

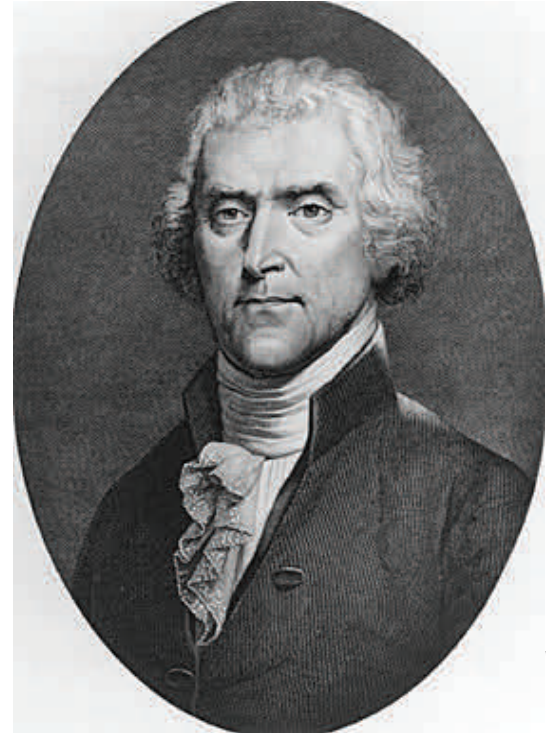
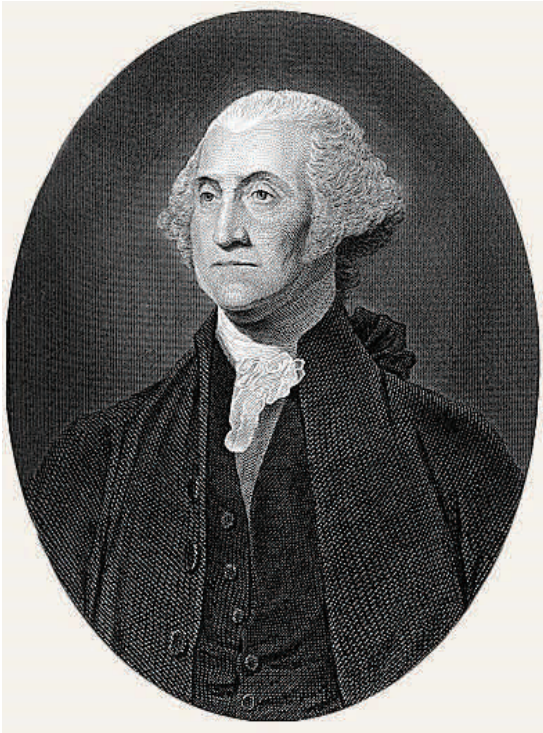


The Florida Patriot

Official Magazine of the Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution

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Fall 2013



SAR

The Sons of the American Revolution is a historical, educational, & patriotic non-profit, United States 501 (c) 3 corporation that seeks to maintain and extend (1) the institution of American freedom, (2) an appreciation for true patriotism, (3) a respect for our national symbols, (4) the value of American citizenship, and (5) the unifying force of e pluribus unum that has created, from the people of many nations, one nation, and one people.

We do this by perpetuating the stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy, and triumph of the men who achieved the independence of the American people in the belief that these stories are universal ones of man's eternal struggle against tyranny, relevant to all time, and will inspire and strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is called upon to defend our freedoms on the battlefield and in our public institutions.

Florida Patriot

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Summer 2013 FLSSAR BOM and Annual Meeting



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2013 - 2014*

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Content Submission

The Editor of the Florida Patriot actively seeks manuscripts and articles for publication. Suitable topics are articles about the state and local SAR, their activities, and members. Articles should be approximately 100 to 500 words and photos should be included when possible. All submissions will be printed in a timely manner. Chapter News submissions should be 150 to 200 words; single photo size should be at least 600x600 pixels. Other article submission should be original material or submit other author's articles with publication releases accompanying the submission.

The Florida Society assumes no responsibility for statements made or opinions of contributors. All submissions are requested by email. The Society is not responsible for items sent through the mail. Please do not send original or irreplaceable materials or photographs.

The Editor reserves the right to make any editorial conformity of style. Authors grant the Florida Society print & electronic publication rights. To submit material to the Editor via email at swampfoxeditor@cfl.rr.com or via mail at 1731 Woodside Court, Kissimmee, FL 34744-6660.



*Society President's
Message*

Dear Compatriots:

This is an exciting time for the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution! For the first time in over fifteen years, a compatriot from the Florida Society, Lindsey Brock, is running for the office of President General.

The last President General from Florida was Carl Hoffman who served in that position from 1997 to 1998. Florida also has another compatriot seeking national office, Dr. Randy Moody, who is running for the office of Chaplain General.

The next Annual Congress of the SAR occurs from July 18 – 24, 2014 in Greenville, South Carolina. I encourage all Florida compatriots to attend and show their support for both Lindsey and Randy. I have personally attended four Annual Congresses, the most recent one this past July in Kansas City. I have thoroughly enjoyed myself at each and every one of them.

Since the Florida Society is one of the largest state societies in the SAR, we receive approximately thirty-five voting delegate positions. I am hoping that the Florida Society fills all of these slots and shows up in force in Greenville to support those candidates that we wish to see elected as General Officers.

On September 6 - 7, the Florida Society held its Fall Board of Management Meeting at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando. This location is the new venue that was chosen last year for our meetings. Most of the comments that I heard about our new meeting location were overwhelmingly positive. Those attending enjoyed the upscale accommodations and appreciated the high level of service provided by the hotel staff.

By all measures, our meeting was a resounding success. We had the best attendance of any fall meeting since 2007. This was the first fall meeting that covered two full days, allowing for multiple educational seminars on various topics including genealogy, chapter annual reports, and chapter newsletters. Attendees took advantage of the seminars offered as all were well attended. As an example, there were in excess of fifty people in each genealogy session.

At our Saturday night banquet, many compatriots were honored with awards for their service to the SAR. In addition, we were honored to recognize Trooper Marcos Diaz of the Florida Highway Patrol for his bravery and service. He received a well deserved standing ovation from all of us.

I would like to extend my best wishes and personal thanks to Florida SAR Chaplain Roy Martin for his service to the Florida Society. He has accepted a new position within the Presbyterian Church and will be moving to Virginia. Richard Hagerman has graciously agreed to assume the position of State Chaplain, which was confirmed by the Board of Management.

Thank you to everyone who made our recent Board of Management Meeting a success. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on January 24 – 25, 2014.

Fraternally,

Ted Duay

President

What is an E-Book?

The Florida Society has created and continuing to add to a new, for us, type of publication - an e-Book. The electronic Book, or e-Book, contains articles and content concerning specific subject matter. We have created two e-Books. One based around the military experiences of our Florida compatriots in whichever field of military life they experienced be it WWII, the Korean Conflict, VietNam, or later conflicts. The second is centered on Genealogical and Historical subject matter. It might be information on historical artifacts or people and battles in the Revolutionary War, or genealogical analysis or research reports.

Take advantage of these e-Books and spend a few minutes reading their stories or reports. They can be found on the Florida Website at <http://flssar.org/Forms.htm>.

Calling All Color Guardsmen!

Here's a chance to strut your stuff by attending the BOM wearing your colorful attire, be it a Military uniform, militia outfit, or civilian clothing. If you haven't started marching with the Florida Brigade and have earned your Bronze Color Guard medal, do so starting this year! Show the dashing side to your personality by joining the other members of the Florida Brigade as they present the colors at the banquet. Staying for the banquet is optional, but it is more fun to mingle with the ordinarily dressed folks.

2014 to 2015 Board of Management Meetings

After 3 months of requesting and getting answers to our Requests for Proposals from Orlando area hotels, the Meeting Arrangements - BOM Committee reviewed the returns from The Florida Hotel (current location), the Westin - Lake Mary, the Marriott - Lake Mary, the Best Western in Lake Buena Vista, the Sheraton in Lake Buena Vista, the Radisson on SR 192, and the Holiday Inn on SR 192. The committee took our top choices to the Board of Management meeting on Saturday for a consensus decision. Those in attendance agreed to renew a contract with The Florida Hotel for the 2014-2015 BOM meetings which start with the **2014** Fall meeting and end with the 2015 Spring BOM /Annual Meeting.

We will continue the ability to have training sessions at the Fall BOM and the possibility for a side session during the Spring BOM and Annual Meeting although that is generally a tightly scheduled event.

The tentative dates are October 3-5, 2014, January 30-31, 2015, and May 1-3, 2015. The negotiated room rates are \$109.00 for the Fall and Spring BOMs and \$137.00 for the 2015 Winter BOM for a room with double beds. This represents an \$8.00 decrease for the Fall and Spring BOMs from our contract rates for this year. Requesting a Deluxe King will cost \$20.00 more and a Superior King \$50.00 more.

What you need to Know about our BOMs

In our current contract to get our meeting rooms free we have to meet certain Room Night rentals and Food and Beverage costs. The Guest Room block set aside for our members (30 rooms per night of BOM) is released 3 weeks before the meeting so our members should reserve their room before that time. **For the Winter BOM on January 24&25, 2014 that is January 3rd.** You may still be able to get a room if you reserve after that date, but the rooms will be available for the public to reserve.

Our meals will have 2 Entree choices, with a Chef's choice for dessert. The meal for the January BOM will be \$38.00. The Registration form is included in this issue of The Florida Patriot magazine so that you will be assured of getting the form well in advance and will be able to make your registration in time. The form is also available on our Florida website via the "BOM Registration Form" link at the top of the page. It is a PDF fill-able form and has the directions for filling it out and submitting by e-mail. This is the easiest and quickest method of registering. The BOM Meeting schedule is also found in the same Home Page location at "BOM Meeting Information" link.

FLORIDA SOCIETY ENDORSEMENTS FOR GENERAL OFFICE

At its Fall Board of Management Meeting on September 6, 2013, the Board of Management of the Florida Society endorsed the following compatriots for general office for the 2014-2015 term: (1) President General - Lindsey Brock, (2) Treasurer General - Mike Tomme, (3) Genealogist General - John Sinks, (4) Registrar General - Robert Bowen, (5) Librarian General - Larry Guzy, (6) Surgeon General - Dr. Edward Rigel, Sr., (7) Chaplain General - Rev. Randy Moody, (8) SAR Foundation Board, seat one - PG Joseph Dooley, and (9) SAR Foundation Board, seat two - Dr. Samuel Powell.

The Florida Society did not endorse anyone for the office of Secretary General, Chancellor General, or Historian General as no requests for endorsement was received. Anyone wishing the Florida Society's endorsement for one of these offices should contact Florida SAR President Ted Duay prior to December 31, 2013.

A Jeffersonian Perspective of Washington

By John Stewart

Focusing on the character & qualities of the Father of our Country, it is interesting to view George Washington's life from someone who lived and worked with him during the period of the American Revolution. In doing so, this article hopes to illuminate Washington from a Jeffersonian perspective.

When you look at both Washington & Jefferson, you will find similarities. They were both members of the Virginia aristocracy and both were interested in their Colonial farms. Both were intellectually accomplished men, both were rather shy and poor public speakers. Both entered into the service of their new country with reluctance and both became Presidents of their fledgling country.

Nevertheless, they were not kindred spirits. Washington was 11 years older than Jefferson. As a boy, Washington learned the business of land surveying from his father. He learned the soldiering in his early twenties from campaigning with British General Braddock in the French & Indian War. Jefferson's childhood was much more academic, and his first job was as a lawyer in the city.

During the Revolutionary War, Washington was in the field while Jefferson was behind the front in the Congress. During the later stages of the war, Jefferson was governor of Virginia with a notable lack of success as a military commander. In fact, he was criticized publicly for failing to effectively get out the militia and oppose Benedict Arnold's Marauding in 1781. He sent William Rodgers Clark and Merriweather Lewis into the West exploring. He didn't go himself. So, it seems that we have here a Mr. Inside and a Mr. Outside; two different types of men.

After the war, Jefferson and Washington were not together. Jefferson went to Paris to join Ben Franklin in negotiating the peace treaty. He stayed on to help the foreign affairs of fledgling America until late 1789. When Jefferson returned and stepped off the boat in Norfolk on November 23rd, he learned that the first president had named him the first secretary of state.

