

The Florida Patriot

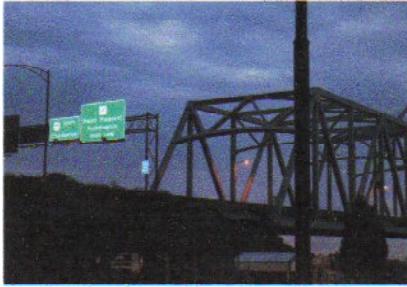
Official Magazine of the
Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution
Vol. XXXVIII No. 4 Winter 2009



Chief Cornstalk was one of the principles at the First Battle of The American Revolution at Point Pleasant, West Virginia. See inside cover and pages 3-5 and page 8.

**Also in this issue
Minutes of the Fall BOM Meeting
Chapter News**

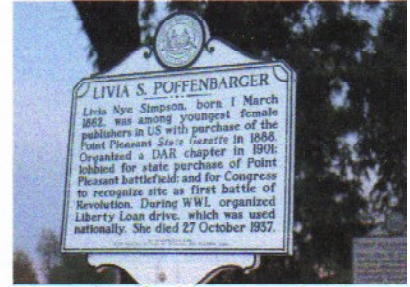
PICTURES TAKEN AT BATTLE DAYS IN POINT PLEASANT WEST VIRGINIA



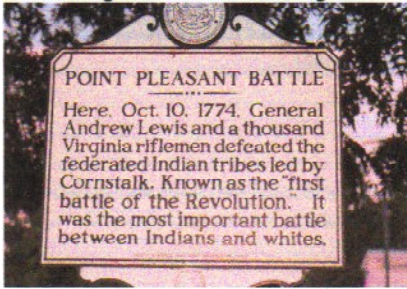
Crossing from Ohio to West Virginia



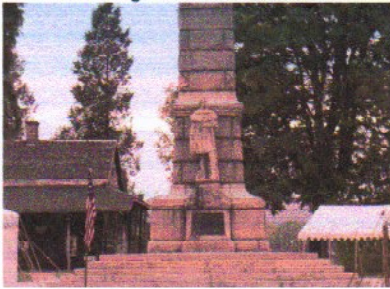
The bridge to Point Pleasant



Author of article on pages 3 to 5



Point Pleasant Battle marker



Point Pleasant Monument



Point Pleasant Battle marker



Benjamin Franklin was there



Many wonderful people participated



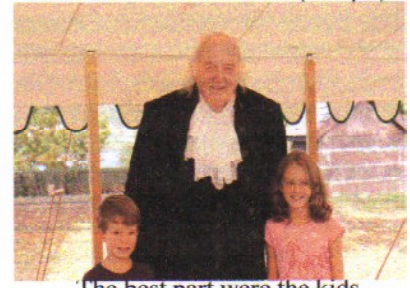
Chief Cornstalk was there (See p8)



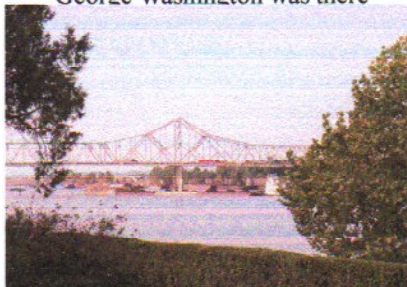
George Washington was there



Musicians played Colonial music



The best part were the kids



Many beautiful views on the river



Over 500 young people participated



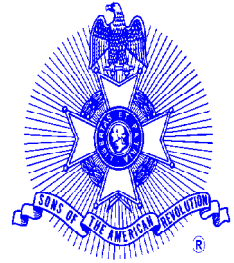
Annie Bailey was there (See p14)

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President's Message

By Compatriot Ronald E. Toops
December 13, 2008



"The greatest myth about communications, is that it has occurred!"

I wish all the members of the Sons of the American Revolution and their families, a Very Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and many happy holidays to come. At this festive time, I think about my children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It is my hope that in my lifetime, they will be able to go to Louisville Kentucky and visit "our" nationally recognized Center for Advancing America's Heritage.

We are in the infancy of our fund raising effort for the Silent Phase. Soon our leaders of this effort will be able to inform you how we are doing, as it regards chapter and member percent participation. I have received early data which indicates that many chapters have already met the 30% participation objective. They will be the leaders on our way up the mountain. When I lived in Colorado (27 years), I was able to successfully climb over twenty 14,000 foot peaks. Each time, one step at a time, I hiked up the mountain. As I could see the top, I was very tired, but I am sure you can imagine the scene that I observed each time when I did finally reach the objective.

I want you all to experience the elation that you will have when "The Center" is a reality.

As we begin to collect the percentage and fund raising data, we may start with just one or two percent (One Step). We have reached the end of 2008 and will continue the effort in 2009, with some learning from the previous year and some modifications for the future. It is important that the NSSAR, the FLSSAR and our members do not take their eye off of the ball (Objective)!

We've had positive results in many areas. One of those successes is, that over half of our Florida Chapters have presented Flag Certificates to community citizens. Also, the Florida Society, has presented at least three (3) Flag Certificates to deserving organizations. Thus, we have met the criteria for receiving the NSSAR Admiral William R. Furlong Award.

We have also experienced a few disappointments. The most frustrating, is the decision by the George Washington Endowment Trust Fund, to not share funding for the newly created Battle of Pensacola, which is planned for May, 2009. I do encourage as many members as possible, to attend this event. I certainly want to encourage our chapters and members to join us at the Last Naval Battle as well, on February 28, 2008. Try to insure that your chapter is represented in the Color Guards at each event.

We are entering the period when we begin to honor our Florida Students with the chance to participate in our many youth oriented programs. The Rumbaugh Contest contestants will be highlighted at the Winter BOM and the participants in the Eagle Scout Scholarship, the ROTC/JROTC, the Americanism Poster Contest and many others will follow in the near future.

Likewise, the Florida Legislature will be in session. There is again, legislation in the Florida House of Representatives (HB013) which will support Social Studies (Am. History and Civics Learning). I know of no similar legislation in the Florida Senate!

Again, Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year.

Fraternally,
Ronald E. Toops, President

The Florida Patriot

See National Congress, Sons of the American Revolution, pictures at <http://looklikeben.com/natcon.htm>

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2008-2009**

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From the Editor's Desk

Compatriots and Friends,

Recently I was asked to look at a new method for chapters to create their own website, based on the www.wetpaint.com website. As a test case, I created a website for the newly forming chapter in Lancaster, Ohio which is tentatively to be called the *Hocking Valley Chapter, OHSSAR*.

You can access that site at <http://hockingvalleysar.wetpaint.com/>. I will be attending the Winter BOM meeting in Kissimmee on January 30, 2009 and will be happy to help anyone with an interest in learning more about this very easy to use method of creating a website. If you can use MS Word you can easily use this method.

Unfortunately my camera mal-functioned at the Fall 2008 BOM meeting. Fortunately, Dick Cardell and Doug Bridges were there and saved the day. Thank you Dick and Doug for sharing your pictures which appear in this edition.

Don't forget to attend the *Last Naval Battle Ceremonies* on February 27- 28, 2009. For details see page 20 of the Fall 2008 Patriot. You can check this on our Florida Society website at <http://www.flssar.org> by clicking The Florida Patriot on top right.

Dick Fowler, Editor

**Deadline for submissions for the
Spring edition is March 10, 2009**



Dick Fowler

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Battle of Point Pleasant

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Battle of Point Pleasant

FIRST BATTLE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

OCTOBER 10, 1774

By MRS. LIVIA SIMPSON-POFFENBARGER, LL. D.

(Mrs. George Poffenbarger)

Reproduced from the Report made to the West Virginia State Board of Control for its Report of 1927.

West Virginians, Virginians and citizens of those states who owe their acquisition to the United States, through the concession of Virginia in the adoption of the constitution of the United States, are not alone in their interest in the battle of Point Pleasant, October 10, 1774.

Point Pleasant is truly a national shrine to which new hundreds, nay thousands, are annually coming. A new highway bridge now completed over the Ohio River at Point Pleasant makes another chain in the "From the Lakes to the Gulf" highway. The town is easily accessible by other improved roads, by river and rail.

It is important that Americans should know our own history and its significance in the great revolutionary struggle, in which the Battle of Point Pleasant was the first conflict waged by the American Colonists in defense of the Colonies, wherein they met in battle the allies of the English, the great federated Indian tribes, commanded by Chief Cornstalk. It was the deadliest battle ever waged by red men since the discovery of America. It was incited by Dunmore, the Tory Governor of Virginia, and his trusted lieutenants.

That the status of that battle was not generally known following its occurrence is due to the fact that that branch of the Army, in what is known as Dunmore's War, commanded by General Andrew Lewis, was for the major part recruited en route to Camp Union, as they were on their way to the mouth of the Kanawha, (the place agreed upon for the uniting of the two wings of the Army, the other wing commanded by Dunmore in person), and thus no official roster was prepared. The Army was made up of his kinsmen, personal friends and associates, and they in turn enlisted their friends. They were the flower of the citizens west of the Allegheny Mountains.

