

239th Commemoration 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 digital subscription to this magazine is part of the Florida Society SAR dues. While a printed/mail subscription is available. Products and services advertised do not carry the FLSSAR nor the NSSAR endorsement. The Florida Society reserves the right to reject content of any copy.



Florida DAR Spring Conference



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The Florida Patriot Staff

Editor	Jeff Sizemore
Membership Database	Scott Breckenridge

Submission Deadline Dates

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

Summer 2022 Issue	6/1/2022
Fall 2022 Issue	8/15/2022
Winter 2022 Issue	11/5/2022
Spring 2023 Issue	3/5/2023

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Florida Ladies' Auxiliary Officers

President	Delores Wolff
Vice President	Loni Laramore
Treasurer	Martha Grove
Registrar	Arlene Stone
Secretary	Jane Brunelle
Historian	Anne McGuire
Chaplain	Debi Allen

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

Fellow Compatriots,

An exciting and positive direction for the success and renewal of the FLSSAR administration is underway for your approval and support. For years we have suffered a dramatic decline in membership only to be bolstered by the influx (mostly transfers and a few new memberships) of "outsiders." I dare say most of us fall into that category in that many of us were transplants into Florida from other states – I certainly was thirty-five years ago. We rely on these transfers and the influx of "outsiders" to maintain our current membership numbers. The FLSSAR reportage indicates that we lose 65% of our new members within the first 2.65 years!

This administration is countering these statistics with an emphasis on installing vivacious people who have the experience and education, coupled with proven leadership capabilities to encourage growth through new chapter development and sustainment of existing chapters by active participation in membership growth by Membership Committee personnel and fostering the interest of the State of Florida in our Education Outreach Initiative (EOI). The EOI is designed to promote our mission directly to the Florida school system through several authorities that we have been granted: textbook review, curricula development, and a series of videotaped Colonial personalities.

The Battle of Alligator Bridge recognition is assiduously being pursued by compatriots. Yet to be done, is writing an accurate history of the event, and locating groups who visit the site with some regularity before sending the application to the NSSAR for approval.

Planning for the 133rd NSSAR Congress progresses with trips to Orlando, tour venues, opening ceremony venue, etc. Fund raising to cover costs due to the FLSSAR participation continue, including a series of golf outings being promoted by our PGA fund-raising pro. Bronze sculpture tickets are available, and we only have a few long-rifle tickets for sale before the drawing. The Ladies Auxiliary are a key component to any Congress and ours is providing an excellent reputation for the FLSSAR with their work and involvement in the Hospitality Room, flowers, decorations, fund-raising, and other arrangements.

The Spring Leadership in Louisville provided any excellent opportunity to present our Congress to the national assemblage. This is a time of many meetings to bring our mission and goals into perspective. PG Tom Lawrence briefed the Council of State Presidents on recommended bylaw changes for the states to consider adopting. The FLSSAR has taken this under advisement and will incorporate them into our current regulations with approval of the membership.

The foregoing successes are expected to be attended by an organizational structure that will facilitate easier and more prompt communication between the chapter and the office of the President. The idea is to "flatten" the reporting mechanism and lessen the current 4-tier reporting system by half for the general members with direct contact for the chapter presidents. A Council of Chapter Presidents now exists where direct input between the Chapter Presidents and the FLSSAR President occurs. Meetings last about an hour, and all have the right to interface with the President as their interests appear. It is a consultive body while decisions occur during the formal action of the BOMs. I would draw your attention to



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>.

133rd NSSAR Congress Website

For the latest information regarding the 133rd NSSAR Congress that will be held in Orlando, Florida in July 2023, go to <https://nssar2023congress.org/>

previous Chapter President Roundtables for further description of the reporting mechanisms and their rationale.

Additionally, I am aware that many of you have a Chapter presidency that lasts two years. Several years ago, as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee, we also advised that the Regional Vice Presidents of the time serve for two years. Many other organizations such as ours have also adopted this period of office (DAR, for one). It is simple to understand the reasons. One of the biggest is that by the time a new president takes office, there are many positions to fill which often necessitate many phone calls to be successful. There is also the learning curve of understanding the ins and outs of any new position whether in this organization, or any other. So, by the time, a new office holder is ready to become active and proficient in the new role, it is time to leave with only a year in office. The same consideration holds true for the FLSSAR President. A commitment of new officers should be for two years to be effective in the position.

The FLSSAR President continues to support and participate at a number of chapter meetings and National Historic Sites recognized by the NSSAR: the Last Naval Battle and the Battle of Thomas Creek being the most recent where wreaths were also presented.

Bernard W. Wolff, MPA

President, 2021-2022

Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

The Price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance

The Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution

By Lindsey C. Brock, Jacksonville, FL, PG 2013-2014

On 9 March 1783, the, *Alliance* Captain John Barry and the *Duc de Lauzun*, Captain John Green split up onto each ship their precious cargo of Spanish silver dollars that were badly needed by the Congress in Philadelphia. Off the coast of what would be today, Fort Pierce, FL, they completed the transfer and headed northward along the Florida coast. At this same time, the British ships, *Alarm*, thirty-two gun frigate, Captain Charles Cotton, *Sybil*, twenty-eight gun frigate, Captain James Vashon, and *Tobago*, eighteen gun sloop-of-war, Captain George Martin, met off of the coast of Cape Canaveral, FL and began cruising southward, looking for the American ships. The British ships were spotted by Captain Barry on the morning of 10 March 1783. Captain Barry decided to head southwest for the protection of the Spanish fleet, which he knew was sailing for a raid on Jamaica. As they tried to escape, the slower ship, the *Duc de Lauzun* lagged.

Captain Barry slowed his ship for the *Duc de Lauzun* to come alongside and advised Captain Green to jettison his cannon to lighten his ship. A fourth ship appeared on the horizon and the British ships shifted their positions, one breaking off from the pursuit. Captain Barry decided that the fourth ship was an ally, so he made the daring move to engage the one British ship, *Sybil*, was closing in, to buy sufficient time for the *Duc de Lauzun* to escape to safety. Captain Barry deliberately placed his ship between the *Duc de Lauzun* and the oncoming *Sybil*. The *Sybil* continued firing her cannon and the *Alliance* took several shots, one smashed into the captain's cabin killing a master's mate and wounding several others. Captain Barry left the quarter deck and personally walked from cannon to cannon encouraging and cautioning his men to not fire until he gave the order himself. He wanted to lure the enemy in as close as possible, "half a pistol range." The *Alliance* took a full broadside from the *Sybil* and still did not fire her cannon.

