

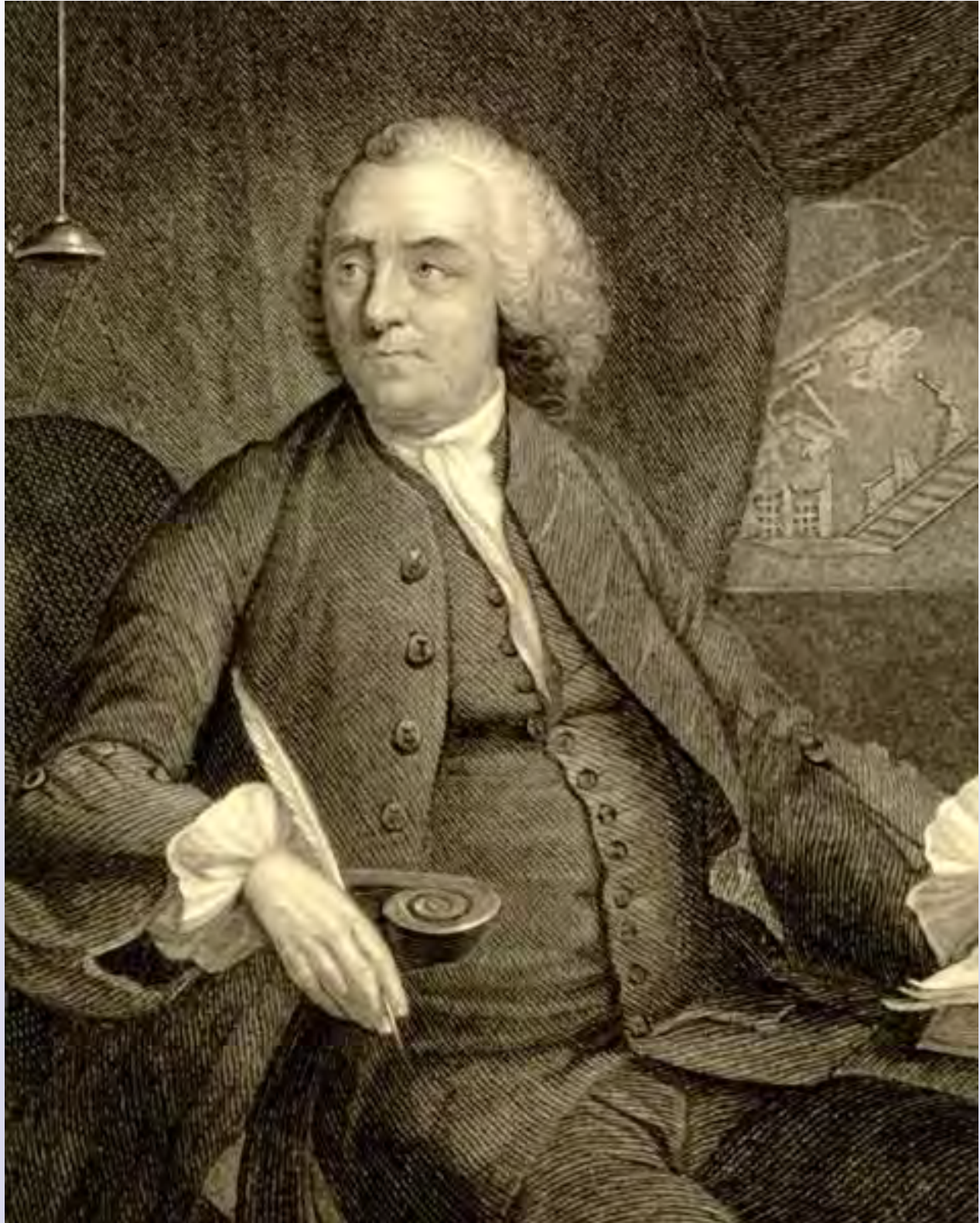


The Florida Patriot

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

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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 \$15.00 per year. 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.



2021 Last Naval Battle Ceremony



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Membership Database	Scott Breckinridge

Submission Deadline Dates

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

Summer 2021 Issue	6/10/2021
Fall 2021 Issue	8/1/2021
Winter 2021 Issue	11/15/2021
Spring 2022 Issue	3/5/2022

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Florida Ladies' Auxiliary Officers

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Vice President	Delores Wolff
Treasurer	Laura Zavalía
Registrar	Arlene Stone
Secretary	Jane Brunelle
Historian	
Chaplain	Becky Elam

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

Good day fellow Compatriots.

Since my last column more of our chapters have returned to physical and hybrid meetings to continue their activities. It is likely that we will retain the use of Zoom, GoToMeeting, and other video meeting tools which allow more to attend and participate in activities. I know I have been able to attend more virtual celebrations and commemorations than would otherwise have been possible. With this as background, you can expect to see our Society continue and even expand its use of video meetings. Our upcoming State Meeting (April 30 – May 2) will include virtual coverage of the South Atlantic District Meeting, The Board of Managers (BOM) Meeting, and our Annual Meeting. PG Jack Manning will be present so I would recommend you consider attending in person. Special thanks to James Grayshaw and Ken MacFarland who held Zoom training sessions for chapter leaders. Their willingness to assist others will help expand the use of Zoom throughout the FLSSAR.



It is difficult to visit every chapter in the state, so I'm especially appreciative of our RVPs who held regional meetings. These allow members to travel to meetings that are closer to home, and still participate in the business of the FLSSAR. Your comments at these meetings help shape positions and policies that are considered at the BOMs. In late February Jim Gaskins hosted his RVP meeting in St. Augustine. It was a physical meeting.

On the other hand, Lee Popham held a virtual regional meeting because of member preference. Robert McGuire held a hybrid regional meeting to meet the need of the chapters and members in his region. No matter how the meeting was conducted the discussion was equally lively. My year as president has gone by quickly. It has been busy and enjoyable. And there are many to whom I owe a debt of gratitude for their support and assistance. I especially appreciate the many members who have taken time to offer comments on ways to improve the FLSSAR.

To mention a few for their work:

- (a) The members of the Executive Committee for their advice and counsel.
- (b) Lee Popham who served as special consigliere – an unofficial guide who made sure I knew of pitfalls to avoid.
- (c) Senior VP Bernard Wolff and the Regional VPs who did a superb job of making sure communication occurred up and down the line.
- (d) Secretary Scott Breckenridge who put up with so many emails from me; he undoubtedly had to add terabytes of computer memory.
- (e) PG Mike Tomme who spent the last 2 years reviewing our bylaws and proposing needed revisions.
- (f) Our committee chairmen (of whom there are too many to single out) who conducted most of the business of the FLSSAR between BOM
- (g) A special note of appreciation to those at the chapter level, who made certain the youth contests and commemorative events proceeded under difficult circumstances.

On a personal note, I'd ask you to join me in remembering those compatriots who passed this year, and their families. We've had a difficult year and lost some very talented members and good friends.

What is an E-Book?

The Florida Society SAR has created and continuing to add to a new, for us, type of publication - an e-Book. The electronic Book, or e-Book, contains articles and content concerning specific subject matter. We have created two e-Books. One based around the military experiences of our Florida compatriots in whichever field of military life they experienced be it WWII, the Korean Conflict, Vietnam, or later conflicts. The second is centered on Genealogical and Historical subject matter. It might be information on historical artifacts or people and battles in the Revolutionary War, or genealogical analysis or research reports.

Take advantage of these e-Books and spend a few minutes reading their stories or reports. They can be found on the Florida Website at <http://flssar.org/Forms.htm>.

Calling All Color Guardsmen!

Here's a chance to strut your stuff by attending the BOM wearing your colorful attire, be it a Military uniform, militia outfit, or civilian clothing. If you haven't started marching with the Florida Brigade and have earned your Bronze Color Guard medal, do so starting this year! Show the dashing side to your personality by joining the other members of the Florida Brigade as they present the colors at the banquet. Staying for the banquet is optional, but it is more fun to mingle with the ordinarily dressed folks.



Reminder: Join us for the 2021 BOM/Annual Meeting. April 30-May 2 at the Embassy Suite Hotel, 4955 Kyns Heath Rd, Kissimmee, FL, US, 34746 Register by April 20, 2021 using this link: [Main Home Page \(flssar.org\)](#) and click on the BOM Tab.

Reminder: Our Society has a new logo which has been widely accepted by the membership. If you would like to use it for official business, e.g. a newsletter, please reach out to Don Shaw (dshaw@sar.org) in Louisville for permission.

David E. Bussone

President, 2020-2021

Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

From the Medals & Awards Committee

When considering awarding a member a medal or any awards, the chapter should determine that the proposed recipient is qualified, deserving, and the occasion for presentation is appropriate per the guidelines stated in Volume 5 of the NSSAR Handbook. The presentation of medals and awards should not be treated lightly by the National Society, district, state society or a chapter, and should always be given judicious thought to assure that the presentation is in keeping with NSSAR principles. It is essential that the integrity of NSSAR medals and awards be maintained.