General Lewis was convinced, if not before, then immediately following, of the treachery of Lord Dunmore. Following the battle General Lewis refused to obey his orders, and thus became the first American officer to disobey a superior British officer. Thus it was he refrained from making an official report to Dunmore, Governor of the colony, as he would have otherwise done, and, too, Dunmore was yet in the field, and, as Lewis knew, was then in the camp of the enemy. Hence the report of the battle made by General Lewis became no part of the public records of Virginia or Virginia history.

The events of the continuing revolution came so thick and so fast as to preclude the discussion or recordation of the far-reaching significance of the battle of Point Pleasant, until 1787, when came the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, wherein Virginia contributed so large and so generous and so patriotic a part by her concession of the Northwest Territory to the United States, Virginia's property, ceded to her at Camp Charlotte later ratified at Fort Pitt, as a result of the victory at Point Pleasant.

True, the Declaration of Independence had not as yet been signed, proclaiming that the colonists were at war with the mother country, neither had it been signed nor proclaimed when the British began hostility at Lexington on April 19, 1775, but it was as much a struggle and a more barbarous attack than that of the battle of Lexington, "heard around the world," and faithfully recorded by the patriotic citizens of New England. True it is that New England had then no quick means of communication between the western frontier of Virginia and New England, who knew not then of the terrible battle of Point Pleasant and all that it portended.

Immediately following the battle of Point Pleasant there appeared no published account of the battle, save a meager account in the Virginia Gazette at Williamsburg, Virginia, a small paper of meager circulation and with but few copies preserved. Another early published record extant and yet bound and preserved was reviewed by Dr. John P. Hale, author of "Trans Allegheny Pioneers" and other valuable historical publications. Interested in the one hundredth anniversary of the battle about to be celebrated at Point Pleasant, Dr. Hale, then being on a visit to Belfast, Ireland, the Scotch-Irish stronghold whence many of the participants of the battle had come, found an account of the battle published in 1774 in the Belfast News Letters and in a later edition another unsigned report from Camp Point Pleasant. They were believed to have been sent by each of the then commanding officers of

Battle of Point Pleasant

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the fort at Point Pleasant, Captains Isaac Shelby and Matthew Arbuckle, and they are reproduced in Dr. Hale's "Trans Alleghenies" (1886) on pp. 187-188-189. They are important, and doubtless correct, reports of the battle. Dr. Hale on page 202 "Trans Alleghenies" says: "It has been stated that there were not only suspicious but grave charges that Governor Dunmore acted a double part, and that he was untrue and treacherous to the interests of the colony he governed. As he is inseparably connected with this campaign (called the Dunmore War) and its accompanying history, and the inauguration of the Revolution, it may be well to allude to his official course, just before, during and after the campaign, that his true relations to it and to the colony may be understood; and also to show that the Revolution was really in progress: that this campaign was one of the important moves on the historical chess-board, and that the battle of Point Pleasant was, as generally claimed, the initiatory battle of the great drama.

"In the summer of 1773 Governor Dunmore made, ostensibly, a pleasure trip to Fort Pitt; here he established close relations with Dr. Connally, making him 'Indian Agent, Land Agent, etc.' Connally was an able, active and efficient man, who thereafter adhered to the English cause.

"It is charged that Connally at once began to foment trouble and ill feeling between the colonies of Virginia and Pennsylvania in regard to the western frontier, and also to incite the Indian tribes to resistance of white westward encroachments upon their hunting grounds and prepare the way for getting their cooperation with England against the colonies when the rupture should come.

"Dr. Connally changed the name of Fort Pitt to Fort Dunmore. He claimed lands in Pennsylvania under pretence from Lord Dunmore. He was arrested and imprisoned for a time and had the Indian tribes highly excited and united in a strong confederacy and threatening war.

"While the Continental Congress (1774) was then in session in Philadelphia and was passing resolutions which created a breach between the colonies and the mother country past healing, Governor Dunmore and General Lewis were organizing and marching their armies to the West. Instead of uniting the forces into one army and marching straight to the Indian towns and conquering or dictating a lasting peace, Lord Dunmore took the larger portion of the army by a long detour by Fort Pitt, thence down the Ohio, picking up on the way Dr. Connally and Simon Girty, whom he made useful. At Fort Pitt it is said he held conference with some of the Indian chiefs.

Instead of uniting with Lewis at the mouth of the Kanawha, which had been arranged but probably not intended, Dunmore struck off from the Ohio at the mouth of the Hockhocking and, marched for the Indian towns on the Pickaway Plains, without the support of Lewis, army, delaying long enough for the Indians to have annihilated Lewis' division, if events had turned out as Cornstalk had planned.

"Col. Andrew Lewis, (son of General Andrew) says: 'It is known that Blue Jacket, a Shawnee chief, visited Lord Dunmore's camp on the 9th, the day before the battle, and went straight from there to the Point.'

"When Lewis had crossed the river after the battle and was marching to join Dunmore, a messenger was dispatched to him twice in one day, ordering him to stop and retrace his steps, the messenger being the notorious Simon Girty.

"General Lewis had very naturally become very much incensed at the conduct of lord Dunmore, and took the high handed responsibility, advised and sanctioned by his officers and men, of disobeying the order of his superior in command, and of boldly marching toward the camp.

"When within about two and a half miles of Lord Dunmore's camp, which he called Camp Charlotte after the wife of his master, George III, he came out to meet Lewis in person, bringing with him Cornstalk, White Eyes and others, and insisted on Lewis returning as he (Dunmore) was negotiating a treaty of peace with the Indians. "Evidently it did not comport with Lord Dunmore's plans to have General Lewis present at the treaty to help negotiations by suggestions, or to have the moral support of his army to support him. Col. Daniel Morgan, Col. Samuel McDowell, George Rodgers Clark and others of eminence insisted on accompanying Dunmore, whose treachery they suspected, that there would be terms of surrender made acceptable to Virginia.

Col. John Stuart, another participant in the Battle of Point Pleasant, wrote a memoir on the first pages of the Greenbrier County records, he being the first Clerk of that County, in which he said in part:

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“The battle of Point Pleasant was in fact the beginning of the Revolutionary War, that obtained for our county the liberty and independence enjoyed by the United States, for it is well known that the Indians were influenced by the British to commence the war to terrify and confound the people, before they commenced hostilities themselves the following year at Lexington. It was thought by British politicians that to incite an Indian war would prevent a combination of the colonies for opposing parliamentary measures to tax Americans. The blood therefore spilt upon this memorable battlefield will long be remembered by the good people of Virginia and the United States with gratitude.”

Hale further says in “Trans Alleghenies,” p. 209:

“Lord Dunmore upon his return to Williamsburg, made report of the results of his campaign. Upon his own ex parte statement the Assembly passed a vote of thanks for his valuable services, which they very much regretted upon learning the facts, and they later changed the name of Dunmore County, upon petition of its citizens, to that of Shenandoah.

“Just after the battle of Lexington April 19, 1775, Dunmore had all the powder stored in the Colonial Magazine at Williamsburg secretly conveyed on board an armed English vessel lying off Yorktown, and threatened to lay Williamsburg in ashes at the first sign of insurrection.

“That cooperation with the Indians was the Dunmore policy of annihilating the colonists it will be seen. Following the battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775, he sent a messenger to his old friend Connally with a commission as Colonel, and instructed him to secure the cooperation of as many of the Western Militia as possible by large rewards, and to form an alliance with the Indians, collect his forces at Fort Pitt, and march through Virginia and meet him. Col. Connally was captured, imprisoned and the scheme exposed and thwarted.” See p. 209 same volume.

Governor Dunmore and his fleet were driven from his stronghold at Guynnes Island in the Chesapeake Bay in 1776, and General Andrew Lewis had the pleasure of firing the first gun. There is sufficient evidence of the intention of Lord Dunmore to destroy the army of General Lewis at Point Pleasant. Had General Lewis been defeated, Virginia would have been so busy protecting the frontier she would have been unable to participate in the revolution, and without Virginia the revolution would not have been undertaken at that time.

As further evidence of the collusion of the Indians with Dunmore at the time of the battle of Point Pleasant, Campbell, one of Virginia’s outstanding early historians, says:

“It is known that Blue Jacket, a Shawnee chief, visited Dunmore’s camp on the 9th, the day before the battle and went straight from there to Point Pleasant, and that some of the Indians went to confer with Dunmore immediately after the battle; that Dunmore on the day of the battle remarked, ‘Lewis is probably having hot work about this time.’” Campbell further gives same above account of the conduct of Dunmore and his refusal to allow Lewis to participate in the treaty following the battle, and Lewis’ refusal to obey Dunmore’s orders.

Virgil A. Lewis, writing in 1883, in Hardesty’s Historical and Geographical Encyclopedia, including Mason County. W. Va., says:

“It is a well known fact that the emissaries of Great Britain were then inciting the Indians to hostilities against the frontier for the purpose of distracting attention, and thus preventing the consummation of the Union which was then being formed to resist their armed oppressor. It is well known that Lord Dunmore was an enemy of the colonists, and hence his efforts to induce the Indians to cooperate with the English and thus reduce Virginia to subjection.

“To the student of history no truth is more patent than this —that the battle of Point Pleasant was the first in the series of the Revolution, the flames of which were being kindled by the oppression of the Mother Country.”

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Brevard

9/8 Compatriot Ben DuBose attended a meeting with the Brevard Veterans council concerning their planned Memorial Park - where the Revolutionary War will be a focal point.

