



# The Florida Patriot

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

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Summer 2018



## 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.



## 2018 Spring BOM and Annual Meeting



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## *Submission Deadline Dates*

In order for your news & articles to be published in upcoming issues, please submit before the cutoff dates listed below.

Fall 2018 issue	8/5/2018
Winter 2019 Issue	11/20/2018

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## *Content Submission*

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

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

The Editor reserves the right to make any editorial conformity of style. Authors grant the Florida Society print & electronic publication rights. To submit material to the Editor via email at [swampfoxsar@gmail.com](mailto:swampfoxsar@gmail.com) or via mail at 1535 Skyline Drive, Kissimmee, FL 34744.



**SONS of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION**  
Patriotic ★ Historical ★ Educational

## *Society President's Message*



Compatriots,

I am truly humbled and privileged to have been elected as your Florida Society President. My sincere thanks for placing your confidence and trust in me. I assure you that I will be diligent in carrying out my duties and in representing our society.

My vision statement somewhat along the lines of President General Guzy is **"every compatriot enabled and involved to perpetuate patriotism, the ideals of the American Revolution and fraternity."**

We together can achieve this vision by concentrating on membership growth and retention, communications and training of our members.

These are not new objectives but we must remind ourselves of their importance as we move forward. First, as to membership growth and retention. As you know, we lose approximately 10% of our membership each year due to transfers, death and the drop outs. We must continually replenish these lost members just to stay even and recruit more to grow. We grow by recruiting new members by one on one recruiting and strong publicity and outreach programs. Our youth programs can expose us to many new individuals who may be interested in joining our society.

Membership retention is of utmost importance to growth. Men stay in an organization when they feel they are prepared for and cared for. The mentor program is a program every chapter should have. Retaining members is an effort that requires creative thinking and a willingness to reach out and involve people in the chapter activities, and a willingness to try something new. A chapter's retention rate is a clear indication of the health of that chapter - it also tells us about the health of the entire state society.

The lack of communications was a recurring concern that I heard from members as I visited different chapters over the past three years. There were instances when some Regional Vice Presidents were not effectively communicating with the Chapter Presidents, and Chapter Presidents to the members. I asked the Regional Vice Presidents of each region to schedule a regional meeting this year. The regional meetings are a "mini" BOM and offer those members who do not have an opportunity to attend the state BOM to hear and meet the state officers as well as communicate any concerns or recommendations.

Communications both up and down the FLSSAR chain is the key to active participation and retention. The Regional Vice Presidents are the conduit between state and the chapters. I asked that they stay in regular contact with the chapter presidents and in turn the chapters communicate to the executive committee through their respective Regional Vice Presidents.

Finally, we must improve our member training. We are an organization with much tradition which needs to be shared with new members so they understand the SAR and what is happening. This is an opportunity to pass to them our love of the SAR and the "why" we are involved. Conducting workshops at regional and BOM meetings help train our next generation of leaders and helps them learn the ins and outs of the organization. I would like to have the BOM and regional

## *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.

meeting agendas include training seminars and any workshops that will prepare members to be officers and active in other programs.

Thank you in advance for your support. I look forward to visiting as many chapters as scheduling permits. I welcome your ideas, recommendations and comments.

Yours in patriotism,

**Pat**

COL Patrick J. Niemann, U.S. Army (ret.)  
President, FLSSAR

## *Eagle Scout Committee*

By Wm Lee Popham, Sr., Committee Chair

The Eagle Scout Committee performs and supports several very important activities:

Eagle Scout Recognition Certificates - Throughout each year, new Eagle Scouts are recognized by local SAR members for their outstanding achievement at their Eagle Court of Honor, and presented with SAR Eagle Scout Certificates of Achievement. IF possible, our Compatriots should be dressed in Colonial Uniforms or similar period dress. Packets of Eagle Scout Recognition Certificates can be purchased through the NSSAR Merchandise Website at [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org).

Arthur M. and Berdena King Eagle Scout Award Contest – SAR invites all Eagle Scouts (under 19 years of age) interested in the American Revolution to participate in the Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Award. The contest is open to all Eagle Scouts who are currently registered in an active unit and have not reached their nineteenth birthday during the year of application. While the preliminary rounds of the contest begin at the local level, Scouts may eventually advance to the state or national levels, eventually held in June during the annual SAR Congress, and awarded up to \$10,000.

College plans do not have to be completed in order to receive the cash award. Three cash awards are given: the National First Place Winner receives \$10,000; the Runner-up receives \$6,000; and the 2nd Runner-up receives \$4,000. Scouts may apply more than one year if he meets the age requirements, but no more than \$10,000 total may be granted to any one Eagle Scout. Prizes and recognition may also be awarded at the SAR chapter and society level – our Florida Society currently awards \$1,000 to the first-place winner, with an additional \$300 provided by the FLSSAR Auxiliary.

Each Eagle Scout must complete an application form, a four-generation ancestor chart, and a 500-word patriotic themed essay.

The competition is conducted in three phases: the local chapter, state-level society, and national phases. The competition is entered at the Chapter level. Applicants may not enter at the national level. Contest entrants need complete only one application for the SAR chapter-level competition. The application of each Chapter-level winner is forwarded to be used in the society- and national-level competitions by the SAR as appropriate. A complete set of rules, along with the application for both the applicant and the sponsoring SAR members, can be found at the following two links:

<https://members.sar.org/media/uploads/pages/52/TGvXToh6XIZF.doc> - Application and Rules

<https://members.sar.org/media/uploads/pages/52/TGDOZW9gZHza.pdf> - Required Four-Generation Ancestor Chart

Please be aware that the local Chapter application deadline dates must be early enough to allow the selected winning Chapter application to be forwarded to the FLSSAR Eagle Scout Committee Chairman ([Popham@earthlink.net](mailto:Popham@earthlink.net)) NO LATER THAN 15 JANUARY 2019. The Compatriot members of the Eagle Scout Committee will each review ALL Chapter winner applications, and our Florida Society 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners will be announced at the FLSSAR Winter BOM during the 3-5 February 2019 meetings in Orlando. Our State Scholarship monetary award has been \$1000 for first, \$500 for second and \$250 for third place. The Ladies Auxiliary has also been very generous with checks for the winners as well. The first-place winner and his parents will be recognized, and the Scout will receive his awards at our Annual Meeting Youth Luncheon in May. His application will also be forwarded for the NSSAR competition during the 2019 Spring Leadership Conference in Louisville KY in early March.

## *English Country Dance Classes and Dance at the Fall BOM*

Hoping to increase the attendance at our BOMs and perhaps to attract a greater attendance of wives and girlfriends, we will be offering English Country Dance classes during Saturday at the October BOM. If you can walk and chew gum at the same time, you can do this. The class will be taught by Rick Haven of Just Two Tailors who has been our resident tailor at recent BOM's. All that is required is a desire to have fun, a partner and perhaps a comfortable pair of slippers or flat sole shoes. Classes will be scheduled so that no one will have an excuse not to attend. A dance in "period" or evening attire will follow the evening's dinner.

English Country dancing was the social function of our compatriots and the favorite pastime of His Excellency George Washington who stated he would rather dance than eat.

## *Update on the New Chapter Development Committee*

By Jeff Sizemore, Committee Chair

The purpose of this committee is to provide for membership growth in new members and the retaining of members by encouraging a deliberate role in the development of new chapters within the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution per Florida Society By-Laws, Article V, Section 6.c.

While the function of this committee shall consist, but not be limited to, the following:

1. To establish and promote enthusiasm as the potential new chapter ventures into the procurement of new members and the establishing of a name and location in which the new chapter will meet during the upstart process, the charter ceremony, and the setting up of monthly meetings.
2. To work with Senior VP, RVPs, and existing chapters' leadership, as appropriate, to ensure the non-competitive nature of new chapter development; as well as, encourage individuals to assume a leadership position in the potential new chapter.
3. To work with FLSSAR Registrar and Genealogist to coordinate and facilitate new application processes; as well as, identify all

existing FLSSAR members that may want to transfer into the new chapter.

