



The Florida Patriot

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

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Spring 2019

2019 Memorial of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution



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.

The 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.



SONS of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION
Patriotic ★ Historical ★ Educational

2019 Memorial of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution



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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.

Summer 2019 Issue	6/6/2019
Fall 2019 Issue	8/1/2019
Winter 2020 issue	11/15/2019

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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 or via mail at 1535 Skyline Drive, Kissimmee, FL 34744.



Society President's Message

Compatriots,

I have just returned from the Spring Leadership Conference and have great news. The Florida Society has been selected to host the 133rd Annual Congress of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution in 2023! The Congress will be held in Orlando from July 8-12, 2023. My grateful thanks to Lee Popham and his committee who prepared the winning bid. Lee and Bernard Wolff will serve as members on the National Congress Planning Committee. If you want to serve on the FLSSAR Congress Planning Committee, please contact Lee Popham.

As a reminder our Florida Annual Meeting will be held May 10-11, 2019 at the Embassy Suites in Kissimmee. Currently, President General Alter, Secretary General Manning, Registrar General Pickette and Vice President General, South Atlantic District will be attending our meeting. President General Alter will be the speaker for the May 11th banquet and will install the new officers for 2019-2020.

Compatriot LTC Gary Green, North Carolina, will also be attending our Annual Meeting and putting on two separate sessions. One is the Patriot Research System (PRS) and the other session on Patriot Grave Marking. He is an active member of both committees and instrumental in the development of the PRS. Based on my chapter and regional visits I know that there are many questions regarding the PRS and this is the reason that we invited Gary to our Annual Meeting.

I have continued my travels around the state and have been able to visit 17 chapters with more visits scheduled. I had the pleasure in February to present three prestigious Molly Pitcher medals to very deserving ladies who have supported the SAR Color Guard activities at the State, District and National levels. Congratulations to Jeanne Fehrenbaker, Anne McGuire and Delores Wolff and thank you for your outstanding support of our SAR Color Guard.

Membership is the lifeblood of our society and we need to continue our growth and increase member retention. I encourage all of you to be recruiters for the FLSSAR. Let's make our chapter meetings interesting and worthwhile so members will want to attend and take a role in chapter activities. I have been extremely pleased with the large turn-outs at several of the chapters that I have visited and noted that they had one thing in common – an interesting speaker and program. I want to take this opportunity to thank the officers and committee chairmen for their outstanding work and support to me and the FLSSAR. They have made my job much easier and have contributed to the success of our society.

I look forward to seeing you at our Annual meeting. Thank you for all that you do for the SAR.

Yours in patriotism,

Pat

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



What is an E-Book?

The Florida Society SAR 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.

Summary of the NSSAR 2019 Spring Leadership Meeting

Herein is a brief summary of the important details that was covered at the Spring Leadership meeting that was held on March 2nd. The items discussed are as follows:

SAR Education Center Museum Project: Solid Light project status was given by Ad Hoc Committee Chairman William Stone. The committee is working closely with Solid Light and monitoring the project carefully. One of the changes made already is to move the projected location of the SAR Retail Space so that the traffic flow will go through it entering and leaving the area. The committee has coordinated with them on the makeup of the proposed exhibit matrix which includes: (1) Lobby/Retail, (2) To the New World, (3) The Journey, (4) Griffin's Wharf, (5) Tax Office, (6) Print Shop, (7) Town Square, (8) Green Dragon Tavern, (9) Before Lexington, (10) War Begins, (11) Washington's Army, (12) Siege of Boston, (13) Independence, (14) New York/New Jersey Campaigns, (15) Saratoga/Philadelphia Campaign, (16) France Enters the War, (17) British Return to New York, (18) War Moves South, (19) Yorktown, (20) After Yorktown, (21) Securing Peace, and (22) The Young Republic.

It was stated that the SAR Foundation is on the way to raising that necessary \$780,000 funds needed at this time. All members are encouraged to consider a donation to the SAR Education Center and Museum (easy to do through the Foundations' new monthly donation program).

The new member database program is being chaired by the IT Committee Chairman who is PG J. Michael Tomme. IT efforts are in place to transform our current member database (three separate systems) into one unified system. Once transformed, it will be tested thoroughly with various size chapters and states before being brought out for general use. This software is still in the development stage.

The New Website RFP has been awarded to Mission Data. They will be developing a responsive Word Press website for SAR. Both IT projects are to proceed without delays with Mission Data allocating a general manager to oversee both projects yet separate teams will work on the database integration and the website update.

Change in Quorum Requirements: Based on issues of Committees at Leadership and Congress not having enough committee members present to necessarily represent a quorum, Parliamentarian Dr. Randy Moody proposed a change to the ExCom who presented it for approval by the Trustees. The Trustees approved the motion which stated: Insert into Handbook, Volume II, p.7: *Except for the Executive Committee, Standing Committees and Special Committees established by the bylaws, a quorum for meetings during Congress or Leadership Meetings shall be a majority of the committee members registered for the Congress or Leadership Meeting; a quorum for these committee meetings between Congress and Leadership Meetings shall be 1/3 of the appointed committee members.*

Latest News about the Endowment Trust Fund Disbursement Committee

It's been a very good year for the Endowment Trust Fund Disbursement Committee. And that means it was good for chapters. We received 65 requests from 25 chapters totaling \$15,233.09 in approved reimbursements. We had 33 chapters until Okeechobee made it 34 in October. Florida is the only state that has this kind of fund to benefit chapters. This is a great tool to assist chapter's public relations and recruitment.

As a brief review, the fund reimburses for awards to non-SAR members like

our youth contests, CAR, JROTC, Boy Scouts, public servants and veterans. Medals are reimbursed at 100% and other qualified items at 75%. Chapters can make 5 requests a year with a maximum of \$350 per request which totals \$1,750 as the chapter's annual maximum. The activity year is Nov. 1 to Oct. 31 and the deadline for submitting requests is Nov. 15. The New Year's requests can start being submitted Jan. 1. Awards go out in 2 checks. The first half of the award goes out within a few weeks of the request. The second check will go out in Dec. after the award year is closed. If the allotment for the year has been exceeded, the second check will be proportionally reduced. Please be sure to cash those second checks before Dec. 31.

You can get the guidelines and request form from the "Documents & Forms" tab on the state web site. Then scroll down to the "ETF Grant Application".

Some changes were made at the Fall BOM so new guidelines will be published before Jan. 1.

I'd like to thank the committee; Jim Gaskins, Lee Matson, Jeff Sizemore, Ben Tidwell and Ray Wess for their help and guidance especially to Ray who spent a lot of time getting me going.

From the Document Committee

I. Endowment Trust Fund Proposals:

C. 3. Meal for Enhanced JROTC Program Winner, Rumbaugh, Knight, and Eagle Scout winners; two per recipient. (Limit \$20.00 per meal.)

Proposed change – Meals for Enhanced JROTC Program Winner, Rumbaugh, Knight, Americanism Poster contest and Eagle Scout winners (Limit \$40.00 per award)

Justification – these being youth awards, typically both parents would accompany their child, so that means 3 meals. This would allow chapters with less expensive meals to get them covered. The Americanism Poster contest should be included.