Caloosa



Lt. Col. Tom Madigan, Director of the Lee County School District JROTC program, discussing how the JROTC experience is benefiting the 2200 participating cadets.

Compatriot Terry Walton was named a George Washington fellow at the SAR National Congress in July. Fellows are recognized for their support of the GWEF and the Center for Advancing America's Heritage.

Central Florida

The following six new members were inducted: Mark Bagozzi, Daniel Dall, Michael Danforth, George Gastfield, Robert Peecher and Joshua Wilson. Ten Flag Certificates have been presented in 2008. Pictures were taken and published in the *Minuteman* Magazine.

Charlotte

The Chapter reports we received Frank Taylor Walton as a member at our September meeting.

Clearwater

The Chapter joined the DAR in their celebration of Constitution Day on September 14. Yearly Police and Fire awards were given on 10/15.

Maj. John DeVane

The Chapter will be hosting the 10/15 BOM.

William Dunaway

At the October Chapter meeting, guest speaker, Dirk Shores, History Teacher at Marianna Middle School spoke about, "How American History is Being Taught in Public Schools." the Chapter will enter a float in the Marianna Veterans Day Parade with SAR, DAR and CAR members participating.

Emerald Coast



Chapter Members participated in the recent Veterans Day wreath-laying ceremony at Beal Memorial Cemetery in Fort Walton Beach. Some 40 organizations participated and more than 300 people were in attendance. Other key elements included the U. S. Air Force honor guard, bugler and the traditional "missing man" flight formation from Eglin Air Force Base. Shown above are Compatriot Marty Burdick and Chapter President Terry Doan.

Flagler

2006 Chapter President William Story Creager was presented the Meritorious Service Medal at the September 16 Chapter Luncheon.

On September 19, the Flagler Chapter of the Military Officer Association of America dedicated a Tree of Remembrance and Plaque to the memory of those military members who have been reported Missing in Action or were listed as Prisoners of War.

Ft. Lauderdale

The Chapter had five meetings for the year through September. The chapter presented 28 JROTC Meals, 6 Bronze Good Citizenship Medals and over 300 Good Citizenship Certificates. We manned a SAR booth at the Genealogy Fair at Nova southeastern University. We presented a \$200 donation to our local CAR chapter, The Swamp Fox Society. Our Treasurer facilitated shipping of 28 boxes of good collected by the Swamp Fox CAR to servicemen overseas.

Gainesville

Oct. 23 Naturalization Ceremony & brief overview of SAR & US Flag lapel pins distributed to 31 new citizens by 2 Chapter members. Bob Reeves and Ray Davis met with senior officer area veterans at 3 monthly meetings and with the Alachua County Veterans Advisory Board to discuss issues of assistance to the Chapter Veterans committee.

Jacksonville

The Chapter mourns the death of Compatriot James D. Rogers on 26 October 2008. Jim served in the Navy six years and worked for the Navy Department in Virginia for 23 years. Jim was an avid sailor, sailing with his family from Amelia Island, Florida to the Bahamas. Jim was also an avid genealogist confirming him as a Son of the American Revolution. His family has asked that donations in lieu of flowers also be made in his name to the FLSSAR Endowment Trust Fund.

Lake City

This future chapter is very successfully seeking re-chartering under the leadership of Jim Thrasher. There are 20 possible members, not counting 5 others who are in the process of completing their applications. They are shooting for re-chartering next January and currently are holding their meetings at Kazbor's in the new strip mall next to Publix.

Lakeland

On November 15 FLSSAR President Ronald Toops presented a Flag Certificate for the State Society to the Highlands Fairways Property Assn. in Lakeland. Highlands Fairways is a senior community which celebrates special flag raising ceremonies every year for Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

Lake-Sumter

On October 11, Steve Offutt, working with the DAR and the Colonial Dames had a table set up at the Genealogy After Hours function at the Leesburg Public Library. The Chapter Color Guard will be in attendance for Veterans Day activities in Clermont.

Miami

The Chapter participated in JROTC, Eagle Scouts, Color Guard, supports CAR, and Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution.

Naples

We honor the memory of Compatriot James Alward Van Fleet, who passed away on September 26th, 2008 here in Naples. He was a fascinating person who served this Chapter in many capacities over the years.

Ocala

The Chapter didn't meet in August, but held well attended meetings at the Elks Club on September 17 and October 15. This chapter currently has 52 members.

FLSSAR CHAPTER NEWS (Continued from page 6)

Palm Beach

Our General meeting dates for 2009 will be: Tuesday, January 20th at noon; Tuesday, February 17th at noon; Tuesday, March 17th at noon; Tuesday, April 21st at noon; Tuesday, May 19th at noon; Tuesday, September 15th at noon; Tuesday, October 20th at noon; Tuesday, November 17th at noon and finally a Saturday in December to be announced. This event will also be a combined General Meeting with the Palm Beach Chapter of the DAR.

All of the meeting scheduled above will take place at The Sailfish Club located on Palm Beach, Florida. Respectfully submitted,

Howard Morton, Secretary

Panama City

The Chapter meets regularly on the third Monday of each month at Po Folks restaurant in Panama City.

Pensacola

The Chapter participated in a joint Constitution Week Luncheon with the Pensacola Chapter DAR, Fort Pickens Chapter DAR and San Bernardino Society, CAR at the Scenic Hills Country Club on September 13. The Chapter received a \$1000 donation from the Pan Air Federal Credit Union to assist with the "Battle of Pensacola Presentation" to be held on May 8-9, 2009,

Saramana



Chapter Color Guard at the DAR Luncheon honoring our Veterans and Veterans Day held by the Osceola Chapter of the DAR at the Bradenton Country Club.

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Aaron Snowden

President Nathan Williams presided over a joint meeting with The Chapter and Three Rivers Chapter, DAR and Santa Maria de Galvez Society CAR on September 13 in celebration of Constitution Week. At this meeting 1st Vice President Carroll France, Jr. presented a NSSAR Flag Certificate. 2nd Vice President Lonnie Jones attended the FLSSAR Summer Board of Management Meeting in Kissimmee on August 15 - 16.

St. Augustine

On Oct. 18, Chapter President William A. Roberts made the Chapter's Fourth Annual Victory At Yorktown presentation.

Compatriots of the St. Augustine Chapter, and others associated with the Chapter, placed a wreath in honor of the veterans, dead and alive, of our wars, at the memorial ceremony in the Palm Valley Cemetery, Ponte Vedra Beach, at 11:00 AM on Veterans' Day, November 11. Compatriot John D. Tinny, Past FLSSAR President, was the principal speaker.

St. Lucie River

I got a call from Joe Lienbach today that Richard Hobbs, his neighbor, his friend and our Chapter member and Compatriot passed on last night. I have tried to cover as many members as I have addresses for and if you all will please pass this on to other members I will appreciate it. I'm not sure of the services for Rick and maybe Joe L. could add to this announcement with the information. We extend our condolences to Richards' family and friends. Jay Wise, 11/05/08

St. Petersburg

Please mark your calendars: (We do not meet during June, July and August)
Our Meeting Dates have changed to the 3rd Saturday @ 1130
Billy's Stonecrab, Seafood & Steak 1
Collany Road; Tierra Verde, Florida 33715

Saturday, January 17th
Saturday, February 21st TBA Joint meeting
Saturday, March 21st
Saturday, April
Saturday, May, Law Enforcement Award

Tallahassee

The Chapter meets Quarterly at 6:30 PM at the Silver Slipper Restaurant in Tallahassee. FLSSAR President Ronald Toops spoke about Florida Society goals at the October 28 meeting.

Tampa

In September our speaker was Drew Lisiandello, a senior history major at The University of Central Florida. Drew spoke on the impact of the Spanish and French fleets on the outcome of the Revolution. In October, Chapter Vice President Bob Yarnell spoke on the Electoral College. The origins of this method of election were discussed as were the ramifications for this year's election.

Treasure Coast

Our Oct. 18 speaker was Jerry Yellin a P-51 pilot who flew missions to Japan during WW II. He talked about his missions and the experiences that affected his life. Later on he met one of his adversaries and talks about the meeting and the outcome. He has written a book *The Blackened Canteen* that details the experience. It was a heartwarming marvelous story.

Withlacoochee

The Chapter donated four \$50.00 gift certificates from Outback Steakhouse to a special guest who is putting together Home Coming Baskets for returning overseas troops. FLSSAR President Ronald Toops gave a presentation on the new National Building and made award presentations.

Newspaper coverage has been good. Several papers printed an article and picture about the Chapter's Pizza Party at the Veterans Home. Pictures and articles also appeared in newspapers concerning the Chapter's participation in the 4th of July Parade and the induction of new members. A picture of the Chapter's presentation of a Heroes Medal to 8 year old Adam York appeared in the *Florida Patriot* and *The SAR Magazine*.

HAUNTED WEST VIRGINIA THE CORNSTALK CURSE



Almost two centuries before the shadow of the Mothman reared its head in Point Pleasant, West Virginia, the land around the Ohio River ran red with blood. As the inhabitants of the American colonies began to push their way to the west, and later fought for their independence from Britain, they entered into deadly combat with the Native American inhabitants of the land. Perhaps their greatest foe in these early Indian wars was Chief Cornstalk, who later became a friend to the Americans. But treachery, deception and murder would bring an end to the chief's life and a curse that he placed on Point Pleasant would linger for 200 years, bringing tragedy, death and disaster....

