



The Florida Patriot

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

Volume XLVI, No. 1.

Spring 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

The *Florida Patriot* is the official magazine of the Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution (FLSSAR). It is published quarterly. The subscription to this magazine is part of the Florida Society SAR dues. Products and services advertised do not carry the FLSSAR nor the NSSAR endorsement. The Florida Society reserves the right to reject content of any copy.

Florida Patriot Staff

Jeff Sizemore, Editor

Steve Williams, Circulations Manager

Winter 2016 Board of Management Meeting



Florida Society Officers

2015-2016

Society President	Lawrence Fehrenbaker
Senior Vice President	Ray Wess
Secretary	Hal Riediger
Treasurer	Richard Young
Exec. Comm. Mbr-At-Large	Rev. Randy Moody
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RVP NC Region	Scott Bushnell
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RVP SE Region	Joseph Mark Motes
RPV SW Region	Lee William Matson
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Chaplain	Richard Hagerman
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Editor	Jeffrey Sizemore
Sgt. At Arms	Robert J. Folks
Webmaster	Scott Bushnell
National Trustee	Steve Williams
Alternate National Trustee	Lawrence Fehrenbaker
Appointed Parliamentarian	Rev. Randy Moody

Submission Deadline Dates

Summer 2016 Issue	June 30, 2016
Fall 2016 Issue	August 1, 2016
Winter 2017 Issue	November 25, 2016

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*Florida Ladies'
Auxiliary Officers,
2014 - 2015*

President	Jeanne Fehrenbaker
2nd VP	Joy Sizemore
Registrar	Mary Ann Chorney
Secretary	Naomi Wess
Historian	Dianna Lantz
Treasurer	Marjorie Ramseur
Chaplain	Doris Bridges

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 this issue of *The Florida Patriot* is being compiled and formatted for publication, the Spring February 25 – 28, 2016 Leadership/Trustee Meetings will have concluded. During the Leadership/Trustee Meetings there will have been important discussions about the future direction that our National Society will take in fulfilling the mission of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Our National Trustee, Compatriot Steve Williams attended the Leadership/Trustee Meetings. It is possible that there will be continued discussions concerning the future course that our Society takes and that a suggested course of action will be decided by the Delegates to our 126th Congress in Boston, MA in July 2016. During the Winter Board of Management Meeting on Saturday, February 6, 2016, compatriots were able to express their views about the future course that our National Society takes in fulfilling our mission. Some compatriots questioned why the Florida Society did not propose a resolution which would have expressed the majority opinion of the BOM. The Florida Governing Documents specifically states that no Resolution which purports to commit the FLSSAR to a position, cause, or course of action may be considered and approved by the BOM prior to presentation thereof at an Annual Meeting (ARTICLE VIII - MISCELLANEOUS, Section 1 - Resolutions). The mechanism for the Florida Society to propose resolutions is unnecessarily cumbersome and in reality defeats the purpose of constructing resolutions. I have asked our Chancellor, Compatriot Carl K. Hoffmann (PG 1997-1998) to review our current governing documents as they relate to "Resolutions," and report his recommendations to the Documents Committee.

The framework of National Society policies is made by the NSSAR Executive Committee and other NSSAR Committees as directed by the President General. Policies may then be brought before the National Trustees for discussion and approval if requested. Some policies are made by Executive Directives. The National Society's policy pertaining to the refund of registration fees in the event of an illness has been a topic of discussion by many Florida Society Compatriots. It was proposed at the Winter February 2016 BOM, that the Florida Society propose a new "refund policy," for the National Society to adapt. It is not the purview of the Florida Society to propose new policies per se to the National Society. However it is appropriate for individuals or a society to initiate a dialogue concerning National Society policies through motions at a Trustee meeting or through a National Committee. As a member of the Medical Advisory Committee, I made a motion whereby the Medical Advisory Committee would be available to the President General or his designate to advise if certain illnesses were indicative of a registration refund, beyond that which is currently stated. This motion was approved by the Medical Advisory Committee and subsequently was forwarded by the President General to the Congress Planning Committee for further consideration.

As stated previously in this publication, PG Thomas Lawrence and First Lady Mickey Jo, in addition to South Atlantic Vice President General Edward P. Rigel, Sr. MD and his Lady Joan will be our guests for the Spring May 13 – 15, 2016 BOM/Annual Meetings. Reservations at The Florida Hotel and Conference Center are now available by accessing the BOM tab, on the FLSSAR.org homepage. Compatriots are reminded to access the Florida Society's homepage at FLSSAR.org to obtain the most current and accurate information, *rather than using a search engine.*

Additional highlights of the Spring BOM/Annual Meetings will be the Annual Youth Awards Luncheon. The meetings have been moved a week later in May this year to avoid the conflict with the SAT

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.

examinations that are given the first weekend in May. The State awards for the Knight Essay Contest, the Enhanced JROTC Awards, and the Eagle Scout Awards program winners will be announced during the luncheon. It is anticipated that PG Lawrence will be the guest speaker during the program. Finalists for the Americanism Elementary School Poster and Brochure Contest will be announced also. Prior to the Spring Issue of *The Florida Patriot* being published, The Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution Commemorative Event will have taken place at the Veteran's Memorial Center on Merritt Island, Florida, March 5, 2016 and the 239th Anniversary for the Battle of Thomas Creek will have been held at Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park, Jacksonville, Florida on March 19, 2016. On May 7, 2016, the Pensacola Chapter, Florida Society SAR, will dedicate the Minuteman Statue at Veteran's Memorial Park, in Pensacola, Florida. For additional updated information, compatriots are directed to www.pensacolasar.org. Florida Society compatriots and members of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade Color Guard are encouraged to attend this all important event in support of our Pensacola Compatriots.

As we transition into a new format for our winter meeting next February with our Rumbaugh Oration Contest and George Washington Luncheon, selected committee meetings and a meeting of the ExCom, I again urge all regions of the Florida Society to seriously consider the merits of continuing with the concept of regional meetings, whereby Florida Society Leadership can meet with the regional chapters in a more relaxed informal atmosphere for selected training sessions and interaction among fellow compatriots.

It has been a privilege and an extremely rewarding experience to have been chosen as your president this 2015-2016 term. My wife, Jeanne and I have been welcomed by many of you on your "home-turf," and sincerely thank each of you for your many and valued contributions to the Florida Society and in furthering the principles and goals of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

In gratitude and patriotism for all that you do,

Lawrence G. Fehrenbacher Sr., MD

Florida Society President 2015-2016

The Ladies Auxiliary GRAPEVINE

Why become an auxiliary member? Since the organization of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Florida Sons of the American Revolution in 1999, wives and family members of the Florida compatriots have joined for many reasons. The Auxiliary's support of the SAR Youth Contests started in the early years. Baskets at the BOM's have been a continuing way of raising money for youth awards. We also join for the fellowship and friendship at the meetings at the state and national levels. One of our long standing auxiliary projects has been the "Support Our Troops". Items and food of all types have been collected and sent overseas. The "Lady Vets" were recipients of clothing collections and other items of need in early years. We assist the men in their patriotic endeavors by our members participating in parades, commemorative historical events and decorating graves. These are just a few of the reasons we support the Florida Society SAR. One of our members, Doris Bridges said, 'I enjoy it and you will too.'

At the 2016 Winter Board of Management Auxiliary meeting we welcomed Billie Brock who spoke to us about her travels as First Lady with President General Linsey Brock's during his term of office. They had been to numerous State meetings, Commemorative Events and made several trips to Europe. The evening banquet featured the Rumbaugh Oration Contest winner, Talia Fradkin, who was awarded \$150 by the Auxiliary for First Place. Talia will be the Society's contest representative at Congress in Boston. Our baskets donated for auction totaled 14 and all had fun during the raffle.

The Annual Meeting will be held from May 13 - 15, 2016. President General Thomas Lawrence and First Lady Mickey Jo will be joining us for the meeting. Special events are being planned for the ladies and we will be giving support to

Mickey Jo's project of helping women who have bravely served in our Armed Forces. Hope to see you at the BOM and don't forget to bring baskets and items for the "Support Our Troops" project.

Jeanne Fehrenbaker,

LAFLSSAR President

BOM Minutes

Florida SAR Winter 2016 Board of Management (BOM) Meeting Minutes of 5 & 6 February 2016 as recorded and prepared by Compatriot Charles T. Sweeney. The BOM was held at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando, Florida, with President Lawrence Gene Fehrenbaker, Sr., MD, Presiding

3:00 PM

Executive Committee members present included President Lawrence Gene Fehrenbaker, Sr.; Raymond Francis Wess; Hermann Hall Riediger; Walter Richard Young, Sr.; and Steven Allen Williams. Randy Dwight Moody was absent due to a Church obligation.

Special guests included Secretary General J. Michael Tomme; President General Lindsey Brock (2014-2015); President General Carl Hoffmann (1997-1998).