C. 4. Medals for Law Enforcement, Fire-Safety, Heroism, Emergency Medical Services, Bronze Good Citizenship awards and two meals per recipient. Other Medals purchased from NSSAR and presented to persons other than SAR members in recognition of their support of the Sons of the American Revolution, persons whose achievements are noteworthy in their school, community or state, or those currently serving or who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States, and two meals per recipient. (Limit \$20.00 per meal.)

Proposed change - Medals for Law Enforcement, Fire-Safety, Heroism, Emergency Medical Services, Bronze Good Citizenship awards. Other Medals purchased from NSSAR and presented to persons other than SAR members in recognition of their support of the Sons of the American Revolution, persons whose achievements are noteworthy in their school, community or state, or those currently serving or who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States. Meals limited to \$40.00 per recipient.

Justification – in the case of public service personnel a spouse and commanding officer would accompany the Recipient. This would allow chapters with less expensive meals to get them covered.

C. 5. Chapters participating in the Habitat for Humanity outreach program may request reimbursement for the purchase of the porch/mailbox flag kits used in the program. Limit of \$20.00 per porch/mailbox flag kit with a maximum of 15 in a calendar year. Chapters must report the name of each recipient, and the date of each dedication.

Proposed change - Chapters participating in the Habitat for Humanity outreach program may request reimbursement for the purchase of the porch/mailbox flag kits used in the program. Limit of \$300.00 per year.

Justification – Large chapters in large cities may have more than 15 homes in a year. If they purchase the cheaper kits they can accommodate more homes and the chapters with fewer homes can purchase a higher quality flag kit.

C. 13. Engraving expenses – not to exceed \$5.00 per award.

Proposed change - Engraving expenses – not to exceed \$10.00 per award.

Justification – SAR charges \$10 to engrave a medal. A local jeweler I use charges \$10.

Proposed additions:

C. 16. Support to Boy Scout Councils (Limit \$100)

C. 17. Support to JROTC units (Limit \$100)

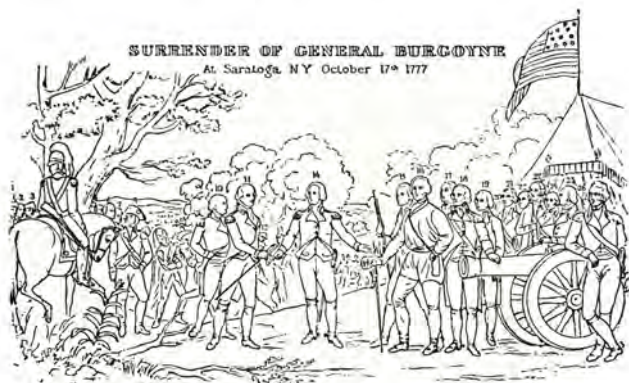
Swimming for Freedom

by Liberty Paige

When people think of the American Revolution, they think of the Boston Tea Party, or the battles of Lexington, Concord and Saratoga. Although these are very important events in the war against the British, there are also lesser-known events that shaped the course of the war for our freedom. You may not have learned of these in history class, but that doesn't make them any less important. Richard Wallace, just a simple private, performed one of the greatest athletic feats in the American Revolution, while his wife, Bethsheba, took care of their home front.

According to the source *Rolls of the Soldiers in the Revolutionary War*, Richard Wallace was a resident of Thetford, Orange County, Vermont. He was a private for Connecticut and Vermont militias during the Revolutionary War. He served under captains Mason, Elisha Burton, William Heaton and Colonel Samuel Herrick. He was also a scout near Fort Ticonderoga, and eventually earned the rank of corporal (NARA 396-418).

To be able to volunteer your service to the United States Army today, one of the requirements is that you should be able to swim. However, during the American Revolution, swimming was not required of militiamen. To serve, all you needed was good health and a gun. In the book *The Revolution Remembered*, Wallace recalls, "Colonel Brown came to me and inquired if I could swim. I told him I was not a great swimmer. He said he wanted me to swim a little way but did not then tell me where or for what purpose. After excusing

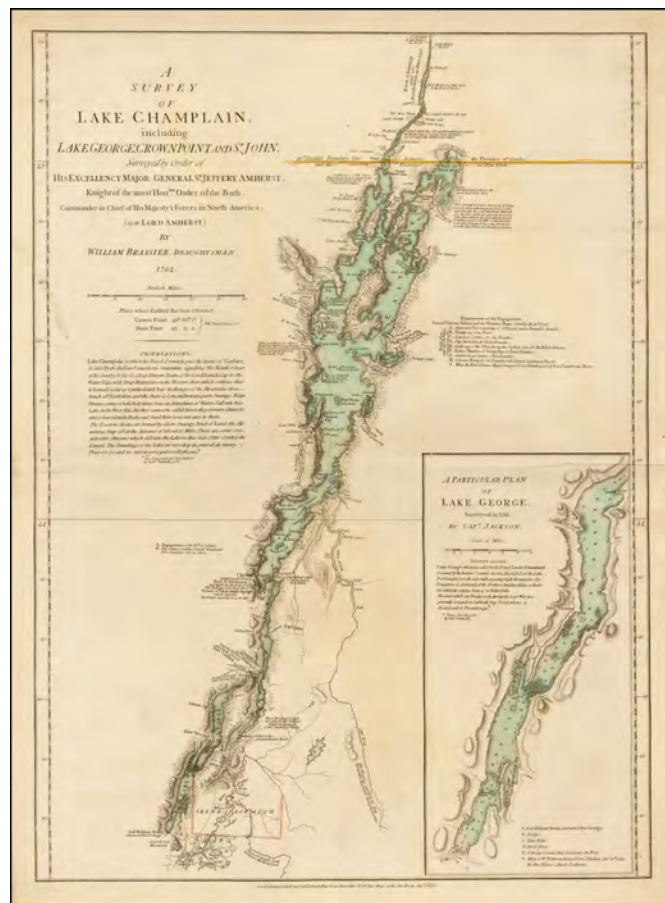


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|---|--|--|--|
| 1. Major Ligonier, Massachusetts | 10. Major General Phillips, British | 19. Colonel Menden, Virginia, British | 28. Major Armstrong |
| 2. Colonel Clegg, New Hampshire | 11. Lieutenant General Skene, British | 20. Brig. Gen. Philip Schuyler, Albany | 29. Major Gen. Philip Schuyler, Albany |
| 3. General Barré, New Hampshire | 12. General James Watson, British | 21. Brigadier General Clinton, Massachusetts | 30. Brigadier General Clinton, Massachusetts |
| 4. Captain Mowbray, of the British Forces | 13. Colonel Williams, Captain Johnson, British | 22. Brigadier General Mifflin, New Jersey | 31. Major Mifflin, New Jersey |
| 5. Major Hall, Massachusetts | 14. Colonel Assheton | 23. Major Mifflin, New Jersey | 32. Major Mifflin, New Jersey |
| 6. Colonel Gardner, Massachusetts | 15. General Gates | 24. Major Mifflin, New Jersey | 33. Major Mifflin, New Jersey |
| 7. Major Dearborn, New Hampshire | 16. Colonel Parsons, Massachusetts | 25. Major Mifflin, New Jersey | 34. Major Mifflin, New Jersey |
| 8. Colonel Scammell, New Hampshire | 17. Colonel Parsons, Massachusetts | 26. Major Mifflin, New Jersey | 35. Major Mifflin, New Jersey |
| 9. Colonel Loring, Quartermaster General, New Hampshire | 18. Colonel Parsons, Massachusetts | 27. Major Mifflin, New Jersey | 36. Major Mifflin, New Jersey |

myself a little, I agreed to swim [as] he was exceedingly earnest to have me engage” (Dann 97). Wallace was not a strong swimmer, but he accepted the task. He didn’t know where, when, or how long he would be swimming, but he accepted. He was willing to risk his life for his country, even when he was told what his task would entail.