At the last moment, Captain Barry ordered the main topsail hove to mast to position the *Alliance* directly abreast of the *Sybil*. At the order from Captain Barry the full fury of a broadside from his ship was unleashed upon the *Sybil*. The British guns went silent after forty minutes of close fighting; the *Sybil* lost two sails and had considerable damage to her hull. The *Sybil* quickly broke off from the fight and fled back to the other British vessels. Her casualties were reported to range up to thirty-

seven killed and forty wounded. Thanks to the courage and skill of Captain Barry both American ships completed their mission and on 20 March 1783, the *Alliance* sailed into New Port, Rhode Island, abandoning the plan to return to Philadelphia given the strong presence of a British patrol. Sometime later news reached America that on 3 February 1783, the peace treaty had been ratified – the war for independence was over.

Thus, the last naval battle of the American Revolutionary War was fought and won off the coast of Florida, just south of Cape Canaveral – sealing another American naval victory!



By Don Lanman – Palm Beach Chapter

Before the remaining *U.S. Marines* departed the United States embassy in Saigon in April 1975, on March 29, 1973, the last American combat troops withdrew from *Vietnam*.

It's a day designated by Congress as a National Day of Honor where the flag is displayed in recognition of all who participated in the hotly debated conflict.

What began as an initial commitment of military advisors sent by President Eisenhower to *South Vietnam* escalated in the ensuing decade to a force that at its peak, in 1969, under the Johnson Administration, reached more than 543,000 American service members.

From 1964 to 1975, an estimated 2.7 million American personnel were committed to stopping *North Vietnamese* aggression into *South Vietnam*, and with it, containing the spread of communism in Southeast Asia. A staggering toll and a complicated legacy were left behind.

58,000 American service members were killed in action, with an estimated 300,000 wounded. The *North Vietnamese* and *Vietcong* suffered casualties as high as 851,000, yet far more *Vietnamese* civilians died in the crossfire and collateral damage.

Service members who survived their deployment to *Vietnam* returned home to an ungrateful welcome. It was devoid of the fanfare and appreciation that was showered upon returning GIs from Europe and the Pacific in World War II.

Who these brave men and women were before going to Vietnam was not the same as who they became, and who they are today. Welcome Home Brothers and Sisters in Arms, and thank you for your selfless service!

SAR Pledge

Referring to the National Handbook, Volume IV, Page 12, it shows the SAR Pledge:

The SAR Pledge should be recited, without modification, as follows: “We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution, who by their sacrifices established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.”

You will note that sometimes an extra word "the" gets published or said like following "We, the descendants..." There should be no word "the" and no comma after "We" The word "Liberty" in the third line should not be capitalized. This is being brought to you as a clarification that was recently noted by the NSSAR.

Knight Essay Contest

The state winners of the Knight Essay Contest for 2022 are:

First Place Cian McCarthy, Stonecrest Preparatory School, St Pete Chapter
 Second Place Khushi Talluru, Lakewood Ranch High, Saramana Chapter
 Third Place Jeffrey Lubinsky, Middleton High, Tampa Chapter

Congratulations on their work. Cian will receive a medal and \$1,000, Khushi will receive a certificate and \$500 and Jeffrey will receive a certificate and \$250. Cian has been invited to our Spring Board of Management Meeting to receive the medal at the youth luncheon on Saturday. Thanks to the committee members, Hamp Allen, Bob Yarnell and Kevin Yarnell upon which Ron Grooves serves as chairman.

Upcoming Meetings Events

132rd NSSAR Congress – Savannah, GA (July 2022)
 NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting (9/29/2022)
 FLSSAR 2022 Fall BOM Meeting (October 7 & 8, 2022)

New Members

The Florida Society SAR would like to welcome the following new members that have joined our organization since the first of the year.

Koch, William Ingraham	Herndon, Jerry Mercer
Kimler, Beau Taylor	Wittum, Roger Lee
Nelson, John Carl	Trump, Gregory Earl
Harn Jr, James Phares	Currier, James Hughes
O'Loughlin, Michael Patrick	Chancey, Hubert Wayne
Civitella, Kevin Charles	Chancey, Robert Wayne
Stephens, Nathaniel Benjamin	Bunch, Matthew Scott
Estes, Hays Sandford	Jones, Kail Evans
Estes, Larsen Ahrens	Odom, Robert Ernest
Gowton, David Russell	King, David Morris
Nelson, John Carl	Lukas Jr, Charles Anthony
Nelson, Matthew Todd	Brown, Richard Mark
Bryan, Daniel Allen	Schultz, Daniel Ivan
Hilton, Benjamin	Schultz, Teague Lehr
Craig III, Wiliam David	Carpenter, Jack Leroy
Byers, Phillip Verl	Abadie Jr, Warren Arnold
Johnson, Thomas William	Smith, Richard John
Gardner, Herbert Bigelow	Bauman, John David
Runnells, Matthew Steven	Brown, Matthew Penman
Westerfield, Oscar Frederick	Springfield, Mark Allen
Lubinski, Jeffrey Michael	Frissell, Richard Thomas
Smith, Richard Sherman	Matthew, James Michael
Kilgore III, Benjamin Franklin	Molnar, Phillip John
Hansen, Donald Louis	Feind, Eric
Russell, Peter Merle	Bulin, Dieter Robert
Atkinson, James Leslie	Boll, David Patrick
Rorty, David Hastings	Bickers, Matthew Lawrence
Seddon Jr, John Allen	Bickers, Mark Leslie
Mullens, James Robert	Heinze, Mark Lowell
Rainear, Carl F	Whelan, David Martin
Faust, Christopher Allen	Dever, Jonathan Wright
Balencie, Matthew Gererd	Castle, Thomas David
Balencie, Guy Martin	Meredith, Christohper David
DePaul, Harry Steven	Nolen, Claude Buford
Young, Gregory Lewis	Kidwell, Don Paul
Saunders, James Timothy	Blair, David Jay
Macwithey, Richard Everett	
Vernon, Richmond Parker	
Powers, Evan Graham	
Milliken, Samuel Alger	
Milliken, Rudolph Jacob	
Grupposo, James Vincent	

In Our Memory

It is with deep regret that the Florida Society announce the passing of the following members since the first of the year.