4. To work with FLSSAR Webmaster and FLSSAR Editor to enhance the society's access to new, prospective members.
5. To encourage the individuals seeking a new chapter to recruit other individuals before the charter ceremony to build a good membership base before the chapter is chartered.
6. To gather and provide the potential new leadership of the chapter with appropriate example documentation of chapter by-laws, constitutions. These services shall also extend into providing such documentation related to all the various committee that are available to participate in at the chapter level as identified by NSSAR and FLSSAR.
7. To provide support once the chapter has been chartered so that the new chapter can continue to retain membership and grow their membership.
8. To encourage and remind the prospective membership of the need to have at least ten individuals to commit to this new chapter as officers, committee chairmen, and member attendees of the monthly chapter meetings.

To start a new chapter, the FLSSAR encourages the potential new chapter to begin with at least 15 members, but more is definitely encouraged since the more people that join, the more that the said chapter can make a difference in their region by having members serve on the various outreach committees such as JROTC awards presentations, Knight Essay Contest, and Rumbaugh Oration Contest, Americanism Poster Contest, HFH Flag Presentations, Veterans Recognition Awards, and much more.

At present, the FLSSAR has approved for a new chapter to be charter in Okeechobee, Florida. Members of the St. Lucie River Chapter have been working with local potential members to get their paperwork approved. Through the efforts of the FLSSAR East Central RVP, Chuck Berger, working with these members along with FLSSAR Secretary Hal Riediger and the local DAR chapters, this new chapter plans to hold their charter ceremony in the fall.

The committee has also received a request for a possible start-up of a new chapter in the Fernandina Beach/ Amelia Island area. If you have friends or relatives that may be interested in becoming a charter member of this new chapter, please contact Jeff Sizemore at [swampfoxsar@gmail.com](mailto:swampfoxsar@gmail.com).

## *Update on the Endowment Trust Fund Disbursements Committee*

The Endowment Trust Fund was set up to assist chapters in their outreach programs. Each year a portion (around \$13,000 the past couple years) is allotted to reimburse chapters for awards to non-SAR members. Basically it

reimburses you for 100% of the cost of medals and 75% for many other approved activities. Note that there will be an upcoming session at the FLSSAR BOM meeting in which the presenter will show you how to fill out the request form; as well as, will cover what is presently reimbursable and seek suggestions on what other items/activities should be authorized. These activities are good recruiting tools and definitely help your chapter budget to expand in these areas. If you have any questions or would like to submit a fund disbursement for your chapter, contact Ron Grove who is the committee chair. He can be reached at [ron\\_grove@hotmail.com](mailto:ron_grove@hotmail.com).

## *Update on the Children of the American Revolution*

The National Society of the Children of the American Revolution, founded in 1895, is the oldest patriotic youth organization in our country. Membership is open to children (up to 21 years of age) descendants of patriots of the American Revolution. Members gain valuable leadership experience in conducting meetings, following parliamentary procedures and standard protocol, serving as delegates and speaking before groups at local, state and national conferences. The responsibility and privilege of selecting officers helps members gain an understanding of the democratic process.

The Florida Society, C.A.R. held its annual State Conference in Lake Buena Vista, Florida on March 23-25. FLSSAR President Bob Folk attended the Conference to bring greeting from the SAR and to present the SAR's annual \$1,000 donation to the FSC.A.R. Taylor Putt of Tequesta Society (Coral Gables) was elected to a one year term as State President and Virginia (Ginger) Poffenberger of Pensacola was elected to a two year term as Senior State President. Taylor's theme for 2018/2019 is *Smiling Faces in Historic Places*. Her project is to raise funds for the restoration of the kitchen of the Haile Plantation house in Gainesville. She plans to raise at least \$6,000. Taylor was our guest at the recent FLS-SAR BOM and Annual Meeting in Kissimmee and made a brief presentation on her project.

At this State Conference, the FSC.A.R. unveiled the Lindsey C. Brock C.A.R./SAR/S.R. Relations Trophy to that FSC.A.R. Society which best exhibits its patriotic relationship with the SAR and SR. The Trophy recognizes Lindsey's contributions to the FSC.A.R. as past Senior State President, past President of the FLS-SAR and former President General of the NSSAR. The Trophy was conceived by the Fort Brooke Society (Tampa), purchased and donated by some of its Senior members. This inaugural presentation went to the Blue Springs Society of Marianna.

The Jacksonville Chapter, SAR received thanks (see accompanying letter) from the Vaughn-Lantham Society (Amelia Island) for their support in the Society being recognized as "Most Outstanding Society in the State of Florida".

**National Society Project :** C.A.R. members will celebrate *America's Lasting Legacy* as they honor those that put their lives in jeopardy for our freedom. They believe we all owe an unpayable debt to them and are forever grateful for their service. C.A.R. is committed to honoring those veterans and further fighting in the pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness. C.A.R. has two goals to support these activities: (1) Members will be engaged in fundraising activities to support Hope for the Warriors, a program with the mission to support severely injured veterans in their transition back to civilian life and (2) One of C.A.R.'s main tenets is service. Members will go into their communities and find ways

to help those less fortunate around their neighborhoods. C.A.R. is committed to serving our communities and honoring the legacies of our patriots in remembrance of their sacrifices and service to our young country

**What can FLSSAR do:** Each Chapter within the Florida Society, SAR is encouraged to make contact with the nearest FSC.A.R. Society (find them at either [www.floridasocietycar.org](http://www.floridasocietycar.org) or [www.nscar.org](http://www.nscar.org)), invite them to join your meetings, join their meetings, share programs, support their State Project, participate jointly in local service projects and local patriotic events and recruit your own children and grandchildren into the C.A.R.

## *Thank you Letter from the CAR*

To: The Jacksonville Florida Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.

From: The Vaughan-Latham Society N.S.C.A.R, Amelia Island, Florida

Re: Florida State Awards Recognition

Please accept our deepest appreciation for your loyal support of The Vaughan-Latham Society N.S.C.A.R of Amelia Island, Florida.

At the recent C.A.R. State Conference, held in Orlando Florida, March 23-25 2018, the Vaughan-Latham Society was designated "Most Outstanding Society in the State of Florida", receiving awards for excellence in programming and individual contribution. One award was for our mutual programming with The Sons of the American Revolution. This award was made possible through your support, both financially and in inviting us to participate in your community patriotic events and through your participation at our meetings.

Please accept our deepest appreciation to all of the Officers and Members of the Jacksonville Sons of the American Revolution. We trust we have made you proud and that your investment in our young patriots is perceived as worthy of your continued consideration.

Most Sincerely,  
Mrs. JoAnn Burns Welker, Senior President,  
Vaughan-Latham Society NSCAR



## *Calendar of Events*

7/27/2018 – 7/28/2018: Fort Laurens Memorial Service in Bolivar, OH

9/27/2018: Fall NSSAR Leadership Meeting – Louisville, KY

10/12/2018 – 10/14/2018: FLSSAR Fall BOM Meeting – Kissimmee, FL

2/1/2019 – 2/3/2019: FLSSAR Fall BOM Meeting – Kissimmee, FL

## *Printed FLSSAR Magazine Option*

As an option to the Florida Society SAR membership, there was a vote at the Spring BOM/Annual Meeting to give the option to the membership for those that would like to receive the FLSSAR Florida Patriot in printed form and mail to your house. Note that there is a cost to choose this option. If you choose to receive this magazine in printed form as an option at the time of paying your annual dues later this year, inform your chapter secretary by paying the mail printing subscription. If you choose not to pursue this option, the quarterly magazine will continue to come to you in digital form. Note that all previous magazine issues are archived on the FLSSAR website and can be downloaded for you to view.