As for the Florida Society, any nomination for a certificate and any supporting data to be used in making an award of a certificate must be submitted to the FLSAR Medal & Awards Committee *60 days before any Board of Management Meeting* so that the committee can evaluate the request, secure the certificate and/or medal from National if it is not already in FLSSAR inventory and have it prepared for signatures at the upcoming Board of Management Meeting. Most certificates issued by the Florida Society require the signature of the Society President and Society Secretary.

When various committees of the FLSSAR plan to give out certificates, medals, patches etc. for such programs such as the Knight Essay Contest, the Rumbaugh Oration Contest, JROTC, CAR, Eagle Scout, the committee chair is responsible to notify the Medal and Awards Committee of the number of awards that they are plan-

ning to award for the upcoming year by October so that the appropriate items can be ordered from the NSSAR. Although such awards may not need to be approved by the Medal and Awards Committee, proper planning is required in order to keep cost down and to not have to expedite such awards based on last minute planning. Note that typically, if the FLSSAR orders such items in the fall of each year, there is a sale of them that help the Florida Society save some money so that we can better appropriate resources for other projects.

From the New Chapter Development Committee

At the present time, the New Chapter Development Committee has had an inquiry for a new chapter to be chartered in the Venice / Northport / Englewood Market area of Florida. Compatriot Bill Battles is heading up this effort as he will be serving as the chapter president. If you have anyone you know living in this area that you could encourage to join the Sons of the American Revolution, please let either the committee know or let Compatriot Battles know by sending an email to him at webattlesiii@gmail.com. Your efforts will greatly be appreciated.

The Many Faces of Benjamin Franklin

By Cameron Ehmgig

“Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing” is a very well known, though unfortunately over-used, quote by Benjamin Franklin. However, in all that Franklin did, his life was certainly worth writing. His achievements spanned many fields, from his advances in science to his success as a politician and diplomat and a published author. He was at the core of founding the United States, as he helped draft the Declaration of Independence, negotiated the Treaty of Paris (which thusly ended the Revolutionary War), and in the later years, was a very important delegate to the convention that created the Constitution. Though he had only two years of formal education, Franklin made his way to being one of the most influential and important thinkers in American history.

Born into a family of “modest means”, Franklin only had two years of formal education, but still was an avid reader and educated himself in the arts of writing. He was an apprentice to his older brother at a printing press, and very quickly took to writing for a newspaper published by his brother. When he was just 17, he quit his apprenticeship to work as a printer in Philadelphia and then London, and then back to Philadelphia to begin his own printing business (Benjamin Franklin). In the 1730s, Franklin published *Poor Richard's Almanack*, and was elected the official printer of Pennsylvania (A&E Television Networks, 2014). Through his popularity as a printer, Franklin became more involved in civic affairs, and established a lending library, the city's first fire company, a police patrol, and the American Philosophical Society; as well as, the Pennsylvania militia, and was key in the creation of the Academy of Philadelphia. He was the first postmaster general of the United States and held the position from 1775 to 1776, resulting in his face being on the first U.S. postage stamps (Benjamin Franklin).

Benjamin Franklin, the scientist and inventor, was all the more influential to the United States and the world as a whole. In the 1740s, Franklin sought entrepreneurship by inventing the Franklin stove (A&E Television Network, 2014), which was a “wood burning stove that could be built into fireplaces to maximize heat while minimizing smoke and drafts”. The stove was designed ingeniously and Franklin explained in his promotional pamphlets the complexity and the science of how warm air expands to take up more space than cold, how it is tighter, and how heat radiates whereas smoke is carried only by air (Isaacson, 2004). He became a soldier in the Pennsylvania militia at the age of 42, but then decided to pursue his interests in science, which lead to his more notable scientific experiments with electricity (A&E Television Networks, 2014).

In one of his first experiments, Franklin debunked previous notions that electricity only involved two types of fluids, vitreous and resinous, which could be independently created. Franklin discovered that the generation of a positive charge was accompanied by the generation of an equal negative charge, that was thusly called the conservation of charge, and the single-fluid theory of electricity. Harvard professor, I. Bernard Cohen, proclaimed that, “Franklin's law of conservation of charge must be considered to be one of the same fundamental importance to physical science as Newton's law of conservation of momentum”, which was quite the compliment in the scientific realm (Isaacson, 2004). Then, much later in his scientific career, Franklin proved that lightning is electricity using his famous kite experiment (Benjamin Franklin), which was extremely controversial at the time, garnering several reviews suggesting that his claims about the experiment were a “hoax”, and many religious groups, and the ABBE Nollet suggested his experiments and development of a lightning rod was “an offense to God” (Isaacson, 2004). Through the criticism and praise alike, Franklin gained much popularity and was suddenly a famous man, his inventions and theories spreading through every corner of the world, his name now a household one.

Franklin's political career is marked by several of the most influential events in the formation of the United States, specifically the documents that bind it. In 1754, Franklin proposed a plan for uniting the colonies under a national congress, which laid the framework for the Articles of Confederation, which was the first constitution of the United States when ratified in 1781. In 1776, he was a core member of the five-member committee that helped draft the Declaration of Independence, which was instrumental to the freedom of the American colonies from British rule. Congress sent Franklin, on the same year, to France in hopes of gaining them as an ally (Benjamin Franklin).

Franklin wrote to France during this time, and France feared that the Americans would take their independence from Britain without helping the French also, to which Franklin replied with, “No peace is take place between us and England, till you have concluded yours” (Franklin & Sparks, 1856). In May 1782, Franklin wrote to John Adams about the independence of the United States and France saying, “The ministry have in contemplation the independence to America, on condition of Britain being put again into the state she was left in by peace of 1763, which I suppose means being put again in the possession of the islands which France has taken from her”, which he then remarks that this is “a proposition of selling to us a thing, that was already our own, and making France pay the price they are pleased to ask for it” (Franklin & Sparks, 1856). France's help was instrumental in the success of the Revolutionary War, and

thus, in 1783, Franklin helped negotiate and draft the Treaty of Paris, which concluded the 13-year war with Britain (Benjamin Franklin).

Following almost a decade of being in France, Franklin returned to the United States in 1785, which led to his pertinent involvement in the drafting of the United States Constitution (A&E Television Networks, 2014). Franklin told his colleagues in the Constitutional Convention that the success of any government rested “on the general Opinion of the Goodness of that Government as well as of the Wisdom and Integrity of its Governors”. With this thought in mind, the Congress realized that the public reception of the new Constitution being drafted both at home and abroad likewise would depend on the reputations of the people writing it, Franklin’s reputation was highly positive, “the whole world thought better of him and Washington than of any other Americans” (Morgan, 2003). As a Pennsylvanian delegate, Franklin debated a great deal with his colleagues at the many meetings of the Constitutional Convention, and in the end urged his fellows to support the controversial United States Constitution, which was thusly ratified in 1788, and Washington was inaugurated as president in 1789 (Benjamin Franklin).

One year following these events, in 1790, Franklin passed away at the age of 84. Franklin left money in his will to be used in Boston and Philadelphia to establish a trade school, a science museum and fund scholarships. The legacy of Franklin is made obvious by the successes of the United States that he was so instrumental in creating. His many other talents as an author, printer, scientist, and inventor are also still very important to this day, as many technologies were influenced by his thinking that are important to our daily lives.

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Florida Society C.A.R. Update



Your C.A.R and Junior Member Aide Liaison Committee Chairman attended the 2021 Annual Conference of the Florida Society Children of the American Revolution. The Conference was held in St Augustine on March 19-21. The Florida State Color Guard

was asked to lead the Procession and Present the Colors opening the banquet on Saturday evening. (See the related Color Guard article) As part of this banquet, your C.A.R. Liaison was asked to bring greetings from the SAR and President David Bussone, who was unable to attend. There were also presentations from the SAR:

- Florida Society President Emma Glazener was presented with the SAR’s C.A.R. Silver Medal of Appreciation for her outstanding service to the Florida Society C.A.R. and especially her untiring efforts during her term as State President.
- The Florida SAR made a \$1,000 donation to the Florida C.A.R. The first \$500 was used as the FLSSAR Sponsorship of the 2021 Annual Conference. The second \$500 was presented to State President Glazener at the Banquet.
- The SAR’s C.A.R. Silver Medal of Appreciation was also presented to Mimi Leroy-Marler for her many years of outstanding service on a variety of committees, both as a committee member and Senior Chairman and for her service as Senior State President in 2010 – 2012.

Within the C.A.R., Senior State Officers serve a two-year term and State Officers serve a one-year term. Holly Hamilton will continue to serve as Senior State President for another year. Miss Sydney Rigaud was elected to serve as the Florida C.A.R. State Present for 2021-2022. She will be formally installed as President at the National C.A.R. Conference in April. Both Mrs. Hamilton and Miss Rigaud plan to join us at the FLSSAR Spring BOM.