Some stories have it that he first read it in the newspapers and subsequently received the official letter from Washington. However he learned the news, it was a disappointment to him. After four years of hard work and soft intrigue as a diplomat, and close observation of the French Revolution, Jefferson was eager to return to his farm at Monticello and his life as a country gentleman. Nevertheless he responded to the call on February 14, 1790 and for the next three years served as the First Secretary of State in close proximity with George Washington. He did not fill out his complete term, retiring early as a result of his conflict with Alexander Hamilton. After that, there was some correspondence and visitation between the two men, but the relationship deteriorated until ultimately it was completely ended by the indiscretions of Jefferson's friend, Phillip Mazzei and his nephew, Peter Carr. Washington died in 1799, un-reconciled to Jefferson.

Looking at the period of time from 1790 to 1793 in which these two great men worked together. We see that there were many issues that came up and were considered by Washington and Jefferson. Both were aware that their decisions were important, not only to the issues at hand, but as precedents for the future of the United States. It was the ongoing nature of the government that was so important.

They didn't want to see the freedom that they had won on the battlefield squandered by inept practice of government. The two issues of importance that had to be addressed by President George Washington and the new government of the United States of America were the assumption of the State's War debts by the Federal Government, and the establishment of a National Bank.

Our focus here is on Washington and so it is interesting to examine his views on these events. In Jefferson's own words, he reported his conversations with Washington on the subjects of the National debt and the assumption in a series of notes, later published as The Anas.

In one of them dated July 10, 1792, Jefferson records telling the President: "I said that the two great complaints were that the national debt was unnecessarily increased, and that it had furnished the means of corrupting both branches of the legislature. That he must know, and everybody knew, there was a considerable squadron in both, whose votes were devoted to the paper and stock-jobbing interest, that the names of a weighty number were known, and several others suspected on good grounds that, on examining the votes of those men, they would be found uniformly for every treasury measure, and that, as most of these measures had been carried by small majorities, they were carried by these very votes. That therefore it was a cause of just uneasiness when we saw a legislature legislating for their own interests in opposition to those of the people. He said not a word on the corruption of the legislature, but took up the other point, defended the assumption, and argued that it had not increased the debt, for all of it was honest debt. He justified the excise law, as one of the best laws which could be passed, as nobody would pay the tax who did not choose to do it. With respect to the increase of the debt by the assumption, I observed him that what was meant and objected that it increased the debt of the general government and carried it beyond the possibility of payment. That if the balances had been settled and the debtor states directed to pay their deficiencies to the creditor states, they would have done it easily and by resources of taxation in their power, and acceptable to the people, by a direct tax in the South and an excise tax in the North. Still, he said it would be paid by the people. Finding him really approving the Treasury System, I avoided entering into argument with him on those points."

It is revealing that Washington was willing to look over the evils such as corruption in the legislature and the profit of the speculators for the larger good of achieving international respectability; as well as, domestic respectability for the satisfaction of the New Country's debts. For Washington, it was acceptable that the little guy got hurt as long as the general good was achieved. For Jefferson, this was confirmation of the evil of the "stock jobbers" and he had trouble understanding how the General could sanction the shortchanging of his own troops. Realistically, going back to find all the original holders of the script would have been an impossible task. More importantly, Washington knew that the Confederation Government, which had been instituted directly after the Revolutionary War, had failed largely because it was unable to solve the problem of finance. If his new government was not to go on the rocks, its financial policy must be wisely conceived.

Washington had learned a bitter lesson about bad credit during the war. "If I were in the snow at Valley Forge, I'd want to insure that blankets, food, and other supplies would come to me and my troops. I would be monumentally frustrated by hearing from the Continental Congress, back in the warmth of Philadelphia, that there was no money with which to purchase the desperately needed supplies." Washington reminds Jefferson about this when, on the morning of October 1, 1792, he "touched on the merits of the funding system, observed that there was a difference of opinion about it,

some thinking it very bad, others very good. That experience was the only criterion of right which he knew and this alone would decide which opinion was right. That for himself, he had seen our affairs desperate and our credit lost, and that this was in a sudden and extraordinary degree raised to the highest pitch. I told him all that was ever necessary to establish our credit, was an efficient government and an honest on declaring it would sacredly pay our debts, laying taxes for this purpose and applying them to it. I avoided going further in to the subject. He finished by another exhortation to me not to decide too positively on retirement, and here we were called to breakfast.”

It is perhaps ironic that Washington, in his decision for the assumption, takes a major step towards the creation of the military industrial complex which another general then President, Eisenhower, warned us all about in his farewell address 160 years later.

Jefferson regretted his deal with Hamilton over the assumption. The more he thought about it, the more it rankled in his soul. In his long letter to Washington on November 9, 1792, he writes: “When I embarked in the government, it was with a determination to intermeddle not at all with the legislature, and as little as possible with my co-departments. The first and only instance of variance from the former part of my resolution, I was duped into by the Secretary of the Treasury and made a tool for forwarding his schemes, not then sufficiently understood by me; and of all the errors of my political life, that has occasioned me the deepest regret. It has ever been my purpose to explain this to you, when, from being actors on the scene, we shall have become uninterested spectators only.”

On February 29, 1792, Washington and Jefferson talked after breakfast and Jefferson reports that the President was concerned that the people showed “symptoms of dissatisfaction” lately with government. Jefferson told him that “in my opinion there was only a single source of these discontents. Though they had indeed appeared to spread themselves over the War Department also, yet I considered that as an overflowing only from their real channel which would never had taken place if they had not generated in another department, to wit, that of the Treasury. That a system had there been contrived for deluging the States with paper money instead of gold and silver, for withdrawing our citizens from the pursuits of commerce, manufactures, buildings, and other branches of useful industry, to occupy themselves and their capitals in a species of gambling destructive of morality, and which had introduced its poison into the government itself.”

Washington felt that the issue was about money, and being a man of action, he got the job done even though he took some casualties doing it. The irony of the matter was that it really was a Constitutional issue as Jefferson and Madison had tried to point out earlier. With hindsight, it is easy to agree with Jefferson that, if the U.S. Bank had not been created, the State banks would have accomplished the funding job adequately. When Washington adopted Hamilton’s argument about the loose construction of the Constitution being appropriate, he opened the door for lawyers to debate Constitutional issues forever onward.

Jefferson expressed his feelings to his boss repeatedly. On September 9, 1792, he wrote a long letter to Washington telling him how he disapproved of Hamilton’s policies and his venomous attacks against him in the press. It is clear that Washington deplored the squabbling of his two major ministers. He attempted to mediate between them.

Another insight to Washington’s character can be gained by contrasting his use of the press with that of his ministers. Both Hamilton and Jefferson had allies attacking each other in the press by 1792. Washington never used the press to oppose these attacks nor did he suppress the press by overt or subversive means. It certainly can be said that he was not as good at manipulating public opinion as his two ministers. Actually he was

above such manipulation, as the citizen Edmond Genet affair attests. Genet’s downfall in America was assured when he attempted to take his case to the people over the head of Washington. He mistook the warmth of his welcome as an expression of his personal power instead of America’s appreciation for the French assistance in the Revolutionary War. When Genet attempted to go against Washington, public opinion turned against him and Washington was saved by it. He was the nation’s hero and sacrosanct in the people’s minds. Nevertheless, he never used this power to separate his warring ministers, either because he was unsure of this weapon or because he refused to beat down the uprising creative talents of his men with his dominating power.

As Washington worked on his reconciliation attempt with Hamilton and Jefferson, he did not rebuke them publicly. On the issue of the United States bank, he asked each for a written paper putting forth their views, and it’s not at all clear that each of them saw the other’s paper. In the summer of 1792, he wrote letters to each urging a reconciliation and each responded by letter. All of this was kept out of the public eye and certainly that quiet approach was more statesmanlike than typical military conflict resolution.

As one may recall earlier that Washington and Jefferson had become estranged, herein closing with the story about the two letters which brought this about. On April 24, 1796, Jefferson wrote to his friend and business associate, Dr. Philip Mazzei, a letter discussing business matters and gossip. Mazzei had lived for years near Monticello on 2,000 acres given to him by Jefferson where the two men had worked on founding the now vibrant wine-making industry in Virginia. Now however, his good friend had returned to Italy and they were reduced to swapping seeds of squash by mail. Unfortunately, Jefferson also enclosed a seed of discord in this letter.

After business comments he continues, “The aspect of our politics has wonderfully changed since you left us. In place of that noble love of liberty and republican government which carried us triumphantly through the war, an Anglican monarchical and aristocratical party has sprung up, whose avowed object is to draw over us the substance, as they have already done the forms, of the British government.

The main body of our citizens, however, remains true to their Republican principles; the whole landed interest is Republican, and so is a great mass of talents. Against us are the executive, the judiciary, two out of three branches of the legislature, all the officers of the government, all who want to be officers, all timid men who prefer the calm of despotism to the boisterous sea of liberty, British merchants, and American trading on British capitals, speculators and holders in the banks and public funds, a contrivance invented for the purposes of corruption, and for assimilating us in all things to the rotten; as well as, the sound parts of the British model.

It would give you a fever were I to name to you’re the apostates who have gone over to these heresies, men who were Sampson in the field and Solomon in the Counsel, but who have had their heads shorn by the harlot England.

In short, we are likely to preserve the liberty we have obtained only by unremitting labor and perils. But we shall preserve them; and our massive weight and wealth on the good side is so great, as to leave no danger that force will ever be attempted against us. We have only to awake and snap the Lilliputian cords with which they have entangled us during the first sleep which succeeded our labors.”

Unfortunately, Dr. Mazzei had this letter translated into Italian and sent it to a publisher in Florence. He did so with motives of support for his friend but the effect was disastrously opposite. From Italian it was translated into French and appeared in the Paris Moniteur. From there it was translated

into English and appeared in the New York Minerva. Finally in 1797, it was read aloud on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. Washington could not fail to react negatively to the swipe at the Executive and the “Sampsons in the Field” phrase. While he never responded in print, it was no secret that he was no longer cordial with his former Secretary of State.

The same year, Jefferson’s nephew, Peter Carr, tried to trap Washington into Jefferson-bashing, in a childish attempt to even the score. He wrote a letter to the former President and signed it ‘John Langhorne’. In the letter he tempted Washington to criticize Jefferson in a written response, but Washington wrote only a perfunctory response. Worse for Jefferson, an alert postal clerk noticed that Peter Carr picked up the letter addressed to John Langhorne. The clerk got work back to Washington, who immediately put two and two together and suspected Jefferson’s motivation behind Carr’s action. All this happened before Jefferson found out about it and when he did, it was too late to repair the damage.

Washington died two years later, just before the end of his century. More than any single man had helped to create the new country of America and is properly remembered as the “Father of our Country”. Not the least of his trials was the pressures put on him by his two great ministers, Hamilton and Jefferson. With patience, understanding, integrity, and discretion he employed the resources available to him for the greatest good and a minimum of warfare. Nevertheless, he took some casualties and it is perhaps highly appropriate that his image appears today on our medal of the Purple Heart.

Jefferson himself, in the explanation to the Anas written in 1818 “After the lapse of twenty-five years, or more, I have given to the whole a calm revisal, when the passions of the time are passed away, and the reasons of the transactions act alone on the judgment”. In that mood he writes of Washington: “He possessed the love, the veneration and the confidence of all. With him were deposited suspicions and certainties, rumors, and realities, facts and falsehoods, by all those who were or who wished to be thought, in correspondence with him, and by the many anonyms who were ashamed to put their names to their slanders. From such a congeries history may be made to wear any hue, with which the passions of the compiler, royalist or republican, may choose to tingle it. Had General Washington himself written from these materials a history of the period they embrace, it would have been a conspicuous monument of the integrity of his mind, the soundness of his judgment, and its powers of discernment between truth and falsehood; principles and pretentions.”

The words of Thomas Jefferson illuminate General Washington like a taper in a drawing room. The eighteenth century language is a little unusual to us today, as is candlelight in our modern lives, but we see the parallels of what our country faced then and is still facing today!

