



The Florida Patriot

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

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Winter 2016



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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2016 Fall Board of Management Meeting



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2015-2016

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Spring 2016 Issue	February 20, 2016
Summer 2016 Issue	June 30, 2016
Fall 2016 Issue	August 1, 2016
Winter 2016 Issue	November 25, 2016

Table of Content

2 - Winter BOM Pictures
4 - Society President's Message
5 - New SAR Lapel Pin
5 - America's Christmas Traditions
7- Ladies Auxiliary Grapevine
8 - Update on the SAR Genealogical Research Library
8 - 223rd Anniversary of the Last Naval Battle
8 - Last Naval Battle Medal Available
9 - Last Naval Battle Reservation Form
10 - Richard Q. Fowler's Newsletter Contest
10 - Patriot Medal Committee
10 - Medal & Awards Committee
10 - Silver Roger Sherman Medal
11 - Winter BOM Meeting Overview
11 - Chartering Ceremony
11 - NSSAR President General's Visit Announcement
11 - NSSAR 126th Congress Update
12 - The Many Faces of Benjamin Franklin
13 - Thank You for the Support Your Troops Effort
14 - America's Enigma
16 - Chapter News
26 - BOM Registration Form
27 - More Winter BOM Meeting Pictures

*Florida Ladies'
Auxiliary Officers,
2014 - 2015*

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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 1535 Skyline Drive, Kissimmee, FL 34744.

*Society President's
Message*



As we transition into the New Year of 2016, I have been spending part of the Holidays with grandchildren in New York and northern Connecticut, where the weather has reinforced our decision to move to the Sunshine State sixteen years ago. While staying warm with newer high-tech fiber clothing, one can only imagine the hardships that our patriot ancestors endured during the winters as they endeavored to gain the independence and freedoms that we all enjoy today.

Our Winter Board of Management Meeting will be held at The Florida Hotel and Conference Center on February 5 – 6, 2016. Registration details and a preliminary schedule can be found elsewhere in this issue of *The Florida Patriot*. I urge you to attend the winter BOM, as we will be discussing issues that affect the future of our society and the direction that it will take over the next several years. Chief among these issues is the future course that we as a society take in defining the use of the main floor at our National Society's new headquarters on West Main Street in Louisville. Solid Light, a full-service media company that was approved by the National Trustees to design possible future exhibits for the main floor, will present to the National Trustees at the Spring, Leadership Meeting, their final design concept for approval. Some members of our society have questioned the priorities of the multiple projects that have been identified for the completion of the National Society facilities in the future. Among these is the extent of the Outreach Education facility to include media production capability, a rental banquet facility on the headquarters' second floor, expansion of the SAR Genealogical Research Library's collection of genealogical and historical material for on-line access by members, completion of the National Society's new web-site to include modules for state society's membership renewals, membership accounts for tracking donations to the National Society, are among other features. A discussion of these proposed projects will permit the Florida Society Chapters' BOM members to convey their thoughts to our National Trustee.

At the Fall FLSSAR BOM, the membership elected to discontinue the Winter BOM beginning in 2017 because of the seasonal higher cost and it being the least attended of all BOM meetings. In the future the Florida Society will have two BOM meetings, i.e. the Fall BOM and a Spring BOM/Annual meeting. A proposed February one day meeting will be held for the Rumbaugh Oration Contest followed by a luncheon to celebrate General George Washington's birthday. Regional meetings have been proposed for the winter months.

Recent inquires have been made to the Florida Society's leadership about hosting a National Congress after 2023. The Florida Society last hosted a National Congress in 1998 in Orlando. Consequently, I am naming an Ad-hoc Committee to review the updated requirements for hosting a National Congress and to make recommendations to the Florida BOM.

Following the recommendations of the New Chapter Development Committee and the Lake-Sumter Chapter, a new Florida Society SAR chapter in The Villages, FL received chartering

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.

approval by the BOM delegates at the October 2015 BOM meeting. The new chapter will be formally chartered as "The Villages Chapter," of the Florida SAR on January 9, 2016. Those interested in attending the Chartering Ceremony, should contact David Bussone at david@bussone.net.

I urge all compatriots to attend the 126th Congress in historic Boston, Massachusetts which will be held on July 8 – 13, 2016. In addition to the Congress and committee meetings, there will be numerous opportunities to visit local historical sites and tours are being planned. Information and reservations may be found at the following link: [The 126th Congress](http://congress.sar.org/) or by entering the congress information address in your browser, <http://congress.sar.org/>. Please note the current **National Society's registration refund policy on the registration form** when it becomes available.

Wishing you Holiday Cheer and a Happy New Year,

Fraternally,

Lawrence G. Fehrenbaker, Sr.

Florida Society President 2015-2016

New SAR lapel pin

At the October 23 -25, 2015 BOM, the SAR Foundation's new "SAR" lapel pin was introduced and briefly discussed. The notice from the SAR Foundation on Page 15 describes the program that is being promoted in conjunction with the NSSAR Branding Committee. Chapters may also purchase the SAR lapel pin in multiples of 10 per order for \$10.00 per pin, handling and shipping are included.

America's Christmas Traditions

By Jeffrey Sizemore

We, as Americans, hold to many traditions that have various origins. Some hold a historical significance. While others hold a religious significance and finally some are a combination of things. In American history, Christmas at certain times of history was celebrated in some regions more than others. "The Christmas that Americans celebrate today seems like a timeless weaving of custom and feeling beyond the reach of history. Yet the familiar mix of carols, cards, presents, trees, multiplicities of Santas and holiday neuroses that have come to define December 25th in the United States is little more than a hundred years old." (1)

Between the various denominations, Christmas was not celebrated like we know today. As historian Nicole Harms puts it, "Christmas in Colonial America did not resemble the brightly lit festivities we celebrate today. In fact, many colonial religions banned celebrations of the holiday, claiming that it was tied to pagan traditions. The New England Puritans passed a law in Massachusetts that punished anyone who observed the holiday with a five-shilling fine. The Quakers treated Christmas Day as any other day of the year. The Presbyterians did not have formal Christmas services until they noticed that their members were heading to the English church to observe the Christmas services. This sparked the Presbyterian Church to start services of their own."

"The first Christmas celebration in what was later to become the continental United States took place in St. Augustine, Florida in 1565... Old Documents inform us that Father Francisco Lopez De Mendoza Grajales presided over a Christmas service held at the Nombre de Dios Mission that year. The Shrine of Nuestra Senora de la Leche now marks this



location.” (2) Some evidence have also indicated that the Spaniards might have celebrated Christmas in other areas of Florida as they explored the area.

“In Jamestown, VA, a ragged band of Englishmen

huddled together on Christmas morning in the year 1607. Although one hundred hopeful settlers had left England in



order to found this, the first American Colony, less than forty were still alive to celebrate the first Christmas in the New World. Their leader, Captain John Smith, was gone. He had left them to barter for food with the local Indians, and according to legend, returned alive thanks only to the intervention of a young Indian woman named Pocahontas. Although settlers had little food with which to rejoice, they still observed Christmas Day

with an Anglican worship service.” (2)

While the New England Colonies were banning Christmas, the early settlers of the South celebrated Christmas with feasting, drinking, dancing, and other games. It was the Southerners that transported the various Old English Christmas customs to America including Christmas carols, Yule logs, kissing under the mistletoe, and decking homes with greenery. (2)

“For most of Virginia’s devout Anglicans, the season of Advent was a penitential time of reflection, anticipation, and expectation of the coming of Christ. This spiritual preparation was reflected most clearly in the liturgy and prayers of the Church during Advent. The daily and Sunday readings from the Book of Common Prayers are highlighted by the two great heralds of Christ – the prophet Isaiah and John the Baptist...The Advent season empha-



Advent & Christmas

sized the timeless dialogue between darkness and light, evil and good. Perhaps at a time of the year when daylight is at the ebb, the joy of the expectation of the holiday be-

came even greater for people of the past. Philip Fithians keen observation of December 18, 1773, strongly indicated a season of expectation: *When it grew to dark to dance We conversed til half after six; Nothing is now to be heard of in conversation, but the Balls, the Fox-hunts, and the fine entertainments, and the good fellowship, which are to be exhibited at the approaching Christmas.*” (3)

“The first sign of the festivities was on Christmas Eve, when guns were fired into the chill Virginia air. Christmas Day, however, was a quiet holy day marked by going to church, where a few sprigs of holly in the deep windowsills were the only decorations for the season. But this was only the beginning: Scattered throughout Virginia and elsewhere, relatives and friends had come for long visits of weeks or months. The women and the house



servants were busy planning and preparing great feasts - sometimes up to 20 or 30 different dishes might be served, carefully arranged on the table for a great afternoon meal. A grand ball would commence afterward, where,

after hours of dancing, revelers could partake in a fine dessert feast.” (4)

The following 17th century carol called “All You That Are Good Fellows” summarize their Christmas season:

All You That Are Good Fellows

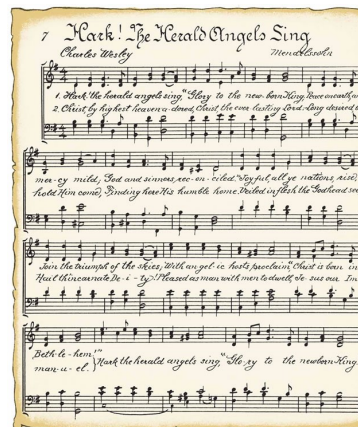
*All you that are good fellows come hearken to my song
I know you do not hate good cheer or liquor that is strong
I hope there is none here, but soon will take my part
Seeing my master and my dame say welcome with their heart.*

