included Michael Studley, president of the Hingham Historical Society, and William Salisbury, chairman of Lincoln Day Committee, who acted as Master of Ceremonies.

—text and photo by James R. Klim

NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution held its Annual Meeting on President's Day at the Old Barracks in Trenton. The Old Barracks was built in 1758 by the British to house soldiers for the French and Indian War and was used by the Americans during the Battle of Trenton.

Following the meeting chapter members paraded with revolutionary flags behind the Old Barracks Fife and Drum Corp. to Saint Michael's Episcopal Church for a special service in honor of our founding father George Washington's birthday. Saint Michael's was a major focal point of military action in the first Battle of Trenton, with much of the combat taking place in the churchyard.



General President Curt Cheney addresses the NJSR

After the service, members paraded to the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple for lunch. The NJSR was honored to have General President Curt Cheney as a keynote speaker at the luncheon. Following his presentation, the NJSR presented him with a check for the new General Society headquarters in Williamsburg, Va. Following President Cheney's presentation, prospective member Steve Case gave a talk on "A Woman's Struggle for Pension Rights," the story of Revolutionary War veteran Daniel Bray's widow. Bray was a Captain on General George Washington's staff. He and other members of the Hunterdon County Militia collected the boats necessary for crossing the Delaware River on the night of December 25–26, 1776.

At the luncheon four new members were welcomed into the NJSR.—*text and photo submitted by Glen Beebe*

NEW YORK

The New York Society of Sons of the Revolution needs help. As Fraunces Tavern's parent organization and underwriter, the SRNY is expecting to incur Superstorm Sandy repair costs that exceed \$300,000.

After the storm hit, it took twelve weeks of work to restore the buildings to their pre-Sandy condition. With hundreds of hours logged by service professionals and expensive new systems purchased, the Society is in an obvious crisis. Federal, state and private funding are being sought to help cover the costs. The board, museum members, and private donors have stepped up with generous contributions totally over \$40,000, but in order to continue the mission to educate and avoid a dangerous depletion of the capital endowment, your help is needed.

Your previous support and interest in Fraunces Tavern have been greatly appreciated, and the SRNY hopes that you will consider adding your name to the list of current contributors. Your support will help preserve a pivotal part of American history and help continue to educate thousands of school children and adults who visit the complex each year. To help, please call (212) 425-1776 or email 2Administrator@sonsoftherevolution.org

The building at 54 Pearl Street was built in 1719 by merchant, Stephan DeLancey. In 1762 it was purchased by Samuel Fraunces, who turned it into one of the most popular taverns of the day. In 1904, the Sons bought the property. This year the Fraunces Tavern celebrates year 294 years.—*text and photo submitted by the SRNY*



The Fraunces Tavern, circa 1867.

NORTH CAROLINA

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of North Carolina brought greetings to a large George Washington Dinner hosted by the Raleigh Chapter, SAR in mid-February. The event was attended by members of the Cincinnati, DAR, Colonial Wars, and Founders and Patriots. Society President Jeffrey Lambert brought greetings on behalf of the SR. A short SR board meeting took place before the fellowship, where Edward Phillips and Mathew Yates were inducted into the Society and received their certificates and rosettes.



Educator Sam Powell addresses the George Washington Dinner.—Photo submitted by N.C. Society

The guest speaker was Dr. Sam Powell of the North Carolina Community College System, who addressed education in the state. After the dinner, the Raleigh Chapter of SAR raffled off a reproduction .45 caliber flintlock longrifle representative of the primary militia firelock of the American Revolution.

Looking ahead, the Society is supporting a three-day symposium April 26-28, 2013, by the Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution (SCAR) entitled, “Wedded to My Sword”—The Life and Times of Henry ‘Lighthorse Harry’ Lee.” The weekend is a ‘boots-on-the-ground’ walking tour of the battle sites where Lee rode, fought, and sealed his reputation. During the weekend, participants will hear from prominent scholars and authors regarding Lee’s controversial life and contributions to American Liberty as a soldier, politician and early Southern Campaigns historian, as well as his roles in family and business.—*compiled by Editor*

TENNESSEE

The Tennessee Society of Sons of the Revolution finished 2012 in a strong and upbeat manner, following the three positive years that General President Emeritus Terry L. Davenport completed as head of the General Society and the strong showing the Society had at the Savannah Triennial.

On the heels of the Triennial was the 232nd Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain, during which Society President Tim Massey represented the SR and presented a wreath at the memorial. Nathanael Greene Chapter VP Ronnie Lail also participated in the activities.