2014 National Congress Update

By Mark C. Anthony

Host Society Chairman

The 2014 Congress is now 10 months away! Since the last issue of *The Palmetto Patriot* the following developments have taken place:

- 1) Paul Callanan, National Congress Planning Vice Chairman, attended the July Board of Governors meeting and discussed the 2014 Congress. He touched on the amount of work that will be necessary, the number of volunteers that we will need to have and the relationship between the National Society and SC Society during the Congress.
- 2) Requests for proposals have been sent to local charter bus companies. The proposals that are received will be vetted and submitted to the National Office for final negotiation. It is expected that the selection of a charter bus company will be complete by the end of October.
- 3) The Ladies Auxiliary has met and has begun planning centerpieces for each of the meals that occur during the Congress. Any woman who wishes to participate in this process should contact the chairman for referral to the Ladies Auxiliary.
- 4) Met with the Sales & Merchandise personnel at the National Office to discuss possible options of the Congress bag. We have also received a tentative budget amount and learned that this is an item that will be purchased by the National Office instead of the SC Society.
- 5) Met with a local artist concerning providing entertainment during the Host Society Reception. It is anticipated that a commission and scope of entertainment will be finalized by the October Board of Governors meeting.
- 6) Scheduled a visit by the National Congress Planning Committee Chairman to Greenville in late September to tour the hotel, church and city as well as meet with the local Convention & Visitors Bureau to discuss publicity.
- 7) Fundraising continues with the sale of tickets for the Minuteman statuette drawing as well as the continued sale of lapel pins, challenge coins and medals.

The main items that are being addressed in the upcoming months are (1) continued work on bids for bus transportation, (2) continued work on the tours and (3) meet with the City of Greenville to begin discussion on parade permits for the Congress.

The Congress will be from Friday, July 18, to Thursday, July 24, at the Hyatt Regency, which anchors the Main Street corridor in downtown Greenville. The SC Society will need to have volunteers on hand from Thursday, July 17, through Thursday, July 24. The major events of each day are as follows:

Thursday, July 17: Registration / Volunteer Thank You Event

Friday, July 18: National Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday, July 19: Tour of Kings Mountain and Cowpens Battlefields / Host Society Reception

Sunday, July 20: Committee Meetings / Memorial Service / Oration Contest Finals



Monday, July 21: Congress Business Sessions / Youth Awards Luncheon / Awards Night

Tuesday, July 22: Congress Business Session / National Officer Election / Banquet

Wednesday, July 23: Congress Business Session / Tour of Ninety Six Battlefield / Induction Banquet

Thursday, July 24: National Executive Committee Meeting / Post Congress Tour

Two new events: (1) Volunteer Thank You Event and (2) Post Congress Tour, add one day to the schedule. These are in consultation with the National Congress Planning Committee, which has advised that these events should be considered.

NSSAR General Officers and SAR Foundation Board members will attend the "Thank You" event for volunteers. This will allow members of the SC Society to meet our National Society leaders before the Congress on a more one-on-one basis.

The 2013 Congress hosted a post Congress tour that was well received. One of the key criteria was that the tour would be within a two hour radius of the Congress site, thus allowing for the tour to be completed in one day and a maximum of only one additional hotel night at the Congress site.

Within that criteria, SC Congress Committee members have discussed possible locations with the most likely tour taking compatriots and guests to Biltmore House in Asheville, North Carolina. A final decision will be made most likely before the January Board of Governors meeting.

The following subcommittees will serve in specific areas:

Registration: Welcome attendees and provide Congress materials to them

Credentials: Certify voting delegates and conduct any elections. (At this point, at least three offices will be contested, so this committee will have a major role at the Congress.)

Transportation: Identify a bus company for tours / Serve as points of contacts during tours and when transportation is needed

Protocol: Work with distinguished guests / Provide guidance for protocol and seating charts at meals

Publicity: In charge of all public relations / Oversee design process and stuffing of souvenir bags

Ladies Hospitality: Work with National Ladies Auxiliary to support social and other projects of the group while at the Congress

Chapter representatives were provided with a projected manpower chart by function and time requirements at the July Board of Governors meeting. The box below summarizes the need for volunteers each day.

All interested compatriots are invited to attend future Congress planning meetings, which are held quarterly in conjunction with the Board of Governors Meetings. After the January meeting, the committee will meet more often.

Finally, the Congress Planning Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman are available to present a program at chapter meetings. The program focuses on (1) what happens at a National Congress and (2) what the SC Society needs to do to host the best Congress ever. Please take advantage of this opportunity to educate and encourage your members.

Your Chapter Annual Report and Why it's Important to You

It is that time of year again when your chapter's leadership, generally the chapter secretary, will begin to work gathering dues for 2014 and asking for your help in getting 100% renewals. Part of his concern is that the information he has for you which includes your mailing address, phone number, and **e-mail address** are correct and up-to-date. If you have moved or changed any contact information, please help your chapter secretary by providing your updated information. Without accurate contact information you will miss chapter meeting notices and newsletters, any Florida Society publications, and National publications.

Your chapter has a December 31st deadline for submitting dues and the chapter roster to the state secretary. If you don't pay your dues by then, you will be 'Dropped' as an SAR member and any reinstatement request will be delayed until after March 1, 2014 to comply with National directions.

FLSSAR Ladies Auxiliary Message

By Debbie Hancox McMurry

The Florida Mall, a dream comes true for most women, in one word "HUGE". I have never in my life seen such a large complex filled with many quality shops. Besides the fast food restaurants normally seen within a mall, the Florida Mall had Ruby Tuesday, Five Guys Burgers (my husband's favorite), California Pizza Kitchens, and E Bar Café at Nordstrom's. The restaurants within the space of the Mall were endless, the surrounding restaurants on the "campus" were all well known to most of you... Outback, Carrabba's, Panera Bread, Red Lobster, Chili's, Olive Garden, just to name a few! My husband and I went to Ruby Tuesday's Friday night, then had lunch at California Pizza (my nephew told us it was "awesome"! we were pleased with our salads.

Every lady was invited to join us for lunch in the hotel restaurant, Marcelo's Bistro. Not only did we have eight ladies, but also two men. Just to sit there and get to know each other better was so pleasant. After lunch we found our way to the mezzanine, Debbie Duay was having a seminar about "Genealogy". After Debbie's first seminar, I realized there was indeed much more on the internet; she showed us where to look. At one point during Debbie's second seminar I had goose bumps! I was so happy to hear where I could find more info regarding my ancestors.

The Ladies Auxiliary had a very productive meeting. We had sixteen ladies in attendance, open discussions regarding attire to wear at SAR Banquets, last summer's activities, the new hotel accommodations; all of which lasted slightly over an hour.

The hotel rooms were spotless! The bathrooms immaculate, the staff bent over backwards to help us whatever the request. The banquet hall was decorated with white linen tablecloths, black and white designed streamers across each table; the dining chairs were covered with white satin covers. I told my husband, "I feel like we are at an elegant wedding". The meal was a salad, baked chicken with asparagus and carrots, and for dessert key lime pie. It was all very tasty. Debbie Duay had a short, informative talk regarding the "other" ancestral organizations and clubs in the US. Of course Charlemagne was not forgotten, that is if you have an extra \$750 to spend on a lifetime membership. Once again, Debbie is a "fountain of knowledge". Thank goodness I had a pen in my purse....I took so many notes! The Florida Society honored a young State Trooper for heroism, a few certificates and medals were awarded, and the Ladies Auxiliary had 10 beautiful baskets. Our total was \$307 to contribute towards the awards the Ladies Auxiliary gives in addition to the men's scholarships, i.e. Rumbaugh Oration Contest, JRTOC Awards, Eagle Scout Awards, and American History Poster Contest.

The next BOM is January 24th, 2014. I truly hope many more ladies will come and join us for a very delightful weekend. Those who are not members of the Auxiliary, please consider joining. You'll be pleasantly surprised to feel "included" in our ladies organization.

Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest

Submitted by Charles T. Sweeney

It's time for Chapters to beginning planning for the 2014 Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest. Each Chapter is encouraged to contact their local public schools, private schools, and home school groups to recruit orators for this year's contest. Each Chapter is also encouraged to search for recruits where outstanding youngsters gather to participate in religious organizations, and/or active youth activities such as boy scouts and girl scouts.

The FLSSAR Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest will be held at the Winter BOM, Friday, 24 January 2014. All Chapter entries are due 17 January 2014, unless coordinated for a subsequent date with the Chairman of the Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest.

Send entries, including four (4) copies of the oration to Chuck Sweeney; 500 S Palm Ave Unit 22; Sarasota, Florida 34236-6878, by the deadline of 17 January 2014. Extension of this deadline will be granted if you are computer literate and can coordinate last minute details through email. Coordinate extensions via the Chairman's email or home phone at (941) 706-2007.

Rules and procedures for the Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest can be found at:

- (1) www.sar.org/Youth/Orations_Contest_Rules (Note the underscores between Orations_Contest_Rules.)
- (2) www.sar.org/Youth/Orations_Contest_Procedures (Note the underscores between Orations_Contest_Procedures.)

Three fillable, saveable, and mailable FLSSAR Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest Forms are online. To access these forms go: <http://www.flssar.org/Forms.htm>, then go down under "Form name" to "Rumbaugh contest" and click:

- (1) [Entry Form](#), which opens a fillable, saveable and mailable form that the orations contest participants completes and returns to the Chapter Rumbaugh Chairman for his records.
- (2) [Chapter Form](#), which opens a fillable, saveable and mailable form that the Chapter Chairman prepares and sends to the FLSSAR Chairman.
- (3) [State Form](#), which opens a fillable, saveable and mailable form for the FLSSAR Chairman's use.



Operation Ancestor Search Seeks State, Local Committee Members

*by Rick Kincaid, Program Director
Operation Ancestor Search*

Operation Ancestor Search (OAS) is a free NSSAR genealogy training program for Wounded Warriors and their families. It provides participants with the knowledge and tools that allow them to conduct their own genealogy research as they recover from their injuries at military hospitals and VA medical centers across the country.

The OAS program is conducted through SAR state societies and local affiliate chapters and their volunteer members. The national committee evolved from a local program developed at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center (now the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center) by the DCSSAR. The program proved so successful that Ancestry.com became a major national sponsor, contributing a \$180,000 grant over three years, renewable for another three years after the initial period.

National Chairman Carl Bedell presides over the OAS Committee. Each State Society has its own OAS Chairman to spearhead these efforts and organize each state's program. State chairmen serve as ex officio members of the national committee.

State OAS Committee Members are volunteers who desire to share the genealogy expertise within the SAR in order to give back to the Wounded Warriors who were injured in their service to our nation. They provide injured service members with the knowledge and tools they need to conduct their own genealogy research in training classes, work sessions, individual hands-on assistance, and most notably, access to Ancestry.com databases.

OAS volunteers perform the following: (1) Help target the military medical facilities within their respective states that are most open and receptive to offering the OAS program to their Wounded Warriors. (2) Help identify the key personnel at those facilities and ensure that the facilities have adequate meeting space and computer facilities. (3) Help match the facilities with the leadership of the SAR local chapters in their closest geographic proximity in order to ensure adequate volunteer support. (4) Ensure that the state and local OAS committees are "visionary," meaning that they will not only serve the needs of the Wounded Warriors while they are inpatients, but that they will collaborate with local genealogical societies, lineage societies, libraries and other organizations as appropriate for support with training, reintegration and mentoring after they transition back to their local communities. (5) Ensure that the SAR's greatest resources – our MEMBERS in local chapters across the country, in

concert with our State and National Societies – continue to develop Operation Ancestor Search as the preeminent SAR program, not only for us, but for our OAS partners who provide the resources that support our nation's Wounded Warriors and their families.

If you are interested in helping with Operation Ancestor Search at the state or local level, please contact your State OAS Chairman. If your state does not yet have an OAS Chairman, please contact your State President if you are interested in serving in that position.

For additional information on the OAS program, please contact Rick Kincaid, the National Program Director, at rkincaid@sar.org or (502) 588-6147.

Following the Drum -- Women at the Valley Forge Encampment

by Nancy K. Loane (Potomac Books, Washington DC, 2009)

a book review by Ralph D. Nelson, Jr., Historian for the FLSSAR

Man or woman -- if you wish to understand the roles of women in the military during the War of Independence this is a book you should read.

We all know that Martha Washington spent the winter of 1777-78 with her husband at Valley Forge, but how and with whom did she spend her days? We all know that many women helped the Continental Army with the crucial, more domestic, chores of cooking, cleaning, sewing, and tending to the sick and wounded, but where did they come from, what was their pay, and how did they manage with babies and children?