In mid-September 1777, Wallace was asked to swim two miles across Lake Champlain while carrying a message. Samuel Webster, a man who was supposedly very good at swimming, was his companion. The message was that the American troops on both sides of the lake were going to block General Burgoyne’s last escape route the next day. Both men started swimming towards the opposite shore. Halfway there, the winds started to blow harshly, causing the waves to crash upon them. Webster was ahead of Wallace, but Webster couldn’t keep above the surface of the freezing mid-September water. As told by Wallace in his recollection, “For God’s sake Wallace, help me, for I am adrowning!” Hearing his companion in distress gave Wallace a new found confidence and he started to shred through the waves toward Webster, passing him and running ashore. He started throwing tree branches toward him. Eventually, Webster caught one and made it to shore safely. For a man who didn’t know how to swim very well, Wallace’s accomplished was remarkable; he swam the whole way, almost giving up, but he persevered in the face of angry waves and minimal swimming ability. He saved his comrade from drowning; a man who was supposed to be a good swimmer. Wallace successfully delivered the message, and the attack was carried out as planned. An hour after he delivered the message, General Benjamin Lincoln was moving south with his American army. “The intelligence proved of great importance to our cause.” (Hemenway 1095)

While all of that was being carried out, Wallace’s wife, Bethsheba, was doing her best to preserve house and farm. Whenever the British and their agents came to close to their property, she moved all of their possessions into the woods and covered them with bushes so the British and their counterparts couldn’t find them and make use of them. After her husband left in pursuit of General Burgoyne, there was much to do with the acres and acres of crops he had planted. Bethsheba traveled six miles many times just to harvest three large crops all by herself. She even defended her animals from wolves. According to *The Descendants and Antecedents of Daniel and Abigail Howe Wallace*, they kept the sheep in a pen near the house. One night, Bethsheba could not find the sheep and when she did find them, she had to defend them. (Powers 150). She loaded a gun and shot at them three times throughout the night, and by morning her sheep were safe (151). She must’ve been so frightened, but she knew that she had to defend her home and farm for her husband, who was fighting for



their future.

Richard Wallace performed one of the greatest athletic feats in the American Revolution, while his wife, Bethsheba, took care of the home front. Both accounts are never talked about in history class, but they demonstrate the perseverance of the men and women who birthed the United States of America. Had Richard bowed out of swimming to deliver that crucial message to the other American troops, General Burgoyne may have escaped to Canada. If Bethsheba hadn’t have moved everything they owned out into the woods, defended the sheep, and harvested their crops, their future would have been bleak. They both faced tough roles during the American Revolution, but they championed a cause against all odds. “They had fought with the intensity of youth. They had taken the risks that come easily to the young, had dreamed the dreams of youth. They had beheld the phantasmagoria of possibilities that is visible only to the young. They had persevered.” (Kelly 248)

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My name is Liberty Paige and I am a sophomore at Cardinal Mooney High School in Sarasota, Florida. I participate in cross country, girls weightlifting and long distance track. In 2017, I completed my Silver Award project, Girl Scout's second highest award. During my freshmen year, I received First Honors with Distinction for having all A's and a GPA of 4.0. I am also vice president of the ChiChi-Okobee Society, Children of the American Revolution. I plan to study nursing at Florida State University and join the campus Army or Air Force ROTC.

CAR - Spring Update

On the weekend of February 22-24, the Florida Society of the Children of the American Revolution held its 2019 Annual Conference in Orlando. State President Taylor Putt announced that her State Project "Smiling Faces in Historic Places" was a success with many of the members visiting historic places all over our country. As of the meeting, she had nearly reached her goal of fund raising for the reconstruction of the kitchen at the Haile Homestead, a historic site in Gainesville.

On of the many contests for the local societies is the C.A.R./SAR/SR Relations Contest in which they report on the activities they, as a local society, shared with the SAR. Five of the local societies in Florida submitted contest entries, with the Vaughn-Latham Society of Amelia Island, winning the Lindsey C. Brock Trophy for best activities. Selecting a winner was a difficult decision for the State Committee Chairman. The other societies submitting contest entries were Jacob Roberts Brown (Gainesville), Princess Malee (Jacksonville), Swamp Fox (Pompano Beach) and Tequesta (Coral Gables). All five societies submitting a contest entry were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Florida SAR.

State Treasurer and Chair of the C.A.R. and Junior Member Liaison Committee Dick Young represented Florida SAR President at the Annual Banquet on Saturday, Feb 23. He presented a \$1,000 donation from the Florida SAR. He also presented the SAR Bronze C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation to outgoing State President Taylor Putt for her leadership at the Tequesta Society and the Florida Society as well as her work with the Miami SAR and the SAR Silver C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation to Virginia "Ginny" Poffenberger for her leadership at the local and state society levels in both the states of Texas and Florida as well as approval, creation and first presentation of the Lindsey C. Brock Trophy while she served as Florida Society Senior State President.



Fort Gatlin Society (Orlando) member Dominique Matthews was elected to serve as Florida Society President for the 2019-2020 year. Virginia "Ginger" Poffenberger will continue to serve the second year of her two-year term as Senior State President. Both have been invited to join us at the Youth Luncheon at our Annual Meeting in May. They will tell us about the 2019/2020 State Project and do their best to get you to make a donation.



2019 Memorial of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution

The Brevard Sons, Daughters and Children of the American Revolution conducted a memorial service to commemorate the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution on its 236th anniversary. Over 190 people attended this year's event with over 30 groups in participation. The guest speaker was Lindsey Brock III ESQ an expert authority on Captain John Barry. He gave an excellent representation of the events that occurred during this historical event. To present a better understanding of how the ships maneuvered during the battle, Lindsey used Coast Guard Axillary and Sea Cadets to portray the ships positions.

We were very fortunate to have members of the Navy, Marine Corps League, Courageous Division of Sea Cadets, Rolling Thunder, Civil War and other groups attend to support this year's event. A Coast Guard ship was planned to be anchored in the river adjacent to the Veterans Center; however, a submarine came into the Port Canaveral, so it was dispatched to support its operations.

2019 is the thirteenth year that our organizations has assembled to honor this historical event. Originally memorial services were conducted at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, but due to security restrictions annual services are now conducted at the Brevard Veterans Center in Merritt Island. The center houses a large museum with artifacts from all wars which the United States has been involved in and is displayed in a manner that all can experience. It is also the home of two monuments that have been relocated which are dedicated to the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution.