Jewett, Ledell	Miami
Worth, John	Brevard
Speicher, James Lewis	South Shore
Windsor, Charles Albert	South Shore
Panissidi, Vincent Dean	South Shore
Uhler, Robert	Brevard
Snow, Alan Keating	Ocala
Gillespie, Richard William	St Lucie River
Dray, Robert Allyn	Clearwater
Shaffer, Lowell Kenton	Charlotte
Downing, Roland G	Jacksonville
Beightol, Robert	Lake-Sumter
Nelson, Harley Benjamin	Withla-coochee
Windham, Clifton Travis	Panama City
McMurry, Victor George	Saramana
Bosworth, William Posey	Jacksonville
Hegener, John Loren	Saramana
Kitchen Jr, David Frank	Clearwater
Bannerman, Robert Anderson	Dumaway
Green, Russell Palmes	St Augustine



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

EASTSIDE VETERANS DAY MEMORIAL
at
SUNSET HILLS MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY

Thursday, November 11, 2021
11:00 am

Honoring all Veterans, active duty military and their families
With special recognition of Vietnam Veterans, Gold Star Mothers
and widows and mothers of deceased Vietnam Veterans

OBSERVING THE 246TH BIRTHDAY OF
THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

EASTSIDE TO HONOR MILITARY VETERANS
GENERAL PUBLIC INVITED TO ATTEND VET-
ERANS DAY CEREMONY

RELEASE DATE: *Embargoed for Release Until Monday,*

November 1, 2021, 10:00 am

Contact: Gregory D. Lucas

Phone: (425) 454-3302

E-mail: gregorylucas@lucasandlucas.net

Bellevue, WA (October 20, 2021) – A stirring ceremony to honor America’s active duty military and military veterans will be held at Sunset Hills Memorial Park on Thursday, November 11, 2021, at 11:00 am. The ceremony is hosted by various organizations, including the Sons of the American Revolution, American Legion Post #161, VFW Post #2995, and Sunset Hills Memorial Park. In what has become one of the largest Veterans Day ceremonies in Washington State, all active duty military and military veterans will be honored by the traditional greeting and exchange of salutes from their respective senior branch officers. Vietnam era Veterans, and the widows and mothers of deceased Vietnam Veterans, will receive the Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War commemorative lapel pins. Eastside Scouts will place more than 2,900 American flags on the graves of Veterans buried in the cemetery. The event is open to the public. Sunset Hills is located at 1215 145th Place SE, in Bellevue, Washington.

This year marks the 146th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps. In honor of the Marine Corps, a special presentation will be made recognizing the many contributions and sacrifices made by Marines from their creation during the American Revolution through the present day.

Bellevue Mayor Lynne Robinson and members of the Bellevue City Council will be on hand to present a special Proclamation honoring our military and military Veterans.

This ceremony has become an Eastside tradition, involving senior military officers from each branch of service, Scouts of all ages, the University of Washington Air Force ROTC, the USO Director, a renowned area bagpiper, a US Navy bugler, and representatives of various military organizations.

The Committee to Honor American Veterans was assembled in 2016 by Eastside attorney Gregory Lucas, of the Cascade Centennial Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, to plan ceremonies honoring America’s military and military veterans. It includes former Boeing VP Dan Heidt, Air Force Major General Richard Paul, Army Colonel Howard Lim, Air Force Major and former POW Joe Crecca, Army Veteran Jim Weaver, and Pastor Emeritus Ward Tanneberg of Bellevue’s Westminster Chapel. The Committee meets monthly each year to plan that year’s ceremony. A favorite of local dignitaries, Scout troops, military organizations, civic organizations and area residents, the Eastside Veterans Day ceremony is a moving tribute to our veterans. All are invited to attend.

It’s Coming!

THE 2023 NSSAR CONGRESS

Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando, Florida



YOU CAN WIN A REPRODUCTION

PENNSYLVANIA LONG RIFLE

As host state for the 2023 Congress, Florida needs to begin raising funds to cover the costs of hosting this prestigious event. Instead of raising member dues, the Board of Management and the 2023 Congress Planning Committee have devised a number of fundraising activities. The first of which is a drawing for a beautiful musket.

This Pennsylvania Long Rifle is faithful to the original in functionality and form. By Davide Pedersoli, this extra-long rifle, is finished with a rust brown color barrel and the walnut completes the one-piece oil finished stock. This model is provided with adjustable double set trigger. Front and rear sights are made of steel and rear sight is vertically adjustable.

Only 300 tickets are available!!! Suggested donation is \$20 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$100.
 Make checks payable to: FLSSAR

Send to: FLSSAR, c/o Steve Fields, Recording Secretary
 5515 Alta Vista Street, Sarasota, FL 34232
 (Tickets will also be available at FLSSAR Board of Management Meetings)

You need not to be present to win. Pennsylvania Long Rifle drawing to benefit the Florida SAR 2023 Congress Fund will take place at the first FLSSAR or NSSAR event after the sale of the 300th ticket, but no later than the Awards Banquet at the 2023 Orlando Congress. Proceeds will go to the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution (2023 Congress Fund). 501©(3).
www.FLSSAR.org

Also, don’t forget to order your 2023 FLSSAR Congress Medal. This uniquely designed medal commemorates the 133rd Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution being hosted by the Florida SAR Society. This exclusive set contains one full-sized medal and one in miniature (see photo). To get yours, please send a separate check for \$47.75 (includes shipping) payable to the FLSSAR to the address above. Proceeds will go to the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution (2023 Congress Fund). 501©(3).

Medals will also be available for sale at FLSSAR Board of Management Meetings.

Chapter News

Brevard Chapter

On February 19, 2022, the Brevard Chapter held a combination SAR/DAR luncheon in honor of George Washington. Their speaker was Andrea Hogan who is a retired secret service agent that provided protection for past Vice President Cheney. On February 6, the chapter also participated in a Veterans ceremony at the Veterans Military Center to honor Veterans throughout history.

On March 12, the Brevard Chapter hosted the Last Naval Battle Ceremony at the Veterans Military Center in Merritt Island, Florida. Much planning & preparation went into this event. It was estimated that over 200 people were in attendance even though there were predictions of major rain. The event went on as planned & the rain didn't take place until after the event was over. See the pictures of this event throughout this issue of the *FLSSAR Florida Patriot*.

On April 9, 2022, the chapter held their monthly meeting at The Tide Collocated Club at Patrick Space Force Base. Their speaker was Chiri Hewes who was a Vietnam Veteran Nurse. The chapter is also planning to hold meetings for the month of May and June.

Central Florida Chapter

In December, members of the chapter participated in the Wreaths Across America event at the Palm Cemetery and the Pinewood Cemetery in the metro-Orlando area. At the first of the year, the chapter was looking for a more permanent location to hold their monthly meetings.

On January 8, 2022, the chapter held their monthly meeting at the Museum of Military History located in Kissimmee, Florida. Bill Elder of the Daytona Beach Chapter was our speaker who spoke on the early years of George Washington. Then on January 15 & 16, members of the chapter recruited at the Scottish Highland Games in which the local DAR chapters were also in attendance.

In February, the chapter held their monthly meeting at the Longwood VFW location. While in March, the chapter met at the Winter Park Elks Club in which Scott Cook was the speaker and he spoke on the local CAR Chapter and how it is progressing. Members of the chapter also provided color guard and set at the FLSSAR recruitment table at the Florida DAR Spring Conference.