Nancy Loane -- a long-time historical interpreter at Valley Forge -- has done extensive research using contemporary documentation and later family histories and historical texts. There are 27 pages of end-notes and eight pages of bibliography to support the 165 pages of text. The scope of the book is much broader than the title implies. There are sketches of the whole lives of several officers' wives -- social background, wartime deprivation, deaths of children, and the good or bad fortunes following the war. There are details of camp life not only at Valley Forge, but at each of the winter encampments. The author explores the history of several popular stories about women as these stories diverge more and more widely from facts supported by contemporary documentation to become elegant myths that we enjoy telling to idolize our heroes.

The author starts with the better-documented lives of officer's wives (Washington, Greene, Knox, Biddle, Stirling, Shippen), who left diaries and were mentioned in the letters and reminiscences of the officers. The officers and wives ached to see each other, but someone had to care for the farms during the winter, travel was dangerous for women, and encampment life was not easy for children. In spite of all this, some ladies spent several winters with their husbands at the encampments.

Next the author tackles the task of determining the names and roles of female slaves, servants, local hired help, and camp-followers. The attitude of the general staff toward camp-followers varied from year to year, begrudgingly recognizing that the camp-followers were necessary to free men for military duties but keenly aware that they were a burden on the food, housing, and mobility of the army. The author reports on the numbers, marital status, military regulations, and pay of the camp-followers. From our

perspective in 2013 we can only imagine with horror what it was like to be a woman living in a winter encampment or moving to a new summer camp by walking the dusty or muddy roads behind the baggage train -- women were forbidden to walk with the men or ride the wagons.

This book invites us in imagination to smell the campfires; to hear the clatter of cooking utensils, the morning cannon, and the drillmaster's calls; to feel the dank cold of a log hut on a snowy morning in upstate New York -- far from hearth and home; and to enjoy a welcome taste of meat after two weeks with only flour to cook. Buy it on the Web.

FLORIDA STATE SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (FLSSAR) FALL BOARD OF MANAGEMENT (B.O.M.), MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 6 – 7, 2013, ORLANDO, FLORIDA

President Ted Duay opened the meeting at 3:15PM Friday, 06 September 2013 after a quorum was certified by Secretary Steve Williams. The invocation was given by Chaplain Roy Martin Jr. Ralph Nelson led the pledge of allegiance. Jeff Sizemore led the SAR Pledge. President Duay recognized first time attendees and national officers.

Reading of the minutes was waived with a motion offered by John Stewart. The motion carried with no amendments to the minutes

President Duay gave a synopsis of his attendance at the National Congress in Kansas City and gave specifics regarding a resolution submitted by the Florida Society regarding the use of the "Grandfather Clause" to obtain membership in the society. President Duay stated that the resolution was tabled indefinitely after a consultation with the new President General who intervened on behalf of the Florida Society and resolved the pending Florida membership applications.

President Duay invited candidates in attendance that are running for national office to speak to the assembly regarding their platforms. Candidates accepting the invitation were: Lindsey Brock – President General candidate, Randy Moody – Chaplain General candidate. Vic McMurry spoke on behalf of Mike Tomme – Treasurer General candidate, Larry Guzy – Librarian General candidate, John Sinks – Genealogist candidate .

President Duay offered a motion for the Florida Society to officially endorse the following candidates:

President General – Lindsey Brock

Treasurer General – Mike Tomme

Genealogist General – John Sinks

Registrar General – Robert Bowen

Librarian General – Larry Guzy

Surgeon General – Dr. Edward Rigel Sr.

Chaplain General – Rev. Randy Moody

SAR Foundation Board, seat one – PG Joseph Dooley

SAR Foundation Board, seat two – Dr. Samuel Powell

No other candidates for office were endorsed.

Vic McMurry was first to accept the motion and Oscar Patterson was second to accept the motion. A subsequent vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

North Central RVP Scott Bushnell offered a correction to his report located on page #9 in the BOM Proceedings book. The President of the Lake City Chapter should read **Jim Craig**.

Historian Ralph Nelson offered discussion regarding the compilation of an in index of archived records of the FLSSAR.

Florida Patriot Editor Jeff Sizemore emphasized the importance of the Patriot Magazine cutoff dates as published in the BOM Proceedings book. Secretary William expanded on the discussion by talking about a veterans and family history that can be compiled into the FLSSAR E-book project.

Webmaster Scott Bushnell answered concerns regarding the background colors and shading of the FLSSAR web page.

President Duay offered information discussed at the FLSSAR Executive Committee earlier in the day. Secretary Williams presented a motion discussed in the Executive Committee to specifically accept the application for charter for the South Shore Chapter with the following conditions, (1) Provide a list of members, (2) Submit a list of By-Laws and a Constitution, (3) Provide a meeting schedule for year 2014. The first acceptance of the motion was by John Stewart, the second acceptance of the motion was by Dan Hooper. The motion carried.

President Duay reported the Executive Committee offered a motion to appoint David Kelsey for an additional term of 3 years to the FLSSAR ETF and OTF committee, inclusive of 2014 to 2016. There were no nominations from the floor and resulting in a unanimous vote to accept and the motion carried.

President Duay announced the resignation of FLSSAR Chaplain Roy Martin due to transfer and the nomination of his replacement, Richard Hagerman. The motion to nominate Richard Hagerman was accepted first by Roy Martin and accepted second by Vic McMurry. Subsequent vote to accept was unanimous.

President Duay announced that the Executive Committee voted to accept the application of an anonymous compatriot from an anonymous chapter for Emeritus 3 status.

President Duay stated that the Executive Committee voted to allocate \$750.00 to the President General's initiative for the American Heritage Center with regard to his matching of \$250.00 for the initiative. The FLSSAR had previously budgeted \$1000.00 for the center. The FLSSAR will take the remaining \$250.00 from the original budgeted \$1000.00 and redirect it to boxes for military troops administered by Frank Hodalski. A motion and subsequent vote carried.

The meeting recessed at 4:30 PM on 06 September 2013.

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 PM on 07 September 2013.

Vic McMurry opened discussion regarding the FLSSAR waiving its \$35.00 application fee for 100% disabled applicant from the Saramana Chapter. A motion was offered by Vic McMurry and seconded by Richard Mahaffey. A subsequent vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

President Duay discussed the request by the South Carolina Society for volunteer help during the 2014 National Congress to be held in Greenville South Carolina.

President Duay discussed the SAR and Ancestry.com joint program called Operation Ancestor Search to help "Wounded Warrior" soldiers research their ancestry. The program and a mentor would be provided at no charge to the "Wounded Warrior"

Hall Riediger presented the budget and discussed the changes. Dues income would be raised \$1000.00 by retaining 20 members. There will be a reallocation of \$250.00 to the Support the Troops fund. There will be a line #712 addition of \$1500.00 for National Officer Development fund. A motion to accept the budget was offered by Phil Carr and seconded by Vic McMurry. A subsequent vote was unanimous and the vote to accept the new budget carried.

Charles Sweeney discussed the Center of Advancing America's Heritage Committee and their functions. After discussion Vic McMurry offered a motion to adopt the three functions of the committee listed on page #24 of the BOM Proceedings book as primary functions of the committee. The motion was seconded by Doug Bridges. A subsequent vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Richard Cardell discussed the prospect of the FLSSAR Chapters making donations to the NSSAR Library. Hall Riediger stated that a \$200 donation to the library had been made as a line item budget entry for each year.

Charles Sweeney discussed the name change of the Chapter Challenge & Americanism Committee to the Committee of Americanism and Chapter Challenge. He further discussed the President General's "Cup Score", a means of measuring activities. Information will be released to the chapters in the future.

Charles Sweeney discussed the combining of the two standing committees, known as the Chapter and By-Laws Committee and the Standing Rules and Procedures Review Committee. They would be combined to form one consolidated committee called the Documents Committee. The motion offered by Charles Sweeney and seconded by Vic McMurry resulted in a unanimous vote and the motion carried. Charles Sweeney offered a new charter for the committee co-authored by himself and Steve Williams. The new charter is found on page #26 of the BOM Proceedings book.

Ray Wess discussed administrative changes and verbiage changes to the Public Safety and Heroism Committee Charter.

Charles Sweeney discussed the addition of a third FLSSAR Veteran's Corps for Vietnam Veterans.

Steve Williams discussed the priorities of members regarding room rates, facility meeting rooms, and the possibility of changing next year's meeting venue. After discussion a vote was taken to keep the venue at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center for the following year. The acceptance of a two day format was also adopted for future fall meetings.

Charles Sweeney discussed occasional errors and omissions in submitted articles to the Florida Patriot.

Randy Moody offered information that the Last Naval Battle and the Battle of Pensacola have been recognized as National Color Guard events.

John Stewart discussed the increase of prize money for the Knight Essay contest and encouraged chapters to conduct essay competitions.

Vic McMurry opened discussion and proposed changes to the Endowment Trust Fund disbursements. The changes are found on page #41 of the BOM Proceedings book and listed as proposed change to instruction, B-3, C-3, and C-4. The motion to accept the changes was seconded by Ralph Nelson. A subsequent vote was unanimous to accept the changes as proposed and the motion carried.

Dan Hooper opened discussion about increasing some Endowment Trust Fund Reimbursements. President Duay recommended that the committee discuss possible changes and report back to the body at the next Board of Management Meeting.

President Duay reported on the Endowment Trust Fund and Budget Trust Fund. He reported that all disbursements were up to date and the funds were in relative good shape despite the ups and downs of the stock market.

Roy Martin led the benediction and Steve Williams recited the SAR Recessional.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:18 PM

Ray Wess, Recording Secretary



In a rising membership scenario the question that needs to be asked is: "Are we recruiting too many non-residence Compatriots, either family members or acquaintances?" In a member decreasing scenario the question that needs to be asked is: "Are we asking our membership to do more than they are willing to do?" The litmus test here is to conduct an analysis of the chapter's roster to determine who fills the top leadership positions and key committee chairmanships. If any of these Compatriots are dual or triple hatted, you need to be concerned that your chapter could be on a road that leads to a spiral into nonexistence. Yet these failings or such reality need not happen, for the solution to these danger signs is the same.

Minimize to Maximize. Coming to the conclusion that there is something stale in the way your chapter is doing business or that the same people are doing all the work doesn't come easy. But as you read this, and as you notice that your head is shaking up and down in agreement, it's time to take action.

(1) Gather your key leaders who are likeminded. Hopefully these are your President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, and Sargent-at-Arms. Review what the SAR is all about, focusing on the fact that the Sons of the American Revolution is the leading male lineage society that perpetuates the ideals of the war for independence. As a historical, educational, and patriotic, non-profit corporation, it seeks to maintain and expand the meaning of patriotism, respect for our national symbols, the value of American citizenship, and the unifying force of "E Pluribus Unum."

(2) Evaluate the makeup of your membership and the receptiveness of your local community to your chapter doing activities that perpetuate the ideals of the war of independence; that maintain and expand the meaning of patriotism; that respect our national symbols; and that demonstrate the value of American citizenship. Then begin to rebuild.

Big Things have Small Beginnings. Start the rebuilding process by eliminating on paper all jobs and committees. Then fashion an orientation that key leaders need to be free to do their primary jobs, and that no member needs to become a chairman or serve on more than two committees. Now establish your points of focus to bring on line, one at a time if necessary, only those programs you'll support because they are consistent with what is receptive in your community and because they are national programs that work well due to funding and backing at the highest levels.

The Face or the Soul?

By Chuck Sweeney

The Color Guard is the face of a Chapter; the soul of a Chapter is what we do. What's more important for the success of an SAR organization, as defined by smiles and participation?

Most successful organizations have two fundamental understandings. One, you cannot do everything. Two, great things have small beginnings. And so it is with creating and maintaining a culture within an SAR

Chapter that produces participation, smiles and results.

Granted it's true, the Color Guard is also what we do; however, it's not the sole generator of smiles and participation. What makes a Chapter successful is knowing when and how to minimize to maximize opportunities. The purpose of this article then is to suggest five realities that can give an organization a point of focus to know when it's in trouble and what can be done to reverse or prevent a spiral into nonexistence.

Know the Danger Signs. Is the membership rising or falling?