In November, members of the John Rice Irwin-Anderson County Chapter of Sons of the Revolution and others celebrated the unveiling and dedication of a historical marker at the David Hall Cabin in Claxton, Tennessee. Hall and his twin brother, Samuel, fought together in the battle of Kings Mountain during the Revolutionary War.



The unveiling of the David Hall Cabin historical marker—Photo courtesy Tennessee Society



Society members enjoying the annual banquet.—Photo courtesy Tennessee Society

In 1784, David Hall was awarded 428 acres in Tennessee by the U.S. government for his services

as a soldier and Indian spy during the war. In 1799, David Hall built a log cabin home that became a travelers' inn and tavern in the Claxton community. It was there that discussions took place and a petition was drafted to establish Anderson County. The Tennessee General Assembly passed the resolution in 1801.

Recently-elected Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank spoke at the ceremony and said, "History is not just our path to build upon—a path for future growth, challenges, and prosperity—but understanding our history also serves as a roadmap of the heart. It is the soul of our civilization. It provides continuity and security for our young people." The Chapter later awarded Mayor Frank a token of appreciation.

In January, Society President Massey paid tribute to the soldiers of the Battle of Cowpens during the 232nd Anniversary of the Battle. Compatriot Ronnie Lail accompanied Massey to the hallowed grounds, where they presented a memorial wreath.

Passing of Jewell Hicks

The Society's annual meeting in late February was overshadowed by the mid-February loss of Jewell Chappell Hicks, the wife of long-time Registrar and current Asst. Registrar Gene Hicks. Jewell passed away peacefully in her sleep at the age of 81. Gene and Jewell were married in 1948 and lived sixty-three years in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Jewell enjoyed gardening and loved to cook, sew and read. She also enjoyed music, dancing, clogging, and was an active member of the Rambling Rebels Square Dance Club.—*compiled by Editor*

VIRGINIA

Come one, Come all

The Virginia Society celebrated on February 23, 2013, George Washington's Birthday with a record two-hundred twenty attendees. Held at the prestigious Commonwealth Club in historic Richmond, Virginia, members and special guests enjoyed patriotic camaraderie in a "Black Tie" environment.

In attendance were some of the highest-ranking officials of our armed forces, fellow Society leaders and guest speaker RADM Russell S. Penniman, Reserve Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff for the Pacific Fleet. The Virginia Society was also pleased to welcome Curt Cheyney, III, General Society President; Caswell Cooke, Jr., Region II Vice President; Jefferson Moak, General Society Registrar; and Jeff

Lambert, Executive Director of the General Society.

Special recognition was accorded to Robert Bruce Kendall, Virginia Society member. Mr. Kendall was presented with two membership stars by General President Cheyney: One for his twenty-one supplemental applications, and the other for his blood ties to twenty-one different Revolutionary patriots.

Included in the evening's event was the Virginia Society's annual membership induction. The Society initiated twenty-one new members, continuing its decade-long goal of exceeding and maintaining 500 active members. Congratulations go out to Membership Chairman Bev Mauck, Registrar Tim Akers and the entire Virginia Society for continued growth and prosperity!

This year, the Society presented a commemorative Challenge Coin to all who attended the dinner. Designed by Society leadership, the piece was struck under the direction of New York Society member Jonathan Ridgeway.

—*text and photos submitted by Carter V. Reid* ■



L-R: Society President and General Treasurer Matson Roberts, PE; RADM Russell S. Penniman, and Society 1st VP Douglas Payne.



L-R: General President Curt Cheyney, Robert Bruce Kendall, and VSSR Membership Chairman Bev Mauck.

Flintlock & Powderhorn

ARTICLES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

Culpeper Minutemen Report to Williamsburg Gunpowder Stores Represent Flashpoint for Revolution

By Kyle Willyard

The author is an amateur historian, prolific writer, veteran blacksmith, and a seasoned re-enactor with the Culpeper Minute Battalion. He is a member of the Contemporary Longrifle Association and proprietor of Old Dominion Forge in Bloomfield, Indiana. Mr. Willyard's knives and cutlery appeared in the movie, "Pirates of the Caribbean." For further information, visit www.olddominionforge.com.

By the autumn of 1775, Virginia's capital city of Williamsburg had been turned into a makeshift armed camp. The regular troops and majority of militias were pouring into the political heart of the colony. The gardens behind the Governor's Palace and at the other end of town, behind the College of William and Mary, were dotted with tents. The ground in both places was soon trampled to mud.