Members of the chapter were in attendance and participated in the Last Naval Battle Ceremony in Merritt Island, Florida. We also had members in uniform at the Battle of Thomas Creek Ceremony in Jacksonville, Florida.

In April, the chapter held their annual Patriots Day Banquet in honor of the Battle of Lexington & Concord. This event was held at the Winter Park Elks Club in which Jeff Sizemore was the speaker. He spoke on Francis Marion.

Clearwater Chapter



At the November meeting, our speaker was Compatriot Robert Moore, a member of the Clearwater Chapter and former President and current Trustee of the Hawaii Society, Sons of the American Revolution. He spoke about the Battle of Pearl Harbor and the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, where he serves on the Board of Directors and is the former Chairman of the Exhibits and Scholarship Education Committees.

At the Belleair Christmas Parade, members of the Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter Color Guard, Ladies Auxiliary and the Daughters of the American Revolution Caladesi Chapter participated in the 11th Annual Belleair Holiday Parade on December 5, 2021.

The parade started at the Belleair Parks and Recreation Department, went west on Ponce De Leon Boulevard, turned and went northeast on Indian Rocks Road, then turned at Hunter Park and proceeded south on The Mall back to the Recreation Department. The Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter Color Guard group led the other parade participants on the route. This year, there was a holiday party where photographs could be taken with Santa Claus at the Recreation Department. There was no party after the parade last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Clearwater Chapter's Color Guard unit is specifically known as the Samuel Adams Camp in the Sons of Liberty Brigade of the Florida Society Sons of



Wetherbee, Walter Arnold, Larry Patterson, Beverly Entwisle, Jim Gibson, Irma Anderson and Robert Anderson. Margaret Harris and Marjorie Wetherbee are both Ladies Auxiliary and Daughters of the American Revolution members. Historian/Publicist Harry Fuller attended and took photographs.

At the December meeting/Officer installation, the chapter held a General Membership in person meeting and officer installation on December 15, 2021 at 12:00 noon at the Dunedin Golf Club.

Guests included Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution President Bernard Wolff, his wife Delores Wolff, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution and Parks Honeywell, Regional Vice President. Forty-three people were in attendance.

State President Bernard Wolff administered the Oath of Installation. The Officers of the Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter for 2022 are: President - Kevin MacFarland, First Vice President - Walter Arnold, Second Vice President - Harry Fuller, Treasurer - Robert Anderson, Secretary - Larry Patterson, Genealogist/Registrar - Parks Honeywell, Chaplain - George Youstra, and Sergeant At Arms - Russell Pebworth Year-end awards, certificate and medals were also presented.

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution President Bernard Wolff for presiding over the installation of officers. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Calling Committee members Harry Fuller, Walter Arnold, Lew Harris and Robert Anderson. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Ladies Auxiliary members Marjorie Wetherbee, Margaret Harris and Susan Grayshaw. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Good Citizenship Award presenters Walter Arnold and Robert Cundiff. Meritorious Service Medals were presented to Larry Patterson and George Youstra. Roger Sherman Medals were presented to Walter Arnold and Kevin MacFarland. Roger Sherman Medal Oak Leaf Clusters were presented to Harry Fuller, Larry Patterson, Robert Cundiff, Russell Pebworth and Robert Anderson. The Lydia Darragh Award was presented to Marjorie Wetherbee. Dunedin Golf Club General Manager Chuck Croasmun was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to the Clearwater Chapter. Thomas Hurter was inducted as a new member.

At the Wreaths Across America, members of the Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter participated and provided the Color Guard in the Wreaths Across America commemoration at the Dunedin Cemetery on Saturday, December 18th. In addition to the Sons of the American Revolution, members of the Civil Air Patrol, Dunedin JROTC program and volunteers from various veterans organizations attended the observance led by Dunedin Mayor Julie Bujalski.

The Color Guard unit of the Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter is specifically referred to as the Samuel Adams Camp, Sons of Liberty Brigade of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution. The Camp is comprised of members of the Clearwater Chapter who invest in a Tricorn hat and blazer or full replica uniform of the Revolutionary War period. The Camp partici-



the American Revolution. The Camp is comprised of members of Clearwater Chapter who have uniforms of the Revolutionary War period. The Camp participates in flag presentation ceremonies and other patriotic events.

The participants were (left to right as shown in the chapter photograph) Robert Moore, Charles Wetherbee, Margaret Harris, Robbie Robinson, Robert Cundiff, Parks Honeywell, Marjorie

pates in various ceremonies, parades and other events. Camp members that participated in the Color Guard were Secretary Larry Patterson, Treasurer Robert Anderson with the United States Flag and First Vice President Walter Arnold with the Sons of the American Revolution Flag. Second Vice President Harry Fuller helped coordinate the event and took photographs.

At the January meeting, the chapter held a general membership meeting on January 19th via Zoom. The chapter normally holds meetings every third Wednesday of each month at the Dunedin Country Club at 12:00 noon, except for a Summer break between June to August.

The chapter was planning to hold the January meeting at the Dunedin Golf Club, but was informed by the club that the meeting could not be accommodated due to illnesses in the kitchen staff. Therefore, the January meeting was held via Zoom.

Compatriot Robert Moore read the poem "To A Mouse" composed by Scottish poet Robert Burns, who was born on January 25, 1759. Several Compatriots wore Scottish headdress in honor of the Scottish-American contribution to the cause of American Independence.

Regional Vice President and Chapter Registrar Parks Honeywell gave an overview of his genealogical research and how members can submit supplemental applications. Supplemental applications include additional patriots beyond a member's original patriot submitted for membership.

At the Daughters of the American Revolution Caladesi Chapter Genealogy Seminar, members of the Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter provided the Color Guard for the opening of the 37th Annual Genealogy Seminar arranged by the Caladesi Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution at the Scottish American Society of Dunedin on February 9th. The Clearwater Chapter had an information table for attendees that were interested in the Sons of the American Revolution.

At the February meeting, Our featured speaker was Chapter member Compatriot Rob Robinson who talked about the Mayflower and the settlement of Massachusetts.

Flagler Chapter



On November 3rd, 2021, two Flagler Beach First Responders were honored for their outstanding service, leadership and accomplishments to their community and Flagler County. Chapter President Charles Hayes presented a Law Enforcement Medal & Certificate to Detective Rosanna Vinci and a Fire Safety Medal & Certificate to Lt. Morgan Rainey. Compatriot Randall Morris emceed this presentation at Flagler Beach City Hall. Former Flagler Beach Commissioner, Compatriot John Feind, arranged and coordinated this presentation which included the City Manager, three Commissioners, and Compatriot Steve Ripley. Detective Rosanna Vinci was nominated by Police Chief Matt Doughney and Lt. Rainey was nominated by Fire Chief Bobby Pace. In photo, Left to Right, Compatriot Randall Morris, Chief Doughney, Detective Vinci, Lt. Rainey, Chief Pace (Fire Safety Medal recipient in 2014), Compatriot John Feind.