President Fehrenbaker called the meeting to order. After the invocation, pledges to country and SAR, and Certification of a Quorum by Secretary Hall, President Fehrenbaker called attention to newly attending BOM Compatriots by asking them to introduce themselves and to state what chapter they belonged. Then President Fehrenbaker stated the rules for conducting business at the BOM: (1) You must be recognized by the chair prior to addressing the floor. (2) When you address the floor, state your name, speak clearly and limit your talk to three minutes. (3) After everyone else has had a chance to address the assembly, a Compatriot may speak again for another three minutes. Compatriot Steven Williams appointed acting Parliamentarian.

Approval of the Minutes for the Fall 2015 BOM, October 23 & 24, included three corrections. First, on page 5 of the Proceedings, Orlando, Florida, February 5 & 6, 2016, at the fourth line from the bottom, the sentence thereon should read: "Thus, the nomination of Michael Edwin Garey, current President of the Naples Chapter, was presented to the BOM for election." Second, on page 6 at the fifth line, change the sentence thereon to read: "As stated in Section 2 and 3 of the South Atlantic Bylaws, Article VI, the nomination of a candidate for Vice President General shall be conducted on an annual rotating basis between the State Societies of the District." Third, on page 7 at the fourth line from the bottom delete the acronym "SAR".

Reports of National and State Officers. President Feherbaker reinforced the SAR policy on cash awards of \$600 or more given to recipients of our various youth programs. The policy stipulates that Form 1099-MISC should be issued to all contest winners of \$600 or more, and that the winners complete and sign a Form W-9. Further, President Feherbaker addressed his attendance at the South Atlantic District Meeting on 15 January 2016. He reported that the Florida SAR did hold an election at the Fall 2015 BOM for the nomination of the fol-

low-on Vice President General. He indicated that pursuant to Florida SAR Bylaws David Ramseur was our nominee. After that compliance, President Larry Feherbaker was nominated from the floor. An election was held between David Ramseur and Larry Feherbaker. President Feherbaker was elected as the South Atlantic District nominee for Vice President General and will be the nominee for that office at the 126th National SAR Congress in Boston.

The Senior Vice President, ExComm Member-at-Large and Regional Vice Presidents' reports were given in order and as provided in the Proceedings. A special update was given on the health of Southeast Regional Vice President Joseph M. Motes, who has since come out of the hospital and continues his recovery at home.

Secretary Hall reported the year-end strength for the Florida Society was 1984. For accounting purposes toward an on-board strength for the awarding of the Patriot Medal, the Florida Society has 2059. This gives the Florida SAR the possibility of awarding five Patriot Medals this year. During the Treasurer's report, Secretary Hall asked Treasurer Dick Young what was the disposition of the F4F Moneys, to which Compatriot Young indicated the funds were deposited into the money market account.

All subsequent reports, except those identified below, were consistent with that which was reported in the Proceedings.

Executive Committee. During the Executive Committee meeting two proposals were discussed and recommended for presentation before the BOM for approval. Thus, (1) **Motion Offered** by Senior Vice President Ray Wess to add a \$10.00 processing fee to all future Florida SAR applications including Regular Memberships, Family Group Individual Membership, Under 25, Junior Memberships, Memorial Memberships, CAR Conversions Memberships, and all Supplemental Applications. **Motion—Passed.** Date of commencement was determined by the Florida SAR Board of Management to be April 5, 2016. (2) **Motion Offered** by Senior Vice President Ray Wess to grant travel expenses reimbursement to each annual Florida SAR Rumbaugh Oration contestant in the maximum amount of \$60.00 when proper and acceptable receipts are presented to the Florida SAR Treasurer within ten days after the completion of the contest. Reimbursement will be made for actual receipted expenditures for road tolls and gasoline for travel to and from the contest at the rate of \$.55 per mile as well as for breakfast and lunch for only on the day of the contest. Information and coordination of reimbursement shall be made by the Florida SAR Rumbaugh Oration Committee Chairman or his designee to the contestant prior to the Florida SAR annual Competition.

Nominating Committee Chairman Donald B. Cahill reported that due to the illness of Joseph M. Motes, William Lee Popham of Miami Chapter is nominated for the position of Southeast Regional Vice President.

Documents Committee— Motion Offered by Senior Vice President Ray Wess to suspend Bylaw Article VIII, with special emphasis on Section 3, which addressed in subparagraph A (1) the text of any proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Documents Committee by November 1st, so that the committee shall make its recommendations to the BOM at the regular BOM meeting closest to, but not after, the date 60 days prior to the Annual meeting. A standing vote was taken, with 28 for the motion, 8 against the motion, and no abstentions. **Motion—Passed.**

Membership Promotion and Retention Committee—

Chairman Chuck Sweeney noted the report submitted for the Proceedings was not published properly, but had been unintentionally broken apart with segment of the report duplicated and/or located on different pages. Having discovered this and after conferring with President Fehrenbaker, Chairman Sweeney printed 45 copies of his report and distributed them to attending Compatriots at the BOM. The chief message of the report was that there was malaise among us. There are "those who neither contribute nor fail to understand the Florida SAR is failing." To correct this situation so we "Don't let the Florida SAR die" six strategies were listed in the report. The most important one listed was "Avoid attempting to do everything. The Florida SAR has too many committees and too many committee members who do not participate effectively and serve no purpose other than to place too much pressure on chapters to do what isn't supportable in their geographical area...."

The Winter 2016 BOM meeting recessed at 4:37 PM. It will reconvene at 9:30 AM, 6 February 2016.

9:30 AM, Saturday, 6 February 2016 the Winter BOM reconvened, with a Motion Offered by President Lawrence Feherbaker, in the interest to end this session by 11:00 AM, to limit subsequent motions to five minutes and follow-on debate on the motion by Compatriots to two minutes. **Motion—Passed.**

Documents Committee Continued—Senior Vice President Ray Wess addressed the BOB about a proposed Charter change submitted by Treasurer Dick Young prior to 1 November 2015. The proposal is to be published in the Patriot and subsequently submitted to the BOM for approval. The proposal relates to an update of the member section of the Finance Committee Charter.

George S. and Stella Knight Essay Contest—Committee Chairman John Stewart updated his report to indicate 103 essays were submitted this year. This amount is up from 66.

Florida SAR Trust Funds—consists of the Florida SAR Endowment Trust Fund and the Operating Budget Trust Fund. The current Trustees of these funds are Compatriots Mike Garey, David Kelsey, and Dick Young. Ray Lantz is not a Trustee. He approves the amounts on the checks that are written by the Endowment Trust Fund Disbursements Officer David Kelsey. Further, David is the Chairman of the Operating Budget Trust Fund. The Chairman of the Endowment Trust Fund is Compatriot Mike Garey. He is also the Managing Director of the two Trust Funds that the Florida SAR has. A smooth transition from Compatriot Ted Duay who served and managed the Florida SAR Trust Funds for 10 years has been accomplished.

Regarding Medical Emergency Reimbursement Issue—Motion amended by Carl Hoffmann; namely, Larry Fehrenbaker authorized the rewrite of the motion under discussion so as to craft a uniform reimbursement policy of registration SAR fees for medical emergencies. (Carl also recommitted that a letter be sent to Mike Tomme explaining the issue and our suggested solution. The matter also must be addressed/coordinated with the Executive Committee.) **Motion—Passed.**

Regarding Solid Light Interpretive Plan—Past President General Carl Hoffmann moved that FLSAR Trustees be instructed to table moving forward with any action on the museum until the National Congress. **Motion—Passed**

Respectfully submitted

Charles T. Sweeney, Recording Secretary

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 & typos, 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.



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/Book/NSSAR2016BOSTONCONGRESS> 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.

Annual Meeting Motions

The following motions will be voted on at the upcoming Annual Meeting that will be held in May. Please familiarize yourself with them.

MOTION: Bylaw change

FLSSAR Governing Documents (revised May 2015)

ARTICLE III OFFICERS

Section 2 - Nomination and Election of Officers

Part B. Qualifications of Nominees (page 16)

Part B. Qualifications of Nominees

The Nominating Committee, or FLSSAR member who makes a nomination for an elective office of the FLSSAR, shall have ascertained before making a nomination that the

person to be nominated is a member in good standing and has stated in writing that he is willing to serve in that office. Furthermore, each nominee, for the office of President and Senior Vice President, shall indicate their willingness and advise the Nominating Committee of any hindrance that might prevent them from attending all BOM meetings during the term of their elected office and to physically reside in the State of Florida for no less than six months during each year the office is held. (strike - In order to be eligible for the office of President or Senior Vice President, the compatriot must have completed at least one term or year in an elective office of the FLSSAR or as Florida's National Trustee prior to assuming the office of President or Senior Vice President.)