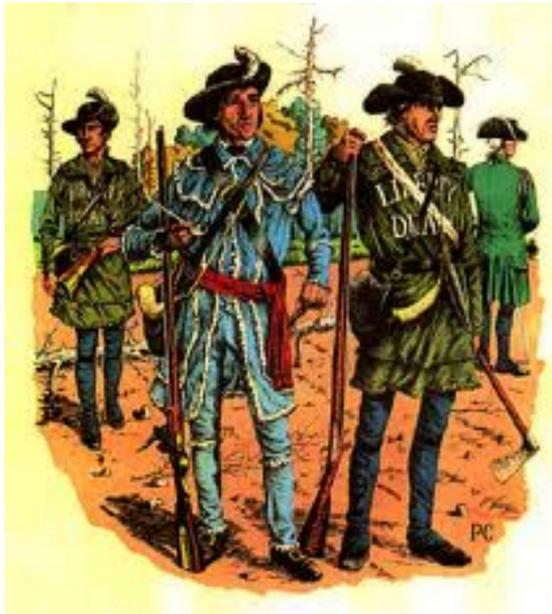
Taverns did booming business each night, and apothecaries made handsome profits in the mornings serving headache remedies. Townspeople were naturally apprehensive about so many men having converged on the capital's outskirts, but they did favor the added security.

The military presence and heightened activity in Williamsburg resulted from the specially-called Convention that summer by the Committee of Safety, in response to the rising threat and fear of a war with Great Britain. The Committee authorized to raise two regiments of regular troops and sixteen battalions of minutemen "for the better defense of the colony against invasions and insurrection."

Of all the battalions formed in the colony, the largest was that of the Culpeper District, comprised from the counties of Culpeper, Orange, and Fauquier. They were officially organized on July 17, 1775, under a large oak tree in "Clayton's old field" (later

known as Catalpa Farm).

About three hundred men had been recruited and divided into companies. Lawrence Taliaferro of Orange County was commissioned colonel; Edward Stevens of Fauquier County was major; John Marshall, future chief justice of the United States, served as the battalion's lieutenant. Ten captains were also commissioned.



Green hunting shirts emblazoned with white letters, "Liberty or Death."—Source: Harmonize.com

Fame Preceded Them

The Minute Battalion of Culpeper already had as close to a sterling reputation in Virginia as a militia could have. These backwoods fighters had faced down the Shawnee and Mingo nations in 1774, beat them back just as the Overmountain men from Tennessee and North Carolina later did against Col. Patrick Ferguson and his loyalists in 1780. They were overpowering, even awe-inspiring.

That summer, in response to increased violence along the Virginia frontier between settlers and Native Americans, Royal Governor John Murray, better known as Lord Dunmore, wanted to impose peace on the Ohio Valley. He created two armies, personally leading seventeen hundred men from the north, while Andrew Lewis directed eight hundred troops, mainly Virginia militia including from Culpeper, through the Kanawha Valley. Of course, Dunmore was violating Britain's 1763 Proclamation Line in waging

his little war.

On October 10 of that year, Shawnee chief Cornstalk struck Lewis' southern regiment before it could unite with Dunmore's force, but they did not expect such a fierce, hand-to-hand, day-long battle. Losses on both sides were significant, and the Native Americans were forced to retreat. After that engagement, Cornstalk signed the subsequent Treaty of Camp Charlotte, in which the Shawnee and Mingo nations relinquished property and hunting claims on land south of the Ohio River. The Culpeper battalion's renown spread throughout the colony.

A year later, when the battalion was marching toward Williamsburg, readers of the Virginia Gazette were informed that "the Culpeper Battalion of minutemen, all fine fellows, and well-armed, are now within a few hours march of this city." Colonists had been encouraged during the previous year by reports of the tenacious fighting spirit and sharpshooting skills of the Culpeper men.

Despite the group's reputation, however, the people of Williamsburg were shocked at the appearance of these backwoods militiamen upon their streets. Philip Slaughter, a sixteen-year-old private at the time, wrote in his journal:

"Many people hearing that we were from the backwoods, near the Indians, and seeing our dress, were as much afraid of us for a few days, as if we had been Indians; but, in finding that we were orderly and attentive in guarding the city, they treated us with great respect. We took great pride in demeaning ourselves as patriots and gentlemen."