On November 30th, 2021, the SAR Fire Safety Medal & Certificate were presented to City of Palm Coast Firefighter-Paramedic and Driver Engineer Jeffrey Nunziato. Nunziato coordinated and provided outstanding leadership to the Driver Engineer Field Training Program. Additionally, Fire Chief Jerry Forte (Fire Safety Award Recipient 2005) noted the city is fortunate to have a firefighter with Nunziato's experience and that he is a role model and provides strong mentorship to other Firefighters within the Department. After serving in the U.S. Marines, Nunziato became a volunteer firefighter, acquired his firefighting and EMT training at Daytona State College, and in 2006 transitioned into a career firefighter with Palm Coast Fire Department. He will be formally promoted to Lieutenant in January 2022. President of the Flagler Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, Charles Hayes, presented the Award at Fire Station #24 in Palm Coast. In attendance were Nunziato, his wife, three children, many Fire Department colleagues, and Compatriots Charles Hayes, Randall Morris, Steven Ripley, and David Kelsey. Photographed Left to Right are President Hayes, Captain James Neuenfeldt (EMS Medal Recipient 2019), Nunziato, and Chief Forte.



On November 11th, 2021, the Flagler County Board of County Commissioners and the Veterans Advisory Council held a Veterans Day Ceremony in front of the Government Services Bldg. located in Bunnell, FL. The Special Guest Speaker was Compatriot Randall Morris, a member of the Flagler Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Morris is a Vietnam Veteran and holder of the Bronze Star. He was attired in a replica Revolutionary War uniform worn by his 4th great-grandfather, Lieutenant Andrew Putnam. Morris emphasized the importance of Veterans Day as a time to honor and respect all who served in our Armed Forces. Veterans have served and sacrificed for our great nation "because of a love for the American people and the American way of life." The ceremony was attended by a couple of hundred enthusiastic citizens including Compatriots Charles Hayes, Paul Pritchard, Steve Ripley, Sheriff Rick Staly, Jay Mills, John Feind, David Hammond, David Kelsey and many family members. Left to Right in Photo: Compatriots Randall Morris, Steven Ripley, Chapter Flag, President Charles Hayes, Sheriff Rick Staly, Paul Pritchard, and David Kelsey.

Gainesville Chapter



On December 8 2021. Dave Thomas, chapter president and regional vice president and Sean Tonnelier, 1rst vice president of the Gainesville chapter attended the Gainesville chapter DAR meeting. The Florida state vice regent, Cindy Addison is in the center with white cap. To her left is Nancy Briles, current regent for the Gainesville DAR. Cindy gave a wonderful speech on "a colonial Christmas".



At the Wreaths Across America ceremony on December 18 2021 held at Forest Meadows East memorial cemetery and mausoleum in Gainesville Florida, Seam Tonnellier participated in the ceremony laying a wreath at the plaque for the Air Force with a formal salute.



Left: Lester Burch, our newest member being sworn in at our monthly meeting of the Gainesville FL chapter SAR 12/21/21. Presiding over his ceremony was Dave Thomas, regional vice president and Gainesville chapter president.



Right Debbie Duay, Florida regent for the DAR and Sean Tonnelier on January 12, 2022 at the Wesley Methodist fellowship Hall in Gainesville Florida.



Left: Dave Thomas, regional Vice President and Gainesville chapter president presenting a certificate and pins to Linda Ellsworth, Gainesville chapter DAR, and Peter Mullen, of Callahan Florida. They gave a speech on the "exchange of flags", covering the events of Florida becoming a possession of the United States in 1821.



On February 26 2022 in Ocala Florida at the War Horse Harley store, members of the Rainbow River DAR, Gainesville FL chapter SAR and the Ocala chapter SAR did a joint flag certificate ceremony. Dave Thomas, Gainesville chapter president and NC regional vice president is seen holding the certificate with Ocala chapter president Larry Ashton to his right. To the left of the sign and seated is rainbow river DAR regent Barbara Belter. The certificate was presented on stage with Tee Snyder of the war horse Harley store holding the framed certificate and to her right, Jason White, director of the Florida Birdwell foundation, devoted to helping homeless veterans and those with PTSD.



Lake City Chapter

On February 14, 2022, the Lake City Chapter installed the following individuals: Chapter President, Joseph Carroll; Chapter Vice President, Charles Kime; Chapter Secretary, James M. McGarity III; Chapter Treasurer, David Chandler; Chapter Registrar, William Williams. RVP David Thomas was there as part of this ceremony. The Appointed Officers that were also installed: Chaplain Conny Bossard and Sergeant at Arms Robin McDaniel.

Okechobee Chapter



In December our Chapter collected approximately 100 canned goods to give to our meeting speaker, Debra Austin, Program Manager for Okeechobee County Senior Services. Mrs. Austin distributed the canned goods to local seniors receiving Meals on Wheels to supplement them on weekends and holidays.

In February the Okeechobee Chapter had Leah Suarez, Director of the Nonprofit Our Village Okeechobee speak. We presented her group with a check.

Lately, the Okeechobee Chapter manned a SAR information table at both the Annual Okeechobee Battlefield Reenactment Weekend (Feb 26/27) and the Highlands Heritage Festival Weekend (at the Historic Edna Pearce Lockett Estate March 12/13). At the Heritage Festival Okeechobee Chapter's newly formed Color Guard gave its first performance/Flag Presentation and Four Musket Salute. Pictures are attached.



Palm Beach Chapter

Chapter President Lanman Honored 8 Compatriots and 9 DAR Daughters for their selfless service to the Chapter and SAR including, Alex Dreyfoos: Distinguished Service Medal, Robert Boggs: Meritorious Service Medal, Benjamin Tidwell: Meritorious Service Medal, Greg Parkinson: Meritorious Service Medal, Peter Johnston: Meritorious Service Medal, John Workman: SAR Certificate of Appreciation, Bill Richards: SAR Certificate of Appreciation, Jim Blackburn: SAR Certificate of Appreciation.

The DAR Daughters recognized included, Karen Christie: Daughters of Liberty Medal Oak Leaf Cluster, Diane Tidwell: Martha Washington Medal Oak Leaf Cluster, Brenda Fritz: SAR Medal of Appreciation, Marjorie Ferrer: SAR Medal of Appreciation, Linda Bennett: SAR Certificate of Appreciation, Rosemary Mouring: SAR Certificate of Appreciation, Nancy Rardin: SAR Certificate of Appreciation, Madeline/Floyd Chin: SAR Certificate of Appreciation, Zoe Stout: SAR Certificate of Appreciation.