Special recognition goes to Lee Popham and Earl “Matt” Matthews for serving as the Senior Society Presidents at Tequesta Society (Miami) and Blue Licks Society (Marianna) and to Scott Cook for assisting his wife in the management and growth of the Jacob Roberts Brown Society in the Gainesville area.

From the NSSAR Fundraising Committee

Some time ago I sent an email noting the donation and fundraising possibilities of Amazon Smile. Recently I received a notification that last year \$55 was donated to the Sons of the American Revolution through this program from my purchases. So far, the NSSAR had received \$712.79 from Amazon Smile this year.

I would request all members using Amazon for purchases designate the Sons of the American Revolution as the charity of your choice. Signing on to Amazon Smile is quite easy to do, just click on it and follow the instructions. The possible donations we can receive will be a good growth income for the society. I realize your wives probably do the bulk of the purchasing in your household. If you vacuum the floor or do some dustings maybe she will designate the SAR for us as well?

Jim Lindley
Fund Raising Committee
Chairman

Robert H. Brotherton (1947- 2021)

It is with deep regret that the Clearwater and Saint Petersburg SAR Chapters announce the passing of Robert H. Brotherton since he was a member of both chapters. He served as guest commentator on the Family Tree Nuts YouTube episode "How to join the Sons of the American Revolution".

Robert Harding Brotherton, 74, husband of Janice Lynn Brotherton, entered into rest on Thursday, February 18, 2021. Funeral services will be held on March 6, 2021 at 2:00 PM at Moss Feaster in Dunedin, FL. Burial will take place in Berry Highland Memorial Cemetery in Knoxville, Tennessee.



Robert Harding Brotherton was born to his father, Robert Graham Brotherton (1923-2013) and his mother, Marjorie Helen Harding (1924-1988), in Knoxville, Tennessee. He graduated from Donelson High School in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1964. Robert married Bettejane Childress (1948-1975) on July 29, 1967 in Detroit, Michigan. Robert served in the United States Airforce as a launch crew member of a Titan II Intercontinental Missile Launch Crew beginning in 1966 and completed in 1970 in Wichita, Kansas, with an Honorable Discharge. Robert graduated with a Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Tennessee (Knoxville) in 1973, utilizing the GI Bill benefits, assisted by the work efforts of his wife Bettejane, and his part-time work as an alarm installer. His wife Bettejane, died in a car accident in 1975, leaving him with two young children, James Harding Brotherton and Joseph Noah Brotherton, to raise.

In 1997, Robert married Janice Lynn Alban from Baltimore, MD. She served as a wonderful mother to these two boys and together they had a son Jeffrey Graham Brotherton and daughter Amy Beth Brotherton Caldarera.

Robert became licensed as a Professional Engineer in 1979 in Tennessee. His career preceded by working as an engineer with the Robert S. Miller Company in Nashville, TN, for one year and Envirodyne Engineers in Knoxville, TN, for nine years, where he participated in the planning, design, and construction of the City of Knoxville's Kuwahee Wastewater Treatment Plant (He co-authored a textbook on the design of pumping systems [Sanks] while working with Envirodyne). He served as the County Engineer for Knox County, TN, for three years, followed by 18 years of service to the City of Dunedin, FL as the City Engineer and Director of Public Works and Utilities, where he managed 175 staff and served, periodically, as City Manager, in his absence. Notable projects that he managed for Dunedin included the design and construction of the new Dunedin Wastewater Treatment Plant, Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant, Reclaimed Water distribution system, Library, Senior Center, Stadium for the Toronto Bluejays spring training, flood control projects, and the redevelopment of downtown Dunedin.

He is also known as the father of the Cooperative Funding Program for all Water Management Districts in the State of Florida.

Upon retirement at age 57, Robert began Brotherton Engineering, Inc., and served as the contracted City Engineer for several cities in Pinellas County, FL, between 2003 and 2019.

His career included many accomplishments and awards. Some of the most notable recognitions: "Engineer of the Year 2000" for the West Coast of Florida, "Walter Clausen Award" for making the greatest contribution to vocational education in the State of Florida in 1998, Co-Founder and Chairman of the Board for eight years for the first "Public Works Academy" in the United States, and Chairman of the Government Engineers - Florida Engineering Society in 1998. He was a Fellow of the Florida Engineering Society and National Society of Professional Engineers. He was awarded the Technical Achievement Award - Florida Engineering Society 1997 and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) National Conservation Award in 1994.

He served as President of the St. Petersburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) in 2021. He also served as first Vice President of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Clearwater chapter.



His personal life included serving as a Deacon and Trustee in several Baptist Churches. He recently started a church in Indian Rocks Beach called Grace Connection. He served as the Youth Pastor in two churches, served on the music worship team for several churches, sang with the Gospel Echos Quartet in the Tampa Bay Area for many years, maintained an extensive orchid collection, served as an assistant to the Genealogist in the Clearwater Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, served as his Family Historian (A comprehensive family tree, with over 12,000 family members, is located under the name "Brotherton Family Tree" on Ancestry.com.), co-authored a book on his Harding family tree that included biographies of over 500 living cousins, and served on the Pinellas County Republican Executive Committee. Robert was a licensed pilot and a certified scuba diver.

His life was dedicated to Christ, his family, and the communities that he served. Robert was preceded in death by his parents, Robert Graham Brotherton and Marjorie Helen Harding; and his first wife, Bettejane Childress.

Survivors include his wife, Janice Brotherton of Dunedin, FL; children, James Brotherton of Baltimore, MD, Joseph Brotherton of Washington, DC, Jeffrey Brotherton (Karen) of North Augusta, SC and Amy Caldarera (Jason) of Kennesaw, GA; grandchildren, Nicolas, Zoey, Nolan, Levi, Holden, Braxton and Ella.

Chapter News

Caloosa Chapter - Ft. Myers



At the March meeting, Chapter President, Hamp Allen, gave a program in honor of Women's History Month, titled "They made a difference!" The chapter was well represented at both the FSSDAR State Conference in Orlando March 4-6th and the Last Naval Battle Celebration at Merritt Island on March 13th. Although both events had fewer attendees that in past years, people are starting to come out and support both our SAR Society and the DAR Society. Members of our chapter staffed the SAR Information Table on both Friday and Saturday during the DAR State Conference as well as posting the Colors for their banquet on Friday night. The NSDAR President General Denise Doring Vanburen was their special guest for the conference and speaker for the banquet. We received many compliments on the Color Guard from many of the 400 plus attendees at the conference.

Their next meeting of the Caloosa Chapter will be on Saturday, April 10, 2021, at the Edison's Lab Restaurant. Compatriot Dwight Elam, our Chapter and State Chaplain, will be our guest speaker for this meeting. This will also be the Annual Youth Awards meeting with numerous awards being presented.

Central Florida Chapter

After a couple months of not having in-person meetings, the chapter started back by meeting at the Golden Corral restaurant in Altamonte Springs. Our speaker was Harry Rinker who gave a presentation on the Bicentennial Stamps that depicted the leaders and events of the American Revolution. Several of the chapter members also participated in the Last Naval Battle Celebration that was held in Merritt Island on March 13th.



Clearwater Chapter





The Clearwater Chapter held an in person General Membership meeting on November 18th at the Dunedin Golf Club at 12:00 noon. The chapter normally holds their meetings every third Wednesday of each month, except for a Summer break between June to August. However, the chapter and its Board of Governors only met during the past few months via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the in-person meeting, social distancing guidelines were followed and masks were worn except when members were eating or giving a presentation. The chapter also provided a Zoom link so members could also view the meeting online.

The guest speaker and Sons of the American Revolution Compatriot, was Retired Colonel Robbie Robinson, former Commander of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Compatriot Robinson gave a presentation about the Battle of Bunker Hill with a focus on the life of Doctor Joseph Warren, who perished in the battle.

Compatriot Robert Brotherton, First Vice President of the chapter, gave a presentation about his grandson Nicolas Brotherton, who recited the American Creed at a George Washington birthday celebration attended by members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, and Children of the American Revolution at the Washington Country Club in Washington DC.

The chapter presented Certificates of Appreciation to Past Presidents Pat Niemann and James Grayshaw for their service to the chapter. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Compatriots Carleton "Woody" Weidemeyer and Cary Martin for their service to various chapter committees. The chapter also inducted Gil Abernathy as a new member.

Ian Thomas Gibson, of Boy Scout Troop 105 located in Greensboro, North Carolina, received a Certificate of Recognition of his attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout from the Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter located in Florida. Ian's father, John Gibson, also attained the rank of Eagle Scout when he lived in Florida. Ian's grandfather James Gibson, is a current member and Past President of the Clearwater Chapter.