## *The Failed Revolutionary Siege of St Augustine*

*How disease, politics and even the Cherokee Indians prevented a major revolutionary battle in Northeast Florida*

By Rachel Lechwar (2018 Knight Essay Submittal)

Few years carry as much significance nationally as the year 1776. It is ingrained in every child's mind what happened on July 4th of that month. However, very few know that during that same month, a militia of revolutionists were camped in modern day downtown Jacksonville, Florida planning for a siege of British Loyalist St. Augustine.

Unbeknownst to many, St. Augustine and East Florida played a vital role in the American Revolution, serving as a stronghold for Britain and a haven for Loyalists who fled the conflict in the northern colonies. For England, St. Augustine was, in many ways, the epicenter to its interests in the New World. It was strategically centered between the West Indies, a major supplier of sugar, the valuable currency of the day, and the 'original 13 colonies'. During this time, the mainland southern colonies were more valuable in supplying food and other supplies for the British West Indies, who were using a majority of their farmland for sugar production. The start of the Revolutionary War so severely threatened this important trade between the colonies and the Caribbean plantations, that King George ordered a military invasion of the South to win back these important trade routes. As one of the only colonies still loyal to the crown, East Florida and the heavily fortified town of St. Augustine were arguably one of the most strategic military centers in all of North America.

As important as St. Augustine and Florida were to Britain, they held significant importance to the revolution. America's focus on East Florida was largely for military purposes, viewing Britain's presence in Florida as a threat to the colonies. "George Washington mentions St. Augustine in over 80 letters to the Continental Congress or his general staff as either a military target or a military concern," according to Roger Smith, author of *The 14th Colony*. Despite his desire to remove Britain from East Florida, invading was not an easy task. Situated on a peninsula, the only entry to St. Augustine by the patriots would have been from the north by land. Indians and swamps protected the west and sand bars and impenetrable masonry forts protected attack by sea. However, over a six year period, the patriots attempted to take over St. Augustine on five separate occasions. Each occasion was met with issues that only resulted in minor skirmishes that never reached south of the St. Johns River and kept East Florida under British control until after the war.

### Battle #1 – General Howe and the Georgia Militia

In the early pivotal years of the Revolutionary War, Washington was greatly concerned with the threat of invasion from the British in East Florida. On January 1, 1776, Congress declared that "securing the barracks and castle of St Augustine will greatly contribute to the safety of these colonies, therefore, it is earnestly recommended to the colonies of South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia to undertake the reduction of St. Augustine." Later that month, General Washington sent his second in command, Charles Lee, to oversee an attack on east Florida from Charleston. The attack was delayed due to poor planning and lack of knowledge of the terrain until General Robert Howe took over the expedition from Lee and began an expedition south through Georgia. Meanwhile, a small group of Georgia militia made the farthest southern advance of any invading army, reaching the banks of the St. Johns River near modern day downtown Jacksonville. As the Georgia militia waited, Howe's army was stricken with the Yellow Fever epidemic and never made it past Georgia. Unable to combine with Howe's army and fearful of Cherokee war parties invading their homes in Georgia, they retreated back to protect their homes. If Howe's original army of 2,500 were successful in joining the militia and advancing on St. Augustine, they would have met a heavily fortified and prepared army on the northern outskirts of St. Augustine. What may have been one of most pivotal battles of the Revolution never came to be.

### The Battle of Thomas Creek

Arguably the most important battle in the second planned invasion of St Augustine didn't occur on the battlefield. Instead, the skirmish of egos between General Lachlan McIntosh, Washington's appointed leader of a planned invasion into Florida and political rival Button Gwinnett ended in a duel that caused Gwinnett's death. As a result, McIntosh was recalled back north and leadership was transferred to Colonel Samuel Elbert. This political infighting resulted in delays and further issues as Elbert was unable to successfully rendezvous with Georgia Colonel Baker and consolidate forces. Meanwhile, Baker and his Georgia militia were driven back to Thomas Creek, a small, swampy waterway in North Florida where they were soundly defeated on May 17, 1777 by East Florida Rangers, Indian allies and British regulars lead by British Major Mark Prevost. Unable to connect armies, Baker and Elbert eventually retreated back into Georgia, end-



ing this second conflict.

### Alligator Creek Bridge

Once again, egos played a pivotal role in the next battle in April 1778. Governor John Houstoun and General Howe, perched at the Georgia border, debated internally over attack strategies. General Howe ordered an attack on Thomas Brown's rangers at Fort Tonym before advancing on St. Augustine while Houstoun insisted on bypassing Brown. Howe decided to move on without Houstoun's troops. With their army splintered, a smaller force led by General James Screven walked into an ambush at Alligator Creek Bridge, where his company of 100 mounted dragoons retreating back over the St. Mary's River into Georgia. Houstoun's army never made a serious attack into Florida.

### The Planned Invasions of 1778 and 1780

As the war dragged on, Washington became increasingly concerned with St Augustine's impact, especially given the British conquest of Savannah. A defeat of St Augustine would cripple the British resources to mount continued battles in the south. However, a trusted advisor to Washington, General Jean-Baptiste Donatien, comte de Rochambeau, routinely advised against using valuable resources to start another battlefield in East Florida, especially after several failed earlier attempts. In 1778, Washington was once again on the verge of sending troops to East Florida but Rochambeau was able to talk him out of it with the argument that there was not time to piece together another initiative. Similarly, in 1780, Washington argued for another offensive in East Florida. At this time, Britain had taken hold of Georgia and Rochambeau directed the general's attention towards dealing with their more pressing issues in the north.

Most Americans have been taught that the important events of the American Revolution were battles where huge armies squared off against each other in large battlefields in Virginia and Pennsylvania. However, some of the most important events were smaller battles or major invasions that never took place. The vital role of Florida in the war has been marginalized over the years. The fact that there wasn't a major battle doesn't diminish the value of East Florida to both Britain and the colonies during the war. If history had gone differently and a major battle had taken place in Florida, not only would it have altered the war but also people's perception of Florida's impact.

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## *Princeton Battlefield Update*

*Trust and Institute close on historic site at Princeton; acquisition deal will preserve battlefield land while meeting Institute's faculty housing needs.*

May 30, 2018



(Princeton, N.J.) – The Institute for Advanced Study and the American Battlefield Trust have closed on the Trust's \$4 million purchase of 14.85 acres associated with the 1777 Battle of Princeton. The land, adjacent to the current Princeton Battlefield State Park, will be preserved while enabling the Institute to complete construction of new housing for its faculty on its campus.

The newly acquired land, which will eventually be conveyed to New Jersey as an addition to the existing Princeton Battlefield State Park, includes approximately two-thirds of the Maxwell's Field property, along with an additional 1.12-acre tract north of the property that has been identified by historians as a key part of the battlefield.

Looking southeast across Princeton Battlefield State Park, the viewer sees the distant high ground from which Gen. George Washington counterattacked British forces during the Battle of Princeton, after rallying his Continental Army troops.

Eric Malave / American Battlefield Trust - To make the acquisition possible, the Institute reduced the footprint of its housing project by substituting a new plan to build 16 townhomes for its original proposal to subdivide lots for seven single-family houses and eight townhouses. After closing, the Trust and the Institute will continue to collaborate to fully restore the battlefield site and complete construction of the faculty housing. The Trust intends to install interpretive trails and signage on the land to better tell the story of the Washington's Charge phase of this pivotal battle. Robbert Dijkstra, Director and Leon Levy Professor at the Institute, joined James Lighthizer, President of the American Battlefield Trust, in saying, "We are pleased to finalize this landmark transaction, which addresses the Institute's critical need for faculty housing and enhances the size and preservation efforts of the Princeton Battlefield State Park."

An artist depicts a preserved and restored Washington's Charge site (center right), with new housing (right) for the Institute of Advanced Study faculty, and the existing Princeton Battlefield State Park. The IAS campus adjoins fields associated with "Washington's Charge" during the Battle of Princeton, fought on Jan. 3, 1777. The Mercer Oak's offspring is at center top in the fenced enclosure, with the Princeton Battlefield State Park's memorial colonnade beyond.