Like the Laffer Curve (Simply stated for our understanding, they are points on a bell curve where the increase of action on the upside of the curve has the same effect as a reduction of action on the downside of the curve), both of these situations most likely could result in the same outcome; namely, members are reluctant to step forward and lead.





Miss Caroline Gans, Poster Contest Winner.

For example, to expand and foster the meaning of patriotism in your chapter elect the point of focus to participate in the Americanism Elementary and Middle Schools Poster Contests.



To perpetuate the ideals of the war of independence focus on Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest and/or the JROTC Enhanced Essay Contest.

To perpetuate the ideals of the war of independence also plan to participate in the ROTC/JROTC Awards Program, which consist of the (1) JROTC Bronze Medals and Certificates Presentations Program, and (2) the Enhanced JROTC Program, aka the JROTC Outstanding Cadet Essay Contest. This program was created sixteen years ago by own Florida Society member and Past President General (1997-1998) Carl Hoffmann.



Naples Chapter 2012-2013 Joseph P. Rumbaugh Orations Contest participants with parents.



Chapter honors are rendered to JROTC Cadets and Senior Military Instructors of the eight High Schools in Naples Florida. JROTC Bronze Medals & accompanying Certificates were presented to upcoming Cadet leaders.



Left: Miss Branden Causey 2012-2013 Sarasota Chapter and FLSSAR Winner; National Contestant 123rd Congress.



Above (L-R) FLSSAR Eagle Scout Chairman Charles Day, Mrs. Hager, Eagle David C. Hager, Immediate Past FLSSAR President Phil Tarpley, and Mr. Hager. Eagle David Hager was the 2012 Jacksonville Chapter, the Florida Society and the National Society SAR Eagle Scout of the year.

To further respect our national symbols establish a point of focus which enables your chapter to participate in the SAR Eagle Contest Program.

To exhibit to your community that you value the ideals of American citizenship by those who serve, sponsor a program that honors Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters and/or Wounded Warriors.



Center - Phil Tarpley, FLSSAR Immediate Past President, Past Saramana Chapter President, and current Saramana Committee Chair of Police, Heroism, Fire & Safety/EMS, with Law Enforcement honorees during April 2013.

And finally, to put a face on all your activities establish a Color Guard as the unifying force. You don't need many. Three to four will do fine.



The NSSAR Color Guard Handbook gives guidance for the minimum number of men that form a Color Guard unit. That number is four: Two (2) Color Bearers of which one carries the United States National Flag, and the other

carries either the State or SAR Flag; and two (2) Musketeers or Riflemen who escort the Color Bearers.



Further, it's authorized that should a FLSSAR Chapter not have Musketeers or Riflemen in attendance, the Color Guard may consist of a minimum of three (3) members with at least one,

usually the Color Guard Commander, marching to the right of the National Colors. The left side of the National Colors shall be covered, where practical, either by a second Color Guard member or by another Color Guard Bearer who carries another flag (most often the state flag or an SAR flag). In formations exceeding four Compatriots, the Color Guard Commander will march ahead of the National Colors separate from any other rank.

“**Make Things Simple, Not Simpler.**” This is a paraphrase of a famous quote attributed to Albert Einstein. It has several interpretations. Its value to us, however, is imbedded in the understanding that focus produces significant positive outcomes. The depth of this understanding is grounded in the words of the late Steve Jobs. “Simple can be harder than complex. You have to work hard to get your thinking clean to make it simple. But it's worth it in the end because once you get there, you can move mountains.”

Any one or all of the aforementioned programs will add meaning and depth to your organization. You don't have to do everything, but focusing on one or more bread and butter programs of the SAR will not only spotlight those who are participants but will cause those members and guest in the attendance to smile.

In sum. A Chapter's journey to success which reverses or prevents a spiral into nonexistence is a function of six steps.

- (1) Know the danger signs. Avoid doing everything.
- (2) Know your people. Assign them to tasks and responsibilities sparingly. But do so with focus to capture their strengths and your chapter's objectives.
- (3) Define your communities culture. Minimize what you do to maximize success, realizing great things have small beginnings.
- (4) Initiate and sustain the objectives of the SAR through selective participation in its “bread and butter programs.”
- (5) Make things simple.



Associated with a spiral into nonexistence is this reality:
 “There comes a time in your life, when you walk away from all the drama....”

Anonymous

Medals and Awards Protocol: Criteria for Awarding Medals to Ladies and Compatriots

by South Atlantic District Vice-President General Dr.
 Randy Moody

The intent of this article is to call attention to the only authoritative source of criteria for Chapters and State Societies to determine eligibility for medals and awards, the NSSAR Handbook. The NSSAR Handbook specifies which body (Chapter, State, District, or National) decides who is qualified to receive each medal. In some cases, such as the SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal and the Silver Good Citizenship Medal, the Chapter can award the medal **only** with the approval of the State Society (1). The NSSAR Handbook also contains the protocol for wearing NSSAR Medals. Please note the following quote from the NSSAR Handbook:

The awarding of medals and awards should always be given very careful and serious deliberation to determine that the proposed recipient is qualified, deserving, and the occasion for presentation is appropriate. The presentation of medals and awards should not be treated lightly by the National Society, district, state society or a chapter, and should always be given judicious thought to assure that the presentation is in keeping with NSSAR principles. It is essential that the integrity of NSSAR medals and awards be maintained (2).

Several common mistakes Chapters and State Societies make is the multiple awarding of medals which can only be awarded once. One example is the Meritorious Service Medal to a compatriot. The Meritorious Service Medal can only be awarded once each at the Chapter, State, and District levels. Once one level has awarded the medal, the other levels can award the medal once by the presentation of an Oak Leaf Cluster and Certificate; only one Meritorious Medal may be received and worn. This mistake can be avoided by consulting the NSSAR Handbook for the criteria before any medal is awarded.

Recently there has been some confusion about the criteria for awarding medals to ladies, especially DAR members. The NSSAR Handbook gives the following guidelines for awarding the SAR Medal of Appreciation:

The National Society, a state society or a chapter, may present the SAR Medal of Appreciation, authorized in 1960, to a member of the DAR in good standing in recognition of and in appreciation for outstanding services rendered to the SAR. The award may recognize assistance in forming new SAR chapters, obtaining a specific number of new SAR members or otherwise significantly aiding the SAR programs.

Oak Leaf Clusters may be presented to an individual if she qualifies by service to SAR rendered subsequent to the presentation of the medal or an oak leaf cluster (3).

The guidelines for the SAR Martha Washington Medal are:

The National Society, a state society, or a chapter may give the Martha Washington Medal, authorized in 1971, to a woman over 18 years of age in recognition of outstanding service to SAR. Oak Leaf Clusters may be presented

to an individual if she qualifies by service to SAR rendered subsequent to the presentation of the medal or an oak leaf cluster. This medal may be awarded at the Chapter, State and National levels and may be awarded more than once if the National Society makes one of those awards. A DAR may receive the Martha Washington Medal and the SAR Medal of Appreciation (on separate occasions) if her service warrants it (4).

The Handbook states the following for the SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal:

The Daughters of Liberty Medal, authorized in 1992, may be presented by the National Society, a district, a state society or chapter to a lady recommended by any officer of a chapter, state or National Society, SAR in appreciation for her unselfish devotion, tireless efforts and assistance to the SAR, and who has dedicated her time, energy, ability and/or finances to the organization in support and furtherance of the stated objectives of the National Society, SAR.... Consideration in awarding this medal should be given only after the SAR Medal of Appreciation or the Martha Washington Medal has been presented (5).

The criteria above was amended July 11 to require a Chapter to receive the approval of the State Society in order for the Chapter to award the Daughters of Liberty Medal.

It is important for Chapters and State Societies to follow the proper protocol for the awarding and presentation of NSSAR Medals to preserve their integrity. It is what each compatriot promised to do when he was inducted into the National Society Sons of the American Revolution. Please continue to award NSSAR Medals to qualified recipients, but please consult the criteria for each medal and award before its presentation.


1. SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal requirement for a State Society to approve the Chapter awarding it was added by the Medals and Awards Committee at the 123rd Congress and approved by the NSSAR Executive Committee 11 July 2013
2. NSSAR Handbook, Volume 3, p. 1 (at time article is written-new version of the Handbook due out soon)
3. Ibid., p. 15
4. Ibid., p. 15
5. Ibid., p. 15

The New FLSSAR Mail Lists

As a result of the recommendation out of the Spring BOM that FLATalk be discontinued and the use of the Mail List creation capability of our Web Host, two Mail Lists were created for two distinct and separate purposes: a Mail List for delivery of the link to the electronic version of *The Florida Patriot* and a Mail List for dissemination of important Florida Society news such as, but not limited to, Bylaw amendment proposals which are required by Florida's Bylaws, the calling of Special Meetings which is required by Florida's Bylaws, BOM meeting information, other significant items. Both these lists are moderated which means that messages will only be sent if they conform to the range of subject matter mentioned above.


All Florida Society members with e-mail addresses were sent a message to confirm addition to the particular Mail List by clicking the hypertext link within the message.

Why are we doing this? It is excessively expensive to USPS Mail Bylaws proposals to 1800+ members to fulfill the notification requirements as laid out in the Bylaws. Similarly, it is also expensive to USPS *The Florida Patriot* when we can save money by e-mailing the link for the electronic version. To use e-mail to distribute the items using an individual's e-mail service requires that the message meet the ISP's mail requirements for number of recipients per e-mail message and the number of recipients per day. To send a message and cover the numbers of recipients mentioned above requires 10 to 15 messages spread over 2 to 3 days. This is time consuming and can result in the mail service locking up. It also creates problems when an individual recipient has a mail service that counts as



JUST TWO TAILORS


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SPAM any message with a certain number of recipients on that message - sometimes as few as 50 recipients. Then that member doesn't get the message.

Using a Mail List which sends out individual messages to all on the Mail List prevents all of the problems described above.

Are You Eligible?

Do you have a Revolutionary Patriot in your family tree? Membership in the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) honors and preserves the legacy of your Patriot Ancestor. Over two hundred years ago, American Patriots fought and sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today. As a member of SAR, through participation in the Society's various programs and activities, you can continue this legacy by actively supporting historic preservation, promotion of education, and patriotic endeavors. For membership information, go to <http://www.flssar.org/Helper.htm>.

FLSSAR Endowment Trust Fund Disbursement Committee

The purpose of the Florida Society Endowment Trust Fund Disbursement Committee is to help each one of our chapters to be successful and growth. This is accomplished by each chapter getting out into your community with projects that promote the organization on both a local and state level. Therefore, the Florida Society recognizes this effort and set up the Endowment Trust Fund Disbursement Committee to help offset some of the cost incurred by the local chapters.

For 2011, the Endowment Trust Fund Disbursements Committee was proud to announce that we approved 40 requests spread over 14 Chapters. The total amount approved for reimbursement to these 14 Chapters is \$8,775.30. Florida currently has 33 chapters, or put another way, we had 42% of our FLSSAR chapters that shared in these funds and 58% of our FLSSAR chapters that failed to participate, and will NOT receive any money.

For 2012, the Endowment Trust Fund Disbursements Committee was proud to announce that we approved 53 requests spread over 24 Chapters. The total amount approved for reimbursement to these 24 Chapters was \$10,567.58. Florida currently has 32 active chapters, or put another way, we had 75% of our FLSSAR chapters that shared in these funds and 25% of our FLSSAR chapters that failed to participate, and did NOT share in the financial assistance provided by your FLSSAR Endowment Trust Fund.

Heraldry: The SAR Badge

Part III: SAR Badge Influenced by the French
By Chuck Sweeney



This is Part III of the rewrite by Chuck Sweeney of the scholarly account of the SAR Badge done by Compatriot Duane L. C. M. Galle, some 20 years ago. The story of the SAR Badge is being told in seven parts. Part I and II can be viewed at www.flssar.org/FPM.htm, under Florida Patriot, Vol 43 Iss. 1 -Spring and Vol 43 Iss. 2-Summer. Photo by Chuck Sweeney, FLSSAR 1st VP and Saramana Chapter President. .

In the 2013 summer issue of the *Florida Patriot*, Part II of the story behind the SAR Badge addressed the similarities between our cross and the cross of the Order of St. Louis.