There is no denying that the southeastern corner of Ohio, and the surrounding area of West Virginia, is considered by many to be one of the most haunted areas of the country. West Virginia has long been thought of as one of the strangest parts of the country in regards to ghosts, legends and strange happenings. This part of the country, which was originally a part of Virginia, was regarded by the Native Americans as a "haunted" spot, plagued with ghost lights, phantoms and strange creatures. The town of Parkersburg, just north on the river from Point Pleasant, has more than its share of ghosts and nearby is Athens County, Ohio, home to the most haunted city in the entire state.

But how did this region gain such a reputation? Why are many people not surprised to find stories of the Mothman, phantom inhabitants and mysterious creatures roaming this part of the country? There have been a number of theories to explain the large number of haunted happenings here, including that this area may be some sort of "window" between dimensions. This would, according to the theories, allow paranormal phenomenon to come and go and vanish at will, just as the Mothman did after 13 months of appearing around Point Pleasant.

Those researchers with a historical bent have offered their own solutions though. They have traced the supernatural roots of the region back to a bloody event from the days of the American Revolution.. and a great curse.

As the American frontiersmen began to move west in the 1770's, seven nations of Indians (the Shawnee, Delaware, soldiers opened fire with their muskets. Red Hawk tried to escape up through the chimney but was pulled back down and slaughtered. Ellinipisco was shot where he had been sitting on a stool and the other unknown Indian was strangled to death. As for Cornstalk, he was shot eight times before he fell to the floor.

And as he lay their dying in the smoke-filled room, he was said to have pronounced his now legendary curse. The stories say that he looked upon his assassins and spoke to them: "I was the border man's friend. Many times I have saved him and his people from harm. I never warred with you, but only to protect our wigwams and lands. I refused to join your paleface enemies with the red coats. I came to the fort as your friend and you murdered me. You have murdered by my side, my young son.... For this, may the curse of the Great Spirit rest upon this land. May it be blighted by nature. May it even be blighted in its hopes. May the strength of its peoples be paralyzed by the stain of our blood."

Wyandot, Mingo, Miami, Ottawa and Illinois) formed a powerful confederacy to keep the white men from infringing on their territory. The Shawnee were the most powerful of the tribes and were led by a feared and respected chieftain called "Keigh-tugh-gua", which translates to mean "Cornstalk". In 1774, when the white settlers were moving down into the Kanawha and Ohio River

valleys, the Indian Confederacy prepared to protect their lands by any means necessary. The nations began to mass in a rough line across the point from the Ohio River to the Kanawha River, numbering about 1200 warriors. They began to make preparations to attack the white settlers near an area called Point Pleasant on the Virginia side of the Ohio River. As word reached the colonial military leaders of the impending attack, troops were sent in and faced off against the Indians. While the numbers of fighters were fairly even on both sides, the Native Americans were no match for the muskets of the white soldiers. The battle ended with about 140 colonials killed and more than twice that number of Indians. The tribes retreated westward into the wilds of what is now Ohio and in order to keep them from returning, a fort was constructed at the junction of the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers.

As time passed, the Shawnee leader, Cornstalk, made peace with the white men. He would carry word to his new friends in 1777 when the British began coaxing the Indians into attacking the rebellious colonies. Soon, the tribes again began massing along the Ohio River, intent on attacking the fort. Cornstalk and Red Hawk, a Delaware chief, had no taste for war with the Americans and they went to the fort on November 7 to try and negotiate a peace before fighting began. Cornstalk told Captain Arbuckle, who commanded the garrison, that he was opposed to war with the colonists but that only he and his tribe were holding back from joining on the side of the British. He was afraid that he would be forced to go along by the rest of the Confederacy.

When he admitted to Arbuckle that he would allow his men to fight if the other tribes did, Cornstalk, Red Hawk and another Indian were taken as hostages. The Americans believed that they could use him to keep the other tribes from attacking. They forced the Native Americans into a standoff for none of them wanted to risk the life of their leader. Cornstalk's name not only stuck fear into hearts of the white settlers up and down the frontier, but it also garnered respect from the other Indian tribes. He was gifted with great oratory skills, fighting ability and military genius. In fact, it was said that when his fighting tactics were adopted by the Americans, they were able to defeat the British in a number of battles where they had been both outnumbered and outgunned.

Although taken as hostage, Cornstalk and the other Indians were treated well and were given comfortable quarters, leading many to wonder if the chief's hostage status may have been voluntary in the beginning. Cornstalk even assisted his captors in plotting maps of the Ohio River Valley during his imprisonment. On November 9, Cornstalk's son, Ellinipisco, came to the fort to see his father and he was also detained.

The following day, gunfire was heard from outside the walls of the fort, coming from the direction of the Kanawha River. When men went out to investigate, they discovered that two soldiers who had left the stockade to hunt deer had been ambushed by Indians. One of them had escaped but the other man had been killed.

When his bloody corpse was returned to the fort, the soldiers in the garrison were enraged. Acting against orders, they broke into the quarters where Cornstalk and the other Indians were being held. Even though the men had nothing to do with the crime, they decided to execute the prisoners as revenge. As the soldiers burst through the doorway, Cornstalk rose to meet them. It was said that he stood facing the soldiers with such bravery that they paused momentarily in their attack. It wasn't enough though and the

(Continued on page 16)

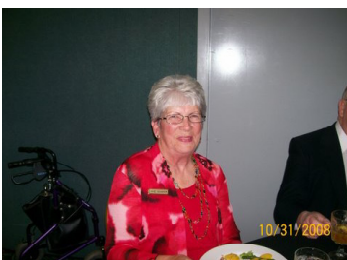
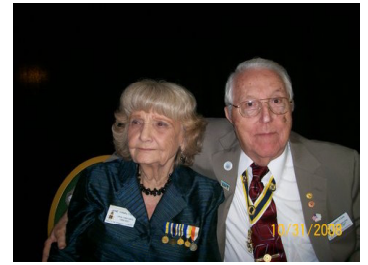
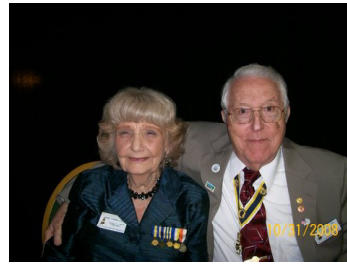
FALL 2008 BOM MEETING

More on pp 10 - 11)



FALL 2008 BOM MEETING

(More on pp. 9 and 11)



FALL BOM MEETING

(More on pp. 9 and 10)



Above Photos are by Doug Bridges



Above Photos are by Dick Cardell

PICTURES FROM SARAMANA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Compatriot Sgt at Arms Clarence "Chuck" Barrett (r) presents New members Edward D. Gorton, Jr. (l) and Henry C. Wood.



Frank Hodalski tells members about the Flag Presentation sent to SAR from troops in Iraq in appreciation of shipping hundreds of cartons of gifts to them and children of Iraq.



Colonel Carole Cornell presents on behalf of Kentucky Governor Beshears The Governor's Commission naming President Tarpley a Kentucky Colonel.



Past President General Carl Hoffmann receives two NSSAR Certificates of Appreciation for his outstanding Committee work.



Saramana chapter's Flag display and recruiting booth was staffed by Phil and Mary Tarpley, Charles Riegle, Jack B. Ashcraft, John and Linda Sue Williams, Lawrence Berry, Lester K. Hunt, Hal Miller, Duane and Carole Cornell, Billie West Lowe, Ren Cushing, Harold and Elaine Crapo.



Color Guard members marching in the Veterans Day parade were President Tarpley, CG Capt. Clarence Barrett, Hal Miller, Frank Hodalski, Ren Cushing, Harold Crapo and VP Charles Riegle.

Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade

Commander Col. Edward D. Young

October 26, 2008

The period of this report is from 17 August 2008 through 1 November 2008. Twenty Guardsmen participated in the Presentation of the Colors at the FLSSAR Summer BOM on 15 August 2008. On 20 September, Guardsmen Ted Duay, Ron Hamilton, George Lockhart, John Little, Bob Murray, Norm Myers and Steve Williams marching as the Brigade Presented and Posted the Colors at the State DAR Fall Forum in Orlando. FLSSAR President Ron Toops and Guardsmen Lindsey Brock and Dick Cardell represented the Brigade by participating in the Color Guard and presenting wreaths at the Battle of Kings Mountain Commemorative on 7 October 2008. Brigade Camps continue to provide colonial color guards at patriotic, veterans, fraternal and civic events. Francis Marion Camp #2 (Ocala) is temporarily inactive. The Brigade Color Guard will Parade, Present and Post the Colors at the 31 October – 1 November 2008 FLSSAR Fall BOM. Individual camp and outpost activities during this period are as follows: (The term Guardsman means a Color Guard member in colonial uniform)

A. George Washington Camp #1. (Jacksonville) Dick Cardell, Commander. On 15 August 2008, Guardsmen Cardell and Ramseur participated with the Brigade Color Guard at the Summer BOM. On 20 September 2008, Guardsman Lockhart marched with the Brigade to Present and Post the Colors at the State DAR Fall Forum in Orlando. Vice President General Brock, Cardell and Ramseur attired in the Bravo uniform attended the Jacksonville National Cemetery dedication on 21 September 2008. On 23 September, Chapter President Skip Brown in Bravo uniform, with Cardell and Reed in attendance, received a proclamation regarding The Treaty of Paris from Jacksonville Mayor John Peyton. These same three members were also included with members of the Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society and the Jacksonville Public Library Genealogy staff recognizing "Family Genealogy Month". On 7 October 2008, Guardsmen Brock and Cardell participated in the Color Guard and presented a wreath at the Battle of Kings Mountain Commemorative. Guardsman Brock participated in the Battle of Savannah Program on 8 October 2008.