Peter Giraudeau / American Battlefield Trust - "This addition to the Princeton battlefield is one of the most important acquisitions in the Trust's 30-year history and preserves the site of one of the defining moments of the American Revolution," Lighthizer noted. "We have raised nearly \$3.2 million from private donors, matched with \$837,000 awarded by the National Park Service and the Mercer County Open Space Assistance Program. In addition to the private and public funds raised to purchase the Washington's Charge site, in 2017 the Trust received a federal grant to create a five-year preservation and interpretation plan for the Princeton battlefield, to help prepare the battlefield for its 250th anniversary in 2027.

## "Battle of Princeton"

by John Trumbull

In his famed "Battle of Princeton" painting, 18th-century artist John Trumbull celebrates George Washington's heroic arrival on the battlefield (on a brown horse, with Dr. Benjamin Rush) and depicts British grenadiers bayoneting Washington's friend, Gen. Hugh Mercer. Mercer died 9 days later in the battlefield's Thomas Clarke House, despite Dr. Rush's care.

John Trumbull / Yale University Art Gallery

"This landscape is a precious reminder of America's struggle to create a democratic republic dedicated to ordinary people's liberty," said Pulitzer Prize-winning historian James M. McPherson, who taught U.S. history at Princeton University for 42 years. "Of all the sites that figured in George Washington's 'Ten Crucial Days' campaign, it is the only one that survives for people to see, understand and appreciate today." Princeton Battlefield Society President Jerry Hurwitz said, "The land purchase brings to fruition decades of work to preserve the Princeton battlefield and honor the men who fought on this land 240 years ago.

About the Institute for Advanced Study: The Institute for Advanced Study, founded in 1930, is a private, independent academic institution in Princeton, New Jersey. Its more than 8,000 former members have held positions of intellectual and scientific leadership throughout the academic world. Thirty-three Nobel Laureates and 41 out of 56 Fields Medalists, as well as many winners of the Wolf and MacArthur prizes, have been affiliated with the Institute. Learn more at [www.ias.edu](http://www.ias.edu).

About the American Battlefield Trust: The American Battlefield Trust is dedicated to preserving America's hallowed battlegrounds and educating the public about what happened there and why it matters today. To date, the nonprofit, nonpartisan organization has protected nearly 50,000 acres of battlefield land associated with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War. Learn more at [www.battlefields.org](http://www.battlefields.org).

About the Battle of Princeton: Fought on Jan. 3, 1777, the Battle of Princeton culminated an audacious, 10-day campaign that began with Washington's famous crossing of the Delaware River on

Christmas Day 1776. In a series of daring maneuvers, Washington successfully attacked isolated elements of the British army. His decisive charge at Princeton marked his army's first victory over British regulars and revitalized the cause of American independence.

## Good Citizenship Award Recipient Passes

It is with deep regret that the FLSSAR and the Jacksonville SAR Chapter announce the passing of Henri



Landwirth. The Jacksonville SAR Chapter presented him a Good Citizenship Award on December 18, 2009 at his home in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. As pictured, the members in attendance were Jim Gaskins, Gary Chandler, and Past PG Lindsey Brock.

As stated in his obituary in the Orlando Sentinel on April 17, 2018, Henri Landwirth, who survived Nazi death camps to create the whimsical wonderland of Give Kids The World for critically ill children, died late Monday at age 91.

A self-made millionaire in Florida's early hospitality industry, Landwirth became a passionate philanthropist whose work has touched more than 160,000 children from all 50 states and at least 75 foreign nations. At the Kissimmee resort village he opened in 1989, the kids and their families enjoy weeklong, all-expenses-paid fantasy vacations.

"Words cannot express the sense of loss we feel today," said Pamela Landwirth, president and CEO of Give Kids The World and Henri's former wife. "When people endure what he did — experiencing the worst of humanity — I think it can either make you bitter or lead you to think that you were spared for a reason. Henri recognized that he could move forward with compassion and love. He made a huge difference."

Born in Belgium in 1927, he was imprisoned from age 13 to 18 by the Nazis, who separated him from his twin sister, killed his parents, stripped him of his name and tattooed him with a number — B4343 — etched on his left forearm. He was shuttled between labor and death camps, starved, beaten and left for dead. "I never had any control over my life as a child," he would write in later years. "I think that is what inspired me to do what I'm doing today —

to thank you for this life I have.” After the war, Landwirth reunited with his sister and, with \$20 to his name and speaking little English, he came to the U.S. as a crew member aboard a cargo ship.

Soon afterward, in January 1950, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and pressed into duty stateside before studying hotel management in New York on the G.I. Bill. Two years later, he moved to Florida.

He worked up from a bellhop to become a manager for a Cocoa Beach hotel that catered to the region’s fledgling space industry. The Starlite Lounge, a hot spot for off-duty personnel at the motel Landwirth ran, led him to friendships with Mercury-era astronauts, including John Glenn, and the journalists who covered them, including legendary TV anchorman Walter Cronkite. “Since he seems to have embraced the whole human race, this largesse is beyond our ability to count, particularly since so much of his help goes unremarked by him,” Chronkite wrote in the foreword of Landwirth’s 1996 autobiography.

In 1969, Landwirth opened his first Holiday Inn franchise in Orlando, predicting the tourism boom that would follow the opening of Walt Disney World Resort in 1971.

And by the 1980s, he began offering free rooms to the Make-A-Wish Foundation for use by families of terminally ill children, many of whom wished to visit Disney. One of them, a 6-year-old named Amy, was scheduled to stay at Landwirth’s hotel, but other plans for her visit dragged — and she died before she could make the trip. Henri Landwirth vowed that hers would be the last wish to go unfulfilled.

He started Give Kids The World in 1986 and opened its initial 35-acre village three years later. Since then, the resort has grown to 84 acres with 166 villa-style accommodations. Last year, the village renamed its ice-cream parlor “Henri’s Starlite Scoops” as a nod to that Cocoa Beach hotel. Although Landwirth was too frail to attend, his son Gary Landwirth attended in his place.

“He would have loved it,” said Gary Landwirth, who started his own charity in Orlando — A Gift for Teaching — and now lives in Asheville, N.C. “Even at the end, when his health was failing, it was amazing to me that people who didn’t know the big Henri were still inspired by him and responded to him in the same way that people who knew the larger-than-life Henri did. Even in his last days, they could sense the warmth and compassion and generosity that were his essence.”

Henri Landwirth passed peacefully in his sleep at his home outside Jacksonville, Gary Landwirth said.

In addition to Give Kids The World, the elder Landwirth’s legacy includes The Fanny Landwirth Foundation, named after Henri’s mother, a grant-making foundation for charities in Orlando, Jacksonville and Asheville; the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation, created in partnership with the Mercury Seven crew; and the Henri Landwirth Society, which helps members include Give Kids The World Village in their estate-planning efforts.

Landwirth is the subject of the 2007 biography, “Love & Hate: The Story of Henri Landwirth” and a documentary titled “Loving Henri.”

Henri Landwirth’s twin sister, Margot Glazer, died last year. He is survived by three children, including Gary Landwirth,

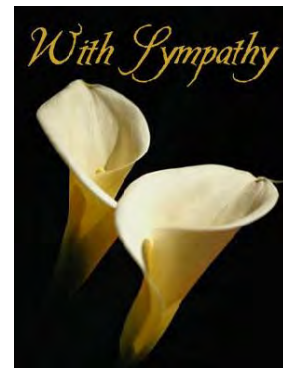
Greg Landwirth and Lisa Landwirth Ullmann, and four grandchildren.

A private family funeral service will be held at Temple Israel Cemetery near Orlando. A celebration of Henri Landwirth’s life will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. April 28 at the Give Kids the World Village.