Members of the Clearwater Chapter Color Guard and Ladies Auxiliary participated in the 10th Annual Belleair Holiday Parade on December 6th. 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. In years past, there was a holiday party with food vendors at the Recreation Department. However, there was no party this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All groups in the parade practiced social distancing and wore face coverings.

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 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.

Clearwater Chapter and Ladies Auxiliary members that participated were James Gibson, James Phillips, James Grayshaw, Charles Wetherbee, Margaret Harris, Patrick Niemann, Robbie Robinson, Susan Grayshaw, Robert Brotherton, Walter Arnold, Harry Fuller with Larry Patter-son, Robert Anderson and Marjorie Wetherbee in the cart.

David Bussone, President of the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution attended the December meeting and installed the new officers of the chapter. President James Grayshaw, First Vice President Robert Brotherton, Second Vice President Michael La Veau, Treasurer Kevin MacFarland, Secretary Lawrence Patterson, Registrar/ Genealogist Parks Honeywell, Historian/Publicist Harry Fuller, Chaplain George Youstra, Sergeant at Arms Russell Peabworth.

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded for the following service. Sergeant at Arms to Russell Peabworth. Color Guard to James Gibson and James Phillips. 50/50 Drawing to Lillian Koontz. Meeting Baskets to Mary Kitchen. Calling Committee to Nathan Adams, Harry Fuller, Lewis Harris, James Koontz, Michael La Veau, Kevin MacFarland. ROTC Awards to Patrick Niemann. Community Service Awards to Daniel Griffith and James Koontz.

Meritorious Service Medal and Certificate to First Vice President Robert Brotherton, Treasurer Kevin MacFarland, and Secretary Lawrence Patterson. Meritorious Service Medal Oak Leaf Cluster to Past President Dan Hooper. Veterans Service Medal to Patrick Niemann. Bronze Roger Sherman Medal and Certificate to Publicist Harry Fuller, Newsletter producer James Grayshaw and Carleton Woodmeyer. Certificate of Appreciation and Medal for Ladies Auxiliary to Music Director Pat Monroe and Photographer Lois MacFarland, Lydia Darragh Medal to Margaret Harris. Distinguished Service Medal and Past President Pin to Robert Anderson.

Members of the Clearwater Chapter participated in the Wreaths Across America commemoration at the Dunedin Cemetery on Saturday, December 19th. In addition to the Sons of the American Revolution, numerous volunteers from various veterans organizations attended the observance led by Dunedin Mayor Julie Bujalski.

The members of the Sons of the American Revolution that participated included (in photograph) Historian/ Publicist Harry Fuller, President James Grayshaw, Women's Auxiliary member Susan Grayshaw and Past President Robert Anderson.

Wreaths Across America is a national effort to place wreaths at the graves of veterans during the holiday season and is a non-profit organization founded to continue and expand the ceremony in all the United States and beyond. For more information or to sponsor a wreath, visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org.

At the January meeting, Parks Honeywell spoke on

the topic of the nuclear power industry. Parks spent thirty-six years in the industry with worldwide experience in the design and operations of reactors and training of personnel. Parks is a Past President and current Genealogist/Registar of the Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter, Genealogy Committee Chairman and West Central Region Vice President of the Sons of the American Revolution Florida Society, and Past President and Genealogist/Registar of the Thousand Islands Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution New York Society.

At the February meeting, Compatriot Robert Anderson gave a presentation about the Saratoga campaign and the Battle of Oriskany. The Saratoga campaign occurred in 1777 and was a major engagement of the British attempt to gain control of the Hudson River valley and separate New England from the other states. The eventual success of American forces in the campaign convinced France to openly support the United States in the Revolution. Anderson stated that he researched the Saratoga campaign because one of his ancestors, Lieutenant Colonel Johan Peter Wagner, fought in the Battle of Oriskany.

The Daughters of the American Revolution Pithlochaskotee Chapter held an in-person general membership meeting on Feb. 13 at the American Legion Paradise Post #79 at 10:00am. Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter President James Grayshaw gave a presentation about the history of Revolutionary War related lineage societies. Grayshaw has also served in officer positions in the Sons of the Revolution New York Society. Other members from the Sons of the American Revolution Clearwater Chapter, Past President Robert Anderson, who also serves on the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution Liaison Committee towards the Daughters of the American Revolution, Historian/Publicist Harry Fuller, and Ladies Auxiliary member Susan Grayshaw, who is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution Caladesi Chapter, also attended.

Flagler Chapter



On January 23rd, 2021, Flagler Chapter Compatriots, President Charles Hayes, 1st VP Randall Morris, and David Kelsey, accompanied by Victoria Kelsey of the FLSSAR Ladies Auxiliary, completed the Chapter's 7th Annual Thomas Creek Battlefield five mile hike. The purported Thomas Creek Battlefield is located within the Seaton Creek Historic Preserve, north of Jacksonville, south of the Georgia state line, and near Nassau Sound and the Atlantic Ocean. Joining the hike was John Cassell, wearing a blue jacket with "SAR" imprinted across the back. Mr. Cassel, a member of the Eckerd College "Search And Rescue" team, is an avid bird

watcher and was conducting a wildlife survey at the Preserve. Many species of birds were identified by sight and sound and his presence added measurably to this hike. The Battle of Thomas Creek occurred on May 17, 1777 and was a major defeat for the Patriots. The Patriot forces consisted of approximately 170 mounted soldiers from GA, SC, & NC comprising the 1st Regiment Georgia Continental Light Horse commanded by LTC John Baker and they were ambushed by 300 regular British Army soldiers from St. Augustine, 75 East Florida Ranger irregulars (loyalists) and many warriors from local tribes. The mission of the Continental Army Patriots was to proceed south from GA into Florida and destroy the British Army and British Government headquarters at St. Augustine, as well as, capture the vast quantity of stored war supplies and munitions. The British Army mission was to destroy the invading Patriot force whereas the local warrior tribesmen were seeking revenge, horses, supplies and scalps. From Left to Right: Victoria Kelsey, Compatriots David Kelsey, Charles



December 19, 2020 was National Wreaths Across America Day. The ceremony at Spruce Creek Fly-In Cemetery was conducted by the Sugar Mill Chapter DAR, with assistance from members of the Flagler Chapter SAR, members of Sugar Mill Chapter C.A.R., and friends and family members of the 54 veterans interred in the cemetery. Honors were given for the deceased veterans and a presentation was given by Flagler Compatriot Randall Morris on the "Missing in America Project." Spruce Creek Fly-In Cemetery contains the remains of veterans from the Civil War thru Iraq. Photo L to R: Compatriot Randall Morris, Regent Beth Stephenson, SAR Ladies Auxiliary member Victoria Kelsey and Compatriot David Kelsey, Flagler Chapter.



On February 6th, 2021, the Flagler Chapter belatedly celebrated the 233rd year anniversary of the September 17, 1787 signing of the U.S. Constitution at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Flagler Chapter collaborated with the Palm Coast Historical Society and their President, Elaine Studnicki, to provide a program featuring the recently appointed Flagler County Judge, the Honorable Andrea K. Totten. Judge Totten spoke of the history, struggle, and ratification of the 19th Amendment, securing the right to vote for women. Left to Right: Elaine Studnicki, Judge Totten & daughter, Audrey, SAR Flag, Martina Wolfe, Judicial Assistant, Compatriot David Kelsey, Flagler Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

Jacksonville Chapter



The last quarter of 2020 was rather sparse, as far as chapter activities went. The bulk of activity was preparation for Wreaths Across America, with severe restrictions under threat of the Wuhan virus. We did engage in a few events of interest, as well as conducted our in-person executive committee and chapter meetings to include: October 2nd & 3rd - Florida Society Board of Management (Paul Tucker, Jim Gaskins, Chuck Farmer); October 15th - Chapter Meeting at Ramada Inn; November 11th- Veterans Day Parade in Jacksonville, with Princess Amalie CAR chapter members (Paul Tucker, Josh Jolly, Chuck Farmer, John Roberson, Darryl Ingle, Gray Chandler, Scott Breckenridge, David Ramseur, Dick Cardell, Miles Ramseur, Barney Thornton, Steve Adams); November 19th - Chapter meeting, with Public Service awards to Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Emergency Medical Service recipients; December 7th - American Legion flag retirement - Color Guard (Scott Breckenridge, Darryl Ingle, Paul Tucker, Chuck Farmer); and December 19th - Wreaths Across America, Jacksonville National Cemetery (Kurt Driscoll, Fred Emery, Paul Tucker, Chuck Farmer).