B. Francis Marion Camp #2. (Ocala) Dale Sutton, Chapter President. Camp is inactive pending selection of a new commander. The camp did not have any activity during this reporting period.

C. Cape Canaveral Camp #3. (Brevard) Ben DuBose, Commander. On 15 August 2008, Guardsmen DuBose, Williams and Wright participated with the Brigade Color Guard at the Summer BOM. Guardsman P. Wright presented appreciation certificates and Cannon Medals to scouts assisting the Chapter Color Guard at BSA Troop 51's Court of Honor on 9 September 2008. On 13 September 2008, Guardsmen DuBose and Dunagan represented the Chapter at the annual John Barry Celebration. Guardsmen DuBose, Ryan, Williams, Wright and his daughter Kate and the Chapter hosted a Joint SAR/DARmeeting, at which a moment of silence was held, on 13 September 2008. On 20 September 2008, Guardsman Williams participated in the Brigade Color Guard at the DAR Fall Forum. Guardsman DuBose gave a talk about "The Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution" to the Melbourne Beach Rotary and did recruiting on 23 September 2008. On 27 September 2008, Guardsmen Williams and P. Wright attended and presented



Colonel Young

presented information on SAR, LNB and SAR Youth Programs at the Central Florida Council Camporee at Camp La-No-Che.

D. Samuel Adams Camp #4. (Clearwater) Nelson Jantzen, Commander. On 15 August 2008, Guardsmen Jantzen and Wallin participated with the Brigade Color Guard at the Summer BOM. Guardsman Jantzen attended the Constitution Sunday Program on 14 September 2008 with the DAR.

E. Yorktown Camp #5. (St. Lucie River) Doug North, Commander. On 15 August 2008, Guardsman North and Riediger participated with the Brigade Color Guard at the Summer BOM. No report received.

F. Marquis de Lafayette Camp #6. (Gainesville) Harry Hollien, Commander. No report received.

G. Nathan Hale Camp #7. (Pensacola) Ed Young, Commander. On 15 August 2008, Guardsmen Lantz and Young participated with the Brigade Color Guard at the Summer BOM. Guardsmen O. Bellamy, Lantz and Legg Presented the Colors at the Joint Constitution Week Meeting with the Pensacola Chapter DAR, Fort Pickens Chapter DAR and San Bernardo Society CAR held at the Scenic Hills Country Club, Pensacola. Guardsmen O. Bellamy, Lantz, Legg and Young and Ladies Auxiliary members Dianna Lantz and Norma Young in period attire will ride in the Veteran's Day Parade in Bay Minette, AL on 11 November 2008.

H. Nathanael Greene Camp #8. (Saramana) Gene Bradley, Commander. On 15 August 2008, Guardsmen Crapo and Tarpley participated with the Brigade Color Guard at the Summer BOM. Guardsmen Crandall, Crapo, and Tarpley Presented the Colors and took part in the opening of the Constitution Day Ceremony by the DAR on 27 September 2008. On 31 October 2008, Guardsmen Bradley, Barrett and Reigle Presented the Colors and participated in the opening ceremony at the Veteran's Recognition Program at the Church of Hope in Sarasota.

I. Thomas Paine Camp #9. (Miami) David Mitchell, Commander. On 15 August 2008, Guardsmen Bridges and Friberg participated with the Brigade Color Guard at the Summer BOM. Guardsmen Acton, Bridges, Friberg, Liebler, Miller, Mitchell and Williams Posted the Colors at the DAR Constitution Luncheon on 13 September 2008.

J. Daniel Morgan Camp #10. (Central Florida) John Little, Commander. On 15 August May 2008, Guardsman Myers participated with the Brigade Color Guard at the Summer BOM. Guardsmen Hamilton, Little, Murray and Myers marching as the Brigade Presented and Posted the Colors at the State DAR Fall Forum in Orlando on 20 September 2008.

(Continued on page 14)

Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade

(continued from page 13)

K. Thomas Jefferson Camp #11. (Withlacoochee) John Pardee, Commander. On 13 September 2008, Guardsmen Nelson, J. Pardee, P. Pardee and Tucker Posted the Colors at the Chapter meeting for new membership and award presentations. Guardsmen Nelson, J. Pardee, P. Pardee and Tucker Posted the Colors at a Chapter meeting for awards presentations on 11 October 2008.

L. General Thomas Sumter Camp #12. (Lake Sumter) Bob Krey, Commander. On 15 August May 2008, Guardsman Toops participated with the Brigade at the Summer BOM. There was no other Camp activity during this period.

M. Bernardo de Galvez Camp #13, (Naples) Paul Young, Commander. On 15 August 2008, Guardsmen D. Cahill and McCullough participated with the Brigade Color Guard at the Summer BOM. No report received. We were pleased that the "Florida Patriot" Fall Issue had an article featuring Governor Bernardo de Galvez that was adopted from an article written by our member, Florida Society Past President Ralph Cramer. The Chapter Color Guard opened the Chapter October meeting as usual with the Posting of the Colors.

N. Hillsborough River Camp #14. (Tampa) Alan Bell, Commander. The Outpost did not have any activity during this reporting period.

O. Outpost A (Treasure Coast). William Stevenson, Commander. On 25 July 2008, Guardsman Stevenson presented the "Build the Flag" program at the MOWW Youth Conference at Florida Tech. in Palm Bay. Guardsman Stevenson presented the "Build the Flag" program for the Senior Ladies Group in Cocoa for National Sojourners on 9 September 2008. On 14 September 2008, Guardsman Stevenson presented the "Toast to the Flag" and the "Voice of Old Glory" programs at the Eagle Court of Honor for Zackary Schmitz at Troop 513 in Vero Beach. Guardsman Stevenson gave the "Build the Flag" program for the Retired Educators in Merritt Island for National Sojourners on 16 September 2008. On 21 September 2008, Guardsman Stevenson gave the "Toast to the Flag" and the "Voice of Old Glory" program at the double Eagle Court of Honor for Devin A. Faillace and Christopher Powell of Troop 599 at the Elks Club in Sebastian.

P. Outpost B (Lakeland). Inactive

Q. Outpost C (Emerald Coast). Terry Doan, Commander. The Outpost did not have any activity during this reporting period.

R. Outpost D. (Caloosa). Randy Moody, Commander. On 15 August May 2008, Guardsman R. Moody participated with the Brigade at the Summer BOM. Guardsman Randy Moody lectured about the American Revolution to all of the American History classes at Lehigh Senior High School in Lee County on 5 September 2008. It was estimated that over 300 students attended the talk.

Ann Bailey of The Point Pleasant Frontier

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~jeangene/a_bailey.html

~jeangene/a_bailey.html

The story of Anne Bailey's life is interwoven with local folklore, but her place as a pioneer heroine is unquestioned. In 1791 what is today West Virginia was largely unsettled wilderness in the middle of a frontier war between would-be settlers and local Indian tribes. When Fort Lee was threatened with attack and a low supply of ammunition, Anne Bailey, scout and messenger, rode alone through 100 miles of near wilderness to Fort Savannah at Lewisburg and returned with the needed powder to save the fort at Clendenin's Settlement which today is Charleston, West Virginia.

This feat was commemorated in a lengthy 1861 poem, "Anne Bailey's Ride" by Charles Robb. Named for Anne are an elementary school in St. Albans, WV, near Charleston, a chapter of the N.S.D.A.R. and a lookout tower in [Watoga State Park](#). Her remains were moved from Ohio, where she died in 1825, to the [Point Pleasant Battle Monument State Park](#) where the museum contains memorabilia of Anne including a design made from her hair.

Born Anne Hennis in Liverpool, England, probably in 1742, she came to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia when she was about 19 and in 1765 married Richard Trotter, a local settler. When Lord Dunmore called for militia to fight the Indians of the western border in 1774, Richard Trotter enlisted, but was killed on Oct. 10, 1774 at the Battle of Point Pleasant against the forces of Shawnee leader, Cornstalk. This event changed Anne's life completely and she left her son, William Trotter, to the care of others and became a skilled frontier scout, horsewoman, hunter, messenger and storyteller, wearing buckskins, carrying hatchet, knife and long rifle. She married again in 1785 to John Bailey, another frontiersman and army ranger, those forerunners of today's special forces. They moved to Clendenin's Settlement in the Great Kanawha Valley where she would make her famous ride. Her career continued until 1795 and the signing of the Greenville Treaty to end the Indians Wars.

After John Bailey's death about 1802 she made her home with her son but also traveled among her friends and was a welcome storyteller and trader. In 1817 William moved his family across to Gallia County, Ohio, and Anne reluctantly left her beloved "Virginia" to make a home near him, though she traveled still. She died on November 22, 1825 of "old age."