MOTION: Standing Rule Amendment

FLSSAR Governing Documents (revised May 2015)

Volume 2 Standing Rules

RULE 100 – MEMBERSHIP

Chapter Dual Membership Request – Two Chapter Inside Florida

The FLSSAR does not have an official form that is used for the chapter level dual membership inside Florida. The request is made in the form of a letter/memo to the secondary chapter. Dual membership is encouraged, for it provides a member with great fellowship with additional members in the FLSSAR. (strike - However, the Dual member inside Florida is not a full member of that chapter and may not hold office or vote on matters affecting the chapter in which he holds a Dual membership.)

MOTION: Statutory Committee Charter Amendment

FLSSAR Committee Charters

Finance

MEMBERS: A Chairman who shall be the Treasurer of the Florida Society (strike – and two other members,) (add – and at least two and no more than four) other members, who shall be appointed by the President of the Florida Society for terms concurrent with that of the appointing officer.



Tough Talk for Turbulent Times

The charge given by Lake-Sumter Chapter President Ralph Nelson at the Chartering Ceremony for The Villages Chapter on January 9, 2016

What is it about our nation's spirit that touches people's hearts?

Let's listen to the words that powered the American Revolution and shaped the Bill of Rights.

It is the summer of 1776. General Washington calls an assembly of his troops to hear the Declaration that

"We hold these truths to be self-evident,

that all men are created equal,

that they are endowed by their Creator with certain

unalienable Rights,

that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

We are **soldiers**, lined up on a chilly December evening in 1776 near the Delaware River. Our captain has called us into ranks to hear "The Crisis", the latest writing of Thomas Paine. It starts with these fiery words -- (quote)

"These are the times that try men's souls.

The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis,

shrink from the service of their country;

but he that stands by it now

deserves the love and thanks of man and woman....

Britain, with an army to enforce her tyranny,

*has declared that she has a **right** (not only to **tax**)*

but 'to bind us in all cases whatsoever'

*and if being bound in that manner is not **slavery**,*

then there is not such a thing as slavery upon earth. " (end quote)

The Villages has 120,000 residents, **many** of whom are retired and interested in both their family's history and the future well-being of their grandchildren. The **value** of the SAR and the DAR is that we help link people to their Revolutionary-era ancestors. We provide education about the foundations of liberty to the citizens who maintain and **guard** liberty for future generations.

The stories we tell are **authentic** and fascinating; the citizens we honor are **inspirational**; and our youth are **eager to learn** about liberty, and even about responsibility.

At the end of the Revolution the U.S. gained independence from Great Britain, but neither the Declaration of Independence nor the Peace Treaty secured individual liberties for the citizens. **So**, a national committee wrote the U.S. Constitution. While this **promised** (quote)

"to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure

domestic tranquility,

provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare,

and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and

our posterity" (end quote),

it was **mostly** a prescription for the structure and tasks of a federal government.

It took public pressure to force the **first** U.S. Congress -- as its **first** order of business -- to protect individual liberties by passing the Bill of Rights, whose **first** provision is that (quote)

*"Congress shall make **no law** respecting*

an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;

or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press;

or the right of the people peaceably to assemble,

and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." (end quote)

This is basically a commitment to **respect** every person's liberty to hold a different political or religious opinion than the majority without fear of prosecution.

The welcoming poem on the Statue of Liberty refers to the "huddled masses yearning to breathe free". For two centuries oppressed residents of other nations have held up United States as a shining light to shame their governments. That is because of the Bill of Rights.

Although we value the Pentagon as a **necessary** institution to preserve our existence, it is the Marshall Plan, Hollywood movies, the Peace Corps, communications satellites, and the Internet that make us the envy of the world, because they exemplify liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Many residents of The Villages have acquired specialized knowledge, broad experience in many parts of the world, and strong speaking or writing skills. One goal for The Villages Chapter SAR could be to develop a **speakers bureau** that would be a popular resource for SAR and DAR chapters in northern Florida.

The Florida Society and the National Society SAR each publish a magazine and have a website -- additional outlets for creative talent. These magazines welcome thoughtful commentaries on the origins of individual liberty and on modern-day struggles to obtain and to maintain that liberty. I have written and spoken on liberty and even developed a several-hundred-page national website called "The **Real** Story of the American Revolution". **You can do it**, too, and you may even do it **better!**

People, even children -- maybe **especially** children -- understand liberty. They also understand the **opposite** of liberty, which is **slavery** -- when someone **else** controls your freedom to act or to think. We are fortunate to live in a land where **we elect** those who tax us. We don't need to resort to Patrick Henry's pre-war declaration, (quote)

"Our brethren are already in the field!

Why stand we here idle?

*What is it that gentlemen **wish**?*

*What would they **have**?*

Is life so dear, or peace so sweet,

*as to be purchased at the price of **chains and slavery**?*

Forbid it, Almighty God!

*I know **not** what course **others** may take;*

*but as for me, **give me liberty or give me death!**"* (end quote)

That war is over -- and won, -- and we can now use ballots rather than bullets to remove any rascals from our governing chambers.

There is, however, the "death by a thousand cuts" of creeping bureaucracy. Restraining government over-reach by voting out incumbent representatives is like changing the oil in your car -- a **necessary** task if you want it to run well. But there is a problem with political parties. George Washington warned the nation in his farewell address in 1796, (quote)

*"The alternate domination of **one faction** over another, sharpened by the spirit of **revenge**, natural to party dissension, which in different ages and countries has perpetrated the most **horrid** enormities, is **itself** a frightful despotism.*

*"But **this** leads at length to a more formal and permanent despotism.*

*The disorders and miseries which result **gradually** incline the minds of men*

*to seek security and repose in the absolute power of an individual; and sooner or later the chief of some prevailing faction, more able or more **fortunate** than his competitors, turns this disposition to the purposes of **his own** elevation, on the ruins of public liberty. ...*

*the common and continual mischiefs of the spirit of **party** are sufficient to make it the **interest and duty** of a wise people to discourage and restrain it." (end quote)*

But the residents of The Villages likely won't hear **any** of this tough talk for turbulent times unless the SAR and DAR Chapters in The Villages tell them. Our organizations are the **hereditary stewards** of the liberties secured through the American Revolution. So, I challenge the members of our new chapter to bring the **excitement** of historic events to life for your fellow residents, who **really do** want to learn what makes the United States such a respected nation. Help them find constructive ways to **participate** in choosing leaders and to **bravely volunteer** to help run the community. **Give awards** to boost the morale of good civic leaders and to publicize their talents to the community. Support the men and women in emergency response and military units who keep **us** safe at increased risk to **their own** lives.

Lastly, ask the Lord regularly for forgiveness and for strength. We are both naughty and finite, and we need to remind ourselves of this **continually** if we are to have the **humility** and the **perseverance** required to maintain liberty throughout the land.

With Deepest Sympathy



It is with deep regret that the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution inform you of the passing of Sheila Shaughnessy, the wife of Past Society President Steve Williams. She was also active in our Ladies Auxiliary in the past and was a member of the Sara Desoto DAR Chapter.

Her memorial service was held on January 30, 2016 at the Merritt Island Veterans Center.

The Villages SAR Chapter Chartering Ceremony

On January 9, 2016, the chartering ceremony was held at the Captiva Village Recreation Center located in The Villages, Florida. DAR members from the area were in attendance; as well as, Florida Society SAR officers and SAR members from the Lake-Sumter Chapter. Included herein are some of the pictures taken at this event.



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 tnsar@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.



COLOR GUARD: Florida Commander Charlie Day; Vice Commander Hall Riediger; Color Guardsmen (**Brevard**) Phil Wright, Ben DuBose Norm Desmarais, Bob Humker, Billy Peters; (**Caloosa**) Ed Buff, Bob McGuire, Russ Radcliffe, Lewis Elliott; (**Jacksonville**) David Ramseur, Chuck



Farmer, President General Lindsey Brock, Dick Cardell; (**Palm Beach**) Ben Tidwell; (**St Lucie River**) Jim Pippin, Joe Regan, Jim Alderman, Carl Wade, Chuck McKinley, Jay Wise, Jack Irvin; (**The Villages**) Ron

Toops; (**Withlacoochee**) Bob Folk, Mark Idle, Larry Sturgeon; VPG Ed Rigel (GASSAR); Secretary General J Michael Tomme (GASSAR & FLSSAR-dual member).

2016 Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution Ceremony

Marchers, and Wreaths, and Speaker (Oh, MY!)

On March 5th last, the 10th annual celebration of The Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution took place at the Veterans Center on Merritt Island. The weather cooperated by being cool (mid-70's) and only slightly breezy. The year's event was hampered



by new construction at the facility for its \$1.5 million museum expansion which took half of the parking area that we had normally used creating a Color Guard flow problem and public viewing problem. With the help of the Center's facility's manager these issues were resolved such that we were able

to provide an enjoyable experience for everyone. This year our program speaker was Captain John Sager from the Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU) at Port Canaveral. His presentation covered Captain John Barry and his career, the naval battle, and what that naval battle meant for the fledgling country and its survival.