*This is a time of joyfulness and merry time of year
When as the rich with plenty stored do make the poor good cheer
Plum porridge, roast beef, minced pies stand smoking on the board
With other brave varieties our master doth afford.*

*Our mistress and her cleanly maids have neatly played the cooks
Methinks these dishes eagerly at my smart stomach looks
As though they were afraid to see me draw my blade
But I revenged on them will be until my stomach's stayed.*

*Come fill us of the strongest, small drink is out of date
Methinks I shall fare like a prince and sit in gallant state
This is no miser's feast although that things be dear
God grant the founder of this feast each Christmas deep good cheer.*

*This day for Christ we celebrate who was born at this time
For which all Christians should rejoice and I do sing in rhyme
When you have given thanks unto your dainties fall
Heaven bless my master and my dame, Lord bless me and you all.*



Music also played a role in the 18th century. One of Isaac Watts’s most famous hymns of this period is “Joy to the World”. Other carols sung included “The Snow Lay on the Ground”, “The First Noel”, “God Rest You Merry Gentlemen”, The Holly and the Ivy”, and “Lully Lullay”. (3)

Some of the customs that we today associated to Christmas were not

introduced to the United States of America until the 19th Century. The Christmas tree was introduced to Victorian households by German immigrants around 1840s. Even with its pagan ties, many churches adopted it into their Sunday school movement of the 1840s and 1850s to emphasize Christian values to children. (2)

Santa Claus came to be a Christmas tradition after he was popularize in newspapers and magazines by the



immigrant artist Thomas Nast. (2). While the Christmas Dinner has evolved from all of the various immigrants that came to the United States bringing their taste for various meal flavors to the tradition Christmas Dinner table.

“Printers have been cashing in on Christmas since the 18th century – at least in London and other large cities. Schoolboys (and I do mean only the young males) filled in with their best penmanship pages pre-printed with special holiday borders. ‘Christmas pieces’ they were called. But the Christmas card per se was a 19th century English invention.”(6)



“It took Louis Prang, a recent German immigrant and astute reader of public taste, to expand the sending of cards to a grand scale. Prang arrived in America in 1850 and soon made a name as a printer. By 1870, he owned perhaps two-thirds of the steam presses in America and had perfected the color printing process of chromolithography.

After distributing his trade cards by the thousands at an international exposition in 1873, the wife of his London agent suggested he add a Christmas greeting to them. When Prang introduced these new cards into the United States in 1875, they proved such a hit that he could not meet demand.” (1)



The tradition of giving gifts came about during the 19th century and has expanded ever since. Merchants have always been innovative in marketing merchandise that Americans would want to give to others. As the years

have gone by many other customs have evolved into what we today know as our Christmas Traditions.

As author Stephen Nissembaum summed up Christmas in the early period in his poem “The Battle of Christmas” which reads: *“Then, as now, there was no single Christmas. For some it was probably (just another day). For others it was a time of pious devotion that could range from mirthful joy in the Savior’s birth to angst over personal failings, and from stately prayers to ecstatic hymns. For others still it was a time for feasting---*



accompanied or not by a supply of alcohol.” (4) We can see that some things about Christmas Holiday Celebration have changed over the year, while other traditions have not.

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The Ladies Auxiliary GRAPEVINE

The Ladies Auxiliary was formed in 1998. At the September BOM, James E. Wilson, President of the Brevard Chapter suggested the formation of an auxiliary. Florida Society President Edward Sullivan appointed Mr. Wilson to chair a committee to investigate formation. Carl Hoffman, PG 1997-1998, volunteered to serve as he was instrumental in getting NSSAR Bylaw #28 passed which provides for the organization of Ladies Auxiliaries at State or Chapter level. A gathering of four ladies and two SAR members met and objectives were established.

The organizing officers were: President, Mrs. James Wilson (Millie); 1st Vice President, Mrs. Wayne Wilson (Etta Marie); 2nd Vice President, Mrs. John Dibble (Beverly); Secretary/Registrar, Mrs. Joseph Tipton (Betty); Treasurer, Mrs. Reid Bailey (Melba) and Parliamentarian, Mrs. Donald Buchanan (Jean).

At the April 1999 BOM in Ft. Lauderdale, FLSSAR Bylaws were approved to allow a Ladies Auxiliary of the FLSSAR. They had a membership of about 100 at that time.

The Ladies Auxiliary of today is grateful for these dedicated women who started our organization. Our Florida Ladies Auxiliary was represented by your president at two Battlefield Commemoratives, the 235th anniversary of the Battle of Camden in August and the Battle of Kings Mountain in September.

Wreaths were laid at both of these sites located in South Carolina.

We had a successful meeting at the October BOM in Orlando and for the Basket Raffle, 15 baskets were received from the following chapters: Caloosa, Naples, Withlacoochee, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Brevard, Clearwater, Lakeland, Central Florida, Gainesville, Highlands, Palm Beach, Saramana, Ocala and Panama City. We send our thanks to all of these chapters for their support in helping us raise funds to supplement the youth contest scholarship awards from the Florida Society.

Seven new members joined the Auxiliary at our meeting. We wish to extend an invitation to all the SAR wives, daughters, relatives and others who are interested in supporting the Ladies Auxiliary and the Florida Society SAR.

Come to the February 5-6, 2016 Board of Management Meeting. The Auxiliary will meet on Saturday.

Jeanne Fehrenbaker,
LAFLSSAR President

Updates at the SAR Genealogical Research Library...

Librarian General, C. Bruce Pickette has announced that two new databases have been added to the online resources of the SAR Genealogical and Research Library. The "Gale Genealogy Connect" is a collection of e-Books with 189 titles of online genealogical research how-to materials and original sources. The second collection is the "Sources in American History Online (SUSHO): The American Revolution." This database contains nearly 500 significant primary source documents exploring the American Revolution featuring personal accounts, maps, pamphlets, monographs, Congresses, speeches, and material detailing the European point of view. These new genealogy and Revolutionary War related databases may be accessed by SAR members from any location, by logging into sar.org then accessing the Library via the Library link on the SAR homepage. On the left side of the Library homepage, under Library Databases," scroll down to "Library E-Books", and click on the "Gale Genealogy Connect," link. Remember: to access these e-Books, you must be logged-in to sar.org. Explore these online databases for a wealth of information for your genealogical and historical research adapted from communication to the Library and Archives Committee from Librarian General Pickette.

Compatriots are encouraged to become "Friends of the Library" (FOL) with a \$25.00 donation. Increasing membership in FOL, provides funds for maintaining current services and growth to allow our library to expand its operations and membership services for future years of quality service to the national society. Monies from FOL

membership are distributed to the Library's Endowment Fund and Operating Account. Additional funds from member donations to other Library recognition programs, such as the "Benjamin Franklin Subscribers" for \$300 or more, help fund additional programs.

"Friends of the Library" receive a FOL lapel pin in recognition of their membership.

The 223rd Anniversary of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution

The 10th Annual celebration of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution will be held on March 5, 2016 at 10 a.m. at the Merritt Island Veterans Facility the same location as the previous few years. As we have in the past, we are soliciting participation of any and all Florida Members to either attend the ceremony as part of the public or attend and participate as a Color Guard member. This is a National Color Guard event and can be used towards earning the Silver Color Guard Medal. Note that also an event Steamers will be given to each color guard unit.

For the first time, we will be having a catered lunch for those wishing to join us. The lunch will be at the Veterans Facility's large meeting room. Seating is limited so get your reservation in early - reservation form is at http://www.flssar.org/FLSSAR/Images/LNBAR/LNB_Reservation_Form.pdf. The \$12.00 lunch is catered by Sonny's BBQ and will include: Pulled pork & chicken, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Corn on the cob Lemonade, Ice tea & BBQ sauces.

Last Naval Battle Medal Available



MEDALS ARE \$10.00 each plus \$5.00 Priority Postage, including delivery confirmation. We can send ten (10) medals in one box for \$5.00 Send to Steve Williams, 3403 Caraway St, Cocoa, FL 32926. Make checks payable to Brevard SAR



Last Naval Battle Reservation Form



BREVARD COUNTY'S SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION INVITE YOUR GROUP TO MARCH WITH US AT OUR ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE LAST NAVAL BATTLE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION FOUGHT OFF THE COAST OF CAPE CANAVERAL

March 5, 2016 at 10:00 AM at the Veteran's Memorial Center 400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island

Event will be held inside if it rains

We once again expect a Color Guard of 200+ marchers along a very short parade route - ALL Color Guard units will receive a **FREE 18" LAST NAVAL BATTLE FLAG STREAMER - FREE**. Water will be provided. There will a **"Wreath laying Ceremony"** for any group that wishes to honor our American Heroes - chairs will be setup, but bring your own just in case we run out - **Speeches will be kept short!** **There will be a BBQ lunch after the ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Center - use this form to reserve your place as seating is limited.**

Instructions: To make your group's reservation, **Save** this PDF form to your computer, **open** from your computer, **fill out** the fields, then **Save** and **attach** the file to an e-mail message.

Color Guard reservation:

Our Color Guard unit will be there. Yes No This is how many will be attending in our unit = _____

Wreath presentation:

We will / Won't be laying a wreath to honor our AMERICAN HEROES.

Lunch Reservation: Meal includes: Pulled pork & chicken, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Corn on the cob Lemonade, Ice tea & BBQ sauces.