Many fanciful stories have been told about Anne, perhaps of her own origin. Henry Howe missed Anne's story when he wrote his first history of Ohio in the 1840s, but soon learned it in West Virginia. He corrected his oversight in his 1888 revision and retold some of these wild stories. My favorite is one I find unlikely, but which my great grandmother was certain was true. But she learned it from her grandmother, Mary (Trotter) Irion, another noted storyteller, who had it from Anne herself, Mary's grandmother. Mr. Howe recounts it thus:

"... On one occasion, when she was pursued by Indians, she came to an impenetrable thicket where she was obliged to dismount and leave him [her fine black horse, Liverpool] for their capture. She then crawled into a hollow sycamore log. The Indians came and rested on the log, but without suspecting her concealment within. After they had gone she followed their trail, and in the darkness of night recaptured the animal, and, mounting him, when at a safe distance from being shot or taken gave a shout of defiance and bounded away."

Even without the exaggerated stories, Anne Bailey was a unique and daring woman. She was certainly considered odd or outlandish, but she was also well-liked and respected on the frontier.

Fall Board of Management Meeting

October 31, 2008, Kissimmee

By Kevin Yarnell, Secretary

BOM Meeting Items

October 31, 2008

National Officer Endorsements:

The BOM agreed to endorse the following compatriots for General Office at the 2009 Congress: David Simpson for Secretary General (David is a dual member of FLSSAR), Lindsey Brock for Historian General (Lindsey is a FLSSAR member), Larry Guzy for Treasurer General, Ed Butler for President General, Stephen Leishman for Registrar General, Miles Dechant for Librarian General. 225th Anniversary of the Battle of Pensacola Commemoration and Reenactment:

In order to gain the financial support of the National Society for the Battle of Pensacola Celebration the Florida Society needs to promise that money will be included in our 2009 budget. The BOM approved \$1,500 be budgeted for both the Pensacola and Last Naval Battle celebrations. The Celebration will be held May 8-9, 2009. Perhaps members of your chapter will be able to attend.

Endowment Trust Fund Trustee

Randy Moody was elected to fill the Endowment Trust Fund trustee position that will be vacated by Hal Miller, Jr. as of Dec. 31st.

2009 Dues:

There are no changes to the dues for 2009. As in past years the BOM agreed to waive the state dues for any FLSSAR member that is an active member of the military. Also the BOM approved the \$3 rebate per qualifying paid-up member to be paid to the chapters in the first quarter of 2009. Remember that this rebate is only given to chapters that file their annual reports on time.

BOM Reports:

The BOM approved a change to the method of production of the BOM reports booklet. On the Sunday prior to the Winter BOM meeting the secretary will email the reports to all chapter and state officers, all BOM members, and any other FLSSAR member that wishes to receive the reports. The secretary will also run 20-25 paper copies to be available for those BOM attendees without email access. This method would be used for the Winter BOM. The decision to continue the practice will be made at that meeting. We're hoping that this method will save money as well as get a wider distribution of the reports.

DAR Record Copies:

You may be aware that the National Society recently changed its policies regarding the use of DAR record copies in support of SAR applications. Ted Duay, FLSSAR Registrar, held a workshop at the BOM to explain and discuss the issue. The FLSSAR is opposed to this change and the BOM voted to support the Registrar's position and authorized him to communicate this to the NSSAR Genealogist Committee.

Other Items - Endowment Trust Fund:

Reimbursement Deadline
The deadline for submitting applications to the Endowment Trust Fund is Nov. 15th. You can find the form and instructions on the FLSSAR website.

Deceased Members:

The state society chaplain, Rev. Randy Moody, reminds chapters of the importance of submitting information regarding deceased members as soon as possible. If the information is received in a timely manner a note of condolence can be sent to the family. Randy's email is

sarrevdoc@comcast.net.

Regarding Applications:

Please send 3 copies of each application, two on watermarked paper and one on regular paper. These applications are sent out as follows:

- * One watermarked application to NSSAR for processing.
- * One watermarked application to the FLSSAR Secretary for state archival purposes. That this copy be on watermarked paper is vitally important. We are beginning to see deterioration of older application files submitted on regular paper.
- * One application on regular paper for the FLSSAR Registrar files. This copy allows the Registrar to have something to review if an application is pending.

The Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution Celebration:

This year's celebration will be held February 28, 2009. Information can be found at <http://www.flssar.org/LNBAR.htm>. The turnout in the last few years has been wonderful. We hope additional chapters will be represented this year.

2009 FLSSAR Budget

If you hold an office or committee chairmanship that has a budget line item please email the FLSSAR Treasurer, Leon Hammock, Sr. (lhammoc1@tampabay.rr.com) with any input you may have regarding next year's budget. This needs to be completed as soon as possible.

OTHER NEWS

A Request from National

The SAR maintains a current roster of compatriots who are members of Congress. Occasionally, the appointment of a compatriot to an unexpired term in Congress goes unreported. Please help the NSSAR Congressional and Government Relations Committee update its records by sending me the names of all compatriots who are current members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate. Kindly also note any current members of Congress with membership applications in the pipeline.

This information is urgently needed so your prompt replies will be most appreciated.

Bill Allerton, Chairman
NSSAR Congressional &
Government Relations Committee

Blue

Very soon, you will see a great many people wearing blue every Friday. The reason? Americans who support our troops used to be called the 'silent majority.' We are no longer silent, and are voicing our love for God, country, and home in record-breaking numbers. We are not organized, boisterous or overbearing.

Many Americans, like you, me and all our friends, simply want to recognize that the vast majority of America supports our troops. Our idea of showing solidarity and support for our troops with dignity and respect starts this Friday — and continues each and every Friday until the troops all come home, sending a deafening message that .. every red-blooded American who supports our men and women afar, will wear something blue. By word of mouth, press, TV — let's make the United States on every Friday a sea of blue much like a homecoming football game in the bleachers. If every one of us who loves this country will share this with acquaintances, coworkers, friends, and family, it will not be long before the USA is covered in BLUE and it will let our troops know the once 'silent' majority is on their side more than ever, certainly more than the media lets on. The first thing a soldier says when asked 'What can we do to make things better for you?' is .. 'We need your support and your prayers.' Let's get the word out and lead with class and dignity, by example, and wear something blue every Friday.

Fridays.

HAUNTED WEST VIRGINIA - THE CORNSTALK CURSE (Continued)

soldiers opened fire with their muskets. Red Hawk tried to escape up through the chimney but was pulled back down and slaughtered. Ellinipisico was shot where he had been sitting on a stool and the other unknown Indian was strangled to death. As for Cornstalk, he was shot eight times before he fell to the floor.

And as he lay their dying in the smoke-filled room, he was said to have pronounced his now legendary curse. The stories say that he looked upon his assassins and spoke to them: "I was the border man's friend. Many times I have saved him and his people from harm. I never warred with you, but only to protect our wigwams and lands. I refused to join your paleface enemies with the red coats. I came to the fort as your friend and you murdered me. You have murdered by my side, my young son.... For this, may the curse of the Great Spirit rest upon this land. May it be blighted by nature. May it even be blighted in its hopes. May the strength of its peoples be paralyzed by the stain of our blood."

He spoke these words, so says the legend, and then he died. The bodies of the other Indians were then taken and dumped into the Kanawha River but Cornstalk's corpse was buried near the fort on Point Pleasant, overlooking the junction of the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers. Here he remained in many years, but he would not rest in peace.

In 1794, the town of Point Pleasant was established near the site of the old fort. For many years after, the Indian's grave lay undisturbed but in 1840 his bones were removed to the grounds of the Mason County Court House where, in 1899, a monument was erected in Cornstalk's memory. In the late 1950's, a new court house was built in Point Pleasant and the chief's remains (which now consisted of three teeth and about 15 pieces of bone) were placed in an aluminum box and reentered in a corner of the town's Tu-Endie-Wei Park, next to the grave of a Virginia frontiersman that Cornstalk once fought and later befriended. A twelve foot monument was then erected in his honor.

And this is not the only monument dedicated to the period in Point Pleasant. Another stands 86-feet tall and was dedicated in August 1909, one month behind schedule. Originally, the dedication ceremony had been set for July 22 but on the night before the event, the clear overhead sky erupted with lightning and struck the upper part of a crane that was supposed to put the monument into place. The machine was badly damaged and it took nearly a month to repair it. The monument was finally dedicated and stood for years, until July 4, 1921. On that day, another bolt of lightning struck the monument, damaging the capstone and some granite blocks. They were replaced and the monument still stands today. But what is this bedeviled obelisk that seems to attract inexplicable lightning on otherwise clear evenings? Is it a monument to the men who died in the 1774 Battle of Point Pleasant, when Cornstalk and his allies were defeated.

Could the freak lightning strikes have been acts of vengeance tied to Cornstalk's fabled curse? Many believed so and for years, residents of the triangular area made up of western West Virginia, southwest Pennsylvania and southeastern Ohio spoke of strange happenings, river tragedies and fires as part of the curse. Of course, many laughed and said that the curse was nothing more than overactive imaginations, ignoring the death toll and eerie coincidences that seemed to plague the region for 200 years after the death of Chief Cornstalk.