The first quarter has been one of greater activity as restrictions continue to be lifted. The remainder of the late winter and onset of spring should give us increased Chapter and color guard involvement, with more clement weather. Among our 2021 activities have been: January 9th - Callahan Living History event - Color guard visit in era garb (Dick Cardell, Paul Tucker and Chuck Farmer); January 16th - Wreaths Across America wreath retrieval, Jacksonville National Cemetery (non-color guard activity) (Kurt Driscoll, Chuck Farmer); January 22nd - Eagle Court of Honor for Nat Hebert, Troop 549, Crandall camp (Barney Thornton, Chuck Farmer); January 26th - Ridgeview High School NJROTC Pass-in- Review, Orange Park (Paul Tucker, Chuck Farmer); February 11th- Flag demonstration and Travelling Trunk presentation, Lindisfarne Hall, Fernandina Beach. (Darryl Ingle, Paul Tucker, Josh Jolly, Chuck Farmer); February 20th - Northeast Region, SAR meeting, St. Augustine (non-color guard event) (Jim Gaskins, Dick Cardell, David Ramseur, Gray Chandler, Paul Tucker, Josh Jolly, Chuck Farmer); February 20th - Florida CAR Conference, St. Augustine Beach. Presented colors (Paul Tucker, Josh Jolly, Chuck Farmer, plus Lee Popham, Dick Young and Charles Nuckolls); February 21st - Flag retirement and chapter meeting, with support if Boy Scouts, Vaughn-Latham and Princess Amalie chapters of CAR, at Mandarin Community Club. (Robbie Stokes, Darryl Ingle, Ike Thornton, Paul Tucker, Josh Jolly, David Ramseur, Scott Breckenridge, Miles Ramseur in color guard, plus Bob Welker, Gray Chandler, Chuck Farmer, Ryan Doane, Dick Cardell, Jim Gaskins and Martin Schwartz); March 13th - Last Naval Battle of the Revolutionary War, Merritt Island, FL (Anticipate Scott Breckenridge, Paul Tucker, Josh Jolly, Ken Norwood, Chuck Farmer, Darryl Ingle and Dick Cardell); March 25th - Andrew Jackson High School JROTC awards event (Anticipated- Chuck Farmer); March 26th - Robert E. Lee High School JROTC awards event; and March 27th- Battle of Thomas Creek commemoration, Arnold Road. (Anticipated, David Ramseur, Miles Ramseur, Scott Breckenridge, Paul Tucker, Josh Jolly, Chuck Farmer, Barney Thornton, Darryl Ingle, Jim Gaskins, Dick Cardell, Gray Chandler).

Lake-Sumter Chapter



It's been a busy few month for us in spite of the pandemic. On Veterans Day we dedicated a Liberty Tree at Montverde Academy. We had originally planned this for April but the virus closed that down. When we knew the school would reopen, we thought Veterans Day would be a perfect opportunity for a double celebration. We had to keep it small but we did have a color guard and President Bussone. Our chapter and state poster winner, Layla Busby, unveiled the plaque.

Our December meeting was another virus change. We had planned on inviting all our ladies to our June meeting and have a program about ladies in the revolution. When that didn't happen, we decided to try that in December. We enjoyed ladies from our local DAR chapters, Beverly Oyler from the Tomoka Chapter and Charyl Winner from the Mary Ellen Robertson Chapter.

The next Saturday we took part in Wreaths Across America at Shiloh Cemetery placing two of our wreaths on the graves of the parents of Robert Moody, our long-time member and past president.

In February we had completed our essay contests. This year we expanded the competition to the middle schools. We had 2 winners from middle school, first, J'Mariana Douglas and second, Alejandra Silver, both from Eustis Middle School and whose teacher, Karen Flores, was our chapter and state American History Teacher of the Year last year. And 3 winners from high school, first, Jackson Cheplick from East Ridge High, Second, Brandon Barnes, Praise Temple Christian Academy and third, Samuel Peterson, The Villages Charter School. Jackson read his essay.

We also honored our American History Teacher of the Year, Jennifer Butera, from East Ridge High. Ms. Butera is our chapter and state winner and had encouraged Brandon to enter our essay contest. At our March meeting we were pleased to have our oration winner, Adrianna Brown from East Ridge High. She too was encouraged by Ms. Butera to enter the contest. Adrianna presented her speech. We are looking forward to our essay and oration winners competing at the state level.



Okechoobee Chapter



The Okeechobee Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution installed the 2020-2021 officers at the October SAR meeting held at Brown Cow Sweetery. The officers were installed by SAR National Trustee Pat Niemann. Pictured L-R are: Don Hanna, Chaplin; Dowling Watford, Secretary; Jim Green, VP; Jim Pippin, Pres.; Pat Niemann, National Trustee; Gary Miles, Past-Pres. & Director; and Gary Howard, Registrar.



Preston Croslyn was installed as the newest member of the Okeechobee Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution at the October SAR meeting. Preston's Patriot who served in the Revolutionary War was Ebenezer Folsom. Registrar Gary Howard inducted Preston, with Pres. Jim Pippin presenting his membership certificate, and his Uncle, Gary Miles, doing the pinning. Pictured L-R are: Pres. Jim Pippin, Gary Miles, Preston Croslyn, and Registrar Gary Howard.

Panama City Chapter



On Monday, the first of February 2021, Justin Edward "Jay" Smith Jr., Florida State Seminoles #96, Defensive Tackle, was inducted into the Panama City SAR Chapter. The 2021, SAR Panama City Chapter President, James Franklin Haynes performed the ceremony assisted by Chapter Registrar, DeCody Brad Marble, who held a large Masonic Bible. The ceremony took place at Applebee's Restaurant on Tyndall Parkway at 11:00 A.M. Witnessing the ceremony was Jay's immediate family; parents, Mr. Justin Edward Smith Sr. and Holly Ann Herring, with grandfather, Rodney Louis Herring.

Saramana Chapter



With activities starting to return to normal, Saramana has hit the ground running in 2021. New officers were installed in December by FLSSAR President Dave Bussone. At the same meeting, Lady Jill Fields was presented the Molly Pitcher award by Commander Dick young for her years of service to and with the chapter and state color guard. In 2020 Saramana inducted 23 new members, reinstated 1, and had 10 supplementals approved. We currently find ourselves with five more members to be inducted and eight awaiting approval at national. If COVID has been good for anything, getting lots of research done has been fruitful. The hard work of compatriots Woody Wilson and Phil Tarpley was invaluable in this effort.

But tragedy has also been a part of the past year. Eight of our members have passed during this last year including Past Presidents Charles Riegle and Doug Erb. Our hearts go out to their families. We were proud to present the families with memorial certificates and in some cases even provide a color guard for their services. Saramana takes great pride in not only remembering our patriot ancestors, but also honoring the passing of their dutiful descendants.

With COVID precautions in place, the Saramana color guard has continued its mission to represent the chapter and society in public. Members of the color guard have taken part in Constitution Week activities, Veterans Day observances, the Annual Florida DAR Society banquet, regional meetings, memorials services, and the commemoration of the Last Naval Battle held at Merritt Island, FL. Though we are now down two men, the chapter color guard is recruiting and looking forward to participating in many more events as 2021 progresses.

Southshore Chapter

The South Shore Chapter restarted its regular in-person activities in November after being sidelined by pandemic restrictions. We kicked off the season with a memorial golf tournament at the River Wilderness Golf & Country Club in Parrish, FL



on 7 November. The tournament was originally scheduled for May of 2020 but was rescheduled a few times due to restrictions on gatherings.

Compatriot Chuck Badgley was our tournament organizer and did a fantastic job. Many chapter members helped in the day's activities. While the field was reduced from its original commitments due to rescheduling, over 45 players and several sponsors participated. It was a great success – the chapter raised \$2000 for its charitable activities fund. We held our first member meeting and luncheon of the season on 9 January at The River Wilderness Club. The chapter had not been permitted to meet at its historical location in Sun City Center because of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on gatherings in Hillsborough County.



Compatriot Chuck Badgley arranged the new meeting location – which was the site of the chapter's golf tournament in November. The location, being in Manatee County, was not under the same meeting restrictions. Over twenty chapter members and their guests attended the luncheon. They enjoyed good food and simply being able to meet and gather again. Compatriot Bill Love was presented an oak leaf cluster to the Liberty Medal for having been first-line signer on another ten new member applications.



The primary business for our January meeting was the nomination and election of new chapter officers and Board of Governors. The BOG moved the remaining chapter meetings for this season to The River Wilderness Club and we met there again in February. Our special guest was Compatriot Parks Honeywell, the Florida Society Vice President for the West Central Region and Chair of the state's Genealogy Committee. President Bill Bolin started the meeting and the first order of business was the swearing-in of new chapter officers – Compatriot Honeywell did the honors of administering their oaths. The installation of officers was followed by the induction of two new members. Compatriots Ken Wavell and Greg Stein took their oaths of membership and accepted their certificates. Two memorial member presentations were made for Raymond Wilkins and Woodrow Wilson. Chapter Registrar Woody Wilson was presented a Lafayette Medal for volunteer services given to the National Society as a member of the Patriot Research System. Chapter Vice President Bill Adkins, Sr. gave the feature presentation entitled "*Lord Dunsmore's War.*" It was an interesting genealogical journey about his Patriot ancestor who fought in what some historians call the first battle of the Revolution – The Battle of Point Pleasant in what is now the area of Tazewell County, Virginia. Our March meeting was held on the 13th and our guest speaker was Mr. Wesley Tobitt, a Sarasota Middle School teacher who spoke about decisions and policies made during the Revolution still affect us today. Chapter President Bill Bolin presented Mr. Tobitt the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and certificate following his presentation.