On March 10, 1783, two Continental Navy ships, the *Duc De Lauzun* and the *Alliance*, were in route from Havana, Cuba to Philadelphia with 72,000 Spanish coins sailing along the east coast of Florida when three British warships the *Sybil*, the *Alarm* and the *Tobago* spotted the Continental ships. With the *Duc De Lauzun* being loaded with the precious cargo, Captain John Green could not out-run the British. The *Sybil* caught up to the *Duc De Lauzun* and exchanged gunfire. Meanwhile, Captain John Barry maneuvered the *Alliance* between the *Duc De Lauzun* and British warship, *Sybil*. Once the *Alliance* was alongside the *Sybil* and just yards away, he ordered his crew to fire upon the *Sybil*. The battle lasted less than an hour, being outgunned, the *Sybil* changed course and followed the other British ships away from the Continental ships. The *Alliance* and *Duc De Lauzun* then continued their mission at dawn on March 11, 1783.

NSSAR Lawrence American Teacher Award Winners

Compatriots,

I am pleased to announce the winners of the 2018 History Teacher Award. As you know beginning in 2018 we modified the program so that we have 3 separate awards; one for an elementary school teacher, one for a middle school teacher and one for a high school teacher. Each winner will receive benefits up to \$5,000 which include tuition and travel to educational seminars, a cash prize, and reimbursement for classroom materials and possibly travel to a National Congress or Leadership meeting.

We had only 1 application for the elementary school award, 10 applications for the middle school award and 9 applications for the high school award. Of these 20 applicants 16 have a master's degree, 1 has a law degree and 1 has a PhD. The elementary school teacher had students who participated in the SAR poster contest, 3 of the middle school teachers had students who participated in the SAR Moses Adams Brochure contest and one of the high school teachers had students who participated in the SAR Knight Essay contest.

The winners of each award are as follows with both the winner and the 2nd place and 3rd place applicants mentioned for the middle school and high school contests. We only had one applicant for the elementary school contest so there is only one announcement for that contest. The 2nd and 3rd place applicants do not receive any compensation other than this recognition and a certificate.

Elementary School Contest

Winner Jonathan T. Bragwell Alabama Society

Middle School Contest

Winner Christopher J. Razo Arizona Society (Saguaro Chapter)

2nd Place Julie A. Elston Virginia Society (Col. William Grayson Chapter)

3rd Place Deborah M. Fields Ohio Society (Cincinnati Chapter)

High School Contest

Winner Renny Taylor North Carolina Society

2nd Place Colin Sullivan Michigan Society

3rd Place Taylor Smith Kansas Society (Monticello Chapter)

My congratulations to all of the chapters and state societies who worked so hard to find such well qualified applicants. The judging was very difficult this year as the state societies continue to find even better applicants each year.

Tom Lawrence, TXSSAR

Chairman, Lawrence American History Teacher Award Committee

Update on the Battle of Thomas Creek Celebration

The 242nd Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek was held on Saturday March 30th, 2019. Greeting was brought by the SAR from FL & GA, DAR and C.A.R. Societies, as well as other organizations. As information, one of the three C.A.R. Chapters that attended was from Orlando and is the Thomas Creek C.A.R. Chapter. Dr. Roger Smith was our speaker with the Patriotic Choral Group singers providing music.

As a final point, the City of Jacksonville is planning a future \$1+ million enhancement to the park, including a paved road to the battle site, a pavilion, an overlook tower, a kayak launch dock, and trail signs. Hopefully, also in the future, Thomas Creek will be listed as a National SAR Color Guard Event.

Chapter News

Aaron Snowden Chapter



Aaron Snowden chapter held a successful Honey Baked ham fund raiser which sold turkey and ham gift cards for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Through the efforts of Lonnie Jones with the Boy Scouts, the President and Lonnie Jones were invited to and participated in the Eagle Scout Court of Honor where Scout Allgood was presented his Eagle Award and the Boy Scout SAR Partnership patch from the Chapter. We look forward to more Eagle Scout awards as several are close to completion.

One new member, Allan Blanchard, has been approved.

The Aaron Snowden Chapter had 64 participants in the Elementary Poster Contest. Winners were: 4th Grade, Emery Burke and Taveion Hill. 5th Grade, Vannessa Stout. This was first year for the Chapter and school has attempted to do. We both felt it went well.

After meeting with the County Commissioner, the Chapter received permission to place a Liberty Tree granite marker near a designated tree at Veterans Park in downtown Milton, Florida. The marker is scheduled to be completed in May 2019, when it will be dedicated.

As George Washington's birthday approached, the SAR chapter was invited to a DAR Chapter Tea to honor the occasion. Period dress was encouraged for those in attendance. Nation-



ally certified reenactors of George and Martha were present where they gave a short and excellent skit. There were about 50 people in attendance, resulting in a full page spread in the local newspaper about the event.

Caloosa Chapter



Color Guard marching during the Edison Festival of Light



Color Guard presenting colors

Our February Caloosa chapter meeting was a Chapter Banquet celebrating and honoring George Washington's Birthday. It featured a social time, dinner, and a program. This was a black tie optional event, with many choosing to wear their period attire and service members/veterans wearing their evening dress uniforms. For the third time this season, we were again honored by the attendance of State President COL Pat Niemann. The program, "George Washington – Growing up, Mount Vernon, and Agriculture," was presented by Anne McGuire. Anne is Regent of the Lawrence Kearny DAR Chapter and President of the Chapter's Ladies Auxiliary.



Central Florida Chapter

During the month of March, Compatriot Dan Dall, Chairman, Public Service Award Committee, presented two medals on behalf of the Central Florida Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. The Law Enforcement Commendation medal was presented to Deputy First Class (DFC) Autumn Chouinard and the Heroism medal to Master Deputy Chris Marcus. The presentations were made at the Orange County Sheriff's Office in the presence of their peers and superiors. Dan was welcomed very warmly and treated royally. All present were very appreciative and expressed sincere gratitude to our Chapter for such recognition of these superior public servants.



DFC Autumn Chouinard, Dan and Sheriff John Mina



Master Deputy Chris Marcus, Dan and Sheriff John Mina

Charlotte Chapter

It was an honor having both our FLSSAR State President Col Pat Niemann and our FLSSAR Southwest Region Vice President Steve Fields and his wife, Jill, at our January Chapter meeting. FLS-SAR President Pat Niemann was present to install the chapter officers. He also presented the Meritorious Service Medal to 99 year old John Bittner. Also presented were various Bronze Roger Sherman Medals that went to Ren Cushing, Norm Ashworth, Frank Walton, and Bob Haff. A certificate of appreciate award was then presented to Jim Schmidt. Herein are some pictures from our January meeting.



Clearwater Chapter

Members of the Clearwater Chapter Sons of the American Revolution were invited to attend a Salad Luncheon hosted by the Caladesi chapter Daughters of the American Revolution. The event took place on January 21, 2019 at Methodist Church in Dunedin, Florida. At that meeting the President of the Florida Society of the SAR Pat Niemann presented Certificates of Appreciation for Military Service to three members of the Caladesi Chapter- Jane Turner, Ann Zebert, and Beverly LaRocque.