Number in Party _____ Meal cost (\$12.00 pp) ^{\$ 12.00} Total of check ^{\$ 0.00} _____

Reservations are first-come, first served, and must be received before March 1 2016

Make check payable to 'Brevard SAR'

Name (list group name for wreath and color guard units) - *please print all information*

Contact Name: _____ Phone Number ____ - ____ - ____

E-mail: _____

Please send the above to: Steve Williams 3403 Caraway St Cocoa FL 32926
Email Contact swilliams16@cfl.rr.com - Phone contact 321-632-5663

Richard Q Fowler Publications Contest

All Florida chapters are encouraged to submit your two best issues to the Newsletter & Publications Committee for consideration in this contest. There are three 'flights' for the three chapter sizes: large (>80 members), medium (41 to 80 members), and small (under 40 members) so that smaller chapters aren't competing against large chapters. Editors should select the two best issues that he feels best fulfills the scoring criteria as shown here:

1. Contains: (Chapter, State and/or National activities, a calendar and/or notices of events, membership info, such as welcoming of new, remembering deceased, etc., special observances announced and/or reported, and special stories)
2. Editorial Content: (writing style & content, punctuation, spelling & typo's, helpfulness to readers, general interest of articles, identifiable masthead & SAR logo, and overall quality)
3. Appearance: (general layout, use of photographs, use of art/graphics, typefaces, and neatness).

The top three newsletters in each flight will receive a certificate and cash award at the Spring BOM and Annual Meeting's Awards Banquet.

Patriot Medal Committee

The Patriot Medal is the highest medal a State Society may award a compatriot for long, faithful service. All FLSSAR Compatriots who have been awarded the Patriot Medal are lifetime members of the FLSSAR Board of Management. Only CHAPTER and STATE service to the SAR may be considered. Please note: **Chapter service is equal to State Society service for Patriot Medal consideration.** Please consider the long, faithful Chapter service of your members and submit the Patriot Medal Nomination Form to Randy Moody, 16986 Oakstead Drive, Alva, FL 33920 or email it to sarrevdoc@comcast.net no later than Saturday, February 6, 2016. Be specific about all service, including the years for each type of service as length of faithful service is a major consideration. Only those who qualify and whose service is documented will be awarded the medal.

The SAR Handbook states the qualifications for the Patriot Medal: *The Patriot Medal is awarded only by a state society and may be presented only to an individual. It represents long, faithful and outstanding service at the state and/or chapter level. Service at the national level is not considered in making the award.*

The nomination form is on the NSSAR website under the "Compatriots" tab, click on "NSSAR Forms" and select "Patriot Medal."

Randy Moody,

Chairman

Medals and Award Committee

Two SAR Medals that are awarded from time to time, and require approval of the State Society, are the **SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal and the Silver Good Citizenship Medal.** The Medals and Awards Committee is the designated approval authority on behalf of the State Society. If a chapter makes a request to present one of these medals, it should send along supporting information and the date needed to have the approval. In general these request can be answered within a few days. When you are making out your ETF Reimbursement you will find that the ETF review does check to see proper approval was received. This was brought up in the ETF review session at last BOM. You must have the State approval to gain reimbursement. We continue to honor requests for information concerning medals and awards.

Charles L. Day

Chairman
dmdaycday@aol.com

Silver Roger Sherman Medal

The Silver Roger Sherman Medal is a medal that is awarded to a compatriot in recognition of, and in appreciation of, outstanding services rendered to a State Society. The medal is presented to a compatriot for significant service which lacks the requirements for the Meritorious Service Medal. It should be awarded in place of the Bronze and Silver Good Citizenship Medals, which cannot be awarded for service to the SAR. The recipient must have served as an active officer for a minimum of two years, as an active committee chairman for three years, or as an active member of a committee for four years.

This Medal is named after Roger Sherman (1721-1793), who was a founding father, and the only person to sign all four Congressional papers of the United States: the Continental Association, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.

The medal is antique silver in color and bears on the obverse a portrait of Roger Sherman, with the inscription "Roger Sherman Medal." The reverse of the medal is inscribed "In Appreciation for Service to the SAR." It is suspended from a chest ribbon of blue, white and red.

Upon approval from the FLSSAR, a Compatriot may receive this medal multiple times. A bronze oak leaf cluster may be awarded for an additional two years of active service as an officer, chairman or committee-man. The service is counted cumulatively rather than consecutively, and may not be added concurrently for multiple offices, committee chairmanships, or commit-

tee memberships. Presentation and wear of oak leaf clusters shall follow NSSAR policy.

Winter Board of Management Meeting February 5-6, 2016

The Florida Society Winter BOM will be held at The Florida Hotel and Conference Center on February 5-6, 2016. The Florida Society group rate is \$135 plus taxes. The \$18 per day hotel service charge is included. Further specific details about making reservations at The Florida Hotel may be obtained by visiting the Florida Society webpage at www.flssar.org. On the homepage, click the blue BOM tab located in the upper right side under the banner. To obtain the FLSSAR Group discount, be certain to request the "Florida Sons of the American Revolution," rate or group code "160122FLOR." The banquet meal cost is \$46, inclusive of taxes and gratuity, for Braised Short-ribs of beef, with salad, rolls, mashed potatoes, green beans and carrots. Alternative meal is "Chief's Choice of Vegetarian Entrée." New York style cheese cake with mixed berry compote or sugar-free dessert option is available, along with coffee, tea and water.

In addition to the Regional Vice President's Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting, and the Board of Management Meeting, there will be a meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary, Eagle Scout Committee Meeting and the Rumbaugh Oration Competition. The Florida Society's Rumbaugh finalist will give their oration at the Friday night banquet, and our special guest will be a Thomas Jefferson interpreter, who will discuss "How a Lad Born in Rural Virginia Came to Write the Declaration of Independence." The session on Saturday morning will be devoted to a discussion and answer/questions on completing the entry form for the Americanism Award/President General's Activity Streamer competition.

The Board of Management agenda will include our Florida Society committee reports and it is anticipated that the special ad-hoc committee to study the advisability/feasibility of a Florida Society Executive Director will have a recommendation to present to the BOM.

Chartering Ceremony

On January 9, 2016 at 10:00 AM, the FLSSAR will be chartering a new chapter in The Villages, Florida. This will be the second chapter located in Lake County, Florida. This chartering will be at the Captiva Village Recreation Center, 658 Pinellas Place, The Villages, Florida.



NSSAR President General's Visit Announcement

The Florida Society has just received verification from Compatriot James T. Jones, Jr., Travel Coordinator for PG Thomas E. Lawrence, that PG Lawrence and First Lady Mickey Jo Lawrence will attend the Florida Society May 13 – 15, 2016 BOM and Annual Meeting in Orlando at The Florida Hotel and Conference Center. We have also received confirmation that South Atlantic District Vice President General and Mrs. Edward P. Rigel, Sr. will also attend our May BOM and Annual Meeting.

Compatriots should "save the date," and plan on attending the Florida Society May 13 -15, 2016, BOM and Annual Meeting. Further details will be available in a future issue of *The Florida Patriot*.



NSSAR 126th Annual Congress Boston, MA July 8-13, 2016

Boston takes you to places where history was made! Walk along the iconic Freedom Trail with its nationally significant historic sites and authentic treasures. Visit a unique collection of museums, churches, meeting houses, burying grounds, parks, a ship, and historic markers that tell the story of the American Revolution and beyond. Learn about the brave people who shaped our nation. Discover our rich history as it began in Massachusetts, where every step tells a story.

Want to take a walk through Boston's history? The **red stripe** marking the Freedom Trail stretches for 2.5 miles (4 km) through Boston's most historic neighborhoods, and takes you to 16 sites important to the birth of American liberty. Not surprisingly, the Freedom Trail is Boston's most popular tourist attraction.

Boston has more sites related to the **American Revolution** and America's fight for independence than any other city. Best of all, they're within easy walking distance of each other.

As you walk along the Trail, you'll travel through Historic Downtown Boston, the North End, and Charlestown, from Boston Common to the Charlestown waterfront. What's especially cool is that all these sites are the **real** thing - not re-creations or reproductions. When you visit Paul Revere's house, for example, you go inside his **real** house where he really lived...with his 16 children.

Most Freedom Trail sites such as Boston Common,

Faneuil Hall, the State House, churches, and of course the graveyards still perform their original functions. Others now serve as museums and one anchors a popular shopping and entertainment area.

The hotel is the Westin Copley which is right on Copley Square. For reservations there are several ways to register: (1) You can go to the following web link: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/BookNSSAR2016BOSTON-CONGRESS> or (2) Call the reservations number: 1-866-716-8108, make sure you mention the NSSAR 2016 Boston Congress for the reduced room rate.

The cost is \$199 per night with a 14.45% taxes per night. If you experience any problems with registration please contact the Congress Planning Chair, Paul Callanan (home) 906-273-2424 or (cell) 704-756-0363.

The tentative calendar of events is as follows:

Friday July 8th – Executive Committee Meetings, Genealogy Seminar, Local Tours.

Saturday July 9th – Lexington & Concord Visit, Ladies Hospitality Suite, State Reception.

Sunday July 10th – National Committee Meetings, Memorial Service, Oration Contest.

Monday July 11th – Opening of Congress, Youth Awards Luncheon, NEHGS Reception, Recognition Award Ceremony.

Tuesday July 12th – Sessions of Congress, Ladies Tour & Luncheon, Balloting/Elections, President General's Banquet.

Wednesday July 13th – Conclusion of Congress, Adams State Park Tour, USS Constitution Tour, Local Tours, National Committee Meetings, Installation Banquet.

Thursday July 14th – Local Tours, Visits with the chapters of the Massachusetts Society.