## *With Deep Sympathy*

It is with deep sympathy that the FLSSAR announce the passing of the following members of the Florida Society. The names of these members are:

Arden August Bartz  
Eugene L. Bradley  
George G. Clemons, Jr.  
Charles E. Doyle  
Nicholas C. Fritsch  
Colin J. Good  
Jerry N. Hess  
Reed Scott Jants  
Donald S. Kimball, II  
Joseph K. Leinbach  
Bruce E. Long  
Charles A. McKinley  
Wesley M. Morris  
William Dudley Putnam, III  
James C. Williams



## *James Madison’s Importance to the United States*

By Angela Shar (Knight Essay Submittal)

James Madison’s central role to the founding of the Constitution and the pride of the American people cannot be overstated. Ever since his introduction to the Virginia Legislature, Madison was key in devising a new constitution for the state. When Madison was elected to represent Virginia in the Constitutional Convention, he campaigned for the Virginia Plan, a novel form of government for the new democracy. During Madison’s tenure as Secretary of State, he secured the Louisiana Purchase for Thomas Jefferson. When Madison became the fourth president of the United States, he was able to successfully navigate the fledgling country through the War of 1812. Never in his life has Madison failed to be the epitome of the actively involved U.S. citizen.

Although Madison’s short stature of just five feet four inches was not imposing to opposition, his keen intellectual and debating capabilities more than compensated for his physical appearance. Although he was appointed a colonel in the Virginia militia in the prelude to the American Revolution, he later resigned in hopes of pursuing a more political career. His experience as a lawyer proved to be beneficial in this journey.

Madison was soon elected to the Virginia constitutional convention, where he supported an individual’s right to freely exercise their own religion. He promoted the Virginia Declaration of Rights, and constantly pushed for stronger protections for religious freedom in Virginia. After the Virginia constitution was enacted, Madison became part of the Virginia



House of Delegates. Madison lost reelection to the House of Delegates in 1777, but he was soon elected to the upper house of the Virginia Colonial legislature, or the Council of State. During his tenure on the Council of State, he met and became close acquaintances with Thomas Jefferson, who served as governor from 1779 to 1781.

In 1779, Madison's life took a turn to the national stage when he was elected to the newly formed Congress of the Confederation, a fledgling lawmaking body hastily drawn up for the new nation. Like others, Madison soon became frustrated with the national government's inability to coerce the states to supply needed money or arms, and fervently promoted the ability of Congress to levy taxes on imported goods. Madison, Washington, and Hamilton soon decided on amending the Articles of Confederation. They established the next Constitutional Convention to be held in 1787.

There, Madison proposed the Virginia Plan, which set forth the idea of population-based representation in the new legislature. The scope of the resolutions broadened the discussion in the Convention. It proposed a legislative branch consisting of two branches, where delegates were elected based on the population of each state, with larger states being able to send more delegates than the smaller states. It also proposed the idea of three separate branches of government. Each would be able to limit the other's power in a system known as checks and balances. For example, legislation could be vetoed of a council composed of the President and selected judges. Their veto could consequently be overridden by an unspecified legislative majority.

After differences were worked out in the Constitution, Madison fervently promoted its ratification along with Hamilton and Jay in a series of essays known as the *Federalist Papers*. After the ratification of the Constitution, Madison was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he promoted the Bill of Rights, and submitted the first draft of its amendments to Congress in June 1789.

Though Madison originally threw his support behind President Washington and his administration, he began to find key differences in their ideologies. Madison disliked the policies of Alexander Hamilton, and believed that his plans for a National Bank undermined the sovereignty of others by lining the pockets of wealthy northerners. Along with Thomas Jefferson, Madison co-founded what is widely considered as the first opposition political party, the Democratic-Republican party.

Although Madison took a brief break from politics from 1797 to 1801, during which he returned to Montpelier and raised his only child Payne, he was soon appointed by the newly elected President Jefferson to be the Secretary of State. During this time,

Madison was able to secure the momentous Louisiana Purchase, in which the United States more than doubled its land size.

Yet, Madison's tenure as Secretary of State saw important issues, such as American neutrality amidst a war between Great Britain and France. Warships from both countries routinely seized American ships and impressed their sailors. After diplomatic efforts failed to appease the warring countries, Madison threw his support behind Jefferson's plan of peaceful economic coercion, the Embargo Act of 1807. While this embargo ultimately resulted in a huge economic disaster for northern merchants, Madison bounced back quickly and secured the Democratic-Republican nomination for President in 1808.

Madison secured a huge electoral victory over the Federalist candidate Charles Pinckney, and quickly turned to the challenge of growing tensions between the United States and Great Britain. The Embargo Act had failed in the public's eye, and Madison quickly repealed it and replaced it with the Non-Intercourse. Despite his efforts, the new act did little to improve the worsening situation. Eventually, a new group of politicians known as the War Hawks emerged, advocating military conflict to end the continued assaults on American ships.

While Madison understood that the armaments of the new country could not match that of Great Britain, he still convinced Congress to declare war on Britain in 1812. During the War of 1812, Madison faced a series of military challenges, as the British won important victories throughout the beginning, and eventually burned the capital city in 1814. However, as Andrew Jackson brilliantly defeated British troops in the Battle of New Orleans, the once controversial war became favorable in the public's opinion. Both sides agreed to the Treaty of Ghent in 1815. While the treaty returned the status quo, Madison had secured an ideological victory for the United States. The country had proved itself as a country that could withstand offensives by the wealthiest and strongest country in the world.

After leaving office in 1817, Madison returned to his plantation in Virginia. Yet his philanthropic efforts did not stop. Madison served on a special board to aid his long-time friend and political ally Jefferson in founding the University of Virginia. After Jefferson's death, Madison took over the leadership of the university. Madison then became active with the American Colonization Society, which he co-founded in 1816 with Robert Finley, future President Andrew Jackson, and future President James Monroe. In 1833, Madison became the president of the society, which aimed to return slaves to a colony in Africa.

Throughout Madison's life, he served as an example of a citizen deeply caring about the future of the nation. Madison worked diligently and tirelessly to right the country on her feet, and established a framework of government that would last for years to come. Madison's contributions to this country remains evident until today, as his ideas established the rights many Americans enjoy today.

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"It will be of little avail to the people that the laws are made by men of their own choice, if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood; if they be repealed or revised before they are promulgated, or undergo such incessant changes that no man who knows what the law is today can guess what it will be to-morrow."  
 ~James Madison

# Chapter News

## Aaron Showen Chapter

Aaron Snowden Chapter has implemented a new website, updated, made more user friendly. New 2019 Officers installed at May meeting, followed shortly by induction of four new members. Chapter has coordinated with County Commissioner for placement of Liberty Tree Plaque in Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Park. Chapter distributed 240 Pocket Constitutions to Government, Civic classes as part of Patriot Day observance. Our Memorial Day event this year had to be cancelled due to tropical storm. Chapter members presented two hundred thirty six Good Citizenship Certificates at seventeen schools thru out the county on Awards Day. Numerous NJROTC Awards were also presented. We have also coordinated with the County Sheriff's office to identify Deputies that are deserving of SAR Award, to be presented soon.

## Caloosa Chapter



Caloosa Chapter past-president Lee Matson presented the SAR Eagle Scout Certificate and Patch along with the SAR Eagle pin to Compatriot Wood. Compatriots McGuire, Matson, and Wood pose along with Daniel's dad, Dr. David Wood Sr. showing the SAR Eagle Scout Certificate as seen in the above picture.



On June 14, 2018, Caloosa President Bob McGuire and Past-President Lee Matson celebrated Flag Day by presenting a SAR Flag Certificate to neighbors of Lee, Bill & Carolyn Van Duzer. The family displays the American Flag in front of their home, with the flag being lit at night with a spotlight. Another neighbor, Dan & Janet Smither was also deserving of recognition. However, they will receive their certificate later as they were not available early in the day.



Lee County has the largest Army JROTC program in the United States, with 6,755 Cadets enrolled. The Caloosa Chapter joined with numerous other patriotic organizations in recognizing outstanding Cadets at the annual awards ceremony in Fort Myers on May 2, 2018. The Caloosa Chapter awarded 14 SAR Bronze JROTC medals to Cadets for High Merit in Leadership & Bearing.