During the program, the women of Caladesi Chapter presented a play telling the story of women's suffrage from the Revolution forward to 1920. This play was to commemorate the passage of the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote. Clearwater Chapter President Jim Grayshaw played John Adams, and State Society President Pat Niemann played Harry Burn, the Tennessee legislator who cast the deciding vote which resulted in the passage of the 19th Amendment. The red rose on his lapel signifies the fact that Burn intended to vote "no" for passage but changed his vote to "aye" because of the entreaties of his mother.



This is yet another fine example of how the SAR and the DAR work together in one of our common goals of spreading unity and patriotism in our community.

On January 21, 2019 12 members of the Clearwater Chapter attended a salad luncheon meeting of the Caladesi Chapter of the DAR. At that meeting State President Pat Niemann presented Certificates of Appreciation for Military Service to three members of the Caladesi Chapter- Jane Turner, Ann Zebert, and Beverly LaRocque.





On Sunday January 27, 2019, the Clearwater Chapter by its 1st Vice President Robert Anderson presented the Sons of the American Revolution Bronze Good Citizenship medal to PO2 Serena Hesser, a member of U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Suncoast Squadron at the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station, Clearwater, at their Annual Awards Ceremony. The Ceremony was attended

by more than 60 Cadets and their families.

Lt Commander Kevin D MacFarland Sr., Commanding Officer and Director of Southeast Region 6-1, lead his squadron through the ceremony with precision and outstanding leadership.

Last year the squadron ranked #9 in the Nation for excellence and #6 in the nation for retention. It was a pleasure to see young men and women perform with attention to detail and respect.



The Clearwater Chapter is comprised of Pinellas County north of the City of St. Petersburg and Pasco County south of SR 52. Within that area there are 26 municipalities. The Town of Indian Shores is a small beach town on the Gulf of Mexico once occupied by the native Tocobaga Indians. This Town takes great pride in both its beauty as well as the proper display of the four pole-mounted American flags. Robert H. Brotherton, 2nd VP of the Clearwater Chapter, presented the Flag Certificate to Mayor Patrick Soranno

on March 26, 2019.

Flagler Chapter



On February 13, 2019, The Clearwater Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution participated at a Genealogical Seminar sponsored by the Caladesi Chapter of the DAR at the Dunedin Public Library. Our chapter manned a table to advise visitors about the SAR, its purposes and activities. At this seminar our Color Guard participated by posting the colors at the beginning of the ceremony.



On January 23, 2019, Compatriot Randall Scott Morris (Right) was awarded the Bronze Distinguished Service Medal for his outstanding leadership to the Flagler Chapter. The Bronze Distinguished Service Medal is the highest award that may be presented at the chapter level to a Compatriot. As President from 2015 through 2018, the Flagler Chapter received many awards from the Florida Society in the Chapter Challenge, Earl Marlin Publicity, and Newsletters contests. In addition, Compatriot Morris has served as the Chapter Registrar/Genealogist for two years resulting in thirteen new members along with many supplements being approved by the National Society, thus significantly increasing the size of the Chapter and the participation of its members. Additionally, Compatriot Morris has represented the Flagler Chapter as the guest speaker at the City of Palm Coast Fourth of July celebration for the past two years speaking on the topic of the Declaration of Independence. He also was a presenter at the Flagler County Memorial Day Event in 2017 honoring his friend, USMC PFC Jonathan "Nat" Spicer, who posthumously was awarded the Navy Cross for gallantry in Vietnam.





The Flagler Chapter welcomed three new Compatriots. New Flagler Chapter members Rick Haven and Dr. Jeff Schaller were welcomed in a special ceremony held in the shadow of the Flagler Chapter Liberty Tree located in Heroes Memorial Park in Palm Coast on December 17, 2018. President Randall Morris presented each Compatriot with their official NSSAR Certificate and Rosette. A Welcoming Committee consisting of Compatriots Charlie Hayes, Don Gingles, John Thomas and Randall Morris performed the honors. New member Jay Mills received his NSSAR Certificate and Rosette from President Randall Morris on December 18, 2018 in a ceremony held at the Flagler County Public Library in Palm Coast. From L to R: Compatriots Don Gingles, John Thomas, Randall Morris, Rick Haven and Jeff Schaller



Flagler County Fire Rescue Firefighter-Paramedic Lt. Andrew Keppler was awarded the SAR 2018 EMS Medal & Certificate by the Flagler Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Lt. Keppler is a 14 year veteran of Flagler County Fire Rescue and is the leader of the Fire Leadership Academy at Flagler Palm Coast High School. The Fire Leadership Academy program is a multiple year elective that provides students with the necessary training to acquire a state of Florida Firefighter-EMT Certificate. Upon graduation from high school and qualifying for this certificate, graduates are immediately eligible to acquire full time employment as a Firefighter-EMT in the state of Florida. Lt. Keppler has been highly recommended for this award due to his leadership and commitment to the Fire Academy by FCFR Chief Don Petito. The award was presented on October 16, 2018 to Lt. Keppler at the Flagler Palm Coast High School Fire Academy by SAR President Randall Morris. The current Fire Academy class appears in the photo. FCFR Chief Don Petito is on the right, Lt. Keppler is in the center of back

row, and Compatriots Randall Morris, Charlie Hayes, and David Kelsey are on left.

Gainesville Chapter



Herein are pictures of the Veteran's Day event at the Kanapaha veteran's park here in Gainesville Florida. on veteran's day 2018. Compatriot Sean Tonnelier led the Milton Lewis young marine's in dedicating wreaths at each memorial to our nation's respective conflicts. In the other picture, a gentleman and the young patriot approached me and the grandfather asked if I would shake his grandson's hand!

Jacksonville Chapter

2019 has had a busy start for the Jacksonville Chapter. We presented Eagle Scout Recognition Certificates to 47 new eagle scouts of the Black Creek District. The Color Guard presented the colors at the DAR NE FL Regents Council George Washington Luncheon. We presented US flags to 8 new Habitat for Humanity home owners. WOSAR Laurie Carpenter and her grandson Peter Wynot presented our Traveling Trunk at a USO no dough dinner to support Coast Guard families in need from the recent government shutdown.

In addition, the chapter held its annual flag retirement ceremony in coordination with the Princess Malee Society C.A.R., and the Mandarin Community Club. Approximately 50 were in attendance, with many representatives of the SAR, DAR, C.A.R., and Mandarin Community Club.



In the picture on the bottom left, Miami Chapter President Bernard Wolff anchors Miami Chapter SAR attendees at left. Standing next to him we find Rob Sileo the Miami Chapter Registrar and Genealogist, Secretary/Treasurer Lee Popham, Sr., and 1st Vice President William Wicks, III. This is the last scheduled Winter BOM to be scheduled.

Miami Chapter



This picture was taken at the 2019 Annual Luncheon and President's Installation Ceremony. Above left to right: Doris Bridges, DAR; Raphael Rodriguez; Chapter President Bernard Wolff; and, Past President Doug Bridges.



Above are Miami Chapter Historian Thomas Jelke (in foreground), Registrar- Genealogist Rob Sileo, President Bernard Wolff, Charles Harrison, and Ken Harrison.



Above: FLSSAR President Pat Niemann inducts seven new members of the Miami Chapter SAR, and (Below) installs William R. "Bill" Wicks III as Miami Chapter President at the Annual Presidents' Day Luncheon.