Our April and May meetings will both be on the second Saturday of the month at The River Wilderness Club in Parrish, FL. Chapter Treasurer Chip Churchill will be presenting in April – an historical presentation on his Patriot ancestor, Freegift Patchin. Chapter Vice President Bill Adkins, Sr., will lead us in a "Ringing of the Bell" memorial service in May to honor our chapter compatriots who have passed. In our public outreach programs – The South Shore BOG approved awarding cash stipends to outstanding JROTC cadets of the year. There are ten schools with JROTC programs in Hillsborough County – \$100 checks will go to the individual school winner at nine schools and a \$500 check will go to the Cadet of the Year for Hillsborough County.

Southwest RVP Meeting in Naples

The sixth annual Southwest Region Vice President's meeting was held on February 20, 2021 hosted by the Naples Chapter at the Tiburon Golf Club, but as a hybrid ZOOM meet-



ing with participants from all five Chapters in the Region, and one member even joining the group live from Germany.

Due to a scheduling SNAFU, FLSSAR President David Bussone was unable to attend as he had been committed to another RVP meeting at the same day & time in St. Augustine. Senior Vice President Bernard Wolff was isolated in the Florida COVID hot-spot of Miami, but he did present information about the 2023 Congress through the ZOOM hook-up. We were very honored to have past State-President, current Florida Trustee, and future SAD Vice President General COL Pat Niemann visit with us. Pat brought greetings from the National and State Societies and provided insights into the support available to chapters.

RVP McGuire made a number of announcements including Veterans recognition (chapters need to encourage veterans to report their service and receive state & national recognition), publication of the new Florida Patriot, use of the new SAR logo, NSSAR facility progress report, the "Special Congress", and the new Americanism Contest score sheet. He reported that all five chapters in the region are now conducting regular member meetings (some as ZOOM hybrids) and that all have held elections and installed officers for the current term. The status of FLSSAR officer nominations and elections was reported along with a reminder that the election would be held at the Annual Meeting in May.

After an incredible steak lunch prepared by the Tiburon Golf Club chef, most of the ladies attending departed for



a tour of the Collier County Museum that was organized by the Ladies Auxiliary. We then resumed our business meeting with a program by Chaplain Dwight Elam. As we were meeting two days before George Washington's Birthday, Dwight was asked to present a brief tribute to the General and First

President. This was a very interesting talk about Washington's farewell address, highlighting some concerns which remain timely today.

Central District Vice President General Bill Sharp provided an update on the National Historic Sites program, as he serves as chairman of the NSSAR Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee. A general roundtable discussion provided a forum for chapter presidents and representatives to address concerns and successes. Issues included membership recruitment and retention, incorporation of new members into the activities of the chapters, and other topics. Shortly after the ladies returned from their excursion, the meeting was concluded and adjourned. A gift basket raffled by the ladies raised \$125 and was won by Compatriot Niemann.

Tampa Chapter



Chapter President, Dave Bryant, conducts a virtual Zoom meeting of the Tampa Chapter. We have used these virtual meetings to have distant speakers who it would be impossible to host at a regular meeting. While we

have tried to make the most of these restrictions, we hope to get back to in person live meetings in the next month or so.

Withlacoochee Chapter

At the June 13 2020 BOM/Annual meeting, two Patriot Medals were presented. One of these medals was for Bill Teater of Withlacoochee Chapter. Fortunately, our President David Hitchcock, Jack and Marleen Townsend, and Maryann Teater were present for the evening. With Pandemic all around we were so pleased for those of our Chapter that could be there.

Through the Years Bill has stood ready in his Blue Blazer and Tri-Con hat to pitch in for the Chapter – Helping to Present Colors, youth awards, ROTC awards, and overseeing our Veterans programs. It was good to see him receive the Patriot Medal at that time and good for our Chapter too.



On April 28, 2019 Trooper Vaughn responded to a request from Sheriff Mike Prendergast, Citrus County Sheriff's Office regarding an active pursuit where the suspect had attempted to run over multiple Citrus County deputies. FH Trooper Vaughn was fearless in his pursuit, despite gunshots being aimed at the troopers, the vehicle was stopped resulting in the apprehension of the suspect. On December 15, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis and the Florida Cabinet recognized FHP Trooper Curtis Vaughn as Trooper of the year.

The Withlacoochee Sons of the American Revolution were informed through President David Bussone. The Local Chapter chosen to recognize FHP Trooper Vaughn was Withlacoochee Chapter. Chapter President David Hitchcock headed up the meeting and presentation of the SAR "Law Enforcement Commendation Award". The SAR participation would also include James Gaskins, N.E. VP and Chair of the State Public Service & Heroism Awards Committee. In addition to Trooper of the year Curtis Vaughn – FHP Public Affairs Officer Sgt. Steve Gaskins took part, and Sgt. Daniel Middleton the on-duty FHP SSgt gave a great account of the Vaughn pursuit along with a 12-minute video of the actual capture. Citrus County Sheriff, Mike Prendergast also took part in the praise of Vaughn. This was a very upbeat occasion for our Chapter meeting and SAR recognition event held at the Citrus Hills Golf and Country Club.

Charles W. Riegler, Sr. (1936-2021)

Charles William Riegler, Sr., 85, of Sarasota, and long-time member of Laurel Oak Country Club, passed away at sunrise on January 17, 2021. He died as he wished: peacefully at home, with his loving wife and children by his side.

Born in Buffalo, New York, on June 25, 1935, to Dorothy McMurray Riegler and Warren Coleman Riegler, Charles is survived by Aušra, his wife of 53 years; sons Charles W. Riegler, Jr. (Chuck), of Charlottesville, Virginia, and Christopher V. Riegler of Marblehead, Massachusetts; daughter Kristina A. Riegler of Rochester Hills, Michigan; their spouses Cynthia, Helen, and David; grandchildren Phoebe, Coleman, Evan, Oliver, and Genevieve, who knew him as "Poppy"; sister Patricia Morehead and brother-in-law Dr. William E. Morehead, of Memphis; and beloved nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grand-nephews, who knew him as "Uncle Charlie." He is already dearly missed, but his family and friends have many, many wonderful memories.

In 1942, Charles' family moved from Bath, New York, to Memphis, Tennessee, where he completed his schooling. He served his church as head boy in the St. John's Episcopal boys choir and his country through the Boy Scouts, the ROTC, the Army Reserve, and the Air Force Reserve medical corps. In 1967, Charles married the love of his life, Aušra Vedeckas, in New York City. Following a move from Memphis to Westport, Connecticut, the couple settled in Riverside, Connecticut, where they lived for 31 years and raised their children. In 2004, they made Sarasota their permanent home and joined Laurel Oak Country Club.

The son of an enterprising mother and a China Marine, Charles was outgoing and driven. He put himself through Southwestern at Memphis (now, Rhodes College), graduating with a Bachelor's in Psychology in 1957. He worked as a pharmaceutical sales rep and trainer before moving to a career in advertising. In 1972, he co-founded Rolf Werner Rosenthal, Inc., an advertising agency, in New York. After growing the business into a market leader, he and his partners sold it to Ogilvy & Mather in 1983. He conducted business as he did his life: honorably and with aplomb. He was proud to have made many clients his lifelong friends.

Charles volunteered time and talent to the Greenwich Symphony Orchestra, the Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich, Innis Arden Golf Club, and Christ Church Greenwich. He was an active member of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), a group dedicated to promoting patriotism and preserving American history. He held officer and committee positions across chapters in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Florida, adding countless members to their rolls. In 2019, he capped off years of genealogical research by publishing The



Riegler Family in America.

While work, service, and patriotism were important to him, Charles was first and foremost a family man. He and Aušra were always together: on the golf course, at the opera, entertaining friends, and traveling the world. They made epic summer road trips to escape the Florida heat. He spared no love for his children, whom he mentored by example.

A private funeral service was held on January 22nd at the Church of the Redeemer in Sarasota, where Charles was a member. Burial will follow at a later date. Donations in his memory may be made to the Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation, Covenant House, Tidewell Hospice, or a veterans' group of your choice or simply plant a tree.

Douglas E Erb (1945-2021)

Douglas Everett Erb, 76, Sarasota, Florida, went home to be with the Lord on January 27, 2021. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1944, he was the son of CJ and Marjorie Erb. Doug grew up in Dearborn, Michigan. He was a 1967 graduate of Eastern Michigan University where he majored in education and minored in art. He was also captain of his golf team. Doug shared 48 years of marriage with his wife, Sherry.