## *Central Florida Chapter*



At the April Patriot Meeting Luncheon, Compatriot Phil Markoe gave a presentation on his Patriot Ancestor Abram Markoe and the legend of the Philadelphia Light Horse Troop. Abram was an original organizer of the Philadelphia Light Horse Troops and served in the American Revolution as the Troops first captain. As pictured on the left is Phil Markoe with his wife who ran the power point presentation.

At the May meeting, it was announced that the JROTC/ROTC Awards Committee has presented SAR Bronze Medal Awards to 30 cadets at the Central Florida High Schools that span over four (4) counties. There was also two UCF cadets in the Army and Air Force ROTC program that received the SAR ROTC Silver Medal Awards. As for the Navy Sea Cadets program, two cadets in two local battalions was also awarded. For 2018, the Central Florida SAR Chapter was able to give out a total of 34 Medals and Certificates. At the meeting itself, various certificates of appreciations and awards were presented to the various members who have served in various capacities within the chapter.

The members in the first picture above (left to right) are Burt Fairchild, Bob Smither, Maynard Pittendreigh, and Richard Hoffman. The members in the second picture above are Dan Dall, Phil Markoe, Burt Fairchild, and Maynard Pittendreigh.

## *Clearwater Chapter*



As pictured above, Cadet Austin Dziedzic, Gulf High School NROTC was presented the SAR JROTC Award by Chapter President Pat Niemann at the Gulf High School Awards Ceremony, May 2, 2018.

The weekend of May 18-20, 2018 was a good weekend for the Clearwater Chapter SAR. At the Spring State meeting of the Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Clearwater Chapter received several awards.

At the Youth Luncheon, Stuart Case received the 1<sup>st</sup> place Eagle Scout Award for the Second time for his Essay. He also was announced that he had been selected as the 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the National level of the Eagle Scout Program.

The chapter was also third place in the Earl Marlin Publicity contest, certificate, ribbon and a monetary award and second place in the large chapter, Chapter Challenge contest, certificate and ribbon. Dr. Bob Cundiff received a Past President certificate for his term of 2016-2017. James Gibson received a Certificate of Appreciation for his chairing the Veterans Affairs and ROTC committees.

Parks Honeywell was awarded the Patriot Medal. He was one of four state members who received this prestigious award. The Patriot Medal is the highest award presented to a Compatriot by a State Society and recognizes long, faithful, outstanding, and distinguished service at the state and/or chapter level. The Patriot Medal is awarded only by a State Society and

may be presented only to an individual. Service at the national level is not considered in making the award. It is desirable that it be presented at the annual meeting of the State Society.

Col. Patrick Niemann was awarded the State Medal of Distinguished Service medal for service as the Senior Vice President 2017-2018. Only one such award each year is authorized for presentation. This award is presented by the State President. The incumbent State President may present one medal during his term at the Society's Annual Meeting to a Compatriot in recognition for that Compatriot's conspicuous service to the State Society President during his administration. The SMDS is awarded by a State Society President at his discretion.

Lastly, Col. Patrick J. Niemann of our chapter was elected and installed as President on the Florida State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Pat will be an excellent president and will be calling on the membership to assist him in all the activities of the state. He will represent the Florida Society at the 128<sup>th</sup> National Congress held in Houston, Texas, July 13-18, 2018.

## *Daytona - Ormond Chapter*



The Daytona-Ormond Chapter is getting active again. Regular chapter meetings are being held the third Thursday of each month, and a monthly newsletter has begun. The chapter presented JROTC medals to outstanding cadets at Spruce Creek, DeLand, Mainland, and University High Schools. Thanks to Compatriots Jim Doan, Newton White, Bill Elder, and Richard Lyon for making the presentations in person. In addition, the chapter participated in the Port Orange Memorial Day Observance as seen in the above picture.

## *Flagler Chapter*

Compatriot Paul Clement Pritchard, USAF Reserve LTC (ret.), gave a stirring account of his tour of duty in Vietnam during 1967-1968, as the featured speaker at the January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Annual Meeting of the Flagler Chapter SAR. Compatriot Pritchard served in the Phoenix Program coordinated by the United States Central Intelligence Agency and as an advisor to the South Vietnamese Army. As a First Lieutenant in the US Army, Compatriot Pritchard worked closely with South Vietnamese Army Officers in the Mekong River delta area of South Vietnam. His duties included training and coordinating the



Chapter President Randall Morris (L) presents Compatriot Paul Pritchard (Center) with a special Ruler of Presidents as wife Dr. Sharon Conley looks on.

operational activities of the South Vietnamese units to which he was assigned.

Compatriot Pritchard outlined how the United States became involved in Southeast Asia, when President Eisenhower first dispatched advisors to aid the South Vietnamese Army in their struggle with the insurgent North Vietnamese Army. He discussed the “Domino Theory” prevalent at that time, and, how the free world viewed the Communist expansion that was taking place during the 1950’s. Compatriot Pritchard explained that the American goal of winning the hearts and minds of the Vietnamese people failed to take into account the impact that local loyalty had on the people. Most Vietnamese did not identify with a centralized government, rather they were mainly concerned with their family and village.

The United States withdrew from the Vietnam War, and shortly thereafter, the Communist North Vietnamese Army defeated the South Vietnamese Army. His published memoir is entitled A YOUNG MAN IN WAR and is listed on Amazon.



On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, Cadet SFC Andrew J. Asbill was awarded the Sons of the American Revolution JROTC Medal & Certificate at Matanzas High School in Palm Coast by Compatriot Paul Pritchard.

Cadet Asbill is a junior at Matanzas High School in the US Army JROTC program. Upon graduation next year, he plans to enlist in the USAF and train to be an Air Traffic Controller.

Cadet Asbill is highly regarded by the JROTC staff and is expected to be in a top leadership position for his senior JROTC year. Pictured on the left bottom of this page is C/SFC Andrew J. Asbill (Center) flanked from left to right by Compatriots 2nd VP Charles Hayes, Member-at-Large Paul Pritchard, Dr. Jeff Schaller and David Kelsey, Awards Chairman.



On April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, in a ceremony held in the shade of the Flagler Chapter Liberty Tree located in Heroes Memorial Park in Palm Coast, Florida, Compatriots Stephen Pritchard, Christopher Pritchard, Eason Pritchard, III and Andrew Wilkin were inducted into the Flagler Chapter of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Flagler Chapter Officer, Compatriot Paul Pritchard, encouraged his son, Christopher, and three other family members to join the NSSAR to honor their shared Patriot Ancestor, Joseph Henry Pritchard, a member of the South Carolina militia. Compatriot Paul Pritchard’s son, Compatriot Christopher Pritchard, represented his brother, Stephen, and two cousins at the swearing in ceremony. Pictured above are (left to right) Flagler Chapter Compatriots Chaplain Don Gingles, Member-at-Large Paul Pritchard, Christopher Pritchard, Chapter President Randall Morris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Charles Hayes and Applicant (now Compatriot) Jeff Schaller. In the background is the Flagler Chapter Liberty Tree.

## *Jacksonville Chapter*



The chapter had a very busy Spring. (J)ROTC medals were presented to outstanding cadets at 22 area high schools and two universities. Due to the efforts of Compatriots Scott Breckenridge, Dennis Carpenter, Ryan Doane, Jarrod Eason, Chuck Farmer, Jim Gaskins, Gayward Hendry, Eric Johnson,



Michael Justiss, Preston Moses, Ken Norwood, Bill Riehl, John Roberson, Martin Schwartz, Larry Scott, and Ike Thornton, all presentations were made in person. Habitat for Humanity home dedications were made in Clay county, Jax Beaches, and Habijax, resulting in nearly 50 flag kits presented. The George Washington Camp color guard presented the colors at eight different events around the area, including DAR, CAR, and Boy Scout events.

On Saturday April 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 the 241<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek was commemorated in Jacksonville, Florida at Seaton Creek Historic Park with over 100 attending, including representatives from FLSSAR, GASSAR, DAR, CAR, City of Jacksonville, National Park Service, and the Boy Scouts.