Many tragedies and disasters were blamed on the curse:

1907: The worst coal mine disaster in American history took place in Monongah, West Virginia on December 6, when 310 miners were killed.

1944: In June of this year, 150 people were killed when a tornado ripped through the tri-state triangular area.

1967: The devastating Silver Bridge disaster (detailed in our [section about the Mothman](#)) sent 46 people hurtling to their death in the Ohio River on December 15. Many have also connected this tragedy to the eerie sightings of the Mothman, strange lights in the sky and odd paranormal happenings.

1968: A Piedmont Airlines plane crashed in August near the Kanawha Airport, killing 35 people on board.

1970: On November 14, a Southern Airways DC-10 crashed into a mountain near Huntington, West Virginia, killing 75 people on board.

1976: In March of that year, the town of Point Pleasant was rocked in the middle of the night by an explosion at the Mason County Jail. Housed in the jail was a woman named Harriet Sisk, who had been arrested for the murder of her infant daughter. On March 2, her husband came to the jail with a suitcase full of explosives to kill himself and his wife and to destroy the building. Both of the Sisk's were killed, along with three law enforcement officers.

1978: In January, a freight train derailed at Point Pleasant and dumped thousands of gallons of toxic chemicals. The chemicals contaminated the town's water supply and the wells had to be abandoned.

1978: In April of that same year, the town of St. Mary's (north of Point Pleasant) was struck with tragedy when 51 men who were working on the Willow Island power plant were killed when their construction scaffolding collapsed.

And there have been many other strange occurrences, fires and floods. Most would say however that floods are a natural part of living on the river, although Point Pleasant was almost obliterated in 1913 and 1937. It might be hard to tie such natural occurrences into a curse, but what about the barge explosion that killed six men from town just before Christmas 1953? Or the fire that destroyed an entire downtown city block in the late 1880's? Some have even gone as far as to blame the curse for the death of Point Pleasant's local economy, an event linked to the passing of river travel and commerce.

So how real is the "curse"? Is it simply a string of bloody and tragic coincidences, culled from two centuries of sadness in the region? Can it be used to explain why the area seems to attract strange happenings and eerie tales? Or is the area somehow "blighted", separate from any curse, and attractive to the strangeness that seems to lurk in the shadowy corners of America?

The reader is asked to judge the validity of such curses for himself. For the most part, the deaths and tragedies seem to have waned over the years, perhaps dying out at the bicentennial of Chief Cornstalk's death. Largely, the curse has been forgotten over time and today, Point Pleasant is better known for its connection to otherworldly visitors like Mothman than for Indian curses and bloody frontier battles. Fact or coincidence? Who can say... but I know that I hope, for the sake of the people of the Ohio River valley, that Chief Cornstalk will finally rest in peace!

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from: <http://www.prairieghosts.com/cornstalk.html>

FLORIDA SOCIETY DECEASED AND NEW MEMBERS

The Florida Society welcomes the following new members:

New Members 9/16/2008 – 12/9/2008

Last Name	First Name	Chapter	Ancestor First	Ancestor Last	Membership Status
Bahn	David	Jacksonville	Hezekiah	Rice	Regular
Bryant	Ronald	Central Florida	George	Yates, IV	Regular
Cooney	John	Central Florida	Jonathan	Barnes	Regular
Crews	Ralph	St. Augustine	George	Taylor	Regular
Curran	Harry	Withlacoochee	George	Shilling	Regular
Dalton	Dale	Naples	Reuben	Dalton	Regular
Farley	Paul	Clearwater	David	Rose	Regular
Fisher	William	Clearwater	Aaron	Hankinson	Regular
Gingrich	Edward	Withlacoochee	Stephen	Wonder	Regular
Gorton, Jr.	Edward	Saramana	William	Gorton, Jr.	Regular
Hamilton	Michael	Emerald Coast	Stewart	Hamilton	Regular
Hazen	James	Jacksonville	Benjamin	Hazen	Regular
Hosmer	Larry	Clearwater	Simeon	Hosmer	Regular
Ivers	Raymond	St. Lucie River	Samuel	Hawkins	Regular
Jones, II	Francis	Pensacola	Joel	Barnett	Regular
Jones, Jr.	Joel	Pensacola	Joel	Barnett	Regular
Kappel	James	Treasure Coast	John	Fife, Sr.	Regular
Kappel	Zachary	Treasure Coast	John	Fife, Sr.	Regular
Kincaid, Jr.	Earl	Ocala	Andrew	Kincaid	Regular
Kramer	David	Ft. Lauderdale	Samuel	Howard	Regular
Malone	Donald	Clearwater	Patrick	Malone	Regular
Malone	James	Treasure Coast	Stephen	Warrington	Regular
Mandigo	Alan	Clearwater	Jonathan	Hammond	Regular
Marshall	Brent	Jacksonville	James	Cowherd	Regular
Marshall	Dale	Aaron Snowden	Joseph	Waln	Regular
Melvin	Brent	Dunaway	Solomon	Pippin	Regular
Melvin	Bryce	Aaron Snowden	Solomon	Pippen	Regular
Mosely, Jr.	George	Jacksonville	John	Stonecypher	Regular
Nord	Frederick	Daytona-Ormond	William	Aumack	Regular
Osgood	John	Clearwater	John	Osgood	Regular
Oosterhoudt	Michael	Gainesville	Martinus	Oosterhout	Regular
Oosterhoudt	Patrick	Gainesville	Martinus	Oosterhout	Regular
Osterhoudt, III	Francis	Gainesville	Martinus	Oosterhout	Regular
Pittman	Charles	Lakeland	Jacob	Highsmith	Regular
Sturgis	David	Jacksonville	Jacob	Learn	Regular
Sturgis	Matthew	Jacksonville	Jacob	Learn	Regular
Trout	Joel	Pensacola	David	Porter	Regular
Veal	Thomas	Caloosa	Abraham	Jones	Regular
Ward	Ira	Tampa	Daniel	Turner	Regular
Wilson	Daniel	Miami	Christopher	Daniel	Junior
Wilson, Jr.	Donald	Miami	Christopher	Daniel	Regular
Young, Sr.	Walter	Tampa	Aaron	Crain	Regular

The Florida Society mourns the passing of the following members:

Deceased Members

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Chapter	Date of Death
Phillips	Gordon	Bruce	Central Florida	12/2/2008
Burns	George	Andrew	Jacksonville	11/16/2008
Doherty	Joseph	Gerald	Lake-Sumter	11/13/2008
Hobbs	Richard	Allen	St. Lucie River	11/4/2008
Choate	Charles	Ragland	Pensacola	11/1/2008
Ross	Carl	Ralph	Treasure Coast	11/1/2008
Rogers	James	Delmas	Jacksonville	10/26/2008
Ballard	Everett	Ezra	Caloosa	10/25/2008
Dibrell	Wendell	Daniel	Lakeland	9/30/2008
Van Fleet	James	Alward	Naples	9/26/2008
Lee	Lawrence	Edgar	Tallahassee	8/9/2008

REGISTRATION FORM

Florida Society Sons Of The American Revolution Winter Board of Management Meeting

Ramada Hotel Gateway Kissimmee, 7470 Highway 192 West, Kissimmee, FL
January 30 - January 31, 2009

Name _____ Chapter _____

Address _____ City _____ State & Zip _____

Email Address for Confirmation Reply _____ @ _____

Phone No. _____

Guest(s) name(s) _____

BOM Voting Authority (Article II, Section 1FLSSAR Bylaws (Select 1})

FLSSAR Officer _____ Incumbent/Past NSSAR Officer

FLSSAR Committee Chair _____ Patriot Medal

Past FLSSAR President FL National Trustee

Chapter: President Past President Delegate*

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

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

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone No. _____

I plan on attending the following BOM sessions:

___ National/State Officers

___ Webmaster Work Group

___ Last Naval Battle Committee Meeting

___ Rumbaugh Contest

EVENT	CHOICE OF MEALS	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
January 30th Friday Evening Banquet	Beef Pot Roast Mushroom Gravy, Garlic Mashed Potatoes & Chef's Choice Vegetables or	\$24.00	X _____	\$ _____
	Chicken Normandy - Lightly Breaded Breast of Chicken served with An Apple Brandy Cream Sauce and Sliced Apple Herbed Wild Rice and Chef;s Choice Vegetables or	\$24.00	X _____	\$ _____
	Baked Lasagna - Oven Baked Vegetables Lasagna served with Garlic Bread and Chef's Choice Vegetables	\$23.00	X _____	\$ _____
	Registration Fee - SAR Members Only	\$10.00	X _____	\$ _____
	Total			\$ _____

The above meals include Beverage, Salad, Rolls and Dessert

MEAL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE January 23, 2009

Please indicate on your meal reservation form any dietary requirements.

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

FLSSAR Meeting Arrangements Committee
C/O Steve Williams
3403 Caraway Street
Cocoa, FL 32926

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

**Winter Board of Management Meeting
Florida Society SAR
Kissimmee, Florida**

January 31 - February 1, 2009

The St. Lucie River Chapter is the host chapter for the Winter BOM meeting.

Committee reports are due by Sunday, January 25, 2009.

