

# 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, November 3, 2007, at 11:00 A.M. at Taste Tempter Pancake Inn, 2310 West Main Street in Leesburg. Special guests will be Regional Vice President Gordon Greenwood and Jim Partin. Wives and guests are always welcome.

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#### **Presidents Trivia Question:**

Who won the first battle of the War of Independence?

#### **Presidents Message:**

I guess I'll have to start on a down beat. The first meeting after the summer break was very lightly attended. We have Gordon Greenwood [VP NC Region and Gainesville Registrar/Genealogist](#), Jim Partin coming as guests to our November meeting I hope all will do their best to attend and show our Chapter well.

During the summer we lost our Registrar and JROTC chairman. We will need replacements. Looking forward to next year we will need to have new officers. I hope that anyone who could take one of the positions would please consider this. I know everyone wants to be a member but we have to have officers to be an organization.

#### **Cameo of a Patriot:**

**Francis Marion** (1732?-1795), American military leader, who led daring raids against British troops during the American Revolution (1775-1783). He was born in Berkeley County, South Carolina. Marion's military career began in 1761, when he led a successful attack against the Cherokee. In 1775 he was elected to the first provincial congress of South Carolina. That same year, with America on the brink of revolution, the congress appointed him captain of a newly organized militia. In September 1775 Marion commanded the capture of British forts in Charleston, South Carolina. The Continental Congress took over his regiment in 1776 and he was promoted to lieutenant colonel. He spent the next several years of his service in South Carolina.

When British forces captured Charleston in 1780, American troops pulled out of South Carolina. Marion, however, stayed and organized a small force of poorly equipped men, training them in guerrilla tactics. Living off the land, Marion and his men harassed British troops by staging small surprise attacks in which they captured small groups of British soldiers, sabotaged communication and supply lines, and rescued American prisoners. After these attacks Marion withdrew his men to swamp country unfamiliar to the British. Colonel Banastre Tarleton, a British commander, gave Marion his nickname when he complained that it was impossible to catch the "swamp fox." Near the end of the war, Marion and American General Nathanael Greene joined forces. In 1781 they successfully fought at the Battle of Eutaw Springs and forced the British retreat to North Carolina.

While still leader of his brigade, Marion was elected to the senate of South Carolina in 1781. He was reelected in 1782 and again in 1784, after the war had ended. In appreciation for his military service, the state legislature appointed Marion commander of Fort Johnson, in Charleston.

Early drafts of the screenplay for The Patriot called Mel Gibson's character Francis Marion, but the name was changed to the fictional Benjamin Martin "to avoid some controversy and to allow for more dramatic storytelling."

#### **Trivia Answer:**

The Massachusetts Militiamen won the Battle of Lexington and Concord when they forced the British to retreat from Concord back to Boston. The British were trying to confiscate colonial arms from a depot at Concord. The battle, which took place on the night of April 18-19, 1775, was the first military encounter of the American Revolution (1775-83)

## **MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2007, MEETING**

A special thanks to Joanne Shukis for taking the minutes of this meeting in the place of Secretary Moody who was unable to attend the meeting because of illness.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 A.M. by President Bill Shukis. The invocation was given by Compatriot Bill Piper. Members and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag followed by SAR members reciting the SAR Pledge.

There were 11 persons in attendance.

The minutes, of the June 2, 2007, meeting, were approved as written and mailed.

### **CHAPTER OFFICER REPORTS**

President Shukis read a letter from Lake-Sumter Chapter member, Compatriot Ralph Nelson, telling of his participation in the Philadelphia Continental Chapter's color guard. A photo was included.

Secretary Moody-- absent.

Treasurer Piper reported that there was \$1,194.24 in the treasury. He reminded members that **ANNUAL DUES ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE.**

### **CHAPTER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Registrar Dean Russell—absent

**JROTC:** Committee Chair Vacant.

**PUBLICITY:** Compatriot Moody needs news clippings from members for use in the FLSSAR Earl Marlin Publicity Contest.

**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.**

Compatriot Moody has been “filling in” as publicity chairman for the past three years and would love to have some HELP! Please talk to him about helping.

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEROISM:** Committee Chair Vacant

**FLAG CERTIFICATES:** Compatriot Offutt announce that a certificate will be given in December

**COLOR GUARD:** Bill Piper reported that he has given two talks to DAR Chapters in Clermont and Ocala. Ron Toops has also been active in speaking engagements. The General Thomas Sumter Camp, Florida Brigade, Sons of Liberty Color Guard will participate in the Veterans Day ceremony in Clermont.

**EAGLE SCOUT:** Chairman King Forry, absent

**EDUCATION:** Chairman Ron Toops submitted a written report stating he is working to get American History added to school curriculums an to the FCAT.

**CHAPTER CHALLENGE:** Chairman Pete Adams--absent

**KNIGHT ESSAY/RUMBAUGH ORATION CONTESTS:** Chairman Ron Toops submitted a written report that he has three schools participating in the essay contest.

**SOUP LABELS:** Campbell's Soup labels were collected and donated to Joanne Shukis of the Puc Puggi Chapter, DAR, for the Tamassee DAR School project. She showed the way to cut the labels and also asked to have postage stamps cut from envelopes in 1" X 4" strips.

**PROGRAM:** Joanne Shukis presented a program about Francis Scott Key which included a recording of the story of the Battle of Ft. Henry and what inspired the National Anthem.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Three new members were presented their Certificates of Membership: William I. Brown, Jack A. Winters and Donald R. Voorhees.

The Lake-Sumter Chapter now has a web page created by Laural Legan, daughter of President Bill and Joanne Shukis. Check it out at <http://www.flssar.org/Host?LakeSumter/index.htm>

**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	<a href="mailto:joannejss@earthlink.net">joannejss@earthlink.net</a>
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