Palm Beach Chapter



President Tidwell inducted 2019 Chapter Officers President Robert Boggs, Vice President Thomas Hayes, Secretary Gary Green, Treasurer Peter Johnston, Registrar Robert Boggs, Chaplain Father Sanford Sears, Historian Samuel "Buddy" Miller, Sgt. @ Arms & Registrar Peter Miller, Officer @ Large, Greg Parkinson. (Refer to the above picture).



The Chapter continues as the largest in the State with 7 new Compatriots inducted in January/February including Compatriots, Giddens, Keen, 3 generations of Bright family including Reeve, Nicholas, and 3-year Son Drexel, Michael Dupont and 16 year old 2020 Olympics hopeful Mason Stowell.



DAR patriot daughters serving the Chapter were recognized including 2018 Chapter First Lady Diane Tidwell, SAR Lydia Darragh Medal, and 2017 Chapter First Lady Karen Christie, SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal.

Compatriots Lanman, Johnston, Parkinson and Boggs attended a special funeral services for WW2 Naval Veteran Ralph Mercurio @ St. Mathews Church and the South Florida National Cemetery. FMR Chapter President Lanman helped organize the special memorial event that included 170 supporters attending the services, a Naval Color Guard, Florida Patriot Riders escort, Palm Beach Sheriff's Deputies, American Legion and VFW.

Saramana Chapter

In October, Saramana members attended the Manasota Regents Council meeting along with representatives of 5 DAR chapters and the Chi Chi Okobee CAR. Later that month, the Saramana color guard opened the banquet for the Sara De Soto DAR Chapter's Medal of Honor presentation for Judge Lee Haworth. The October luncheon saw the induction of 11 new members, awarding of 2 supplementals, and presentation of the SAR Medal of Appreciation to DAR Ladies Aya Sewell and Joanne Ryon Goulet.

November began with the Saramana color guard and ladies auxiliary participating the annual Sarasota Veteran's Day Parade. The November meeting had a special program to honor chapter members who served honorably in the military. Certificates of Patriotism and Military Service Medals were presented to Compatriots, Bernie Schiefer and Walt Goulet. Registrar Dick Mahaffey was presented with his second Oak Leaf Cluster for his Liberty Medal while his wife DAR Lady Greta Mahaffey was presented with the Martha Washington Medal for her genealogical and recruiting efforts on Saramana's behalf. The meeting finished with a special educational program on Colonial-era Thanksgivings by FLSSAR Chaplain Dwight Elam.

In December, the Saramana Chapter held its annual meeting to elect and install its officers for 2019. Presiding was Southwest Regional Vice President Steve Fields. Awards were presented to several members for long and outstanding service to the Saramana Chapter as Officers, Governors, or committee chairmen. Notable among these was the Chapter Medal for Distinguished Service to Compatriot Preston Adams for his work as chapter Treasurer at Saramana and with his previous chapter. Also recognized for their military service were Compatriots Patrick Milligan and Larry Mason. Lady Jill Fields was presented with the Martha Washington Medal for her tireless work with the Ladies Auxiliary, color guard, and Wreaths Across America. The next day, despite pouring rain, Saramana compatriots and members of the Ladies Auxiliary participated in Wreaths Across America at Sarasota National Cemetery. Compatriots visited every compatriot and spouse interred there as well as donating almost 50 wreaths for the event.

January began with the Myakka Chapter ribbon cutting for the refurbished Historic Spanish Point. In attendance were Florida DAR Regent Donna Lemongello, a Marine Corps guard, representatives of several other DAR chapters, the Chi Chi Okobee CAR and Saramana Compatriots. On MLK Day, the Saramana Chapter joined other lineage societies, historic societies, and genealogical groups to help the Chi Chi Okobee CAR with their annual genealogy and history workshop. Over 100 families and children participated in the event. The January luncheon of the Saramana Chapter celebrated our youth. Two Eagle Scouts competed in the King Essay Contest while three local students competed in the Knight Essay Contest. Eagle Scout Ryan Opitz and USFCS student Taylor Rew came in first among a highly competitive group of participants. Later, Compatriot Craig Paige was awarded another supplemental while dressed in colonial era naval attire in honor of his patriot ancestor. Finally, to recognize their honorable military service, Compatriots Ed Bohon and Rellis High were presented with Certificates of Patriotism and Military Service Medals. A brief business meeting was held at the end to approve changes to the Saramana by-laws.

Saramana had members in attendance at both the Fall 2018 and Winter 2019 Florida Society Board of Management meetings. Saramana compatriots participated in the color guard for both events.



2019 Sarasota Veteran's Day Parade (left-to-right: Compatriot Craig Paige, DAR Lady Adrienne Abiodun (Senior Society President, Chichi-Okobee C.A.R.) President Steve Fields, Lady Jill Fields, Libby Paige (Chichi Okobee C.A.R.), Lady Colleen Paige, Treasurer Preston Adams, and Vice President Doug Erb)

St. Augustine Chapter

The St. Augustine Chapter presented the Heroism Medal to Andrew Lands for his actions in saving three people's lives when they were caught in a rip current and taken out to sea. When he heard the screams for help he instinctively knew what to do. Being an experienced surfer he paddled out to sea, out of sight of the on duty lifeguard, to rescue the three young tourists and bring them back to safety. For his actions he has been recognized by the local community and the SAR being there and doing the right thing. Presenting the award to Andrew is John Brown, Heroism and Safety Chairman.



St. Petersburg Chapter

Our Presidents Day meeting featured a talk by Dr. Michael Grego, Superintendent of the Pinellas County Schools. Dr. Grego was awarded the SAR Silver Medal of Good Citizenship for outstanding public service.

Our chapter's education intuitive, Governor DeSantis's emphasis on civics and American history, and our National SAR's initiative on this subject are coalescing into major progress toward an enriched high-school curriculum which will lead to a far better understanding of our heritage, our Constitution and of the brave people who fought for and gained our freedom against the mightiest military force of the Eighteen century.

Professor Philip Leto was our keynote speaker for our

Presidents Day celebration. His talk was a rousing discussion of the contributions of our past presidents by highlighting their accomplishments at critical moments in response to complex issues that could have ended our experiment with a constitutional republic.

Essay committee chairman John Stewart reported that the 2018 annual George and Stella Knight Essay Contest produced 14 participants. All except one came from Admiral Farragut Academy, and none came from the public schools. This year's winner, selected by the Chapter Essay Committee, was William Hess of Shorecrest Prep. He won with his essay on the Prison Ships employed by England. Ashton Rayner took second place with an essay on Benjamin Franklin. Lamarcus Moise, also of AFA, won third place honors with his essay on the Boston Tea Party. Congratulations to all three of our winners!

Compatriot David Chestnut passed away in February of this year. He served as the chapter's chaplain and vice president. He was also the guiding hand behind the establishment of our chapter's color guard. Several officers attended a memorial service for David, and Chairman Butler offered the SAR benediction at the interment ceremony at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell on February 19, 2019.

At the March meeting, Compatriot Dick Young told the chapter about the "partners in patriotism" program, which supports the honor flights, wreath ceremonies and similar events. Our chapter currently participates in these events. He is also the FLSSAR CAR liaison. Compatriot Young said that NSSAR is working on a patriot research system for online use. Florida will host the 2023 National SAR Congress meeting, likely in Orlando.