The success of this year's celebration is entirely due to the following Compatriots who provided Color Guard support and by providing additional support the day of the event:

Additional Support: Ray Norman for coordinating support with the Veterans Center, Carroll Lord for luncheon and financial help, and Sam Ashdown for photographic help - all from the Brevard Chapter. Besides taking part in the Color Guard, Ben DuBose, Phil Wright, and Brevard President Bob Humker worked with the Color Guard assistance, and flag and wreath set-up/coordination.

As we have done in the past, we had 21 wreaths presented by S.A.R. chapters, D.A.R. chapters, individuals, and other organizations. Other groups participating in the short 'march' were D.A.R. chapters: Commodore John Barry, Abigail Wright Chamberlin, Philip Perry, Cape Canaveral, Lawrence Kearney, Col William Candler; David McCambell Sea Cadets (Melbourne); American Legion Post 117, Capt J J Dickinson Camp 1387 SCV; Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS).

For the first time, there was a luncheon after the ceremony at the Veterans Center catered by Sonny's BBQ. It is anticipated that this will be a repeating activity on Saturday. Many other Revolutionary War battle site commemorations have this type of post-ceremony event. It provides an opportunity for fellowship and conversation by those attending.

Next year the new museum building will be in use and providing an even better experience for visitors to take in all manner of exhibits and artifacts from our military's history. That celebration will be on **March 4, 2017**. So add this date to your calendar.

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR !



Light Horse Harry Lee Camp Marches in Edison Parade

The Caloosa Chapter *General Light Horse Harry Lee Camp #15* participated in the 78th Edison Festival of Lights Grand Parade in Fort Myers, Florida. The parade is part of a festival which pays tribute to Thomas Alva Edison who made Fort Myers his winter residence beginning in 1885. This year the parade included 30 floats, 18 marching bands, 200 units in the parade, 5,000 people taking part in the parade, and an estimated 200,000 people who attended and watched along the route. The parade began at the staging area at Fort Myers High School and continued about two miles, snaking through historic downtown Fort Myers.

Members of the Caloosa Color Guard begin forming up at the high school, with a briefing from color guard commander Rev. Dr. Randy Moody discussing plans with Chapter President Dr. Russ Radcliffe, Chapter Treasurer Mike Buff, member Lewis Elliott, and Chapter Vice-president/Registrar Bob McGuire. Compatriot Earl Kennedy brought his grandson, Junior Member Compatriot Joe Kennedy to the assembly area. The Caloosa Chapter has three generations of Kennedy's as members – Earl Wayne Kennedy II, middle generation, had a schedule conflict preventing his participation in the parade.

General in Chief George Washington and his friend and loyal supporter LTC Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee were happy to join in the pageantry of the Edison Festival of Lights held just two days before Washington's Birthday on February 22nd. In 1778 Lee was given command of a mixed corps of cavalry and infantry known as Lee's Legion. The unit became one of the best known in the Continental Army and in 1781 was assigned for service to General Nathaniel Greene for service in the southern theater. Light Horse Harry Lee was also the father of Confederate General Robert E. Lee. The Caloosa Chapter, located in Lee County Florida, is named in honor of Light Horse Harry Lee.

In addition to the National Colors, the color guard marched with the Gadsden Battle Flag and the First Naval Jack along with the Caloosa Chapter SAR flag. In the age-old traditions of the Army, there was some "hurry up and wait" as we had started to assemble about 5 PM (street closings dictated this) and the parade start time was at 7 PM. This allowed for a multitude of photos which were taken by Caloosa Chapter Ladies Auxiliary member / Lawrence Kearny DAR Chapter Regent Anne McGuire. In this shot, she captured Musketeer Lewis Elliot, Flag Bearer Robert McGuire, and Flag Bearer Rev. Dwight Elam. Junior member Compatriot Joe Kennedy was joined by Junior

member Compatriot Daniel Woods in carrying the Caloosa Chapter banner.

Following us, along with a multitude of bands and floats, was the famous Budweiser Clydesdale wagon. From past experience I can attest that it is much better to have the Clydesdales behind than in front. Anne & Donna served as our advance party, hiking the parade route ahead of us to be strategically located for taking later photos.

And then we were finally at the end, going to "Present Arms" as we passed the reviewing stand. Having marched by hundreds of thousands of enthusiastic and cheering crowds, clapping, waving, and whistling, we were welcomed by a contingent of volunteers handing out ice water which was very much appreciated.

Good Citizenship Certificates

In case you or your chapter is not aware of this, the FLSSAR Good Citizenship Committee has a supply of free Good Citizenship Certificates for awarding to 5th and 6th grade students. The Good Citizenship Committee Charter states in part that: (1) To encourage all chapters to participate by presenting Good Citizenship Certificates to 5th and 5th grade students in the public schools in their area as nominated by the school. The 5th grade is generally in the elementary school while the 5th grade is generally in the middle school, (2) To encourage the chapters to establish and to maintain good working relationships with the local school authorities. Chapters should establish contact with the superintendent's office, the principal of the individual schools and, through the principal, the classroom teacher. Proper utilization of the chain of command is important to the success of this program, (3) To work with the chapters to ensure that one student in each 5th and 5th grade section in the respective schools is nominated to receive the Good Citizenship Certificate in recognition of his/her demonstrated outstanding leadership, honor, service, patriotism and courage. Students may be nominated by the classroom teacher and/or the student's peers. The school's principal should approve all nominations before submission to the chapter, (4) To encourage the chapters to ensure that the Good Citizenship Certificates are presented by a chapter officer or member during the school's annual awards ceremony, and (5) To encourage the chapters to utilize various media outlets to publicize the presentation of Good Citizenship Certificates.

Chapters that do not have "Good Citizenship Certificates," should contact the committees chairman Joe Motes at joemotes@aol.com and request a supply of certificates.

Chapter News

Aaron Snowden Chapter



Latest activities for our chapter have moving it in the right direction. We have had two new members approved and inducted into our chapter, Jim Lingo and Doug Fortune.

Pictured herein, from L to R, is Ned France, long time member and 1st Vice President, Jim Lingo, Doug Fortune, and Lonnie Jones, register. Lonnie has worked long and hard to get new members approved, and has one more prospective member whose application is at national, awaiting approval. Chapter had 15 of 20 regular members renewed for 2016, considering any effect of increased dues, having replaced with three new members. Aaron Snowden Chapter participated in ceremony at Veterans Park with SAR wreath presented and rising of flag over Aaron Snowden grave site. Chapter also participated in a local Genealogy/ History Fair at library with chapter booth and SAR material available. This led to numerous contacts and potential for new members, which we are pursuing.

Caloosa Chapter

At the December chapter meeting at the Pincher's Restaurant in Ft. Myers, Florida, a slate of new chapter officers were elected by acclamation, which consisted of, but not limited to: Russ Radcliffe as Chapter President, Bob McGuire as Chapter Vice President & Registrar, Mike Buff as Chapter Treasurer, and Carl Sutphin as Chapter Secretary. The Bronze Roger Sherman Medal was awarded to Compatriots Albert Myers, Harold Theiss, Robert McGuire, and Russell Radcliffe, while the Lydia Darraugh Medal was awarded to Anne McGuire.

It is with deep regret that the chapter announces the passing of Chapter member Thomas Wainwright Miller who departed this life on 1/3/2016. He served on various local boards and retired from the Lee County Mosquito Control District. His patriot ancestor was Private David Lawrence Adams.

At the January meeting, all of the new chapter officers were installed by FLSSAR President Larry Fehrenbaker. Outgoing Chapter President Matson conveyed upon John Jones the Chapter Meritorious Service Award. Then newly elected Chapter President Radcliffe conveyed upon Compatriot Matson the coveted Past-President Award for his three years as Caloosa Chapter President.

At the February meeting, Bob McGuire called the meeting to order and welcomed members and first time at-

tendees that included Bill Osborn, Paul Myatt, and James Zuhlke; as well as, Jim Stone. The monthly program was given by Dr. Bill Sharp who did an engaging first-person portrayal of his ancestor, Thomas Majors, "One of Colonel Cleveland's Bulldogs" who served in the North Carolina Militia. Compatriot Sharp's story was in the form of a retrospective in which Majors, now returned to civilian life, looked back on his military service. Some of the battles and skirmishes that Thomas Majors participated in were at Hanging Rock, Shallow Ford on the Yadkin River, and the Battle of King's Mountain. Toward the end of the meeting, Compatriot Alexander "Sandy" Trevor was presented the SAR War Service Medal and a certificate into the FLSSAR Veterans Battalion.

Then on February 2, 2016, there was a Black Powder Weapons Exercise at the Cecil Webb Range located in Punta Gorda, Florida. This was a half day of training, familiarization, and shooting. The chapter's black powder weapons drew the attention of many at the range with the prodigious smoke, fire, and noise every time they were fired. The muskets fired consisted of two Brown Bess musket reproductions and one Kentucky rifle reproduction. Another part of the learning process of this demonstration was the cleaning of the weapons. The exercise was deemed a complete success and the chapter looks forward to repeating it soon.