President Lanman delivered the keynote speech at the *91st Florida State Society of the Children of the Revolution Conference* in Melbourne. Lanman accepted a major donation from the *FSCAR* for the *Florida Veterans Foundation* specifically to benefit homeless and At-Risk Florida Veterans. God Bless these young Patriots.



Panama City Chapter



President Lanman and **Sgt. @ Arms/FMR Chapter President Parkinson** inducted **Compatriots Beau Kilmer** and **Clifford Coffyn** into the Chapter bringing the membership to 175+ with 10 applications at National.



President Lanman presented the prestigious *SAR Military Service Medal* to **Compatriot James Blackburn** as a testament to his military service during both *Korea* and *Vietnam*, and formally inducted him into *FLSSAR Veterans Battalion*.



Master Chief Petty Officer, Owen Eugene Cook Sr, USN, and U.S. Civil Service Retired, was presented with a Life Member Pin and Certificate by President Jim Franklin Haynes and Registrar DeCody Brad Marble of the Panama City Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, at his residence in Wewahitchka, Florida on January 28, 2022. Owen Eugene Cook, age 95, honorably served his country during World War II, Korea, and Vietnam as a Master Chief Fire Control Technician. Owen became a member of the Sons of the American Revolution in 1997 based on the contributions of his 3rd Great Grandfather, Patriot Valentine Cook Sr., who constructed Cook's Fort on Indian Creek, in Greenville, Monroe County, West Virginia. The fort covered over an acre and had four blockhouses. It sheltered 300 people during Native American attacks of 1778 and utilized through the early 1780s.



On January 24, 2022, the fourth Monday, the Florida Society SAR Panama City Chapter held its first meeting of the year 2022. The SAR Chapter meets in the Lynn Haven's Sonny's BBQ Restaurant, HWY 77, in the back meeting room, 'Tillmans Corner'. The speaker and a chapter member were Lt. Col. James Paddison Pretlow Jr. U.S.A.F. (Ret.). In the attached photo, 'Jim' Pretlow is holding a photo of himself in the Ground Attack fighter, an A-1H, while flying on a Sandy orbit over Laos. On the table lies two Aeronautical Bombing Charts of the Ho Chi Minh Trail showing probable North Vietnam anti-aircraft gun installations.

A highly decorated officer, Jim has received the Air Medal Award with 8 subsequent awards represented by 3 Bronze and one Silver Oak Leaf Cluster. Lt. Col. Jim Pretlow served in the U.S.A.F. from 1955 – 1976 and received the Distinguished Flying Cross with 2 bronze Oak Leaf Clusters. In addition, Jim received the Meritorious Service Medal. Jim flew 150 combat missions against enemy targets and 22 combat support missions. All these missions, mostly at night, required dropping various payloads of weapons upon the enemy. At night, the North Vietnamese Army would utilize the Ho Chi Minh Trail to move troops and supplies toward South Vietnam. USAF Forward Air Controllers would mark Truck traffic on the Trail by using phosphorus-burning markers and provide strike instructions in relation to the marker. Using Napalm, the A-1 Night Strike fighters would attack the targets while undergoing intense ground fire from the defending North Viet Nam gunners. Jim told some hair-raising stories about a few bombing missions and a SAR, Search and Air Rescue Mission illustrating samples of



the multitude of aerial combat missions that he had flown. The Compatriots of the Florida Society SAR Panama City Chapter are proud of our Veterans and grateful for them and their service to our country. ... Compatriot DBM.

St. Petersburg Chapter



The Saint Petersburg Chapter held a General Membership in person meeting on Saturday, November 20th at 9:00am at the Saint Petersburg Yacht Club. This was the second in person meeting since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and 15 people were in attendance. Vice President Harry Fuller presided at the meeting.

The guest speaker was Rui Farias, Executive Director of the St. Petersburg Museum of History. He spoke about the history of the city and the current renovations being made at the museum. Vice President Harry Fuller indicated that the Saint Petersburg SAR Chapter was chartered in 1928 and would like to partner with the museum to create a display about the history of fraternal and service organizations in the city.

The Saint Petersburg Chapter held a General Membership in person meeting and officer installation on Saturday, December 18th at 9:00am at the Saint Petersburg Yacht Club. Guests included Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution President Bernard Wolff, his wife Delores Wolff, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution and Parks Honeywell, Regional Vice President. Thirteen people were in attendance. State President Bernard Wolff administered the Oath of Installation. The Officers of the Sons of the American Revolution



Saint Petersburg Chapter for 2022 are: President - Brett McMullen; Vice President - Harry Fuller; Secretary/Treasurer - William Scott; Registrar - Walter Arnold

At the January meeting, our guest speaker was Clete Belson, a docent at the Tampa Bay History Center. He spoke about the aviator Dale Mabry, how the Tampa highway was named after him, and other aspects of early Tampa Bay aviation history. The Chapter also inducted Robert Koehler and Doug Maddox as new members.

In February, a joint meeting was held with Caravel Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution at the Saint Petersburg Yacht Club. A video of a DAR project in Connecticut for the 250th Anniversary of the United States was shown. Both chapters also discussed ways to coordinate activities and increase membership.

Tampa Chapter



The Tampa Chapter had Officer Installation at its January meeting. Regional Vice President Parks Honeywell joined the meeting and conducted the Installation Ceremony. Pictured below is RVP Honeywell with President Charles Kug, First Vice President Gerald (Robbie) Robinson, Registrar Dick Young, Secretary Robert Yarnell, Second Vice President Roger Roscoe and Treasurer Will Wagner-Hart. This was the last meeting of the Tampa Chapter at the Misson BBQ Restaurant. The Chapter has

enjoyed meeting at Mission BBQ, but has outgrown the meeting space.

Our February meeting was a tour of the American Victory ship. Based on the reports and pictures, a good time was had by all.



SS American Victory is a Victory ship which saw brief service in the Pacific Theater of Operations during the final months of World War II, Korean War from 1951–1954, and Vietnam War from 1967–1969. Built in June 1945, she carried ammunition and other cargo from U.S. West Coast ports to Southeast Asia, then ferried cargo, equipment and troops back to the U.S. after the war ended. She survived two typhoons and one hurricane. She sailed around the world twice.

Withlacoochee Chapter



Hernando Elementary School student Isabella Evans age 10 was the winner of the Withlacoochee Florida Chapter of the poster contest. She was in competition with more than 100 other entries from her school in Hernando, Florida. She was presented with a check for \$100 at the monthly meeting on April 9, 2022 by President David Hitchcock. Her poster was of the last naval battle of the Revolutionary War. Her detailed drawing of the Flag and the historical accurate rendition of a marine steering compass were excellent. Her family and one of her teachers Chris Faust attended the presentation. Chris is also a member of the chapter. Her poster will be passed to the Florida SAR for further consideration.