In the same journal, Slaughter described their dress:

"The whole regiment appeared, according to their orders, in hunting shirts made of strong brown linen, dyed the color of the leaves of the trees, and

on the breast was worked in large white letters the words, 'Liberty or Death!,' and all that could procure for love or money buck's tails, wore them in their hats. Each man had a leather belt around his shoulders, with a tomahawk and scalping knife. The flag has in the center a rattlesnake coiled in the

act to strike. Below it are the words, 'Don't tread on me!' At the sides, 'Liberty or Death!' At the top, 'The Culpeper Minute Men.'"

In spite of their somewhat spooky looks, the Culpeper men fast gained the acceptance of town-folk as the latter understood that the militia's scalping knives and tomahawks were reserved for use against the British army.

Typical of Virginia, much of Culpeper's population, including members of the militia, was of English descent. But there was also a large number of German heritage, some no doubt descended from the original settlers at Germanna. One look over roll books of the Revolutionary and French and Indian Wars will show Culpeper also had a fair amount of Irish and Scots living there as well.

As early as 1714, there was a settlement in the area that would become Culpeper County. On the banks of the Rapidan River, a village known as Germanna was founded by fifty German emigrants. There is a reference to Governor Spotswood having a furnace and iron

manufactory near Germanna in 1724.

In the 1770s, Culpeper, like most of Virginia, was rural and dependant upon agriculture. Its rolling hills were dotted with fields, woods and pasture. The people of the area represented a mixture of vast landholders and small farmers; of merchants, tradesmen and frontiersmen. There were doctors, other professionals, blacksmiths, gunsmiths and craftsmen of all trades. And, there were also slaves and indentured servants. Culpeper was home to a diverse group of people of many different ethical



The magazine, one of the original structures at Colonial Williamsburg—Source: Wikipedia.com



Rows of muskets hang upon the wall in the re-created interior—Source: pbase.com/mcmurrow

and social backgrounds.

The Flashpoint: Black Powder

All of the above activity in Williamsburg had come about chiefly as a result of Dunmore's decision to surreptitiously remove the King's gunpowder from the public magazine. On April 19, he quietly brought a company of British sailors into Williamsburg and quartered them in the Governor's Palace. The next evening, under the cover of nightfall, the marines removed fifteen half-barrels of the King's powder and transported it in the Governor's wagon to the eastern end of Quarterpath Road, to be loaded aboard the *Magdalen*.

Yet, alert townsfolk discovered the clandestine movements and sounded an alarm. Local militia rallied to the scene while several criers galloped out of Williamsburg to spread word of the incident across the colony. Caught in the act, Dunmore stated that he was moving the powder merely as a protection measure in case a rumored slave uprising should really happen. His quick lie seemed to satisfy the assembled crowd, but not for long. Unrest began to spread throughout the colony and tension mounted.

For Virginians who kept abreast of current events, it must have seemed like recent history was repeating itself: In September 1774, General Thomas Gage, the royal governor of Massachusetts, had removed gunpowder from a magazine in the town of Charles Town, Massachusetts (now Somerville). Militia from all over New England flocked to the area in response.

Although violence did not erupt, the First Continental Congress afterward called for all the colonies to organize militia companies for their own defense. Correspondingly, the government in London decided to secure its powder throughout the colonies, from north to south, lest it be stolen. Furthermore, British Secretary of State for the Colonies, William Legg, second Earl of Dartmouth, handed down a royal edict which advised all colonial governors to secure their military

supplies and banned further importation of powder and munitions to the Colonies.

The Storage Network

The storage of powder and arms in magazines, forts, cellars or underneath barns throughout the Colonies was a legacy of the Seven Years War. Some of the magazines (such as in Williamsburg) belonged to local towns or the militias themselves, where it was common to have black powder belonging to the King stockpiled side-by-side with that belonging to local militias. Prior to making his move on Charles Town, Gen. Gage was made aware that the only powder left remaining in the Charles Town magazine was the King's, and it was the largest of Britain's supply in the entire colony.

The Massachusetts governor, still very much in control, obtained the key to the powder house. On September 1, 1774, a troop of two-hundred and sixty regulars from the British fourth regiment rowed along

the Mystic River, then marched a mile to their objective. The powder and two field pieces from Cambridge, Massachusetts, were removed without incident and taken to the British stronghold at Castle Island.

Then in December, following the passage in Britain of the Massachusetts Government Act, the Quartering Act, and the Quebec Act, New Englanders were even antsier. Patriots in Rhode Island took over munitions from the fort at Newport and moved them farther inland for safe-keeping, also without incident.