Central Florida Chapter

At the December meeting, Chapter Past President Don Green did an in-character portrayal of Benjamin Franklin. He also made recent appearances as Ben Franklin at the Sallie Harrison DAR Chapter, the Lake Brantley High School and the Indian Trail Middle School. The chapter recently also congratulated Compatriot John Little for being awarded this year the Liberty Medal.

At the January meeting, Compatriot John Lynch did an in-character presentation of his Persian/Iranian friend Omar Khayyam who also discussed some of the history of Islam. The chapter was also made aware of Compatriot Garrett Gasfield's Eagle Scout project in which he led a group of scouts in the cleaning and landscaping of civil war veterans' graves at Orlando's Greenwood Cemetery. This chapter member is one that should most likely be considered for the Eagle Scout Award as he is also currently dually enrolled at Boone High School and Valencia College. Upon completion of high school, he plans to attend the University of North Florida.

At the February meeting, Chapter Past President Jeff Sizemore gave a presentation titled "Patrick Henry – The Fiery Patriot of Virginia". While at the March meeting, the chapter welcomed former NASA Astronaut Winston Scott, USN (Ret.), as their speaker.

Clearwater Chapter

The Clearwater Chapter Sons of the American Revolution recently held their induction ceremony for the 2016 Board of Governors. The ceremony was conducted by Florida Society President Larry Fehrenbaker. The new board includes Bob Cundiff President, Gary Coil 1st Vice President, Pat Niemann 2nd Vice President, Dan Hooper Secretary/Treasurer, Parks Honeywell Registrar/Genealogist, Bill Bosbyshell Chap-



lin, Russell Pebworth Sergeant at Arms, George Pratt Governor, Russell Pebworth Governor, Jim Gibson Governor. As pictured herein (l-r) are Bob Cundiff, Gary Coil, Pat Nieman, Dan Hooper, George Pratt, Jim Gibson, Bill Bosbyshell, Parks Honeywell, Jim Phillips, Russell Pebworth. This chapter picture was provided by John Sagert.



Eagle Scout Logan Moleni, son of Sherry and David Wofford of Tarpon Springs 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 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.

Jenna LaMotte, a 16 year old student from Indian Rocks Christian School and member of the Clear Water Harbor Chapter



CAR was the guest speaker at the February meeting of the Clearwater Chapter Sons of the American Revolution. Jenna spoke to the group about Sybil Ludington and her role as a woman in the American fight for independence. She also spoke about the role the CAR, or Children of the American Rev-

olution plays in our community. They have been active in many programs including the Wreaths Across America Program and the Honor Flight program for our veterans. As a member of both the CAR and the DAR she encourages young woman under the age of 22 to join and play an active role in the CAR program. For her presentation she was given a Certificate of Appreciation By Clearwater President Robert Cundiff. Pictured herein (l-r) is Robert Cundiff, and Jenna LaMotte. This picture was also provided by John Sagert.

Eagle Scout Nathaniel Wing, son of Tracy Wing 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 Jim Phillips presented the certificate at Nathaniel's Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony in Largo.

Nathaniel began his scouting journey in 2005 as a Cub



Scout with Pack 371. He crossed over to Boy Scout's joining Troop 371 in 2010. Nathaniel has earned 30 merit badges and participated in many local troop camping trips and other outdoor activities. He has camped out over 180 nights, including Camp Daniel Boone, Camp Lanoche and to Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico. Eric has held a leadership position of Patrol Leader several times, and as a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. His Eagle Scout leadership service project involved cleaning up George C. McGough Park where he also improved many amenities of the park.

involved cleaning up George C. McGough Park where he also improved many amenities of the park.

Nathaniel is 17, a Junior at Seminole High School in Seminole, where he has been on the prom committee, student council and many other groups. He is interested in swimming and tennis. After graduation, Nathaniel plans to enter the US Coast Guard Academy.

Flagler Chapter

On December 24, 2015, Compatriot Ray Thompson celebrated his 100th birthday. In the photo, Ray is standing in front of the U.S. flag which was flown over our Nation's Capital Bldg. in Washington DC on occasion of his 99th birthday. Ray is holding a City of Palm Coast Proclamation declaring December 2015 as **RAYMOND THOMPSON MONTH**.

Besides Ray's Revolutionary War ancestors, two others arrived on the Mayflower, John Alden and Priscilla Mullens.



Prior to the U.S. entering WWII, Ray was a Pilot in the Civil Air Patrol flying a rented aircraft. On one patrol Ray spotted a German U-Boat off the coast of North Carolina. He reported the U-Boat sighting and immediately departed the area as his rented aircraft was made of

wood and covered with linen. Ray was sworn in as an SAR member at our Flagler Chapter's first meeting in 1984.

During the late 1980's, Ray was recognized by the National SAR for his outstanding service to our Veterans and during the 1990's he was Chapter President on two occasions. Currently, Ray is our Chapter Chaplain and Chairman of the Good Citizenship Award Committee. He has served in both positions for over a decade and has made many Good Citizenship Award presentations. Ray, on behalf of the Flagler Chapter, **CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING 100!** Ray and Dorothy reside in Palm Coast.

At the January 27th, 2016 Chapter meeting, the Honorable Hershel Gober, former Deputy Secretary of the VA during the Clinton Administration, was our guest speaker. Secretary Gober spoke of his appointment as Presidential Emissary to Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia on the Missing-In-Action (MIA)



project and the obstacles he encountered with respect to coordinating joint search and recovery efforts with the Government of Vietnam.

As a U.S. Army Infantryman, he was wounded in action in Vietnam in 1969. Currently, he is National Legislative Director

of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) and has made many appearances before Congress advocating for Veterans. He is married to Mary Lou Keenan, also a Vietnam Veteran and a retired USAF Full Colonel. Included herein in the picture is Hershel Gobel (C) accompanied by his wife, Mary Lou, receiving a Revolutionary War replica Continental Bank Note and Coin from Chapter President Randall Morris.

On January 8th, 2016, Terry Jones received the SAR Good Citizenship Medal for her 12 years of voluntary service and



leadership as President of the 800+ member Flagler County Friends of the Library. The presentation was made at the Flagler County Library 16th year "birthday" celebration. Included herein the picture is Terry Jones receives SAR Good Citizen-

ship Medal & Certificate from Flagler Chapter President Randall Morris.

Jacksonville Chapter

On March 19, 2016, the Jacksonville SAR Chapter was the host chapter of the yearly event known as the Battle of Thomas Creek. This memorial celebration commemorated the 239th Anniversary and was held at the Seaton Creek Historical Preserve Park located at 2145 Arnold Rd in Jacksonville, Florida. This event was also sponsored by the City of Jacksonville, FLSSAR, and the Florida Department of State.

Greetings were brought by the following: the City of Jacksonville Robin Lumb, Dir. Of Policy for Mayor Lenny Curry; NSSAR Lindsey C. Brock, Past President General; FLSSAR Larry Fehrenbaker, President; GASSAR Allen Greenly, President; DAR NE FL Regents Council Rebecca Bathen, President, and FLSCAR Billie Brock, Honorary Senior President. While the wreath presentations were made by City of Jacksonville: Robin Lumb, Director of Policy for Mayor Lenny Curry, National Society SAR: Past President General Lindsey Brock, Florida Society SAR: President Larry Fehrenbaker, Georgia Society SAR: President Allen Greenly, Florida Society SAR Ladies Auxiliary: President Jeanne Fehrenbaker Jacksonville Chapter, FL Society SAR: President Dan Winko Gainesville Chapter, FL Society SAR: 1st VP David Thomas Palm Beach Chapter, FL Society SAR: Pres. Don Lanman & VP Ben Tidwell, Withlacoochee Chapter, FL Society SAR: Past President Charlie Day, Athens Chapter, GA Society SAR: Sgt-at-Arms Jay Guest, Button Gwinnett Chapter,

GA Society SAR: President Bill Palmer, Marshes of Glynn Chapter, GA Society SAR: Past President Jimmy Boatright, Robert Forsyth Chapter, GA Society SAR: Secretary Allen Greenly, William Day Chapter, GA DAR: Comm. Events Chairman Charlene Maney, Gainesville Chapter, FL DAR: Cathy Thomas, Fort San Nicholas Chapter, FL DAR: Corr. Secretary Marjorie Ramseur, Palm Beach Chapter, FL DAR: Registrar Karen Christie, Princess Malee Society, FL C.A.R. Pres. Zoe Miller & VP Sebastian Miller National Society U.S. Daughters of 1812: State Chaplain Maria Miller Daughters of American Colonists: State Librarian Mere Schwartz, Chapter XXXV, Colonial Dames of America: President Lois Swan, and Nassau County Historical Society: Pres. Emily Baumgartner & Dir. John Hendricks.