The Many Faces of Benjamin Franklin

By Cameron Ehmig - Dunedin, FL
(2014 State Knight Essay Winner)

“Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing” is a very well known, though unfortunately overused, quote by Benjamin Franklin. However, in all that Franklin did, his life was certainly worth writing. His achievements spanned many fields, from his advances in science to his success as a politician and diplomat and a published author. He was at the core of founding the United States, as he helped draft the Declaration of Independence, negotiated the Treaty of Paris (which thusly ended the Revolutionary War), and in his later years, was a very important delegate to the convention that created the Constitution. Though he had only two years of formal education, Franklin made his way to being one of the most influential and important thinkers of American history.



Born into a family of “modest means”, Franklin only had two years of formal education, but still was an avid reader and educated himself in the arts of writing. He was an apprentice to his older brother at a printing press, and very quickly took to writing for a newspaper published by his brother. When he was just 17, he quit his apprenticeship to work as

a printer in Philadelphia and then London, and then back to Philadelphia to begin his own printing business (Benjamin Franklin). In the 1730s, Franklin published *Poor Richard's Almanack*, and was elected the official printer of Pennsylvania (A&E Television Networks, 2014). Through his popularity as a printer, Franklin became more involved in civic affairs, and established a lending library, the city's first fire company, a police patrol, and the American Philosophical Society; as well as, the Pennsylvania militia, and was key in the creation of the Academy of Philadelphia. He was the first postmaster general of the United States, and held the position from 1775 to 1776, resulting in his face being on the first US postage stamp (Benjamin Franklin).

Benjamin Franklin, the scientist and inventor, as all the more influential to the United States and the world as a whole. In the 1740s, Franklin sought entrepreneurship by inventing the Franklin stove (A&E Television Network, 2014), which was a “wood-burning stove that could be built into fireplaces to maximize heat while minimizing smoke and drafts”. The stove was designed ingeniously and Franklin explained in his promotional pamphlets the complexity and the science of how warm air expands to take up more space than cold, how it is lighter, and how heat radiates whereas smoke is carried only by air (Isaacson, 2004). He became a soldier in the Pennsylvania militia at the age of 42, but then decided to pursue his interests in science, which lead to his more notable scientific experiments with electricity (A&E Television Network, 2014).

In one of his first experiments, Franklin debunked previous notions that electricity only involved two types of fluids, vitreous and resinous, which could be independently created. Franklin discovered that the generation of a positive charge was accompanied by the generation of an equal negative charge; this was thusly called the conservation of charge, and the single-fluid theory of electricity. Harvard professor I. Bernard Cohen proclaimed that, “Franklin's law of conservation of charge must be considered to be one of the same fundamental importance to physical science as Newton's law of conservation of momentum”, which was quite the compliment in the scientific realm (Isaacson, 2004). Then, much later in his scientific career, Franklin proved that lightning is electricity using his famous kite experiment (Benjamin Frank-

lin), which was extremely controversial at the time, garnering several reviews suggesting that his claims about the experiment were a “hoax”, and many religious groups, and the Abbe Nollet suggested that his experiments and the development of a lightning rod was “an offense to God” (Isaacson, 2004). Through the criticism and praise alike, Franklin gained much popularity and was suddenly a famous man, his inventions and theories spreading through every corner of the world, made his name now a household one.

Franklin’s political career is marked by several of the most influential events in the formation of the United States, specifically the documents that bind it. In 1754, Franklin proposed a plan for uniting the colonies under a national congress, which laid the groundwork for the Articles of Confederation, which was the first constitution of the United States when ratified in 1781. In 1776, he was a core member of the five-member committee that helped draft the Declaration of Independence, which was instrumental to the freedom of the American colonies from British rule. Congress sent Franklin, on the same year, to France in hopes of gaining them as an ally (Benjamin Franklin). Franklin wrote to France during this time, and France feared that the Americans would take their independence from Britain without helping the French also, to which Franklin replied with, “No peace is to take place between us and England, till you have concluded yours” (Franklin & Sparks, 1856). In May 1782, Franklin wrote to John Adams about the independence of the United States and France saying, “The ministry have in contemplation the independence to America, on condition of Britain being put again into the state she was left in by peace of 1763, which I suppose means being put again in the possession of the islands which France has taken from her”, which he then remarks that this is “a proposition of selling to us a thing, that was already our own, and making France pay the price they are pleased to ask for it” (Franklin & Sparks, 1856). France’s help was instrumental in the success of the Revolutionary War and thus, in 1783, Franklin helped negotiate and draft the Treaty of Paris, which concluded the 13-year war with Britain (Benjamin Franklin).

Following almost a decade of being in France, Franklin returned to the United States in 1785, which led to his pertinent involvement in the drafting of the United States Constitution (A&E Television Network, 2014). Franklin told his colleagues in the Constitutional Convention that the success of any government rested “on the general Opinion of the Goodness of that Government; as well as, of the Wisdom and Integrity of its Governors”. With this thought of mind, the Congress realized that the public reception of the new Constitution being drafted both at home and abroad likewise would depend on the reputations of the people writing it; Franklin’s reputation was highly positive, “the whole world thought better of him and Washington than of any other Americans” (Morgan, 2003). As a Pennsylvania delegate, Franklin debated a great deal with his colleagues at the



many meetings of the Constitutional Convention, and in the end urged his fellows to support the controversial United States Constitution, which was thusly ratified in 1788, and Washington was inaugurated as president in 1789 (Benjamin Franklin).

One year following these events, in 1790, Franklin passed at the age of 84. Franklin left money in his will to be used in Boston and Philadelphia to establish a trade school and a science museum and fund scholarships. The legacy of Franklin is made obvious by the successes of the United States that he was instrumental in creating. His many other talents as

an author, printer, scientist, and inventor are also still very important to this day, as many technologies influenced by his thinking are important to our daily lives.

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A Thank You to the Support the Troops Efforts

First, I would like to extend my gratitude for all of your support from a retired Command Sergeant Major who served our Nation for over 36 years. I am now the Afghanistan Aviation Program Manager for the Fluor Government Group. Part of my job includes oversight of all the helicopter passenger terminals in Afghanistan. Soldiers often spend many hours in our facilities waiting for flights. Thank you very much for the care packages you send here to Afghanistan for our Soldiers. The Army Post Office (APO) here on Bagram supplies us with boxes not specifically addressed to a service member. We put the contents out for our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Government employees waiting for flights to enjoy. They love the snacks and other items and often comment about the generosity of people back home. Please know we appreciate everything you and all your supporters do to

take care of them and make their tough days here a little better. We know it takes a tremendous amount of time and resources for these boxes to be filled and shipped here to Afghanistan. It is very inspirational and makes our dedication to these warriors all more worthwhile. Rest assured that all the packages we received are put directly in the hands of our deserving service members.

Once again, thank you and all those involved!

Richard D. Stidley
Command Sergeant Major (Retired)
Fluor Aviation Program Manager, Afghanistan

America's Enigma

By Jerad Paparella

By July 4, 1826, Thomas Jefferson had been clinging on to life for days. He was drifting in and out of consciousness for two days, awakening only to ask one question – “Is it the Fourth yet?” And on that day, exactly fifty years after the signing of the most eloquent defense of human rights ever set to paper, the Declaration of Independence, the answer Jefferson received from his grandson was bittersweet “Yes”. With that answer, Jefferson let go, and the life of the most influential and enigmatic of the founding fathers faded away. No less important to note is that John Adams, Jefferson’s obstinate yet enduring friend and fellow compatriot, passed away five hours later.

However, Jefferson’s life did not end that day. Actually, quite the contrary, his legacy is just as strong today as it was on July 4, 1826. Although he was an incredibly well-rounded man with voracious interests including astronomy, botany, architecture, mastering multiple languages and designing his own home, the Monticello in Virginia, Jefferson is best known for his role in the founding of the greatest nation the world has ever seen, the United States of America, and the poignant writing of its Declaration of Independence.

It was, rather unbelievably, a matter of happenstance that Jefferson even got the opportunity to write the Declaration of Independence. He was not selected, originally, as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, but rather as an alternate. Once he got the opportunity to represent Virginia at the Constitutional Convention, he established a reputation through his use of the pen. Keep in mind – the 1700s were a breeding ground for heavy hitters such as George Washington and Patrick Henry in the political arena making it difficult for representatives to make a name for themselves. Jefferson’s oratory skills were “not as riveting” as those of his peers, so he chose to remain in the background and write his thoughts instead of speaking them. This ultimately played out in his favor, as he was chosen as one of the five men to go off and write this historic document, along with John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Robert Livingston. John Adams was originally selected to be the author of the Declaration of Independence. However, Adams

saw himself as an unpopular man, unfit to write such an important document. His words were something to the effect of “I am obnoxious and disliked. It can’t come from me. However, you are not obnoxious or disliked – you are such a great writer, you should be the one that goes off and writes the draft.”

Over the next 18 days, Jefferson writes, revises, and re-writes the Declaration of Independence. The document combines the wisdom of the enlightenment with the rhetorical skills he honed as a lawyer. When he was satisfied with his writing, he presented his draft to the Continental Congress. Although the Continental Congress made no less than 86 changes to Jefferson’s original draft, much of its notorious introduction remained entirely unchanged, much to Jefferson’s delight.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain, inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

That section is likely remembered because it’s so poetically articulates basic human rights in a way that has never been done before, or since. Jefferson had been flirting with the idea that “all men are created equal” – an abstract idea at the time – since childhood, when he personally witnessed unjust acts against a black childhood companion. This idea was further articulated by him when he was a young lawyer, defending Samuel Howell, a mixed-race man who wanted his freedom. Jefferson was willing to take on the case and publicly defended Howell pro bono. His argument for the case started with the words “All men are born free. Everyone comes into the world with a right to his own person and using it at his own will”. This was the first time Jefferson essentially wrote the words “all men are created equal”.