## *Lake - Sumter Chapter*



Pictured above is newly elected President Allan Lane and Secretary Ed Riley as they preside over the May 5th member meeting.



Pictured above is at the GeorgeFest Parade that was held in Eustis, FL. Members (l-r) are Compatriots Ed Riley, Ron Toops, Allan Lane, George Chaffee, Bob Bass, Jim Carl, Basil Linville, Jr and John Moore. Missing from the photo were Glenn Langston (Parade Coordinator) and Bob Beightol (Photographer).

Recruiting efforts by Registrar John Moore have continued with five new members approved, three applications pending, and several being prepared for submission. Veteran Recognition Committee Chairman Jim Carl has continued his program with a total of six NSSAR applications approved, three for the World War II Veteran Corps and three for the Vietnam Veteran Corps. In the same regard but on his own initiative, Compatriot Allan Lane completed his interview and documentation of our four World War II veterans which were then published in the Lake-Sumter Gazette. Ten members participated in the GeorgeFest Parade; three members in U.S. Flag placement at a local Cemetery for Memorial Day; and eight members represented the Lake-Sumter Chapter (the color guard, speaker and photographer) at The Villages Chapter Liberty Tree Dedication.

Under the guidance of Education Chairman Ron Grove, local winners have been chosen in Rumbaugh Oration Contest, Poster contest and the American History Teacher of the Year contest. In both the Poster and American History Award Contest, our local winners have gone on to win the FLSSAR phase of the contest. Under the guidance of Compatriot Bill Hayes, the Chapter has awarded six local JROTC cadets the Bronze SAR JROTC medal with certificate and one Citizenship award to a member of the Sea Cadets. Thus far, eight Eagle Scout certificates have been presented with indications that the total number of new eagle scouts may exceed twenty.

At the April member meeting, new officers were elected and then installed at the May meeting. The new Chapter officer's are: President Allan Lane, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bob Beightol, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Richard Offutt, Secretary Ed Riley and Treasurer Ron Grove.

With the good news, must come the bad. Two of our long-time members are moving. Compatriot Basil Linville, Jr., has left for Ohio for an extended visit to tend to an ailing family member. At the time of his departure Compatriot Linville was the Chapter Sergeant at Arms, Quartermaster and Member at Large of the Executive Committee. Past-President Ralph D. Nelson, Jr., and his wife Kay are moving to North Carolina to be nearer family. At the time of his departure, Compatriot Nelson was the Chapter Chaplain, Chairman of the Good Citizen and Service Committees and a member of the Executive Committee.

## *Miami Chapter*



Miami Chapter First VP William Wicks, Esq. awards a young cadet for his accomplishments during a ceremony at a gathering of the cadet's officers and peers.



As pictured above, the Thomas Paine Camp Color Guard of the Miami Chapter assembles for the Memorial Day observance. Musketiers Lee Pop-ham (l.) and William Wicks (r.) flank Color Guard Commander David Mitchell (with the Betsy Ross flag) and Chapter President Wolff.

## *Palm Beach Chapter*



Palm Beach Chapter continues proactive recruiting programs with DAR-CAR chapters, Genealogical organizations, educational institutions and at civic events with 7 applicants approved in the 1st Quarter and 40 prospects in process.

2018 Officers inducted in January include: Benjamin F. Tidwell III-President, Bob Boggs-Vice President, Gary Green-Secretary, Peter Johnston-Treasurer, Bob Boggs-Registrar, Father Sanford Sears-Chaplain, Sam Miller-Historian, Peter Miller-Sgt. @ Arms & Sonny Barber as Officer @ Large.

The Chapter is sad to report the passing of two members, Past Chapter President (1999-2000), Veteran, Barry P. Bliss age 97 and Compatriot, Veteran, Joseph K. Leinbach age 83. Memorial services will be conducted at Chapter meetings



Compatriots participated in numerous SAR-DAR activities including, The Thomas Creek and Last Naval Battle ceremony, county & state DAR meetings/events, and Genealogical Society events. The Chapter plans several activities to celebrate its 80th year including a special luncheon on December 8 at the historic Everglades Club on Palm Beach Island where the chapter was founded in 1938.

The Chapter honored seven Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighter/EMT professionals for their service, and two DAR Daughters for their support of the SAR including the Lydia Darragh Medal for Karen Christie, Registrar Garcilaso de la Vega Chapter and SAR Medal of Appreciation for Ms. Diane Tidwell of the Palm Beach Chapter along with Military Service Medals to Compatriots Peter Miller and Richard Linn increasing the Chapter's FLSSAR Veterans Brigade membership to 27 representing 15% of the total membership including a Coast Guard Admiral and US Army General.

Chapter medals/recognition included former President Don Lanman presented with the Chapter (Bronze) and the State (Silver) Good Citizenship Medals, the Chapter Distinguished Service medal to Compatriot Gary Green; Roger Sherman Bronze medals to Buddy Miller and Father Sanford Sears, Bob Boggs received the National Liberty Medal, and former Chapter and State President Raymond Wess received the SAR Wounded Warrior Medallion.

The Chapter presented to Cardinal Newman High School Student, Evan Sanchez an award for his winning essay in the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay contest and presented 8 JROTC Bronze medals. Chapter continues actively working with two CAR chapters on both civic and local VA Hospital patient support.

## *Panama City Chapter*

FLSSAR Panama City Chapter experienced a historic milestone during the June 18, 2018 induction ceremony with a record-breaking chapter meeting attendance, with twenty participating individuals.



The chapter gained four new members with help from the Saint Andrews Bay NSDAR.

The FLSSAR Northwest Regional Vice President "Matt" Mathews sworn in three new members, in photo, left to right, David Pete Windham, Clifton Travis Windham and William Scott Atkins.

Panama City Chapter President and Registrar, DeCody Brad Marble is holding his maternal grandfather's Masonic Bible.



DAR member, Caroline Patricia Rivoire Windham received the Bronze Martha Washington Award for the research and submission of three applicants, at large positive impact upon the SAR chapter. She promises to submit two cousins in the immediate future.

In the five and half years, since DeCody Brad Marble has been a Panama City Chapter SAR member, two chapter members have never attended a meeting. The two individuals were present and witness the induction ceremony. In addition, three World War II SAR PCFL members witness the ceremony, in photo, from left to right, Marvin Enloe McCain, Charles Creighton Humphries, and Owen Eugene Cook. Owen Cook brought his DD-214, in order to join the SAR Florida Veteran's Battalion.

Compatriot James Paddison Pretlow, a retired U.S.A.F. Lt. Colonel, Vietnam Veteran, who obtain the Distinguish Flying Cross with two bronze oak leaf clusters, receives his SAR Florida Veteran's Battalion Certificate. Also, a retired U.S.A.F. Lt. Colonel, new member, Clifton Travis Windamsummits his DD-214 on



this historic milestone day, a genuine turning point for the FLSSAR Panama City Chapter. Chapter President, Compatriot of Marble cannot stop smiling.



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](http://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](mailto:5elves@bellsouth.net)**



## St. Petersburg Chapter



Pictured above are President Rogers, Vice Commander Dick Young of the Sons of Liberty Brigade of the Florida Society, SAR, and VP/Color Guard Captain David Chestnut with our Chapter's Color Guard Proclamation.

The St Petersburg Chapter has wanted an official Color Guard that it could call its own. After some letter writing to the Commander and Vice Commander of the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade, I have received a welcome from these Commanders.

On Saturday March 17, 2018, Vice Commander Dick Young of the Sons of Liberty Brigade of the Florida Society SAR, presented the St Petersburg Chapter SAR with our proclamation. The new Colonel Gabriel Long Camp #16 is welcomed into the Brigade. Color Guard Captain David Munson Chestnut and President Bob Rogers accepted this proclamation on behalf of the new camp and the St Petersburg Chapter. In our next issue of this newsletter we will include the story of Col. Gabriel Long and why our name sake is a great choice for our chapter.