This year's event speaker was Dr. Roger Smith. His presentation was titled: "The American Revolution's Best Kept Secret: Why Florida Matters!" At the conclusion, there was a musket salute and a benediction given by Rabbi Martin Schwartz.

Miami Chapter

On February 21, 2016, the Miami SAR Chapter installed new chapter officer. FLSSAR Senior VP Ray Wess did the honors of installing the new officers. Included herein are some of the pictures from this event.





JUST TWO TAILORS

Tailors of fine 18th century clothing



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



Palm Beach Chapter



Pictured above is the installation of the 2016 Palm Beach Chapter officers. In the picture, L-R: Wenman, Miller, Sears, Boggs, Johnston, Green, Tidewll, Lanman, and Wess at the podium.



Pictured above is 4-time Rumbaugh chapter winner Talia Fradkin along with (L-R): President Lanman, SVP Wess, Fradkin, Past President Green.

The Palm Beach Chapter continues its proactive involvement in National/State Society and local community Patriot activities including:

2016 Officers: State Senior Vice President, Ray Wess, formally inducted the 2016 Chapter officers for the Palm Beach Chapter. 2016 Officers included; Don Lanman, President, Ben Tidwell, VP, Gary Green, Secretary, Petr Johnston, Treasurer, Bob Boggs Registrar, Father Sears, Chaplain, Byrd Wenman, Sgt. @ Arms and Buddy Miller, Historian.

Rumbaugh & Knight Essay Contests: Chapter President Don Lanman presented awards for both contests to Ms. Talia Fradkin. Talia, a 4-time winner of the Chapters Rumbaugh contest, went on to win the State competition for the State and will represent the Chapter and the FLSSAR at the National Conference in Boston.

Thomas Jefferson Guest Speaker: Thomas Jefferson was the honored guest speaker at the February meeting. Complete with a JROTC Color Guard, the 3rd President, as portrayed by Past President & State Knight Essay Char John Stewart, presented his views on the Declaration of Independence creation.

Last Revolutionary War Battle & Thomas Creek Events: Chapter President Don Lanman, Vice President Ben Tidwell will join Palm Beach DAR Chapter Daughter to present wreaths at both events in March.

Saramana Chapter



Saramana chapter continued its long history of supporting the National History Fair by making a monetary donation and providing judges for the Exhibit Board portion of this program. Seen here are Steve Fields, chapter Vice President and Charles Riegler, History Fair Chairman. Manatee County officials expressed their appreciation of this ongoing support.

News Update: Wow! A fantastic start for Saramana in 2016. The January meeting was a rousing success with good food, camaraderie, and lots of fun. The dining room at the Sara Bay Country Club was filled with Compatriots, wives, friends of the chapter, DAR ladies and some very special guests. Florida SAR Society President Larry Fehrenbaker and his wife Jeanne, President General Lindsay Brock and Lady Billie, and SAR Secretary General Mike Tomme and his wife Cilla honored us with their presence.

At this luncheon Angela Stewart was recognized as our Knight Essay winner. She was accompanied by her proud parents Tami and Howard. Sharon Ness earned honors as Saramana's recipient of the American History Teacher of the Year award. Edward Earl Wittemore was inducted as a new member and his wife Nancy was there to pin the rosette on his lapel. He then gave a few remarks on his family's history of public service with the police, fire department, and as attorneys. Also, Compatriot Fred Smith was presented a certificate for his 3 years as a member of the Operating Trust Fund.

Our special guests were all given a few minutes to address the group. President Brock took time to recognize Saramana for exceeding last year's goal for the Patriot Ancestor Biography Program. He stressed the value of this program as a tool for education and recruitment. Further, he said that continued participation in this and future years efforts will only increase the value of honoring our patriot ancestors and sharing their stories.

In February, Saramana held luncheon to honor George Washington's birthday, to award our ROTC scholarship to Cadet Odalis Hernandez, to recognize Compatriot Charles Riegler's 11th patriot ancestor, and to hear a wonderful presentation on the Constitution by Stetson University Law Professor Michael P. Allen. The Senior Society President of the Chichi-Okobee Children of the American Revolution Beth Chamberlain made a presentation of the CAR Gold Medal to Society President Ellie LaCombe and recognized her for winning the scholarship from the Sara DeSoto DAR. A large turn out for a great lunch was enhanced by the attendance of many ROTC cadets and their advisors, representatives of several DAR chapters, CAR members, and many friends and family. A great number of attendees arrived in period attire and had the opportunity to browse our history table and its array of Revolutionary War materials and important items from our chapter's past events and accomplishments.

2016 is off to a great start!

Tampa Chapter



The December Meeting was the annual officer installation meeting. This meeting was held at The Rusty Pelican restaurant in Tampa. Regional Vice President Pat Niemann (Clearwater Chapter) conducted the formal installation ceremony. Outgoing President Dick Young thanked all the 2015 officers, committee chairmen, committee members and all active compatriots for their support and assistance over the past two years. A number of Certificates of Appreciation and SAR Medals were presented.

Wreaths Across America: The Tampa Chapter, for the third year, sponsored the Wreaths Across American ceremony at American Legion Post #5 Veterans Cemetery in Tampa. The Hillsborough River Camp Color Guard presented the colors at this small but impressive ceremony. Chapter President Charles Klug was



asked to read President General Lawrence's WAA Proclamation as part of the ceremony. After the WAA Ceremony the Tampa Chapter also laid a wreath on the gravesite of a Vietnam War veteran buried in the public part of the cemetery next to the American Legion Veterans Cemetery. This is part of the Chapter's participation as a Commemorative Partner in the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War.



War Service Medal Presentation: At the January meeting, President Charles Klug presented Compatriot James Arthur with his SAR War Service Medal with Vietnam Service Bar, his SAR Purple

Heart pin and his Florida Veterans Battalion Certificate. Compatriot Arthur was a career Army officer who retired in 1985 after nearly 25 years of active duty. In addition to his two tours in Vietnam, Compatriot Arthur also served in Alaska, Australia and Pakistan.

Withlacoochee Chapter



(L-R) Charlie Day, Clyde Johnson, Bob Folk, Jack Townsend, and Larry Sturgeon



(L-R) Jack Townsend, Norman Freyer, Larry Sturgeon, Harley Nelson, Bob Folk, Ken Dunn, Charlie Day, Mary Osborn, Center w/Memorial Plaque –and right, Librarian President Mary Mazzacua with Book. Librarian President Mary Mazzacua.

The Withlacoochee Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution attended SAR Winter BOM session. Ellie Folk, and Dot Day were also present representing the Ladies Auxiliary. The Ladies brought a beautiful basket to be used for the basket sales. We learned Jeremiah Lovestrang, the Withlacoochee Eagle Winner, came in 2nd at the State Level. Upcoming SAR Events were covered - The Florida Society SAR will be commemorating the 239th anniversary for the Battle of Thomas Creek (Jacksonville area). This ceremony will be held at Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park at 10:00 AM Saturday 19 March 2016. Our Annual Anniversary Celebration of the last Naval Battle will be March 5 at Merritt Island. Our chapter will be well represented at both events.

In December, 2015, seven compatriots attended a Memorial Book Dedication at Citrus County Memorial Library for deceased member Richard Osborn, one of our last WWII heroes. A memorial Plaque was also presented to Bob's wife Mary Osborn.

Bronze Roger Sherman presentations were made to Compatriots Larry Sturgeon and Jack Townsend since our last Patriot report. Jack is our Treasurer but does a full load of work for our Color Guard and significant contributions as our Chair of Medals and Awards. Larry is our Secretary and our Color Guard Commander and puts many hours in as our Baldomero Lopez State Veterans Home coordinator. Both Medals were overdue. In January Homosassa Walmart employee, Suzanne Green, the Community representative, spoke about how her and fellow employees give both time and money to our Veterans without Families program. This employee group also makes significant contributions to other local programs. We appreciate their help.

2016 Rumbaugh Oration Contest

At the Winter BOM meeting that was held on February 5th and 6th, the Rumbaugh Oration Contest was held. There was three contestants. Talia Fradkin was the chapter winner of the Palm Beach SAR Chapter. Renata Martins was the chapter winner of the Lake-Sumter SAR Chapter. Benjamin Anthony was the chapter winner of the Saramana Chapter.

Cash awards and certificates were presented for all the three placing contestants by both the FLSSAR and the Ladies Auxiliary FLSSAR.

The first place winner of this state competition was Talia Fradkin. This is her fourth and final competition at FLSAR in the Rumbaugh Oration Contest. She has twice previously advanced to represent Florida at the NSSAR Congress. Her topic, *The Power of the Newspaper*, was provocative and particularly timely in the Presidential election year. Talia will go on to competition at the national level at the 126th Congress in Boston this July. We all hope that the third time is the charm for her. Her future plans are to study to be a pediatric surgeon.

Washington's "Badge of Military Merit"

By Don Lanman

Following victory of the Continental Army over the British at Yorktown, Washington established his headquarter at Newburgh where he could observe the English army in New York.