Several reasons made the St. Louis cross an appropriate pattern for the SAR badge. The Grand Master of the Order of St. Louis, Louis XVI, lent the American rebels material and diplomatic aid which was indispensable for the defeat of the British. Moreover, a great many of the French officers, who fought for the Patriot cause were chevaliers of the Order. Beyond the order of St. Louis, the French had had a significant presence in North America. During the French Colonial period something like 300 chevaliers of St. Louis saw service in North America. Hence, it was in recognition of the decisive aid of France and the significant presence of the Order in North America that the SAR chose the St. Louis cross as a pattern of its own.



St. Louis Cross



Legion of Merit

But the adoption of the cross of St. Louis was appropriate for other reasons, too. The Order of St. Louis was the first order of military merit. Earlier orders, like the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and the Order of the Garter were crusading or chivalric orders. They were open to members of the nobility ready to undertake deeds of religion or chivalry. But those deeds were international in



Legion of
Honor

scope; all Christendom was to be the beneficiary of the knight's good deeds. By contrast, the Order of St. Louis was established to reward military service to one's own country and it was the first to do so. Since the SAR has as its purpose to remember and recognize the military service of their Revolutionary War ancestors to their country, the adoption of the St. Louis cross seemed most apropos. Two other crosses of similar design and purpose are the United States Legion of Merit and the French Legion of Honor.

The Legion of Merit was authorized in 1942 by the U.S. Congress. It is a military decoration of the United States Armed Forces that is awarded for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements. Unlike the cross of St. Louis, which is restricted to one's own country, the Legion of Merit is issued both to United States military personnel and to military and political figures of foreign governments. The Legion of Merit is one of only two United States military decorations that can be issued as a neck order (the other being the Medal of Honor). It is the only United States decoration which may be issued in award degrees, much like an order of chivalry or certain Orders of Merit. The Legion of Merit is sixth in the order of precedence of U.S. military decorations, and is worn after the Defense Superior Service Medal and before the Distinguished Flying Cross.

The Legion of Honour, or in full the National Order of the Legion of Honour (French: *Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur*) is a French order established by Napoleon Bonaparte, on 19 May 1802. The Order is the highest decoration in France and is divided into various degrees.

To be continued: With Part IV discussing the Legion of Honour Influence on the creation of the SAR Badge.

Honor Flight With SAR Veteran

Bud Rockhill September 7, 2013

By Tom Gilmore

On my third Honor Flight on September 7, 2013, as a guardian, I took a fellow SAR Compatriot, to Washington, DC. Bud Rockhill was one of the WWII veterans who hit the beach in Operation Overlord in the Battle of Normandy. This biggest and



most complex D Day invasion took place June 6, 1944, and will always be remembered when we think of our greatest generation of military heroes.

Bud told me he was one of the veterans who served in the Battle of the Bulge and was in the artillery division of the army. He shared his experiences with me on the flight to Washington and while we were waiting for our return flight home to West Palm Beach, Florida. Many of the veterans often have kept their wartime stories to themselves, but seem to open up with their guardians on the Honor Flights.



The Honor Flight operation made its inaugural tour in May of 2005. Earl Morse, a physician assistant and retired Air Force Captain, started the Honor Flight Network Program because he wanted to honor the veterans under his care. The mission and ideals of the program have spread across America. It has been a

huge success. The goal is to try to take every living veteran that was in the military service during WWII on one of these historic flights. The flights are free of charge for eligible veterans.



I have found my involvement in the program to be personally gratifying and a wonderful way to honor our WWII heroes. It is an amazing one-day program that begins in the early morning hours and ends late into the evening. Police and Vietnam veteran motorcycle riders escort is provided both to and from the airports. The tour includes visits to the World

War Two Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Iwo Jima Memorial. Many of the veterans often get to meet high-ranking military officers or politicians. Since Bob Dole was instrumental in the building of the World War Two Memorial, he and his wife, Elizabeth, are usually nearby to greet and thank the veterans.

If any other compatriot would like to either be one of the honored veterans or join the Honor Flight Team as a guardian, you can visit the Honor Flight website at <http://www.honorflight.org/>. I know you will have a wonderful fun filled day that will remain in your memory for years!



Vietnam War Veterans

Task Force Created



Newly installed NSSAR President General Joseph W. Dooley announced the creation of a Vietnam War Veterans Corps Task Force at his July installation banquet during 123rd National Congress in Kansas City, Missouri. The task force falls under the

purview of the NSSAR Veterans Recognition Committee. With this action, the NSSAR now has three Veterans Corps: (1) World War II Veterans Corps; (2) Korean Service Veterans Corps; and (3) Vietnam War Veterans Corps.

All current FLSSAR Battalion Veterans who are on record as having participated in the Vietnam War will automatically be processed into the NSSAR Vietnam War Veterans Corps. Eligibility details for this Corps are below.

Understanding the SAR Vietnam War Veterans Corps Eligibility



The Vietnam War

For some the war ended long ago; for others it is not so. The war was a pro-longed struggle that is recorded in federal regulation for those U.S. personnel who fought in that conflict to have begun on the 28th of February 1961 and to have ended on the 7th of May 1975.

The Vietnam Era Veterans Issue

Vietnam Era is a term used by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to classify veterans of the Vietnam War. For VA purposes, in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations Chapter 38 Paragraph 3.2 (f), the Vietnam Era is the period beginning on February 28, 1961 and ending on May 7, 1975, inclusive, *in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period.*

For those who did not serve in the Republic of Vietnam the term Vietnam Era is defined as the period beginning on August 5, 1964 and ended on May 7, 1975 inclusive.

The U.S. Congress, U.S. Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs elected to designate those years as such into two groups to accord special privileges to all persons who served the country's armed forces during that time.

Stated differently, the Vietnam Era Veteran is one who has been classified as a veteran of the Vietnam War (28 Feb 1961 – 7 May 1975), and is one who is a veteran who served in the armed forces but didn't participate in the Vietnam War (5 Aug 1964 – 7 May, 1975). For determining eligibility of Compatriots to join the NSSAR Vietnam War Veterans Corps attention is given to the Vietnam Era Veterans of the first group (28 Feb 1961 – 7 May 1975), because they surely are eligible for the Vietnam Service Medal.

The Vietnam Service Medal



VSM

The Vietnam Service Medal is a campaign medal and is retroactive to 1961. It supersedes and replaces the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, which was issued for Vietnam service prior to 1965. The responsibility of the Vietnam War Veterans Corps Task Force and the Veterans Recognition Corps Committee is to

verify a Compatriot's service to country so as to recommend to the President General that an SAR member is entitled to receive a Certificate of Patriotism and to have his name added to a NSSAR Veterans Corps. A verifying instrument in this regard for the Vietnam War Veterans Corps is the Vietnam Service Medal (VSM).

Vietnam War Veterans Corps Task Force

President General Dooley's guidance concerning the Vietnam War Veterans Corps Task Force is found on page 91 of his NSSAR Committee Report of 19 July 2013, which is found on our national website at [2013-2014_nssar_committee_assignment_report_19_july_2013_final.pdf](#). Specifically, this is a task force under the Veterans Recognition Committee. The purpose of the Vietnam War

Veterans Corps Task Force is to verify service by SAR Compatriots in the Vietnam War so as to recommend to the President General that a Compatriot be presented a Certificate of Patriotism and have his name added to the NSSAR Vietnam War Veterans Corps. The verifying instrument shall be the appropriate campaign medal and/or medals. SAR Compatriots shall be considered to be eligible for the NSSAR Vietnam War Veterans Corps if they served in the Republic of Vietnam, pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 8, Paragraph 3.2 (f), during the period beginning on February 28, 1961 and ending on May 7, 1975. After July 23, 2014, this task force may be dissolved at the discretion of the incoming President General, and the inclusion of qualifying SAR Compatriots in the NSSAR Vietnam War Veterans Corps may become a standard component of the Veterans Recognition Committee.

Veterans Recognition Committee (VRC)

Page 90 of the aforementioned report notes that the Veterans Recognition Committee is responsible for promoting and conducting programs designed to recognize those Compatriots who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces or other military forces allied with the United States, including, but not limited to the WWII Veterans Corps, the Korean War Veterans Corps and the Vietnam War Veterans Corps. The Committee is responsible for monitoring the requirements for presentation of the War Service Medal and Military Service Medal and for developing certificate recognition programs commemorate participation in specific armed conflicts. The Chairman of the VRC is Col Charles T. Sweeney, USMC (Ret.) - FL; Vice Chairman is SFC Daniel R. McMurray, USA (Ret.) - MO. The members of the VRC are SFC James C. Arnold USA (Ret.) - IN; LtC Herman C. Brown, USMC (Ret.) - VT; LtC Paul Robert Callanan, USA (Ret.) - NC; CDR Robert Forrest Doughty, USN (Ret.) - ; Martin W. Kabel - GA; Martin Simon Klotzbach - KS; Brooks Lyles - KS; Victor G. McMurry - FL; Paul I. Prescott - GA; CW5 Kenneth D. Roach - CT; Walter Guy Seaton - AZ; George A. Smith - CO; Kent Shepard Webber - VA; and Robert M. Wylie - GA.

The VRC Charter

For information concerning the VRC, to include its Charter, go to www.sar.org then to "Veterans Recognition" under NSSAR Committees. There you will not only find in its Charter the purpose of the VRC, but its authority, members and functions.

Eligibility for an NSSAR Veterans Corps

Much thought has gone into the structure for qualifying Compatriots for one of its three Veteran Corps—The World War II Veterans Corps, the Korean Service Veterans Corps (KSVC); and/or the Vietnam War Veterans Corps. Our committee procedures and administrative actions must conform to SAR Policy, especially as it links the awarding of an SAR War Service Medal (WSM) to Campaign Medals. It's not our job to act as "police" in deciding who merits a WSM. Policy exists for that, in the form of sending forward a verifiable request through chapter and state secretaries.

But when it comes to forwarding a request for the President General's signature on a Certificate of Patriotism, we must be accurate in the understanding of SAR Policy and confident that a chapter president's verifying endorsement holds water. Meaning, the Compatriot is an eligible veteran and he participated in a military campaign that merits his acceptance into the World War II Veterans Corps, KSVC, and/or Vietnam War Veterans Corps. To these ends, it's important that parties understand the limits of the VRC Charter and the uniqueness of select campaign medals so as to qualify Compatriots for the issuance of a Certificate of Patriotism signed by the President General.

If you believe you qualify for the Vietnam War Veterans Corps, or any of the other NSSAR Corps, send an email request for a survey email arequest of a survey form VetCorps@sar.org.



South Shores SAR Chapter Chartering Ceremony

On October 5, 2013, the South Shore SAR Chapter was chartered in Sun City Center, Florida. This chartering ceremony was held at the Maui Room, Freedom Plaza Dining Facility at 1010 America Eagle Blvd., Sun City Center, Florida.

The working group that pushed for this chapter were: Gordon Bassett, Luke Lloyd, and Bill Love who served as organizing officers. They were instrumental in this chapter formation.





Vice President General, South Atlantic District Randy Moody and FLSSAR RVP West Central Region Dan Hooper were involved with leading the ceremony with invocations, installing new officers, etc. The new chapter officers consisted of: Gordon Bassett, President, Luke Lloyd, Registrar./Vice President, and Bill Love, Treasurer. Newly elected chapter president, Gordon Basset inducted several new members and gave remarks to all in attendance; as well as, accepted the chapter charter as seen above.

Others in attendance was New Chapter Development Chairman and FLSSAR RVP East Central Region Jeff Sizemore, FLSSAR Sergeant of Arms Joe Hill, FLSSAR Executive Committee At Large Lawrence Fehrenbaker. There was also other chapter officers throughout the State that were in attendances; as well as, DAR members that came to wish this chapter a success.

St. Augustine Chapter Law Enforcement Law Enforcement Commendation Medal

Recently a Putnam County Sheriff's Office employee, Ms. Kim Revers was presented the Sons of the American Revolution's Law Enforcement Commendation Medal by the St. Augustine Chapter. This presentation was made by Dr. Oscar Patterson III, chapter president, Mr. William Roberts, past chapter president, and Mr. Vernon Myers, member of the SAR and Mayor of Palatka.