**RAMADA HOTEL GATEWAY KISSIMMEE
7470 Highway 192 West (Exit 64B off I-4)
Kissimmee, FL 34747**

Phone: 800 327-9170 or 407 396-4400 - Fax: 407-396-4320

NOTE: ABOVE PHONES ARE THE ONES TO USE. They connect directly to hotel.

Check in time 4:00 pm - Check out time 11:00 am

Make room reservations directly with RAMADA HOTEL GATEWAY KISSIMMEE

Room Rates: \$65.00, plus current 13% tax.

Please specify "Florida Sons of the American Revolution" to get the special rate. 55 rooms have been blocked.

All rooms will be held until 10 days before BOM. After that all rooms will be "if available" and with FLSSAR price.

Rooms may be upgraded to the Tower Plaza for \$75.00 plus tax, and one bedroom Tower Plaza suites are \$99.00 plus tax. The hotel is pleased to extend to SAR the group rates for the period plus or minus 5 days of the actual meeting dates to allow for early arrivals and stayovers.

If you are attending the Winter 2009 BOM meeting in Kissimmee the Ladies Auxiliary from each chapter should bring at least one basket. The suggested spending limit for each basket is \$25. You may choose any theme to use for your basket or baskets. Thanks for making our last "basket" effort successful. Remember, the proceeds from the baskets allow the Ladies Auxiliary to give generous checks to the FLSSAR Youth Program winners.

Winter 2009 BOM schedule

BOM Registration 1:00 to 5:00 in Hotel Lobby

Day/Time	Hospitality Rm 260	Salon 1	Salon 2	BdRm 254	Banquet Salon	Day/Time
Friday						
11:30 - noon			Rumbaugh Committee			11:30 - noon
Noon - 12:30						Noon - 12:30
12:30 - 1:00				Executive Committee Meeting		12:30 - 1:00
1:00 - 1:30						1:00 - 1:30
1:30 - 2:00			Last Naval Battle Committee	Regional VP Meeting		1:30 - 2:00
2:00 - 2:30	Hospitality Room		Rumbaugh Speech Contest	National Officer Recruitment		2:00 - 2:30
2:30 - 3:00		Webmaster Working Group				2:30 - 3:00
3:00 - 3:30					Education Roundtable	3:00 - 3:30
3:30 - 4:00						3:30 - 4:00
4:00 - 4:30		Eagle Scout Comm.				4:00 - 4:30
4:30 - 5:00					Color Guard	4:30 - 5:00
5:00 - 6:00					Social	5:00 - 6:00
6:00 - 8:00					Banquet <i>Speaker-Judge A.B. Maised</i>	6:00 - 8:00
8:00 - 9:30		Ladies Auxiliary	BOM			8:00 - 9:30
9:30 - 10:00	Hospitality Room					9:30 - 10:00
10:00 - 11:00						10:00 - 11:00
Saturday						
8:30 - 9:00	Ladies Auxiliary		BOM			8:30 - 9:00
9:00 - 9:30	Breakfast					9:00 - 9:30
9:30 - 10:00						9:30 - 10:00
10:00 - 10:30						10:00 - 10:30
11:00	Checkout					11:00

"Blue Book" is available for downloading and printing out beginning January 25th, Sunday night at <http://www.flssar.org/Docs/BBook.pdf>

Note this schedule of events is subject to change and to confirmation of Salon availability.

The Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution
Cordially invites you to the 2009 Celebration of the
"Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution"
at
The Canaveral Port Authority
445 Challenger Road
Cape Canaveral, FL 32290
Saturday, 28 February 2009 at 10:00 a. m.

Our Guest Speaker will be Commander Douglas L. Edson USN
Commanding Officer, USS BARRY (DDG-52)

All Societies and Chapters of the C.A.R., DAR, SAR and other Genealogical Societies are invited to attend as participants or spectators to represent their organizations. Descendants and the public are especially welcome

DINNER BUFFET AT THE COUNTRY INN & SUITS ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2009
The Complimentary Social Hour will be held on the first floor in the breakfast area (which is the same area used in previous years) from 5PM to 6PM

A Traditional Southern Style Dinner Buffet will be served at 6:30PM in the Celebration Room on the first floor of the Country Inn & Suites. The dinner will include: **salads** - potato salad, macaroni salad and coleslaw; **meats** - barbeque pulled pork, barbeque chicken and barbeque pulled beef brisket; vegetables - baked beans, green beans; breads - corn bread stuffing, tex-mex bread; **desserts** - fruit cobbler and short bread pudding; **drinks** - coffee, water and tea. The total cost of the Dinner Buffet is \$22.00.

Please send your meal reservations to Compatriot Ben DuBose with check for \$22.00 per person, payable to "Treasurer, FLSSAR." The Banquet Room at the Country Inn and Suites will accommodate only 85 so get your meal reservations in ASAP.

Please complete the below information and return to: Compatriot Ben DuBose, 950 Falls Trail, Malabar, FL 32950, or send the below information to Compatriot DuBose via email, brevardsar@cfl.rr.com

If you need additional information please call Lindsey Brock, 904-251-9226 or you can call Ben DuBose, 321-952-2928.

Name of society/chapter/ individual: _____

Presenting wreath at the ceremony? Yes ___ No ___ Name of Presenter: _____

Wreath dedicated to:

Bringing unit/chapter flag? Yes ___ No ___ Color Guard? Yes ___ No ___

Number of members expected to attend: _____ Number in Uniform or Colonial Dress: _____

Please Note: All Color Guard Units are welcomed to participate. SAR State Society Color Guard Units will be presented a Flag Streamer.

The Country Inns & Suites, 9009 Astronaut Blvd, Cape Canaveral, FL, 32920, 321-784-8500, will block **65 rooms**. All rooms include two queen beds at a rate of \$99.00 per night, plus applicable taxes. Breakfast is included. **The block of rooms will be held until February 15, 2009. Reservations must be made on or before 15 February 2009 and you must mention Sons of the American Revolution to get the special rate of \$99.00. Room reservations may be cancelled on or before 21 February 2009.**

Remember, make your reservations on or before 15 February 2009 since only 65 rooms have been blocked. So, make your reservations ASAP, before block of rooms is sold out.

Traveling on I-95 take exit 205 east to Cape Canaveral. While in the area you may wish to visit the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, or Disney World in Orlando, FL.

Directions to ceremonies at 445 Challenger Rd.

From hotel, go northwest on Astronaut Blvd. - A1A. Turn slight right onto ramp. Go .2 miles and keep right to go to George J. King Blvd. After .3 miles, turn right onto Columbia Rd. Go .1 miles and turn left into Challenger Rd. End at 445 Challenger Rd. Total distance is less than one mile.

Other Florida Society Activities

Compatriot's March in Stuart

Six Compatriots marched in the Stuart Veterans Day parade, Phil Carr, Dennis McCallum to the right and Rick Massey, Hall Riediger, Oscar Kraehenbuehl, Dennis McCallum and Bob Eisenhardt in the photo below. Dennis was between us and Halpatiokee Chapter DAR handing out American Flags and Phil led the color guard. This was an especially good year for turnout with a estimated 4000 people lining the streets and 58 units in the parade not counting the color guards. Jay Wise



presented the colors at the Port St. Lucie Veterans Services at Veteran's Memorial Park in Port St. Lucie. Our thanks to the Treasure Coast High School ROTC for providing assistance to Jay with presenting the flags. Hall Riediger later placed flags on veteran's graves while visiting Reidar Whaaler at Forrest Hills Memorial Park. Reidar Whaaler was a WWI veteran presented the Congressional Medal of Honor for saving the lives of three men trapped in a burning tank



Dec. 2008 Installation of President Harry Sellards by NE Fla VP David Ramseur

Compatriots:

Well, the year is half over. Before you know it, elections will be here again. Have we as a Society grown? Have we moved forward with our projects? Take stock and see.

As a Society, our primary project is still the CAAH. Until we can sow the nation our new facilities, we cannot begin to assess our growth and advancement. therefore, first and foremost, that must be our goal. To achieve it we must raise funds. Please communicate any and all ideas that you have as to how that may be done.

Second only to the CAAH in importance is Membership. Look to family, friends and sister Hereditary Societies. Remember, paper from the SAR, DAR, Founders and Patriots, and the Mayflower Society are recognized. Talk membership everywhere. You never know when a candidate will be found. Pres. Toops has both of these as major objectives. Let me hear from any and all with ideas and recommendations as to how to achieve them.

Now for myself. Besides these projects, my pets are the Youth programs. Remember without the youth everything will eventually cease. The Eagle Scout Scholarship Program is the best funded. It started with an endowment, but 9/11 set it back. Donations since then have almost overtaken the se back, but it still needs some help. On the other hand the JROTC, Essay Contest and the oration contest still need major help. We must do all we can to do so. I would like to see them also build an endowment that will support them in the same manner as is the Eagle Scout Scholarship program. Can we achieve this?

Finally, it is my hope all had a most pleasant, healthy, and Happy Holiday Season. That the turkey was great and none overate. As you know, at our age that is not the best thing to do. Also hope St. Nick was good to all and that the New Year will be healthful, fruitful, and HAPPY NEW YEAR.

William R. Stevenson, Sr. Vice President, Florida Society



TheFloridaPatriot
7507 Summerbridge Drive
Tampa, FL 33634-2260