Then on December 13, 1774, Paul Revere rode up the Old Boston Post Road into the city of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to sound

the alarm. It was thought that the Redcoats were on their way, and yes, "if the powder stored at William and Mary were not to remain in the king's hands, something had better be done about it."

Over the next two days, in two separate raids, about four-hundred men stormed the fort and overcame British Captain John Cochran and his



The old Powder House of Charles Town, MA (now Somerville, MA)—Source: Panoramio.com



Patriots raided this fort in NH months before Lexington & Concord—Source: Flickrriver.com

five-man garrison, capturing sixteen light cannon and ninety-seven barrels of gunpowder, some of which allegedly was used in the Patriot cause at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Whether the Bunker Hill connection is true or not, the incident in New Castle, New Hampshire, ought to be remembered as the first overt action of the American Revolution, having taken place several months before Lexington and Concord.

Virginia Militia Activity

As a result of Lexington and Concord, Virginians began to organize militia companies and seek out black-market military supplies even before the special Convention was called. Patriots were wary of the King's response to matters in Massachusetts, and they wanted to prepare themselves. Dunmore saw the rise of defensive concerns in his colony as being on the offensive. In his move upon the Williamsburg magazine, he sought to bolster the Crown's security by depriving the militia of these supplies.

On April 22, he threatened the populace that if he were attacked, he would "declare Freedom to the Slaves, and reduce the City of Williamsburg to Ashes." What a turn his public pronouncements had taken from just a year before!

By April 29, nearly seven-hundred men mustered at Fredericksburg and sent a messenger to Williamsburg to assess the situation before marching on the capital. Peyton Randolph advised against violence, and George Washington, a longtime leader of the Virginia militia, concurred. In response to their advice, the Fredericksburg militia voted by a narrow margin not to march.

However, other militia did march. The Hanover County militia, led by Patrick Henry, voted on May 2 to march on Williamsburg. As such, Henry dispatched a small company to the home of Richard

Corbin, who was the Deputy Collector of the Royal Revenue in Virginia, in a bid to force him to pay for the powder from Crown revenue in his possession.

On May 4, Henry received a bill of exchange for £330 signed by a wealthy plantation owner, as payment for the powder. He then departed to take his place as a member of Virginia's delegation to the Second Continental Congress, promising to deliver the money to "the Virginia Delegates at the General Congress."

For several months, Dunmore sought to maintain control of power from the ship and replenish his forces and supplies by conducting raids and inviting slaves to join him. But, as more troops came to town and the unrest spread, he finally abandoned his duties.

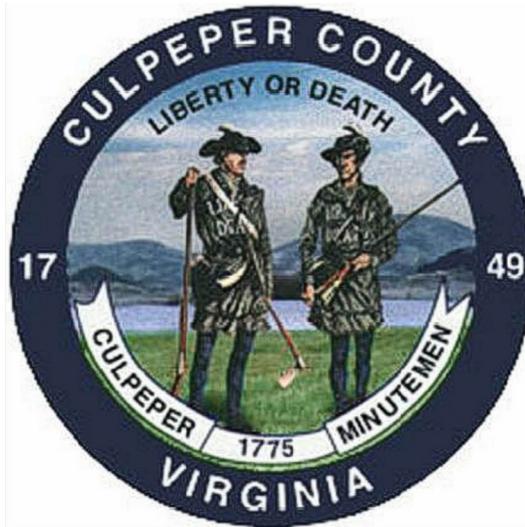
Meanwhile, in October 1775, the Culpeper minutemen were sent to Hampton in response to British ships attempting to land. The riflemen were able to effectively shoot the marines manning the ship's cannons, and the fleet eventually sailed away. Next they participated in the Battle of Great Bridge in December 1775. The battle was a complete victory for the Patriots, with accounts suggesting the British army was unnerved by the fierceness and reputation of the frontiersmen.

The following year, by July 1776, Patrick Henry was installed as the first governor of the Commonwealth. For the Culpeper Minutemen, their success was also their undoing. No sooner were they formed, it seems, than their companies were absorbed

into regiments of the Continental Line. By Act of Assembly in October 1776, they were dissolved.

Nevertheless, their legend remains alive and well to this day. ■

—The Editor contributed research and writing to this article.



Official seal of Culpeper County, VA;
—Source: harmonize.com/culpeper



The infamous white flag of the Culpeper minutemen
—Source: vssr.org

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