Harley B. Nelson, 96 of Homosassa, Florida passed away on Jan. 4, 2022. He was a native of Noble County, In. and born March 25, 1915, to Ward and Letha Nelson one of 13 children. He dropped out of high school and enlisted on his 17th birthday on March 25, 1942, in the U. S. Navy. He was trained as a Signalman. After his training he was assigned to a short stint at a light-house on the east coast of the country then transferred to the Pacific Theatre and served on the U.S.S LST 632 for his war service. He participated in several Pacific Island landings including an amphibious landing on Biak Island in Dutch New Guinea on 27 May 1944. He received the **Bronze Star** for his actions that day. His citation from **Vice Admiral T. C. Kinkaid** states “For distinguishing himself by heroic and meritorious service as a member of Navy Beach Party Number 6...” “When members of the party landed on Green Beach, they were subjected to severe hand grenade fire from Japanese troops in two caves in the cliff near the beach. While other members of the party attacked the enemy, he proceeded calmly and efficiently about his task in the face of continued enemy action. He confirmed the absence of underwater obstacles, located a safe approach for incoming craft, and successfully guided Landing Craft Tanks (LCT) with their vital load of material, to the beach. His cool, efficient and courageous performance of duty under fire permitted the accomplishment of his mission and contributed materially to the successes of the operation. His conduct has distinguished him among those performing duties of the same character.”

He participated in the Bataan and Corregidor Landings in the Philippines from 2/13 to 2/18, 1945 on the U.S.S. LST 632. He received additional written commendations from **James Forrestal – Secretary of the Navy and President Harry S. Truman** for his Pacific War Service. His additional medals received for his war service were American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three bronze stars, World War II Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one bronze star. He was released from active duty on 31 Mar 1946 and was Honorably separated from his military service on 29 Oct 1952.

After Harley was released from active duty, he received his GED and then sent himself to Manchester University where he received his Bachelor’s Degree. He then attended Indiana University where he received his Law degree. In between his schooling he married Beverly Jean Pence Nelson a DAR on February 14, 1947. They had one daughter Carla Nelson Heimer who faithfully brought her dad to every SAR meeting. He used his law degree as a supervisor claims adjuster for several insurance companies retiring as a Senior Vice President of Claims from Foremost Insurance.

Carla advised that they moved many times for her dad’s job, and she attended 16 different schools in 16 years. After Harley retired, he moved his family to Homosassa, Florida. Harley was a great community volunteer serving the Withlacoochee Chapter as Secretary and President. He was also a member of the color guard. He served as president of the Citrus County Library Board and oversaw the construction of a new library. Harley was a regular attender of every SAR meeting up to November 2021 always accompanied by his loving daughter Carla Heimer. He was interred next to his previously deceased wife Beverly on March 25, 2022, with full military honors at the National Bushnell Cemetery in Bushnell Florida. Carla was presented with the American Flag in a beautiful presentation case from the Withlacoochee Chapter of the SAR by President David Hitchcock. Article written and submitted by Tom Bowen – Secretary

Florida Society CAR Convention

February 18-20 found the Florida Society Children of the American Revolution at their 91st Annual Conference in Melbourne, Florida. State President Sydney Regaud presided over the three day event which included the annual Business Session, an election, a visit to the Brevard Veteran's Memorial Center and other activities for the Members as well as the Senior Members. The Florida SAR Sons of Liberty Brigade provided the "guard" for the Presentation of the Colors at the opening of the Conference at its Business Session on Saturday morning, as the members carried in the flags and banners.



PG Brock with Colleen Langston and Katy Peterson of the Swamp Fox Society

The Florida SAR was well represented at the Annual Banquet, with several compatriots in attendance. PG Lindsey Brock brought greetings from the National Society and FLSSAR Treasurer Dick Young brought greetings from the Florida Society. PG Brock and Compatriot Young presented the SAR Silver C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation to the out-going State President Sydney Regaud, out-going Senior State President Dr. Holly Hamilton and long-serving Senior State Treasurer and SAR Compatriot Charles (Chuck) Decker. The Swamp Fox Society of Pompano Beach won the C.A.R./SAR/SR Relations Award for their work with the S.A.R. They were presented with the Lindsey C Brock Trophy, a traveling trophy presented to the annual winner of this award.



Compatriot Don Lanman was present representing both the SAR and the Florida Veterans Council. The Florida C.A.R. presented Compatriot Lanman with \$5,000 to use at the Veterans Council to continue their assistance to homeless veterans.

James Hamilton (an SAR compatriot) was elected to serve as the next State President and Dr. Hamilton was re-elected to serve another two year term as Senior State President. Both of them will be joining us at the FLSSAR Annual Meeting, representing the Florida Society C.A.R.

“Another such victory would ruin the
British Army.”

The Battle of Guilford Courthouse,

March 15, 1781

By Don Lanman, President Palm Beach Chapter, National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

The “Ides of March” were particularly fateful 241 years ago in the closing days of the war when a signature battle of the American Revolutionary War took place in the Southern colonies at the remote county seat of Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina.

It was a bright, cool winter day in north central North Carolina when the two major armies clashed at Guilford Courthouse on March 15, 1781. This rural county seat had less than 100 full time residents but its population grew that day to 4,400 as Continental regulars and Colonial militia under the command of General Nathanael Greene gathered to meet the Redcoats.

General Greene’s Colonial army of 4,400* was comprised of 1,700 regulars and 2,700 militia, mostly of farmers, called for temporary military service as needed.

The British army comprised of 2,000 professional and battle-hardened troops commanded by aristocrat and professional soldier **General Charles Cornwallis**, had recently overrun Virginia, Georgia, and South Carolina, and were now poised to beat the Americans of North Carolina into submission.

While grossly outnumbered, *General Cornwallis* was confident that his professional soldiers could sweep aside this mixture of regulars and inexperienced militia.

General Greene chose his ground carefully by deploying his men into three lines of battle across the **Great Salisbury Wagon Road** that led to the southwest facing the British army, locating his Continental regulars as the final line to deliver the most destructive resistance to the enemy.

Greene had deployed first line of North Carolina militia with instructions to fire at least two shots into the enemy ranks before withdrawing behind the second then third line of regulars. His troops strategically positioned, the battle began just after noon when Greene’s artillery unleashed deadly cannon fire on the Redcoats.

Drums snapping, bagpipes skirling, and bayonets glinting in the winter sun, the Redcoats marched at a measured pace through the artillery barrage toward the rail fence where a thousand American militia long rifles opened fire with devastating results.

The British line, with great holes torn in its ranks and indifferent to casualties, staggered but then re-formed, and stepping over their dead and wounded rushed head on into the North Carolinians with musket fire and leveled bayonets.