Ms. Revers was nominated to receive the award by CPT Dominic Piscitello, Chief of Investigations at the PCSO, who noted that Ms. Revers works directly with investigators who track and hold sexual offenders and predators. She has learned to multi-task in the performance of her duties which enables her to expand her job description. During the investigation, she keeps the victim fully aware of the process and the outcome, and provides them with information about their case. She handles 400 cases a year.

After normal working hours, Ms. Revers is available to assist with crime scene processing as a member of the Crime Scene Unit, and she has received additional training to assist in the processing and recovering of evidence at a crime scene. While being a working mother, she has proven herself to be

very reliable and hard working. "No job task is too big for her and she is always looking for new ways to expand her knowledge base," states CPT Piscitello.



Photo caption: L to R; William Roberts, Vernon Myers, Kim Revers, Oscar Patterson III

CLEARWATER CHAPTER SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION RECOGNIZES PALM HARBOR EAGLE SCOUT



Pictured l to r: Eagle Scout Trevor Joseph Case and SAR Compatriot Art Hays

Eagle Scout Trevor Joseph Case, son of Richard and Pamela Case of Palm Harbor, was presented with an Eagle Scout Certificate of Recognition from the Clearwater Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution for outstanding leadership and citizenship as demonstrated by his attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout.

SAR Compatriot Art Hays presented the certificate at Trevor's Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony on August 24 at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Clearwater.

For his Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project, Trevor designed, planned and provided leadership to a group

of over 40 scouts and other volunteers with a Blessed Virgin Mary Shrine at St. Michael the Archangel Church. The project included the placement of a 5 foot tall statue of Mary on a pedestal and the placement of pavers and four benches around the base of the shrine. The project took 644 hours to complete.

Trevor, age 16, is an 11th grader in the International Baccalaureate program at Palm Harbor University High School. He is a member of the robotics team, the Interact Club and the Ping Pong Club. Trevor aspires to eventually become an aerospace engineer.

Trevor has been active in scouting for nine years. He is presently a senior patrol leader for Troop 26, sponsored by the Palm Harbor United Methodist Church. He is also the Induction Vice Chief for the Timuquan Lodge of the Order of the Arrow.

During his years with the Boy Scouts, Trevor has participated in numerous outdoor activities and has spent approximately 70 days camping at local and out-of-state wilderness areas. He has earned a total of 92 merit badges.

Trevor is a descendant of Michael Abraham Awalt, Sr., a patriot who served in the North Carolina militia during the Revolutionary War.

THE REAL STORY OF "THE BATTLE OF CHELSEA CREEK"

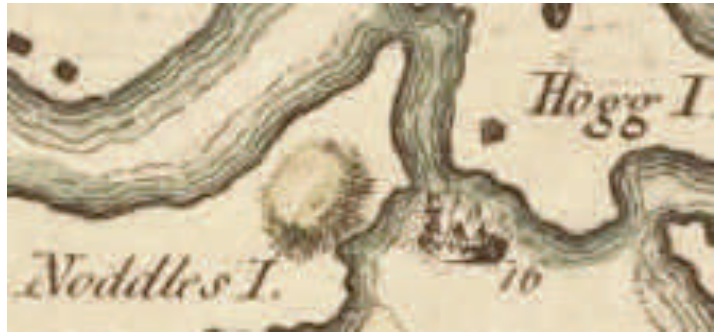
27/28 May, 1775

By Ben DuBose



MAP #1 - Map circa 1775/76 shows the Chelsea River running above Noddle's Island and Hogg Island. To left is Charles Town, and the City of Boston is at lower left. Note black mark between Noddles Island and Hogg Island. It is enlarged below and shows there is a picture of a ship and the number "16".

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_American_Revolutionary_War_battles



In 2010 the National Park Service announced a grant for a history project on the "Battle of Chelsea Creek", which local historians felt was unfair to Noddle's Island because the battle took place around that island - not in such an insignificant creek that its name didn't even appear on local maps of the time.

On the original map the notation for #16 reads: "The Schooner burnt at Noddles Island..." There is no mention of Chelsea Creek. So I guess for now on it will be called "The Battle of Noddle's Island." The following is the story of what Boston historians call "THE FIRST NAVAL BATTLE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION." But as I explained in the last issue, they take credit for EVERYTHING! In fact, the First Naval Battle Of The American Revolution goes to MAINE! (The Battle of Machias (also known as the Battle of the Margaretta) was the first naval engagement of the American Revolutionary War. It took place on June 11-12, 1775, in and around the port of Machias in what is now eastern Maine, and resulted in the capture by Patriot militia of a British schooner.) So, don't believe everything you hear about New England History coming out of Boston. FYI: There is no question that the LAST NAVAL BATTLE took place right here in Florida of the coast of Brevard County.

Most of the livestock, as well as some buildings on Noodle's Island, were owned by one Henry Howell Williams. His chief business before the war was supplying the British with fresh provisions, a business that abruptly ceased in April 1775 after threats of reprisal were made if he continued to deal with the British. But, since the British were familiar with the place, they sent foragers to steal whatever they could..

On 27 May, 1775, to prevent the enemy from gathering supplies, Colonel Ephraim Doolittle led a detachment of a few dozen Massachusetts volunteers to drive the live-stock off of Hogg and Noddle's Islands. He waited until ebb tide to cross Chelsea Creek because it was only knee deep at that time. In fact only small boats could be used along Chelsea Creek - even at high tide. The same was true for the crossing from Hog to Noodle's, known as Crooked Creek. His small party was reinforced by 200 -300 men from the 1st New Hampshire Regiment, under Colonel John Stark.

Perhaps unknown to the Americans, the British fleet had rented some of the buildings on Noddle's Island to warehouse naval stores, and the Army had purchased the hay. In addition there were about 600 sheep and some cattle and horses on the island. Plus a small British Marine guard of about 40 men was on Noddle's Island. When they spied the patriots they signaled Admiral Graves who was anchored off shore with the British fleet.

Graves ordered the *HMS Diana* to sail between Noddle's Island and the mainland, as high up as possible. Diana entered the river between 1500 and 1600, at low water.²⁷ She proceeded to Noddle's Island, where she fired on the Americans and the Americans returned the fire from both islands.

When the colonists on Noddle's Island, saw British Marines landing they departed; killing whatever stock they could and setting fire to a barn and a farm house. They then joined the forces on Hogg Island.

The *Diana*, armed with four 6-pounders and twelve swivels, along with several manned barges came up and pushed into the shallow waters of Crooked Creek; attempting to prevent the colonists from evacuating Hogg Island. The Americans sent for reinforcements including some cannons. All the while the *Diana* and the colonists exchanged heavy fire.

The *Diana*, faced with an ebb tide and the wind falling off, and under orders to withdraw, found she was unable to exit the creek.

Admiral Graves, seeing the problem sent reinforcements to assist the *Diana* got all the boats ahead to tow her off (about 1800).⁴² She began to exit the passage between the islands and the mainland. Admiral Graves sent eight to ten boats⁴³ of the squadron, with Marines aboard,⁴⁴ to go to her assistance.⁴⁵ The *Britannia* (Lieutenant John Graves), a sloop tender to Somerset,⁴⁶ came down from the British fleet to render more assistance.

Maps are in public domain- see this site

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Battle_of_Chelsea_Creek.jpg

<http://www.awiatsea.com/incidents/27-28%201775%20Battle%20of%20Noddle%27s%20Island.html>

1st Naval Battle

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Machias

The first naval battle of the Revolutionary War took place on May 27, 1775 in Chelsea Creek, which separated Revere and its neighboring city of Chelsea. Provincial volunteers from Rumney Marsh (Revere), Winnisemmit (Chelsea) and Pullen Point (Winthrop) joined troops under Colonel John Stark, who had been sent by the Massachusetts Committee on Public Safety to prevent the Redcoats from seizing livestock, hay and other supplies.

The provincials attacked the British marines, guerrilla-style, from the banks of Chelsea Creek. Ultimately, under heavy fire, the British schooner HMS *Diana* was run aground, abandoned, and promptly stripped and burnt to the water line by the colonists. Local historians believe the remains of the *Diana*, imbedded in the mud flats along Chelsea Creek, are still visible at low tide-a tangible link to the first naval battle of the Revolution.

“On the 27th of May, 1775 the then Colonel Stark led a detachment of Massachusetts and New Hampshire volunteers to drive off the live-stock from Hog and Noddle's Islands (Orient Heights and East Boston), crossing from Chelsea at ebb tide when the waters in the creek between Chelsea and Hog Island was fordable.

The provincials were fired upon by the British and a heated skirmish followed that culminated in the burning of the HMS *Diana* and the capture of her cannon by the Colonials after the schooner ran aground near the Winnisimmet ferry-ways.... Ten days before the battle of Bunker Hill all of the buildings on Noddle's Island (East Boston) were burned by the order of Colonel Stark 'lest they should be taken possession of by the British forces from the ships in the harbor, to afford them shelter and an eligible position for commanding the town.”

Map info = "The Library of Congress is providing access to these materials for educational and research purposes and is not

Various references, including talks and newspaper articles by the author in the 1980s were used for this article.

Battle of Kings Mountain

By John Little

The Battle of Kings Mountain was fought October 7, 1780, near the North and South Carolina border. Historians consider the Battle of Kings Mountain to be the "turning point in the South" in the American Revolutionary War. The victory of Patriots over Loyalist troops destroyed the left wing of Cornwallis' army. The battle also effectively ended, at least temporarily, the British advance into North Carolina. Lord Cornwallis was forced to retreat from Charlotte into South Carolina to wait for reinforcements. The victory of the Over mountain Men allowed General Nathaniel Greene the opportunity to reorganize the American Army.

When British General Henry Clinton learned of his men's defeat at Kings Mountain, he is reported to have called it "the first link of a chain of evils" that he feared might lead to the collapse of the British plans to quash the Patriot rebellion. He was right. American forces went on to defeat the British at Cowpens. A little more than a year after Kings Mountain, Washington accepted Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown, Virginia.

The leader of the Loyalist troops was Major Patrick Ferguson. Ferguson would be the only British regular to serve at Kings Mountain. All other soldiers were Americans - Patriots and Loyalists. Joining the British army at age 15, Ferguson was a well known marksman and the inventor of a breech loading rifle. The son of a Scottish judge, Ferguson had an affable disposition, a gentle face and was slight of build. Nevertheless, his soldiers named him "Bulldog."

Ferguson had distinguished himself early in his military career. Serving as a cornet in the Royal North British Dragoons, Ferguson was considered by his superiors as a courageous fighter during the wars of Flanders and Germany in the 1760's. In 1768, he joined the Seventieth Regiment of Foot in the West Indies, where British troops engaged in guerrilla warfare with the native Carib tribes. Ferguson went for garrison duty at Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1773 but soon became bored.

During the summer of 1780, Ferguson and his provincial corps of 150 traveled through South Carolina and into North Carolina gathering support for His Majesty's cause. While marching through the upcountry of South Carolina, the Loyalists engaged in minor skirmishes with militia regiments. Some of those small battles happened at places like Wofford's Iron Works, Musgrove's Mill, Thicketty Fort, and Cedar Spring. However in August, after the Americans were defeated at the Battle of Camden, the Over Mountain Men retired to their homes in western North Carolina to rest before going after Ferguson again.

Meanwhile in September, Cornwallis invaded North Carolina. His final objective was to march into Virginia. To protect his troops from guerilla attack, Cornwallis ordered Ferguson to move northward into western North Carolina before joining the main British Army in Charlotte. In late September, Ferguson camped at Gilbert Town (near present day Rutherfordton). He sent a message to Colonel Isaac Shelby, whom he considered to be the leader of the "backwater men." The message said that if Shelby and his men did not stop their opposition to the British, Ferguson would march his army over the mountains, hang their leaders and "lay the country waste with fire and sword." The Patriots would have none of it.

On September 25, Patriot leaders and Colonels Charles McDowell, John Sevier, Isaac Shelby and William Campbell gathered at Sycamore Shoals on the Watauga River (near present day Tennessee). They marched five days over the snow covered mountains to the Quaker Meadows Plantation owned by McDowell's family (in present day Morgantown). There, they were joined by more frontiersmen including those serving under Benjamin Cleveland and Joseph Winston. The troops marched toward Gilbert Town and Ferguson.