Doug was a lifetime member of the PGA. He began his professional golf career as an assistant pro at Dearborn Country Club, Dearborn, MI and Bay Hill Country Club in Orlando, Florida. In 1972, he became the Head Professional at Lemon Tree Golf Course in Belleville, Michigan. By 1977 he was a Partner at Forest Lakes Country Club, Sarasota, Florida, where he worked as Director of Golf and General Manager of the club. He was co-founder of the Florida Golf Course Owners and Management Assoc. After the sale of the club, he continued his love of teaching as an instructor at the IMG Ledbetter Golf Academy in Bradenton, Florida and Longboat Key Club, Sarasota.

In semi-retirement, Doug remained active leading bible studies, and serving as a Deacon, Trustee and member of the choir at First Baptist Church, Sarasota. He also attained a 32-degree Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. Doug was President of the Saramana Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution and Rotary member. He was a coach for the PGA Jr. golf program and an instructor for the Adaptive Golf Academy, a leader in the high school Fellowship of Christian Athletes organization and high school golf coach.

Doug represented Saramana Chapter at State and regional meetings as well as Dar Regent's Council Meet-



ings. He served with the color guard all over the state in parades, commemorations of historic sites, and Honor Flight welcome home ceremonies. His hundreds of hours of volunteer work with disabled veterans through the Adaptive Golf Academy earned him special recognition from the SAR and the heartfelt gratitude of wounded warriors and veterans.

Doug is survived by his wife, Sherry, and sister, Carolyn Erb Laband, Colorado along with his five children, Rhett Erb (Stacy), Cameron Parker (Steve), Tyler Erb (Carrie), Whitney Elam (Brandon), and Shelby Thompson (Matt), eight grandchildren and fifteen nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents, CJ and Marjorie Erb and his brother, Richard.

From the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee of the Florida Society has received nominations from Compatriots for the Florida Society SAR Officer positions for the 2020-2021 term. Officer Nominations: 2021-2022 Term are as follows:

President - Bernard Wolff
 Senior Vice President - Earl "Matt" Mathews
 RVP North West - Brad DeCody Marble
 RVP North Central - David Thomas
 RVP North East - Jim Gaskins
 RVP South East - Bill Wicks
 RVP East Central - Jeff Sizemore or Hall Riediger
 RVP West Central - Parks Honeywell
 RVP South West - Bob McGuire
 Secretary - Scott Breckenridge
 Recording Secretary - Steve Fields or Jim Stone
 Treasurer - Dick Young
 Registrar - Ray Lantz
 Chancellor - Carl Hoffman
 Chaplain - Dwight Elam
 Genealogist - J. Gray Chandler
 Historian - Larry Sturgeon
 Sergeant-at-Arms - Jeff Brunelle
 Editor - Florida Patriot - Jeff Sizemore
 Webmaster - Scott Bushnell
 Member-at-Large, Executive Committee - Chuck Farmer or Ron Grove
 National Trustee - Lee Popham
 Alternate Trustee - David Bussone

All officer candidates including those seeking reelection from an incumbent officer were required to complete the appropriate nomination form found at the Florida Society website <http://www.flssar.org/FLSSAR/Tabs.asp> at the Tab "Documents & Forms". Completed forms have been submitted to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee at rmcguire@slvx.com. In addition to the initial organizing meeting of the committee held at the May 2020 BOM, the Committee conducted a candidate's forum at the October 2, 2020 BOM, then held ZOOM meetings on January 8, 2021 and on February 13, 2021. The Committee has reviewed all applications received and determined that, in each case, the candidate is qualified for the position sought. At the February 13th meeting, the list of candidates was reviewed a final time and the slate was approved.

The slate of nominees includes at least one candidate for each position to be filled by the election to be held May 1, 2021 during the Annual Meeting. In several instances there were more than a single nominee for the position. The Committee voted to include all qualified candidates on the slate. At the time of the election, nominations from the floor will be invited and a paper ballot election may be expected. In advance of the election, the nomination or re-nomination forms of all candidates will be available for review in the "Members Only" section of the FLSSAR website.

The substantive work of the Nominating Committee set forth in the FLSSAR Bylaws has now been completed. Individual circumstances may result in withdrawal from consideration by particular candidates prior to the election. Henceforth, no additional candidates will be considered by the Committee. At the Annual Meeting, the Chairman will place the names on the attached list in nomination and will deliver a final report of the Committee to the Recording Secretary.

Notice of Liberty Tree Dedication

The dedication ceremony will be held on Sunday, April 18th beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the 2021 Heritage Festival celebrating Highland County's 100th Anniversary at the Edna Pearce Lockett Estate, sponsored by the Heritage Association of Highlands County and the Highlands Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.

The Estate was a working cattle ranch from 1874 to 1991 and has been closed to the public until now. Fort Basinger was built on the property in 1837 during second Seminole War by Colonel Zachary Taylor. John Mizell Pearce was a soldier at that fort and returned there to establish the ranch, having been deeded 157 acres, including the site of the old fort. The original steamboat landing is at the estate. Mr. Pearce operated a ferry across the river as there was no bridge. The Estate is a place of magical beauty – a time warp of Old Florida. The house is one of the oldest houses in Highlands County.

Following the Massing of Colors by the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade augmented by units of the Boy Scouts and the DAR, there will be a singing of the National Anthem, the Pledge of Allegiance, a reading of the American's Creed and the Preamble to the Constitution. The story and symbolism of the Liberty Tree will be told, and the Liberty Tree Poem will be recited. Proclamations from the City of Sebring and Highlands County will be presented. The program will close with a Benediction from the Florida Society SAR Chaplain.

There is no dress code but the SAR members of the color guard will conform with policies in both the FLSSAR and NSSAR Color Guard Manuals. Other participants and guests are encouraged, in the spirit of the event, to wear vintage attire or patriotic colors. For SAR Compatriots, this is considered a "National Event". It combines the previously established "Massing of Colors" event with the "Liberty Tree" event – recently added by the NSSAR Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee to the listing of National Events. Accordingly, SAR color guard members participating in this event may earn 20 Points (if using the points system) plus mileage points for qualification for the Silver Color Guard Medal.

The Estate is located South of US 98, West of the bridge across the Kissimmee River. From Okeechobee or from South of Sebring on Route 27, take US 98 to CR 721, ¼-mile West of the Kissimmee River Bridge. Drive South past the white board fence of the Estate to Boondock Road, turn East on Boon-

dock to entrance. The Estate is surrounded by white board fence, but there is no entrance from US 98.

It's Coming! THE 2023 NSSAR CONGRESS

Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando, Florida

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.

YOU CAN WIN A REPRODUCTION PENNSYLVANIA LONG RIFLE



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

Florida Battalion Sons of Liberty Brigade

Within a 14 day period, the Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade was honored to be asked to Present the Colors at both the Annual Conference Banquet for the Florida Society, Children of the American Revolution and the Spring Conference Banquet for the Florida Society, Daughters of the American Revolution.

On February 20, in St Augustine, The Florida Battalion led the FSCAR procession into the banquet hall and Presented the Colors for their Annual Banquet. Members of the Color Guard as they waited for the procession to begin. were Charles Nuckolls (St Augustine), James Popham (C.A.R. and Junior Member of Miami Chapter), Paul Turner (Jacksonville), Lee Popham (Miami), Dick Young, Commander (Tampa) and Charles Farmer (Jacksonville). Not pictured but in uniform is John Jolly (Jacksonville). Also attending the banquet representing the SAR, but not in uniform were Jerry Hanchett and Robert Gearing (St Augustine), Scott Cook (Gainesville) and Brian Jenson (Brevard). It was good to see this large show of support from the SAR for the C.A.R. in general and their Annual Conference in particular.

On March 5, in Orlando, The Florida Battalion Presented the Colors at the only banquet of the 2021 Spring Conference of the Florida DAR. Pictured is the Color Guard, at rest, prior to the banquet, sitting with FSDAR Regent Kay Yarbrough and FLSSAR President David Bussone. Also pictured is the Color Guard with the NSDAR President General Denise Doring van Buren. They are (l-r), Robert McGuire (Caloosa), Steven Fields, Vice Commander (Saramana), Jeffery Brunelle (Caloosa), William Elder (Daytona-Ormond), Dwight Elam (Caloosa), NSDAR PG Van Buren, Dick



Young, Commander (Tampa), Robert Robinson (Tampa) and Hampton Allen (Caloosa). Many of the Color Guardsmen are HO-DARs, but some made the trip to Orlando, just to participate in the Presentation of the Colors.

The SAR was well represented at both events despite continuing COVID concerns. All of these compatriots are to be commended for their commitment to the SAR and for representing the SAR at these important events.