Before retreating, Greene's first line of militia inflicted heavy casualties on the Redcoats. One British officer later recalled that when men of *His Majesty's Own, 71st Highland Regiment of Foot* were hit by the first volley, "one half of the Highlanders dropped on that spot."

The second Colonial line proved another powerful fighting force to blunt the British advance. Greene had located them in heavy forest, with good cover, clear targets, and Officers ordered to shoot any soldiers who broke ranks to run from the battle.

Greene's Virginia militia fought valiantly against the Redcoats for about an hour in a fierce battle that a British writer later described as "a number of irregular, but hard fought and bloody skirmishes."

The heaviest fighting took place on the third line where General Greene had stationed his battle seasoned Continentals. After fighting savagely and enduring more heavy losses, the Redcoats continued their assault finally breaking through the third line to scatter the American ranks onto a cleared field just beyond the skirmish line.

In that cleared field, the fighting swayed back and forth, and there, for the first time in the battle, Greene's cavalry rode slashing into the Redcoats ranks. Cornwallis suddenly saw that he was in real danger of attack from both the front and flanks by Greene's infantry and cavalry.

Fearing defeat, Cornwallis ordered his artillery to fire deadly *grapeshot* rounds directly into the battle area killing and wounding both American and British soldiers alike.

The Cornwallis artillery gambit worked and despite killing many of his own soldiers, when the smoke cleared the battle was over and Greene ordered his army into a strategic withdrawal leaving the British in possession of the battlefield.

Final battle casualty reports noted 93* British soldiers killed, 413 wounded, and 26 missing while on the American side 79 soldiers were reported killed, 185 wounded and 1,046 missing. The missing soldiers were likely the Colonial militia returning to their farms since the battle was over.

While the British won the *Guildford Courthouse* battle, Cornwallis failure to destroy Greene's army and allowing them to escape unopposed into South Carolina, unwittingly sealed the fate of the British-held South.

Over the following month's Greene's troops continued to fight engaging in four pitched battles in the South and while losing these engagements, reminiscent of *Guilford Courthouse*, they refused to give up the offensive



James Lanman's 1750 French Flintlock

against the British. As Greene commented, "*We fight, get beat, rise, and fight again.*"

General Greene's "hit and run" strategy kept the British forces fully engaged in the South, exhausting their supplies and keeping them from diverting much needed forces to the northern campaign.

While the *Gilford Courthouse* battle was a British victory, failing to defeat either the spirit or will of the Americans led the British Parliament to the conclusion that the Colonial war was just too expensive for the government to support.

Receiving the news of the battle of *Guilford Courthouse*, Member of Parliament **Charles J. Fox** addressing the **House of Commons** commented, "... *Another such victory would ruin the British army.*"

As an interesting footnote to the *Battle of Guilford Courthouse* is that my **Patriot Ancestor, Grandfather James Lanman** was a veteran of that famous battle.

The Son of America's pioneer founders, James took up the Patriot's cause in July 1776 enlisting in Charleston, SC as an Orderly Sargent with the **1st Regiment of Rife of the South Carolina Colonial Army**.

Serving under General Williams, his service included battles against members of the loyalist *Cherokee Nation* including the fierce battle of Valley Town on the Tennessee River.

Following his service with the Regiment of Rifle, James reenlisted in March 1781 in Hillsborough, NC with the **1st Regiment of Horse** (cavalry) of the Southern Army in time to see action in two major battles of the Southern campaign, *Guilford Courthouse* and *Eutaw Springs*.

Following the *Guilford Courthouse* battle, James fought in the last major battle of the Southern campaign at *Eutaw Springs*, SC on September 8 1781. Under the command of Revolutionary War greats including General Greene, "**Swamp Fox**" **Francis Marion**, and "**Light Horse**" **Harry Lee**, the two armies were equally matched at about 2,000 troops each.

The fighting was fierce and the casualties were high on both sides. While the battle was technically a draw, it was actually a loss for the British since they failed to stop General Greene's Southern campaign.

Wounded during the battle along with his commander **Colonel John Henderson**, both were transported to the farm of a Quaker widow Nelson for first aid. Following recuperation, James, honorably discharged from the Colonial Army, moved back to his home in Caswell County, NC then on to Illinois to claim is war bounty land grant. His personal flintlock from that battle has been in the Lanman family for generations....

Washington's Weapons Guns, Swords & Uniforms

Researched & Compiled by Don Lanman

While serving as both a British Colonial Militia Officer and as the Revolutionary War Commanding General, Washington owned many weapons of war.

The following a review of his most notable weapons, and accoutrements used over the course of his long and distinguished career from a colonial militia commander in the 1750s all the way to commander in chief of the American army during the Quasi-War with France in 1798-1799.

Braddock Sword: Washington wore this sword while an aide to Major General Edward Braddock during the French and Indian War.



War Trophy: Washington's correspondence includes dozens of references to pistols purchased, lost, captured, and received as gifts. This brace of pistols, made in London c. 1780, were captured during the Revolution.



Braddock Pistol: Washington's highly prized this English pistol, one of a pair originally given to him by General Braddock in 1755.



Dress Sword: Washington owned several jewel-like, light-weight weapons. This ornately engraved three-sided hollow blade, is distinguished by being depicted in Charles Willson Peale's 1772 portrait of *Washington as a Virginia Colonel*, as well as several of Charles Willson Peale's Revolutionary War portraits of Washington. Washington is also believed to have worn it when he resigned his commission as commander in chief in Annapolis in 1783 and when inaugurated as our nation's first president on April 30, 1789.



Lafayette Epee: This Model 1767 French officer's epee was one of seven swords inventoried in George Washington's Study after his death. Family tradition maintained it was George Washington's "mourning" sword that it was a gift from the Marquis de Lafayette.



Battle Sword: Washington wore this American-made, ivory-hilted hanger or cuttuo as his battle sword during the Revolutionary War. It appears in several portraits of the commander in chief by Charles Wilson Peale.



Washington's Gorget: Washington wore this gorget, a symbolic remnant of a suit of armor, around his throat as part of the militia uniform he wore to the Continental Congress in 1775. The gorget is engraved with the coat of arms of the colony of Virginia.



Honor Spurs: During the Continental Army's grueling winter encampment at Valley Forge, Washington inspired his men through simple gestures. These included giving the spurs on his boots to Lieutenant Thomas Lamb, who volunteered to ride to Boston to request supplies.



Officers Eagle Cockade: In 1798, rising tensions with France and concern over his own inadequacy in military matters led President John Adams to appoint Washington as lieutenant general and commander in chief of a new American army.

The army remained on paper only, but during the initial preparations, Washington designed a new insignia for commissioned officers.



239th Commemoration of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution



2022 Last Naval Battle Ceremony - Merritt Island, FL



2022 Last Naval Battle Ceremony - Merritt Island, FL





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