

# SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION FLORIDA SOCIETY LAKE-SUMTER CHAPTER

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**MEETING NOTICE:** The Lake-Sumter Chapter of The Sons of the American Revolution will meet on Saturday, June 2, 2007, at 11:00 A.M. at Taste Tempter Pancake Inn, 2310 West Main Street in Leesburg. The speaker will be Compatriot John Camillo, Chairman of the FLSSAR Veterans Affairs Committee. His topic will be *Chapter Veteran Programs*. Wives and guests are always welcome.

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**A Word from the President:** Being the so called “new kid on the block” I think it is fitting that I give you some background on me.

I was born on Father’s Day of 1928 in Lancaster, Ohio. We later moved to Columbus where we lived until 1943 when we moved to Huntington, WV. In 1944 we moved to Chicago, IL. In the summer of 1945 I enlisted in the US Marine Corps and eventually made it my first career. The highlights of my time spent there were the Korean War and upon my return when I met my wife, Joanne. We were married in November, 1951. We have two daughters and one granddaughter. On Memorial Day, 1965, I retired from the Marines and embarked on my second career with the US Postal Service, retiring on December 30, 1986 as Postal Manager. The organizations I am associated with include Masons and Shrine, Fleet Reserve Assn., Disabled American Veterans and American Legion. In addition to the SAR, I belong to the Sons of the Union Veterans. I enjoy watching baseball, football and hockey, playing cards and bingo.

William Shukis, President

**Revolutionary Cameo:** At the end of the Revolutionary War a lot of the soldiers wanted to march to Philadelphia to get their back pay from congress, but George Washington discouraged them from doing so. George Washington was not known as a great public speaker but as he talked to his men during this time he remembered a slip of paper in his pocket and he pulled out his glasses. Most of his men had never seen him wear spectacles and the troops were silent when he put them on and said, “I see that you notice that I wear glasses. Well, it was to be. I’ve not only grown old and gray; I’ve become almost blind in the service of my country.” And with that simple, unrehearsed, spontaneous statement, tears came to the troops eyes. They had been reminded of who this man was and what he had done for his country.

## MINUTES OF THE MAY 5, 2007, MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 A.M. by President Ron Toops. The invocation was given by Chaplain Fred Harrison. Members and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag followed by SAR members reciting the SAR Pledge.

There were 13 chapter members, 6 wives and 6 guests present for a total attendance of 25.

The minutes, of the April 7, 2007, meeting, as mailed, were amended to report that a Flag Certificate was presented to Imperial Terrace East of Tavares at the meeting.

## **CHAPTER OFFICER REPORTS**

President Toops gave a summary report of issues from the FLSSAR BOM and Annual Meeting. He also presented an update of matters pertaining to the FLSSAR Education Committee, which he now chairs.

Secretary Moody reminded members he now has the chapter directory completed in MS WORD format and can send it via the internet. Any member who desires a copy may request it from Secretary Moody.

Moody announced that President Toops was presented with the Patriot Medal for his service to the SAR at the recent FLSSAR Annual Meeting. He is only the third member of the Lake-Sumter Chapter to ever receive this medal

Treasurer Piper reported that there was \$1,227.34 in the treasury.

## **CHAPTER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Registrar Dean Russell reported that Judge Richard Singletary's application has been approved by NSSAR. Three other applications have been submitted and are awaiting approval by NSSAR. Several other applicants are nearing completion of their applications. Chapter membership now stands at 49.

**JROTC:** Col. Hedgcock reported that five JROTC medals were presented to cadets in JROTC units in Lake and Sumter County high schools. He expressed gratitude to the several chapter members who assisted with the presentations.

**PUBLICITY:** Compatriot Moody collected news clippings from members for use in the FLSSAR Earl Marlin Publicity Contest. President Toops presented a third place ribbon and a check for \$100 for the Lake-Sumter Chapter placement in the 40 – 70 size chapters in 2006.

**REMINDER:** Villagers, please look for our meeting notice in *The Reporter* and *The Daily Sun* this month. Other members check you local media for any mention of SAR! Dean Russell: Thanks for your help in collecting news clippings in South Lake County. ALL MEMBERS keep up the good work. The competition is much keener now that our chapter is in the mid-size category.

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEROISM:** Nothing new to report.

**FLAG CERTIFICATES:** Nothing to report.

**COLOR GUARD:** Bill Piper reported that the color guard will participate in Memorial Day services in Clermont.

**EAGLE SCOUT:** Ron Toops and Bill Piper presented to the cub scouts at Macgregor-Smith Scout Center on April 14. Toops attended the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Boy Scout Matthew Brunold. Compatriot Jim Wootton challenged our chapter to continue our support for the Eagle Scout program as Scouting continues to be a very powerful positive influence on the youth of our nation.

**EDUCATION:** Ron Toops reported he continued the communication effort with the three American History teachers at Montverde Academy, The Villages Charter Middle School and Eustis Middle School. He continued to encourage them to participate in an eighth grade essay/oration award program for the fall of 2007 and mailed Good Citizenship Certificates to the Dean of the Upper School at Montverde.

Toops and Bill Piper will present the certificates on May 24<sup>th</sup>!  
He believes that we will have essays to read in the fall of 2007

In addition to the Florida legislation activity, Toops is attempting to participate in the review and development of the Florida (Sunshine/"World Class") Standards, especially as they relate to Social Studies and American History of the Colonial and Revolutionary Period, and text selection as well.

**CHAPTER CHALLENGE:** Compatriot Moody asked members to report to Compatriot Pete Adams ANY ACTIVITY concerning the SAR or is patriotic in nature for possible credit in the Chapter Challenge contest. Compatriot Pete Adams has volunteered to serve as committee chair for the coming year. His e-mail address is: padams21@aol.com President Toops presented an Honorable Mention ribbon received by the Lake-Sumter Chapter for their placement in the 2006 contest in the mid-size chapter category.

**KNIGHT ESSAY/RUMBAUGH ORATION CONTESTS:** Nothing to report

**SOUP LABELS:** Campbell's Soup labels were collected and donated to Joanne Shukis of the Puc Puggi Chapter, DAR, for the Tamasee DAR School project.

**PROGRAM:** President Toops installed the officers for 2007-2008.

President	William J. Shukis
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Stephen C. Offutt
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Kingsley E. Forry
Secretary	Robert H. Moody
Treasurer	Willard B. Piper

Service Awards were presented to: Ralph Smith (60 years), Bill Piper (10 years) and Bill Shukis (10 years). Certificates of Appreciation were presented to: Steve Offutt, Dean Russell, Bob Moody, Bill Piper, Fred Harrison, King Forry, Joe London and Bob Hedgcock.

**CLOSING:** After lunch the meeting was closed with the SAR Recessional, The American's Creed and the Benediction by Bill Piper.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	William J. Shukis	joannejss@earthlink.net
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Stephen C. Offutt	offuttsteve@hotmail.com
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Kingsley E. Forry	kingoffl@juno.com
Secretary	Robert H. Moody	moodyr@juno.com
Treasurer	Willard B. Piper	bjbax@thevillages.net
Immediate Past President	Ronald E. Toops	rtoops2001@yahoo.com
Previous Past President	Ronald E. Toops	rtoops2001@yahoo.com
E M@L (expires 2008)	vacant	
E M@L (expires 2009)	Peter C. Adams	padams21@aol.com
Patriot Medal Holder	Dr. Ralph D. Nelson	DEPatriot@aol.com