John Stewart stated that this year's essay contest winner will be attending the May meeting, and receive his award. John was a judge for the recent Pinellas County "national history day." There were over 200 exhibits but none qualified for our award, which is based on events surrounding the founding of our country.

Lori Coffey's presentation topic was "the women of 1620." She spoke at length about each of the four women who survived the first year at Plymouth. There were 102 people on the Mayflower, but only the men were named in the ship's log, e.g. "John Smith and wife and son." The pilgrims were of two factions – the "saints" who sought religious freedom, and the "strangers" who sought prosperity. The women had no rights then, as widows were forced to remarry, and sign their assets over to their husbands. Everyone became a farmer in Plymouth by necessity, as they couldn't own land back in England.



Tampa Chapter



On January 5, the Tampa Chapter held its annual Officer Installation Luncheon at the Rusty Pelican Restaurant in Tampa. President John Goolsby and Vice President David Bryant were installed for a second term, as were most of the 2018 officers. Florida SAR President Patrick Niemann performed the Officer Installation Ceremony. Members of the Desoto, Tampa and Winding Waters Chapters of DAR joined us at this meeting.

On February 16, the Chapter held its regular monthly meeting. The Chapter heard a presentation from the Executive Officer, Colonel Zane Lance (US Army, ret.) and Training Officer, Jonathon Mitchell of the US Navy Sea Cadets, American Victory Division (Tampa) on the history and mission of the Sea Cadets and some of the activities of their Division. The Chapter agreed to be a sponsor of the American Victory Division, made a donation and delivered the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate for presentation to Sea Cadet PO2 Thomas Payton. We hope PO2 Payton can join us at a future meeting.



The Chapter also presented the SAR Fire Safety Commendation Medal and Certificate to Captain William Cobb of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue. He was recommended by HCFR for his actions in March 2018 when he was called to lead his unit to a structure fire, which was also a shooting scene on their arrival. Captain Cobb made the necessary and difficult decisions that resulted in the saving of a pediatric victim, stopping the spread of the fire and saving the house. Captain Cobb was recognized as Fire Fighter of the Year by HCFR, for these same actions.

The Chapter Color Guard continued its activities by



presenting the colors at the December 15 Wreaths Across America Ceremony at the Veterans Cemetery at American Legion Post #5 USS Tampa. Several Tampa compatriots joined Color Guard in the placing of wreaths on the gravesites as well as the recognition of a Vietnam War veteran's gravesite in the public side of the cemetery. The Fort Brooke Society of the Children of the American Revolution also attended and participated in the WAA Ceremony. Tampa Compatriot Dick Young marched, in uniform, with the Florida C.A.R. in the Colonial Night Walk in St. Augustine on December 1.

Picture on the left are Tampa Pres John Goolsby, Jonathon Mitchell & Col Zane Lance. Pictured above are Captain William Cobb & Past Pres. Dick Young



The Villages Chapter



The Villages Chapter Sons of the American Revolution had a very successful year under President Dr. Donald Wyman. Highlights of the year were the Dedication of the Liberty Tree and the placing of Wreaths on the graves of veterans at a local cemetery. The Liberty Tree dedication was held on Saturday,



March 10. Both the John Bartram and the Puc Puggy Chapters of the DAR joined in with the Villages SAR chapter to plant a Liberty Tree at the Eisenhower Recreation Center. A beautiful plaque was installed and a number of speakers, flag bearers in period costumes, and excellent remarks by dignitaries made it a memorable morning.



At the Winter 2019 BOM Meeting, FLSSAR Member @ Large Donald Lanman awarded the prestigious *Service to Veterans Medal* by President Niemann & PB Chapter President Tidwell in recognition of his years of service to veterans as seen in the picture herein. Florida Veterans Foundation Director Donald Lanman presented the *Florida Veterans Foundation Certification of Service* to President Niemann in recognition of his military and veterans civic service.



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.

Selves@bellsouth.net



Killing Washington! Plot to end the Revolution!

Compiled-Edited-Written by Don Lanman, Palm Beach Chapter SAR President 2017-2018

Protecting General Washington during the Revolutionary War was the responsibility of an elite "Commander-in-Chief's Guard Regiment" or more commonly known as "Washington's Life Guard", a unit of the Continental Army.

The Washington's Life Guard regiment was authorized 11 March 11, 1776 and organized at Cambridge, MA with the exclusive mission of protecting General Washington, Federal Money and Official Papers of the Continental Army.

The Life Guard regiment served honorably protecting Washington along with his most senior officers throughout the Revolution in all of the battles, and was subsequently disbanded in 1783 following the end of the war.

Washington directed the Guard's character to be a "Corps of sober, intelligent, and reliable men". The Guard was initially created by selecting seasoned soldiers from each of the Continental Army regiments present during the Siege of Boston.

A Colonial Army General Order dated March 11 specifically outlined the type of men and character that Washington required in order to be considered for Washington's Own "Life Guard" regiment: "The General being desirous of selecting a particular number of men, as a Guard for himself, and baggage, the Colonel, or commanding Officer, of each of the established Regiments, (the Artillery and Riflemen excepted) will furnish him with four, that the number wanted may be chosen out of them.

His Excellency depends upon the Colonels for good Men, such as they can recommend for their sobriety, honesty, and good behavior; he wishes them to be from five feet, eight Inches high, to five feet, ten Inches; handsomely and well made, and as there is nothing in his eyes more desirable, than Cleanliness in a Soldier, he desires that particular attention may be made, in the choice of such men, as are neat, and spruce.

They are all to be at Head Quarters to morrow precisely at twelve, at noon, when the Number wanted will be fixed upon. The General neither wants men with uniforms, or arms, nor does he desire any man to be sent to him, that is not perfectly willing, and desirous, of being of this guard. They should be drilled men."

The strength of the unit was established at 180 men, although it was temporarily increased to 250 during the winter of 1779-80, when the army was encamped at Morristown, NJ, in close proximity to the British Army.

Because it was considered a high honor to belong to the Guard, care was taken to ensure that soldiers from each of the 13 States were represented in the Guard. Major Caleb Gibbs of Rhode Island was appointed the Guard's first commander in 1777, with the title of "Captain Commandant". Serving for two years, Major Gibbs was succeeded by Colonial Officer Captain William Colfax in 1779.

The Commander-in-Chief's Guards Regimental Flag and guard uniform was described by historian B.J. Lossing: "The flag is white silk, on which the device is neatly painted. One of the Guard is seen holding a horse, and is in the act of receiving a flag from the Genius of Liberty, who is personified as a woman leaning upon the Union shield, near which is the American eagle. The motto of the corps, "CONQUER OR DIE," is upon a ribbon.

The uniform of the Guard consisted of a blue coat with white facings, white waistcoat and breeches, black half gaiters, a cocked hat with a blue and white feather."

In April 1776, following the conclusion of the Boston

campaign, Washington and the Continental Army marched to New York City and prepared for an anticipated attempt by the British Army to occupy the city.

The Royal Governor of New York, William Tryon, had been driven out of the city by revolutionary forces and was compelled to seek refuge on a ship in New York Harbor. Nevertheless, the city had many Loyalist residents who favored the British side and plotted against the Revolution. Governor Tryon along with local Loyalists successfully turned some of Washington's personal guards against him. These turn-coats were ready to strike, when Washington learned of the plot, and the conspirators were arrested and interrogated in secret.