When the opposing counsel stood to present their case, the court instructed them to sit down because it would be unnecessary. Jefferson lost the case, but this served as a prequel to the Declaration of Independence, radical ideas in the 1700s.

Along with that idea of equality, Thomas Jefferson is forever ingrained in American Society. From Mount Rushmore to the nickel, the Louisiana Purchase to the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson is just as important and relevant today as he was in the distant yesterday. John Adams once referred to Jefferson as a “shadow man,” “whose character was like the great rivers – whose bottoms we cannot see and make no noise.” Thomas Jefferson was radical man in a radical time. He was, and always will be remembered as a great enigma. Jefferson used the right words at the right time. He is American scripture. If Jefferson were here today, he would probably say – well, nothing, since he was terrified of public speaking. However, he would undoubtedly write our way of our nation’s most pressing issues, just as he did, so eloquently, 237 years ago.

Foundation offers new **SAR** pin to members

How often have we been asked who we are? Now, we can show our friends. "We are SAR!"

The SAR Foundation has adopted a new campaign to support the National Society's initiative to help BRAND SAR. The Foundation is offering a new SAR lapel pin for members. With this new tool to promote SAR, chapter members will be more visible, which makes it easier to promote SAR and build membership. And, the pin can be presented to new members. Simply stated, each chapter member deserves one of these pins.

Why give? Many members believe that after the old Headquarters building was sold and staff moved to the new building that the new Headquarters building was complete. But, it is not complete, there is much that remains to be done to complete the three-level building. Staff occupies about one-half of the top floor. The main level has been cleaned out, has modern, new restrooms, solid floors covered with wooden underlayment, temporary paint on the walls, and some lights, but it is far from being complete. And the lower level, the location of the Education Center, lacks even

more to be complete. We are required to have a new elevator, light fixtures, an updated electrical system and a complete refurbishment before the facility is complete and widely usable. It is our Headquarters, so your gift at this time will go a long way towards completing the building.

Our goal is participation from 500 chapters before the 2016 Congress in Boston.



How the campaign will work. Your participation is important. All State SAR Society Presidents are requested to encourage each of their Chapters to consider making a group donation to the SAR Foundation in the amount of \$10 for each member. If there are 15 members, the donation would be \$150; 100 members, the donation would be \$1,000. The Foundation will return a SAR lapel pin to be distributed to each member. The advantage of a group donation, with one Chapter check, is that donations are maximized while shipping expenses are minimized.

How to give - we need your help. Please discuss your Chapter's plan for participation and send a donation soon. We look forward to announcing your Chapter's participation at the 2016 Spring Leadership.

Please send your SAR Chapter Check to:

SAR Foundation, 809 West Main Street, Louisville, KY 40202-2619

Want more information? Please contact SARF Board Member Rick Hollis at tnssar@bellsouth.net or 615.812.2648. Your support of this project and participation will make a difference! Thank you!



Enthusied by the prospect of touring a completed Headquarters Building in Louisville, JL Brown (right) of the Rome, Georgia SAR Chapter presents Chapter Treasurer Dick Richter (left) a \$10 donation for a SAR Foundation Lapel Pin.

Chapter News

Brevard Chapter

The chapter's color guard recently participated in the Veteran's Day Massing of the Colors at the Cocoa Campus of the Eastern Florida State College. Then on December 12th, the color guard participated in the Wreaths across America campaign.

At the October chapter meeting, Ben Brotemarkle gave a presentation on Brevard County Florida History with emphasis on the inhabitants in the era before Europeans settled Florida. Then at the November meeting, Tim Olson was the speaker who spoke on the Honor Flights of Brevard County. While at the December meeting, the chapter members came together for the chapter's annual Christmas Party gathering. At present, the chapter's membership is at 113 members with also two associate members.



Caloosa Chapter



The Caloosa Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution and its Light Horse Harry Lee Camp participated in the Wreaths Across America program held on Saturday, December 12, 2015 at Tarpon Point in Cape Coral. This particular event was held to particularly honor military veterans who were lost or buried at sea.

Wreaths were presented honoring veterans of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, and POW/MIA. Wreaths were escorted to Tarpon Point by Cape Coral Police and Fire units accompanied by Patriot Guard Riders. Numerous veteran and patriotic organizations participated at Tarpon Point.

Colors were posted, followed by the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance. Cape Coral Mayor

Marni Sawicki offered welcoming remarks and read a proclamation from the City of Cape Coral.

Flanked by Compatriots Elliott, McGuire, and Moody, Compatriot Elam related the story of the Last Naval Battle in which Capt. John Barry and the *USS Alliance* was engaged by the British including the *HMS Sybil* of the Coast of Canaveral FL. In this battle, 40 British sailors were killed and another 40 wounded, while one American was killed and several were wounded – the last casualties of the Revolution.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, the wreaths were presented to representatives of each service and were escorted to a vessel which brought them to a designated location in the Gulf of Mexico. Other vessels and aircraft escorted to flotilla to the final location where they were placed into the Gulf.

In addition to Light Horse Harry Lee Camp members, Caloosa Vice-President Russ Radcliffe and Ladies Auxiliary member / Lawrence Kearny DAR



Chapter Regent Anne McGuire all helped to make this another successful event for the Caloosa Chapter.

Central Florida Chapter

Paramedic Chad Guest of Osceola County Fire Rescue was awarded the SAR medal for heroism on November 16th by Compatriot Dan Dall, chairman and Burt Fairchild Assistant Chairman of the Central Florida Chapter Public Service Awards committee. Guest's rapid and professional action at the scene of a horrific multi-vehicle traffic accident helped save the lives of several involved.

The award was presented at the Osceola Fire Rescue headquarters where Dan and Burt were received royally. The gesture on the part of the Central Florida chapter



was very much appreciated by all in attendance. Pictured above are from left to right: Burt Fairchild, Paramedic Chad Guest, Dan Dall and Chief Robert L Sorenson.

December was a very busy month for our Central Florida Chapter's Public Service Award committee. Compatriots Dan Dall and Burt Fairchild presided over 10 medal presentations in four different department locations.

On December 2nd, Dan presented 5 Heroism medals at the Orlando Police Department's award ceremony to Officers Joseph Capece, Russell Sayer, Michael Turner, Kevin Geschke and Christopher Valenti. Their quick action saved multiple lives that were threatened by a large house fire.

On December 8th, Burt presented a Heroism Medal to Corporal Tim Nazzaro whose actions saved a



Following the British surrender at Yorktown in 2006, I ended nearly 25 years of traveling and selling my wares. Since that time my focus has been to make clothing items on demand for both re-enactors and museums. Whether I was The Little Village Tailors, Heritage Clothiers or now, I wish to create for you, impeccable, historical clothing to fit the 20th century physique. Please explore my web site at www.just2tailors.com and see what I have to offer YOU.

CALLING HOURS: 9am - 7pm EST, but I prefer e-mails so that I can keep sewing.

5elves@bellsouth.net





Above: Sheriff Demmings, Corporal Nazzaro and Burt Fairchild: Orange County



Left: Sheriff Esslinger, Deputy Seal and Dan Dall: Seminole County Sheriff's Office

child who was near death from being locked in a hot car. The Law Enforcement Medal was awarded to Deputy First Class Antwan Daniels whose actions prevented the death of a dog locked inside a hot vehicle and on a separate occasion, Deputy Daniels apprehended a kidnapping, burglary and carjacking suspect after a short vehicle pursuit. Both award recipients are members of the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

Again, on December 8th, Dan presented the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal at the Seminole County Sheriff's Office to Deputy Zachary Seal for his long and dedicated service to the department in a variety of assignments.

On December 9th, Dan presented the Fire Safety Commendation medal to Assistant Fire Chief Scott Workman for his many years of distinguished service with the Orange County Fire Rescue and the Emergency Service Commendation medal to Captain Scott Turner for his numerous contributions of long standing with the same department.

In all presentation ceremonies, Dan and Burt were welcomed enthusiastically and treated royally. The awards were very much appreciated by all recipients, their peers, superiors and subordinates alike.

These important ceremonies serve not only to thank those in public service and recognize those who have gone above and beyond the call but just as importantly, help to build a solid relationship between the SAR and every public service department involved. As this program continues, I see incontrovertible evidence of such a relationship growing ever stronger with each passing year.



Recently Dr. Benjamin Franklin as re-enacted by Com-patriot Don Green appeared before the Sallie Harrison Chapter of the DAR at Heathrow on September 11th; Lake Brantley High School students in Altamonte Springs on Constitution Day, September 17th; and Indian Trails Middle School students in Winter Springs on 17 November 17th. Pictured above is Com-patriot Don Green appearing as Dr. Benjamin Franklin at Indian Trails Middle School. Also pictured above is his presentation at Lake Brantley High School.

Clearwater Chapter

Eagle Scout Christopher Scott Anderson son of Scot and Alisa Anderson of Port Richey, 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 Gary Coil presented the certificate at Riley's Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony on October 11th at Crews Lake Park in Spring Hill. Asbury United Methodist Church in New Port Richey is the sponsor for Boy Scout Troop 60. Chris joined the Boy Scouts in 2009. He earned 37 merit badges and



participated in many local troop camping trips and other outdoor activities. Riley has held several troop leadership positions, including that of Senior Patrol Leader. His Eagle Scout leadership service project involved planning, organizing and constructing a covered picnic table at the reflection pond, as well as a covered bench and display board at Crew's Lake. Christopher, age 18, is a senior at Five A High School in Hudson, Fl. He is a member of the Band and Jazz Band,



and has a culinary interest. He won People's Choice Award in the 2014 Cinderella Cook Off. There are 325 requirements to the path to Eagle Scout. Of every 100 boys who join scouting, fewer than five will attain the rank of Eagle Scout.