As submitted by David Munson Chestnut, We are the Colonel Gabriel Long Camp #16 Color Guard, and we are the latest camp in the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade. Our namesake was suggested by compatriot Will Scott, and it is a very fitting one. Col. Gabriel Long was surely noble to the cause and a great patriot to our country. I hope that our Camp #16 will live up to his name and make the St. Petersburg chapter proud as we represent our ancestors of the past! Here is his story, from information found on *Wikipedia*:

**Gabriel Long** was born in 1751 in Culpeper County, Virginia. He was of strong Irish stock and of direct descent from the Longs of Wraxall. He came of age during the French and Indian War, in which his father and grandfather were both heavily involved, and he tasted war for the first time in it as a color-bearer and private soldier in the state militia. Long grew to be an excellent marksman and horseman.

Long was an ardent patriot, as were his father and grandfather. In 1774 there was a petition sent to the Royal Governor of the colony and the King of England himself by the men who would form the Culpeper Minutemen. Gabriel Long had the distinction of signing the document very first and very boldly as Hancock would do two years later.<sup>[1]</sup> His father and grandfather also signed the petition and were members of the Culpeper Minutemen. As a member of the militia he fought at the Battle of Point Pleasant, and

in Lord Dunmore's War he saw heavy action at the seaport Battles of Hampton and Norfolk.

By the time Virginia began raising troops for service in the Continental Army, Long already had a rather long service record and was renowned as one of the best riflemen in Virginia and for that matter the colonies so it was natural that when Daniel Morgan was recruiting his rifle battalion he chose Gabriel Long as his senior captain and as later remarked by his men his "favourite captain and good friend".<sup>[2]</sup> When Long began recruiting he would take a board, draw a target on it, usually in the shape of a human nose, in the middle of the board and set it up at several hundred yards and those who shot the closest to the nose would be chosen. Long himself was also known to have shot apples off of men's heads at a considerable range, a practice which was said to have "wasted many apples" and was also known to be accurate up to 300 yards with a target the size of an orange.

During the Battle of Trenton he was the first across the river, and his company led the assault, and it is believed that he is the mysterious marksmen who killed Colonel Johann Rall. He helped unite Sullivan's and Washington's columns by holding back the British and thus greatly contributed to the victory at Princeton. When Washington settled into camp at Valley Forge, Long led his men as a detached company under his independent command<sup>[5]</sup> who scouted and skirmished all around the camp and prevented the British from taking Washington's Army in such a vulnerable state. After the encampment at Valley Forge he helped defend Philadelphia from an expected attack, but through his and others' efforts it was repulsed.

At Millstone, New Jersey, while leading a detachment he came across a column of British soldiers under Lord Cornwallis whose intentions were to draw Washington's army out of fortified position to an open area for a general engagement. Long, realizing this, raised the alarm and stood his ground and held back the enemy while awaiting reinforcements which would come and completely drive out the British. Long once again saved Washington's army and would continue to do so in the future.

### Notes

1. *Officers and Enlisted Men in the Culpeper Minutemen*
2. LaCross, Richard; *Revolutionary Rangers; Heritage*; 2007; page 95.
3. <http://patriot.sar.org/fmi/iwp/cgi?-db=Grave%20Registry&-loadframes> search names Gabriel Long and Solomon Long
4. LaCross; page 98. *Valley Forge Muster Roll Database*



Flag of Gabriel Long's Culpeper Minutemen



John Stewart presents JROTC award to Farragut Cadet Dylan Miksch, who also won this year's Knight Essay Contest.

## *The Villages Chapter*

The Villages Chapter placed flags in Section 402 of the Florida National Cemetery located in Bushnell, Florida on May 28, 2018. Eleven members were present for this event where more than 2000 volunteers placed flags on 102,000 graves.



Compatriot Chestnut receives a Certificate of Appreciation from President Rogers for his service to the chapter.



## *William Dunaway Chapter Mariana, Florida*

The SAR Compatriot Marking and Memorial Ceremony for Fletcher Ryals Dunaway, the Founder of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution, William Dunaway Chapter of Marianna, Florida in 2008.

In Greenwood Methodist Church Cemetery, on Saturday, 30 June 2018, after an hour ceremony, in the hot blistering Florida sun, the Compatriots of the Florida Northwest Region and Georgia Southwest Region stand and salute during taps.

Perhaps not looking professional, the aged, tired compatriots reveal their hearts and proudly honor a founder, mentor, leader, follower, family man, veteran and friend, Fletcher R. Dunaway.



President Rogers (center) with Johnnie Clark and DAR Princess Hirrihigua Regent Anne Ciero. Johnnie's medals include a Silver Star and 3 Purple Hearts.



Picture (left to right) are Charles Gibson of the Joel Early Chapter, GAS-SAR, a relative descendant of First President George Washington. Harry Wilson "Hap" Dunaway, a first cousin, Chaplain of William Dunaway Chapter, James Frederick "Jim" Dunaway, a nephew, former FLSSAR William Dunaway Chapter President, who recently under-gone a triple-by-pass. Robert Kennedy "Kenny" Dunaway, a first cousin, Secretary of William Dunaway Chapter Earl Frederick "Matt" Mathews, the 2018-2019, FLS-SAR Northwest Regional Vice President DeCody Brad Marble, Sons of the American Revolution National Society recognized descendant of 23 American Revolutionary Patriots of which one is a female. Compatriot Marble's Color Guard Uniform passed down to him from Fletcher R. Dunaway, a year ago.

## *2018 Patriot Medal Recipients*

The Patriot Medal is the highest award presented to a Compatriot by a State Society and recognizes long, faithful, outstanding, and distinguished service at the state and/or chapter level. The Patriot Medal is awarded only by a State Society and may be presented only to an individual. Service at the national level is not considered in making the award. It is desirable that it be presented at the annual meeting of the State Society. A representative cannot accept the Patriot Medal.

The Patriot Medal may be awarded annually by any state society. State societies with fewer than 500 members may present no more than one medal each calendar year. State societies with 500 to 1000 members may present two medals each calendar year. State societies with over 1000 members may present one medal for each 500 members. This year the FLSSAR was able to present four medals. The 2018 FLSSAR Recipients of this distinguished award are Parks Honeywell, Lee Matson, Jeff Sizemore, and Ray Wess.

## *2018 Spring BOM and Annual Meeting*



# 2018 Spring BOM and Annual Meeting





*The Florida Patriot*

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## FLSSAR Board of Management Meeting

Embassy Suites - Orlando Lake Buena Vista South

*October 12 - 14, 2018*

*(Room Rate = \$143 per night & \$5.00 daily parking fee)*

*4955 Kyngs Heath Road Kissimmee, FL 34746*

*FROM INTERSTATE 4 WEST - (from Tampa):* From I-4, take exit #67 (SR 536/Epcot). At the bottom of the ramp, turn right and continue on SR536 approximately 2 miles to SR535. Turn right at this traffic light and go almost 2 miles and turn right onto Kyngs Heath Rd at traffic light. The hotel is on the corner of SR535 & Kyngs Heath Rd.

*FROM INTERSTATE 4 EAST - (from Daytona Beach and downtown Orlando):* From I-4, take exit #68 (SR535). Turn left from the ramp traffic light & head to Kissimmee. Upon going about 3.5 miles, turn right onto Kyngs Heath Rd at traffic light. The hotel is on the right.

*FROM THE FLORIDA TURNPIKE, NORTH OR SOUTH:* From the Florida Turnpike, take exit #249 (Osceola Parkway Exit), Head west upon getting on Osceola Parkway. Upon going across the Shingle Creek bridge after the toll booth, the next exit is SR535. Turn left onto SR535, and go to the next traffic light (Kyngs Heath Rd) and turn right. The hotel is on the right.

*FROM MELBOURNE ON US192:* From I-95, head west on US192 and go roughly 54 miles. Then turn right at the SR535 traffic light. At the next traffic light on SR535, turn left onto Kyngs Heath Rd. The hotel is on the right.