Responsible for discovering the assassination plot was the Committee on Conspiracies established by the New York Provincial Congress as a top-secret team of patriot civilians whose mission was to gather information about the enemy, detect and thwart enemy plans and intelligence operations.

As the plot against Washington grew and people started to talk, this small committee, led by patriot John Jay, successfully uncovered those involved and brought the plot down. It was, in effect, the beginning of America's counter intelligence operations.

The investigation discovered that several members of the Commander-in-Chief's Guard were involved in a shadowy conspiracy to switch sides and support the British cause.

As the investigation proceeded, Sergeant Thomas Hickey, a member of the elite Life Guard, was initially arrested along with another soldier in New York for passing counterfeit money.

Born in Ireland, Hickey came to America as a soldier in the British Army and served as personal assistant to Major General William Johnson during the Seven Years' War, but later deserted to the Patriot side when the Revolution started, and due to his military experience was accepted into the Life Guard regiment protecting Washington, his senior staff, and the Continental Army payroll.

While incarcerated, Hickey revealed to another prisoner, Isaac Ketcham, that he was actually part of a much wider conspiracy of Guard soldiers who were prepared to defect to the British side once the expected invasion of NY city began. Hickey claimed that eight members of the Guard were involved in the plot including William Greene, a drummer in the Guard, and David Mathews, the Mayor of NY City.

Mathews was accused of funding a "turn coat" operation to bribe a maximum number of Colonial Soldiers to betray their country and join the British cause. All of the suspected traitors were arrested, taken into custody and interrogated by the Provost Marshal of the Continental Army.

The conspiracy charges included alleged plans to bribe soldiers, kidnap or assassinate Washington and his senior officers, and to blow up the Continental Army's ammunition magazines in NY City. Hickey, however, was the only conspirator court-martialed, put on trial and found guilty of mutiny and sedition, and condemned to death. He was executed in New York on June 28, 1776 before an estimated crowd of 20,000 spectators.

General Washington made the following general announcement regarding the incident: "The unhappy fate of Thomas Hickey, executed this day for mutiny, sedition, and treachery, the General hopes will be a warning to every soldier in the Army to avoid those crimes, and all others, so disgraceful to the character of a soldier, and pernicious to his country, whose pay he receives and bread he eats.

And in order to avoid those crimes, the most certain method is to keep out of the temptation of them, and particu-

larly to avoid lewd women, who, by the dying confession of this poor criminal, first led him into practices which ended in an untimely and ignominious death." While Loyalist NY City Mayor, David Mathews, and 12 others were also arrested and accused of sedition for funding the operation to bribe soldiers to join the British cause the charges were never proven.

The full scope of the assassination plot, however, was hid-

den from the public because Washington did not want Patriots know that any of the elite "Washington's Life Guard", had turned against both him and the American Revolution.

The conspiracy, trial and exaggerated rumors of the plot had the net effect, over time, of greatly damaging the reputation of Loyalists, and increased support of the Patriot

CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF INDEPENDENCE



COMMEMORATING THE 238TH
ANNIVERSARY OF

THE BATTLE OF EUTAW SPRINGS

Friday Evening, September 6, 2019

Join Us for A Very Special Dinner & Presentation

“Recognizing Patriot Battle Officers” – by John Beakes, Author

Clark’s Inn & Restaurant, Santee

5:30-8:00pm \$40 /pp Casual Dress Limited Seating RSVP 803-823-2824 NLT 1 September

Saturday, September 7, 2019

Patriotic Service

Historic Church of the Epiphany

211 Epiphany Road

(12065 Old Number Six Hwy)

Eutawville

GPS: 33.399569 / - 80.340720

David P. Reuwer, Historican, Guest Speaker

10:00am

Wreath Laying Ceremony

Eutaw Springs Battle Monument Park

2 Miles East of Eutawville

Highway 65 at Hwy 45 (SR38)

GPS: 33.40728 / - 80.29875

11:00am

No Host Lunch at Sweatman’s BBQ

1427 Eutaw Rd., Holly Hill (GPS 33.361 / -80.381)

12:00 pm \$6 - \$14

Wreath Laying Ceremony - Tomb of General Francis Marion

Belle Isle Plantation, Pineville GPS 33.453852 / -80.087231

2:15 pm

Hosted by the South Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter, Ewart Irick, President

For Information: 803-823-2824 or toyboydoug@hotmail.com



FLORIDA SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
REGISTRATION FORM

Spring BOM & Annual Meeting May 10 - 11,
Embassy Suites Orlando - Lake Buena Vista So., 4955 Kyngs Heath Road, Kissimmee

Name: _____ Chapter: _____ National Number _____

Date _____ E-mail Address for confirmation reply _____ @ _____

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

This is a Fill-able PDF form. You MUST save it to your PC BEFORE filling out the form

FROM your PC's saved location. Filling it out online does not work.

It Automatically calculates the Total amount to be paid.

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

Incumbent/Past NSSAR Officer 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, another member of the FLSSAR to attend and act in his stead; provided, however, that no person may have more than one vote.

Special dietary needs:

Enter number of persons Here

Enter number of persons Here

Friday Ladies Tea Luncheon (Ladies only)				Friday Evening Awards Banquet			
SAR Member Spouse	\$39 per person	x	= \$ 0.00	SAR Member	\$52 per person	x	= \$ 0.00
Member Guest	\$39 per person	x	= \$ 0.00	Spouse/Member Guest	\$52 per person	x	= \$ 0.00
Enter the number of Vegetarian meals				Enter the number of Vegetarian meals			
Enter the number of No-Sugar Desserts				Enter the number of No-Sugar Desserts			
Saturday Youth Luncheon				Saturday Evening Installation Banquet			
SAR Member Spouse	\$39 per person	x	= \$ 0.00	SAR Member	\$52 per person	x	= \$ 0.00
Member Guest	\$39 per person	x	= \$ 0.00	Spouse/Member Guest	\$52 per person	x	= \$ 0.00
Enter the number of Vegetarian meals				Enter the number of Vegetarian meals			
Enter the number of No-Sugar Desserts				Enter the number of No-Sugar Desserts			
				Registration Fee (for Members Only) = \$ 0.00			
				Enter \$20.00 or \$35.00 (as late fee)			
				Total Amount Enclosed = \$ 0.00			

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

The above meals include: Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, and Herbal Tea.

MEAL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE May 1, 2018

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

Save to your PC, Fill it out, Save as "(name)-SpringBOM", Then print & Mail or E-mail as attachment to addresses below

Please indicate on your meal reservation form any special dietary requirements. Send your check (payable to "Treasurer FLSSAR") to:

% Steve Williams
5955 Red Arrow Hwy
Coloma, MI 49038

Email: sarwilliamssa@gmail.com
Phone: 269-468-8091

2019 Memorial of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution





The Florida Patriot

1535 Skyline Drive

Kissimmee, FL 34744-6687

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Richmond, VA
Permit No. 2399



The Florida SAR Board of Management Meeting

Embassy Suites - Orlando Lake Buena Vista South

May 10 - 11, 2019

(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.