Eagle Scout David Torgerson, son of David and Paula Torgerson of New Port Richey 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. Presenting the award was Compatriot Dr. Robert Cundiff, Vice President of the Clearwater Chapter. David is an Honor Roll student, a junior



at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School. He is a member of Troup 77, Trinity Presbyterian Church of Seven Springs, New Port Richey. There are 325 requirements to the path of Eagle Scout. Of every 100 boys who join scouting, fewer than five will attain the rank of Eagle Scout.

Eagle Scout Logan Molteni (pictured left), son of Sherry and David Wofford of Tarpon Springs was presented with an Eagle Scout Certificate of Recog-

nition 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. Presenting the award was Compatriot James Phillips, President of the Clearwater Chapter. Logan is a senior at East Lake High School where he played 2 years of varsity football. After graduation he would like to pursue a career in Aerospace engineering. He is a member of Troop 85 in Palm Harbor. There are 325 requirements to the path of Eagle Scout. Of every 100 boys who join scouting, fewer than five will attain the rank of Eagle Scout.

Flagler Chapter

Roger Casey Kelly became a member of the Flagler Chapter SAR on March 21, 2013. While attending Stetson University, he became a member of Mission of Hope to Cameroon, a non-profit organization with a goal of providing assistance to the West African nation of Cameroon. Cameroon is considered to be a 3rd world



nation of 3-4 million people. Medical clinics in rural areas are unsanitary and lack sufficient supplies, funding and medical personnel. During the 2014 school year, Compatriot Kelly was part of a 5 man medical assistance team led by Dr. George Besong, MD and traveled

to Cameroon to gain first-hand knowledge on medical conditions in villages outside the major population areas.

During the early summer of 2016, Compatriot Kelly will participate in a second trip to Cameroon again focusing on the rural villages. Specifically, emphasis will be in three main areas: acquiring a potable water supply, providing minor surgical procedures at the clinics and presenting instruction on preventative healthcare.

Compatriot Kelly, an outstanding student, graduated from Flagler Palm Coast High School in 2010 and Stetson University in 2014 with a major in Health Science and a minor in English. At Stetson, he was a tutor in Anatomy/Physiology and News Editor of the "Stetson Reporter", supervising four staff writers. After graduation, while building his savings account, he attended Daytona State College, completed the EMT program, and became a state certified and licensed EMT. During the 2014-15 school year, he taught English at Deland High School.

Compatriot Kelly has been accepted and will be starting medical school this Fall at the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dothan AL, Class of 2019. He plans to practice medicine at a trauma center in a large metro hospital in Florida. (Submitted by Compatriot David Kelsey)

Memorial Tribute to 29 Revolutionary War Patriots



Photo Caption: Compatriot David Kelsey spreads "Sacred Georgia Soil" on William Scott's grave flanked by Georgia Color Guard Compatriots Sheppard Hammack (L) and Michael Watkins (R), as Marshes of Glynn Vice President Steve Ford salutes.

A tribute to 29 Revolutionary War soldiers was held at St. Mary's, GA on September 12th, 2015. A memorial service honoring the Patriots was held at Waterfront Park, on the banks of the St. Mary's River, overlooking the Florida/Georgia border. At the conclusion of the service, most of the 400 attendees joined a colorful procession to the historic Oak Grove Cemetery located across the street. The procession was led by President General Lindsey Brock, Secretary General Mike Tomme, VP General Ed Rigel, the SAR Color Guard, approximately 40 descendants of the honored Patriots, members and leaders of many patriotic groups and local townspeople.

Ten of the Revolutionary War soldiers are in marked graves, while the others lie unmarked under the stately live oak trees. A plaque naming all 29 Revolutionary War Patriots buried at the cemetery was dedicated. At the 10 marked grave sites, a special ceremony was led by members of the sponsoring Marshes of Glynn SAR Chapter and area DAR Chapters accompanied by the SAR Color Guard. A special Revolutionary War foot stone, a Betsy Ross flag and flag holder, and a rose were placed at each grave. As a dual member of the Marshes of Glynn Chapter, I was afforded the honor of spreading the "Sacred Georgia Soil" on the grave of William Scott (1754-1816), Captain, GA Continental Line reciting:

"This sample of Georgia soils was collected from 28 battle sites in Georgia at which American soldiers were wounded or died during the American Revolution. There are no stronger ties among men than those between veterans of war. In memory of William Scott we place these sacred soils of Georgia and the American Revolution at his memorial marker, that the spirit of one who served his country will always be remembered."

Eight of the William Scott descendants were in attendance and all were quite moved by the ceremony. The Scott descendants remained at the grave site after the ceremony as most did not know or were aware of each other and their relationship prior to the dedication.

In 1779 Captain Scott was captured at Fort Morris and imprisoned at nearby Sunbury for the duration of the war. During the War of 1812, he had been promoted to Lt. Colonel and was in command of the militia of the Southeast Georgia counties and eventually drove the British from the St. Mary's River. (Submitted by Compatriot David Kelsey)



Photo caption: From Left to Right: SAR Chapter 1st Vice President David Hammond, SAR Chapter President Randall Morris presenting Certificates of Appreciation to Hershel Gober, Ted Listing, Ray Mercer and Edward Beirer.

On Tuesday, November 10, 2015, at the Flagler County Public Library in Palm Coast, the Flagler Chapter of the SAR and the Friends of the Library held a joint meeting, "Salute to Veterans", honoring all veterans of the armed forces of the United States.

Several veterans were featured speakers at the event. Edward Beirer (CMSgt, US Air Force and US Navy) gave a stirring overview of the wars of the twentieth century from World War I thru Afghanistan. Ray Mercer (Pvt, US Army, Silver Star, Bronze Star) spoke about his personal combat experiences in Germany in WWII. Ted Listing (SP3, US Army, Korea) gave a very interesting summary of his time as an escort for USO entertainers in war torn Korea. Randall Morris (SP6 US Army, Vietnam, Bronze Star) told about his friend, Jonathan Nathaniel Spicer (PFC, US Marine Corps, Vietnam, Navy Cross) who was killed-in-action on 8 March 1968 at Khe Sanh, South Vietnam. And, the Honorable Hershel Gober (MAJ, US Army, Vietnam, Bronze Star, Purple Heart) spoke about post Vietnam operations to include MIA recovery efforts by the United States while he was serving as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs during the Clinton Administration.

Jacksonville Chapter

The Jacksonville Chapter's new year began in August with a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Mandarin Community Center, with assistance from members of the Princess Malee Chapter, CAR, and local Boy Scouts.

In September, the Color Guard participated in the DAR Regents Council Constitution Week Luncheon, and assisted the GA Society in a dedication ceremony at the Oak Grove Cemetery in St Mary's, GA.

October saw the dedication of a Memorial Marker in honor of Jean Ribault. The chapter Color Guard participated, with assistance from members of the GA Society. The Color Guard also presented the colors for an induction ceremony of the National Honor Society at the Greenwood School.

In November, the chapter participated in the Jacksonville Veterans Day Parade, with seven members in colonial uniform. Also, on Veterans Day, chapter members assisted the GA Society in a Patriots Marker Dedication Ceremony on Amelia Island. Other events in November included a History of the Stars and Stripes program at the Lighthouse Christian School and a presentation at the Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society.

At the November chapter meeting, we presented Public Service awards to:

Law Enforcement Medal – Trooper Charlton Kelly, Troop G Florida Highway Patrol.

Law Enforcement Medal – Deputy Clifton “Doc” McDonald, Nassau County Sheriff's Office.

Law Enforcement Medal – Officer Isaiah Fields, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

Law Enforcement Medal – Detective Gary Lavaron, Clay County Sheriff's Office.

Fire Safety Commendation Medal – Lt James Allen Mallard, Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department.

EMS Commendation Medal – Lt James Polkey, Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department.

We also presented flags to 6 families receiving homes from Habitat For Humanity in Duval and Clay counties.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
& HAPPY NEW YEAR
2015**



Saramana Chapter

In December 2014, our Saramana Operating Budget Trust Fund entered into an agreement with the Community Foundation of Sarasota County. Our Trust Fund Assets are now part of the Community Foundation of Sarasota Counties Corporate Endowment Pool.

As we were completing this transfer, we were informed of their “Giving Partner Program”. After many months of completing input about the Saramana SAR Chapter into their database, we were finally accepted. Only 501(c)(3) public charities that have demonstrated transparency with a published and current profile in The Giving Partner, www.thegivingpartner.org, were eligible to participate in the 2015 Giving Challenge.

Why did the Saramana SAR Chapter decide to get involved with the 2015 Giving Challenge? As a way to raise funds to help your Chapter increase our Scholarships both now and in the future. The major Scholarships that your Chapter supports are the Rumbaugh Orations Contest, Knight Essay Contest, Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest, and the Enhanced JROTC Scholarship Program. These four programs are also the four main Scholarships of the National Society and the Florida SAR.

If you check the Sarasota County Schools website or the Manatee Education Foundation you will see that most college scholarships are based on things such as Grade Point Average, where the student is going to college, what the student plans to study in college, financial need, are they male or female high school students, are they on the golf team, etc. The SAR requires our scholarship contestants to actually do something – like give an oration or write an essay.