Continuing his tireless efforts to improve the condition of his troops and insure a high state of morale, Washington decided to create an honor to recognize enlisted men who had performed bravely on the field of battle. He called this award, the *Badge of Military Merit*.

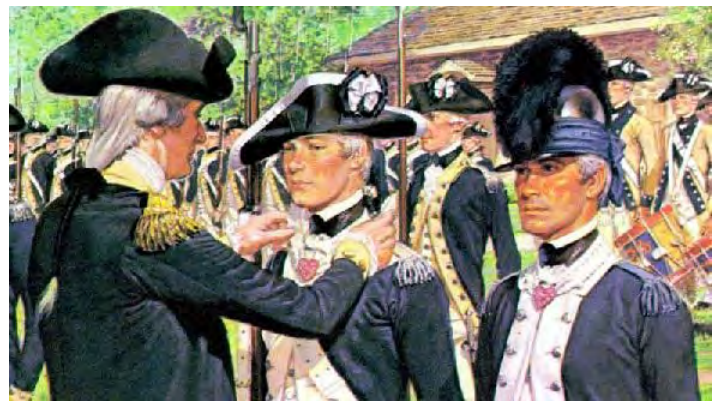
Washington designed the distinctive badge in the form of a purple cloth heart with the word *Merit* inscribed in the center. The merit badge was conceived as a military order for soldiers who exhibited, "not only instances of unusual gallantry in battle, but also extraordinary fidelity and essential service in any way."

General Washington announced the *Badge of Military Merit* in his general orders to the Continental Army on August 7, 1782 his headquarters in Newburgh.

Washington statement regarding the *Badge of Military*



United States of America Medals of Merit



Washington Presenting First Military Badges of Merit to Churchill & Brown

Merit: "The General ever desirous to cherish virtuous ambition in his soldiers, as well as to foster and encourage every species of Military merit, directs that whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed, the author of it shall be permitted to wear on his facings over the left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth, or silk, edged with narrow lace or binding.

Not only instances of unusual gallantry in battle, but also of extraordinary fidelity and essential service in any way shall meet with a due reward.

Before this favor can be conferred on any man, the particular fact, or facts, on which it is to be grounded must be set forth to the Commander in chief accompanied with certificates from the Commanding officers of the regiment and brigade to which the Candidate for reward belonged, or other incontestable proofs, and upon granting it, the name and regiment of the person with the action so certified are to be enrolled in the book of merit which will be kept at the orderly

office.

Men who have merited this last distinction to be suffered to pass all guards and sentinels which officers are permitted to do. The road to glory in a patriot army and a free country is thus open to all. This order is also to have retrospect to the earliest stages of the war, and to be considered as a permanent one."

-George. Washington, Commander-in-Chief Continental Army-

Historians tend to agree that only three soldiers actually received the medal. Two men selected by a board of officers to receive this award were Sergeant Elijah Churchill of the 2nd Continental Light Dragoons and Sergeant William Brown, a member of the 5th Connecticut Regiment, Continental Line.

Brown had won praise for his bravery in the storming of Stony Point in 1779 and for gallantry in the trenches at Yorktown. Churchill distinguished himself during attacks against two forts on Long Island.

On 3 May 1783, these men traveled from the Continental encampment at New Windsor and to Washington's headquarters at the Hasbrouck House in Newburgh. There, before an honor Guard Mount of the 1st New York Regiment, Commander-in-Chief Washington awarded Sergeant Churchill and Sergeant Brown the first *Badges of Military Merit*. Surviving records for the period confirm the presentation of only one other *Badge of Military Merit* to Sergeant Daniel Bissell of the 2nd Connecticut Regiment on June 10 1783.

Following the Revolutionary War, the *Badge of Military Merit* fell into disuse although never officially abolished.

In 1932, the United States War Department authorized the new *Purple Heart Medal* for soldiers wounded in battle or previously awarded either a *Wound Chevron* or the *Army War Ribbon*. It was also mandated that the *Purple Heart Medal* would be considered the official "successor decoration" to the *Badge of Military Merit*.

The original *Military Badge of Merit*, the pomp, and ceremony, however, symbolized much more than recognition of brave men. The badge represented the climax of the molding of a citizen army of volunteers and militia into a force that had fought on equal terms with one of the world's best armies, and in doing so, had played a vital role securing freedom and independence for their fellow citizens.

Both the *Badge of Military Merit* and the *Purple Heart* have become symbols of pride in our Country and Military and Patriots from all walks-of-life as a tribute to all those who served and sacrificed at the Altar of Freedom!

DAR 125th Anniversary Luncheon

On October 31, the Sunshine Regents' Council (Mimi LeRoy-Marler, President) of the Florida Society, DAR hosted a DAR 125th Anniversary Luncheon at Palma Ciega County Club in Tampa. FLSSAR President Larry Fehrenbaker was present to deliver greetings, congratulations and best wishes from the SAR. Several other SAR compatriots from local chapters were also present. The number of those present, both SAR and DAR, were in colonial or 1890 attire. Pictured below is President Fehrenbaker with FSDAR State Regent Ginger Poffenberger along with members of the Tampa Chapter, SAR Color Guard (Hillsborough River Camp). Mrs. Poffenberger was the Keynote Speaker and Julia Eacott, NSDAR National Vice Chairman Women in American History was the Guest Presenter.



Below is the Hillsborough River Camp Color Guard presenting the National colors at the luncheon: L-R Jack Bolen, Dick Young, John Stewart (St. Petersburg), Commander Alan Bell and David Bryant.



How American is your Musket?

By Steven R. Fields, VP
Saramana SAR Chapter



Of all of the symbols associated with the American Revolution, few are as prominent as that of the musket. The black powder, smooth bore, flint lock of legend is iconic. Yet, not all realize that the weapons carried by the patriots were not usually American. With only about 3000 gunsmiths spread across 13 colonies and both sides of the conflict, many of the approximately 300,000 muskets that saw service during the war had to travel an ocean before they saw a battlefield on this side of the Atlantic.



Before the Revolution, many firearms had emigrated from Europe with their owners. As diverse as the origins of the colonists, firearms in America came from dozens of countries. Those that did not come with their owners were hand-crafted by artisans from many different cultures with different tools, skill sets, materials, and design philosophies. With this diversity came a shocking lack of standardization. The plethora of calibers, designs, materials, and intended uses forced gunsmiths in America to become masters of adaptation. A 50-year old Germanic short musket might be repaired with a French lock set and have a homemade bayonet mount attached. Long, heavy English weapons might have the decorative metalwork removed and their heavy stocks replaced with lighter local woods. Examples of "American Revolutionary War Muskets" in museums today are in many instances an amalgamations of bits and pieces fitted together out of necessity, economy, or convenience.

With the outbreak of war with Great Britain, the fledgling Continental Army found itself not just short of men, uniforms, and money, Despite a ready supply of firearms held by volunteers, no standardized ammunition or spare parts supply could service a majority of the weapons fielded. Hands-on, experienced gunsmiths were needed to maintain and repair weapons that were never designed for the rigors of the battlefield. Makeshift repairs and cannibalization of damaged and destroyed weapons became a standard chore for after every engagement. But, recovering these weapons from the fallen and defeated did little to relieve strained supply and maintenance systems.

As the war progressed and the Continental Army became more professional, a supply chain was organized and procurement of large lots of weapons came into practice. There was a great effort to ensure that line units were equipped with weapons of similar make and caliber. This eased ammunition and supply issues on the line. Captured loyalist armories and supply depots made the use of Britain's Brown Bess common with numerous units. Spanish M1752's were bought and smuggled from



Florida, Cuba, and the Caribbean. The influence of American diplomacy and the efforts of the Marquis de Lafayette brought shipments of French Charleville muskets. With these bulk acquisitions, the frenzy of custom work lessened. But, in response to the growth of fledgling American forces and the spread of hostilities to all corners of the colonies, weapons new and old, working and broken, plain and exotic were bought from governments and noble families all across Europe. No one weapon won the war for the colonies.

By war's end, the musket had become not just a measure of strength in arms. It demonstrated the strength of American spirit. Patriots had procured, repaired, adapted, and innovated their way to freedom. So, when next you look at a musket on display, think back on all the efforts made by our patriot fore bearers to arm and equip themselves in their fight for freedom and independence. You can know with certainty that no matter the source of its components, our muskets are uniquely American.