Spies told Ferguson the Patriots were on their way. Ferguson had stayed at Gilbert Town hoping to intercept another Patriot force, heading northward. Calling in reinforcements, the Scot began to march toward Charlotte to receive the protection of Cornwallis' main army. He sent an appeal to loyal North Carolinians -- for them to save themselves from the "backwater men...a set of mongrels." Late on October 6, Ferguson received word from his spies that the Americans were close behind him. Camping at Kings Mountain, near the North Carolina border, he sent a message to Cornwallis requesting reinforcements. "Three or four hundred good soldiers," he wrote, "would finish the business. Something must be done soon." Desperately short of provisions, Ferguson sent out a foraging party of 150 men. He then organized a defense and prepared to meet the enemy.

When the Patriots realized that Ferguson was not at Gilbert Town, they became determined to pursue and fight him. The soldiers followed Ferguson, leaving their weak comrades and horses at Gilbert Town. On October 6 at Cowpens in South Carolina, the Over Mountain Men were joined by 400 South Carolinians under Colonel James Williams and others. The soldiers learned from spy Joseph Kerr that Ferguson was definitely camped about 30 miles ahead in the vicinity of Kings Mountain. Shelby was especially pleased to learn that Ferguson was quoted as saying, that he "was on Kings Mountain, that he was king of that mountain and that God Almighty and all the Rebels of hell could not drive him from it."

The seven colonels chose Campbell as their officer of the day to carry out the plans they adopted collectively. Fearing Ferguson would escape, the colonels selected 900 of their best men to pursue the Loyalists. The Patriots marched through the night and the next day, through pouring rain and intermittent showers. They reached Kings Mountain the next day, Saturday October 7 just after noon.

Kings Mountain is an outlying portion of the Blue Ridge Mountains. A heavily rocky and wooded area, the mountain rises 60 feet above the plain surrounding it. The campsite was supposedly an ideal place for Ferguson to camp because the mountain has a plateau at its summit. The plateau is 600 yards long and 70 feet wide at one end and 120 feet wide at the other. The Scot considered the summit too steep to be scaled.

Upon arriving at Kings Mountain, the Patriot soldiers dismounted. After tying up their horses, the soldiers formed in a horseshoe around the base of the mountain behind their leaders, who remained on horseback. Ferguson was right in believing that his would be attackers would expose themselves to musket fire if they attempted to scale the summit. But Ferguson did not realize his men could only fire if they went out into the open, exposing themselves to musket fire. Most of the Patriot troops were skilled hunters who routinely killed fast moving animals. On this day, Ferguson's men would not find escape an easy task.

The fighting began around 3 p.m. when some of Ferguson's men noticed the Patriot soldiers surrounding the mountain. After a brief skirmish, the shooting began in earnest when two of the Patriot regiments opened fire on the Loyalists simultaneously. The Loyalists fired back but the Patriots were protected by the heavily wooded area. The regiments commanded by Colonels Isaac Shelby and William Campbell marched toward Ferguson's men but were driven back twice by Loyalist fire. But as one regiment was driven back, another would advance. Ferguson had to shift his reserves from one place to another while continuing to take heavy losses from the concealed American sharpshooters in the trees. Eventually, other Patriot troops provided enough support that Shelby and Campbell's regiments reached the summit.

During the battle, Patrick Ferguson commanded his men with the use of a silver whistle. Many Patriot fighters later recalled hearing the sound of Ferguson's whistle over the sound of the rifle fire. The whistle and the checkered hunting shirt he wore over his uniform made the Scottish commander quite noticeable on the battlefield.

After nearly an hour of fighting, Ferguson suddenly fell from his horse. One foot was hanging in his stirrup -- several, perhaps as many as eight bullets were in his body. Some accounts say he died before he hit the ground. Other accounts say that his men propped him against a tree, where he died. Ferguson was the only British soldier killed in the battle -- all others were Americans, either Loyalist or Patriot. Ferguson's second in command then ordered that a white flag of surrender be hoisted. Despite the call for surrender by the Loyalists, the Patriots could not immediately stop their men from shooting. Many Patriots remembered that the infamous Colonel Tarleton had mowed down Patriot troops at Waxhaw despite the fact that the troops were trying to surrender. Eventually, the fighting at Kings Mountain stopped.

In all, 225 Loyalists were killed, 163 were wounded, 716 were taken prisoner. 28 Patriots were killed and 68 were wounded. Among the Patriot dead was Colonel James Williams of South Carolina.



Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony

The Palm Beach Chapter participated in a Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony on 27 May, 2013, sponsored by the Forgotten Soldier Project in West Palm Beach, Florida. Chapter President Ray Wess was accompanied by Chapter Vice President Buddy Miller and Chapter Historian Chris Williams and a wreath representing the forgotten soldiers from the Revolutionary War was presented on behalf of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Florida society, Palm Beach Chapter.

The Palm Beach Chapter is extremely proud to announce the presentation of the French Legion of Honor Medal to Chapter Compatriot F. Russell Greenspan for " his accomplishments and high esteem merits" in the liberation of France during his role as a soldier during World War II. The citation stated that " The French People will never forget your courage and devotion to the great cause of freedom". The medal was belatedly presented to Compatriot Greenspan through the French Ambassador to the United States.

The Legion of Honor was created by Napoleon in 1802 to acknowledge services rendered to France by persons of exceptional merit. The Palm Beach Chapter will formally recognize Compatriot Greenspan at the 15 October meeting where he will also receive his World War II SAR War Service Medal.

Lake City Chapter Report

By Jim Craig, Chapter President

On February 18, 2013, the chapter elected new officers which consisted of: President - James Craig, 1st Vice President - E. Vernon Douglas, 2nd Vice President - Ralph Wright, Secretary - Tandy Carter, Sr., Treasurer - Tandy Carter, Jr., Chaplain - Roy Martin, and Registrar/Genealogist - James Thrasher .

At the March 18, 2013 meeting, the guest speaker was Bob Dekle who gave a briefing on the investigation leading to the arrest and conviction of serial killer Bundy.

At the April 2013 meeting, the guest speaker was Vernon Douglas who gave a briefing on the history of the Lake City SAR Chapter. President Jim Craig presented JROTC Medals and Certificates to cadets of: Bradford County High School, Starke Columbia County High School, Lake City, and Union County High School, Lake Butler. President Jim Craig, representing the U.S. Army Special Forces Association, presented Two Special Forces Association Medals and Certificates to the Cadets of the U.S. Army ROTC at the University of Florida

At the May 2013 meeting, the guest speaker was again Bob Dekle who gave a briefing on the Trial of Jesus Christ. The following presented JROTC Medals and Certificates to cadets of: Baker County High School, MacHenry - Treasurer Tandy Carter, Jr., Hamilton County High School, Jasper - Past President Al Williams, and Suwannee County, Live Oak - Secretary Tandy Carter, Sr. President Jim Craig presented the Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate to the Cadet of the Lake City Sea Scouts.

Jacksonville Chapter Report

By David Bahn,

The Jacksonville Chapter participated in two events on Memorial Day: the City of Jacksonville parade, and a special ceremony at Jacksonville Beach honoring all chaplains, in particular the 26 who lost their lives during the Revolution.

The Color Guard participated in a pre-Fourth Service at First Baptist Church and presented the History of the Stars and Stripes for the residents at a local health center.

David Ramseur continues to push for the development of a monument and amenities at the Thomas Creek Revolutionary Battle site, on property purchased during 2012 with the help of the North Florida Land trust and the City of Jacksonville.



Rev. Johnson Pace, Jr. a Compatriot for 71 years and former President and Chaplain of the Jacksonville Chapter celebrated his 95th birthday on 8-15-2013 with the help of David Ramseur, Lindsey Brock, and Jim Gaskins.

**FLORIDA SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
REGISTRATION FORM**

Winter BOM Meeting January 24 - 25, 2014

The Florida Hotel and Conference Center at the Florida Mall, 1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando, FL 32809

Name: Chapter:
 National Number:
 Phone: Guest Name:
 Emergency Contact: Phone: Date:
 For Registration confirmation and update notifications – Email:

I prefer to use **MY OWN** name tag for the BOM I **Require a hard copy** Of BOM Proceedings – “Blue Book”

BOM Voting Authority (Article II, Section I, FLSSAR ByLaws):

Select ONE: FLSSAR Officer FLSSAR Committee Chair FLSSAR Past President
 None Chapter President Chapter Past President Chapter Delegate
 Patriot Medal FL National Trustee Incumbent/Past NSSAR Officer

A member of the BOM who is unable to attend a meeting may name, in writing, another member of the FLSSAR to attend and act in his stead, provided, however, that no person may have more than one vote.

I Plan on attending the following BOM Sessions (select as many as you want)

Executive Committee Regional VP Meeting

The Banquet meals (below) include: Beverage, Caesar Salad, Seasonal Vegetables, Rolls and Desert.

Jan. 24 th	Member Meal Choice	<input type="radio"/> None	<input type="radio"/> Sliced Pork Loin - \$38 w/ Roasted Country Potatoes	<input type="radio"/> Baked Tilapia - \$38 w/ Rice Pilaf	Amount <input type="text" value="\$0"/>
Friday	Member Desert Choice	<input checked="" type="radio"/> None	<input type="radio"/> Chef's Choice	<input type="radio"/> No Sugar	
Banquet	Guest Meal Choice	<input type="radio"/> None	<input type="radio"/> Sliced Pork Loin - \$38 w/ Roasted Country Potatoes	<input type="radio"/> Baked Tilapia - \$38 w/ Rice Pilaf	Amount <input type="text" value="\$0"/>
	Guest Desert Choice	<input checked="" type="radio"/> None	<input type="radio"/> Chef's Choice	<input type="radio"/> No Sugar	

Dietary Requests:

Registration Fee – SAR Members Only - \$10.00

Total

SAR Member will: Pay at Registration - **OR** - Mail Check in Advance

MEAL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE January 19, 2014

Meal additions / changes / cancellations must be received 72 hours prior to BOM.

If you mail your registration via USPS and do NOT receive a confirmation via e-mail (you must list an e-mail address) within 4 days of mailing, call 321-632-5663. If you register by e-mail and do NOT receive a confirmation via e-mail within 1 day of sending message, call 321-632-5663.

Make your check **payable** to “**Treasurer FLSSAR**”. If mailing, send to:

FLSSAR Meetings Arrangements Committee

% Steve Williams
3403 Caraway St.
Cocoa, FL 32926-3625

Click to Email

Phone: 321-632-5663
E-mail: swilliams16@cfl.rr.com

Click to Print

Please request a “**Read Receipt**” so that you will know that your file was received.

More Pictures from the Summer 2013 FLSSAR BOM and Annual Meeting



More pictures of the Summer Board of Management meeting will appear in the Winter 2013 Florida Patriot. If you have pictures, you would like included, please send them to Jeff Sizemore, Editor at swampfoxeditor@cfl.rr.com. Articles about your Chapter, historical topic book reviews, and historical/patriotic articles are also requested and appreciated.



The Florida Patriot

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***FLSSAR Fall BOM at The Florida
Hotel & Convention Center***

January 24– 25, 2014

(Room Rate = \$117.00 per night RSVP by 1/3/2014)

800-588-4656

1500 Sandlake Road Orlando, FL 32809

FROM INTERSTATE 4 WEST - (from Tampa): From I-4, take exit #74 (Sand Lake Road). At the bottom of the ramp, turn right and continue on Sand Lake Road approximately 5 miles to Orange Blossom Trail (US 441-17-92). Turn right (south, go to the second light (Sun Life Path) and turn left into the Florida Mall. Continue straight, then follow signs to the hotel.

FROM INTERSTATE 4 EAST - (from Daytona Beach and downtown Orlando): From I-4, take exit #80, Orange Blossom Trail (US 441-17-92). The exit ramp will merge with south bound traffic on Orange Blossom Trail. Continue south for approximately 5 miles. Go through the intersection at Sand Lake Road (SR 482), continue to the second light (Sun Life Path) and turn left into the Florida Mall. Continue straight, then follow signs to the hotel.

FROM THE FLORIDA TURNPIKE, NORTH OR SOUTH: From the Florida Turnpike, take exit #254, Orange Blossom Trail (US 441-17-92). Follow signs for "North-East 441." Continue straight on Orange Blossom Trail to the third light (Sun Life Path) and turn right into the Florida Mall. Continue straight, then follow signs to the hotel.