The 2015 Giving Challenge consumed a lot of time and energy from your Chapter Members. We spent over 25 hours attending meetings at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County. The time spent completing the Giving Partner profile was over 120 hours. Meetings to arrive at a plan for trying to get donations was probably close to 12 hours. We held a special Board of Governors meeting to discuss the Giving Challenge. The time spent writing the email and Facebook messages took many hours. The time spent sending out emails, more hours. We had some members calling other members to remind them of the Giving Challenge and asking for donations. There were the hours spent writing and mailing individual thank you letters to everyone that donated. I would estimate that the time requires to keep our Giving Challenge Profile up to date for 2016 at a minimum of 5 hours per month.

Starting September 1st at noon and running until noon on September 2nd, your Chapter was involved with its first ever Giving Challenge. This was the fourth year of the Giving Challenge and Local Nonprofits received 36,417 gifts totaling \$6,674,614.10.

The organization receiving the most gifts was Honor Sanctuary, Inc. d/b/a Honor Animal Rescue with 1,083. The organization that raised the most money was Saint Stephen's Episcopal School with \$78,703. There was one organization that had 1 gift for \$25.

How did our Saramana SAR Chapter do for our first Giving Challenge?

YOU WERE GREAT, FABULOUS, AND OUTSTANDING.

Our preliminary Saramana Numbers for the 2015 Giving Challenge are:

Total Amount Donated		\$4,690.00	
Total Number of Donations		48	
Average Donation		\$97.71	
Number of Donations \$250 or greater	12		25%
Number of Donations \$100 up to \$249	4		8%
Number of Donations \$50 up to \$99	19		40%
Number of Donations \$25 up to \$49	13		27%
Officers Donating	8 of 8		100%
Governors Donating	6 of 8		75%
Past Living Presidents Donating	3 of 7		43%
Saramana SAR Chapter Members Donating		35	
Other SAR Members Donating		1	
Saramana wives/girlfriends/family members Donating		6	
Known DAR Members Donating (not included above)		3	
Unsolicited General Public		2	

This year, The Patterson Foundation incentivized donations from new donors – individuals who did not donate to a particular organization during the 2014 Giving Challenge. This opportunity encourages organizations to engage new online donors during this year's event. The Patterson Foundation provided support with a 1:1 match for each new online donor's contributions – up to \$250 per donor, per organization.

After all is finalized, our Saramana SAR Chapter received \$9,130.49 to help increase our Scholarships both now and in the future. Personally, this is more than I had imagined, and I am very grateful to all who helped us. A special thank you for assisting in this effort goes to Buddy Turman and Steve Fields

October Luncheon: On Friday, October 16th Saramana SAR Chapter hosted 40 members and guests at their monthly luncheon held at the Sara Bay Country Club, Sarasota. In addition to the rituals of the colors be-

ing posted by the Color Guard, the attendees pledged allegiance, reaffirmed their faith in the principles of liberty, and recited the American's Creed. Following the introduction of guests and governing members of the chapter, three new members were inducted into membership. They were Harry Warren Spear, Dale Pat Boling, and Robert James Armstrong Irwin.

The program for the day was entitled "*If You Were a Colonist: The Period Leading Up to the Revolution.*" Presenters were the husband and wife team of Ren and Muriel Cushing. The Cushings have an impressive history of service to various ancestry lineage organizations including National Society Sons of the American Revolution, Saramana SAR Chapter, Charlotte SAR Chapter (FL), Huguenot Society and the Mayflower Society.

The presentation painted a picture of life in the American Colonies that was rough, rustic, crude, complex that was set in a wilderness. The Colonists were risk takers who were willing to start a new life in a hostile environment. They were, by and large, not afraid to act and were very independent. Independent minded both economically and for personal freedoms.

In 1754 for example, nearly 2.5 million people were living in the colonies and the numbers were growing at a rate of 30- 40% every decade. However, a great many of the colonists did not associate with England because their mother country was somewhere else in Europe. Thus there was a sizeable population with very little understanding or allegiance to the King of England. Additionally, the Englanders in the colonies had long felt England was treating them harshly; neglecting their needs; and ignoring their call for the colonists to have certain rights and liberties. The conclusion of this writer was these things contributed greatly to facilitating the seeds of a rebellion.

November Luncheon: On November 11, 2015 Saramana SAR Chapter members and color guard participated and marched in the annual Veterans Day Parade held in downtown Sarasota. The Color Guard unit was dressed in their colonial uniforms and presented the colors prior to the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance.

Would the following please come forward to the front of the podium: Dan Kennedy for Michael Joseph Kennedy, Joseph Russell McSpadden, and William Walter Edgeworth.

On Friday, November 20th Saramana SAR Chapter hosted 38 members and guests at their monthly luncheon held at the Sara Bay Country Club, Sarasota. **The primary purpose of the meeting was to have fun!** But, some business was also conducted which included inducting new members and recognizing the work of volunteer compatriots during the last year. Following the introduction of guests and governing members of the chapter, three new members were inducted into membership. They were Michael Joseph Kennedy, Joseph Russell McSpadden, and William Walter Edgeworth. In addition, Scott George McMurry received his Certificate for his Supplemental Lineage Application. There was a short education session

on filing supplemental applications and wearing a Supplemental Star for each new Supplemental Membership.

The Nominating Committee presented a proposed slate of Officers and Governors for 2016 which the members voted on. This slate includes:

Richard Kenneth Mahaffey	President
Steven Ray "Steve" Fields	Vice President
William Waters Edgeworth	Secretary
S. Preston Adams	Treasurer
Kenneth Lee Aubrey	Registrar-Genealogist
Charles William Riegle	Historian
Douglas Everett "Doug" Erb	Sergeant at Arms
Reverend John H. Hartley	Chaplain

Board of Governors 2016: Please remember that Governors are elected for staggered two-year terms. Governors whose terms will end on 12/31/2016 include and were elected last year include: Terry William Schaefer, Daniel Floyd "Dan" Kennedy, Thomas LaFayette "Tom" Thompson, and S. Preston Adams III. New Governor, whose term will end on 12/31/2016 include: Vernon Theodore "Ted" Hornback. Ted will be replacing Governor S. Preston Adams III. New Governor's, whose terms will end on 12/31/2017 include: Harry Edward Cruncleton, Jr., Charles Sherman "Chuck" Reeves, and Lloyd Alan "Buddy" Turman.

After the Election of Officers for 2016, President McMurry was assisted in the presentation and reading of citations by Compatriot/Past President Harold Crapo. The following Chapter Members were recognized for their service to the Chapter. Ken Aubrey, Chuck Barrett, Burt Corbus, Peter Douglas, Steve Fields, Ted Hornback, Dan Kennedy, Dick Mahaffey, Joe Rhein, Charles Riegle, Chuck Sweeney, Tom Thompson, and Buddy Turman.

Finally, the Saramana Chapter was the recipient of the *Robert B. Vance Award* for the best Chapter website (Vic McMurry webmaster) and the NSSAR President's initiative for the Patriot Ancestor Biography (Steve Fields, Coordinator)..

St. Lucie River Chapter

The St. Lucie River Chapter, SAR, had the honor to participate in several events on Veteran's Day, November 11th. Stuart held its annual Veteran's Day Parade down Ocean Avenue to Memorial Park. The Grand Marshal was Douglass Stewart, USA (Ret.), a current Palm City resident who served as a First Lieutenant during World War II in campaigns throughout France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany. His company landed on Omaha Beach in Normandy on July 3, 1944.

After the parade, a ceremony was held at Memorial Park. The Guest Speaker was SSGT Brian Mast, USA (Ret.). SSGT Mast served over 12 years in the Army, including operations in Afghanistan, where SSGT Mast suffered catastrophic injuries which resulted in the loss of both legs. SSGT Brian Mast received numerous medals for Valor, Merit, and Sacrifice to include the Bronze Star, the Army Commendation Medal, the Purple Heart, and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Chapter compatriots present for the parade were Chuck Berger, John Auld, John Sheppard, and Hall Riediger who marched in the parade, as well as Bill Hammond.

Port St. Lucie held a Veteran's Day Service at Veterans Memorial Park in Port St. Lucie. The annual event included a welcome address by mayor Greg Oravec, a speech from Lieutenant Colonel Alberto Nevarez, a rifle salute from the Jack Ivy Detachment 666, Marine Corps League, and JROTC groups from Treasure Coast High School (Air Force), St. Lucie West Centennial High School (Navy), and Port St. Lucie High School (Army). Compatriot Jack Irvin was the Officer of the Day and arranged for the JROTC units to carry our Colors. Other attendees were Jay Wise and spouse Lindy, Chuck McKinley, and Joe Regan.

Finally, Jetsons held a Veteran's Day event at their store in Ft. Pierce. "The purpose of our event is to honor veterans, to inform veterans about programs available to assist them and for everyone to come out and have a good time," said Susan Harris, community liaison for Jetson's TV & Appliances. Veterans enjoyed



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>.

free food and live music. Compatriots Jay Wise and spouse Lindy, Jack Irvin, Chris Wade, and Carl Wade with his spouse Judy attended.

At our November meeting, we were proud to welcome Jim Alderman, a transfer from the Brevard Chapter. Jim's Patriot is David Alderman, a soldier of the North Carolina militia. Additionally, Compatriots Steven, Ayden, Devon, and Logan Jordan were introduced by compatriot John Sheppard. Steven and his three sons Ayden, Devon, and Logan were all pinned by wife and mother Cheryl.