Upcoming National Events

2021 Spring Leadership Meeting
March 3-7, 2021 Louisville, KY

131st Annual Congress
July 7 - 14, 2021 Renton, Washington

2021 Fall Leadership
September 23-25, 2021 Louisville KY

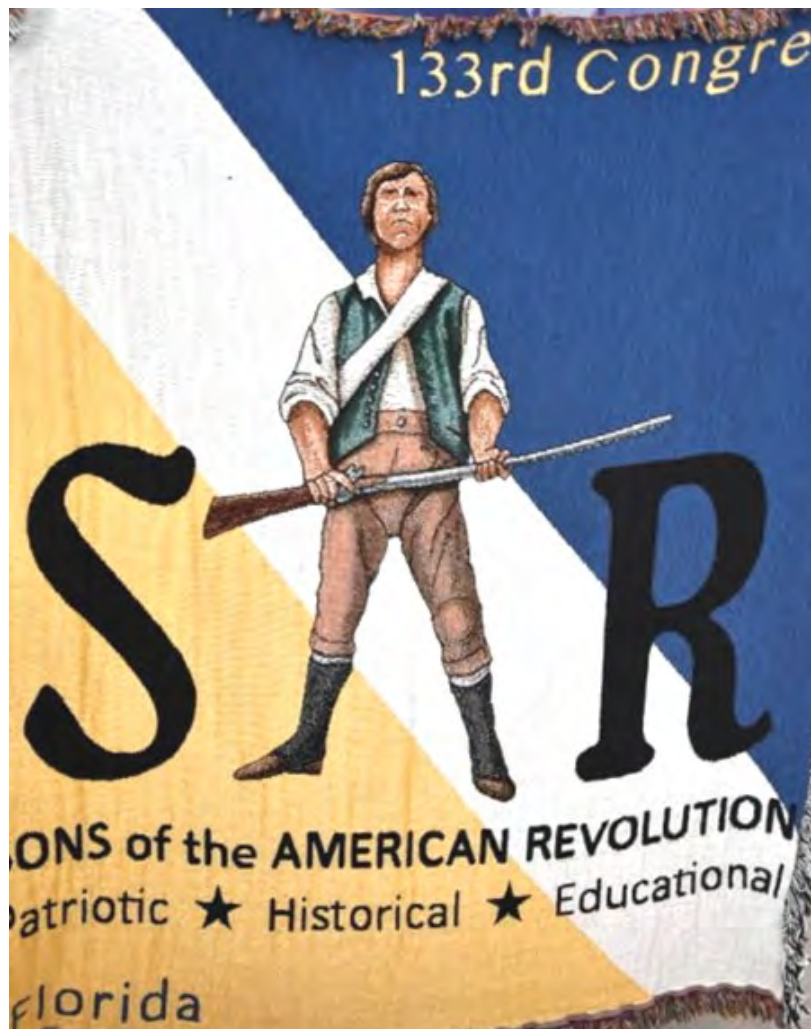
Ladies Auxiliary Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution

This is our Florida Ladies Auxiliary's major fund raising project for the 2023 Congress. This project will fund our Auxiliary responsibilities for the Hospitality Room, all banquet decorations, and other activities.

With the classic Minuteman logo, the 133rd Congress throw will make the perfect Holiday gift for your favorite SAR members.

The Custom Woven Throw Blankets Company created these made-in-the-USA (North Carolina), 50"x60", 100% cotton, custom throws with fringe all the way around and prewashed for softness.

Your throw can be ordered now. The cost is \$70.00 for the Throw plus shipping if you would like it sent to you.



Send orders to: Laura Zavalía, Treasurer LAFLS-SAR, 1648 Jupiter Cove Drive, #411, Jupiter, FL 33469. Make checks out to LAFLSSAR for \$70.00 to reserve one and pick it up at October BOM. Add \$15.00 if you want it sent to you at an address in Florida or \$20.00 for addresses outside of Florida for each Throw ordered (order two sent to the same address for the same shipping cost). Please make the Notation: 2023 Congress on your check.

Order Form

There are two ways to complete this form.

1. Print this page then complete in black ink.
2. Save the form to your computer. Open the saved form and use the FREE Adobe Reader to fill in the information. This will help ensure that your information can be read.



The 2023 FLSSAR Medal

Commemorating the 133rd Congress of the
National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
Being hosted by the Florida SAR Society

Boxed Set contains one Large Medal
and one Miniature Medal
(See graphic depiction below)

Cost per set:	\$40.00
Shipping (USPS with Tracking)	\$7.75
Total per set:	\$47.75

Make checks payable to: FLSSAR Treasurer

Please send order and check to:

Bernard W. Wolff
21340 SW 94th Avenue
Cutler Bay, FL 33189-3735

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

Order:

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

National Number:

Number of Medal Sets:

Cost per Medal Set:

Total of Check \$



Large Medal



Miniature Medal

This medal has been approved by the NSSAR's Medals & Awards Committee
and the Executive Committee

2021 Spring Conference - Florida Society DAR



Lawrence Gene “Larry” Fehrenbaker, Sr. MD “My First Florida Society SAR President”

By DeCody Brad Marble

To help handle the pain of loss of a significant other, one learns to vocalize or write a personal, precious memory, which provides the ultimate tribute, which only that individual can share. It helps give the grieving individual a ‘sense of closure’ and provides an opportunity of opening a forum for others to do the same. No big words or catchy phrases needed, just a heartfelt small story will do. Therefore, I share my personal, precious memory of my First Florida Society SAR President, Lawrence G. Fehrenbaker Sr.

After joining the Sons of the American Revolution in November 2012, I, the 2015 – FLSSAR Panama City Chapter Vice President, nominated by the FLSSAR to become the Northwest Regional Vice President.

In June 2015, Lawrence G. Fehrenbaker became the FLSSAR President and in the Summer Issue of the Florida Patriot, I found and read his Society President’s Message, “Back to Basics”. Immediately, he was addressing Chapter Development and Support, including recruitment and retention. It felt like the message was addressed to me, because the Panama City Chapter was so informal and not practicing the guidelines provided by the FLSSAR. Later, I received an email that Lawrence with his wife Jeanne would be visiting the FL Northwest Regional Chapters later in that summer. Oh Oh.... With the sense of urgency and within a month, I visited all six chapters within the Florida Northwest Region and learned how they were all different, but yet the same. I offered my computer and web page skills, while promising to serve and represent their chapters the best I can. I truly gain more knowledge and experience from those initial visits. I got suggestions and a vote of confidence from my ‘FL SAR NWR Peers.’ That late summer, I got the phone call from Lawrence

‘Larry’ that he was passing through Panama City. I was to choose my favorite restaurant for us to meet, eat and discuss the SAR.

Therefore, at Rodeos, outside Tyndall AFB, Larry, Jeanne and I ate steak. Larry and I discuss so many topics, and noticing my anxiousness of expressing all my concerns and inexperience, Larry put me at ease. Larry provided me his email and phone number. He said contact me with any question or concern and promise me that you will attend the Fall Board of Management Meetings.

At the Fall BOM, at the initial meeting, I sat in the first row, all the way to the right, up against the wall. From military experience, I learn that speakers look or address the audience from the right to the left, from front to back. In addition, all I had to do is look over my right shoulder to see all the faces making up the membership. During President Lawrence Fehrenbaker’s opening statements, he said he would introduce the new members. Beginning his scan, he looked immediately to the right, at the front. We locked eyes, smiled, and he announced, “I introduce to you the Florida Society Sons of the American Revolution Northwest Regional Vice President, DeCody Brad Marble.” I stand and turn toward the membership focusing on all the faces. I did not say a thing; I stood in awe, as I received such an abnormous applause. As I turned to sit back down, I looked at Lawrence’s beaming proud face.

I was at home at the right place and led by a great mentor, Lawrence G. Fehrenbaker, Sr.

A blessing, a gift, or skill, it does not matter. To be able to understand and emphasize with others and to provide consultation and direction to success for those who feel slightly ill-at-ease is an attribute any leader or mentor would desire. The strength of Lawrence G. Fehrenbaker Sr. “God Bless Him! and We Will All Remember Him!” “My First Florida Society SAR President” ... DBM

2021 Spring Conference— Florida Society DAR



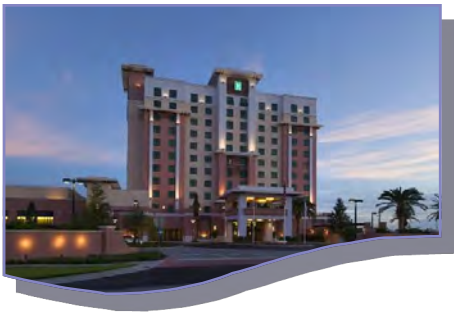


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Florida SAR Board of Management Meeting

Embassy Suites - Orlando Lake Buena Vista South

April 30 - May 1, 2021

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

4955 Kyngs Heath Road Kissimmee, FL 34746

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

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

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

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