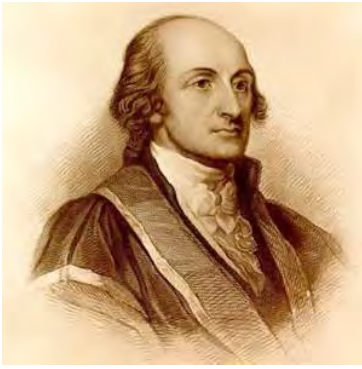
Annual Meeting/BOM Schedule

Friday - May 13, 2016:

Executive Committee	10:00 - 11:00 AM
Regional Vice President	11:00 - 12:00
First Lady's Luncheon	12:00 - 2:00 PM
New NSSAR Web	12:30 - 2:30
Instruction	
Board of Management	2:45 - 4:25
Color Guard Rehearsal	4:30 - 5:00
Social	5:00 - 6:00
Awards Banquet	6:00 - 8:00

Saturday - May 14, 2016:

Memorial Service	8:00 - 9:00 AM
New Officer Training	9:30 - 11:30
Americanism Poster & Brochure Contest	10:30 - 11:30
Medals & Awards	10:30 - 11:30
Youth Luncheon	11:30 - 1:00
Board of Management	1:30 - 3:00 PM
Ladies Auxiliary	1:30 - 3:00 PM
Annual Meeting	3:00 - 4:30
Color Guard Rehearsal	4:30 - 5:00
Social	5:00 - 6:00
Installation Banquet	6:00 - 8:00



John Jay Forgotten Founder

By Alexander Bruen Trevor

Washington, Jefferson, Adams, Franklin, Hamilton, and Madison... the "Founding Fathers", but where is John Jay in this list? The image of each of these luminary patriots may be found on our currency (albeit Adams only among a crowd on the back of the two dollar bill) but not John Jay. The stories of those other six are told to children in American History classes, but unless you are a Jay descendant (or a lawyer) you may never have heard of John Jay. Fortunately for us – and for Jay's legacy – Compatriot Alexander Bruen "Sandy" Trevor's mother made sure that her son was knowledgeable of this extraordinary patriot.

Evelyn Bruen Trevor was the great-great-granddaughter of John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the United States. As he was growing up in New York City, his mother often told Sandy that John Jay had not gotten his proper due in history. Until recently, she was right. She told him that in school she had been taught that George Marshall was the first Chief Justice. When she protested that it was John Jay, the teacher told her that he "didn't count." Furthermore, the teacher went on, "he couldn't be your great-great grandfather because he lived too long ago." But the fact is he was, as the family had long generations.

Fortunately historians have in recent years realized that John Jay was an extraordinary patriot – not only the first Chief Justice – but a spy-master during the Revolution, and an author of the Federalist Papers (along with Alexander Hamilton and James Madison). For his accomplishments heading a network of informants during the revolution, actions that helped inspire James Fenimore

Cooper's novel "The Spy," the CIA's website calls Jay "the first national-level American counterintelligence chief." In 1778, 33-year-old Jay was appointed President of the Continental Congress. He was the architect of New York State's constitution, Governor of the State of New York, President of the Continental Congress, Ambassador to Spain and Great Britain, and a leading opponent of slavery. In 1799, as Governor of New York, John Jay signed an act that freed all slaves in the state.

John Jay was born on December 12, 1745 in New York City. His lineage differs from most founders as his parents were not British citizens, but was a descendant of French Huguenot refugees. He moved with his family to Rye, New York when he was 3 months old following his father's retirement from business and on the heels of a smallpox epidemic that blinded two of his siblings. Jay's father, Peter Jay, had been born in New York City in 1704, and became a wealthy trader of furs, wheat, timber, and other commodities. John Jay's views were probably strongly shaped by his family background. He became a lawyer and joined the New York Committee of Correspondence and organized opposition to British rule. He joined a conservative political faction that, fearing mob rule, sought to protect property rights and maintain the rule of law while resisting British violations of human rights.

On April 28, 1774, Jay married Sarah Van Brugh Livingston, eldest daughter of the New Jersey Governor William Livingston and his wife. At the time of the marriage, Sarah was seventeen years old and John was twenty-eight. She accompanied Jay to Spain and later was with him in Paris where they and their children resided with Benjamin Franklin at Passy. While in Paris, as a diplomat to France, Jay's father died. This event forced extra responsibility onto John Jay. Jay's brother and sister, Pe-



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.fjssar.org/Helper.htm>.



ter and Anna, both blinded by smallpox in childhood, became the diplomat's responsibility. John Jay's brother Augustus suffered from mental disabilities that required Jay to provide not only financial but emotional support. Jay's brother Fredrick was in constant financial trouble, causing John additional stress. Meanwhile, his brother James was in direct opposition in the political arena, joining the loyalist faction of the New York State Senate at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, which made him an embarrassment to the John Jay family.

There are two John Jay home sites in New York State: one in Rye, and a second in Bedford/Katonah. Both have been beautifully preserved by the Friends of John Jay Homestead, and are open to the public. The Jay Estate in Rye is the childhood home of John Jay, and is now the Jay Heritage Center, and a National Historic Landmark. The present house was built by his son, Peter Augustus Jay in 1838. It is a beautiful location, and well worth a visit.

Another piece of John Jay real estate is not so well known: the Jay Cemetery in Rye, where John Jay and many of his descendants are buried. John Jay died in 1829, one of the last of the revolutionary Patriarchs. This is one of the few family cemeteries used in Revolutionary times that is still functioning. It is restricted to descendants of John Jay, and, amazingly, there is no charge for a plot. Originally part of the 400 acre Jay farm in Rye, the cemetery was created by John Jay's deed of 1815, providing that "all descendants of Peter Jay [his father] shall have the right of burial in the cemetery lot; also the husbands, wives, and widows of such descendants."



An interesting historical footnote was discovered by Sandy's mother's first cousin, John Jay Ide, "Cousin Jack". We all know that the American Revolutionary War hostilities mostly ended with the surrender of General Cornwallis at Yorktown in October 1781. But it was not until two years later that the war officially ended with Great Britain and the United States signing the Treaty of Paris on September 3, 1783 whereby Britain formally recognized the United States. Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay were the commissioners assigned to negotiate the treaty that ended the war, and they signed the treaty on behalf of the United States.

For many years historians assumed that the Treaty of Paris was actually signed in Versailles where other treaties between Great Britain and France, and Great Britain and Spain, were signed at that time. But Jack Ide discovered that the Treaty of Paris was actually signed in Paris at the Hotel d'York. The building still stands at 56 Rue Jacob. Thanks to Jack Ide, there is a commemorative plaque on the building marking the location of this historic event. Renamed the Hotel du Danube, next time you go to Paris you may want to check it out.

Source: Caloosa Chapter Newsletter - March 2016 Issue



FLORIDA SOCIETY
 SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
REGISTRATION FORM
 Spring BOM & Annual Meeting May 13 – 15, 2016
 The Florida Hotel, 1500 SAND LAKE ROAD, ORLANDO, FL 32809

Name: _____ Chapter: _____ Date _____

National Number _____ Enter your six digit number Phone No: _____

E-mail Address for confirmation reply _____ @ _____

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

BOM Voting Authority (Article II, Section I, FLSSAR Bylaws Select only ONE):

FLSSAR Officer Incumbent/Past NSSAR Officer Chapter - President
 FLSSAR Committee Chair Patriot Medal Past President
 Past FLSSAR President FL National Trustee Delegate*

** 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

This form is a PDF FILL-ABLE form; SAVE the form to your computer, then fill it out and e-mail it to address at bottom.

Events	Entrees	Price	Total # of Member + Guests entrees	Amount
May 13 th – Friday Banquet	<i>Chicken Piccata</i>	\$41.00		\$ 0.00
	Vegetarian choice	\$41.00		\$ 0.00
	SELECT ONE	Dessert– Chef's Dessert	NC	NC
		Dessert– No-Sugar Dessert	NC	NC
May 14 th - Saturday Youth Luncheon	<i>Club Wrap</i>	\$27.00		\$ 0.00
	Vegetarian choice	\$27.00		\$ 0.00
	SELECT ONE	Dessert– Cookies and Ice Cream	NC	NC
		Dessert– No-Sugar Dessert	NC	NC
May 14 th – Saturday Banquet	<i>Beef Short Ribs</i>	\$46.00		\$ 0.00
	Vegetarian choice	\$46.00		\$ 0.00
	SELECT ONE	Dessert– Tiramisu	NC	NC
		Dessert– No-Sugar Dessert	NC	NC
May 13 th – Friday Lunch	<i>1st Ladies Formal Tea</i>	NC		NC
	Hosted by FLSSAR Ladies Aux- IF Attending you must Enter Meal Choice:Chicken Salad or Turkey croissant			
	Registration Fee – SAR Members Only	\$20.00	1	\$ 20.00
	BOM Proceedings - Draft hard copy	\$2.50		\$ 0.00
	Total			\$ 20.00

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

MEAL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE April 25, 2015

If 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.

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

Pictures from 2016 Winter BOM Meeting



Pictures from 2016 Winter BOM Meeting





The Florida Patriot

3403 Caraway St., Cocoa, FL 32926

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FLSSAR Fall BOM Meeting

The Florida Hotel & Convention Center

May 13 - 15 2016

(Room Rate = \$113 per night RSVP by 4/22/2016)

800-588-4656

1500 Sandlake Road Orlando, FL 32809

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

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

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