The St. Lucie River Chapter also had the honor to present the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to two deserving parties at the meeting. The first Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was presented to Lloyd Lasenby, moderator of the Indian River Wood Carvers Club of Vero Beach. This organization carves and presents canes to recipients of the Purple Heart, including service members from World War II to the present day. They have carved and presented more than 150 canes so far. The next presentation of these canes will be at the Seal Museum in Fort Pierce on January 6th. Lloyd announced that compatriot Jim Pippin, who recently joined our chapter, will be awarded a cane at that time. Compatriots Jack Irvin and Chuck McKinley participated in this award. Lloyd's wife Marlene was in attendance. The second Bronze Good Citizenship Medal was awarded to Joshua Alexander for his military service including two tours in the Iraq War. Hall Riediger presented the award and held a question and answer session with Joshua concerning his military experiences for the benefit of those in attendance. Joshua was accompanied by his son Jason and daughter Megan.

Compatriot Jack Irvin of the Veterans Committee presented the War Service Medal with Vietnam, Korean, and Purple Heart Drapes to compatriot Jim Pippin. Jim is the first in our chapter who received a Purple Heart, and we thanked him for service. Compatriot Jack Irvin, assisted by Chuck McKinley, called up Lloyd Lasenby, as apparently Jack, Lloyd, and Jim served in the same Airborne Unit during the Vietnam era.

St. Petersburg Chapter



St. Petersburg Chapter SAR Registrar Will Scott (L) and Immediate Past President, current Chaplain John Stewart (R) participated in the VA Bay Pines Medical Center, St. Petersburg, Veterans Day memorial ceremony in November.



St. Petersburg Chapter Compatriot Evan Soileau was the guest speaker at the Memorial Park Cemetery Veterans' Day commemoration Service. Compatriot Soileau is one of our chapter's most recent inductees, and is descended from the family of our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln.

The commemoration was held in the main Chapel at Memorial Park Cemetery and was attended by active duty and retired veterans, their loved ones, and members of the community. SAR Chapter President Charles Butler attended as did Caravel Chapter DAR daughter Linda Soileau, and her father Frank, Evan's grandfather.

Following the solemn chapel commemoration ceremony, the attendees accompanied a traditional horse



drawn caisson and bagpiper as they proceeded through the cemetery to the veterans flag memorial. The flag-draped, empty coffin on the caisson symbolized

the sacrifices made by all of America's veterans.

Memorial Park Cemetery hosts a large and well attended Memorial Day commemoration every year, and has recently added a Veterans Day Service to its community outreach program. Following the Veterans Day commemoration, attendees were treated to an All American cookout lunch.

Community Service Director Dr. Tom Tufts officiated at the event; Dr. Tufts was the guest speaker at the St. Petersburg Chapter's October meeting on the topic of veterans benefits and honors accorded to deceased veterans.

Tampa Chapter



Highway Patrol Corporal James Covert, Hillsborough

The Tampa Chapter held its annual Law Enforcement/Fire Fighter recognition meeting in November as part of its annual Joint Meeting with the Fort Brooke Society of C.A.R. Pictured to the left are this year's three honorees, (l-r) Florida

County Sheriff's Deputy Stephanie Krager and Tampa Fire and Rescue Fire Fighter Greg Stanley.

Corporal Covert was presented the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and Certificate for twenty years of dedicated service in the FHP and especially his actions in September 2015 in preventing a potential suicide by a young woman at the top of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge, putting himself at risk in the process.

Deputy Krager was presented the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and Certificate for her service within the HCSO as the coordinator of its Crisis Intervention Team and Homeless Initiative Program. These programs have resulted in the reduction of use of force by HCSO deputies, individuals getting appropriate medical treatment instead of jail-time, locating permanent housing for the homeless and reuniting families.

Fire Fighter Stanley was presented the SAR Fire Safety Commendation Medal and Certificate for his twenty years of service to the Tampa Fire and Rescue where he has always demonstrated an outstanding work ethic and unwavering positive attitude toward his fellow fire fighters, while maintaining an active and committed family life. Dennis Jones, current Hillsborough County Fire Rescue Fire Chief and former Tampa Fire and Rescue Chief was also on hand to add his accolades to Greg's dedicated service to his community.

Withlachochee Chapter



Withlacochee Welcomes Florida Society SAR President: The October general meeting of the Withlacochee Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution was highlighted by the attendance of FLSSAR President Larry Fehrenbaker. Fehrenbaker spoke at length regarding the major changes being made at the National Society level to update operations of the national organization into the age of digital communications. In addition, he reviewed the progress being made at the New Louisville, KY SAR National Society Headquarters offices, and the Genealogical Library Center. He made 10-Year Membership Certificate presentations to Compatriots Harley Nelson and William Teater; to Compatriot Ken Dunn, the Meritorious Service Medal award; and to Compatriot Jack Townsend, the SAR National Certificate recognizing him as a Member of the Military Service Veterans Corps. The Chapter also recognized the presence of Jeanne Fehrenbaker, President of

the FLSSAR Ladies Auxiliary. In the photo above, Larry Fehrenbaker stands at the center with compatriots attending the meeting.

In October, at State Session, we had three compatriots and two Ladies Auxiliary present. We took advantage of the training sessions offered. We felt a lot was accomplished and much information was passed. November has kept us busy with our Veterans activities. We recently had our color guard *Present Colors* at the Ft. Cooper DAR meeting honoring veterans. The Chapter had a great turn out for the *Massing of Colors* and a dozen compatriots taking part in our annual *Veterans Parade*. During the parade many copies of the Constitution and Bill of Rights were passed out to youngsters along the parade route. Veterans Day we also provided *Color Guard for Wreath Laying* at Inverness County Hall war memorial to honor Vietnam Veterans. In December we are going to have a Chapter gathering at Citrus Springs Library to *dedicate a revolutionary book* to honor a former Chapter member, Richard Osborn. We will also have our Color Guard lead the opening of the local *Wreaths Across America* ceremonies and we will have a great Chapter get together for our *Christmas Party* for our adopted "Veterans Without Families". It is held at the State Baldomero Lopez Veterans Home. We have recently received 4 new Chapter members and we are looking forward to many positive things in 2016.

On December 12th, The 10th Annual Wreaths Across America was held at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushell, Florida. Our Master of Ceremonies noted that there were 900,000 Wreaths laid today at our National Cemetery's and 12,000 of them laid here today at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell Florida. Posting and Retirement of Colors was done by a Joint Service Color Guard and the Withlacochee Chapter of The Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard. Posting was



right and left of center speaker area. Like previous years there was a big demand for the SAR color Guard to stand for about 40 minutes to allow a requesting public to take pictures and ask questions before

the program started. I think it is safe to say that over 200 different people took pictures. There was also many request made to allow children to come and stand with us for picture taking. Many large contingents of youth were included in today's program. The program Missions, Remember, Honor and Teach were mentioned often throughout the program. It was a day of clear weather, sunshine, a few puffy clouds and large crowds of citizens gathered to honor our fallen veterans. Pictured above of the members that served as color guards at this event were LR Larry Sturgeon - Withlacochee Commander, Leonard Crawford, Charlie Day, and Mark Idle.

FLORIDA SOCIETY
 SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
REGISTRATION FORM

Winter BOM February 5 - 6, 2016

The Florida Hotel, 1500 SAND LAKE ROAD, ORLANDO, FL 32809



Name: _____

Chapter: _____ Date _____

National Number _____ (six digit #) Phone No: _____

E-mail Address for confirmation reply _____ @ _____

Guest(s) Name(s) (list all): _____

BOM Voting Authority (Article II, Section I, FLSSAR Bylaws :

- | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| FLSSAR Officer | <input type="radio"/> | Incumbent/Past NSSAR Officer | <input type="radio"/> | Chapter - President | <input type="radio"/> |
| FLSSAR Committee Chair | <input type="radio"/> | Patriot Medal | <input type="radio"/> | Chapter Past President | <input type="radio"/> |
| Past FLSSAR President | <input type="radio"/> | FL National Trustee | <input type="radio"/> | Delegate* | <input type="radio"/> |

** Delegate names must be submitted to FLSSAR Secretary prior to BOM*

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

I have and will use my own Name Tag

Events	Entrees	Price	Total # of Member & Guests Entrees		Amount
October 24 th – Saturday	<i>Short ribs of beef</i>	\$ 46.00			\$ 0.00
	With mashed potatoes, green beans and carrots				
	SELECT ONE	Dessert– NY cheesecake w/ mixed berry compote	NC	Total # of desserts	
	No-Sugar Dessert	NC	Total # of desserts		NC
	Registration Fee – SAR Members	\$ 20.00	1		\$ 20.00
	BOM Proceedings - Draft hard copy	\$ 2.50			\$ 0.00
Total due					\$ 20.00

The alternate Meal selection is a Chef's Choice VEGETARIAN ENTREE

The above meals include: Beverage, Salad, and Rolls.

Add Names of all who select Vegetarian meal

When you arrive, please **check in** at the Registration table to **SIGN UP FOR A TABLE.**

MEAL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE January 30, 2016

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.



Save to your PC, Fill it out, Save, Then print & Mail or E-mail as attachment to addresses below
 Please indicate on your meal reservation form any special dietary requirements.

Send your check (payable to "Treasurer FLSSAR") to:

FLSSAR Meetings Arrangements Committee

% Steve Williams
 3403 Caraway St
 Cocoa, FL 32926

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

More Pictures from 2016 Fall BOM Meeting





The Florida Patriot

3403 Caraway St., Cocoa, FL 32926

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALL SERVICE GRAPHICS



FLSSAR Fall BOM Meeting

The Florida Hotel & Convention Center

February 5 - 6, 2016

(Room Rate = \$135 per night RSVP by 1/15/2016)

800-588-4656 (Group Code: 160122FLOR)

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.